

OFFICIAL KU-NI-EH LODGE #145 TAP OUT CEREMONY

(Nothing else should be used)

Characters: Chief,
Medicine Man,
Guide. (if a fourth person is available he may serve as an escort)

~This tap-out ceremony is an all encompassing ceremony. It can be done anywhere at anytime of the day. It is appropriate for camporees or for just after an election has taken place.

Chief enters.

Chief: Fellow Scouts, Scouters, parents, and friends, we are gathered here this evening for a very special purpose. There are Scouts among us who have lived up to the high ideals of Scouting. These scouts have shown enthusiastic leadership and unselfish service toward their fellow Scouts. They enjoy hiking and camping and are at home in the great out-of-doors. Because of their unselfishness and true Scout spirit, these Scouts were selected by their peers for something higher.

Medicine Man enters.

Medicine Man: The Order of the Arrow is a brotherhood of "Scout Honor Campers" that has been a part of the Boy Scouts for over fifty years. The Order recognizes those Scouts who faithfully exemplify the Scout oath and law in their daily lives and have met the requirements for first class rank. Election for Order of the Arrow membership is not a popularity contest, but should be bestowed upon those who live a cheerful life of friendship and service. Therefor, the purpose and mission of the Order of the Arrow is to promote and maintain camping traditions and spirit, and to crystallize the true meaning of the Scout oath and law.

Guide enters holding lit candle.

Guide: My friends, I have come to you bearing the light which is the spirit of the Order of the Arrow. This light represents the thousands of Arrowman across the country who are bound together in everlasting brotherhood. If you are selected for membership in the Order, I shall pass this flame to you.

Medicine Man: There are some among us that have been elected to join of great brotherhood. I shall now call them by name, so that all may be aware of their accomplishments.

The Medicine Man read off each individual youth names. After a scout's name has been called, he will then be escorted forward by pre-chosen guides. (usually other OA members) The candidate first is escorted to the Medicine Man who acknowledges that he is worthy, and then escorts him to the chief. The chief, also seeing that he is worthy, gives three taps to the left shoulder. The Guide then takes the candidate and leads him out of the way, but still facing the assembled group so that he may be recognized. The Guide then hands him a candle and lights it using the one he is holding.

Medicine Man: The Order of the Arrow is a truly youth run organization, but adults do play a role as advisors. Adults are selected because they have shown themselves as role models and as unyielding support for the youth of their unit. They are asked to continue these ideals through the Order. _____ has been selected as an adult for Order of the Arrow membership.

Same process as youth candidates.

Chief: (to elected scouts) I would like to congratulate you on your selection for membership in the Order of the Arrow, it is truly a great honor. The path that leads to our lodge circle is not an easy one. At some points it grows steep and sometimes you will lose your way. Do not become discouraged, and never give up. Look to the light of scouting which you possess in your hands. It has served as the guide for many, many others before you. Let it light your way through the night and into the Land of the Rising Sun. Into the land of the Ku-Ni-Eh Lodge, of the Order of the Arrow. There, you will again find me, and I will welcome you into our circle.

Medicine Man: Fellow Scouts, mark these candidates well. In the days ahead, look to their example. Learn what it means to be a "Scout Honor Camper" and next year you may be selected by your fellow Scouts to join our great brotherhood. This concludes the Order of the Arrow tap-out ceremony. Thank you for joining us this evening.

The characters leave and the Guide leads the candidates to an area away from the assembled group. The characters break character, introduce themselves, and congratulate the elected Scouts and Scouter. They then proceed to invite the candidates to an Ordeal, and hand out the first "Spirit of the Arrow Booklet."

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near themselves at the
The are asked to continue
described as an adult try out

OA Call-Out (tapout) Ceremony Guidelines

Introduction

More Scouts view the Call-Out ceremony than will ever have the chance to view the other ceremonies of the Order of the Arrow. Therefore, lodges should place special emphasis on the performance of the Call-Out ceremonies to ensure that their Call-Outs are well presented in order to make a great first impression with the candidates and to also to showcase the OA to non-members.

