

Unit's Guide to Elections

The Unit Election is the beginning of a Scout's journey in the Order of the Arrow. Each unit election is held at a Troop or Team's meeting by the local Chapter's election team. Every youth member in the Order of the Arrow has been chosen by their peers. Having an election in your unit gives scouts many unique opportunities in leadership and service that reach past the opportunities in their unit. There should be no concern that the Order of the Arrow will draw scouts away from unit activities as an Arrowman's first duty is to his Troop.

As stated previously, every youth member of the Order of the Arrow is elected by their peers in their unit. The election is not meant to be a popularity contest but an election to present those honor campers that exemplify the points of the scout oath and law in their daily lives. Adults may be presented to the Order as candidates as well. Adults are nominated by the registered adult leaders in their unit via a form brought by the local Chapter's election team.

All election teams will consist of at least two youth and one adult. Most elections can take between 20 to 35 minutes depending on your unit size and which presentations you choose to have. Things included in the election are: A description of the Order of the Arrow, a slideshow presentation about the Order of the Arrow and Occoneechee Lodge, a brochure about local camping opportunities, and the election itself. If your unit is unable to accommodate for this much time and for displaying presentations, you may request these items to not be included.

Prior to the election, teams will ask for a list of eligible scouts in order to build a ballot and some will ask that the unit build their own ballots. Before contacting your local chapter adviser, please have your list of eligible scouts prepared. You can contact your Chapter Adviser at lodge104.net/elections. You may find an accurate list of currently registered scouts via myscouting.org. This information should have each scout's BSA ID which is required for the post-election process.

One of the missions of the Order of the Arrow is to promote camping. During your unit election, you can have a camping presentation in addition to the election presentation. This will include basic promotion of the Boy Scout High Adventure bases and the council local summer camp: Camp Durant.

As soon as the election is completed the unit leader may announce to the entire unit the names of members who have been elected. Some Chapters have a scheduled call-out ceremony during a district camporee or similar event. Please talk to your local chapter adviser about call-out opportunities when you schedule your unit election. A call-out ceremony will be much more meaningful to those elected and is highly recommended.