



Lodge Rules

Ratified: December 7, 2013
Last Amended: December 4, 2021

Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge Rules

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Article I. Mission

The mission of this lodge is to fulfill the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

Article II. Name and Affiliation of Lodge

Section 1. The lodge shall be known as Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge, Atlanta Area Council # 092, Boy Scouts of America, and shall be under the supervision of the council camping committee and the administrative authority of the Scout Executive.

Section 2. The totem of the Lodge shall be that of the broad-wing hawk. The standard set of colors for the Lodge shall be blue and gold.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Election to Membership

- a. The requirements for membership in this lodge are as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook* and the *Order of the Arrow Guide to Officers and Advisors*.
- b. The procedure for the Ordeal shall be as stated in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook* and the *Guide to Inductions*.

Section 2. General Membership

- a. Completion of Brotherhood membership shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook* and the *Order of the Arrow Guide to Officers and Advisors*.
- b. Attainment of the Vigil Honor shall be in accordance with the requirements in the current printing of the *Order of the Arrow Handbook* and the *Order of the Arrow Guide to Officers and Advisors*.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The Officers of this lodge, in order of succession, shall be Lodge Chief, Executive Vice-Chief, Vice-Chief of Program, Vice-Chief of Inductions, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 2. Arrowmen desiring to serve as a Lodge Officer must meet the following



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eligibility requirements:

- a. Be currently registered in scouting in the Atlanta Area Council #092.
- b. Be a current lodge dues paid member.
- c. Be younger than the age of twenty-one for the entire term of office.
- d. Must have a completed nomination form signed by their parent(s) (if under eighteen), their Chapter Adviser, their primary unit leader, and the Lodge Adviser. The form is due the Saturday of Fall Fellowship one hour prior to officer candidate forum to the Lodge Advisor or his designee.

Section 3. Lodge Officer terms are from Winter Banquet to Winter Banquet.

Section 4. Lodge Officers may not hold another elected office in the Lodge or serve as a Chapter Chief.

Section 5. Lodge Officers who are elected to a section office must resign their lodge office within 30 days of obtaining the section office.

Section 6. Lodge Officer elections shall be held annually.

- a. Lodge Officers shall be elected at a general meeting held at Fall Fellowship. The Lodge Executive Committee shall set that date on the annual lodge calendar. A notice must be given at least 30 days before the meeting is called into order.
- b. Each Officer nominee shall participate in a forum where they will be reviewed and questioned by the voting membership.
- c. The current Lodge Chief shall chair the election process. In event that the Lodge Chief is on the ballot, the Lodge Chief shall relinquish the chair to the next Officer, in the order of succession, not on the ballot. If all Officers are on the ballot, the Lodge Chief, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser, shall appoint a youth to chair the election process.
- d. Separate elections shall be held for each office in the order of succession.
- e. Eligibility to vote shall be described in Article V. Section 3. Each chapter shall be entitled to a maximum of ten votes. If they do not have ten votes represented in the meeting, they shall be entitled to the number of votes equal to the number of voting members present.
- f. In order to be elected, a nominee for office must receive a simple majority of votes cast, with voting conducted by a public chapter roll call ballot. Should no nominee receive a majority on the first vote, all but the two nominees with the most votes shall be dropped from the ballot and a new vote taken. If this vote results in a tie, the chair will announce to the members that it has resulted in a tie. He will announce that a new ballot will be taken to break the tie. If another



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tie results, the chair should declare the election deadlocked. He should then announce that the election will continue under one vote per chapter rules. If two more ties result under these rules, the position in question will be declared vacant. Then the chair will invoke Article IV. Section 9. to fill the vacancy.

- g. An Officer candidate, if unelected to the primary declared office, may drop down to one other office; provided this second choice is declared on the nomination form and is approved by the Lodge Adviser.
- h. No member of the lodge age twenty-one or over may participate in campaigning in any form for any candidate. All adults shall remain impartial during the election process.

Section 7. The newly elected Officers will be installed at the following Winter Banquet.

Section 8. Lodge Officers may be impeached for cause or misconduct.

