

T680 ELECTION PROCEDURES (2018)

ORDER OF THE ARROW AND TROOP ELECTIONS

Troop and Order of the Arrow (OA) elections will be held on March 4.

For the OA elections to take place, we need at least 50% of the Troop in attendance. If we do not have 50% present, the OA election team will not hold the elections, and we will have to reschedule. Please be sure to attend the elections.

The OA election team will walk you through the process before voting. To be eligible for the OA you must meet the criteria indicated below. (The OA criterion follows the Troop election information.) For the Troop elections, the process is outlined below. Please read through the information so that you can make sure you get on the ballot if you are interested in a position.

Of particular importance is the position of Senior Patrol Leader. Scouts interested in this vital position should speak with Mr. Mirvish as soon as possible. Remember, the Troop pays for the SPL to attend National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) in the summer. This is a valuable leadership course that will not only benefit you in terms of trying to run the Troop, but it will also provide you with leadership skills that you can use in life.

Troop Elections

a. Troop Positions

Job descriptions and copies of the POR Agreements for all positions are available on the Troop website at:

<http://www.troop680.net/downloads.html>. As noted above, we expect to have all of the POR Agreements updated in the coming week.

i. Senior Patrol Leader (SPLs)

Scouts interested in serving as SPL must contact Mr. Mirvish no later than February 25, 2018. Mr. Mirvish will meet with the candidates to discuss the responsibilities and expectations. If more

than one Scout is interested and eligible, the Troop will vote on the candidates on March 4. If only one candidate comes forward, there will not be an election and the SPL will be announced at the meeting on March 4. If no one steps up to this important position before the elections on March 4, we will still have elections to fill positions other than SPL and ASPLs, and we will work to fill the SPL and ASPL positions in the weeks following elections.

ii. Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPLs)

The incoming SPL will assemble his leadership team and fill the ASPL positions. Scouts interested in serving in one of these positions should discuss their interest in the position with the new SPL as soon as practicable after the SPL has been elected or volunteers.

iii. All Other Troop PORs

Immediately following the OA elections and a decision regarding the SPL, the Troop will hold elections for the following Troop PORs:

- Troop Order of the Arrow Representative (TOAR)
- Quartermaster
- Scribe
- Librarian
- Historian
- Chaplain's Aide
- Instructor
- Webmaster
- Outdoor Ethics Guide
- Bugler

Scouts interested in seeking a POR should read the job descriptions and responsibilities as outlined in the POR agreements posted online before submitting their name for consideration.

To stand for election to one or more of these PORs, interested Scouts must submit their name in writing (email) to the SPL together with a list of the positions they are interested in. The candidate must clearly identify his

preference for positions by ranking them (e.g., Scribe #1, Historian #2, Instructor #3). The cut-off for submitting your name for candidacy is the start of the PLC on February 25. Scouts must also provide the SPL with information about their current rank, positions previously held (whether for another rank or not), activities they have led, and whether they have completed ILST. This information will be included in the candidate list circulated to the Troop before the elections so that Scouts will have information about each candidate, in order to make an informed decision on election day.

The list of candidates for each position will be circulated by email to the entire Troop Tuesday evening, February 27. Scouts on the list will have 24 hours to submit any corrections / changes to the SPL. Please note, the only corrections that will be allowed will be with respect to Scouts on the list. We will not be accepting new Scouts for candidacy. The deadline for getting on the ballot is February 25. The final list of candidates will be circulated to the Troop on Friday, March 2. **We will not have open nominations at the elections.**

iv. Troop Guides, Den Chiefs, and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster

Troop Guides, Den Chiefs, and Junior Assistant Scoutmasters are important leadership positions that count as PORs for rank. The availability of these positions fluctuates with the size and needs of the Troop (in the case of Troop Guide) and the availability of opportunities with Packs (in the case of Den Chiefs). Training (e.g., Den Chief Training, ILST) are also important considerations for these positions. For these reasons, these positions are not included among the elected positions. Scouts interested in these positions should contact the SPL and Mr. Mirvish following elections. Mr. Mirvish has worked with the District Committee to ensure that Den Chief training will be included at the November Pow Wow training day and at MB Jamboree in February 2019.

b. Patrol Elections

Immediately following elections for the Troop-level positions, we will divide into Patrols for Patrol elections. Each Patrol will be responsible for electing a Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and a Patrol Quartermaster.

Please note that under the Guide to Advancement, to count for rank (Star, Life or Eagle), a Position of Responsibility (POR) must be one of the ones listed in the Scout Handbook for the Rank. **For this reason Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Quartermaster do not count as PORs.** Nevertheless, there are often times when a Scout does not want a POR or is ineligible due to rank (e.g. only a First Class Scout) but is still willing to help his Patrol by taking on these assignments because of the lower level of work/commitment involved. The APL for example only attends PLCs or performs other functions of the PL when the PL is not able to do the job himself. Similarly, a Patrol QM is really only active when the Patrol is doing something like Patrol Camping or when the Troop QM needs help inventorying gear and/or checking Patrol Action Packers.

OA Elections

a. Eligibility

In order to be elected to the OA, a Scout must:

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Be under the age of 21 and hold the BSA First Class rank or higher.
- Have experienced 15 nights of Boy Scout camping while registered with a Troop 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.

Mr. Mirvish will review the eligibility of all Scouts in the Troop not presently a member of the OA and circulate a list of candidates prior to the elections. In the event a Scout who believes he is eligible is not included on the list, they will have an opportunity to discuss this with r. Mirvish.

b. Election Procedures

The election will be run by the OA election team. They will explain the process at the Troop meeting.