

# Nguttitehen Lodge Bylaws

## I. Mission, Name and Affiliation of Lodge.

\*A. The mission of this lodge is to achieve the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America in the council through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

\*B. Name and affiliation of lodge. The lodge shall be known as: Nguttitehen Lodge, Lincoln Heritage Council #205, Boy Scouts of America, and shall be under the supervision of the council camping or Boy Scout committee and the administrative authority of the Scout executive.

## II. Membership.

\*A. The requirements for membership in this Lodge are as stated in the current printing of the "Order of the Arrow Handbook" and the "Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers".

\*B. The procedure for the Ordeal shall be as stated in the current printing of the "Order of the Arrow Handbook" and the "Guide to Inductions".

C. Ordeal and Brotherhood weekends shall be scheduled at such times as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Lodge Executive Committee. At a minimum, there should be three (3) Ordeal and Brotherhood weekends per calendar year ~~in each Nation~~ that are separate from all other Lodge Events.

\*D. Brotherhood Membership. Completion of Brotherhood membership shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printings of the "Order of the Arrow Handbook" and the "Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers".

E. Additional Brotherhood ceremonies shall be scheduled as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Brotherhood Committee in conjunction with the Lodge Executive Committee.

\*F. The Vigil Honor. Attainment of the Vigil Honor shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the "Order of the Arrow Handbook" and the "Order of the Arrow Guide for Officers and Advisers".

## III. Officers and Executive Committee

A. The Lodge Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the Lodge.

\*B. The lodge executive committee shall be composed of the Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice Chief(s), Lodge Secretary, Lodge Treasurer, immediate past lodge chief, lodge operating committee chairmen, lodge adviser, another member of the council camping or Boy Scout committee, chapter chiefs, chapter advisers (where applicable), Scout executive, and lodge staff adviser.

Additional members shall be the advisers for each of the above named youth.

- \*C. The elected officers of the Lodge shall be the Lodge Chief, the Lodge Vice Chief(s) the Lodge Secretary, and the Lodge Treasurer. These elected officers must be younger than 21 during their entire term of office.
- D. The Lodge Vice Chief of Administration shall act as Lodge Chief in the Lodge Chief's absence or serve as Lodge Chief upon a vacancy in that office until the vacancy is filled.
- E. No person shall hold the same office at any level in the lodge for more than two (2) consecutive terms or any part thereof. Furthermore, there shall be no more than five (5) lodge officers from anyone (1) nation and no more than three (3) lodge officers from any one (1) chapter.
- F. In the event of any vacancy of any Lodge office, the Lodge Executive Committee shall solicit nominations for that office and shall vote among those nominees as to who shall fill the vacancy at the next regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting.
- G. The Lodge Operating Committees shall be as set forth in Appendix A of these Bylaws.
- H. Each member of the Lodge shall belong to the Chapter that represents the District(s) where the member's primary Scouting registration is held. The quantity and composition of Lodge Chapters shall be determined by the Lodge Key Three.
- I. Associate Lodge Advisers are defined as each Lodge Officer Adviser. The Lodge Adviser may appoint additional Associate Lodge Advisers as he sees appropriate with the approval of the Scout Executive or his designee.
- J. The chairman of each operating committee shall be appointed by the Lodge Chief in consultation with the Lodge Adviser and the Lodge Staff Adviser. The Adviser of each operating committee shall be appointed by the Lodge Adviser with approval by the Scout Executive or his designee.
- K. The Lodge Chief in consultation with the Lodge Adviser and the Lodge Staff Adviser may provide for such special committees as are needed for the efficient operation of the Lodge. A written job description and term of existence shall be provided at the time the committee is established. The chairman of each special committee shall be appointed by the Lodge Chief in consultation with the Lodge Adviser and the Staff Adviser and the Adviser of each special committee shall be appointed by the Lodge Adviser in consultation with the Lodge Chief and the Lodge Staff Adviser and with the approval of the Scout Executive or his designee; however, said chairman shall not be a voting member of the Lodge Executive Committee.
- L. Attendance and participation is necessary for the Lodge to operate effectively. Each youth member of the Executive Committee is required to attend Executive Committee meetings and Lodge Events. If there is an emergency (death in family, illness, etc.), an Executive Committee member must contact any member of the Key Three at least two (2) hours before the meeting or event is scheduled to begin. Failure to contact a member of the Key Three prior the specified time may result in an unexcused absence. After two (2) unexcused absences, a warning letter will be sent by the Lodge Chief. After three (3) unexcused absences, the member will be automatically removed from his position. Once removed, a member may appeal to the Executive Committee to be reinstated. He must submit a written statement of his intent and reasons why he was absent at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Executive Committee must vote a 2/3 majority for the member to be reinstated.

