



WAHISSA LODGE #118

Elections and Camping Promotions

Manual 2011

About this Manual

This guide has been developed to provide all Unit Leaders and Order of the Arrow (OA) members in the Old Hickory Council a standardized set of Unit Election & Camping Promotions Materials for use when planning and conducting Order of the Arrow elections and camping opportunities. While this guide is not all-inclusive, it covers most of the common questions and general procedures in use by the Order of the Arrow today. Additional questions about the Unit elections process or camp promotion should be directed to the Chapter Adviser, Lodge Adviser, or the Scout Executive.

Please review the information contained in this Manual prior to conducting Unit Elections and Camping Promotions in your district area to ensure that the Unit Elections performed are in compliance with current OA policy and the camping promotions information is up to date.

Election results that do not follow these policies may be invalid at the discretion of the Chapter Adviser in coordination with the Lodge Key-3 and Council Scout Executive.

The information contained in this guide provides the current National OA policy for youth and adult membership requirements and unit elections procedures. These sections are taken directly from the current Guide to Officers and Advisers (2010 Edition) as revised by operations updates available via the National Order of the Arrow website (<http://www.oa-bsa.org>).

The Camping Promotions portion of this manual is designed to use chapter-developed power point presentations of local camping spots. The resident camp DVD was designed and developed for use by the Old Hickory Council and the leadership of Camp Raven Knob. This 2010 DVD is exactly 13 minutes in length; all rights are reserved by Raven Knob Scout Reservation. Additional copies can be request by contacting the Camp Director at the Old Hickory Council Service Center, 6600 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem, NC 27106.

Sources used to develop this manual were: The National Order of the Arrow Website, the Wahissa Lodge Website, Camp Raven Knob Website and the Guide for Officers and Advisers of the Order of the Arrow, current printing of the Wahissa lodge LEC Roster posted through the officers portal and the current printing of the Honor Chapter requirements for Wahissa Lodge.

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Vice Chief's Challenge

Dear friends,

Welcome to the 2011 Order of the Arrow elections and camping promotions season for Wahissa Lodge #118. Our lodge was founded in 1938 and the selection of candidates for membership in the Order were little different than they are today. Membership is a privilege but one that the candidate did not select for himself, but rather was honored by a group of his peers to be part of.

We have a great task ahead of us in delivering the best possible election experience that a troop can have. We must all be helpful, friendly and trustworthy in our delivery of this unit election and camping promotion to each troop in our Council. This is often the first time that new candidates start to form a first impression of our lodge. The way the election team runs the election, wears their uniform and speaks about the Order sets the tone for how our future members react to their membership in the lodge.

There are several new ideas being implemented this year. I am excited that we will be offering newly updated forms, that are easier to read and hopefully to use. We will also be offering a camping promotions video opportunity to each unit for the first time in over a decade. The presentation should be exciting and will surely create interest in Camp Raven Knob among those who see the video.

I want to thank you for agreeing to serve on an elections team for 2011 and hope that you will find this manual to be indeed a good resource for you. 2011 will be an exciting year for us and I hope we can move through this busy elections season successfully together. There are more online resources available than ever before and I vow to help you in an way I can to make your chapters elections efforts smooth and first class!

Yours in WWW,

Levi Barker

Wahissa Lodge Vice Chief of Elections and Camping Promotions

VCECP Job Description

So why do we do this?

Election of new members has long been a vital part of what makes the Order of the Arrow grow and be successful. Wahissa Lodge #118 has a long history of sending election and camping promotions teams to unit meetings annually. The purpose of an elections and camping promotions team is to properly administer the elections plan of the Order of the Arrow, as a nation-wide organization and promote the camping opportunities within the local area. The rules, eligibility requirements and voting procedures are set by the National Committee of the Order of the Arrow and not by the local OA lodge. Therefore it is essential that each elections and camping promotions team and vice chief be annually trained to receive the most up to date policies and procedures thus assuring each troop's OA election is fair.

Vice Chief's Job Role

A Vice Chief of Elections and Camping Promotions (VCECP) should:

- Be proactive in contacting a unit election and camping promotion for each scout troop in their district/chapter area.
- Be in charge of establishing a day and time for each troop to hold an OA election & camping promotion.
- Keep an up-to-date elections calendar and communicate this calendar to the chapter chief and chapter adviser throughout the election season.
- Train an elections and camping promotions team from the chapter in order to conduct all the requested OA elections for each unit in their district/chapter area.
- Provide each elections and camping promotions team leader with the proper forms needed to record and conduct the unit election.
- Assure that the elections and camping promotions teams have the resources they need to conduct each unit election & camping promotion.
- Provide updates on elections progress to the lodge Vice Chief of Elections and Camping Promotions, alerting him of any needs or concerns as the season progresses.
- Seek out resources for a DVD player or laptop with a DVD player as to assure success in showing each troop the camping promotions video about Camp Raven Knob and other places to go camping.

Timeline

Following these important guideline dates will help you stay on track with your chapter election and camping promotions process.

November

Newly elected officers meet with their advisers to discuss upcoming elections season. Any information that should be addressed from the previous season should be noted and communicated between the chapter chief, chapter adviser and vice chief of elections and camping promotions (VCECP). Any concerns of the previous VCECP and outgoing Chief should be discussed and a smooth transition plan implemented.

December

Lodge Officer Training Seminar (LOTS)- Each Chapter Chief and Adviser should be involved in an elections discussion held at the LOTS. A recap of the previous year will occur and new information concerning the needs of the chapters will be addressed at this session. New and pertinent information, as well as procedural and policy oriented updates from National will be addressed for the coming elections and camping promotions season.

Lodge VCECP will send a letter to each Scoutmaster in the council announcing the upcoming election and camping promotion season. He will request that each unit attempt to provide a computer and DVD to be available during their upcoming unit election and camping promotions presentation.

Chapter VCECP's should begin to recruit elections and camping promotions teams. Each chapter VCECP should work with the chapter adviser and the election and camping promotions team to have a laptop computer and DVD player options, for each team, to use while making presentations.

