



2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference

It's More Than A Position: When Does A Position Matter?

Session Length: 45 Minutes

Through this session, you will:

Explain Why positions are important

Demonstrate How positions are important through visual aides

Guide Develop an understanding of your skills and interests as they pertain to positions in the Order of the Arrow.

Enable Takeaway goals for pursuing future positions, short and long term.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify the general situations when a position matters.
- Develop an understanding of the levels / positions of leadership in the OA and how they matter.
- Identify near future and distant future positions for yourself that will benefit the OA.

Theme Connection:

The theme of NOAC 2018 is “Decide Your Destiny,” emphasizing the message that today’s decisions shape tomorrow’s reality. This session will relay this theme in the following ways:

- Understanding the skills required by the various positions in the Order of the Arrow and how they benefit the organization allows the participant to decide what paths they should choose for leadership.

This session will help the Lodge with the Journey to Excellence Requirement(s): 3, 4, 13, 16, 17

Required Materials:

- Flipchart Pages and Markers for Collating Answers – need to have adhesive sticky on back or include masking tape
- Projector and Screen
- Position Assessment Resource and Takeaway Challenge Sheet



NOAC 2018 TRAINING COMMITTEE
ORDER OF THE ARROW



TRAINER PREPARATION

1. Ensure Powerpoint Presentation is complete.
2. Ensure Position Assessment Resource and Takeaway Challenge Sheet is duplicated for the audience.
3. Familiarize yourself with the “Buzz the Beard” fundraising documentary video.

Session Narrative

Introduction

2 minutes

Trainer introduces themselves and goes over the lesson objectives.

First topic – When Does A Position Matter?

10 minutes

Trainer: There are times when a position matters and doesn't matter. But much of what needs to get done in any organization, and specifically for our purposes, the Order of the Arrow, relies on leadership and those in roles who have responsibilities that guide them in fulfilling the mission of the Order of the Arrow.

Trainer Instructions: Show Mission of the Order of the Arrow in Powerpoint Presentation. Show “How Do Our Positions Matter to the Mission?” in Powerpoint Presentation. Solicit Answers from Audience and Write Them on Flipchart Pages
Suggested answers include: **Influence Decisions, Easier to Delegate, Prepares for Next Level Position, Built-In Authority, Sets Vision for Organization, Allows for Leadership Skill Development.**

Note: Instruct the participants that the full Mission and Purpose of the OA is on the back of their Takeaway Challenge Sheet. If this is the first session of the day, hand out the Takeaway Challenge Sheet.



With each answer, use examples in the Order of the Arrow (particularly lodge level) to highlight where that example is necessary. Some guidance includes: *How does a position help the organization? How does a position help you?*

Second topic – Levels / Positions in the Order of the Arrow

15 minutes

Trainer: Now that we've identified why positions are important, let's look at leadership in action and develop a better understanding of how positions in the Order of the Arrow fulfilled a specific need.

Trainer Instructions: If this is the first session of the day in cell, give a full explanation of the event being displayed in the upcoming video. If second or third session, give an abbreviated explanation of event (the event video is utilized in all 3 sessions of the cell so a full description is not necessary for the 2nd or 3rd sessions).

Full Description: Octoraro Lodge 22 identified in 2016 a need for planting trees at its council's camps – Camp Horseshoe and Camp John H. Ware 3rd. A fundraiser called "Buzz the Beard" was initiated whereby Camp Ranger / Vigil Adviser Tom Murphy, who had grown his beard for 44 years, would have his beard shaved off for the right price - \$5000. Here is a documentary of the event.

Abbreviated Description: Here is another video clip of the "Buzz the Beard" documentary where Ranger Tom Murphy loses his beloved beard for cold hard cash.

Trainer Instructions: Within Powerpoint, play the "Buzz the Beard" Documentary clip relevant for this session.

Trainer Instructions: Discuss with the audience what positions were important in pulling off the Buzz the Beard event and why. Appropriate answers, amongst others, include "Chief: Has a vision", "Trading Post Committee Chairman: Has a Plan", "Lodge Staff Adviser: Has a Need for the Funds", "Lodge Secretary: Communicates the Plan".

Third topic – Identifying Positions

15 minutes



Trainer will talk about the positions they have had in the Order of the Arrow and why they ended up with them. The discussion should talk about skills required for the position and the skills acquired.

After introduction of topic, use Position Assessment Resource Sheet to work with audience to find out their “Dream Job” in the Order of the Arrow.

Trainer Instructions: Trainer hands out the Position Assessment Resource to audience members and provides instructions on how to use (refer to handout).

Trainer asks if there were any surprising results from the audience that they want to share with other participants.

Takeaway Challenge

3 minutes

Looking at the list you generated, identify 2 short term and 2 long term positions you are interested in. By long term positions, we mean “positions you’d like to pursue long-term, not immediately.” Also write down 3 action items that will assist you with achieving that position. Use the provided “Takeaway Challenge Sheet”.

Appendix: Resources and Source Material

- Position Assessment Resource
- Takeaway Challenge Sheet (for all 3 sessions in “More than a Position” Cell)
- Buzz the Beard Documentary
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYHh7uhUcrl>
- Guide for Officers and Advisers