

# Memorandum

**To:** Knox Trail Council - Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, Troop Committee Chairmen  
**From:** Benjamin J. Gemski- Lodge Chief, Chippanyonk Lodge  
**Date:** 12/5/07  
**Re:** Order of the Arrow- Unit Elections 2007-2008

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## **Unit Elections 2007-2008**

Effective unit elections are essential to the continued success of Chippanyonk Lodge and the Order of the Arrow (OA), since our new members are chosen during an election, and they are oftentimes the only contact non-arrowmen in the troop have with the lodge. To ensure that each troop has a well-run OA election, we will be requiring that a lodge-sponsored election team run every election. Each election team is trained in this process, so they will be able to run the election in a timely manner, and they will be prepared to answer any questions you or your scouts have on the order, the lodge, or the election process. This change will give every scout a fair opportunity to be selected for the order, and it will only require the troop to allow time for the team to conduct the election. We highly encourage every troop to hold an OA election, and our teams only need 30 minutes at the most to complete the process. It is recommended that the election is run during a troop meeting, and we are available any night of the week.

### **We would like you to have a date set for the election by December 31, 2007.**

Once you have a date in mind contact your district vice chief to validate the date and time.

One of the fundamental parts to the Scouting program is providing leadership to youth. To meet that end, we have the youth in our lodge run every aspect of our program, including unit elections. Please keep in mind that these are youth leaders running the elections, and it is a great responsibility for them, so please be patient if things go awry. They are trained in how to run the elections and how to answer questions and solve problems that arise, so there shouldn't be any major problems. However, if a scout acts inappropriately or you are unsatisfied with his knowledge and performance, feel free to contact the Lodge Adviser, Andrew Taft, at [adviser@chippanyonk.org](mailto:adviser@chippanyonk.org).

The 2007-2008 Unit Elections packet, which you will need on the night of the election, can be found at [www.Chippanyonk.org](http://www.Chippanyonk.org) under the unit elections page.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to contact me directly at 508-726-1498 or at [Chief@Chippanyonk.org](mailto:Chief@Chippanyonk.org).

Yours in Brotherhood,  
Benjamin J. Gemski  
Chippanyonk Lodge Chief

Contact information for district vice chiefs:

Tri-River District: Mortiz Schmid—[ViceCheifTriRiver@Chippanyonk.Org](mailto:ViceCheifTriRiver@Chippanyonk.Org)

Liberty District: Peter Bernard – [ViceChiefLiberty@Chippanyonk.Org](mailto:ViceChiefLiberty@Chippanyonk.Org)

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