January

January Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)- Chapter VCECP and Election and Camping Promotions Team Training will be held in conjunction with the Lodge ECM. All chapters should be represented by at least one youth and one adult. All chapter election and camping promotions teams should be fully recruited and trained by the end of this month. A backup team and additional fill-in persons for the teams should be recruited during this time.

February

Chapter VCECP and election and camping promotions teams should be scheduling and starting to hold unit election and camping promotions meetings. Be sure to call or contact the scoutmaster 8 days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

March

Chapters should be holding elections all month. Be sure to call the scoutmaster 8 days in advance of the

scheduled meeting. Remember this month may have school spring break.

Spring Break through Easter Holiday

If the unit has requested a presentation during the week of Spring Break make sure the troop IS meeting and that the election and camping promotions team members will be in town to do the election as agreed upon. You may wish to remind the Scoutmaster that 50% of the active boys must attend in order to hold the election- a circumstance that may exist, especially the week of spring break or holidays.

April

Chapters should be holding elections all month. Be sure to call the scoutmaster 8 days in advance. Remember this month has holidays and school vacations as well as Conclave. Things are beginning to get busy during this time of year, you may have to remind your elections and camping promotions team often of upcoming presentations.

May

Spring Fellowship Saturday- Chapter VCECP's meet with Lodge VCECP and turn in all Elections Forms. This will take place at Camp Raven Knob at a time and location to be communicated as the season unfolds.

Lodge VCECP will communicate the time and location of the meeting, as well as the process desired for turning in the elections forms. A master check of each form will take place and copies will be made during the Spring Fellowship. Any late or incomplete forms will need to be addressed at this time for any unit council-wide. Chapters are reminded to make contact with new units in their district who may not yet qualify for an OA election to provide them with a camping promotions presentation.

June- July

The names submitted on the elections forms will be called out each week of resident camp at Camp Raven Knob. Each person will be expected to come down to be recognized by the Chief of Wahissa Lodge #118 in a public recognition ceremony. All attempts are made to hold an impressive ceremony for the purpose of recognizing these honored campers and is held at Raven Knob Scout Reservation, normally at the Wednesday or Friday night campfires. (Our records in compiling these weekly lists are only as good as the forms turned in by the elections and camping promotions teams council-wide). The Lodge VCECP or his designee will communicate in camp with each Scoutmaster concerning the list of candidates and will post the list in an inconspicuous public place so that leaders can double check.

August- October

An evaluation of the elections and camping promotions system should be conducted by each chapter VCECP along with the chapter chief and chapter adviser. The purpose of this evaluation is to determine the success of the election and camping promotions process that the chapter just used. Areas of success and areas of concern should be highlighted and written down for the purpose of passing along good information to the next vice chief following the instillation of officers at the annual banquet. This document may best be kept by the chapter adviser until the transition takes place.

Training the Team

The Elections Team

- All Team members must be registered, active members of Wahissa Lodge #118
- The proper elections teams consists of **2 or more youth and at least one adult adviser** (all adults in the Order are considered advisers).
- **Team members must be trained in delivering an election and camping promotions presentation.**
- The team should not be made up of members of the troop were the election is being held to avoid bias.
- The team members must wear a complete Class A uniform with the OA sash (this team should look sharp as they represent the Order of the Arrow, the honored campers of our area).

The Election and Camping Promotions Leader's Role

- 1) Be responsible to call and remind the other members of the Elections and Camping Promotions team. Assuring that transportation is lined up
- 2) Take the lead in getting the proper directions to the meeting location and assuring that all team members know how to get to the site.
- 3) Encourage the team to arrive 15 minutes early.
- 4) Be responsible to greet the Scoutmaster and follow the Election and Camping Promotions Procedures and Scripts.
- 5) Be responsible for the election forms, assuring that all data is properly and legibly recorded, including the proper signatures of leaders.
- 6) Lead the team in delivering an impressive election and camping promotion presentation.
- 7) Be a good example when presenting the Order of the Arrow to scout units.
- 8) Follow up by delivering the completed forms to the chapter VCECP.

Teamwork Specifics

Elections are our best foot forward to a scout unit about what the Order of the Arrow is about. Our teams are more than just guys who hold an election once a year. The team represents the OA to local scout units year round. Our lodge has realized that many new lodge members, or arrowmen, only go to the Ordeal and never return to other OA functions. Consider how important it is for your team to make that good first impression.

Be sure to pull together the arrowmen who will best represent the chapter and are excited about doing the election and camping promotions. Make sure you go over with the team exactly how to hold an election, as many of them will have only seen the process happen once or twice and only in their own unit's unique location. Prepare the team to answer questions about elections by having all the team members read this manual and review the forms.

Training must start early, be sure to conduct the training prior to the election season starting in your area, so that they can get an idea for how and what to do. For larger chapters you may need more than just two teams in order to get the job done, so that you can meet the forms deadline in May. Having two teams trained should become every chapters priority- a backup team may often be needed as busy spring events can upset team members schedules.

Knowing the location of each unit's meeting place, Scoutmaster's name and cell phone number, and possibly the Scoutmaster's email address can help the team be more successful. Share this information with the team members in advance of the scheduled presentation. A good practice is to email and call the Scoutmaster 8 days before the election to remind him that the team is coming, this is a step that the team leader can handle, however the Chapter VCECP should assure that the presentation schedule is on track.

When training teams, remember to have all the materials on hand and extra copies of forms, sample ballots, extra pencils, copies of the DVD and a manual for them to take to each presentation. Provide the team with online support as well, like websites to go get extra forms and how to contact you for emergency questions and nearly instant information.

Be positive. **OA elections and camping promotions presentations are fun.** It gives the team exposure to other scout troops as well. Seeing how others do things is very rewarding and can help open one's eyes to how Scouting is a Universal Brotherhood. Stay in touch with the team members even after the training and for sure during the election season.

