

Wipala Wiki Lodge Election Process

Specifically for the 2026 Annual Lodge Election

Resource: [Current Lodge Rules](#)

As an organization led by youth for youth, the lodge's annual elections are an essential aspect of our program. The purpose of this document is to provide a transparent narrative for participation, ensuring clear and fair elections. The 2026 Lodge Election is scheduled for the Fellowship / Vigil weekend. The election is administered by the outgoing chief with support from the immediate past chief. Should the outgoing chief be running for office, the secretary will act as the administrator.

Eligibility requirements:

- The candidate must be a youth, under the age of 21, for the duration of the office's term.
- The candidate must be in good standing with the lodge and Scouting America at the time of the election and through the duration of the term in office.

Election Process:

1. **LETTER OF INTENT:** Candidates must submit a letter of intent to the lodge advisor in advance of the election for each position they intend to seek. The letter of intent can list any number of positions, up to and including all of them:
 - *Lodge Chief*
 - *Vice Chief of Events*
 - *Vice Chief of Inductions*
 - *Vice Chief of Membership*
 - *Vice Chief of Training*
 - *Vice Chief of Service*
 - *Vice Chief of Communications*
 - *Vice Chief of Finance.*
2. **NOMINATION:** At the time of the election, the candidate must be nominated by a member of the lodge for inclusion on the ballot.
3. **PRESENTATION:** Each individual on the ballot will have up to three (3) minutes to give an election speech, followed by an open Q&A period from the lodge youth.
4. **BALLOTING:** After the completion of the open forum, each member present, including the candidates, will be able to cast a ballot indicating their choice.
5. **SELECTION:** A simple majority is all that is required to win. A runoff will occur should the two leading candidates end balloting in a tie; the runoff will only include the two candidates who tied. Should a second tie occur, the administrator of the election will cast the deciding vote.

Notes:

- The Election process is repeated for each position in order, starting with the Chief and progressing through Finance.
- Adult attendance is limited to the Lodge Advisor and the Lodge Staff Advisor, or a designee.
- Special off-cycle elections are held using the same process, with the LEC serving as the voting body of the larger organization.