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# ORDER OF THE ARROW

## LEC Attendance Improvement Ideas

Many lodges struggle with youth attendance at their LECs. In the case of a Lodge Executive Committee meeting, having a great agenda and being prepared to discuss different topics is a key to success, but if no one is there to carry out the agenda and discussion, all of that work results in less progress. Consider the following tips to increase attendance at LEC meetings:

- **Offer a virtual option.** Many lodges span multiple states or hundreds of miles in length. Offering a virtual option through Zoom or Google Meets enables people to overcome the transportation challenges that being on the other side of the council from the meeting location brings. You should encourage in-person attendance if possible, but for some people this isn't as feasible.
- **Offer refreshments.** If the LEC is in the morning, consider bringing donuts and coffee to the meeting. If the LEC is in the evening, consider bringing a snack platter to the meeting. While someone is unlikely to drive to a meeting just for the snacks, they will enjoy the thought and it may make them feel welcome to attend future meetings.
- **Offer carpooling.** Encourage chapter chiefs to organize carpools for LEC members within their chapters. This can help some members overcome transportation barriers and gives them time in the car to make new friends and have good discussions. Many people are more likely to go somewhere if they have a friend to go with.
- **Host LEC meetings after lodge events.** In theory, most LEC members should be attending lodge events, so holding a meeting when they are all in one place seems like the natural thing to do. Holding a meeting after the event gives attendees who are not invested in the LEC a chance to depart.
- **Avoid holiday weekends and religious holidays.** Many people make plans or have commitments during these times, it is in the best interest of all to steer clear from these weekends.
- **Consider extracurricular schedules when scheduling meetings.** If you know that 20-30% of your LEC members compete in track and field, it is unwise to schedule a meeting during the state championship meet. While it is very difficult to avoid the commitments of everyone, it is important to consider the other commitments of the LEC members before scheduling meetings.
- **Reward good attendance.** Many lodges give a perfect attendance award at a lodge banquet. Also consider offering a prize to a random member at each LEC meeting. Incentives and prizes go a long way to encourage people to attend LEC meetings.