What to Bring to an OA election

List of items to have on hand

- Driving directions to the troop meeting location
- Name and cell phone/contact information of the Scoutmaster
- Wear your Class A uniform with OA sash
- The whole election and camping promotions team. (ideally, 2 youth and 1 adult- trained)
- DVD Player/ Laptop with a DVD player
- Camp Promotions DVD
- Where to go Camping Power Point Presentation
- Youth and Adult Elections Forms (can be printed off the Wahissa website)
- Ballots- paper for making ballots
- Pencils (a dozen or more would be great)
- Poster paper– if the troop is large you may need to write down the names on a large paper so that everyone can see the names to be elected. Remember to bring a marker for this.
- Extension cord (optional)
- Election and Camping Promotions Manual

BE PREPARED

Making a Team Presentation Box

One great idea is to fill a box with all the above items that will be needed at a unit presentation. Items listed above like pre-cut ballots, a few extra DVD's, a flash drive with your Where to go Camping power point presentation, sharpened pencils, pencil sharpener, extension cord with a multi plug, a three-pronged adapter (suitable for older meeting halls that require only 2 plug wires), a few printed manuals and lots of extra forms. Remember to keep this box stocked after each unit presentation.

About the Order of the Arrow

Mission

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

Purpose

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

About Wahissa Lodge #118

Founded in 1938 to the Old Hickory Council, Wahissa Lodge is the local OA lodge to the units of Northwest North Carolina. The lodge has roughly 1200 members and 7 chapters. Each of the chapters serve one of the districts in the council.

The lodge serves as a model for youth leaders in our council. Having a youth oriented lodge gives the youth members the opportunity to give cheerful service and leadership to the communities in the council territory. The lodge is presided over by a youth chief, who is under age 21 for his entire term of office. Also elected are the needed vice chiefs to help assure that the lodge is run properly and that all areas of lodge program are adequately administered. The same is true of chapter service. Each chapter has a chief and the needed vice chiefs that perform the various duties entrusted to them to run the chapter properly.

Adults in the Order, no matter how experienced are termed advisers. There are appointed advisers who serve at the discretion of the Lodge Adviser and the Council Scout Executive. The Scout Executive appoints the role of Lodge Adviser and also assigns one of the council professional staff to serve as the Staff Adviser to the Order of the Arrow.

The word "Wahissa" is Cherokee in origin and means happy place. The lodge building is located at Camp Raven Knob along with an outdoor campfire arena bearing it's name.

Membership Requirements

Membership Eligibility Requirements

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America
- After registering 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 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.
- Youth must be under the age of 21, hold the BSA First Class rank or higher, and following approval by the Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach, be elected by the youth members of their troops or team.
- Adults (age 21 or older) who are registered in the BSA and meet the camping requirements may be selected following nomination to the lodge adult selection committee. Adult selection is based on their ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is not for recognition of service, including current or prior positions. Selected adults must be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities, and must provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.

2010 Update

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 of eligibility 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 requirements listed above.

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

Scouts with Special Needs

The Order of the Arrow is committed to including Scouts and Scouters who have special needs because of disability. In the case of special-needs troops, elections teams should follow the same procedures, keeping in mind that any scout who is classified as a youth member of a troop, regardless of age, will be considered a youth (voting) member. All other membership requirements remain the same.

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:

- 1) **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, composed of the Lodge Adviser, the Chairman of the Council Committee on which the Lodge Adviser serves, and the Lodge Staff Adviser (and others deemed necessary by these persons). Troops or teams having more than 50 active youth members may nominate an additional adult for every 50 registered, active youth, or fraction thereof. For example, a troop having 51 to 100 registered, active youth may nominate two adults each year if at least one youth has been elected. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, with the approval of the Scout Executive, serving as the 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 function 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 forth for youth members are fulfilled.**
 - **The adult leader's membership will provide a positive role model for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.**

- 2) **Adult Leaders in Council and District Positions:** The Lodge adviser, District Chairmen, Council President, or members of the Professional Staff may recommend adults to the Lodge Adult Selection Committee. All requirements set forth for adult leaders in units must be fulfilled, with the exception of the camping requirements, which may be waived at the discretion of the Lodge Adviser and the Scout Executive. Recommendations of the Adult Selection Committee, with the approval of the Scout Executive, serving as the Supreme Chief of the Fire, will become candidates for induction.

Adults may only be recommended for membership only one time per year as either unit scouters or District/Council scouters, but not both. How they are recommended depends on where they maintain their primary registration in the Boy Scouts of America.

Because the Order of the Arrow is principally a youth organization, unit, district, and council scouters are not selected for membership as a recognition. Selection should take place only when the adult's position in Boy Scouting or Varsity Scouting will make Order of the Arrow membership more meaningful in the lives of the youth membership.

Honorary Membership

Honorary membership in the Order of the Arrow is not authorized and shall not be given. Membership in the Order shall be gained only through fulfillment of membership requirements as stated in the official literature of the Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America. Visiting scouts or leaders cannot be given honorary memberships in the Order.

Life Membership

A life membership in the Order of the Arrow is not authorized and shall not be recognized. Membership in the Order of the Arrow requires current registration with the Boy Scouts of America. There is no official or authorized life membership registration status for the Order of the Arrow in the Boy Scouts of America.

What happens once they are elected?

Each person selected by the troop will undergo an Ordeal that consists of several tests. This experience is to teach a person about self reliance, selfless service and self denial. The Ordeal is not the end; in fact it is just a beginning. After the Ordeal comes Brotherhood membership. A member is encouraged to continue to come to OA events and be an active part of Wahissa Lodge #118 as a lifelong fraternal activity. Wahissa Lodge has many different activities that perform acts of community service, respect for Native American culture, leadership development and camping. Over 2000 man-hours annually are devoted to the upkeep of Camp Raven Knob. The OA is a fun and rewarding organization for honored campers council-wide.

Active Membership

What is active membership?

Are you an active member,
the kind that would be missed,
or are you just contented
that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings
and mingle with the flock,
or do you meet in private
and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
to help the work along,
or are you satisfied to be
The kind who just belongs?

Do you work on committees,
to this there is no trick,
or leave the work to just a few
and talk about the clique?

So come to the local meetings often,
and help with hand and heart.
Don't be just a member,
but take an active part.

Think this over folks,
you know what is right or wrong.
Are you just a member...
or do you just belong?

This poem should sum up what active means in any organization from the OA to any community service one might render. Scouting is a busy group and the Order of the Arrow has a mission and purpose to full fill with the members that are elected. Every member has the option to be as active as they choose to become.

