

Illinek Lodge #132 Bylaws

Article I Name & Affiliation

The name of the organization is Illinek Lodge #132, Order of the Arrow. The Lodge is affiliated with the Abraham Lincoln Council, Inc.144, Scouting America.

Article II Officers

Section 2-1: The elected officers of the Lodge are the Chief, the Vice Chief, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. Elected lodge officers shall be elected by the youth membership at the Lodge annual meeting. All officers shall serve from September 1st through August 31st. All officers shall be under 21 years of age during the entire term of office.

Section 2-2: In the absence of the Lodge Chief, the order of succession shall be the Vice Chief, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The duties of the Chief may be performed by one of these individuals in the absence of the Chief.

Section 2-3: Deputy Chiefs may be appointed by the Lodge Chief, in consultation with the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser.

Section 2-4: If the Lodge Chief determines the Vice Chief, the Secretary, the Treasurer, or a Chapter Chief, is incapable of fulfilling the duties of office, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser, the chief shall then appoint another Lodge member to that position. Appointments to an elected Lodge office shall be approved by a simple majority of the Lodge executive committee.

Section 2-5: If a two-thirds majority of the full voting membership of the Lodge executive committee, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser, determines that the Lodge Chief has become incapable of fulfilling the duties of the office, or if the officer resigns, the order of succession shall apply. In this case the Vice Chief would automatically assume the duties of the Chief. Should the Secretary or Treasurer be unwilling or unable to assume the duties of the Chief, that officer would remain in the elected office. If a vacancy cannot be immediately filled by the order of succession, the Supreme Chief, Staff Adviser and Lodge Adviser may appoint an acting officer to fulfill the duties of the position until the Lodge executive committee acts or the next lodge election is held.

Article III

Lodge Executive Committee

Section 3-1: The Lodge executive committee shall consist of the Lodge officers, Deputy Chiefs, operating committee chairmen, the Immediate Past Chief, the Lodge Adviser, the Staff Adviser, and Council Scout Executive. Chapter Chiefs, Chapter Advisers, and the Vigil Honor Secretary, if those positions are utilized, shall also serve as members of the Lodge executive committee. The Lodge Chief is chairman and shall preside over all meetings of the Lodge executive committee. Only members under the age of 21 may vote on the Lodge executive committee. At least one officer must be present for an executive committee meeting to be held.

Section 3-2: The calendar of Lodge meetings and activities shall be established by the Lodge executive committee.

Section 3-3: The Lodge executive committee shall establish the policies of the Lodge.

Section 3-4: For purposes of a quorum, 1/3 of the voting members of the Lodge executive committee must be present at any meeting in which business shall be conducted.

Article IV

Committees

Section 4-1: The Lodge executive committee shall have the authority to create and dissolve the operating committees of the Lodge. The Lodge Chief shall appoint the Committee Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen. The term of office for the Committee Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen is from the time of appointment through the next installation of officers.

Section 4-2: The Lodge Chief shall have the authority to create and dissolve ad hoc committees for the purpose of carrying out specific assignments. The Lodge Chief shall appoint all ad hoc committee chairmen and members.

Section 4-3: The Lodge Chief may appoint an Arrowman to serve as Camp Chief to represent the lodge and to coordinate all Lodge affairs at council summer camp.

Section 4-4: Prior to the Lodge annual meeting each year, the Lodge Chief shall appoint an ad hoc officers nominating committee to handle all business regarding the election of officers. The officers nominating committee's responsibilities shall be to ensure that at least one Lodge member is nominated for each elected office, obtain a completed application from each candidate pursuing an elected Lodge office, make candidates aware of election rules and procedures, and

conduct the election of officers. No Lodge member serving on the officers nominating committee may be considered for any elected office.

Section 4-5: The Lodge Chief shall appoint a Vigil Honor Selection committee once each Lodge year for the purpose of nominating Lodge members for reception of the Vigil Honor. The Lodge Chief may appoint a Vigil Honor Secretary to coordinate all business pertaining to the Vigil Honor in the Lodge. The Vigil Honor Selection committee shall be representative of the districts of the council and the committees of the Lodge, to the extent possible. It shall also include the Recognitions Committee Chairman and/or the Vigil Honor Secretary, and the Lodge Adviser. Adults will have no vote in the nomination process. Youth members need not be Vigil members, but must also not be eligible for nomination, or waive nomination while serving on the committee. The committee may seek written or oral comment from any lodge member for discussion in the open session. Voting for nomination will then be conducted in closed session with only the members of the committee in attendance.

Section 4-6: The Lodge Chief shall appoint an ad hoc Founders Award nominating committee once each year for purpose of reviewing and, if desired, nominating worthy members to receive the Founders Award. The committee shall be chaired by the Recognitions committee chairman. Members shall be youth, who have received the award, if possible, and shall be representative of each district of the council and the committees of the Lodge, to the extent possible.

Section 4-7: Each committee shall have a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman, the committee's Deputy Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman.

Section 4-8: The operating committees of the Lodge shall be selected from the Handbook for Officers and Advisers.

Article V **Advisers**

Section 5-1: The Scout Executive, as the Supreme Chief of the Fire, is the final authority of the Order of the Arrow within the council and shall ensure that the Lodge adheres to national policy.

Section 5-2: The Scout Executive shall appoint the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser. Chapter advisers, if the chapter program is utilized, shall also be appointed by the Scout Executive. The Lodge Adviser shall appoint Associate Advisers, Operating Committee Advisers, and ad hoc Committee Advisers.

