



TECUMSEH LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

To: All Ordeal Candidates & Parents
From: Garrett Emond, Lodge Chief

Congratulations! You have been chosen as a Candidate to join the Order of the Arrow by your fellow Scouts. The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society, and we are pleased that you have been elected. However, the election is just part of the process. To become a member, you must first complete the Ordeal, which consists of four parts that you will complete during the Ordeal weekend. These four parts are: A night of camping alone under the stars to prove self-reliance, a day of arduous toil to show willingness to serve others, a day of scant food to show the power of self-denial, and a day of silence, to turn your thoughts inward, in that order. After completing these tasks, you will be able to complete your ceremony and become a member of the Order of the Arrow.

You have **18 months from your election date** to complete your Ordeal. If you do not complete it within that time, or if you miss your chosen weekend due to schedule conflicts such as sports or band, you must be reelected. Extensions are only considered for medical or significant hardship; contact the Lodge Chief or Lodge Advisor through the Tecumseh Lodge website to submit an application (www.tecumseh65.org) if needed.

In 2026, you will have three opportunities to complete your Ordeal. Please pre-register by the Friday one week before your selected event. The \$50 registration fee covers meals, your Ordeal Sash, OA Handbook, Lodge Information Book, Ordeal Certificate, Tecumseh Lodge dues for the remainder of 2026, a Lodge Pocket Flap, and program costs. Payment may be made online through the Tecumseh Lodge website. **After registering online, you must still complete the enclosed forms and bring them with you to the event.**

The Ordeal Weekend Opportunities for 2026 are as follows:

April 10-12 at Camp Falling Rock
May 1-3 at Camp Oyo
August 14-16 at Camp Lazarus

Plan to arrive at camp **between 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM on Friday**; no arrivals after **8:15 PM** unless you have made prior arrangements with the Lodge Chief or Lodge Adviser. **Saturday arrival is not permitted**, as the Ordeal begins Friday night and must be completed in full. The weekend concludes at **9:00 AM on Sunday**. Please arrange pickup between **9:00 and 10:00 AM**. Youth may not leave before Sunday morning unless a parent or guardian provides written authorization on this form.

You will need to bring the following items with you to the Camp:

- The attached Registration Information form attached to this letter, **filled out and signed.**
- The attached Code of Conduct form, **filled out and signed.**
- The attached Medical Forms A&B only
- A tent, a ground cloth, and a sleeping bag for sleeping Saturday night, and to keep your gear in. You can share your tent with another Scout; however, Youth Protection Guidelines must be followed at all times.
- A second, separate waterproof ground cloth for Friday night (you **will not** be sleeping in your tent that night).
- Work clothing (grubbies) – you will want to change into these on Friday night for sleeping out under the stars, and you need to wear them while working Saturday (this clothing could get torn, very dirty, or even get paint on it). Please wear only clothing that is scouting-appropriate.
- Work gloves
- A complete “Class A” Scout uniform to wear during the Saturday Ceremony
- A jacket and raingear if needed (check the weather forecast before you go)
- Water bottle
- Money, if you wish, for the Lodge Trading Post

Please note:

- ❖ If you are taking medications, have them labeled and in their original prescription containers if applicable; place them in a “Zip Lock” type baggy, along with your name, instructions, and an explanation note from your parent or guardian.
- ❖ If you have special dietary needs for medical or religious reasons, we need to know by Friday Night at registration.
- ❖ If you are an adult with special skills (plumbing, electrical, carpentry, etc.), please let us know. We provide service for the camps, and if you can help in these ways, we can save the camp money and time.
- ❖ There is no need to bring electronics as there will be no time allotted for their use. You will not be able to carry them with you, and they could get damaged, misplaced, or stolen.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Garrett Emond
Lodge Chief



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SIMON KENTON COUNCIL

About The Order Of The Arrow

Mission

To achieve the mission of Scouting America through transformative fellowship that ignites limitless Scouting journeys.

Purpose

As Scouting's National Honor Society, we forge lifelong bonds among the leaders in Scouting and:

- Recognize those who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and, through that recognition, cause others to act in the same way.
- Reinforce a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.
- Create and deliver peer-led, adult-guided, advanced leadership experiences for Scouts and Scouters that positively impact their unit, community, and ultimately our nation.
- Be an integral part of Scouting America and encourage participation in all it offers through units, outdoor adventures, and national events to further the Scouting experience.