Election Procedures

To become a member of the Order of the Arrow a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout is chosen by vote of the youths 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 nonmembers. In the way membership is controlled by the youths 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 21 at the time of the election is eligible to vote.

A Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who carries a current national membership card and participates in at least some unit activities during the year is considered to be a registered active member of the unit. For example, a youth away at college who participates in some unit activities when home, such as 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 Outside the Registered Council. All elections must be conducted by the Order of the Arrow lodge of the council in which 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. Elections are held only in troops or teams.*

Unit Election Procedures

1. The lodge will determine the time of year unit elections will be held and should inform unit leaders of this by mail well in advance. Lodges are encouraged to complete all unit elections prior to their troops/ teams going to summer camp. This ensures that the maximum number of troop/ team members can be present to vote in the election. Elections are not to be held in Venturing Crews or Cub Scout Packs.
2. The lodge, through the unit elections committee, should work with the unit leader in establishing the actual time and place to conduct the election. The Order should be represented by a two- or three-member team from the lodge or chapter unit elections committee. All election team members must be trained and in proper uniform during the election.
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 youths who receive votes from at least 50 percent of those who turn in ballots are elected. If not 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 this 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 can conduct the election following the unit elections script found later in this manual. If the election team uses an alternate script, it should be sure to stress the following points:

Select the candidate 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/ team.

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 result.

Youths eligible for election also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.
8. When the voting is finished, the OA election team counts the number of ballots turned in, and enters the numbers in the unit election report.
9. The OA team determines the minimum number of votes one must receive to be elected, as follows: If the number of ballots turned in was even (2,4,6,8, etc.), divide this number by two. If the number of was odd (1,3,5,7, 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 elections 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 not 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 allowed for further explanation of the purpose of the Order and the elections procedures, and for any questions. (No information about the votes received by candidates is to be revealed at any time.) The second ballot 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.

Announcement of Election Results

As soon as the election is completed, the unit leader may or may not choose to announce to the entire unit the names of members who have been elected. Names and addresses 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 resident camp, a camporee, or a special ceremony.

The names and addresses (plus additional information that the lodge feels is necessary) are listed on the election report form. This form will be turned into the lodge by each chapter at a predetermined date set prior to the start of the elections season.

Candidate Status

Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, or adults remain candidates until completion of the Ordeal and the Ordeal Ceremony. If this period of candidacy exceeds one year, the candidate's name will be dropped. To become candidates again, they must be elected/ selected again. The executive committee of the lodge may extend the one-year limit if a candidate is ill or there are other unusual circumstances.

If a candidate permanently relocates to a new Boy Scout Council prior to completing the Ordeal, the candidate should immediately join a troop or team in the new council. A copy of the election report must be presented to the new unit leader to arrange induction in the new lodge. The candidacy period is not restarted or extended.

Procedure to Request Candidacy Extension in Wahissa Lodge #118

In order to extend the candidacy period beyond one year the candidate must write a letter to the lodge executive committee requesting an extension. The letter should state the reason that the extension is needed and any circumstances that surrounded the need for an extension. If approved, the candidate will be granted a one-year extension only and the lodge will expect the candidate to take their Ordeal as the earliest possible time offered. If the extension is not granted, then the candidates name will be dropped and in order to become a candidate again, they must be elected/ selected again.

Unit Election Script

OA Member A:

Fellow Boy Scouts, the Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. Its purpose is to recognize and honor those campers who best live up to the Scout Oath and Scout Law in their daily lives and to guide them in expanding the service that has made them outstanding. The Order promotes Scout camping and maintains camping traditions and spirit. It emphasizes that the good scout camper is not only skilled in Scoutcraft, but also true to the ideals of Scouting and its tradition of the Daily Good Turn.

The only way a Scout can become a member of the Order of the Arrow is to be elected for this honor by the members of his unit. To be eligible for election, a youth must fulfill the camping requirement and hold the First Class Rank.

After being elected, the Scout must complete the Ordeal, which is a series of tests of his sincere dedication to the high ideals of Scouting and the Order. If he is faithful in performing the tests, he takes a solemn pledge of service and is admitted into the Order. A long period of self-improvement and service then follows.

The lodge flap, universal arrow ribbon, and the distinctive sash identify the Order of the Arrow member. They are symbols of service. Out lodge has its own activities and projects, but our program does not replace the member's responsibility to his unit. Indeed, each arrowman is expected to give richer service to his own troop or team in return for the honor his unit extended to him.

American Indian Lore is an attractive sideline in our Order. Indian dances and ceremonies add color to our program of service, and members often make Indian Lore their hobby. However, one does not need American Indian attire or skill in American Indian Lore to become a valuable member of the Order of the Arrow.

Scouts you will elect representative to our brotherhood of cheerful service, and we are here to assist you in the election. All registered active members of this troop or team, except those 21 or older, are entitled to vote.

All those who receive votes from at least half of those who turn in ballots are elected. The number of candidates you elect will depend on how your votes agree with votes of other members of your unit.

Remember that an Order of the Arrow election is not a popularity contest! Don't vote for a Scout just because he is your friend or just because he is a good athlete or because he is older than the rest. What counts is his loyalty to the Scout Oath and Law.

Campaigning in an Order of the Arrow election is not permitted. You are expected to think for yourself; do not let others influence your decision. The election is by secret ballot and no discussion will be permitted, so no one will know for whom you are voting. This important decision about you fellow Scouts is entirely up to you.

Before we announce the names of those eligible and begin the election, are there any questions?

(Answer any questions about the nature and purpose of the Order of the Arrow and the election procedure.)

OA Member B:

The following members of this unit have met the camping and advancement requirements and are eligible for election, as certified by your unit leader. Will you stand and form a line over here as your names are called?

(Point out a place to line up and read the list slowly. Arrange the candidates in a line facing the voters at the place indicated; The line can be semicircular if the eligible group is large. Write each name on the chalkboard or flip chart/ poster paper as called).

Scouts, you should now answer each of the following questions to yourself; Your answers will help you to make the right selections.

OA Member A:

Who in this group is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout? Who is pleasant and easy to get along with? Is he kind and helpful? In all, if you were a Tenderfoot Scout, would you like to hike and camp with him?

