YOUTH CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION

For a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout to be eligible for election into the Order of the Arrow, they must meet all of the following qualifications and conditions:

1. A Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who holds the First Class rank, is under the age of 21, and is registered as an active member of the troop or team may be, with the approval of his unit leader, nominated for election. By approving the candidate, the unit leader certifies as to the nominee's Scouting Spirit, adherence to the Scout Oath and Law, and participation in unit activities. The unit leader must give this certification before the election and cannot withdraw it following the election. The unit leader also certifies that the nominee meets the rank and camping requirements. Venture Crews are not eligible for Order of the Arrow elections.

2. After registration with a troop or team, the youth has participated in 15 days and nights of Boy Scout camping during the two-year period before the date of 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. If a troop or team conducts its own long-term resident camp under the auspices and standards of the BSA, it qualifies. High adventure camping of at least 6 consecutive nights meets this requirement. The rest of the camping experience must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.

3. Those unit members who are between the age of eighteen and twenty-one must meet all the requirements that are listed above and will be elected as youth into the Order of the Arrow. Any such adult must have attained First Class rank as a Scout. Such adults are also entitled to vote in the unit's youth election and should be included in the numbers entered on the *Youth Candidate Election Report.*

   All youth candidates must successfully complete the Ordeal experience and participate in the induction ceremony to become a member of the Order of the Arrow. **This must be done within one year from the date of the election**. If the Scout fails to complete his Ordeal within the one-year period, he must be re-elected at the next unit election. (Example: If the Scout is elected on April 1, 2012, but does not complete his Ordeal before April 1, 2013; he will not be eligible to be elected again until April 2, 2013. If the unit holds their election before April 2, 2013, the Scout must wait a year).

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE ELECTION OF YOUTH

1. No one from their own unit will be on the election team, unless there is no one else to conduct the election.
2. Voting for candidates will be based on their sprit of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and a willingness to give unselfish and wholehearted service to others at all times.
3. At least 50% of the registered active youth of the unit must be present to hold the election.
4. Mock elections to show how the election process works may not be performed. The performing of mock elections will make all election results invalid and no candidates will be selected for this year.
5. Youth members can vote for as many candidates as they feel are worthy of this honor.
6. All eligible youth who receive votes from at least 50% of those who turn in ballots are elected. If no one is elected, a second vote may be held immediately and the result of this vote will be final.
7. The balloting process shall be by secret ballot only. Votes will be counted by the unit leader or other adult and an election team member. Ballots are disposed of confidential.
8. **All unit election forms must be in the council office by May 1, 2013. Any election forms received after May 1, 2013 will be invalid.**