- a. An Officer of the lodge may be removed from office on the following grounds
 1. Failure to perform duties of the office as stated in the *Order of the Arrow Guide to Officers and Advisors*, these *Lodge Rules*, or the *Lodge Operating Procedures*.
 2. Failure to maintain registration in the council.
 3. Failure to maintain dues paid status in the lodge.
 4. Failure to conduct himself in accordance with the Scout Oath, Law, and the Order of the Arrow Obligation.
- b. The procedure for removal from office shall be as follows.
 1. A letter signed by three voting members of the Lodge Executive Committee must be submitted to the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser stating the complaint against that Officer.
 2. The Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser may initiate the removal process if both are in agreement after reviewing the complaint.
 3. The Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser shall meet with the Officer to discuss the complaint.
 4. They should then decide if the complaint has merit. If the complaint has merit, the procedure will be referred to the Lodge Executive Committee for action.
 5. The Lodge Adviser shall call a special Lodge Executive Committee meeting to discuss the proposed action. Notice of the meeting must be given to all members of the Lodge Executive Committee at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.



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6. If the Lodge Chief is being considered for removal, he shall relinquish the chair to the next Officer in succession.
7. The Lodge Adviser shall then present the complaint against the Officer. The Officer shall then have a chance to refute those facts and mitigate the circumstances for removal.
8. Removal of the Officer shall require a 2/3s majority of the voting members of the Lodge Executive Committee in attendance at the meeting.

Section 9. In case of an elected officer vacancy, resignation, or impeachment the vacancy shall be filled.

- a. A vacancy in the office of Lodge Chief, due to removal or resignation, shall be filled by a Lodge Officer chosen by the Lodge Executive Board. The Lodge Executive Board shall then present the candidate to the Lodge Executive Committee for a 2/3 majority affirmation.
- b. A vacancy in any other elected office shall be filled by appointment by the Lodge Chief, with approval of two thirds of the voting members of the Lodge Executive Committee in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Lodge Executive Committee. The appointee must meet the established requirements in Article 4. Section 2.

Section 10. Whenever the Lodge Chief transmits to the Lodge Executive Committee his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written document to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Executive Vice-Chief acting as Lodge Chief. The Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser must approve this transmittal of power.

Article V. Lodge General Meetings

Section 1. The Lodge shall hold at least one general meeting of the lodge a year at Fall Fellowship.

Section 2. General meetings must be held to adopt *Lodge Rules* amendments and to conduct Lodge Officer elections.

Section 3.

- a. Each Lodge member under the age of twenty-one shall have a vote at Lodge General meetings.
- b. Lodge Officer elections shall differ in that each chapter is entitled a maximum of ten votes as specified in Article IV. Section. 6. e.



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Section 4. The Lodge Chief shall chair these meetings unless otherwise specified in these rules.

Section 5. The Lodge Chief in consultation with the Lodge Adviser and Lodge Executive Board may call Special General meetings to consider business throughout the year. He shall give all voting members at least 10 days notice of this meeting.

Article VI. Lodge Executive Committee

Section 1. The Lodge Executive Committee shall have the duty of providing general planning for Lodge activities and overall guidance and operation of the Lodge.

Section 2.

- a. The Lodge Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected Lodge Officers, immediate past Lodge Chief, lodge operating committee chairman, Lodge Adviser, the Council Camping Chairman or designee, Chapter Chiefs or designee, Chapter Advisers, Scout Executive, and Lodge Staff Adviser.
- b. In his absence, a Chapter Chief must declare his voting designee to the Lodge Chief before the Lodge Executive Committee commences.

Section 3. The Lodge Executive Board will be made up of all the elected Lodge Officers.

Section 4. The voting members of the Lodge Executive committee shall be the elected Lodge Officers and the Chapter Chiefs or their declared designee. Each voting member shall only hold one vote with no proxy voting allowed. The Lodge Chief shall only vote in the case of a tie.

Section 5. Quorum shall be defined as 50% +1 of the voting members deemed active by the Lodge Adviser. Voting members deemed inactive shall have no vote.

Section 6. The Lodge Chief shall have the power to act upon matters of business in the best interest of the lodge, if said business cannot be delayed until the next scheduled meeting of the Lodge Executive Committee. All such actions are subject to approval of the Lodge Adviser and Staff Adviser.

Article VII. Operating Committees



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Section 1. The Special Committees of the Lodge shall be: Vigil Selection, Founder's Award, and *Lodge Rules*. These committees shall operate under direct supervision of the Lodge Chief.

Section 2. [Reserved.]

Section 3. Other committees may be established in the Lodge Operating Procedures.

Section 4. The responsibilities of all committees shall be defined in the Lodge Operating Procedures.

Section 5. The Lodge Chief, in consultation with the Lodge Advisor, shall appoint all chairmen unless otherwise specified in these *Lodge Rules* or the *Lodge Operating Procedures*.

Section 6. The Lodge Chief, in consultation with the Lodge Advisor, shall establish Ad- Hoc committees he deems essential to the operations of the Lodge.