Purpose of the Order of the Arrow Call-Out: The purpose of a Call-Out is to officially recognize each elected Scout as a candidate for membership in the Order of the Arrow. The Call-Out is a form of public recognition used to communicate the honor of being selected for membership into our Order to members, non-members, and the public. Its dignity must impress all with the high ideals and standards of the Order of the Arrow. It should serve to intensify a Scout's desire to become a member.

Key Elements to Include in a Call-Out

The National Order of the Arrow Committee does not provide lodges with a specific Call-Out ceremony. The committee has instead produced a list of key elements that all Call-Out ceremonies should include. Each lodge should develop its own Call-Out ceremony that incorporates these key elements:

Key Call-Out Elements: The key elements that should be included in all Call-Outs are:

- Purpose of the Order of the Arrow
- History of the Order of the Arrow in Scouting
- History of the lodge
- Reason for the selection of candidates
- Recognition of candidates: calling-out each candidate's name, unit number, and community
- Challenge to Scouts that are non-members to strive to uphold the Scouting ideals that will lead to their selection for membership in the Order of the Arrow.
- Presenting each candidate a letter of recognition and welcome from the Lodge Chief
- Giving of the Scout handclasp
- After the ceremony, distribute Spirit of the Arrow booklet 1 and provide information about all upcoming Ordeals to the candidates

Call-Out Guidelines

Call-Outs should comply with the following guidelines:

Key Call-Out Elements: Each Call-Out should include the nine (9) Key Call-Out Elements listed above.

Make Everyone Aware of the Importance: The candidates and the audience of youth, parents, and leaders should be made aware of the importance of the honor being given. The lodge should concentrate its efforts on putting together an exciting ceremony, but leaving behind an important message for the audience to silently ponder at the close. The buildup in excitement should lead all persons witnessing the Call-Out to realize the importance of Order of the Arrow membership.

Announce the Candidates: The name, unit number, and community of each candidate must be announced clearly. Each candidate must be given the same opportunity for recognition. It is important to get the correct spelling and pronunciation of each candidate's name.

Tapping: Any physical contact in any Order of the Arrow ceremony must be "symbolic" in nature. If lodges choose to symbolically tap the candidate, it should be done with the hand in the Scout Sign. This will eliminate hard tapping, because the tapper would be injured long before the candidate that is receiving the taps. Symbolic tapping, if used, should not be conducted in a set of three taps, or one tap followed by two taps, since these taps are used later in the ceremonies and therefore violate Induction Principle 9 - "Symbolic Progression".

Make it impressive: Call-Out ceremonies should be dignified and impressive. They should have an Indian theme. Campfires, drums, and dancing can be used to supplement, but not overwhelm, the honor.

Keep it short and to the point: The successful Call-Out should last no longer than 10 minutes plus the time it takes to announce the candidates. It should leave a strong impression on the candidate and the non-member. Keep things moving avoid repetition, and keep to the point: the recognition of the candidate.

Items not to include: The meaning of the induction unfolds in a logical, systematic, manner in the steps from a candidate's election until he achieves Brotherhood membership. The Call-Out must not violate the principle of "Symbolic Progression" as described in Principle 9 of the Ten Induction Principles. Therefore, no characters, information, symbolism, or text from the Pre-Ordeal, Ordeal, Brotherhood, or Vigil ceremony should appear in the Call-Out ceremony. Examples of violating symbolic progression are:

- Firing an arrow
- The use of the bow, bowstring, or arrow
- Giving the Obligation
- Giving the Admonition
- Reciting any part of the Legend
- Singing the OA song
- Putting candidates on silence before Meteu's challenge in the Pre-Ordeal ceremony
- The placing of the hand on shoulder
- Binding the candidates with rope
- Using the names of any of the four principals
- The use of the W. W. W.



VIOLATION