



# Langundowi Lodge 46

Order of the Arrow

Scouting's National Honor Society

## French Creek Council, BSA

1815 Robison Road West

Erie, PA 16509-4999



January 1, 2020

Dear Unit Leader:

The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. It recognizes 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, to promote camping, to develop leaders, and to crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others. Each Scouts BSA troop and Venturing crew with qualified Scouts is urged to hold an election not later than May 1st, to select candidates for an Ordeal to be held at Custaloga Town Scout Reservation on July 10-12, 2020 or August 14-16, 2020. The date and place of the election are selected by you, as unit leader.

### Youth Membership Qualifications

1. Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
2. At the time of their election, youth must be under the age of 21, hold the Scouts BSA First Class rank or the Venturing Discovery Award or higher, and following approval by the scoutmaster or crew advisor, be elected by the youth members of their unit.
3. The youth must have experienced 15 nights of camping while registered with a troop or crew within the two years immediately prior to the election. The 15 nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of at least five consecutive nights of overnight camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. Only five nights of the long-term camp may be credited toward the 15-night camping requirement; the balance of the camping (10 nights) must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps of, at most, three nights each.
4. Assistant scoutmasters who are 18, 19 or 20 years old are also considered to be youth members for the purpose of OA elections. All requirements shown above must be met for a young assistant scoutmaster to be eligible for election.

Prior to the annual election, the unit leader must certify the nominee's Scout spirit and youth membership qualifications. Voting for youth candidates will be based on their spirit of brotherhood, cheerfulness (no matter how tiresome their duties), and a willingness to give unselfish and wholehearted service to others at all times.

### Adult Membership Qualifications

Each year, upon holding a unit election for youth candidates that results in at least one youth candidate being elected, the unit committee may nominate registered unit adults, 21 years of age or older, to the lodge adult selection committee. The number of adults nominated can be no more than one-third of the number of youth candidates elected, rounded up where the number of youth candidates is not a multiple of three. In addition to the one-third limit, the unit committee may nominate the currently serving unit leader (but not assistant leaders), as long as he or she has served as unit leader for at least the previous 12 months. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, with the approval of the Scout executive, will be candidates for induction, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

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

Adults will be selected by the committee of Langundowi Lodge based on the recommendation of the unit committee and the service they can provide to the lodge. Once the nomination is received and reviewed, the candidate will receive a letter and form to complete stating the services they are willing to provide to the Lodge. Once this form is completed and returned the lodge committee will consider the nomination and notify the candidate and the unit leader if the recommendation has been accepted. This process will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NOTE:** The unit's recommendation of an adult must be completed **prior** to the youth election, but only units with youth candidates elected may nominate an adult. Please be sure the committee chairman understands this procedure and the recommendation form is signed by the unit leader and the committee chairman prior to the youth election.

#### **Election Procedure:**

1. Select an election date **between March 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>**.
2. Return the enclosed postcard notifying the Lodge Unit Elections committee of your selected date, and an alternate date. The postcard must be received at the McGarvey Service Center **no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>**.
3. **Prior** to your unit election date have your Unit Committee (if they desire) select an adult nominee and complete the Adult Recommendation Form.
4. Two weeks prior to your election night, an election team member will contact you to verify the time, date, and location of your election.
5. On the night of the election you will need to verify that at least 50% of your unit membership is in attendance, have the *Unit Elections Report* filled out with candidates that are eligible, and have an *Adult Recommendation Form* completed (if desired).
6. Upon completion of the election, you will notify the candidates and his parents so they may complete the *Ordeal Registration Form* and submit it to McGarvey Service Center for the Ordeal of their choice. Please pass out the post card with information regarding how to obtain the information letter and registration form.
7. You should register with the necessary people at summer camp to participate in the calling out ceremony to publicly recognize those elected from your troop.

**Please Note:** If we do not receive a completed paid reservation form by May 15<sup>th</sup> for the scouts elected by your troop, we will contact them with a letter of congratulations and a reservation form for them to complete. There have been several conflicts where Scouts cannot attend an Ordeal because they became aware of their election too late. Langundowi will be conducting Ordeals on the weekends of July 10-12, 2020; and August 14-16, 2020 at Custaloga Town Scout Reservation. Due to possible conflicts with football, band, and family vacations; please notify the candidates, or their parents, as soon as possible after the election so they have the best opportunity to complete their Ordeal. If a candidate cannot attend either one of these ordeal induction weekends they will have to be re-elected next year.

Your quick response in completing the enclosed post card will be appreciated or email David Bonner at [jdbvmi@live.com](mailto:jdbvmi@live.com) to notify the lodge of the date requested and place set aside for the election of candidates. It should be held at a regularly scheduled unit meeting or camping experience. Every effort should be made to have 100 percent attendance of both youth and adults at this meeting. An election team from the Order of the Arrow will be on hand to conduct the election.

Please, ***NO Unit Visitation REQUESTS PRIOR TO MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>***. Please mark the type of visit (Election or Support) on the card and return it as well; otherwise we will contact you for not returning the card.

If you have any questions, any of the following members of Langundowi.

**ICE Vice Chief**

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Sincerely in Scouting,



LANGUNDOWI LODGE #46

ORDER OF THE ARROW