



2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference

It's More Than A Position: When Does A Position Not Matter?

Session Length: 45 Minutes

Through this session, you will:

Explain Why some situations do not require a position

Demonstrate How situations can drive you to act

Guide Develop an understanding of your skills and abilities as they pertain to situations 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 may not matter.
- Develop an understanding of how you can lead in the OA with or without a position.
- Identify areas where you can make a difference in the OA without a position.

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 situations that require action regardless of position will allow the participant to decide how best to serve their lodge / chapter in a general sense rather than with a specific position.

This session will help the Lodge with the Journey to Excellence Requirement(s): 2, 4, 7, 9, 13

Required Materials:

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



NOAC 2018 TRAINING COMMITTEE
ORDER OF THE ARROW



TRAINER PREPARATION

1. Ensure Powerpoint Presentation is complete.
2. Ensure Situational Awareness 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 Not Matter?

10 minutes

Trainer: There are times when a position matters and doesn't matter. Particular situations may not necessarily require a lodge chief or committee chairman to act. In fact, MANY situations do not require an appointed or elected leader. We are all leaders by virtue of the fact we're in the Order of the Arrow. We were chosen by our peers as someone who best exemplifies the Scout Oath and Law. And anyone who does that is a leader.

Trainer Instructions: Show Mission and Purpose of the Order of the Arrow in Powerpoint Presentation. Show “How Can We Fulfill the Mission and Purpose Without a Position?” in Powerpoint Presentation. Solicit Answers from Audience and Write Them on Flipchart Pages.

Suggested answers include: **Lead by Example, Helpfulness, Promoting Camping, Recognize Others' Accomplishments, Mentorship.** Note: all of these can easily be done with a position, but everyone can also perform these actions without a position.

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 to highlight where and how that example can be done without a position. Some guidance includes: *How does mentorship help the organization? Where can that be done without a position?* A suggested answer for that question: *At service weekends, by transferring specific skills with youth in a work crew and developing their confidence and ability to lead in the future.*

Second topic – Situational Action 15 minutes

Trainer: Now that we've identified how we can serve the Order of the Arrow without a position, let's look develop a better understanding of specific situations where anyone, regardless of position, can take action.

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 who lent a hand without a position. Appropriate answers, amongst others, include "Emcee: He has the public speaking skills", "Someone had connections: the Mummies showed up", "Tom Murphy: had the resource (beard)", "Singers: Had the voices", "Inflatable: Staffed by safety-conscious adults".

Discuss with audience the various general situations that required people who did not necessarily have a position. Suggested answers include: **Immediate Need, Experienced / Interested, Safety (Adults).**



Third topic – Situational Awareness

15 minutes

Trainer will talk about the various situations in the Order of the Arrow where they had to act regardless of position. The discussion should talk about the what and why of the situation and why they were an ideal match for taking charge in that situation.

After introduction of topic, use Situational Awareness Sheet to work with audience to find out how they can make a difference in the Order of the Arrow without a position.

Trainer Instructions: Trainer hands out the Situational Awareness 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 situations in your lodge / chapter where you can contribute regardless of position. Use this information to go back to your lodge / chapter and provided the necessary help required by the situation. Use the provided “Takeaway Challenge Sheet”.

Appendix: Resources and Source Material

- Situational Awareness Resource
- Takeaway Challenge Sheet (for all 3 sessions in “More than a Position” Cell)
- Buzz the Beard Documentary
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYHh7uhUcrI>