Section 5-3: Each youth leader shall have an adult counterpart who shall serve as adviser. All ad hoc committees shall have an adviser serving on the committee.

Section 5-4: The term of advisers is from the time of appointment through the following installation of officers. If an adviser is incapable of fulfilling the duties of office, the Lodge Adviser shall appoint another Lodge member to that position.

Article VI

Membership, Meeting, Insignia

Section 6-1: The requirements for membership, completion of Brotherhood membership, and attainment of the Vigil Honor in this Lodge are as stated in the current edition of the Order of the Arrow Handbook and the Order of the Arrow Handbook for Officers and Advisers. To remain a member of this Lodge, a member must be registered with the Abraham Lincoln Council, Scouting America. Procedure for the Ordeal shall be as stated in the Order of the Arrow Handbook and the Handbook for Inductions.

Section 6-2: In August or September of each year, the Lodge shall hold an annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers and conducting other business.

Section 6-3: Special meetings of the Lodge or its executive committee may be called by the Lodge Chief, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser, or the Supreme Chief of the Fire. Proper notice must be given to all of the members expected to attend a special meeting prior to that meeting.

Section 6-4: The Lodge Chief is chairman and shall preside over all meetings of the Lodge. At least one officer must be present for any Lodge business meeting.

Section 6-5: Only members under 21 years of age shall vote on any Lodge matter.

Section 6-6: The Lodge shall produce a Lodge emblem, totem, and thong.

Section 6-7: Each registered member of the Lodge may wear the Lodge emblem, totem, thong, and other items created by the Lodge for members to display.

Section 6-8: The Lodge executive committee shall have authority to create and abolish other items signifying Lodge membership, to alter the design of items signifying Lodge membership, to create special awards for recognition of Lodge members, and to alter any rules and requirements that govern such items and awards. The Lodge membership must be made aware

of changes in any rules and requirements that govern the display or procurement of items signifying Lodge membership.

Article VII

Finances

Section 7-1: Each member inducted into this Lodge shall pay, at the time of induction, a fee to cover initiation expenses and the first year's dues. The first year's dues for new members cover payment through the end of the fiscal year following that in which inducted.

Section 7-2: The amount of dues per member shall be established by the Lodge executive committee. If a member does not pay dues by December 31 of the current fiscal year, then membership shall be considered as inactive. Any member may reactivate membership by payment of the current year's dues. After a member has lapsed one year in dues payment, the member shall also pay one year's back dues to be reactivated, no matter how long it has been since the member has turned in a dues payment.

Section 7-3: Within 60 days of the beginning of each fiscal year, the Lodge executive committee shall adopt a budget for the Lodge for the current fiscal year. The budget, as well as any changes, must be approved by a majority of the Lodge executive committee. Whenever practical, individual Lodge, committee, and chapter activities shall be scheduled as self-sustaining events.

Section 7-4: All Lodge funds shall be deposited with the Abraham Lincoln Council, Inc. Scouting America, for handling in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Vouchers for disbursements from Lodge funds must be approved by the Lodge or Staff Adviser. Individual committees and chapters may not administer funds separate from the Lodge.

Article VIII

National Policies, Amendments

Section 8-1: These rules are subject to the policies of the National Order of the Arrow Committee, and, in case of conflict, national policies shall prevail. The national policies shall be treated as set forth herein to the same extent as if they had been set out in full and any change in national policy automatically amends these rules accordingly.

Section 8-2: These rules may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Lodge if the proposed amendment is submitted in writing to the Lodge executive committee at least 10 days before the meeting at which the amendments are to be considered, notice of the Lodge meeting at which the amendments will be considered and a copy of the proposed amendment is given to

each registered member of the Lodge at least 10 days before that Lodge meeting, and at least two-thirds of the members present and voting at each meeting vote in favor of the adoption of the amendment.

Article IX

Election Procedures and Policies

Section 9-1: Recommendations for nomination to a lodge office will be sought by the nominating committee through the lodge newsletter, lodge website, and other means deemed appropriate. Only members in good standing may recommend another member or themselves. All members being nominated must attain approval from the Supreme Chief of the Fire, before nominations.

Section 9-2: The Nominating committee may recommend a slate of officers to the annual meeting. This slate will be voted upon before nominations from the floor and, if approved, become the officers-elect. If the slate is not approved, nominations from the floor will be sought to include those names proposed on the slate. A second shall not be required for names from the original slate.

Section 9-3: In order to be elected, a candidate must be present for nomination, unless extenuating circumstances exist and this requirement has been waived prior to the election by the Supreme Chief, Staff Adviser or Lodge Adviser.

Section 9-4: Prior to being elected, each candidate shall meet with the Staff Adviser and Lodge Adviser to discuss expectations of the prospective position(s). Each candidate must affirm their willingness to serve for the duration of the year and to meet the expectations of the position(s) sought.

Section 9-5: In order to be elected, a slate or individual nominee must receive a simple majority of the votes cast in the meeting. Absentee voting will not be allowed. Voting should be by paper ballot. The Nominating committee will count the ballots in private and the Lodge Adviser will announce the results immediately. If no candidate receives a simple majority of the votes cast, a second vote will be conducted between the two candidates with the most votes received. A tie would be broken by a random lottery determined by the Lodge Adviser.

Approved August 22, 2016, adjusted for terminology changes on April 6, 2025.