

CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACKET

What is the Order of the Arrow?

The Order of the Arrow (OA) is a national honor society of Scouts and Scouters that originated in 1915 to strengthen troops and encourage outdoor experiences. It is based on brotherhood and cheerful service.

The Order of the Arrow provides broad-based leadership opportunities that strengthen personal development for individual Scouts and maintain interest in the Scouting program.

What is the purpose of the Order of the Arrow?

To recognize those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant recognition.

To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit.

To promote Scout camping, which reaches its greatest effectiveness as a part of the unit's camping program.

To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

What is the Ordeal?

The Ordeal consists of a series of four tests which begin at about 2230 on Friday evening and should continue until 1800 on Saturday. There are four tests involved: separation by sleeping alone on Friday night under the stars, silence by not talking for a 24-hour period, arduous labor during Saturday, and only scant food throughout.

Candidates will not be permitted to snack or smoke during the Ordeal period and talking will be prohibited except in an emergency. Every precaution will be taken by the Order of the Arrow to ensure that a Candidate does not overexert themselves.

For sleeping alone on Friday night, Candidates will need a Horseshoe Roll (see diagram attached). Candidates will be permitted to sleep in tents on Saturday night.

Which meals are provided?

All meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Please plan to eat a decent lunch or early dinner on Friday prior to arrival on site. You are welcome to check-in first and then get dinner, as long as you are back on site by 2000 on Friday.

What do I need to bring?

You need to bring all your normal personal camping gear. You will be sleeping under the stars on Friday night and will need a tarp, sleeping bag, cord (see diagram attached), and an identification card and/or passport. You will also need a tent for your gear storage all weekend and for Saturday night camping.

You will need work clothes, work gloves, water bottle, Boy Scout medical, Scout uniform, and your cheerful spirit preserved even in the midst of irksome tasks!

There will be an OA Trading Post available on the Saturday evening, selling a limited range of OA souvenirs.

What time will the weekend start and finish?

All personnel should arrive between 1800 and 2000 on Friday April 5th. This weekend should be over by 1100 on Sunday, April 7th.

What are the rules for the weekend?

All regulations in the BSA Guide to Safe Scouting and the BSA Youth Protection Program will be in effect during the event and during all transportation activities. All adults in attendance must be YPT current or they will not be allowed on site. Any suspected violation will be immediately reported to the person in charge of the activity on site (the Clan Adviser) and notified to the Scout Executive. Everyone will be expected to live the Scout Oath and Law for all aspects of the event.

In addition to BSA policy, there are four areas of emphasis for this Ordeal weekend. Anyone seriously breaking these instructions will be asked to leave immediately.

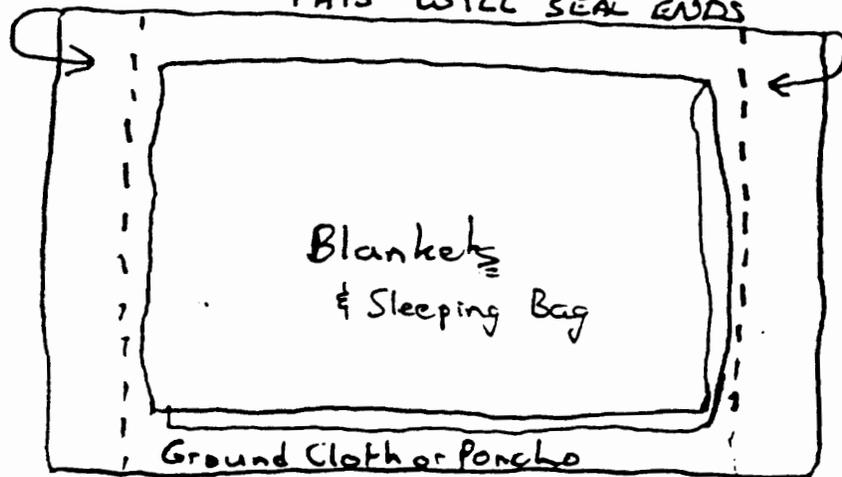
1. **Hazing:** Hazing is defined as anything that places undue mental and physical

strain on any Candidate, youth, or adult. This includes trying to get a Candidate to talk or break any part of the Ordeal tests.

- 2. Respect:** Respect will be given to any youth or adult, weather Ordeal Candidate or not. At no time will practical jokes be played on any Candidate. This is a solemn time for Candidates and members should therefore conduct themselves accordingly.
- 3. Rest:** While expected to spend your first night outside your tent, understand that other Arrowmen will allow every Candidate to have rest Friday evening. Candidates are not to be disturbed during their "Night Alone" unless express permission is given by the Chief or Adviser. During the work period Candidates and members should take five minutes rest for every hour worked.
- 4. Work:** Work accomplished during the Ordeal will be meaningful and useful, There will be no "make-work projects". All members will be expected to work. You will soon take upon yourselves an Obligation of Cheerful Service and you are expected to fulfill the obligation.

HORSESHOE ROLL

FOLD SIDES OF PONCHO OVER BLANKETS
→ THIS WILL SEAL ENDS



WHEN SIDES HAVE BEEN FOLDED
START ROLLING AT ONE END.
FINISHED ROLL SHOULD BE
5 FEET LONG



WEAR OVER
RIGHT
SHOULDER.