Who is cheerful, even when he has many tiresome jobs to do? Who smiles whenever he can? Who obeys promptly and cheerfully? Does he control his temper? If you were at camp with him for several weeks, do you think you would enjoy it?

Who is always ready to give unselfish and wholehearted service to others? Who, in serving others, can forget his own desires and interests? Who has served your unit all year round, faithfully attending your meetings and helping with your service projects? Do you think he will continue to his service in the future? If you were his patrol leader, could you depend on him?

In all, ask yourselves: Who in this group, by living up to the Scout Oath, serves your fellow Scouts with such an example of brotherhood and cheerfulness that you look up to him with deep respect and admiration?

OA Member B:

Scouts, on the ballot you will be given, print the first and last name of 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 or team. If you feel that no one is worthy, turn in an unmarked ballot. If you are new in the troop or team and do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely, you may abstain by not turning in a ballot at all, and this will not affect the final result. Those eligible for elections also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.

The names of the eligible candidates are listed on this chalkboard (flip chart, poster, etc...) When you are finished, fold the ballot only once and give the pencil and ballot to any member of the election and camping promotions team.

(After all this has been said, then distribute election ballots and pencils.)

(Collect ballots and pencils. Count the votes in private with the unit leader.)

Successful Steps for Smooth Elections

WHAT TO DO

1. Call or contact the Scoutmaster 8 days prior to the scheduled presentation and remind him/her that at least 50% of the troops active registered youth must be present for an election to be held. Confirm date, time and driving directions to the unit site.
2. Arrive ahead of time and introduce yourself and your team to the Scoutmaster. Arrange with him the best way for your team to proceed. Share with him/her the election & camping promotions agenda you plan to follow for the evening and give him/her an idea of how long the presentation and election will take. Remember the Scoutmaster has to tell you the names of the eligible boys so they can go on the Youth Elections Form. You will need this information later in the election script.
3. Let the troop know that you plan to do two things tonight. 1) to elect new members into the Order of the Arrow and 2) to share with them information about where to go camping.
4. Set up the video/ computer system so that you are ready to play the DVD and show the power point presentation. These things may be done while the troop is gathering and doing an opening ceremony. Try to be part of that opening, if possible. It is respectful to salute the flag, say the pledge and be reverent if the troop ceremony calls for it.
5. Use the Elections Script.
6. Preferably while one person counts the ballots with the unit leader and the adult elections team member, the other youth will present the Camp DVD and show the Where to Go Camping Power Point Presentation as a part of the Camping Promotions script.
7. Be sure to get all the address information and have the forms signed by the Scoutmaster.
8. Thank the troop for allowing the team to come and for electing new members to the Order of the Arrow. Be sure to say you look forward to seeing them at camp this summer.

Camping Promotions

Central to the purpose of the Order of the Arrow is its role in scout camping promotion. One of our annual benchmarks as a lodge is to:

“Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout’s experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.”

The purpose of having camping promotions tied so closely with the lodges annual elections efforts is to assure that the troops within our council receive up to date camping information in an informative and beneficial presentation format.

We are excited to have a new camp promotions video. Produced in 2010 for the council’s use this video will excite and remind scouts about the fun program that Camp Raven Knob has to offer. More information about how to obtain a DVD for the troop or team can be found at www.ravenknob.com or by contacting the Old Hickory Council service center at 336-760-2900.

In order to show this DVD at a troop or team meeting a TV or computer with a DVD player will be required.

Where to Go Camping

Each chapter within Wahissa Lodge represents all of the local districts that make up the Old Hickory Council. These unique areas make for great camping and who would know the area better than a scout whose troop lives there. This information may change from year to year as the youth of the chapter develop more and more resources and are given more camping locations to pass along.

If your troop or team would like to suggest a place for next year’s presentation please contact the Chapter Chief or Chapter Adviser.

The lodge has challenged each chapter to create a unique Where to Go Camping Power Point presentation or booklet suitable for presentation to each troop or team in the council. This presentation may require the use of a computer in order for the boys to see what is being presented. These resources may also be found online at www.wahissa.org or by contacting the Chapter Chief or Chapter Adviser.

Camping Promotions Script

OA Member A:

We all love the woods and camping. Scouting was founded on high ideals that were tested in the out-of-doors. Most of the merit badges and all of the ranks in the Boy Scouts of America have, in some way, a close connection to being outside in the open air.

The best opportunity that a young person can have is it to go camping. Camping is one of the oldest hobbies in the world, and you are indeed fortunate to have found a scout troop or team that likes to go out camping. Boy Scout troops or Varsity Scout Teams who camp often or have a monthly scout camping opportunity tend to have scouts who advance in rank far faster, and with greater skill, than troops or teams where the out-of-doors is not a primary focus. There is no Eagle Scout who has not logged many hours of scout camping from weekend campouts to a resident camp week.

It is my pleasure to present to you two things about camping today. The first is our most recently updated Where to Go Camping Booklet/ Power Point Presentation. In this there are 5 local places where scouts like to camp in our area. Perhaps as we go through this you will have visited one or more of these camping locations. If not, these areas are scout tested and have the potential to be a good place for your troop to visit in the coming months.

(Go through the presentation/ booklet and briefly discuss the areas and answer any questions)

The second camping opportunity is open to every member of this troop. Camp Raven Knob holds 7 weeks of scout camping in the foothills of Surry County. Many of us love to camp there year round, but it is the summer camping program where most of us have earned the merit badges that we have today. This DVD will show you just how wonderful our scout camp really is. I hope you will decide to attend camp this summer with this troop.

(Show the video).

OA Member B:

If anyone cannot attend camp this summer because of a scheduling conflict with the date this troop has planned to attend you should discuss the option of being in a provisional troop with your Scoutmaster. Boys from many troops attend a week of camp this way and your Scoutmaster will be glad to help you get registered to attend.

There are also scholarship opportunities available from the Old Hickory Council, see your Scoutmaster if you would like to apply for a scholarship to attend camp.

We have enjoyed our visit with your troop and we look forward to seeing you this summer at camp. Thank you for inviting us to make this presentation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q- What is the camping requirement for membership?

A- As Scouting's National Honor Society of campers, the Order of the Arrow requires that each youth and adult candidate have fulfilled the following in order to be eligible for election/selection:

After registering 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 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.

