

QUALITY CHAPTER MEETING

Number 2—Brotherhood Conversion

Background: Becoming a Brotherhood member seals one's membership in the Order of the Arrow and represents a deeper understanding of the ideals taught in the Ordeal. To ensure your lodge obtains Quality Lodge status, it is important chapters do their part to reach the Brotherhood conversion goal of 30%. The chapter can work toward this goal by actively assisting Ordeal members on their path to Brotherhood.

Meeting Resources: Brotherhood test questions and answers can be found through the web, OA handbook, ceremony team members, and your lodge Brotherhood chairman. Have information about JumpStart available, or—better yet—arrange for Internet access at the meeting to demonstrate the value of JumpStart in person.

Meeting Content: Invite the lodge Brotherhood chairman (or Vice-Chief) to give a review of the Brotherhood requirements and their importance. Then, let the experienced members train the Ordeal members.

- ♦ Have resource materials on hand available for coaching and answering questions. For example, have a copy of the Spirit of the Arrow booklets, the OA Handbook, and the Ordeal ceremony scripts at the meeting.
- ♦ The path to Brotherhood does involve some memorization. Stress that this memorization comes easily after an *understanding* of the Order. Break into groups for the specific purpose of coaching Ordeal members on becoming Brotherhood members. Remember: Youth should coach youth and adults should coach adults. Make sure that everyone in attendance participates.
- ♦ Play the game at jumpstart.aa-bsa.org that tests an Ordeal member's knowledge of the Order. If Internet access is unavailable, encourage members to do so at home.
- ♦ Brainstorm with the group methods to reward those who reach Brotherhood within the year. A friendly competition among chapters is a good way to encourage chapter involvement. Of course, it's not about which chapter is stronger, but how together the chapters can make the *lodge* stronger.
- ♦ Encourage Brotherhood and Vigil honor members to keep in touch with Ordeal members. They should call, email, or text new members encouraging them to return to events and learn more about the Order. Use the Elangomat system and encourage Elangomats to work personally with their clan members.
- ♦ Ensure nobody leaves the meeting with unanswered questions!

Although an entire chapter meeting can be devoted to teaching the principles of Brotherhood, set aside a specific time within *each* meeting's agenda to break into groups and continue learning. Your lodge, through your efforts, will achieve Quality Lodge status and make you eligible for the individual Quality Lodge pin.

Most importantly: Have fun! Members will return only if they have a good time.