

SUANHACKY LODGE
Queens Council – Boy Scouts of America
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I **Name & Affiliation**

- A) The name of the Lodge shall be Suanhacky Lodge #49 of the Order of the Arrow.
- B) This Lodge shall be affiliated with Queens Council #644, Boy Scouts of America under the administrative control of the Queens Council Scout Executive or the senior scout executive for Queens County, as designated by the Scout Executive of the Greater New York Councils.
- C) The Totem of this Lodge shall be the Stag.

ARTICLE II **Membership**

- A) A member in good standing of the Lodge shall be defined as a scout or scouter registered in the Queens Council whose dues are currently paid in Suanhacky Lodge.
- B) The requirements for membership shall be as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook*.
- C) Procedures for induction shall be as stated in the current printing of the *Manual for the Ordeal*.

ARTICLE III **Lodge Officers**

- A) The officers of the Lodge shall be: Chief, Vice Chief of Lodge Operations, Vice Chief of Chapter Operations and Vice Chief of Inductions.
- B) Lodge Officers' terms will commence upon swearing in and expire on the Sunday of the next Spring Honors Weekend.
- C) The order of succession to the Lodge Chief is as follows: Vice Chief of Lodge Operations, Vice Chief of Chapter Operations, Vice Chief of Inductions.
- D) The Lodge Chief may not hold any Chapter Officer position for more than one month.

- E) Lodge Vice Chiefs may not simultaneously be a Chapter Chief for more than one month.**
- F) Vice Chief vacancies arising from resignation, impeachment or the lack of a nominee for election, shall be filled by the Lodge Chief by appointment of an individual who meets the eligibility requirements, with the approval of the Lodge Executive Board.**

ARTICLE IV

Lodge Officer Selection & Removal

- A) Nominations for Lodge Officer Elections shall open at the General Lodge Meeting held at the Lodge Conclave and will be opened at each Chapter Meeting and each Lodge Executive Board Meeting until nominations close at the April Lodge Executive Board Meeting.**
- B) Nominees for a Lodge Officer position must be members in good standing with the Lodge and under 21 years of age for the entire term of office. Nominees may be nominated for more than one position. However, they may only accept the nomination for one position at a time.**
- C) Only youth members who are in good standing with the Lodge may make nominations for officer positions.**
- D) To appear on the ballot, all nominees who will be under the age of 18 at the time they assume office must have written approval from their parent/guardian to run for office and acknowledgement from their unit leader that they are running. This shall be in the possession of the Lodge Adviser or his designee within 48 hours of the close of nominations.**
- E) Chapters will provide candidates for Lodge office an opportunity to present their views and ideas at the April Chapter Meetings.**
- F) Bothers in good standing will have the opportunity to cast a ballot in Lodge Officer elections at any one of the following times: the May Chapter Meetings, upon check-in at the Spring Honors Weekend or Saturday evening of the Spring Honors Weekend until 10:00 PM.**
- G) In the event of a tie in the voting for and elected Lodge Officer position the voting members of the out-going Executive Committee will caucus and then submit a single vote to break the tie.**
- H) An elected officer of the Lodge or an elected Chapter officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of all voting members of Lodge Executive Board.**

ARTICLE V

Lodge Executive Board

- A) The Lodge Executive Board shall consist of: the Lodge Chief, the Lodge Vice Chiefs, the immediate past Lodge Chief (provided he remains under the age of 21 and was not impeached), the operating committee chairmen and their advisers, Chapter Chiefs, Chapter Advisers, the Lodge Adviser, Associate Lodge Advisers and the Staff Adviser.**
- B) The Lodge Executive Committee shall consist of all of the members of the Lodge Executive Board with the exception of the operating committee chairmen and their advisers.**
- C) The voting members of the Lodge Executive Board shall be youth members serving in the following positions: Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice Chief, Chapter Chief, operating committee chairmen and the immediate past Lodge Chief (provided he remains under the age of 21 and was not impeached). These members of the Lodge Executive Board shall vote on issues of Lodge business unless otherwise stated in these by-laws. The number of voting operating committee chairmen appointed may not exceed the total of: the Lodge Chief, Lodge Vice Chiefs, the immediate past Lodge Chief (if he retains voting rights) and the Chapter Chiefs.**
- D) An individual may only cast one vote. Items submitted for a vote will pass if more than 50% of the voting members present vote in favor.**
- E) A quorum shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of eligible voting members. The immediate past Lodge Chief shall not count for or against a quorum. At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Lodge Executive Board or at a general Lodge Meeting, any voting member may call for a quorum. Otherwise, business will be conducted by those in attendance. Any unscheduled meeting of the Lodge Executive Board will require a quorum to conduct business.**
- F) The Lodge Chief shall bring to the Lodge Executive Board any matters of Lodge policy that are of significant magnitude, potentially controversial or that substantially deviate from previous policy or practice. Issues not brought to the Executive Board will be decided by the Lodge Chief in consultation with the Lodge Adviser.**

