

WULAMOC



Octoraro Lodge

Order of the Arrow

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

January 14, 1971

TO: Scoutmasters and Advisors

FROM: Steve Darby, Vice Chief, Octoraro Lodge #22 Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow is, as most of you already know, an honor campers brotherhood chartered by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. Its purpose is to recognize campers, promote camping and render service to troops, districts, and councils. Our Organization depends on individual units to elect their best scouts to membership in Octoraro Lodge 22 Order of the Arrow.

Several years ago the National Order of the Arrow Committee altered the Membership and Unit Election procedures, which enabled units to elect a greater number of their membership to the Order of the Arrow. It was apparent to lodges all over the country that the increased membership did not increase the strength of their lodges and some reported a decrease in effectiveness. The National Committee, in response to this feeling, has again changed the Membership and Unit Election procedures.

The New Election procedures, copy inclosed, provided for several important changes: Unit Leader approval, First Class rank required, no eagle bonus, and a candidate must receive votes from at least 50% of those who turn in ballots. Octoraro Lodge is in agreement with these changes and adopted the new Membership Requirements and Unit Election Procedures at their regular executive committee meeting in December.

Octoraro Lodge has organized an election team in each district to aid units in holding their Unit's Order of the Arrow election. Please contact your district O/A Chairman or his advisor when you are ready to schedule your unit's O/A election. (See list of Chairman and Advisors at bottom of letter.) Each unit may hold ONE election each year. Election may be held during the months of February, March and April or you may hold the election while your unit is encamped at Horseshoe or Jubilee. All elections prior to summer camp must be completed by the 15th of April. Candidates will be assigned to Ordeals in order of receipt.

Please feel free to contact your unit election chairman about any questions you may have in regard to these changes or scheduling problems for an election.

UNIT ELECTIONS

CHAIRMEN

ADVISORS

Brandywine

Ron Rambo (384-8736)
10 Carol Lane
Coatesville, Pa. 19320

Herb Warner (384-7536)
5 Carol Lane
Coatesville, Pa. 19320

Conestoga

Dave Cline (644-9406)
7 Fawn Circle
Malvern, Pa. 19355

George Burkholder (644-4829)
841 Cloverly Road
Berwyn, Pa. 19312

(over)

UNIT ELECTIONS

French Creek

Lenni Lenape

Octoraro

CHAIRMEN

Stuart Watson (933-0133)
Spring Hollow Road
Phoenixville, Pa. 19460

Don Givler (269-2408)
R.D. #2
Downingtown, Pa. 19335

Pete Lund (444-0929)
Beachwood Drive
R. D. #2, Anvil Hills
Kennett Square, Pa. 19348

ADVISORS

Bill Watson (933-0133)
Spring Hollow Road
Phoenixville, Pa. 19460

Bill Waxbom (696-7993)
1130 Paul Lane
West Chester, Pa. 19380

Russ Reidinger (268-8161)
R. D. #1, Box 96
Landenburg, Pa. 19350

SPECIAL RELEASENEW ORDER OF THE ARROW MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS
AND UNIT ELECTION PROCEDURES(EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY ON AN OPTIONAL BASIS
- MANDATORY JANUARY 1, 1971)Introduction

In response to the desires of lodge and area chiefs participating in the 1969 National Order of the Arrow Conference, your National Committee has approved a new set of membership requirements and procedures for conducting unit elections.

A number of boy members have been consulted during the process of change, along with the National Conference Chief, Tom Fielder, and Vice-Chief, Phil Chabot, to determine the most efficient and fair way of electing young men of high character and a proven "willingness to serve" into the Order.

The new rules were proposed at a special meeting held January, 1970, in Chicago, and were field tested during the spring of 1970 in over 500 unit elections in eleven different councils, under the supervision of members of the National Order of the Arrow Committee.

The results of these tests, along with the many letters received by the National Committee, the National Conference Chief and the National Secretary, were used in determining the new membership requirements and unit election procedures.

BOY MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

1. Unit Leader Approval To become eligible for election, a Scout or Explorer must have the approval of his unit leader prior to the election. The leader must certify as to his Scouting spirit, his adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, and participation in unit activities. He must also certify that the nominee meets all specified requirements.
2. Camping Requirements A Boy Scout or Explorer must have 15 days and nights of camping under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The 15 days and nights must include one long-term camp (6 consecutive days) within the two-year period prior to election. The balance of the 15 days may be made up of short-term (overnight, 2, 3, or 4 days) camps.
3. First Class Requirement A Scout must have attained the rank of First Class to be eligible for election. There is no rank requirement for Explorers, but they must have been registered active male members of an Explorer post or ship for at least six months prior to the election.
4. Induction To be inducted into the Order of the Arrow, candidates must participate in the Ordeal and the Ordeal ceremony.

WHO MAY VOTE

Fifty per cent or more of the registered active unit membership must be present to hold an election.

Troops - Every registered active member of the troop under age 18 at the time of election is eligible to vote.

Explorer Units - Every registered active male member of the unit under age 21 at the time of the election (except associate post adviser) is eligible to vote.

