



February 2, 2017

To: All Troop/Team Leaders
From: Nischa Chuppecat Lodge – Hoosier Trails Council
Subject: **Order of the Arrow Unit Elections**

The Order of the Arrow is the Boy Scouts of America's Honor Society. Its purpose is to recognize those Scouts who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law in the daily lives and by such recognition cause others to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant similar recognition, to promote camping and develop and maintain its traditions and spirit and to crystallize the habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Each Scout Troop or Varsity Team with qualified Scouts is encouraged to hold an election to select candidates for the calling out ceremony to be held at Maumee each week. The week your unit is attending camp would be very appropriate. You select the date of the election as the unit leader. It should be held on a regularly scheduled unit meeting. Every effort should be made to have 100% attendance of the unit members. 50% attendance is required. The election must be held **no later than April 30th**. Unit elections are coordinated through the Chapter Chief. Contact your Chapter Chief, his Adviser, or use the attached postcard to schedule a team to attend the unit meeting to hold the election. Please do this as soon as possible.

No election will be held after April 30th or at summer camp.

Youth Membership Requirements:

1. A Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who holds First Class rank, is under 21 years of age, and is registered as an active member of the Troop or Team and with the approval of the unit leader, may be nominated for election. Prior to the election, the unit leader must certify the nominee's Scouting spirit and youth membership requirements.
2. The Scout or Varsity Scout must have experienced 15 days and nights of camping during the two year period prior to election. The 15 days and nights of camping must include 6 consecutive days and nights of long term camping, approved and under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping would be overnight, weekend or other short-term camping.

Voting for youth candidates should be based on their spirit of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and a Willingness to give Unselfish and Wholehearted Service to others at all times.

Information concerning the recommendation of adult Scouters to the Order of the Arrow has been sent to the unit committee chairperson whose responsibility it is to hold the adult selection meeting. Any adult being nominated must hold primary registration (where they pay their membership fees) in the unit which is recommending them and the form must be completed and returned by April 30th. Please see your unit committee chairperson for more information.

The Order of the Arrow would also like to offer a summer camp promotion presentation. This can be done at the same meeting as the unit election or at another mutually agreeable time. We hope you would invite Webelos who may be joining your unit prior to summer camp along with their parents. Talk with your Chapter Chief and make arrangements for this presentation. If you need general help you may e-mail OA-HTC@scouting.org.

If you have questions regarding the elections in your unit, please call one of the individuals listed below.

In the Spirit of Service,

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