

Ini-To Lodge #324

Order of the Arrow: *Scouting's National Honor Society*

Important Information for Parents:

Congratulations! Your son has been singled out by his peers for being one of the best scouts in his unit. The Ordeal experience is designed to enhance and reinforce the values that got your son elected.

Safety is first and foremost. Because we have a large attendance, many of whom are not with their normal unit leader, we have found a few simple procedures effective in helping protect your son.

Therefore we have a few important requests.

- (1) Before leaving today, be sure to let us know about any special needs your son may have, particularly medical in nature.
- (2) Checkout is Sunday morning at 10:30am. **All participants MUST CHECKOUT.** Checkout will be at the Camp Thunder Dining Hall at the CHECKOUT table. Please park in the parking lot and walk to the dining hall.
- (3) All ceremonies are for candidates and members only. This is done to maintain the “specialness and mystery” for the candidate which helps reinforce the values that are taught. It is not like a Court of Honor. However, the ceremonies are not secret; we simply ask that any non-member wishing to attend discuss this with the Lodge Advisor no later than Friday night at checkin.
- (4) In addition to Non-denominational services, there is an important program Sunday morning to help the new arrowmen understand what they have joined. Distribution of patches, books, membership cards, etc, will take place then. The Lodge trading post will also be open in the Dining Hall during checkout.

Therefore, early checkouts are discouraged except for religious or medical reasons , or family emergency. Anyone wishing to checkout early please let Mr Willoughby know at checkin or see Mr Strickland if a situation arises during the event.

- (5) We will gladly answer any questions you may have. Friday night at registration is the BEST time to ask them.

By the end of the weekend, your son will have completed a program (an “Ordeal”) that has tested the strength of his character and allowed him to grow in self confidence. He will have proved a lot to himself.

Congratulate him. He truly deserves it. Encourage him to go further. There are many new opportunities ahead of him, he has just now stepped through the door.

[Mike Strickland](#) , Lodge Advisor