

**Anpetu-We Lodge  
Order of the Arrow  
Requirements and Procedures for Membership  
February 2003 Revision**

- I. Ordeal Honor Qualifications  
Youth candidates are designated as those less than 21 years of age. Adult Leader candidates are 21 and older at the time of the election.
- A. Be currently registered in a chartered Scout Troop
  - B. After joining a troop or team, have experienced 15 days and nights of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period prior to the election. The fifteen 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 Boy Scout camps.
  - C. Be elected by a vote of the troop members present at the election conducted according to procedures outlined elsewhere in these rules. (See Section II F.)
  - D. Youth members must hold the rank of First Class Scout at the time of the election and must be approved by their Scoutmaster.
  - E. Adult candidates are subject to the approval of the Scout Executive. The Scout Executive may choose to authorize a waiver for adult leaders for the requirement for long-term camp upon the recommendation of the Lodge Adviser. Only conditions related to job security or health of the adult may be considered. Approval must be secured two weeks prior to the adult election at the troop committee meeting.
- II. Ordeal Election Procedures
- A. An Order of the Arrow election may be held by any Scout troop or Varsity team in the Greater St. Louis Area Council under the following guidelines;
  - B. Who may vote in the election?
    - 1. Scout election: Every registered troop member under 21 years of age present at the election may vote. Scout leaders may not vote on Scout candidates.

2. Scout leader election: Every registered troop Scout leader present at the election may vote. Scouts may not vote on adult leader elections.

C. When and where are elections held?

1. Scout elections are held during the Troop's stay in a Council long-term camp.
2. If the Troop is attending an elsewhere camp, the election will be held at a Troop meeting during the month of May, conducted by chapter officers. An elsewhere report must be filed with the Council by May 1.
3. Scout leaders should be elected at a troop committee meeting prior to long-term camp.
4. A troop may hold only one youth and one adult election during any calendar year. To hold an adult election, a valid youth election must be held in that same year with youth candidate(s) elected.
5. Scoutmasters should have the Troop's advancement and camping records at the election to facilitate filling out the citation and to verify eligibility.

D. How many Scout candidates may a troop elect?

1. There is no minimum or maximum number of Scout candidates a troop may elect.
2. To be elected, a candidate must receive votes from at least 50% of those registered and active Scouts participating in the election.

E. How many adult candidates may a troop elect?

1. Adult Scout leaders may elect one of their active and registered troop members to membership provided that at least one Scout is elected from the Troop. Troops or teams having more than 50 registered, active Scouts as of May 1 may nominate an additional adult for every 50 registered, active Scouts or fraction thereof. For example, a troop having 51 to 100 registered active Scouts may nominate two adults each year.

2. An adult leader should be elected to membership when his position in Scouting will enable him to make the Order of the Arrow more meaningful to the lives of Scouts. As the Order is principally a young men's organization, Scout leaders are not elected to membership as recognition.
  - Selection of the adult leader is based on the ability of the leader to perform the necessary function of helping the Order fulfill its purposes, and not for recognition of service, including current or prior achievement and position.
  - The leader will be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities that fulfill the purpose of the Order.
  - The camping requirements set forth for Scouts are fulfilled.
  - The adult leader's membership will provide a positive role model for the growth and development of the Scouts of the Lodge.
3. Adult leaders who are not registered with a troop or team may be elected to candidacy by the Lodge Executive Committee. The camping requirement may be waived by the Scout Executive with the approval of the Lodge Adviser.
4. Members of our Council's Executive Staff are members ex-officio of our Lodge. When newly appointed if they have not previously been inducted into the Order of the Arrow, they are to be given an early opportunity to take part in the Ordeal and the Ordeal ceremony.
5. Camp staff members are to be elected to membership by their own Troop. If they are Council or district Scout leaders they may be elected by the Lodge Executive Committee.

F. Method of election

Voting on candidates should not be on the basis of popularity, but with a view to electing those individuals who have shown a well-developed spirit of brotherhood, and overwhelming cheerfulness no matter how tiresome their duties: and ready willingness to give unselfishly and wholeheartedly to others at all times.

