



ORDER OF THE ARROW
BLUE HERON LODGE
TIDEWATER COUNCIL, VA

Unit Leader:

Please ensure that this information is given to the candidate's parents or guardian.

A note to the candidate's parent or guardian

The Blue Heron Lodge of the Order of the Arrow is an official Scouting program under the guidance and policies of the Tidewater Council, BSA. All of our activities must follow the National Boy Scouts of America policies established for camping in the council's Boy Scout camp. I have attached a copy of the applicable provisions of BSA's Guide to Safe Scouting below:

Travel to and from camp is the responsibility of your Troop, Ship, or Crew and should be coordinated through your unit's committee and Unit Leader. However, when in camp, your youth's safety, well-being, and protection are the responsibility of the Order of the Arrow adult leaders present, who have been appointed by our Council. Therefore, we must be assured that you and the candidates will follow our procedures and rules while in camp. Check in opens at 5:00 PM for each Service and Ordeal Weekend, but the candidates **MUST** be at camp **by 8PM** on the Friday of the Service and Ordeal Weekend.

Departure after the Ordeal. Completion of the Ordeal requires that your youth remain in camp until about **11:00 AM on Sunday morning**, after the new member orientation session and lodge meeting.

Additionally, as members of the Order of the Arrow and good Scouts, we are proud of our camp and we always leave our camp better than we found it. Everybody pitches in on Sunday to clean up before anybody is allowed to leave. For planning purposes, everybody should be ready to leave at about 11:00 AM. I ask your full cooperation in this matter.

There will be an inter-faith "Scouts' Own" worship service Sunday morning that any Scout can feel comfortable attending. However, if your youth must depart early to meet religious duties or responsibilities or there are other extenuating circumstances, then you should **have your Unit Leader contact me ahead of time** to make sure that the leaders in camp are aware of when they will leave and, most importantly, with whom. Alternatively, you may contact me directly to make appropriate arrangements.

Questions about the Ordeal and the Order of the Arrow. Contrary to what you may have heard, there are no "secrets" in the Order of the Arrow. My goal is to make sure that you are completely comfortable with having your Scout attend the Ordeal and to be assured that all will have a safe, secure, and great experience with warm memories. So, if you have any questions whatsoever about what your Scout will be doing and what is needed during the weekend or about the Order of the Arrow in general, **please do not hesitate to contact us directly at any time.** Our contact information is below.

Always Yours In Brotherhood of Cheerful Service,

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