What are Scouts BSA linked troops?

The BSA has established these non-negotiables for linked troops:

1. Linked troops are those troops that share a troop committee.
2. A registered and Youth Protection-trained adult female (21 or older) must be present at all activities and meetings where a female youth is present.
3. To provide Scouts with equal leadership opportunities, each individual troop must elect its own senior patrol leader (SPL), have its own youth leadership structure, and operate its own patrol leadership council.
4. Co-ed troops are not permitted.

By complying with the above rules, you are meeting the BSA’s expectations for your new linked troop.

Shared Chartered Organization Troops

- **Shared**: Chartered organization and chartered organization representative.
- **Separate**: Troop committees and finances; Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, senior patrol leader, and Scout leadership structure.
- **Scheduling**: Function as two autonomous units.

Linked Troops

- **Shared**: Chartered organization and chartered organization representative, troop committee. Sharing the assistant Scoutmasters between the two troops is optional.
- **Separate**: Finances (optional), assistant Scoutmaster (optional), senior patrol leader, and Scout leadership structure.
- **Scheduling**: As determined by each troop’s youth leadership. Each may elect to develop its own annual plan and/or work together to support each other.