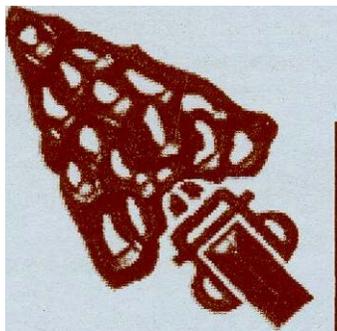


National Election Procedures with Ku-Ni-Eh Lodge Plans

2013

NOVEMBER 2012



Membership Requirements

Unit Leader approval

To become eligible for election, a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and have the approval of his unit leader prior to the election. The Unit leader must certify his Scouting spirit, his adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, and participation in unit activities. The unit leader must also certify that the nominee meets all specified requirements at the time of this annual election.

Youth membership qualifications: All members of, or candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow who are under 21 years of age shall be considered youth members or candidates for youth membership, subject to meeting the following requirements.

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Hold the First Class rank of the Boy Scouts of America, as a minimum.

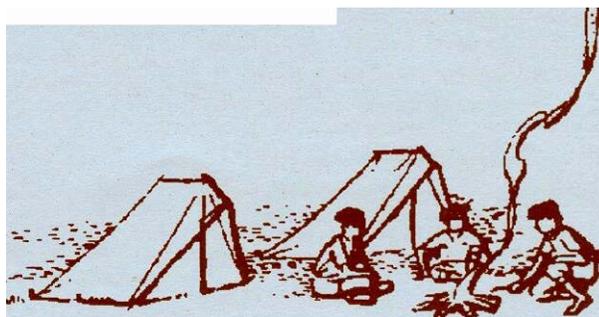
Youth registered in both a Troop and a Team can only run for election in one unit and can only vote in one election. Scoutmasters or Coaches should make the election team aware if there are youth in their units with multiple registrations.

If there are any questions about a youth's eligibility to run for election or to vote it should be cleared up before conducting the election.

- After registration with a troop or team, have experienced fifteen days and nights of camping during the two-year period prior to the election. The 15 days and nights must include one, but no more than one, long term camp consisting of six consecutive days and five nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.

Candidates for youth membership shall be elected by other youth members in accordance with policies set forth by the national committee of the Order of the Arrow. Election of any person under 21 years of age as a candidate for membership shall be based on fulfillment of the youth membership requirements.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:



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Unit elections will be held from November 15th, 2012 through March 15th, 2013.

The first Ordeal weekend (May 3 – May 5) is prior to the beginning of the summer camp season.

The last Ordeal weekend (August 18-20) is the second week after summer camp closes.

All candidates elected in the year 2013 will be required to attend an Ordeal weekend in 2013.

The Call Out Ceremony is NOT a requirement for attending an Ordeal

Election Procedures

To become a member of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout is chosen by the youth in his unit. This is a unique feature of the Order since the majority of those who select their candidates for this honor are not members of the lodge. However, lodge members in the unit have a vote as well as the non-members. In this way membership is controlled by *the* youth in their own units and not by those who are already Arrowmen.

It is important that the members of the unit have the membership requirements properly explained to them.

Registered active member.

In Boy Scout troops and Varsity Scout teams, every registered active member of the unit under age of 21 at the time of election is eligible to vote.

A Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who carries a current national membership card and participated in at least some unit activities during the year is considered to be registered active member of the unit. For example, a youth away at college who

participated in some unit activities when home, such as a campout, camporee, or occasional unit meeting, should be considered a registered active member.

A youth who moves away or drops out of the unit because of other interests would not be counted in the registered active membership figure.

Elections and inductions outside the registered Council. Order of the Arrow elections are held in qualified troops and teams only under the direction of the lodge in the council where the unit is chartered. No unit may visit outside its own council and hold an OA election under the auspices of an OA lodge of another council.

This is necessary for each lodge to be able to verify who the leader of the unit is and ascertain that all unit members have had advance notice of the election. This is difficult, if not impossible, when a unit attempts to

hold an election outside its own council.

Newly elected candidates for membership in the Order, both adult and youth, should complete the Ordeal and be inducted in the Order by the lodge that serves the council in which their unit is chartered.

No Arrowmen is authorized to wear the OA flap patch of a lodge of which he is not a member, even though he may have been inducted into the Order by that Lodge.

Any candidate desiring to be called out at a resident camp or other event outside his own council may have his unit leader make the arrangements described below.

The unit leader requests the change in calling out in advance and in writing to both the registered council lodge and to the lodge where calling out is requested.

The lodge of the council where the unit is registered gives permission to the unit leader in writing and sends a copy to the lodge where calling out is requested.

No unit may visit outside its own council and hold an OA election under the auspices of an OA lodge of another council

Scoutmasters are requested to inform their elected candidates of the Ordeal dates. However, a letter will be sent informing the parents of the youth of their selection.

In the past, many Scoutmasters have elected to inform their candidate via the call-out ceremony at summer camp or at Courts of Honor. In order to adhere to this request, we are asking the Scoutmasters to inform their candidates at a time acceptable to their unit.

TROOP/TEAM

Your unit Troop/Team Representative is your first contact with the Ku-Ni-Eh Lodge Unit Election Team. This youth, chosen by your Senior Patrol Leader should be in contact with the Lodge to make arrangements for your troop to hold an election. They will also be asked to assist the election team upon their arrival in holding the election. Should you need any additional support, please contact the Lodge Vice Chief of Chapter Relations listed on the back of this literature.