Q- Who can vote?

A- All registered members of the scout troop under 21 years of age can vote in an Order of the Arrow election.

Q- How many youth must be present to hold an election?

A- At least half of the registered active youth in a unit must be present before a unit election can be held.

Q- How many candidates can a person vote for on the same ballot?

A- A youth may put as many names of eligible candidates on the ballot as they feel worthy of the honor. They can turn in a ballot that has all the names, part of the names or none of the names if they so choose. See the sample ballot for clarity.

Q- Can a unit leader prevent a youth candidates name from being placed on the ballot?

A- Yes. To become eligible for election and have their name placed on the ballot, each youth member must have the approval of the Unit Leader. The unit leader must certify prior to the election a candidate's 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 annual election.

Q- Can adults vote?

A- Not as adults. Any person under the age of 21 is considered a youth in the Order of the Arrow and can indeed vote in an Order of the Arrow election as a youth member of the troop. All those over the age of 21 cannot vote in an Order of the Arrow election. See also Scouts with Special Needs.

Q- Can a unit leader remove a candidate's name after the election?

A- No. The unit leader should remove a candidate from the consideration for election to the Order of the Arrow prior to the election being held. This is why the unit leader certifies, prior to the election, that the candidates have Scout spirit and that the nominee meets all specified

requirements at the time of the annual election. Unit leaders should not take a “wait and see” approach where candidates that do not have their approval (or may be questionable) are placed on the ballot to wait and see whether their peers elect them.

Q- Can OA members form the unit where the election is being held conduct the election?

A- The lodge encourages the use of election team members from other units. This can prevent possible conflicts of interest during the vote count as well as demonstrate that the AO extends beyond the troop or team. OA members from the unit the election is being held in may conduct the election if no other arrangements can be made.

Q-Can members of the elections team vote?

A- Members of the elections team should not be members of the troop in which an election is being held. If the elections team member is an actual member of the troop then, yes, he is entitled a vote. This can be seen as bias.

Q-The team came but troop had too few members present to hold an election?

A- The troop having a poor turnout the night of the election is unfortunate, even the best meeting plan can get derailed by poor turnout. In this situation work with the Scoutmaster to reschedule the election for another night. Having two-way communications with the Scoutmaster 8 days ahead of the election may help avoid a low turnout and cause the leader to encourage all boys to attend giving them a week’s notice to make that happen.

Q- What happens when the team showed up but the troop did not hold a meeting?

A- Communications is key. The election and camping promotions team member’s time is valuable, so attempt to contact the Scoutmaster as soon as possible concerning the mix up. Establishing two-way communications with the Scoutmaster 8 days ahead of the election may help avoid this circumstance. Send the team back to another meeting as soon as possible.

Q- What is two-way communication?

A- When you call a person and they answer or they call you back and you actually talk. Or when you send an email and they reply. Only in two-way communication can you be sure that information is received and agreed upon. Two-way communication is vital to the success of a unit election and camping promotions presentation.

Q- Who should I contact when the Scoutmaster does not give me (or the Election and Camping Promotions Team) two-way communications?

A- Each Election and Camping Promotions Team has an adult member. Often times that adult will have a relationship with the Scoutmaster. The Chapter Adviser would be the person to contact if the Election and Camping Promotions Team is having trouble confirming or contacting a unit leader so that they can hold a presentation. Be sure to involve the Chapter Adviser early so they can help you contact the Scoutmaster before the elections season is nearly over.

Q-What should I do when the Elections Team needs to cancel?

A- Use your resources. Do you have a backup team? Can you ask another person in the OA to go with the Elections team so that they can still make the scheduled election time? Does the adult member of the elections team have any suggestions? If you have answered these questions and thought it through without taking too much time and the election has to be cancelled, it is best to immediately call the Scoutmasters cell phone and leave him/her a message that clearly states that the team will not be able to make the election on it's scheduled night. Contact via email is also effective but be sure to leave a clear message that the team cannot make it. Then reschedule the troop as soon as possible.

Q- Can a Unit use pre-printed ballots?

A- Yes. However, care must be taken to ensure that all candidates' names appear on the ballot. Excluding a candidate's name and having it "written in" during the election should be discouraged since this may prevent a fair opportunity for this candidate to be elected. If it is discovered that an eligible candidate's name is missing from a pre-printed ballot, blank ballots should be used instead. (see sample ballot form for an example of a pre-printed ballot)

Q- Can "All of the Above" or "All" or "None of the Above" or "None" be included as choices on a ballot?

A- Yes. The only requirement that is in National OA policy along these lines is that "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**". "None of the above" or "None" should be treated as blank ballots for the purpose of counting. Ballots should not be presented that ask the voters to select candidates which they **do not** want to elect.

Q- Can my troop receive an election at summer camp?

A- No. The election and camping promotions season is held from February to May each year. A troop or team should have held its election during that timeframe. An attempt was made by each chapter to communicate with each unit to offer this service prior to the beginning of the resident camp season.

Q- Can an out of council troop hold an election at Camp Raven Knob?

A- No. The rules state that an election must be held in the council that the troop is chartered by an elections team from the lodge that the unit is affiliated with.

Q- How many adults can a unit recommend to the lodge adult selection committee?

A- The unit committee may recommend one adult to the lodge adult selection committee each year upon holding an election that results in at least one youth candidate being elected. Adult leaders are defined as registered members of the Boy Scouts of America who are 21 years of age or older. Troops or teams having more than 50 registered, active youth may nominate an additional adult for every 50 registered, active youth, or fraction thereof. For example, a troop having 51 to 100 registered, active youth may nominate two adults each year if at least one

youth has been elected.

Q- Can Unit Elections be held in Venture Crews?

A- No. unit elections can be held only in Boy Scout Troops and Varsity Scout Teams under current National OA policy. However, members of Venture Crews can be elected to the Order of the Arrow through a Troop or Team in which they are registered. The same youth and adult membership requirements apply. Venture Crews cannot select adult members for the OA either, they must be registered with a troop or team.

Q- Are the young ladies in the Venture Crew eligible for election into the OA?

