

**WAG-O-SHAG LODGE**  
**Order of the Arrow**

**UNIT ELECTION INFORMATION**



**November 1, 2006**

## **Purpose of the Order**

*To recognize those campers—Scouts and Scouters—who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such manner as to warrant recognition.*

*To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit.*

*To promote Scout camping, which reaches its greatest effectiveness as a part of the unit's camping program, both year-round and in the summer camp, as directed by the camping committee of the council.*

*To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.*

## **Mission of the Lodge**

*The mission of the lodge is to achieve the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America in the council through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.*

# ELECTION REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

## 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 Scout spirit (i.e., his adherence to the Scout Oath and Law and **active** participation in unit activities). The unit leader must also certify that the nominee meets all specified requirements at the time of the 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, and 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
- **After** registration with a troop or team, have experienced 15 days and nights of Boy Scout 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 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.

**Adult membership qualifications.** All members of or candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow who are 21 years of age or older and who are registered members of the Boy Scouts of America shall be considered adult members or candidates for adult membership. Individuals shall be selected as candidates based on the following:

**Adult leaders in units:** Each year, upon holding a troop or team election for youth candidates that results in at least one youth candidate being elected, the unit committee may recommend one adult to the lodge adult selection committee. The lodge adult selection committee is composed of the lodge adviser, the lodge staff adviser and the chairman of the Council Camping Committee. Troops or teams having more than 50 registered **active** youth members may nominate an additional adult for every 50 registered, **active**, youth, or fraction thereof. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, with the approval of the Scout executive, serving as Supreme Chief of the Fire, will be candidates for induction, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

- Selection of the adult is based on the ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and **not for recognition of service, including current or prior achievement and positions.**
- The individual will be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities that fulfill the purpose of the Order.\*
- The camping requirements set for youth members are fulfilled.
- The adult leader's membership will provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.\*

\* **Most important items that the selection committee looks at.**

# Election Preparation

1. Between January 1 and April 15, schedule your unit election date and time. Contact your district election chairman
2. Insure that you have an active OA Troop Representative (unless your unit does not have any youth OA members).
3. Fill out the election form with all pertinent information including the **complete names and addresses** of all eligible youth.
4. Prepare enough election ballots to hold two (2) elections, listing the names of ALL eligible youth (those listed on the election form (see 3. above). The reason for two sets is that if no youth is elected on the first ballot, a second, and only a second ballot will be taken. (If no youth is elected the second time, the election is final with no one elected)
5. Have enough pens and pencils for the voting members of your unit. All active registered youth and Assistant Scoutmasters under the age of 21 in the unit are eligible to vote. They do not have to be members of the Order.
6. Have a place where a video clip can be shown.

# KEY DATES

## January 1

Unit elections begin.

## April 30

Last day for unit elections. *All unit elections MUST be completed by this date!*

## May 1

Election Report deadline, Adult nomination deadline, Out of Council Call Out request deadline.

*All election, adult nomination and out of council callout forms MUST be received by the Lodge Staff Adviser at the Scout Service Center!*