



# SASQUESAHA NOUGH LODGE ORDER OF THE ARROW

## **Order of The Arrow Election Eligibility**

### **Youth Eligibility Requirements**

- The Youth is under age 21.
  - For Scouts BSA Troops, registered Adult Leaders ages 18 to 20 are considered youth in the Order of the Arrow. They may be a candidate in the election and they may vote in the election. They may not be nominated to the Order of the Arrow through the Adult Leader Recommendation process.
- The youth must hold one of the following ranks or higher, based on the unit in which the election is being held -
  - For Scouts BSA Troops - First Class Rank
  - For Venturing Crews - Discovery Award
  - For Sea Scout Ships - Ordinary Rank
- The youth must have experienced 15 nights of camping while registered with a troop, crew, or ship within the two years immediately prior to the election.
  - The 15 nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of at least five consecutive nights of overnight camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America.
  - Only five nights of the long-term camp may be credited toward the 15-night camping requirement.
  - The balance of the camping (10 nights) must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps of, at most, three nights each.
  - Cabin camping may be counted as camping.
  - Nights aboard ship may be counted as camping. (Particularly relevant for Sea Scouts.)

**For special allowances for 2021 Elections please see Pages 2.**



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## **Special Camping Allowances for 2021 Elections**

In light of the extended period of camping restrictions attributable to COVID-19, the following temporary modification is being made to the camping requirements for OA eligibility.

These modifications apply to both youth and adults.

**Virtual short term camping** (i.e., backyard or solo camping) may be counted toward the required nights of camping for OA election eligibility if all the following stipulations are met:

- To be counted, all virtual camping nights should be a direct result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and be part of a BSA unit-organized unit camping event (i.e., multiple members of the unit are involved and camping simultaneously at remote locations).
- Some form of unit-organized communications should occur either during or immediately following the event.
- All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines should be followed.
- No more than five (5) nights of virtual camping are to be credited in any month in which government- or council-imposed COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

### **Long-Term Camping Waiver**

The requirement for a long-term camp of five (5) consecutive nights is relaxed. Any combination of short-term and/or long-term nights, in camp or virtual (complying with above rules), that are part of a BSA unit-organized unit camping event held within the two years prior to election may be counted toward the 15 night requirement.

### **Virtual Long-Term Camping Authorization**

National has a procedure for accepting a unit organized virtual long term camp for use to meet the camping requirements. It has a list of very specific conditions. If a unit did a virtual long term camp and wants to see if it meets the requirements, please contact Associate Lodge Adviser Benjamin Heyser at [bheyser@oalodge11.org](mailto:bheyser@oalodge11.org).