

# Long Beach Area Council

## Order of the Arrow Informational Gathering

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**January 12, 2012**

**Will J. Reid Scout Park**





# Agenda



- Introductions
- Order of the Arrow Update
- Order of the Arrow Overview
  - Purpose and history
  - Benefits
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Eligibility
- Order of the Arrow Events / Timeline
- Election Sign-up





# Order of the Arrow Update

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- Lodge Registration/Charter
- Council Executive/Lodge Advisor Priorities
- Announcements





# Order of the Arrow Overview



## Frequently Asked Questions

- What is the Order of the Arrow?
  - Scouting's National Honor Society
- What is the Order of the Arrow's Purpose?
  - Recognize those Scouts and Scouters that best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law
  - Promotion of year-round camping, outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship
  - Leadership development
  - Cheerful service to others
- History
  - Founded in 1915 by Dr. E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson at the Treasure Island Camp of the Philadelphia Area Council
  - Officially approved as part of the Scout Program in 1934
  - 1998: Officially recognized as Scouting's National Honor Society
  - 170,000 active members affiliated with over 295 Lodges





# Order of the Arrow Overview



## Frequently Asked Questions

- What are the benefits to my Scouts?
  - Additional opportunity for troops to recognize Scouts
  - Additional leadership opportunities; bring experience back to the troop
  - Ability to meet and interact with other Scouts through participation at the local, regional, and national levels
- How do I know that my Scouts won't join the OA troop?
  - Order of the Arrow is not a unit; it is a complementary program that emphasizes the importance of active participation in the Scout's current unit
- How can I apply?
  - Members are selected by non-members based upon their sincere dedication to living the Scout Oath and Law
- Can I join the lodge if I previously was inducted into Order of the Arrow?
  - Absolutely





# Order of the Arrow Overview



## Frequently Asked Questions

### ■ Youth Eligibility Requirements:

- Registered member of Boy Scouts of America
- Must be under the age of 21
- Must be a First Class Scout
- Completed 15 days and nights of camping in the two years prior to election to include one long term camp
- Must receive votes from 50% of those that turn in ballots; voters may nominate more than one Scout
- 50% of the registered active members must be present for the vote

### ■ Adult Eligibility Requirements:

- Troop committee may nominate one registered adult leader for every 50 registered Scouts; Lodge Adult Selection Committee reviews/approves nominations
- Ability to fulfill OA Lodge functions
- Completed 15 days and nights of camping in the two years prior to election to include one long term camp
- Not a recognition for service or achievement





# Order of the Arrow Overview



## Frequently Asked Questions

- Will Order of the Arrow be replacing the Tribe of Tahquitz?
  - Absolutely not
  - OA and Tribe functions will complement each other
  - OA will offer additional opportunities not currently available to Council Scouts
  - Order of the Arrow Organizing Committee has collaborated with Tribe of Tahquitz leadership to establish the Council Lodge
- Can I be a member of both the Tribe of Tahquitz and Order of the Arrow?
  - Yes, the Tribe has many members that are dual enrolled in OA
- Will members of the Tribe of Tahquitz automatically become members of Order of the Arrow?
  - No, Scouts and Scouters are elected to become members of the Order of the Arrow by their respective Scouting units





# Order of the Arrow Overview



## Frequently Asked Questions

- Induction Ceremony is referred to as the Ordeal; successful completion is necessary for becoming a member of the Order
- Don't we need youth members to start an Order of the Arrow Lodge?
  - We are lucky to have 5 youth members in our council that were previously inducted into Order of the Arrow and will be leading us through the establishment of our new lodge
- How are we going to establish this lodge with 5 Scouts and a handful of Scouters?
  - Our lodge has become affiliated with Section W4S made up of 4 additional lodges in Southern California and they are committed to helping us until we are self sustaining
- Levels of Order of the Arrow
  - Ordeal: successful completion of Ordeal
  - Brotherhood: 10 months and completion of certain requirements
  - Vigil: one person annual for every 50 registered members





# Order of the Arrow Events/Timeline

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## Unit Elections:

- Feb 1 – May 10: at the discretion of the troop (location/date/time)
- May 11: Spring Camporee

## Call out:

- May 12: Spring Camporee
- TBD: at the discretion of the troop (those units not participating in the Camporee)

**Spring Ordeal:** May 18-20 (tentative)

**National Order of the Arrow Conference:** July 30 – August 4





# Election Sign-up

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- Closing thoughts
- Questions?
- The OA Organizing Committee will be located in the rear for those Troops interested in scheduling a date for Unit Elections

