

Lodge Election Rules

The following rules apply to the election of Lodge Officers:

1. Anyone desiring to stand for election as a lodge officer is expected to review the duties expected of all lodge officers and the office that they seek. By accepting a nomination for lodge office, a candidate is declaring that they understand the duties and expectations of lodge officers and their office and if elected, will carry them out to the best of his ability.
2. Candidates for lodge office must be under the age of 21 during their entire term of office. Namely, the candidate must not reach his 21st birthday before December 1st of the year following his election to a lodge office.
3. Lodge Officers must be nominated and seconded by youth members of the lodge. The nominee must then accept the nomination as a candidate. Nominations may be made until the position is closed by the youth presiding over the elections.
4. All youth members who wish to run for lodge office must meet personally with the Lodge Adviser at a scheduled interview time and *present an officer election candidacy agreement signed by the candidate and a parent/guardian.*
5. OA members aged 21 and over may not vote, nominate, second, or directly influence the election process. This includes campaigning for or publicly supporting a particular candidate, attempting to influence a youth member or chapter on how a vote is cast, or being physically present in the area where votes are cast. Any questions or concerns about this rule should be directed to the Lodge Adviser.
6. Each chapter may cast as many votes as the number of youth voting members they have present, up to 10 votes. To be a voting member, the youth must be current on his annual dues. No chapter may cast more than 10 votes.
7. At the call for voting, chapters will caucus with their chapter chief. The assembled chapter members shall agree on how many votes their chapter shall cast for each candidate. The chapter chief shall record their chapter's vote and turn it in to the youth presiding over the election.
8. Voting will commence first with the election of the Lodge Chief. To be elected, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast. If no majority is reached, the candidate receiving the lowest vote totals is dropped. Chapters then re-vote on the

remaining candidates. This process shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

9. Any unelected candidates for Lodge Chief must immediately declare if they desire to stand for election in the remaining lodge officer positions.

10. Upon the election of a Lodge Chief, voting will commence on the election of each of the three Lodge Vice Chiefs. The Lodge elects one Vice Chief at a time following the same procedures as for the election of the Lodge Chief. Upon election of the first Vice Chief, chapters will vote anew among the remaining candidates to elect the second Vice Chief. The same procedure will then be followed for the election of the third Vice Chief.

11. There is no rank or seniority in being the first or second elected vice chief. Vice Chief candidates run for the position of Vice Chief and not to run a specific lodge event. It is up to the newly elected Lodge Chief to determine which role each Vice Chief shall fill in the upcoming year.

12. Upon the election of the three Vice Chiefs, any unsuccessful candidates must immediately declare if they desire to stand for election as Lodge Secretary or Lodge Treasurer.

13. Voting will then commence for the election of the Lodge Secretary using the same procedure outlined above. Unsuccessful candidates must declare if they desire to stand for election as Lodge Treasurer.

14. Lodge elections will conclude with the election of the Lodge Treasurer using the same procedure outlined above.

15. A youth is the member of a chapter corresponding to the district and unit that his primary BSA registration is in.

16. Only two members of the same chapter may serve as Lodge Chief and Vice Chief. Additionally, only three members of the same chapter may serve as a lodge officer. Any candidate for office will be dropped from the election of Vice Chief if two fellow chapter members are elected as Lodge Chief and/or Vice Chief. A candidate so dropped must declare his desire to stand for election as Lodge Secretary or Treasurer. A candidate for Lodge Treasurer shall be dropped from the election if three fellow members of his chapter are elected as lodge officers.