

# HALF MOON LODGE #28

Serving the Rip Van Winkle Council Since 1946

## Unit Election Scoutmaster Packet



Deadline for ALL Elections  
**April 30**

# HALF MOON LODGE #28

Order of the Arrow  
Rip Van Winkle Council  
75 Pine Street  
Kingston, NY 12401

## Election Procedures

The Order of the Arrow membership requirements are:

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- 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.
- Youth must be under the age of 21, hold the BSA First Class rank or higher, and following approval by the Scoutmaster or Varsity team Coach, be elected by the youth members of their troop or team.
- Adults (age 21 or older) who are registered in the BSA and meet the camping requirements may be selected following nomination to the lodge adult selection committee. Adult selection is based on their ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is **not for recognition of service**, including current or prior positions. Selected adults must be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities, and must provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.

**A scout should be active in his troop and live the Scout Oath and Scout Law in his daily life.**

### ***Conducting the Election***

When the election team visits your Troop to conduct an election they will introduce themselves and then tell the Troop about the Order of the Arrow. You should use the information on this page and the following page, read the letter from the chief, and you should then explain what the OA does. Then explain how a scout is eligible and how the election will be carried out.

### ***Election Requirements***

One-half of the registered troop *must* be present at the election in order for the election to take place. 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. A Blank Ballot counts as a no vote so it is encouraged not to turn the ballot in if you do not know the candidates well enough to cast a vote. An eligible member needs one-half of those in attendance to vote in his favor to be elected. Election Deadline is the April program meeting.

### ***Note!***

The Election Team will not inform scouts who was and who was not elected, that is up to you, their leader. Some leaders find it preferable for Scouts to find out at the "call-out".

Make sure that elected scouts' information is clearly written on the back of the form, including their; Name, Address, Phone Number, E-mail address and Date of Birth.

All members of the election team as well as the Scoutmaster will need to sign the completed election form.

### ***Number of scouts that can be voted for***

Scouts can vote for as many eligible scouts as they wish to.

# The Order of the Arrow

## Scouting's National Honor Society

For almost 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well. Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long-term resident camping, developing leaders, and providing cheerful service to others. OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich, support, and help to extend Scouting to America's youth.

### Mission

The mission of the Order of the Arrow is to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

### Purpose

As Scouting's National Honor Society, our purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

### History

The Order of the Arrow was founded by Dr. E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson in 1915 at the Treasure Island Camp of the Philadelphia Council, Boy Scouts of America. It became an official program experiment in 1922 and was approved as part of the Scouting program in 1934. In 1948 the OA, recognized as the BSA's national brotherhood of honor campers, became an official part of the Boy Scouts of America. In 1998, the Order of the Arrow became recognized as Scouting's National Honor Society when it expanded its reach beyond camping to include a greater focus on leadership development, membership extension, adventurous programming, and broader service to Scouting and the community. Today, its service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults, are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich, support, and help extend Scouting to America's youth.

### Membership

The OA has over 171,000 members in lodges affiliated with more than 290 local BSA councils.

### Eligibility

The Order of the Arrow membership requirements are:

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## **Ordeal Membership**

The induction process, called the Ordeal, is the first step toward full membership in the Order. Upon completion of the Ordeal and its ceremony, the member is expected to strengthen his involvement in the unit and encourage Scout camping.

## **Brotherhood Membership**

After 10 months of service as an Ordeal member and after fulfilling certain requirements, a member may take part in the Brotherhood ceremony, which places further emphasis on the ideals of Scouting and the Order. Completion of this ceremony signifies full membership in the Order of the Arrow.

## **Vigil Honor**

After two years of exceptional service as a Brotherhood member, and with the approval of the national Order of the Arrow committee, a youth or adult Arrowman may be recognized with the Vigil Honor for their distinguished contributions to their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting, or their Scout camp. This honor is bestowed by special selection and is limited to one Arrowman for every 50 members registered with the lodge each year.

## **Lodges**

An Order of the Arrow lodge is granted a charter from the National Council, BSA, upon annual application by the lodge's local council. Only one lodge charter is granted per council. The OA lodge helps the local council provide a quality Scouting program through recognition of Scouting spirit and performance, youth leadership development, adventurous programming, financial support, and enhanced membership tenure.

