

## *Illinek Lodge 132 – Order of the Arrow*

### Unit Elections Team Script

(It is intended that two or more youth Arrowmen alternate paragraphs to present the election.)

#### **ALWAYS INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND WHO YOU REPRESENT**

Good evening. I am (give your names). We are members of Scouting's National Honor Society, the Order of the Arrow. Tonight, your local lodge, Illinek Lodge 132, is seeking to learn if you have members of your unit, who you feel are worthy of the honor of becoming members of our order.

In a moment we will show you a video that is about 9 minutes long. This video will tell you in more detail about the history and origins of the Order of the Arrow, talk about our purposes, point out the eligibility requirements for members, and give the procedures we will follow for the election process. For those who are already members of our Order, it is a chance to reflect on the reasons your fellow Scouts selected you to represent them.

Of particular importance are the questions that you should ask yourself about the candidates before you cast your votes for them. At the end of the video we will take time to answer our questions and reveal who is eligible for election at this time. Then you will have a chance to reflect on each candidate and vote. Even if you have seen this video many times, pay close attention to the desirable qualities of a candidate and take your responsibility seriously.

#### **SHOW THE FIRST VIDEO WHICH SHOULD TAKE ABOUT 9 MINUTES**

(While the video is playing, make sure you have all your election forms in order and all the information required completed. BE SURE that the unit leader has signed the form. Pay attention to the unit and if necessary ask for the unit leadership to assist if anyone seems to be distracting others or are not paying attention.)

Does anyone have any questions about anything in the video?

The following Scouts are eligible to be elected from your unit at this time. They are the only candidates for whom you can vote. When I read your name, please stand so that your fellow Scouts can recognize you. (When all names have been read, have them be seated again.)

Remember, each Scout who is eligible for the Order of the Arrow may be elected. You may cast a yes vote for any and all eligible Scouts who you feel are worthy to be recognized by this Honor at this time. This is NOT a popularity contest. You should vote for every eligible Scout that you feel represents the Ideals of Scouting and Service. You should not vote for someone just because they are your friend or are older. If you feel you do not know the candidates well enough to vote, or you are new to the unit, you DO NOT have to turn in a ballot. But remember, that a blank ballot counts as a NO vote for all those eligible. If your unit leader wishes, we will not give a ballot to new members at this time so that the candidates are not impacted unfairly.

To be elected a candidate must receive a vote on at least half the ballots turned in to us. When we have tallied the votes, we will share the results with your unit leader. Remember, only vote for the candidates we have identified. Write clearly. When you are finished, fold the ballot in half only ONCE. There should be no discussion or campaigning for a particular candidate. This is a personal decision that is up to each individual.

**DISTRIBUTE AND THEN COLLECT THE BALLOTS. ONCE THE BALLOTS ARE COLLECTED COMPLETE THE SCRIPT AS FOLLOWS.**

Those who have been elected will be called out in an impressive ceremony at the Spring Camporee or if your leaders desire, at Camp Bunn during summer camp. Those called out will receive instructions on where and when they can take the next step in membership to our Order by completing the Ordeal Weekend and Ceremony. After ten months of Ordeal membership, members may further their knowledge of our customs and traditions by achieving Brotherhood membership. If you are an Ordeal member now, you will be eligible to achieve Brotherhood this summer.

(Ask for show of hands of any current Ordeal members. Invite them to learn more by visiting the lodge website at [www.illinek132.com](http://www.illinek132.com) and reviewing the "Brotherhood" section that includes all the information needed to make this step.)

Illinek Lodge has represented the Order of the Arrow in our area since 1938. We have a long history of Service, Brotherhood and fellowship. But we do more than just service projects. We have a lot of fun with annual gatherings and fun events just for Arrowmen. If you would like to learn more about our lodge and our activities, visit our website or ask your unit leader to help you get more information. It is an honor to be elected to the Order. Participation in our various events is voluntary though all Arrowmen are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings (call the Lodge Executive Committee or LEC) and to participate in our various events. It should be emphasized that the first duty of an Arrowman is to his unit, demonstrating true Cheerful Service to his fellow Scouts.

Thank you for your time and for helping to recognize your fellow Scouts that live up to the high ideals of Scouting's National Honor Society.

**RETIRE APART FROM THE UNIT AND TALLY THE BALLOTS**

(Share the results with the unit leader. If nobody was elected on the first ballot, conduct a second ballot AFTER reviewing the requirements and rules with the unit members again. Pay particular attention if you had a number of blank ballots or ballots with very few names in case newer scouts were voting who might simply not know the other scouts. Discuss these issues with the unit leader before proceeding. If no one is elected on the second ballot, then there are no candidates for this year.)