A- No. Current OA National Policy is that to be eligible as a youth (all members under age 21), a candidate must be registered in the Boy Scouts, hold at least the rank of first class, and fulfill the camping requirements. This means that female youth crew members (under age 21) are ineligible. They may be elected once they are an adult (21 or older) through the adult nomination process in a troop or team.

Q- Can Adult Leaders be recommended at the District or Council level?

A- Yes. The Lodge adviser, District Chairmen, Council President, or members of the Professional Staff may recommend adults to the Lodge Adult Selection Committee. All requirements set forth for adult leaders in units must be fulfilled, with the exception of the camping requirements, which may be waived at the discretion of the Lodge Adviser and the Scout Executive.

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative (OATR)

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Duties:

- Serves as a communication link between the lodge or chapter and the troop.
- Encourages year round and resident camping in the troop.
- Encourages older Scout participation in high adventure programs.
- Encourages Scouts to actively participate in community service projects.
- Assists with leadership skills training in the troop.
- Encourages Arrowmen to assume leadership positions in the troop.
- Encourages Arrowmen in the troop to be active participants in the lodge and/or chapter activities and to seal their membership in the Order by becoming Brotherhood members.
- Sets a good example
- Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly.
- Lives by the Scout Oath, Scout Law and OA Obligation
- Shows Scout spirit

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Qualifications:

- Under 18 years old
- Appointed by Senior Patrol Leader with Scoutmaster approval
- OA Member in good standing
-

OATR's & Unit Election and Camping Promotions Presentations

When the Election and Camping Promotions Team does a unit election the OATR can definitely be of assistance. He can help with the logistics for the camp promotions video presentation, can help with the where-to-go-camping power point presentation, and can even be of assistance in helping explain why the OA is important and how to become active. Utilize the assistance of the OATR when needed, but do not let them count votes or know the election results, the Scoutmaster will take care of that detail. Not all troops have an OATR, but they should strongly consider the position.

Resources

On-line Sites:

Wahissa Lodge #118: www.wahissa.org

Old Hickory Council, BSA: www.oldhickorycouncil.org/

Camp Raven Knob: www.ravenknob.com

National OA Website: www.oa-bsa.org/misc/basics/

OA Jumpstart (for new arrowmen): www.jumpstart.oa-bsa.org/

Section SR7B Website (for annual Conclave information): www.sr7b.org/

Awards

Wahissa Lodge annually offers the following awards to chapters who earn them.

Harold Daisy Award

Wahissa Lodge #118 has an award for the chapter who best follows the elections procedures and guidelines for the year. Each portion of the elections process, from scheduling elections to the proper management of elections forms is part of the awards process. The hope is that each chapter would turn in all forms on time, with eligible hand writing, having all forms properly signed and fill out in detail. The chapter that does the best job of this task will win this award.

Honor Chapter Points

Points that relate to the Elections and Camping Promotions area are:

- Complete all elections for any troop within your Chapter that would like to have one. Turn in all completed forms to the Lodge VCECP, at lunch of Spring Fellowship. **Point value 45**
- Create a "Where to Go Camping Book" (Either printed or electronic) researched places (excluding Raven Knob), and is to be turned in to Lodge VCECP on the March Workday ECM. **Point value 10**
- Out of 55 points available of 580 total points.

Tips for Communicating with Unit Leaders

Guide to effective communications

- When talking to unit leaders it is important to remember that they represent a troop. His or her first interest is in the betterment of the boys in that troop.
- OA elections are often seen as an optional extra for a scout troop or team, so be careful as you communicate to request and ask permission to hold the election and camping promotion.
- Be clear when you speak and write. Be proactive to communicate often. A message sent to the unit leader in advance of his election to confirm that the election team is prepared will prove to be effective.
- Unit leaders have a weekly program to consider. The election alone only takes a short while, but adding the camping promotion element will require more time. Be sure to communicate this.
- Always do what you say you will do. Show up on time, call if you say you will. Leaders respect your good word.
- Represent the Order well by wearing your uniform and sash properly. Leaders appreciate proper uniforms, even if you know the troop you are visiting does not always adhere to the uniform—you should.
- When presenting use this manual and materials developed by the lodge, don't guess at what the rules are. Likewise, don't bend or break the rules either, it is not fair to scouts to be elected by an alternate manner other than those set forth by the National Order of the Arrow Committee.
- When dealing with a Scoutmaster and you make a mistake admit it. Sometimes the ball gets dropped and that is a fact of life. However, the truth may not be pleasant but it is never OK to cover up the mistake by being untruthful or by pointing fingers. Most of the time a mistake is not a mistake until one refuses to correct it. Work with the Scoutmaster to make things right.

Important Contacts

Lodge Leadership

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Lodge VCECP	Levi Barker	336-927-5843	levijb@gmail.com
VCECP Adviser	Mr. Travis Gentry	336-816-8110	travisrenee@embarqmail.com
Lodge Chief	Seth Toalson	336-624-1845	happyplace118@gmail.com
Lodge Adviser	Mr. Chris Hull	336-287-7298	CnKHull@triad.rr.com
Lodge Staff Adviser	Mr. Keith Bobbitt	336-408-3546	KMBCRK7@aol.com

Chapter VCECP's

Chapter	District	Chapter VCECP	Phone Number
Achowelendam	Salem	DJ Riggs	336-407-5615
Eke Otkia	Hanging Rock	Noel Helms	336-831-6449
Elauwit	Piedmont 1 & 2	Phillip Jolly	336-984-4005
Kola	Dogwood	Nathan Semones	336-786-7704
Sapona	Laurel	Jonathan Marion	336-399-0960
Takachasin	Wilkes	Justin Eggers	336-973-7027
Zelo Zelos	Blue Ridge	Tristen Hodges	828-265-1151

Chapter Advisers

Chapter	District	Chapter Adviser	Phone Number
Achowelendam	Salem	Mr. Tim Naulty	(336) 766-4827
Eke Otkia	Hanging Rock	Mr. Randy Collins	(336) 983-0243
Elauwit	Piedmont 1 & 2	Mr. Mike Warner	(336) 499-2525
Kola	Dogwood	Mr. Jeff Mosley	(336) 374-4874
Sapona	Laurel	Mr. Ernie Holcomb	(336) 755-4160
Takachasin	Wilkes	Mr. Greg Brown	(336) 838-6904
Zelo Zelos	Blue Ridge	Mr. Arvil Sale	(828) 264-6579

