



Congratulations on your election!

You are now eligible to take upon yourself the Ordeal experience. The Ordeal must be completed within one year from the date of your election. This year's assemblies will be:

May 3-5, 2019

July 20-21 (*limited to 50 participants*)

October 4-6

Ordeal weekends are held at Lost Pines Scout Reservation (LPSR) in Bastrop.

YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE

tonkawa99.org/assembly

(\$10 late fee for on-site registration)

MEDICAL FORMS

Per Scouts BSA policy, Tonkawa Lodge must collect Parts A & B of the BSA health form. You may submit it online when you register, or you may bring a non-returnable paper copy.

COST

\$55 for new Arrowmen

(\$10 late fee for on-site registration)

More information on Page 2

www.tonkawa99.org

Dear Scouting Family,

Congratulations! You—or your child—has been elected by peers as a candidate for the Order of the Arrow, the society of honor campers within Scouts BSA. The OA is a national brotherhood of scouts that was originated in 1915.

Candidates for the Order of the Arrow are chosen not only for what they have done, but also for what they are expected to do in serving others. Because of our unique method of being selected by peers, we are certain that this honor is well-deserved.

The next step is to participate in an Ordeal weekend (Assembly) within one year of the date of election—NOT the date of the tapout ceremony. Our Lodge offers three Ordeal weekends per year: spring, summer and fall at Lost Pines Scout Reservation in Bastrop. The Ordeal offers a unique opportunity to reflect on personal commitments to the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. The weekends will also acquaint you with the principles and purposes of the Order of the Arrow. The Ordeal must be completed by each new candidate and is a meaningful and inspiring experience that will not be soon forgotten.

Induction into the Order of the Arrow will open many new doors for members. Our Lodge participates in many events every year such as OA Section Conclaves, National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC), and various fellowship weekends. In addition, the OA provides some of the most valuable youth leadership training and opportunities available. These opportunities will build upon the knowledge already received as part of the Scouting experience. This is truly an exciting time. Once again, congratulations.

Richard South

Tonkawa Lodge Adviser

IMPORTANT

Please carefully read all pages of this candidate information packet. Attendance, without interruption, for the ENTIRE weekend is mandatory for the candidate to complete the Ordeal and be inducted into the OA.

EQUIPMENT AND PACKING LISTS

New candidates will need two separate packs for Ordeal. **PACK #1** should be kept with you when you arrive for check-in. **PACK #2** should be kept in the designated area in the Lost Pines Dining Hall, or in your vehicle, and will be picked up before dinner on the 2nd day of your Ordeal.

PACK #1

Do not pack anything that isn't on this list.

WEAR:

- ✓ Outdoor work clothes that can get dirty/paint spots on them
- ✓ Work gloves & hat
- ✓ Heavy footwear or boots

CARRY: *Must fit in one hand or shoulder carried bag*

- ✓ Tarp, rain gear or poncho
- ✓ Sleeping bag / ground pad
- ✓ Sharp pocketknife
- ✓ Water Bottle (Mandatory!)
- ✓ Small bottles of bug spray and sunscreen are permissible

PACK #2

Pack separately in a small backpack

- ✓ Complete Boy Scout Uniform
- ✓ Tent / sleeping gear
- ✓ Toiletries and shower articles
- ✓ Change of clean clothes
- ✓ Spending \$\$ for OA Trading Post

IMPORTANT

Phones and other electronics are not permitted in Pack #1. Please keep those items, and their chargers, in Pack #2. These will be under secure watch until they are claimed on day 2.

ABOUT THE ORDEAL

Tonkawa Lodge Assemblies take place at Lost Pines Scout Reservation in Bastrop, and comprise the induction process for new members into the Order of the Arrow. Commonly known as The Ordeal, candidates will meet a series of challenges that will foster self-reflection and test their commitment to a life of cheerful service. For existing members, Assembly Weekend offers a chance to strengthen friendships and serve Scouting in meaningful ways.

TONKAWA LODGE DUES

For new candidates, your Ordeal fee includes your first year's dues. Existing members must have paid their dues to attend Assembly. Dues may be paid upon arrival if they haven't already been paid. See the dues structure page on Tonkawa99.org for more information.

ORDEAL FEES

What's included in Ordeal fee?

