



WAHISSA LODGE ORDER OF THE ARROW

Wahissa Lodge #118 Election Policy and Procedures

The purpose of this election procedure is to assure an unbiased method for choosing Wahissa Lodge Officers. All prospective candidates should read these guidelines, and fully understand them, before campaigning begins.

1. Each prospective candidate, a dues-paid member, shall announce their candidacy for office between the Monday following the second ordeal and the weekend of Fall Fellowship in writing to the Lodge Key 3.
2. Campaigning with signs and handouts shall not begin before Fall Fellowship.
3. No candidate will spend more than fifty (\$50.00) on their campaign. This includes donations and items previously purchased. A candidate may be disqualified for violating this provision.
4. Adults shall not actively campaign for any candidate.
5. A forum for Lodge members to meet the candidates will be included on the schedule for Fall Fellowship. The Lodge Chief will determine the format for this Candidates' Forum.
6. The elections will be held at the Annual Business Meeting. The business meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Lodge Bylaws.
 - a. Nominations for each office shall be made by any youth member below the age of twenty-one (21) years with current dues paid. Nominees shall indicate that they accept. Nominations for each office shall be closed only once before balloting for that office begins. The Lodge Chief shall be elected first followed by the election of officers based on the standing lodge chief's order of succession.
 - b. Each candidate will have the opportunity to address the membership for a maximum of three (3) minutes. They will speak in alphabetical order.
 - c. A total of one hundred (100) votes will be cast on each ballot. Chapter votes will be allotted as follows:
 - i. Each chapter will receive a base-ten (10) votes out of the one hundred, with the remaining portion being divided according to the percentage of current, dues paid YOUTH members (under-21) for that chapter in the previous calendar year in relation to the total YOUTH membership in the Lodge. Vote will be apportioned in whole votes, not fractions.

- ii. Chapters will poll their delegates via secret ballot to determine how their allotted votes will be cast. Each Chapter must vote in proportion to this poll in whole votes, not fractions. Telephone, email, or other proxy votes are not permitted. In no circumstance shall an adult (21 and over) be permitted to vote.
 - d. The candidate receiving a simple majority (at least 50% of the vote plus one (1) vote) will be the officer-elect. In the case where a simple majority is not received by any candidate, another ballot is taken. The candidate(s) receiving the least number of votes is (are) dropped and the candidates receiving the majority will be retained for the next ballot. Each candidate will be allowed to address the membership for one (1) additional minute, and the second ballot will be conducted at the conclusion of the speeches. In the event of a tie, the Lodge Chief will cast the deciding vote, giving the candidate sufficient votes to achieve a majority.
 - e. The Chief-elect will select the order of succession for the remaining Offices after all offices have been filled, following the guidelines stated in the Lodge Bylaws, Section 3.05.
 - f. The remaining offices will be decided following the procedures outlined in 6 a-d above until all offices are filled.
7. The newly officers-elect will be installed at the Annual Banquet. They will work closely with the incumbent officers between Fall Fellowship and the Annual Banquet. A training weekend will be conducted for them by the Lodge Key Three, so that they may gain a better understanding of their new positions
 8. Vacancies in any office will be handled in accordance with the Lodge Bylaws, Section 3.05.
 9. The immediate past Chief will enforce these rules. If he should be unable to attend the weekend, or these events, the current Chief will appoint one (1) Arrowman to assume this responsibility.
 10. Any candidate who plans to run for Lodge Chief must, in addition to sending a written or emailed letter, meet with the Lodge Key 3 before the Annual Business Meeting to discuss the expectations and responsibilities of the office, and to outline their goals for the lodge during their potential term.
 11. The use of social media by a candidate as a campaign tool shall be prohibited during the allotted campaign time. A candidate may be disqualified for violating this provision.
 12. Any revisions that must be made to these Election Policies & Procedures must be approved by the Lodge Executive Committee.

The guidelines above will also be used for chapter office elections, inserting the word chapter for lodge where appropriate.