



## Commissioner Bulletin Counting Order of the Arrow Service Hours



Units can count service hours worked by both their youth and adult OA members provided specific criteria are met. These hours can add up quickly. The annual Conclave can be counted as 6 hours of service. Likewise, an OA Day of Service can count for 4 hours. Be sure to follow the following guidelines when adding up Order of the Arrow service hours:

a. Hours used toward advancement within the OA are considered as advancement and not service. Candidates for Ordeal or for Brotherhood are providing service to advance within the Order much like an Eagle Scout Candidate's service project hours count toward rank advancement not unit service. Service hours worked as a candidate cannot be used by a unit for their annual service hour totals. The same holds true for Vigil Honor Candidates.

b. Hours worked as either a fully vetted Brotherhood or Vigil Honor member can be counted. These OA members are providing cheerful service solely for the purpose of service and not advancement. These hours are valid service hours.

Say your Troop sends one Ordeal Candidate, two Brotherhood Candidates and three Brotherhood members to the Conclave. The Troop can claim 18 service hours total for the weekend. If all six of these Scouts had been fully vetted OA members, then 36 hours could be claimed. Additional hours could be accrued for any vetted Vigil Honor members attending the Vigil Conclave as a separate service event.



*This has been reviewed by our local OA Lodge Advisor for accuracy.*