

ORDER OF THE ARROW

2025 Fall Conclave Event Guide



Welcome:

Dear Scouts & Scouters,

Thank you for coming to Fall Conclave 2025! Within this event guide you will find more information to help you be successful for the event and in preparation for it. Fall Conclave is a special event where our lodge gathers annually to induct new members, help close out the summer camping season with service, and elect new officers of the lodge.

For over 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law daily. The OA is Scouting's National Honor Society. As an integral part of Scouting America, the OA delivers peer-led advanced leadership experiences that help to build lifelong bonds through service and enrich each member's Scouting journey. OA members are defined by the fellowship they share, service to others, commitment to personal growth, and self-driven initiative to make a difference in their community.

All lodge events follow Scouting America's program Ideals and procedures, like "Youth-led, Adult Guided". As such this event is planned and run by youth leaders within the lodge. However adult advisors will be in the background helping ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all those in attendance.

More information is below about the event itself and recommendations so that everyone can be successful. This guide will also be updated in the coming months as more information becomes available and the schedule is determined.

If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to reach out to any of Individuals listed below.

Nicholas Welty, Lodge Chief: (608)- 426 -0433 <u>nwelty0433@gmail.com</u> Shawn Driscol, Lodge Adviser: (847)- 875-2943 <u>sdriscol@gmail.com</u>

Yours in Scouting,

Nicholas Welty Shawn Driscol Lodge Chief Lodge Adviser



Registration:

All participants should register prior to the event. Registration is to be completed online at: https://blackhawkscouting.doubleknot.com/event/2025-fall-conclave/3108807. When entering information for registration, it is recommended that you create a username and password if you don't already have one. This will allow you to update your registration information, if needed.

Please keep in mind that all Members and Brotherhood candidates must be current with their lodge dues to attend this event. <u>Here</u> is the link to pay your dues for FY 2025 if you haven't already.

Payment Options:

- 1. Online payments: A convenience fee of 3% will be added to your total if making payment online.
- 2. *In person payment*: Payment may be made at the Blackhawk Area Council Service Center (see address below) after completing online registration.
- 3. *Telephone payment*: Payment can be made via credit card by calling the council office after completing online registration. (815-397-0210)
- 4. *Mailed payments*: Payment may be mailed to the council office (see address below) after completing online registration. Please include on the memo line "Fall Conclave 2025", to ensure there are no mistakes made. Make all checks payable to "Blackhawk Area Council" and mail to the following address:

Blackhawk Area Council Order of the Arrow 2820 McFarland Road Rockford, IL. 61107

Attendee Types:

- Ordeal Candidate (A Scout or Scouter who has been elected/ nominated to the Order of the Arrow within the last 18 months). Price: \$55 (includes: New Sash, OA Handbook, Pocket Flap, OA Dues for the rest of FY 2025, Food/Supplies)
- **Brotherhood Candidate** (An Arrowmen who has been a member of the Order of the Arrow for at least 6 months) Price: \$45 (Includes: New Sash, Lodge Totem, Food/Supplies)
- Member (Any member of Wulapeju Lodge) Price: \$25 (Includes: Food/ Supplies)

*This is not a unit based event, participants should have knowledge of basic camping skills and be able to operate independently (Unless for special needs or if there are parental/guardian concerns, which accommodations can be made then, please reach out ahead of time (see contact information in welcome letter).



Check-in Information:

Check in begins at 5:00 PM at the Camp Lowden Main Lodge (See Map at the end of the guide), it will last until 7:30 PM (Ordeal Candidates <u>must be checked</u> in by 7:00 PM). Please eat dinner before arriving at camp. When you arrive, please head <u>directly</u> to the main lodge to check in. Do <u>not</u> set anything up unless prior authorization given by staff.

