



July 15, 2010

YOU MUST BRING THIS LETTER WITH YOU TO THE ORDEAL.

Congratulations on being elected by your peers to be a candidate for the Order of the Arrow. Now that you have been elected and have been "Called Out" you are probably wondering what happens next. The next step is for you to participate in an Ordeal Weekend.

There will be two opportunities for you to complete your Ordeal. If you do not make it to one of these Ordeal Weekends, you will no longer be eligible for membership unless you are elected again next year by your peers. These opportunities are:

September 10-12, 2010 at Camp Fawcett

April 8-10, 2011 at Camp Sol Mayer

When to Arrive:

You should arrive at camp between 7:30 and 8:00 PM on Friday to check in. Check in at the Dining Hall at Camp Fawcett or at the Administration Building at Camp Sol Mayer. There is no meal provided Friday night. You should have eaten a good meal prior to your arrival. Once you have checked in, you will be given instructions for the rest of the weekend.

What to Expect:

After you are called for induction, you will be given directions and asked to gather your overnight articles. You will be led to an area to spend the night out. In the case of inclement weather, you will be placed in an area that is as dry as possible. You will then spend the next day in self-evaluation and unselfish service. Your Ordeal Induction Ceremony will take place early Saturday evening. After the induction ceremony, all Arrowmen are invited to a fellowship Cracker-barrel. There you will receive a packet containing membership related items. The Ordeal Weekend ends on Sunday morning. Check-out times will be announced at the Cracker-barrel on Saturday night. You must provide your own tentage for Saturday night. You should instruct your ride that they are to drop you off, and pick you up from the camp parking lot. If you have specific medical problems that may interfere with your ability to complete your Ordeal, some allowances can be made to accommodate you. Please let us know about them ahead of time so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Candidates Should Bring the Following Items:

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|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| 1. Plastic Ground Cloth | 4. Work Clothes | 7. Flashlight | 10. Prescribed medication (if needed) |
| 2. Sleeping Bag | 5. Work Gloves | 8. Drinking Cup | 11. Annual BSA Health & Medical Record |
| 3. Scout Field Uniform | 6. Poncho/Rain Gear | 9. Water Bottle | 12. Current BSA Membership Card |

Newly Inducted Ordeal Members will Receive the /following:

1. Order of the Arrow Membership Card
2. National Order of the Arrow Handbook
3. Order of the Arrow Ordeal Sash
4. Order of the Arrow Lodge Pocket flap
5. Food for the Event

Smoking and Drinking:

It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances is not permitted at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members.

Health is a most valuable possession. Smoking will dangerously impair a person's health. BSA recommends that leaders maintain the attitude that young adults are much better off without tobacco. Leaders are encouraged not to use tobacco products in any form nor allow their use at any BSA activity involving youth participants.

Ceremonies:

The ceremonies of the Order of the Arrow were developed to help members learn and feel its higher purpose. They are not meant to imitate the induction procedures of adult fraternal groups. The following policy on safeguarding all ceremonial concepts and materials should be exercised. Youth and adults elected into this program have earned the exclusive privilege of learning these concepts aimed at developing leadership abilities through a safeguarded ceremonial induction. Passwords, signs and countersigns, and secluded sites all are part of the ceremonies, and non-members should respect the safeguarding of these procedures. The Order's ceremonies are not public nor are they in any way meant to be a social affair. You should always be able to answer "Yes" to Allowat Sakima's question, "Are you Brothers satisfied that all present are members?"

Although the contents of the ceremonies are private, they were written to avoid offending any religious belief and have received the approval of religious leaders of all faiths. The ceremonies are true to Scout tradition and to the spirit of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.

We recognize and respect the right of any parent, scout leader, or religious leader to be concerned about the content of the ceremonies. Lodge advisers will willingly discuss the content of the ceremony and any other concerns brought to their attention. If after the discussion, a request to attend an Order of the Arrow ceremony is received from any sincerely concerned adult, permission will be granted with the understanding that the visitor must not interfere with the ceremony. **This request must be made in writing at least seven days before the ceremony.**

Pre-registration:

You must pre-register by mail, at the Concho Valley Council Scout Shop. Space will be limited. If you show up without pre-registering, we will not turn you away, but you may be the last to go through the ceremonies, which can mean a very late night for everybody involved.

Please complete the attached registration form and return to:

**Concho Valley Council, BSA
Order of the Arrow
P O Box 1584
San Angelo TX 76902**

Don't forget! Bring your completed Annual BSA Health and Medical form (#34605) and this letter.