ARTICLE VI

Lodge Officer Duties & Responsibilities

- A) Lodge Chief: Is the highest elected officer of the Lodge. He appoints all chairmen with the Lodge Adviser's approval. He is the liaison between the Lodge and the Council. He is the Vigil Honor Chairmen if he is a Vigil Honor member and so desires.**

- B) Vice Chief Lodge Operations: Is directly responsible for all Lodge finances. He serves as the Lodge secretary. He is responsible for Lodge membership, as well as any other jobs assigned by the Lodge Chief.**
- C) Vice Chief Chapter Operations: Is directly responsible for all Chapter functions, as well as any other jobs assigned by the Lodge Chief.**
- D) Vice Chief Inductions: Is directly responsible for the induction sequences, Indian affairs and unit elections, as well as any other jobs assigned by the Lodge Chief.**

ARTICLE VII Finances

- A) The Lodge's fiscal year shall run from October 1 through September 30.**
- B) The Lodge Finance Committee shall submit a budget to the Lodge Executive Board at least one week prior to the September Executive Board meeting. The Lodge Executive Board will vote to accept or reject that budget at the September Executive Board meeting. In the absence of an approved budget, the expenditure of Lodge funds is not permitted.**
- C) Expenses in excess of \$250.00 that are not specifically included in the approved budget must be approved by a vote of the Lodge Executive Board.**

ARTICLE VIII Lodge Functions

- A) Brotherhood membership shall be completed and conferred as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook*.**
- B) Vigil Honor shall be completed and conferred as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook*.**
- C) Founder's Award recipients shall be selected as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook* and current Founder's Award Committee procedures.**
- D) Golden Stag Award recipients shall be selected in accordance with the current procedures for the Golden Stag Award.**
- E) Lodge Executive Board meetings shall be held at least once in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December. Meeting may be held at other times at the discretion of the Lodge Chief with the Lodge Adviser's approval. General Lodge Meetings will be held at the Lodge Conclave and at Honors Weekend. The General Meeting held at the Lodge Conclave may also be the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lodge Executive Board for that month.**

- F) Dues in an amount to be determined by the Lodge Executive Board will be collected from each member, each year by the Vice Chief of Lodge Operations. Dues must be paid by December 31st.**
- G) Budgets will be submitted to the Lodge Finance Committee by each operating committee chairman in adequate time for the Finance Committee to comply with the provisions of Article VIII Section B of these by-laws. Budgets for all Lodge events will be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval. The cost for Lodge events will not be published until the Finance Committee approves the event's budget.**
- H) The Lodge will hold or participate in Ordeals for the purpose of inducting new members in the spring, and fall of each year. The Lodge will participate in Ordeals held at other times to the extent possible**

ARTICLE IX

Chapter Operations

- A) The Lodge shall be divided into chapters at the discretion of the Scout Executive or as stated in the current printing of the *Guide for Officers and Advisers*.**
- B) The Scout Executive shall appoint Chapter Advisers annually or as stated in the current printing of the *Guide for Officers and Advisers*.**
- C) Chapter Advisers may appoint no more than one Associate Chapter Adviser, with the approval of the Scout Executive, as stated in the current printing of the *Guide for Officers and Advisers*.**
- D) Chapter Officers shall include the Chapter Chief and at least one, but no more than three Vice Chiefs. Chapters will decide and make known, the order of succession to the Chapter Chief.**
- E) Chapter officers shall be elected by secret balloting at the June Chapter Meetings. Their terms of office shall be for one year, commencing at the June Chapter Meeting at which they were elected. Nominees for Chapter Office must be members of the Lodge in good standing and must remain under the age of 21 for their entire term. Only a member of the Lodge in good standing may nominate a candidate for Chapter Office. Chapters may set additional requirements or rules governing the election of Chapter Officers, provided they do not conflict with this paragraph.**
- F) A Chapter is deemed inactive when any of the following occur: the Chapter fails to elect a Chief, the Scout Executive fails to appoint a Chapter Adviser or interim Chapter Adviser for a period in excess of 30 days or the Chapter has not held a meeting and/or significantly participated in Lodge meetings & events for a period of six months.**

- H) The members of a Chapter that has been deemed inactive shall be afforded the opportunity to collectively or individually participate in the program of another chapter.**
- I) Each Chapter shall operate under by-laws that are reviewed and affirmed annually by the Chapter Executive Board.**

ARTICLE X

Amendments

- A) These by-laws shall be reviewed each fall. They shall be re-affirmed each year by a vote of the Lodge Executive Board at the General Lodge Meeting held at the Lodge Conclave.**
- B) These by-laws remain in effect unless amended by a majority vote of all voting members of the Lodge Executive Board, at a Lodge Executive Board Meeting or at a General Lodge Meeting.**