

# ORDER OF THE ARROW

## New Member Guide

### What's Next?

In wearing your sash you are identified among the ranks of honored Scouters dating back to 1915, when Dr. E. Urner Goodman founded the Order of the Arrow. You'll find plenty of information out there about the Order of the Arrow (OA). This is more of a practical guide, including specific information to being a member of Tsoiotsi Tsogalii Lodge.

### The Sash 'N Dash

Your election into the OA is the very beginning of your journey. Statistically, 85% of you will get your sash, sew on your flap, and disappear (sash 'n dash). From the bottom of our hearts, we hope to see you soon and often!

Your OA sash and pocket flap are not merit badges. They are not rank patches, nor are they a recognition of any achievement. By wearing your flap, you are calling yourself a servant—someone with a giving heart who enjoys helping others with no thought of payment or recognition. Your peers saw enough of this spirit in your daily life to grant you the honor of calling yourself an Arrowman. Wear your sash and flap with honor, pride, and humility.

### We Work Hard

When you ask members what the OA is, the most common answer is, "We're a service organization." So what does that mean? Whom do we serve? To put it briefly, we serve wherever help is needed. We also facilitate and participate in annual events around central North Carolina and the country.

### We Play Hard

Despite your impressions of Ordeal, we aren't all about slave labor. You will hear the term "fellowship" thrown around. Generally, that translates to "party." Remember Saturday night after your Ordeal? Big time fellowship.

Tsoiotsi Tsogalii Lodge and your Chapter host many fun-centric events throughout the year. We also participate in Section Conclave and National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) — the OA version of National Jamboree.

Like most things in life, what you get out of OA depends on what you put into it. You'll find that simply joining in OA activities fosters a sense of camaraderie and usually ends up being a lot of fun.

Visit [lodge70.org](http://lodge70.org) to learn more.



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## Ordeal – Brotherhood – Vigil

All lodge members are considered equal. There is no “rank advancement” within the OA. When you completed your Ordeal, you became a full member with all the rights, privileges and expectations of any other member.

That being said, however, there is a membership sequence. As an **Ordeal Member**, you are given time to develop an understanding of the true nature of servant leadership so that it may become a natural part of your daily living. After 10 months, you are eligible to become a **Brotherhood Member**; one who has completed their induction into the OA. There is a simple questioning process through which you attain Brotherhood status. The **Vigil Honor** is just that, an honor. It cannot be earned by meeting a list of requirements, but rather is a recognition bestowed upon those who have given exceptional service to the lodge. It is important to note that Brotherhood is the only membership status that you can earn on your own.

## We Need Leaders We Need Followers

So, you want to get involved, but you don't want to memorize a ceremony script. Or maybe you're already Senior Patrol Leader in your troop and really don't want another leadership title. Or maybe you do! Tsoiotsi Tsogalii can use your time and talent either way. Here are specific ways you can get involved:

### Elangomat

This is the Lenni Lenape word for “friend.” These guides help newer members throughout the OA experience. Youth and adults can be elangomats.

### Chapter Leadership

As a boy-lead organization, youth can run for Chapter Chief or any of the vice chief positions. Adults can serve as chapter advisers or associate chapter advisers.

### Lodge Committees

Again, these are all run by and comprised of youth. There are many committees that handle day-to-day operations of the lodge. These include: Ceremonies, Camping Promotion, Fellowship, Service, Dance, Communications, Trading Post, and others.

### Lodge Leadership

Youth who have served in other positions and have learned the ropes may run for lodge chief or any of the vice chief (VC) positions. The adult in charge is the lodge adviser, and there are many associate adviser positions available.

## Getting Started

Are you ready to become active in our lodge? If so all you need to do is reach out to one of our lodge or chapter officers for information on how to get involved. While we highly encourage you to get involved in a committee, just coming to a fellowship or conclave can be a great way to start out.

**[lodge70.org](http://lodge70.org)**

**[lodge70@lodge70.org](mailto:lodge70@lodge70.org)**



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