

ORDER OF THE ARROW

BROTHERHOOD REQUIREMENTS

Ever since the inception of the Order of the Arrow in 1915, it was intended that all members should be equal in rank. Brotherhood membership does not provide a specific degree of rank, status, or special honor like that of the Vigil Honor.

Instead, the Brotherhood is an opportunity for members to reaffirm their belief in the high purposes of the Order. The ceremony is intended as a source of inspiration that motivates brothers to give even greater service to Scouting.

An Ordeal member may become a Brotherhood member when he has completed the five **Challenges of Brotherhood Membership** below:

1) Memorize the signs of OA Membership:

A) Obligation

I, (your name), do hereby promise on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui. I will always regard the ties of Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.

B) OA Song

“Firm bound in brotherhood, gather the clan that cheerful service brings to fellow man.
Circle our council fire, weld tightly every link that binds us in brotherhood,
Wimachtendienk.”

C) Admonition

Never said above a whisper. If you need your memory refreshed, check with a lodge officer or ceremonial team.

D) Sign of Ordeal Membership

Drawing an arrow from a quiver over the left shoulder with right arm.

E) OA Handclasp

Done with the left hand, lower two fingers interlocked.

2) Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal:

A) The four principal character of the Ordeal Ceremony:

Kichkinet (Guide) – represents helpfulness & friendliness.

Nutiket (Guard) – represents cheerfulness.

Meteu (Medicine Man) – represents brotherhood & reminds us to love one another.

Allowat Sakima (Mighty Chief) – represents service.

B) The four tests of the Ordeal:

- **Night Alone** – to teach you self-reliance and to show that you are set apart from your fellow Scouts for something higher.
- **24 Hours of Silence** – to turn your thoughts inward to the things of the spirit.
- **Scant Food** – to teach you the virtues of self-denial.
- **Arduous Toil for a Day** – to indicate your willingness to serve others all through your life.

C) The Arrow (as used in the Ordeal)

- It is a **symbol of leadership**
- Worn pointed high over the right shoulder as an outward symbol indicating that he possesses the qualities of leadership that the Arrow represents.

D) The True Name of the Order of the Arrow

- **“Wimachtendienk”, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui”,** which means **“The Brotherhood of Cheerful Service”**.

3) Serve Your Unit

A) Retain your registration in Scouting.

- During a period of at least 6 months, strive to fulfill your obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own Troop or Post.

4) Plan for Service in your Lodge

A) Retain your registration in Tamegonit Lodge and keep your dues paid.

- Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood Membership involves a pledge of service to the Lodge.
- Develop a concrete idea of how you plan to fulfill this pledge.

5) Review Your Progress

A) When you earnestly feel that you have met the four challenges above, **write a letter** to the Lodge Secretary. In this letter:

- Explain what you think the obligation means.
- Describe how you have been fulfilling this Obligation in your unit and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service.
- Describe your specific plans for continuing this service in the future.
- Tell what the Order of the Arrow means to you, and why you are seeking Brotherhood Membership.

When the five challenges have been completed, the Ordeal Member should present himself at the requested time, as a candidate for Brotherhood Membership. This may be done at any Kit-Ke-Hak-O-Kut lodge fellowship or activity offering Brotherhood conversion.

At this time the Brotherhood Candidate will be given the opportunity to rededicate himself to the lodge and the OA by performing cheerful service during the fellowship or activity.

The Brotherhood Candidate should arrive at the Brotherhood review during the fellowship. At this time, they should bring their letter to the Lodge Secretary as described in Challenge #5. This time is to review the Arrowmen's progress, and a time to ask any questions about the Brotherhood Ceremony.

After the review, the Brotherhood Ceremony will take place. All Ordeal Members who have successfully fulfilled the five challenges will be inducted as Brotherhood Members of the Order of the Arrow.

PRONUNCIATIONS

Wimachtendienk (Brotherhood)	Wee-mok-ten-dee-enk
Wingolauchsik (Cheerfulness)	Win-go-lough-sik
Witahemui (Service)	Wi-tah-hem-oo-ee

Delaware Indians	Lenni Lenape	Len-nee Len-ah-pee
The Chieftain	Chingachgook	Ching-gatch-gook
Chieftain's son	Uncas	Un-cuss

Mighty Chief	Allowat Sakima	Al-lo-wot Sa-kee-ma
Medicine Man	Meteu	Mee-tay-o
The Guard	Nutiket	Nu-te-ket
The Guide	Kichkinet	Kitch-kin-et



**ORDER OF THE ARROW
BROTHERHOOD QUESTIONARE**

THIS MATERIAL IS TO BE KNOWN BEFORE THE CEREMONY.

1. What is the name of initial membership in the Order of the Arrow?
2. Why is it so called?
3. What are the four parts of this ordeal and their respective purposes?
4. How were you prepared for the ordeal?
5. When you had completed the Ordeal, how were you dealt with?
6. By whom were you stopped first as you approached the circle?
7. Who next barred your further progress?
8. Had you been given the Admonition?
9. Before whom did you then at last arrive?
10. What was Kichkinet's reply to this inquiry?
11. How did Kichkinet call the attention of each of these officers to your presence?
12. What did these taps represent?
13. How did each of the officers respond to Kichkinet's taps
14. What did these taps represent?
15. How were you and your companions bound together?

16. How was your preparation for the Obligation completed?
17. Repeat the Obligation:
18. In what did Meteu then instruct you?
19. Who are the central figures of that legend?
20. What did Allowat Sakima then impart to you?
21. What is the symbol of the Order?
22. How is it worn?
23. Give the handclasp of the Order.
24. How must the Admonition always be given?
25. Give the Admonition.
26. What does it mean?
27. Give the sign of the Ordeal.
28. What is the full name of the Ordeal?
29. In what language is it given?
30. What is the meaning in English?
31. Give the words, or sing, the song of the Order.

