



2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference

It's More Than A Position: Positions for Life

Session Length: 45 Minutes

Through this session, you will:

Explain How positions and experience can serve you throughout life

Demonstrate How positions are important through visual aides

Guide Develop an understanding of your skills and interests as they pertain to positions in the Order of the Arrow.

Enable Takeaway goals for pursuing future positions, short and long term.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify specific leadership and tangible skills gained by positions and experience in the OA.
- Assess where these skills are applicable in roles in and out of Scouting.
- Develop a plan to use these skills.

Theme Connection:

The theme of NOAC 2018 is “Decide Your Destiny,” emphasizing the message that today’s decisions shape tomorrow’s reality. This session will relay this theme in the following ways:

- Understanding the skills that can be developed in the Order of the Arrow allows for participants to decide how best to utilize their experience for future endeavors outside of the OA, including school, civic associations, and careers.

This session will help the Lodge with the Journey to Excellence Requirement(s): 4, 9, 12, 16

Required Materials:

- Flipchart Pages and Markers for Collating Answers – need to have adhesive sticky on back or include masking tape
- Projector and Screen
- Skills Assessment Resource and Takeaway Challenge Sheet



NOAC 2018 TRAINING COMMITTEE
ORDER OF THE ARROW



TRAINER PREPARATION

1. Ensure Powerpoint Presentation is complete.
2. Ensure Skills Assessment Resource and Takeaway Challenge Sheet is duplicated for the audience.
3. Familiarize yourself with the “Buzz the Beard” fundraising documentary video.

Session Narrative

Introduction

2 minutes

Trainer introduces themselves and goes over the lesson objectives.

First topic – Positions for Life

10 minutes

Trainer: Most of us have lives outside of Scouting. We’re in Sports, school clubs, church groups, and civic associations. The skills, experience, and positions we gain through Scouting can serve us well throughout life and we’ll discuss tangible and intangible skills in this session.

Trainer Instructions: Show Mission and Purpose of the Order of the Arrow in Powerpoint Presentation. Show “How does fulfilling the Mission and Purpose of the Order of the Arrow Prepare Us for Life?” in Powerpoint Presentation. Solicit Answers from Audience and Write Them on Flipchart Pages
Suggested answers include: **Gain Experience, Learn Tangible Skills, Learn Leadership Skills.**

Note: Instruct the participants that the full Mission and Purpose of the OA is on the back of their Takeaway Challenge Sheet. If this is the first session of the day, hand out the Takeaway Challenge Sheet.

With each answer, use examples in the Order of the Arrow (particularly lodge level) to highlight where that example is necessary. Some guidance includes: *How does learning tangible skills help you throughout life? How does learning leadership skills help you throughout life?* Suggested



answers include: *Allows you to prepare for a profession, allows you to become a leader in that profession.*

Second topic – Skills Gained

15 minutes

Trainer: Let's take a look at the positions, skills, and experience gained in the Order of the Arrow.

Trainer Instructions: If this is the first session of the day in cell, give a full explanation of the event being displayed in the upcoming video. If second or third session, give an abbreviated explanation of event (the event video is utilized in all 3 sessions of the cell so a full description is not necessary for the 2nd or 3rd sessions).

Full Description: Octoraro Lodge 22 identified in 2016 a need for planting trees at its council's camps – Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware 3rd. A fundraiser called “Buzz the Beard” was initiated whereby Camp Ranger / Vigil Adviser Tom Murphy, who had grown his beard for 44 years, would have his beard shaved off for the right price - \$5000. Here is a documentary of the event.

Abbreviated Description: Here is another video clip of the “Buzz the Beard” documentary where Ranger Tom Murphy loses his beloved beard for cold hard cash.

Trainer Instructions: Within Powerpoint, play the “Buzz the Beard” Documentary clip relevant for this session.

Trainer Instructions: Discuss with the audience what skills were gained or utilized. Appropriate answers, amongst others, include “Chief: Delegation”, “Emcee: Public Speaking”, “Decision Making: what events would occur at Buzz the Beard, who would lead them”, “Expanding Comfort Zones”, “Written / Oral Communication to pull off the event”.

Third topic – Identifying Skills

15 minutes

Trainer will talk about skills they have gained in the Order of the Arrow and how it has prepared them for life beyond the OA. This can include in other facets of the BSA, school, or professions. If trainer is a youth who has not started a profession, provide examples from their lodge of members who used OA skills to prepare for their career.



After introduction of topic, use Skill Assessment Resource Sheet to work with audience to find out what skills they already have or desire to have in order to prepare themselves for various careers or opportunities outside of the Order of the Arrow.

Trainer Instructions: Trainer hands out the Skills Assessment Resource to audience members and provides instructions on how to use (refer to handout).

Trainer asks if there were any surprising results from the audience that they want to share with other participants.

Takeaway Challenge

3 minutes

Looking at the list you generated, identify 2 opportunities you are interested in and develop a short plan to pursue them. The opportunities should be outside of the OA, such as in BSA in general, school, or a future / current profession. Use the provided “Takeaway Challenge Sheet”.

Appendix: Resources and Source Material

- Skills Assessment Resource
- Takeaway Challenge Sheet (for all 3 sessions in “More than a Position” Cell)
- Buzz the Beard Documentary
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYHh7uhUcrI>
- Guide for Officers and Advisers