LEADER ELECTIONS

Since the Order of the Arrow is principally a boy's organization, unit leaders or assistants and committeemen are not elected to membership as an award or recognition.

Election to the Order should take place when the male adult's job in Scouting or Exploring will make Order of the Arrow membership more meaningful in the lives of boy members.

Unit leader, assistant unit leader (over age 18), and committeeman qualifications are the same as those of boy members, however, the camping requirement may be waived at the discretion of the lodge executive committee.

A unit holding an election for boy members may select one of their male leaders, provided he meets the camping requirement (15 days and nights of camping, including one long-term camp).

Unit, district, and council Scouters may (with the approval of the lodge and staff advisers) be invited by the lodge executive committee to be candidates for induction to membership.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERSHIP

The Scout executive, camp director, assistant camp director and such other professional staff member designated by the Scout executive are members ex officio of the local lodge, and when newly appointed, if they have not previously been inducted into some lodge of the Order, should be given an early opportunity to take the Ordeal and the Ordeal ceremony. Camp staff members are to be elected by members of their own unit or, if they are council or district Scouters, they should be elected by the lodge executive committee.

PROCEDURE FOR UNIT ELECTIONS

1. Informing Units of Elections At a time determined by the lodge, the troop and post leaders are mailed a letter announcing the elections. The date of the election is determined by the unit leader, in coordination with the elections committee of the lodge or chapter.
2. Holding the Elections At a time and place determined after reading the letter, the Scouts or Explorers of the unit assemble with their unit leader to elect candidates.

When a unit leader is a member of the Order, he may explain to the group the "purpose of the Order of the Arrow," outline the basis on which candidates should be selected for the highest camping honor, and describe the method of election. If the unit leader is not a member of the Order, a member of the Order, with the unit leader's consent, should make this presentation and assist the unit leader with the election.

The election should be conducted by a two or three member team from the lodge unit elections committee, in cooperation with the unit leader.

3. Before the election, the team verifies that at least 50% of the registered active unit membership is present. If 50% is not present, an election cannot be held. The number registered and the number present are entered in the spaces provided on the unit elections report form (see sample form, page 9).
4. The unit leader provides a list of all members of his unit whom he certifies have met 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 (see sample form, page 9).
5. The election team leader explains the following to the unit leader:
 - A. This is the current method of election and it supersedes all previous methods.
 - B. All of the eligible boys who receive votes from at least 50% of those who turn in ballots are elected. There is no fixed quota. In the event that no one is elected, a second vote may be held immediately, and the result of this vote will be final.
6. The election team determines the maximum number of names a voter may list on his ballot by reading the chart (see page 5) as follows:

Find the number of boys eligible for election in the first column.

(NOTE: Boys who are already members of the Order of the Arrow must not be counted as eligible.) Then move to the right and find the row which corresponds to the number of registered active members in the unit. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF NAMES A VOTER MAY LIST ON HIS BALLOT is given by the number immediately to the right in the third column. EXAMPLE: Voters in a unit having 9 eligible and 35 registered may list no more than 4 names on their ballots.

If there are more than 18 eligible in the unit, use the figures listed in the table for the 15-18 eligible and add one to the Maximum Names on Ballot value corresponding to the number registered for each additional four or fraction thereof eligible. EXAMPLE: Voters in a unit with 19 to 22 eligible and 46 registered may list a maximum of 7 names on their ballots. If this unit has 23 eligible, the voters may list no more than 8 names.

7. The team conducts the election ceremony, using the revised text and instructions given in this bulletin.

8. The election team counts the number of ballots turned in and enters this number on the report form (refer to sample form).
9. The team determines the number of votes a boy 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 was odd (1, 3, 5, 7, etc.), subtract one and then divide by two. The number of votes a boy must receive to be elected is entered on the report form (see sample).
10. The votes are counted to determine who has been elected. All votes count equally. If at least one boy has been elected, this result is final. If no one is elected, the team announces this fact and states that the unit will now be given the opportunity to vote again. Time is allowed for 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 team places a check mark next to the names of those who have been elected.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

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

Lodges can arrange to conduct a tap out ceremony at the Explorer post meeting immediately after the election.

The names and addresses (plus additional information the local lodge feels is necessary) are listed on the election report form. Team members sign the form and mail it to the specified address.

CANDIDATE STATUS

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

REGISTERED ACTIVE MEMBER

A Scout or Explorer 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 young man away at college who participates in some unit activities when home, such as a campout, camporee or occasional unit meeting, should be considered as a registered active member of the unit.

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

<u>No. Boys Eligible</u>	<u>No. Active Registered Unit Members</u>	<u>• Maximum Names on Ballot</u>
1-2	2 & up	1
3-4	4-14 over 14	1 2
5-6	6-24 over 24	2 3
7-8	8-18 19-34 over 34	2 3 4
9-10	10-30 31-44 over 44	3 4 5
11-12	12-20 21-41 42-54 over 54	3 4 5 6
13-14	14-33 34-52 53-64 over 64	4 5 6 7
15-18*	16-21 22-45 46-62 63-74 over 74	4 5 6 7 8

*For each additional four eligible, add 1 to the Maximum Names on Ballot (see instructions).