

## 2019 Membership Resources

On February 1, 2019, the membership requirements will change significantly. As you are aware, effective that date, Venture Crews and Sea Scout ships will be able to elect members, male and female, into the Order of the Arrow. Also, on February 1, 2019 Scouts BSA girl troops will be eligible for election to the Order of the Arrow once they meet the membership requirements.

The inclusion of female youth members into our honor society, will require us to change a number of ways we conduct our activities and ceremonies. The BSA has established Youth Protection policies that will need to be adhered to in all our meetings and activities at the chapter, lodge, section, region and national levels.

The national website (<https://oa-bsa.org>) now has a page with updated membership information to assist our lodges with the implementation of the membership changes. The information to help with implementing the changes can be accessed by clicking on the "Membership Info" button on the home page.

WHAT IS THE OA?

MEMBERSHIP INFO

FIND YOUR LODGE

The "Membership Info" button will take you to the membership page which contains the new membership requirements for Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting. A new section called "Membership News and Updates" is the resource for lodges and chapters and is the place where you will find updates or changes as they are announced.

You will be able to find information on Youth Protection policy, program changes, publication changes, unit support changes and policy change FAQs by clicking on the links. The policy change section link looks like this:

Policy Change

Youth Protection Policy

Program Changes

Publication Changes

Unit Support Changes

Policy Change FAQs

### Membership Policy Change

The National Order of the Arrow Committee passed a resolution that changes their membership policies to align with changes approved by the Executive Board of the BSA. The new OA membership policy provides for OA elections in all Scouts BSA troops, Venturing Crews and Sea Scout Ships effective February 1st, 2019 and allows election of both male and female members of their units to the Order of the Arrow. The new eligibility requirements and other relevant membership policy information can be found at the top of this page.

This change in policy has resulted in numerous questions regarding how current policies and practices will be impacted at all levels within the OA. This site is intended to be the single point of reference to find answers to those questions as we navigate through this transition. Arrowmen are encouraged to visit it frequently to remain current as new information becomes available.

For supplementary information regarding the change to the Order of the Arrow membership requirements, please [read this article](#).

This page will be updated as new information or updates become available. We encourage you to check these pages and use this information to prepare for the changes that will be effective February 1, 2019.

Questions regarding membership? Email [membership@oa-bsa.org](mailto:membership@oa-bsa.org).