The Scoutmaster (or his designee) is in charge of the election. He must be assisted by a Lodge-approved youth member. Only those previously defined in these procedures as eligible may vote.

1. The Scoutmaster provides a list of all members of the Troop who he certifies have met all eligibility requirements. This is posted so that all Scouts participating in the election may see it.

2. The Scoutmaster and Arrowman conducting the election will discuss with the voting Scouts of the Troop the purpose of the Order, eligibility requirements, voting procedures, and how a candidate is inducted. They may explain the emblems of the Order and the significance of the Native American tradition.
3. The Scouts of the Troop then vote. 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.
4. The election team of the Scoutmaster and Arrowman count the ballots.
5. The team determines the number of votes a Scout must receive to be elected as follows: If the number of ballots turned in was an even amount (2, 4, 6...) divides this number by two. If the number of ballots submitted was an odd number (3, 5, 7...) **add** one and then divide by two.
6. Votes are counted to determine who has been elected. All votes count equally.
7. The election team fills out the citations for each person elected. The citation must be signed by the Scoutmaster and the Arrowman conducting the election.

The Scoutmaster may veto the election of any candidate after the election by refusing to sign the candidate's citation. The Scoutmaster may not however, withdraw a candidate's name from the list of those eligible prior to or during the election. The Scoutmaster may veto a candidate only after the election is completed. If a candidate is vetoed another candidate may not be substituted in his place. The name will be dropped and the Troop will have one less candidate than the number elected.

It is strongly suggested that the Scoutmaster consult with the other leaders at the election prior to exercising his veto. The Scoutmaster does have the final decision.

G. Ordeal citation procedures

Immediately following the election, the Scoutmaster should complete the citation(s) and:

1. Turn in to the Camp Office at our Council Camps.
2. If an elsewhere camp, mail or deliver to the Ritter Scout Service Center in Cape Girardeau with the citation fees no later than August 15. If received after this deadline the candidate will be invited to the next occurring Spring Reunion.

H. Time limitation on completion of the Ordeal

A candidate must complete his Ordeal at either of the first two Lodge functions at which induction is possible after his election. If a candidate is not in attendance he may be inducted at the next Lodge function with the approval of the Lodge Chief. If not inducted within this time frame his election is void. Such a candidate may be re-elected in the future.

I. Disabled Scouts and leaders

The Lodge Executive Committee shall have the power to waive the camping eligibility requirements of disabled Scouts or leaders. Individual petitions will be considered for a formal vote by the Committee upon recommendation by the Lodge Chief.

II. Brotherhood Honor

A. To be eligible for the Brotherhood Honor, a Scout or Scout leader must:

1. Be currently registered in Scouting and our Lodge.
2. Have given unselfishly of his service to others for at least ten months since becoming an Ordeal member.
3. Memorize the Obligation, the Order of the Arrow song, and admonition and complete the Brotherhood Progress card.
4. Answer the questions in the official Brotherhood questionnaire satisfactorily exhibiting a thorough understanding of the Ordeal.
5. Submit a written statement:
  - Explain the meaning of the Obligation.
  - Describe how you have been fulfilling the Obligation in your Troop and daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the traditions of the Ordeal to aid in your service to others.

- Describe the specific plans you have for rendering service to the Lodge in fulfillment of the new pledge you expect to take.

B. Upon successful completion participate in the Brotherhood ceremony.

### III. Vigil Honor qualifications

To be eligible for consideration for the Vigil Honor, a Brotherhood member must:

1. Be currently registered in Scouting and our Lodge.
2. Have been a Brotherhood member for a minimum of two years.
3. Have given unselfishly of his service to others through the Lodge, the Order of the Arrow, his Scout Troop, or Scout camp.
4. Be selected by the Lodge Vigil Committee.

### IV. Vigil Honor procedures

- A. Any member of the Greater St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, may prepare a Vigil Honor nomination form on behalf of a worthy candidate. Nomination forms are available from the Scout Service Centers in Cape Girardeau and Herrin.
- B. Vigil Honor candidates will be called out and participate in the Vigil Honor ceremonies at the Fall Reunion. If unable to complete at that time, they will be able to participate at a time determined by the Vigil Committee.