

The Ten Induction Principals

(Taken from the Order Of the Arrow Handbook)

Purpose: The purpose of the induction is to encourage and inspire each candidate to develop firm individual dedication to the ideas of brotherhood and cheerful service.

Eligibility: The right to earn Ordeal membership is given only by the scouts of a candidate's home unit election. Only the candidate can overrule their decision.

Candidate's Compliance: The candidate has the continuous choice of meeting the tests of the Ordeal to the best of his or her ability or of withdrawing.

Members' Compliance: All members participating in the induction must respect and comply with the tests of the Ordeal to the extent allowed by their responsibilities.

Discretion: In cases where strict application of the tests and requirements of the induction is not possible, the lodge may choose an alternative that will best preserve the spirit of the induction and the quality of the candidate's experience.

Importance of the Individual: All actions and procedures must recognize the worth, dignity, and separate identity of the individual and present of potential ability to self-govern.

Generosity: The attitude of members toward the candidate must be one of acceptance, respect, understanding, sincerity, friendly encouragement, support, and trust.

Focus: Everything in the lodge-created environment must direct the candidate to the central meaning of the induction, without distraction.

Symbolic Progression: No symbol or symbolic procedure should be mentioned or used unless and until it is called for in the authorized ceremonies.

Active Membership: Lodge policy must recognize that if a member understands the obligation of the Order and is striving to fulfill it as an active member, the member's dedication in itself accomplishes the major service in the lodge.