History

The OA was founded in 1915 by Dr. E Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson at Treasure Island Scout Reservation in New Jersey to recognize honor campers. It quickly spread to other camps, and was adopted nationally in 1948. Today it emphasizes not only camping, but service, leadership, and character on a daily basis both within and outside of Scouting.

Members

Members are called Arrowmen and are elected to the organization by their fellow Scouts. The OA is unique in that nonmembers are often the ones that elect Scouts in their troop for membership.

Honors (Levels)

There are three honor levels in the OA: Ordeal, Brotherhood, and Vigil. The Vigil Honor is the highest honor level in the organization.

Leadership

The OA is led by youth Arrowmen (all under 21 years old) who have been elected by their peers to lead the organization on various levels. These elected officers lead the organization under the guidance of selected adult advisers.

Identification

Arrowmen wear white sashes with a red arrow to signify their membership in the Order of the Arrow. Arrowmen also wear a patch on the top of their right front pocket on the official Boy Scout uniform that both signifies their membership in the Order of the Arrow and distinguishes which lodge they are a member of.

Locally

The Tecumseh Lodge includes all Arrowmen registered in the Simon Kenton Council. Each district in the council also has a corresponding chapter to support the program locally.

To learn more about the Order of the Arrow, visit the official National OA website at www.oa-bsa.org or our Tecumseh Lodge website at www.tecumseh65.org

SCOUTING'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



TECUMSEH LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Registration Information

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Male Female

Address _____ Home Phone _____

City / State / Zip _____ Emergency Phone _____

Scout ID # (from your unit ID card) _____ Unit type _____ Unit # _____ BT GT District _____

- I wish to attend the following Ordeal:
- April 10-12 at Camp Falling Rock
 - May 1-3 at Camp Oyo
 - August 14-16 at Camp Lazarus

e-mail Address _____
(this will be used to send newsletters and lodge notices to your scout)

Ordeal Candidate's Agreement

(Required for everyone)

I have read the enclosed candidate letter and understand that the Ordeal is of a serious nature and it shall not be taken lightly. At the Ordeal, I will do my best in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law and the Outdoor Code. I will obey and respect those who may be in authority over me during the weekend. I will adhere to the principles of the Ordeal as they are explained to me. If I do not follow the above, and I am not faithful in performing the tests of the Ordeal, I may, after a talk with the leaders of the Ordeal, decide to remove myself from the Ordeal as soon as it is possible. I understand this means that I do not become a member of the Order of the Arrow at that time. I also agree that I will not leave the Camp property before Sunday Morning at 9:00AM without informing the Leaders of the Ordeal, and if I am under 18 years old, without my Parents written permission.

Candidate's signature _____ Printed name _____ Date _____

Parent's or Guardian's Agreement

(Required for everyone under 18 years of age)

I, _____, the parent / guardian of the above Candidate, have read the enclosed Candidate letter and forms. I understand that the purpose of these forms, are to provide a safe and pleasant environment for all the members and Candidates involved. I also realize that if my child decides to remove himself or herself from the Ordeal "as soon as possible", it may mean that I would have to come to camp to remove them. The health history on the medical Form is correct so far as I know, and the person herein described has permission to engage in all prescribed activities except as noted by me. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the adult leader in charge to hospitalize, secure proper anesthesia, or to order injection or surgery for my son.

(Initial) My child has permission to leave camp prior to Sunday Morning with the following person: _____
Use this if it is necessary for them to leave Saturday evening and they will be riding with another authorized adult. (If he or she does not have permission, write NOBODY on the line above.)
Without this permission we will NOT permit your child to leave the camp before Sunday morning unless we are able to contact you.

(Initial) My child has my permission to keep his medications with them and they are capable of administering them themselves.
Any medications of a restricted nature (narcotics, etc.) should be turned in at registration so they can be kept in a secure place. Your child will need to come to us for administration of these medications.

Parent's or Guardian's signature _____ Printed name _____ Date _____