

O.A. Brotherhood Study Guide

There are five challenges for Brotherhood membership in the Order of the Arrow.

1. You must know the Admonition, which is only repeated verbally and should never be written down. You must memorize the Obligation of the Order which was given you by Allowat Sakima as well as the words to the official song. You must also know the sign of the Ordeal membership and the Order of the Arrow handclasp.

Order of the Arrow Obligation

I do herby promise, on my honor as a scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui. I will always regards the ties of brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit, even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.

Order of the Arrow Song

Firm bound in brotherhood, gather the clan that cheerful service brings to fellow man. Circle our council fire, weld tightly every link that binds us in brotherhood,
Wimachtendienk.

2. Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal. You must gain a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed.
3. You must serve your unit. Retain membership in scouting. During a period of at least 10 months, strive to fulfill your obligation by continuing to expand your service to your troop.
4. Plan for service in your lodge. Retain your registration in your OA lodge and keep your dues paid. Be aware that the brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the lodge. Develop an idea of how you plan to fulfill this pledge.
5. Review your progress. When you honestly feel that you have met the four challenges above, write a letter to your lodge secretary. In this letter you need to :
 - * Explain what you think the obligation means
 - * Describe how you have been fulfilling this obligation to your troop in your daily life and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to help in this service.
 - * Describe your specific plans for giving service in the lodge program.

Include with your letter your advance registration application and fees for the next brotherhood ceremony according to the instructions given by the lodge.

Additional information:

The four Indians you met during the pre-ordeal & ordeal ceremonies were;

Kichkinet- he was your guide. He symbolizes leadership and is an example of helpfulness and friendliness.

Nutiket- He is the guard of our circle. He upholds the tradition of cheerfulness.

Meteu- He is the medicine man and represents brotherhood. He reminds us of our need to love one another.

Allowat Sakima- He is the mighty chief and symbolizes service. From him you accepted the Obligation of the Order.

Symbols of the Pre-Ordeal:

Bow- represents liveliness and flexibility under stress; the symbol of cheerfulness.

Bow String - Meteu gave the bow string to Allowat Sakima as a token of the ties of brotherhood. Allowat Sakima strung the bow uniting brotherhood and cheerfulness together for service.

Arrow - Allowat Sakima drew the arrow from the quiver as a token that your election separated you from your fellow scouts for something higher. The qualities of the arrow are ingredients of leadership.

Testing the Bow - A sign of willingness to test your dedication to scout ideals which led to your election.

Shooting the Arrow upward- symbolizes the pathway you will follow if your dedication is unwavering.