



Dear Ordeal Candidate,

Congratulations! You have been selected by your peers as a Scout who exemplifies the Scout Oath and Law in your everyday life. You are now eligible to become a member of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society. Your next step is to complete an Ordeal, which is a series of trials that will test you mentally and physically. These tasks are challenging but within your capabilities. Do not be fooled by the words of your peers, the induction weekend is a memorable experience that you will reflect upon for the rest of your life. Your next step is to undergo your Ordeal, which you can complete at one of our upcoming Ordeal weekends. We host Ordeal weekends at Kiondaga Lodge's Fellowships in the spring and fall. You must complete your Ordeal by the end of this year, or you will have to be elected by your peers again. Our next Spring Fellowship is May 14-16, and our next Fall Fellowship is September 10-12.

The Ordeal is a test of your sincere dedication to the Order and its principles. It is a trial in which you will sleep under the stars, perform cheerful service, eat scant food, and keep a strict vow of silence. Our Ordeals are held at Old Ben Scout Reservation, and check-in will be at 6:00 PM (CT). The weekend will conclude on Sunday morning after a short meeting. You will need to bring basic camping equipment to use Saturday night after the completion of your Ordeal. You should bring some spending money to use in the trading post after your Ordeal Saturday night and Sunday morning. A checklist for your Ordeal is on the other side of this letter.

Registration is online at [kiondaga.org](http://kiondaga.org). The fee includes an OA sash, lodge flap, OA Handbook, food for the weekend, and your membership dues up to December 31. After your Ordeal, we encourage you to come back to our other fellowships, Winter Banquet, and service days at Old Ben Scout Reservation and to seal your membership in the OA through the completion of your Brotherhood. Find our calendar on the Lodge website.

Once again, I congratulate you on being called out as an Ordeal Candidate for Kiondaga Lodge. Through this unique experience, you will see exactly what service and leadership mean. I look forward to having you as a brother in the Order of the Arrow. If you have any questions, you can find more information on the Kiondaga Lodge website at [kiondaga.org](http://kiondaga.org) and National OA website at [oa-bsa.org](http://oa-bsa.org) or ask any member of the OA.

In Service,

Andreas Hardgrave  
2021 Kiondaga Lodge Chief  
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SCOUTING'S NATIONAL **HONOR** SOCIETY

## Packing List for Your Ordeal

The following list is what to bring for your Ordeal:

- Wear Work Clothes Friday night
  - You will need your uniform for Saturday night, but do not wear it to registration.
  - You will sleep in the clothes you arrive in on Friday and complete your cheerful service in them on Saturday.
  - Clothes can be Scout related or any other clothing that is comfortable to work in that you don't mind getting dirty. We recommend an old T-Shirt, long pants, long sleeved shirt, rugged shoes and socks, and a hat.
- Sleeping Bag & Ground Cloth
- Work Gloves
- Water Bottle
- Rain Gear
- Light Jacket
- Spirit of the Arrow Booklet #1
- If you are an adult, you may bring a sleeping pad

You will not be allowed to take anything else with you on your Ordeal. During your ordeal, you will be under a vow of silence and spend a night under the stars. Eat heartily before you come, as there will only be light meals until the feast on Saturday evening. You will spend Saturday doing various cheerful service for the camp; after service is completed, you will take a shower and change into your full Field Uniform (Class A).

This is what you will need for Saturday night after your Ordeal:

- Tent
- Full Field Uniform (Class A)
- Toiletries (soap, toothbrush, etc.)
- Towel & Washcloth
- Change of underwear and socks
- Change of clothes for Sunday
- Flashlight & Batteries  
(Leave this in your tent on Friday night)
- Money for the trading post

Please do not bring snack foods, electronic devices, games, or any other valuables.

If you have questions, you can direct them to any lodge officer or Buffalo Trace Council.

General Lodge Contact: [contact@kiondaga.org](mailto:contact@kiondaga.org)