- Your first year's dues
- Meals for the weekend
- OA sash and uniform flap
- OA Handbook

IMPORTANT

No payment for Assembly can be made online. All fees are collected by check, credit card or cash at the time of check-in onsite. We cannot access troop accounts to pay dues or Assembly registration fees.

Registration closes on the Wednesday before each Assembly. If you do not preregister, there is an additional \$10 fee charged when you check in onsite.

EVENT INFO FOR PARENTS AND CANDIDATES

The Ordeal is a time-honored tradition more than 100 years in the making. Following these rules will ensure that the Ordeal is observed with the utmost respect and decorum.

BEFORE ARRIVAL

Be prepared. Watch the weather forecast and prepare accordingly. This is an all-weather event. Follow the packing lists on Page 2. Do not bring any items that are not on the packing list. Make sure Pack #2 is in a backpack or one bag for easy storage in the Dining Hall.

UPON ARRIVAL

Check-in takes place in the Lost Pines Dining Hall. All participants (members and candidates) will need:

- 1. Your registration ticket.** This must be a printed, paper copy of the confirmation email you received when you registered. The ticket is stamped by each check-in station and becomes a record of your check-in. We cannot accept the ticket in any electronic form.
- 2. Your payment.** Payment can only be made at camp when you check in. There is no option to pay online.
- 3. Your BSA Health Form.** Either having submitted it online when you registered or a printed copy. Health forms will not be returned at the end of the weekend, so please make sure you bring a copy, not the original.
- 4. Pack #1 and Pack #2.** Applies to new candidates only. Pack #1 will be kept with you. Event volunteers will give you instructions on where to put Pack #2.

ORDEAL COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

By National Rules, Candidate attendance at the Ordeal is mandatory from the beginning of the Pre-Ordeal Ceremony on the evening of your arrival, until dismissal after Jumpstart and chapter meetings. Leaving camp for any reason is not permitted. If you leave early, or miss any part of the Ordeal weekend program, you must repeat the entire Ordeal weekend at the next Assembly weekend assuming it is within the same calendar year of your election. The only exceptions to this rule may be allowed for health and safety reasons. Family activities, school activities, church functions, etc. are not a valid reason for leaving camp once the Ordeal has begun.

IMPORTANT

If you miss all Assembly opportunities within the year following your election, you will lose your elected status and you must be re-elected by your unit. Per national policy, there is no exception to this rule.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

DROP-OFF TIMES

Spring & Fall 6:00 - 11:00 PM

Summer 6:00 - 7:00 PM

PICK-UP TIMES

Spring Around 11:30 AM

Fall Around 10:30 AM

Summer Around 8:00 PM

PARKING

All candidates, parents and members may park in the main parking lot at the 2nd gate. Check-in takes place in the LPSR dining hall.

RENDEZVOUS POINT TO MEET YOUR SCOUT

LPSR is a big camp and very often we see scouts and parents wandering around looking for each other. Even if your scout takes a cell phone, we suggest that you agree on a place to meet when you pick them up. If you are unfamiliar with camp, the main flagpoles are an ideal meeting spot. They are easy to find (at the end of the main road into camp) and there are shaded benches nearby where one party can wait for the other.

ARE PARENTS AND NON-SCOUTERS ALLOWED AT THE ORDEAL?

Only active, dues-paying and event-registered OA members may attend ceremonies. Family members who are not OA members may not attend. Below is the national policy on this matter:

“Youth and adult candidates for membership into the Order of the Arrow are introduced to the Order’s concepts of servant leadership through a safeguarded ceremonial induction. Nonmembers should not attend the ceremonies.

Although the content of the ceremonies is private, the ceremonies were designed to avoid offending any religious belief and have received the approval of religious leaders. The ceremonies are consistent with Scouting traditions and the spirit of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Order of the Arrow recognizes and respects the right of any parent, Scout leader, or religious leader to be interested in the content of the ceremony. The lodge adviser, or his designee, may discuss the content of the ceremony and any other issue brought to his attention by one of these interested and responsible adults, with the understanding that the adult will maintain the confidentiality of the ceremony.

If after discussing the ceremony with the lodge adviser, the parent, Scout leader, or religious leader continues to have questions about the content of the ceremony, that person will be permitted to read the ceremony text and view the Order’s ceremony training DVD. Following this, parents will be in a position to decide whether to allow their son to participate in the ceremony. Candidates may not become members of the Order of the Arrow without completing the pre-Ordeal and Ordeal ceremonies.”