Article VIII. Finance

Section 1. All Order of the Arrow Funds shall be handled through the Atlanta Area Council Service Center and go through all normal council operating procedure.

Article IX. Parliamentary Procedure and Lodge Operating Procedures

Section 1. The Lodge shall follow the most current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* in order to conduct the necessary business of the Lodge: at all functions, Lodge Executive Committee meetings, General Meetings of the Lodge, and lodge operating committee meetings except where otherwise specified by the *Order of the Arrow Handbook*, the *Order of the Arrow Guide to Officers and Advisors*, these *Lodge Rules* or the *Lodge Operating Procedures*.

Section 2. The lodge may adopt special rules of order that will supersede *Robert's Rules of Order* whenever applicable. Such rules will be included within the Lodge Rules, and may be passed or amended by a 2/3 majority of all voting representatives present at any meeting of the Lodge Executive Committee, where quorum is present. These are not to be used to define policy, only procedural rules of order.

Section 3. A set of Lodge Operating Procedures, which incorporate rules and regulations shall be formed by the Lodge. These Lodge Operating Procedures will be



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reviewed by the Lodge Executive Board and updated with the approval of the Lodge Executive Committee at each January LEC by means of a simple majority vote.

Section 4. The Lodge Operating Procedures may be amended through written motions at any Lodge Executive Committee meeting with a quorum present as defined in Article VI. Section 5.

Section 5. Definition of what constitutes notice for the purpose of informing Lodge members of proposed actions shall be described in the *Lodge Operating Procedures*.

Article X. Chapters

Section 1. Creation of Chapters

- a. Chapters are established by the Scout Executive upon recommendation of the lodge officers and advisers in accordance with the Guide to Officers and Advisers. Chapters may serve one or more districts within the Council. If an existing Chapter becomes inactive, the Lodge Executive Board may, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser, designate another Chapter to support the district.
- b. A Chapter will be considered inactive if it fails to elect a Chapter Chief prior to the installation of Lodge Officer or if the Chapter Chief position remains vacant for more than 90 days. A Chapter that becomes inactive may be restored by filling the vacancy and notifying the Lodge Adviser.
- c. Each chapter may, with the approval of the Lodge Adviser, establish rules for the conduct of Chapter business provided that such rules do not conflict with these Rules or the Lodge Operating Procedures.

Section 2. Purpose

- a. It is the purpose of a Chapter to provide local outreach to the district and members in the Chapter's area, along with providing guidance to the Chapter members in accordance to the Lodge's directive.
- b. The Chapter is also responsible for running OA unit elections in a manner in accordance with the Lodge's election procedures and befitting the focus of the lodge.
- c. The Chapter is responsible for creating a lasting positive impression of the Lodge and OA to the individual units along with the district as a whole. The Chapters are also responsible for providing opportunities to new members to activate their membership and encourage current brothers to attend Lodge events as well as



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promoting events at all levels including unit, district, and council.

Section 3. Chapter Officers.

- a. Each Chapter shall have a Chapter Chief and such other officers as the Chapter determines are needed to carry out the purposes of the Chapter.
- b. The Officers of each Chapter shall be elected annually by the members of the Chapter. Chapter officer elections will be held not more than 30 days prior to the Lodge Officer but prior to the instillation of Lodge officers. Notice of the date, time and location of the election shall be given to all active members of the Chapter by written or electronic means not less than 10 days prior to the election.
- c. Chapter Chiefs will be installed at the Winter Banquet. Other Chapter officers shall be installed prior to the start of their term of office.
- d. Chapter Officers may be removed from office and their position vacated by voluntary resignation, by failing to maintain membership in the BSA, failing to pay annual dues to the Lodge or by abandoning the office or ceasing to perform its duties, or both, or for conduct in violation of the Scout oath, Scout law and the Obligation. Any Chapter Officer who may be removed from office other than by voluntary resignation shall be entitled to notice and a hearing prior to being removed from office.
- e. Unless otherwise provided in the Chapter's rules, any vacancy in a Chapter officer or officer-elect position shall be filled by appointment by the Chapter Chief with the approval of the Chapter Adviser. If the office of Chapter Chief becomes vacant and there are no other Chapter officers available, the position shall be filled by a special election. Any youth selected to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he or she replaced.
- f. If during his or her term of office, the area where a Chapter Officer resides is made part of another Chapter area, such officer shall be entitled to continue to serve in such office for the term of office to which he or she has been elected.

