The national Order of the Arrow committee, national Boy Scout Scout committee, and Council Services at the national BSA headquarters have approved the following optional OA associate adviser leadership positions and patches at the chapter, lodge, and section levels: Associate Chapter Adviser, Associate Lodge Adviser, and Associate Section Adviser.

Responsibilities:

1. Supports and assists the chapter, lodge, or section adviser, as directed by him/her, to carry out the operations of the organizational level to which appointed.
2. Assumes other responsibilities and duties as assigned.
3. Promotes participation in higher level OA and Scouting events.
4. Interprets OA policy in consultation with the chapter, lodge, or section adviser.
5. Serves as an example of the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America and Order of the Arrow.
6. Wears the Scout uniform correctly.
7. Attends meetings, as directed by the chapter, lodge, or section adviser.
8. Function as an adviser to the youth members.

Appointment: Appointed annually by the Area Director in the case of an Associate Section Adviser, and by the Lodge Adviser or Chapter Adviser, with approval from the Scout Executive, in the case of an Associate Lodge Adviser or Associate Chapter Adviser. Only current appointees may wear the leadership patch for this position.

Number of Appointments: The Area Director or Scout Executive will determine the number of appointments. The Associate Adviser position is not required at any level; it is optional. Warning - too many associates may interfere and cause confusion for the youth that are trying to lead. If the position is used, one associate at the section and chapter level should be enough; at the lodge level more than one position may be appropriate, depending on the size of the lodge and duties assigned.

Note: Service in this position is not an automatic pathway to the chapter, lodge, or section adviser role; therefore, the incumbent is not an “heir apparent.” The incumbent is a helper that the Area Director or Scout Executive and the chapter, lodge, or section adviser consider is needed to fulfill the mission of the OA organization being served.
Associate Adviser Patches: Scout councils can purchase Associate Chapter and Lodge Adviser patches directly from national supply in North Carolina after July 1, 2001. The Associate Chapter Adviser patch order number is 02202. The Associate Lodge Adviser patch order number is 02201.

The Associate Section Adviser patch can only be purchased from the national OA office. The patch will sell for $5.00.