

Knight of the Year Guidelines

The election committee will be comprised of past recipients of the Knight of the Year (KOY) Award for your council and the Grand Knight for the fraternal year under consideration. The current Grand Knight is also entitled to attend the meeting. Unless the Grand Knights have been past recipients of the KOY, they shall be entitled to participate in the discussion but will not have a vote in the selection process.

To be considered for the Knight of the Year Award, a candidate must:

- ☑ have been selected as Knight of the Month (KOM) during the fraternal year being considered.
- ☑ have been a member of the Council when chosen Knight of the Month. And further,
- ☑ the Grand Knight for the year being considered cannot be a candidate for KOY.
- ☑ any Knight who has been elected as KOY in the Council will never be eligible for that honor again.

The Knight of the Year is considered to be a once-in-a-lifetime award.

In preparing for the Knight of the Year selection, the Grand Knight shall, during the fraternal year, select KOM's as frequently as monthly, with or without the advice or counsel of a committee chosen for that purpose. In selecting KOM's, the Grand Knight shall avoid naming any previous KOY's and further, shall attempt to limit naming any one member more than one time as KOM during that fraternal year.

The Grand Knight for the year being considered shall provide the selection committee with information pertaining to each member chosen as KOM for the year, beginning in July and ending with June of the following calendar year. This information shall be provided on a standardized form with a copy for each member of the selection committee. It is suggested that the Grand Knight fill out this form at the time of the KOM award.

In considering the candidates for the KOY, the committee shall consider the Knight's contribution to the Council, to his parish and to his community. The committee shall discuss not only the accomplishments noted in the candidates KOM award, but also all other attributes of the candidate's membership.

In order to assure that the choice of the KOY is decided upon only after meaningful discussion, the committee shall consider input from past KOY's, whether verbal or written if submitted in a timely manner. Only those KOY's present at the meeting at which the final vote is considered, shall be eligible to vote. No vote shall be taken unless at least eight of the former KOY's are in attendance; failing that, at a second meeting called for the election, as few as three voting members shall constitute a quorum.

Only on a rare occasion will there be more than one KOY elected in the same year. As an example, when two Knights worked as equal partners on a project of major significance and the members' historical contributions are similar in magnitude, the Committee may consider this option.

The election process shall be by secret ballot and the result made known only to the fraternal year's Grand Knight and the current KOY, who acts as Chairman of the Committee. These two individuals shall count the votes. If either of these two members are not present, the next most recent KOY in attendance shall take the absent counter's place. The winner shall be determined by plurality vote (person getting most votes is elected). Should a tie occur, voting will continue until a plurality has been achieved. The exception would be if two (or more) candidates have been nominated, in tandem, and primarily for the same project.

The Chairman will contact a member of the elected KOY's family to inform him or her of the selection. At that time, a date for the award ceremony will be determined by the Chairman and the family member. This should assure the KOY's attendance as well as his friends and family.