

UNIT ELECTIONS REPORT

Council name _____ Lodge name _____
 Troop or Team _____ Date of election _____
 No. of registered active youth _____ No. of youth present _____

NOTE: At least half of the registered active unit members must be present to conduct an election.

(Fill in names and ranks of eligible youth before election.)

	Full Name (no nicknames) BSA ID #	Date of Birth Rank	Street Address City/State/Zip Code	Phone Number E-Mail Address	Check if Elected
<i>Ex.</i>	<i>Johnny Scout 1234567890</i>	<i>01/01/01 First Class</i>	<i>123 Street Road City, State 12345</i>	<i>555-123-4567 name@email.com</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

of members eligible

of ballots turned in

of votes required to be elected

elected

I certify that the above youth members are eligible and approve them as nominees for election. I also understand that the election results will be final for the year.

Election team members' signatures:

 Unit Leaders' signature

Unit leader approval. To become eligible for election, a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and have the approval of his unit leader prior to the election. The unit leader must certify his Scout spirit. The unit leader must also certify that the nominee meets all specified requirements at the time of this annual election.

Youth membership qualifications. All members of, or candidates for membership in, the Order of the Arrow who are under 21 years of age shall be considered youth members or candidates for youth membership, subject to meeting the following requirements:

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Hold the First Class rank of the Boy Scouts of America, as a minimum.
- After registration with a troop or team, have experienced 15 days and nights of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period prior to the election. The 15 days and nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of six consecutive days and five nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.

Candidates for youth membership shall be elected by other youth members in accordance with policies set forth by the national Order of the Arrow committee.

Unit Election Rules

1. The lodge will determine the time of the year unit elections will be held and should inform troop and team leaders of this by mail well in advance. As stated above, lodges are encouraged to complete all unit elections prior to their troops/teams going to summer camp. This insures that the maximum number of troop/team members can be present to vote in the election. For this reason and to avoid improper out-of-council unit requests, elections should not be conducted at summer camp.
2. The lodge, through the unit elections committee, should work with the troop/team leader in establishing the actual time and place to conduct the election. The Order should be represented by a two- or three-member team from the lodge or chapter unit elections committee. All election team members must be trained and in proper uniform during the election.
3. Before the election, the unit leader must verify to the OA team that at least 50 percent of the registered active unit membership is present. If at least 50 percent is not present, an election cannot be held. The number of registered active members and the number present are entered in the spaces provided on the Unit Elections Report (see the resources section). If the unit leader is an Arrowman, he may explain to the group the purpose of the Order of the Arrow and the basis upon which candidates should be selected, and describe the method of election. If the unit leader is not a member of the Order, a member of the OA team should make this presentation with the unit leader's consent, demonstrating that election leadership is a cooperative effort of the unit leader and the OA team.
4. The unit leader provides a list of registered active members of the unit who meet all eligibility requirements, including attitude and participation. The names of these members are entered on the report form and the unit leader signs the certification.
5. The election team leader explains the following to the unit leader:
 - This is the current method of election approved by the national OA committee in use by the lodge.
 - All eligible youths who receive votes from at least 50 percent of those who turn in ballots are elected. If no one is elected, a second vote may be held immediately, and the result of this vote will be final.
6. A voter may list on his ballot any combination of names, including all eligible candidates he believes are worthy to become members of the Order of the Arrow.
7. The OA team conducts the election. A unit election ceremony is contained in the resource section, and a unit elections video is available from the OA national office. Stress the following points:
 - Select the candidates who, in your opinion, have set the best examples of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.
 - Vote only for those you believe will continue in unselfish service to your troop/team.
 - If you feel that no one is worthy, turn in a blank ballot.
 - If you are new in the unit and do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely, you may abstain by not turning in a ballot at all; this will not affect the final result.
 - Youths eligible for election also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.
8. When the voting is finished, the OA election team counts the number of ballots turned in and enters the numbers on the Unit Elections Report.
9. The OA team determines the minimum number of votes one must receive to be elected, as follows: If the number of ballots turned in was even (2, 4, 6, 8, etc.), divide this number by two. If the number was odd (1, 3, 5, 7, etc.), add one and then divide by two. The number of votes a youth must receive to be elected is entered on the Unit Elections Report.
10. The elections team and the unit leader count the votes in private. All votes count equally. If at least one has been elected, the election result is final. The OA team places a check next to the names of those who have been elected.
11. If no one is elected, the OA team announces this fact and states that the unit will now be given the opportunity to vote again. Time is allowed for further explanation of the purpose of the Order and the election procedures, and for any questions. No information about the votes received by candidates is to be revealed at any time. The second ballot is then held immediately, and if the unit still elects no one, this is the final result for this year's election.

Announcement of results. As soon as the election is completed, the unit leader may or may not choose to announce to the entire unit the names of members who have been elected.

Names and addresses of the newly elected candidates must be forwarded to the lodge membership committee immediately. Candidates will be called out at the earliest possible time, either at a resident camp, a camporee, or a special ceremony.

Candidate status. After election, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, or adults remain candidates until completion of the Ordeal and Ordeal ceremony. If this period of candidacy exceeds one year, the candidate's name will be dropped. To become candidates again, they must be re-elected. The executive committee of the lodge may extend the one-year limit between election and induction if a candidate is ill or there are other unusual circumstances.

If a candidate permanently relocates to a new Boy Scout council prior to completing the Ordeal, the candidate should immediately join a troop or team in the new council. A copy of the election report must be presented to the new unit leader to arrange induction in the new lodge. The candidacy period is not restarted or extended.