Sample Election Ballot

Wahissa Lodge #118

Please note: Ballots used in each election must adhere to National OA Standards. The lodge, chapter, or unit cannot modify these standards. Please keep the following guidelines in mind when designing pre-printed ballots:

- The key requirement is that “ 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”.
- An “all of the above” option on the ballot can be used as it meets these requirements.
- A “none of the above” option on the ballot is discouraged. If the vote feels that none of the candidates are worthy they should turn in an unmarked ballot. However, if it is used, “none of the above” votes should be treated as blank ballots for the purposes of counting.
- Ballots should not be presented that ask the voters to select candidates which they **do not** want to elect. This option does not adhere to National OA standards that states that voters should be asked to select candidates that they **DO** want to elect.
- A voter can abstain from voting by not turning in a ballot. “Abstain” is not an option to be included on pre-printed ballots. Also, voters cannot abstain from voting for individual candidates.

This properly formatted ballot with voter instructions is provided for sample purposes.

Ballot for Troop 118

Please place a check next to the name of each candidate who you believe is worthy to become a member of the Order of the Arrow.

_____ Bobby Masowitz

_____ Andy G. Bobbitt Jr.

_____ Levi Eagle

_____ Homer Scout

_____ All of the Above

If you feel that no one is worthy, turn in an unmarked ballot.

If you do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely you may wish to abstain by not turning in a ballot at all. This will not affect the final result.

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative Form



Date _____

Troop # _____

Chapter _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email: _____

Are you on Facebook? (circle one) Yes or No

When does your term of office as an OATR expire? _____

OA YOUTH ELECTION FORM

*

Council & Lodge Name & Number: OLD HICKORY, WAHISSA LODGE #118 District : _____

Unit Number: _____ Week Troop Attends Camp: _____

Scoutmaster Name: _____ Scoutmaster Phone: _____

Scoutmaster's Email Contact: _____

Date of Election: _____ Number of youth on Unit Charter: _____

NOTE: At least half the registered active youth members must be present to hold an election.

Total number of youth present at election: _____

Number of youth eligible: _____ Number of ballots turned in: _____

Number of Votes required to be elected _____ Number of youth elected _____

Youth Eligibility Requirements

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America
- 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 of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.
- Youth must be under the age of 21, hold the BSA First Class rank or higher, and following approval by the Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach, be elected by the youth members of the troop or team.

Authorizing Signatures

I certify that the above youth members are eligible and approve them as nominees for election. I also understand that the election results will be final for this elections season and that no changes can be made to the outcome of this election.

Scoutmaster / Unit Leader Date

I certify that the elections team for this election was trained and executed a fair election for this unit.

Chapter VCECP Date

Chapter Chief & Chapter Adviser Date

Elections Team Member Names serving on this election

Use additional forms stapled together if needed for larger unit elections.



OA ADULT NOMINATION FORM



*

Selection and induction into the Order of an adult Scouter should take place only when the adult's job in Boy Scouting or Varsity Scouting will make the Order of the Arrow membership more meaningful in the live of youth membership. It must not be for the purpose of adult recognition.

Unit Number: _____ District: _____

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Week Troop Attends Camp (this is the week his/her name will be called): _____

Certificate of Eligibility & Recommendation

The Troop Committee may recommend one adult per 50 registered boys to the lodge adult selection committee (our lodge executive committee) and may do so only if the troop holds an election of eligible boys for the same year.

Our troop committee certifies the following eligibility requirements and recommendation:

- Is a registered adult member of the Boy Scouts of America, 21 years of age or over.

Nominee's Position in Scouting: _____

- Since becoming registered with a troop or team, has experienced 15 days and night of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period prior to the election. The 15 days and nights included 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 was overnight, weekend or short-term camps.

Nominee fulfilled the camping requirements as follows (include the date of the long term camp): _____

- This nomination is made based on this person's ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill it's purpose, and is not for recognition of service, including current or prior positions.

Nominee's outstanding abilities include: _____

- This nominee will be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities, and will provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.

Nominee will be an asset and positive role model because: _____

Mission & Purpose of the Order of the Arrow

*

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Authorizing Signatures of Nominee

Unit Leader (unless he/she is the nominee)	Date
Unit Committee Chairman	Date
Chapter Adviser	Date
District Recommendation ONLY (Signature of District Chairman or representative)	Date

Authorizing Signatures for Wahissa Lodge #118

These signatures will be signed at the selection committee meeting

Lodge Adviser	Date
Lodge Staff Adviser	Date
Scout Executive (or designee)	Date

LODGE VCECP USE ONLY

Date of receipt _____ Date Recorded on Tap List _____

Date of Selection Committee Approval _____ Date Name given to VCAAd _____

*

OA ELECTION DECLINE FORM

Unit Number: _____

District: _____

Scoutmaster Name: _____

Week Troop Attends Camp: _____

Date: _____

Certificate of Declination

As the Scoutmaster or acting Unit Leader of Troop # _____
chartered to _____

I respectfully decline our right to a Wahissa Lodge #118 Order of the Arrow Election for this year. I acknowledge that this is my troop's only opportunity to elect new candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow for this year. I also realize that another election for Order of the Arrow members will not take place for my troop until next year. I am also aware that our troop cannot submit an adult candidate unless we have at least one youth candidate.

I further certify that our troop has no eligible youth candidates for the Order of the Arrow as of the date of this decline submission.

Scoutmaster Signature

Date

Chapter VCECP

Date

Lodge VCECP

Date

*

Eligibility Requirements for Membership in the Order of the Arrow

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- 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 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.
- Youth must be under the age of 21, hold the BSA First Class rank or higher, and following approval by the Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach, be elected by the youth members of their troop or team.
- Adults (age 21 or older) who are registered in the BSA and meet the camping requirements may be selected following nomination to the lodge adult selection committee. Adult selection is based on their ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is not for recognition of service, including current or prior positions. Selected adults must be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities, and must provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.

Updated 2010