Article XI. Amendment Procedure

Section 1: The Lodge Rules Committee shall be selected as follows:

- a. At each January LEC, nominations will be taken from the floor for members of the Lodge Rules Committee.



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- b. The LEC will vote among the nominations to select six members and two alternates containing no more than one from each chapter.
- c. The ballots shall be sealed in an envelope, signed on the back by the presiding officer, and given to the Lodge Advisor, and not be counted until activation of the amendment procedure at which time the individual members will be notified.
- d. The Lodge Chief, upon activation of the committee, will select the chairman of the committee.

Section 2. The *Lodge Rules* committee will review the *Lodge Rules* every December for compliance and germaneness.

Section 3. A technical amendment to these rules may be enacted by approval of the Scout Executive or his designee and 2/3's of voting members at a Lodge Executive Committee in attendance. Notice shall be given to all members of the update. A technical amendment is one that changes unclear wording or misspelling, or is required by a change in council or national policy.

Section 4. A non-technical amendment may be submitted at any Lodge Executive Committee by a voting member. It shall then be automatically referred to the *Lodge Rules* committee.

- a. The committee shall discuss the merits and vote it up or down with a 2/3 majority.
- b. If passed, the motion is then sent back to the Lodge Executive Committee and voted upon where it must receive a majority vote to be placed on the agenda at the next lodge general meeting.
- c. The general meeting must take place at least 30 days after the placement on the agenda by the Lodge Executive Committee. A notice shall be given at least 10 days before the meeting.
- d. The Lodge Chief may choose to call a special general meeting or wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- e. The General meeting must adopt the amendment with 2/3s approval of all voting members present.

Article XII. Ratification

These *Lodge Rules* shall become effective when adopted by a two-thirds majority of the voting members present at a general meeting. These *Lodge Rules* and *Lodge Operating Procedures* shall always be in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Order of the Arrow and the Boy Scouts of America. If a policy change with the Order of the Arrow or Boy Scouts occurs, then all parts of these *Lodge Rules* and *Lodge Operating Procedures* which conflict with the policy shall be declared null and



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void by the Lodge Key 3 and the matter referred to the *Lodge Rules* committee. These *Lodge Rules* and *Lodge Operating Procedures* shall revoke, nullify, and supersede all previous Constitutions, Bylaws, and Standing Rules adopted by Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge, Atlanta Area Council #092.

Article XIII. Transition

The current Officers of this lodge shall remain Officers under the new *Lodge Rules* until the Winter Banquet 2014, where the Officers elected at Fall Fellowship 2014 will assume office. The Lodge Chief will retain his position. The Vice-Chief of Administration shall become the Executive Vice-Chief. The Vice-Chief of Program will maintain the same title. The Vice-Chief of Indian Affairs will become Vice-Chief of Inductions. The Vice-Chief of Finance will become the Treasurer. The Vice-Chief of Communications will become the Secretary. The current bylaws committee will be renamed the *Lodge Rules* committee and will hold their seats on the committee until the January LEC 2015, where elections for the committee will take place. This article will become null and void at the conclusion of the January 2015 Lodge Executive Committee.



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Ratified in the presence of:

Name	Lodge Position	Signature
Ben Milner	Lodge Chief	<i>Ben Milner</i>
Christian Goerner	Vice-Chief of Administration	<i>Christian Goerner</i>
Christopher Gecowets	Vice-Chief of Indian Affairs	<i>Christopher Gecowets</i>
Joey Kilpatrick	Vice-Chief of Communications	<i>Joey Kilpatrick</i>
Alex Leach	Vice-Chief of Finance	<i>Alex Leach</i>

Name	Chief of Chapter	Signature
Mark Owens	TQB	<i>Mark Owens</i>
William Cox	Etowah	<i>William Cox</i>
Brandt Webster	Achewon Woapalanne	<i>Brandt Webster</i>
Trey Bodenhammer	Watchesu Chuppecats	<i>Trey Bodenhammer</i>
Daniel Croshaw	Cvmpe Vekiwv	<i>Daniel Croshaw</i>
Austin Hibbard	Seven Springs	<i>Austin Hibbard</i>
Jack Brinson III	Wesadicha	<i>Jack Brinson III</i>
Thomas Cowan	Thennethlofkee	<i>Thomas Cowan</i>
James Deaton	Lowanne Nimat	<i>James Deaton</i>
Sam Porter	Echota	<i>Sam Porter</i>
Jimmy Greenwich	Nagatamen	<i>Jimmy Greenwich</i>
John Smith	Quiniguisi	<i>John Smith</i>

Scott Filipek, Lodge Advisor

Bion Jones, Staff Advisor