*Gamehaven Council Gift Acceptance Policy*

1. Overview

	1. The several benefits enjoyed by Scouting under the law include active support and voluntary contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, government, associations, and societies. These relationships are essential to the mission of Scouting, especially its financial stability. Responsibility for preservation and enhancement of philanthropy shall be retained by the Executive Board.
	2. The Council Executive Board or its designee must approve acceptance of all gifts.
	3. The Executive Board has the right to refuse gifts or contributions that do not enhance, promote, and ensure the financial viability of the Council.
	4. All charitable contributions, regardless of value, form, or designated use, shall be made only to the Council.
	5. Gamehaven Council is the sole local entity designated as a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Service’s (IRS) tax-exempt determination letter issued to the Boy Scouts of America under Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Council’s tax-exempt status cannot be used for gifts made directly to local Scouting units.
	6. Gifts may be received on behalf of projects or programs as designated donations or restricted donations.
	7. The Council will comply with applicable tax laws and public reporting requirements.
	8. All fund raising methods employed by the Council shall be in keeping with regulations of the Boy Scouts of America and the principles for which the organization stands.
	9. Use of the name of this organization for any fund raising purpose by any other organization or entity shall require prior approval of the Executive Board or its designee. The policies of Boy Scouts of America shall act as a guide for entering into joint fund-raising ventures where there is no implied endorsement or selling of unapproved products.
	10. Joint venture, benefits, marketing, and solicitation partnerships shall be in accordance with regulations of federal, state, and local laws, Council policies, the regulations of the Boy Scouts of America, and individual written contracts for each event approved by the Executive Board or its designee.
2. Donors
	1. Donor’s wishes will be considered to the extent possible, so long as their intended use of funds is in keeping with the mission of Scouting, and the policies and priorities of the Council as expressed in the corporate plan. Resolution of donor wishes outside approved priorities and established programs shall be by the Executive Board. The Council’s management will work with donors to ensure that their wishes are properly expressed so as to be appropriate to the Council’s plans and to be flexible as needs change.
	2. Formal recognition of donors shall include methods of recognition that enhance the image of Scouting, show appreciation to the donor, and provide opportunities for public acknowledgment.
	3. All gifts greater than $250 in value, regardless of form, or designated use, shall be acknowledged by the Council with official correspondence. Acknowledgment represents to the donor acceptance of the gift along with its restriction, notice of what goods and services were or were not received, and may also serve the donor as evidence to certify a possible tax deduction.
	4. The Council Office shall maintain confidentiality concerning all correspondence regarding contributions, gift records, prospect cards, and other data on donors, and should ensure that it is used only for the support of fund raising.
3. Types of Gifts

Besides monetary gifts in the form of cash, checks, money orders, and charges to approved credit cards, non-monetary gifts may be accepted, such as bonds and securities, real property, tangible personal property, gifts in kind to be used in the form for which they are given, royalties, copyrights, and trademark rights, and insurance policies naming the Council as a beneficiary in whole or in part.

1. Unrestricted and Restricted Gifts

Gifts with no stipulation by the donor as to their purpose or use are unrestricted. Gifts given for a specific purpose designated by the donor shall be restricted.

1. Appraisal Rules and Procedures

Current IRS regulations will be observed when calculating the charitable contribution deduction value of gifts with an understanding that it is the donor’s responsibility to obtain appraisals for tax purposes. Current regulations (1995) do not require the Council to include a dollar amount in acknowledgments of non-cash gifts and the Council has no obligation to place a value on the donation. Non-cash contributions estimated with a value greater than $500 shall comply with IRS Form 8283, (Non-cash Charitable Contributions and the qualified appraisal rules).

1. Memorials and Honoraria

Both restricted and unrestricted commemorative gifts may be received in the form of “in memory of,” “in honor of,” or “on the occasion of.”

1. Gifts in Trust

The Council, with Executive Board or designee approval, may accept gifts in trust, agreeing to hold and manage a donors principle resources and assets in exchange for life income, after which the principle and future income become the property of the Council, in accordance with the Council’s planned giving program or Boy Scouts of America’s planned giving program, or both.

1. Property

Personal property may be accepted with board approval when the property can be sold or the property can be used in keeping with the mission of the organization. All gifts of property must be appraised by a certified professional appraiser, and a copy of the appraisal must accompany the gift. The gift value shall be the appraised value at the time of the gift. If the property is sold within two years of its receipt, IRS Form 8282 will be completed and submitted to the IRS. Real Estate in the form of a residence, business, commercial building, undeveloped land, etc., may be accepted when an environmental and toxic waste review is completed and the property can be used in keeping with the mission of the organization.

1. Legacies and Bequests

A donor may arrange in a Will or Living Trust that the Council be designated as a beneficiary to receive a direct gift from the estate.

1. Gifts in Kind

Gifts of material or products may be accepted when the form of the gift can be used by the organization.

1. Corporate Contributions to Employee Volunteers

Many companies have instituted grants and cash awards that encourage and recognize employees who volunteer their time, talents, and skills to not-for-profit organizations. The Council is supportive of such programs, as they are consistent with our desire to increase adult-generated giving and the visibility of Scouting in the communities we serve. All grant applications must adhere to current Council fundraising guidelines.

1. Gifts of Stock

It is the policy of the Council to immediately sell all gifted stock and apply the proceeds according to the donor’s wishes, if expressed.

1. Cryptocurrency

For tax purposes, the IRS designates cryptocurrency as property and is subject to the same rules that apply to noncash charitable gifts. If a donor makes a gift of cryptocurrency over $500 in value, IRS Form 8282 will be completed and submitted to the IRS. For gifts over $5,000, the donor needs to obtain a qualified appraisal.

It is the policy of the Council to immediately sell all Cryptocurrency and apply the proceeds according to the donor’s wishes, if expressed.