

# Summer Camp Ordeals

## Information Sheet

This year, Sakima Lodge is offering those elected into the Order of the Arrow this spring to go through the induction, the Ordeal, during summer camp at Camp Tamarack. If your troop is attending Camp Tamarack this summer, all of your newly elected candidates can complete their Ordeal at summer camp. Sakima Lodge will still be offering the Ordeal at a weekend in both the fall and next spring if your candidates do not do their Ordeal at camp. Both youths and adults can do their Ordeal at camp.

**1. Inform** – First, the Scoutmaster should inform either the candidate or his family of their election. Many troops decide to keep election results secret to make the Call Out ceremony at camp more surprising and meaningful. In this case, you would inform their parents only.

**2. Decide** – Work with the candidate or their family to decide if they would like to do their Ordeal at summer camp. If you are telling the Scout he was elected, he would fill out the form with his parents and mail in the registration (or turn it in at camp).

If you aren't telling the Scout he was elected, you would talk to their parents to determine if they would like to give him the opportunity to do the Ordeal at camp. If so, they would fill out the form and either mail in the registration or ensure it is turned in at camp. Once he has been called out, he can decide for himself to continue with the Ordeal or not. If a Scout decides to back out, the payment can be applied toward an Ordeal at a later time applied toward an Ordeal at a later time applied toward an Ordeal at a later time or returned in full upon request.

If the parents decide they would not like him to be able to do the Ordeal at camp, then there is nothing else to do. They will be Called Out at camp and receive an information packet in the mail as usual. They can then do their Ordeal either in the fall or possibly the spring. If the parents decide not to allow him to do the Ordeal at camp, there is nothing he can do at camp to change this. Parental permission is required.

**3. Register** – If the candidate is doing the Ordeal at camp, they will need to be registered in advance. The form included in this packet will need to be either sent to the council office at least one week before they will be at camp or turned in at the camp Trading Post. With the form, be sure to include the registration fee. Please note, doing the Ordeal at camp is less expensive than doing it at a later weekend. You've already paid for meals and other expenses in the summer camp fee. You'll see a blank on the form where the candidate has to sign—if you'd like the Ordeal to remain a surprise, they can sign this at camp after the call out. Registrations won't be accepted after the Call Out begins on Wednesday night.

## **Summer Camp Ordeals Information Sheet – Continued**

At 8:30 pm Eastern Time on Wednesday night we have our Call Out ceremony. We encourage you to invite family members of those being called out! Any registration forms for those doing the Ordeal in camp that week must be turned in before the Call Out begins.

After all of the elected Scouts and Scouters have been brought to the front of the fire bowl during the ceremony, they will be lead to an OA members only cracker barrel in the dining hall. This is the first stop in the Ordeal process. At this point, anyone not from LaSalle Council will be sent back to their camp site as they we cannot do their Ordeal outside their own Council. Then, we will dismiss anyone left who was not registered in advance for the Ordeal. It will be explained to them that they will receive a packet in the mail and can do their Ordeal at a later date.

Those in our council who are registered for the Ordeal will be given the option to continue on or return to their camp site and complete the Ordeal later. Those who move on become our Ordeal candidates for the week. The candidates will return to their camp site to change into work clothes and retrieve a sleeping bag and a ground cloth. Please make sure there will be ground cloths available. Once they have done so, they will return to the dining hall. After this point, the candidates will not be returning to your troop until dinner on Thursday.

After returning to the dining hall, they will go through to Pre-Ordeal ceremony. The location of this has yet to be determined. During the ceremony, the candidates will take a vow of silence, only to be broken when absolutely necessary. We ask that you encourage your troop to respect this. After the Pre-Ordeal, they will be escorted to another part of camp where they will spend the night.

In the morning, they will eat separately from the camp before working on service projects throughout the day. The exact timing of the Ordeal ceremony is subject to change that day, but we intend for it to be immediately before dinner. After dinner, they will return to your troop for the remainder of camp.

On Friday, their counselors will work with them to make up for time lost while they did the Ordeal on Thursday. If necessary, Scouts are welcome to return at a later week of camp to complete any merit badges that they would have finished if not for the Ordeal.

In this packet is the registration form. On the lodge's webpage, you can find the complete candidate information package. Simply go to <https://www.lasallecouncilbsa.org/sakimalodge> and select "Order of the Arrow" from the dropdown list, then select the "Ordeal-Induction" tab.