Packing List:

- Personal Tent
- Sleeping Bag
- Cot/ Air Mattress
- Pillow
- Work Clothes
- Sleeping Clothes
- Work Gloves
- Water Bottle
- Field Uniform
- OA Sash
- Chair (if wanted)
- Personal Hygiene Products
- Medication necessary for the event
- Money for trading post (if wanted)
- Parts A-B of Annual health and medical record
- For Adults printed certificate of SYT (Formerly, YPT)

Basic Schedule:

Friday Night:

- Check In (by 7:30 PM for Member or Brotherhood Candidate or 7:00 PM if an Ordeal Candidate)
- Ordeal Conferences/ Brotherhood Study Session / Free Time for Members
- Ceremonies (Vigil Callout, Pre-Ordeal Ceremony)
- Cracker Barrel (for Brotherhood Candidates & Members)

Saturday

- Breakfast
- Service Projects
- Lunch
- Lodge Elections
- Chapter Meetings/ Elections
- Trainings / Service Projects (Ordeal Candidates / Anyone else)
- Game Time / Free Time / Service Projects (Ordeal Candidates/ Anyone else)
- Dinner
- Interfaith Service (optional)



- Brotherhood Hike
- Ceremonies (Brotherhood / Arrowmen 101, Ordeal)
- Cracker Barrel / Saturday Night Check-Out Begins

Sunday:

- Breakfast
- Clean Up
- Check Out
- Lodge Executive Committee Meeting (All are Welcome)

*Subject to change, a more detailed schedule will be shared closer to the event.

Ordeal Information:

The Ordeal is <u>not</u> an "initiation" or a period of "hazing"; rather, it is a time when candidates are given the opportunity to reflect on their journey in Scouting and the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Candidates will spend their day completing a variety of activities, but most importantly service to Camp Lowden to close the summer camping season. Should there be any physical limitations, which you possess, please notify your Elangomat (friend) at the start of the Ordeal. You will <u>not</u> be asked to do anything that may cause harm to you.

The Ordeal begins Friday evening at Camp Lowden. Please eat dinner before arriving at camp. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m., and <u>you must check in by 7:00 p.m.</u> in order to participate in the Pre-Ordeal ceremony and be eligible to continue with the Ordeal. When you arrive at Camp Lowden, please head <u>directly</u> to the Main Lodge (see the map at the end). Once the Ordeal has been completed Saturday night, new members can check out and be picked up or leave the event, either Saturday evening around 10:10 PM or Sunday morning around 9:30 AM.

For the Ordeal process each Scout(er) must have a ground cloth, a sleeping bag, Field Uniform/Class A, work clothes to wear during the Ordeal, medications necessary for the duration, rain suit or poncho, work gloves; water bottle and a tent or vehicle for personal belongings during the day while undergoing the Ordeal process and to sleep in Saturday night (if staying Saturday overnight).

Please <u>do not bring</u> the following items: Games, Books, Cards, etc (This goes for Youth and Adults). All electronic devices <u>must be turned off</u> and <u>not on your person</u> during the duration of the Ordeal. If you need your electronic device during the Ordeal please discuss this with your Elangomat (friend) and Ordealmaster, Friday evening.

All candidates <u>must</u> submit their current Annual Health and Medical Record parts A-B at check-in. All adults must be current with their Safeguarding Youth Training (formerly, YPT).

Brotherhood Information:

<u>Here</u> you'll find the Brotherhood Workbook, it is a guide that will help you study and guide you through the requirements. You <u>MUST</u> complete the brotherhood letter by lunchtime on Saturday.



We *highly encourage* you to complete the letter ahead of time. If you don't know the answer to everything that is totally alright and we will help during the event.

Please also visit the official OA <u>JumpStart</u> page (password will be shared in an email, around the beginning of August if you don't already know it). It offers great resources to help you understand the meaning of Brotherhood and your journey in Scouting's National Honor Society. It is highly recommended you look at this resource ahead of time, since reception within camp may be poor.

On Friday night, please meet at 7:40 PM* in the Dining Hall. We will have a short study session about the brotherhood requirements. Then going over details about the brotherhood hike on Saturday evening. *If you are a Saturday only attendee, you will be caught up in the morning. Though it is crucial to review ahead of time with the aforementioned resources.

Then Saturday at 7:20 PM*, please meet in the front of the Main Lodge (Same Place as Check In) for the brotherhood hike. Make sure to be wearing comfortable hiking shoes, your full field uniform (Class A and Ordeal Sash), and bring a water bottle. While we don't want to give too much away, know that you'll have time for reflection, service, and fellowship with other Arrowmen who share your dedication.

All candidates <u>must</u> submit their current Annual Health and Medical Record parts A-B at check-in. All adults <u>must</u> be current with their Safeguarding Youth Training (formerly, YPT).

*Times are subject to change. Changes will be announced ahead of time and at Check-In.



Map of Camp Lowden:

