

Order of the Arrow Adult Membership Recommendations

Adult qualifications are different from the youth requirements. Adult selection is based upon ability to perform necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and is not for recognition as an honor. A selected adult Scouter must be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities and must provide a positive role model for the youth members of the lodge. Unit adult Scouters are recommended by the unit committee. District adult Scouters are recommended by the district committee. Unit and district recommendations must be reviewed and approved by both the Chapter Adult Selection Committee and the Lodge Adult Selection Committee. The Lodge Adviser, Council President, and members of the professional staff may recommend adult Scouters for membership directly to the Lodge Adult Selection Committee.

Please use current Amangamek-Wipit Lodge forms to submit recommendations. Because our lodge is large, our forms request some detailed information not requested on the national forms. The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge forms request camping specifics: persons using the national forms often do not provide the specifics needed for selection committees to evaluate the recommendation. Processing will be delayed if critical information is missing. The following information is intended to supplement the information printed on the forms, displayed on the website, and provided in the OA Guide for Officers and Advisers.

There are four requirements for adult Scouters to become candidates for OA membership. The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge forms request justification for requirement 2, service capacity, and requirement 3, camping. Requirement 1, ability, and requirement 4, character, are attested to solely by the submission of a signed recommendation; no details are requested on the Amangamek-Wipit Lodge forms for these requirements (while the national forms have spaces for justifying statements).

The capacity requirement (#2) justification must identify at least one skill, ability, or capacity that the OA can use. This information is helpful to the chapter and/or lodge adviser in utilizing/assigning the adult member. Please make sure the entry on the form addresses requirement 2, not requirements 1 or 4. Examples of sufficient justification include (and this list is not intended to be all inclusive):

- Service on an OA committee; such as, ceremonies, cook crew, health & safety, or camping promotion
- Service as an adviser to a particular youth; such as a Troop OA Representative (TOAR) or a chapter or lodge officer or committee chairman
- A function performed in the unit, applicable to the Order; such as, registration, event organization, equipment maintenance, or training
- An ability implied by vocation or hobby applicable to the Order; such as, computer or website support, finance, medical, construction trade, religious leader, or photography

Being a driver, while needed to transport youth to events, is not sufficient alone to fulfill requirement 2, the exception would be an adult holding a CDL who could drive a bus or heavy truck.

The camping requirement (#3) justification must include (at least) 5 consecutive nights of long-term camping and (at least) 10 nights of short-term camping. Resident summer camp of at least 5

consecutive nights qualifies as long-term camping, as does at least 5 consecutive nights of a high adventure trek. Short-term camping must be composed of trips of 4 or fewer consecutive nights. Up to 4 consecutive nights of a high adventure trek (not used to meet the long-term camping requirement) may be counted toward the 10 nights of short-term camping required; but resident summer camp, even of fewer than 5 consecutive nights, cannot be counted in fulfillment of the short-term camping requirement. Please Note: that ship nights will count as camping. The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge forms have spaces for 8 short-term camping trips, which is usually enough space as some trips may include multiple nights: if more space is needed to report short-term camping, please attach a continuation sheet.

Signatures of the Unit Committee Chairman and the members of the Chapter Adult Selection Committee attest to the character of the individual being recommended, and that the form is fully completed and the requirements met. Further, the signature of the Chapter Adviser attests that the unit held a youth election, and that the number of adults being recommended by the unit is within the quota (stated on the recommendation form). Incomplete submissions reflect badly on the persons signing the form, and, as stated above, may likely delay processing: the Lodge Adult Selection Committee must return incomplete forms to obtain missing information, and this takes additional time and effort.

Requirements for district and council Scouters are the same as those for unit scouters, except the camping requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Lodge Adviser, the Council Scout Executive, and the Lodge Chief. If requesting a camping waiver, please provide a justification/rationale so that the Lodge Adviser, the Council Scout Executive, and the Lodge Chief may evaluate the situation and approve (or disapprove) the waiver request.

Please submit completed adult recommendation forms to the Lodge Adult Selection Committee via nominations@wipit470.org.

The chapter adviser will be notified via email when recommendation forms are approved (or disapproved). A member of the Lodge Adult Selection Committee will enter approved recommendations into Lodge Master: chapters should not include adults in their youth election reports. Please allow a couple of weeks for processing. Please plan ahead, but if quicker processing is needed, because of an impending Ordeal, please so state in the transmitting email and/or leave a message for Mark Loughner at 240-462-3026. Also, email, or call Mark Loughner if you have not received a response within the two weeks after submission. Please extend an invitation to an adult Scouter to attend an Ordeal only after the recommendation form has been approved by the Lodge Adult Selection Committee.