## **Sections**

An Order of the Arrow section consists of lodges within a geographic area of the region. Annually, representatives of lodges in the section come together for a conclave to share in fellowship, skills, and training. In addition the section creates a monitoring/mentoring relationship with its lodges, provides leadership development opportunities, fosters understanding and adherence to national OA policies and procedures, and coordinates OA administrative and program functions. A section is led by three elected youth officers - the section chief, vice chief, and secretary - who are advised by an adult section adviser and a professional section staff adviser.

## **Region Leadership**

The region chief is the youth OA leader of the region elected annually by the section chiefs of his region. This election is held in conjunction with an annual national OA planning meeting attended by the approximately 50 section chiefs from around the country. In addition to representing the national chief, the region chief conducts national leadership seminars and national lodge adviser training seminars in their respective regions. The region chief is advised by an adult region Order of the Arrow chairman and a professional region staff adviser.

## **National Leadership**

The national chief and vice chief are youth Arrowmen elected to one-year terms by the section chiefs attending the annual national OA planning meeting. They serve as members of the national Order of the Arrow committee, providing youth involvement in decisions affecting national OA policy. They serve as the presiding officers for national OA events, and are advised by the adult national Order of the Arrow chairman and the professional OA team leader. In addition, each year the national chairman appoints approximately 50 Arrowmen to serve on the national Order of the Arrow committee to oversee the OA program.

**If you need information contact your Troop OA Representative,  
or visit our website**

**[www.halfmoonlodge28.org](http://www.halfmoonlodge28.org)**

**Half Moon Lodge # 28  
Rip Van Winkle Council, the Boy Scouts of America  
75 Pine Street  
Kingston, NY 12401**



# HALF MOON LODGE #28

## Unit Election Report Form

(All Elections must be completed by April 30)

Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
Troop: \_\_\_\_\_  
Election Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 1: At least 50% of the registered active youth members must be present to hold an election.**

Number of Registered Active Youth in Troop _____	Number of Youth present at the election _____	<b>Can the Election be held?</b>  Yes      No
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**Step 2: Please list the ELIGIBLE YOUTH (prior to election being conducted)**

Scout Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Elected (Check) \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 3: The Scoutmaster approves the list of eligible youth (prior to election being conducted).**

I certify that the above listed youth members are eligible for election, and I approve them as nominees for election to the Order of the Arrow:

Scoutmaster's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 4: Determine the number of votes needed for election.**

Number of ballots turned in: \_\_\_\_\_

If number of ballots turned in is even divide by two.

If the number of ballots is odd add one and then divide by 2.

Enter the number of the votes needed to be elected. Must receive votes from half of votes cast

Number of votes needed to be elected: \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 6: Election Team certifies the results by signing here.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 5: After the election is held enter the summary of the results below.**

Number eligible: \_\_\_\_\_

Number elected: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember to provide all the required information on the **Half Moon Lodge #28 - Ordeal Candidate Roster** for those scouts elected to the Order of the Arrow.

**Step 7: Deliver election results to Lodge**

Mail to:

Half Moon Lodge #28  
Unit Elections  
Rip Van Winkle Council, BSA  
75 Pine Street  
Kingston, NY 12401

# Half Moon Lodge No. 28 - Ordeal Candidate Roster

(This form must be filled out completely for those elected)

Troop \_\_\_\_\_ District: Algonquin / Mohican Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Member ID (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Member ID (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Member ID (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Member ID (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Member ID (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_



## Half Moon Lodge #28 Official OA Election Ballot

Remember that an Order of the Arrow election is not a popularity contest! Do not vote for a Scout just because he is your friend or just because he is older than the rest. In all, ask yourselves: *Who in this group, by living up to the Scout Oath, serves your fellow Scouts with such an example of Brotherhood and cheerfulness that you look up to him with deep respect and admiration?*

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If you feel that no one is worthy turn in an unmarked ballot. If you are new in the Troop or and do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely, you may abstain by not turning in a ballot at all, and this will not affect the results. Those eligible for election also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.



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