Unit Election Procedures

1. The lodge shall determine the time of year unit elections will be held and should inform unit leaders of this by mail well in advance. The lodge, through the unit elections committee, should work with the unit leader in establishing the actual time and place to conduct the election.
2. Hold the election at the time and place determined by the unit leader, and have Boy Scouts or Varsity Scouts assembled with their unit leader ready to elect candidates. The Order should be represented by a two- or three-member team from the lodge or chapter unit elections committee,
3. Before the election, the OA team must secure from the unit leader verification that at least 50 percent of the registered active unit membership is present. If at least 50 percent is not present, an election cannot be held. The number of registered active members and the number present are entered in the spaces provided on the unit election report form. If the unit leader is an Arrowman, he may explain to the group the purpose of the Order of the Arrow and the basis upon which candidates should be selected, and describe the method of election. If the unit leader is not a member of the Order, a member of the OA team should make this presentation with the unit leader's consent, demonstrating that election leadership is a cooperative effort of the unit leader and the OA team.
4. The unit leader provides a list of all registered active members of the unit who meet all eligibility requirements, including attitude and participation. The names of these members are entered on the report form and the unit leader signs the certification.
5. The election team leader explains the following to the unit leader: This is the current method of election approved by the national OA committee in use by the lodge. All eligible youth who receive votes from at least 50 percent of those who turn in ballots are elected, if no one is elected a second vote may be held immediately, and the result of this vote will be final.
6. A voter may list on his ballot any combination of names, including all eligible candidates who he believes are worthy to become members of the Order of the Arrow
7. The OA team conducts the election following approval guidelines provided by the National Order of the Arrow. The following items must be stressed. Select the candidates who, in your opinion, have set the best examples of brotherhood, cheerfulness and service. Vote only for those you believe will continue in unselfish service to your troop. If you feel that no one is worthy, turn in a blank ballot. If you are new in the unit and do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely, you may abstain by not turning in a ballot at all; this will not affect the final results. Youth eligible for election also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.
8. When voting is finished, the OA election team counts the number of ballots turned in, and enters the numbers on the unit election report.
9. The OA team determines the minimum number of votes one must receive to be elected. If the number of ballots turned in was even (2, 4, 6, etc.) divide this number by two. If the number was odd (1, 3, 5 etc), add one and then divide by two. The number of votes a youth must receive to be elected is entered on the report form.
10. The votes are counted in private by the election team and the unit leader to determine who has been elected. All votes count equally. If at least one has been elected, this result is final. If no one is elected, the OA team announces this fact and states that the unit will now be given the opportunity to vote again. Time is allotted for further explanation of the purpose of the Order and the election procedures, and for any other questions. (No information about the votes received by candidates is to be revealed at any time.) The second election is then held immediately, and if the unit still elects no one, this is the final result for the year's election. The OA team places a check mark next to the names of those who have been elected.

The original election report will be kept by the Chapter and results sent electronically to the lodge.

Announcement of results.

As soon as the election is completed, the unit leader may choose to announce to the entire unit the names of members who have been elected. Names and address of the newly elected candidates must be forwarded to the lodge membership committee immediately. Candidates will be called out at the earliest possible time, either at a resident camp, a camporee, or a special ceremony (court of honor, etc..)

The names and addresses are listed on the election report form. OA team members sign the form, Chapters should hold onto the white copy of the form for their records, Send election results electronically to the lodge Unit Elections Adviser. Ballots should be saved until March 15th. **The yellow copy is the unit's copy.**

Ku-Ni-Eh Lodge 145
Order Of the Arrow
Dan Beard Council
Boy Scouts of America
Scout Achievement Center
10078 Reading Road,
Cincinnati, OH 45241

We've got e-mail!
Kuniehodge145@gmail.com
Subject: Elections

Candidate Status

Scouting's National Honor Society

Paco Patag, Lodge Chief – (513) 206-5173
Bryan Pruden, Chapter Relations/Unit Elections
Vice Chief- (513) 497-0877

Rob Beckman, Lodge Adviser – (513) 519-9519
Greg Heithaus, Chapter Relations- 513 598-9646
Carolyn Bartlett, Administration Adviser - 513 425-7222

After election, a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or adult remains a candidate until completion of the Ordeal and Ordeal ceremony. If this period of candidacy exceeds 1 year, the candidate's name is dropped and he no longer is a candidate. To become a candidate again, he must be re-elected. The executive committee of the lodge may extend the one-year limit between election and induction if a candidate is ill or there are other unusual circumstances.



BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP

The completion of the Ordeal weekend is not the completion of the Ordeal process. Many things are told to the candidate during the weekend and the ceremonies. When they complete this first weekend, they become members who are referred to as "Ordeal" members. This signifies that they have completed the first step.

The completion of the Ordeal process is the participation in the Brotherhood Ceremony. This ceremony is held ten months after the Ordeal. The Lodge competes annually for the Journey to Excellence Award. In order to receive this award, those who completed an Ordeal must seal their membership by completion of the Brotherhood ceremony based on percentages for each level. The Lodge Officers and Advisers request the support of Scoutmasters/Varsity Coaches in encouraging scouts to make this step. Assist the lodge in becoming an *HONOR LODGE* every year.

We're on the Web!
www.Ku-Ni-Eh.org