- M. Any youth member of the Executive Committee may be removed from his position for cause, shown by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee at any regularly schedule Executive Committee meeting.
- N. The election of Lodge Officers shall be held at the Fall Business Meeting. Lodge and Chapter Officers-Elect shall take office on January 1 of the following year. Their term of office shall expire on December 31 of that year.
- O. In the matter of electing Lodge Officers each chapter of the lodge shall receive ten (10) votes. They must cast these votes amongst the candidates as they deem appropriate in whole number of votes. For a candidate to be elected they must receive a simple majority of all votes cast. In the event that no candidate receives a simple majority, there shall be a runoff election among the top two candidates. If after said runoff election there is not a candidate with a simple majority, then a final runoff among the top two vote getters shall be held with all eligible and present voting members of the lodge voting independently instead of as part of their chapter's block of votes.
- P. Job Descriptions for each Lodge Officer, Operating Committee Chairman and Chapter Chief shall be adopted by the Lodge Executive Committee and published in an Appendix to these Bylaws.

#### IV. Nations

- A. For the sake of efficiency and program delivery the Ordeal / Brotherhood Induction Weekends and callouts will be delivered by geographic subdivision of the Lodge called a Nation.
- B. Each Nation will be responsible for conducting the induction weekends assigned to it by the LEC.
- C. Each Nation shall be led by a Lodge Vice Chief and advised by an Associate Lodge Adviser. The Vice Chief shall be elected at the same time and place and in the same manner as all other Lodge officers. The Vice Chief for a nation shall be a registered member of a unit in a district assigned to the geographical area represented by said Nation. The Associate Lodge shall be appointed by the Lodge Adviser with the consultation and approval of the Scout Executive or his designee.
- D. Committees for the Nation to carry out its duties shall be as prescribed in Appendix A Section IV to these Bylaws.
- E. The Nation shall not carry out any program or create any committees other than those authorized by these Bylaws.

#### IV. Meetings.

- A. The official membership meetings of the Lodge shall be a Spring Business Meeting to be held at the conclusion of the Spring Pow Wow, a Fall Meeting to be held at the conclusion of the Fall Fellowship Weekend; and a meeting to be held at the Winter Banquet. The Spring Pow Wow and Fall Fellowship shall only be held on council owned properties on a rotating basis as determined by the Lodge Executive Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee shall, prior to the Spring Business Meeting, prepare a Lodge calendar for the following year, to be presented to the membership at that meeting.

- C. A scheduled Lodge Executive Committee meeting may be changed only by approval of the Executive Committee at an Executive Committee meeting two months in advance of said meeting. All members of the Executive Committee shall receive written notice of said change in schedule at least 30 days prior to the rescheduled meeting from the Lodge Secretary.
- D. The Lodge Chief or Scout Executive shall have the authority to call for a Special Executive Committee Meeting at any time. All Executive Committee members shall be notified of the time and place of the meeting at least seven (7) days in advance.

#### VII. Finances.

- \*A. Finances. All Order of the Arrow funds, including, Lodge, chapters, and committees, shall be handled through the council service center and go through all normal council accounting procedures.
- B. Dues and event fees shall be reviewed each year by the Treasurer and Treasurer's Adviser and set by the Executive Committee with approval by the Scout Executive.

#### VIII. Voting.

- \*A. Voting. Arrowmen under the age of 21 may vote in matters of lodge business.

#### IX. Order of the Arrow and Lodge Insignia / Merchandise.

All patches, shirts, hats, jackets, mugs etc, that contain any mention or depiction of the Order or the Lodge or any division thereof, that is to be distributed by any means by the Lodge or any division thereof must first be approved by the Lodge Executive Committee. It will then be ordered by the Lodge Adviser or their designee and upon receipt be inventoried and distributed by the Trading Post Committee or their designee in consultation with the Lodge Adviser or their designee.

#### X. Quorum, amendment of rules and procedure.

- A. The youth members present at any scheduled Business Meeting of Lodge shall constitute a quorum.
- B. A quorum shall exist at a Lodge Executive Committee Meeting when four (4) or more youth members are present.
- C. All bylaws may be amended only at a scheduled membership meeting of the Lodge and only after the Lodge Executive Committee has approved the change. Each member of the Lodge shall be given fourteen (14) days' notice through the Lodge newsletter or other mailing or electronic distribution before the vote takes place.
- D. Any question of procedure that arises that is not covered by these rules shall be governed by, *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition or later.*

#### XI. Entire Lodge Rules

These rules and regulations shall replace all previous versions and be effective upon adoption.