General Information for the NOAC 2012 Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Competition

Introduction

The goal of the 2012 NOAC pre-Ordeal Ceremony Competition is to identify and reward advanced ceremonial teams. During the AIA show at NOAC, the top ten ceremonial teams will be acknowledged as the "National Finalists" and the top ceremonial team will be named "National Champion." Only experienced teams should enter into the competition.

The competition will begin April 1, 2012, via an online video submission process which closes July 1, 2012. The detailed competition guidelines and submission process is located at: http://bsaweb.org/ The competition guidelines must be strictly adhered to by all competition teams. The top ten teams will be selected from the submitted videos.

Please note that although Ceremony Evaluations are separate from the pre-Ordeal Ceremony Competition, all competition teams must also participate in Evaluations of their pre-Ordeal Ceremony. A team that does not participate in pre-Ordeal Evaluations will be disqualified from the Competition. After all pre-Ordeal Evaluations have been completed, the top-ten teams will be notified of their "National Finalist" status and will be invited to compete for "National Champion" during a live competition to take place Wednesday at NOAC.

General Guidelines

The following general guidelines apply to all ceremony evaluations and competitions:

1. All ceremony team members must be from the same lodge. Ceremonialists may perform with only one team per ceremony category. For evaluations, an individual may, however, perform in more than one category (i.e. a ceremonialist may perform on both a pre-Ordeal and Brotherhood team but not on two pre-Ordeal teams).
2. All participants MUST be under 21 years of age on July 30, 2012.
3. For Evaluations lodges can enter as many ceremony teams in each category as they wish pending the availability of evaluators and venue sites. For Competitions lodges may only enter one pre-Ordeal team.
4. In accordance with the policies of the National Order of the Arrow Committee, the use of face and body paint is prohibited at all Ceremony Team Evaluations and Competitions. The use of face or body skin coloring, or wigs in simulation of ethnic traits, is also not permitted. Appropriate undergarments should be worn under attire.
5. All ceremonial parts should be fully memorized.
6. All participants must wear appropriate American Indian costumes. The American Indian Activities Staff will assist participants by evaluating their costumes and providing feedback. Teams are reminded not to show any disrespect, carelessness, or gross inappropriateness in their American Indian costumes.
7. Extra people such as drummers, candidates, and elangomats may be used to enhance a team's performance, but are not required.
8. The ICE Staff will provide markers to indicate the locations of the fire and fire pots in the performance area. A burden will be provided for the Brotherhood Ceremony. No other tokens, props, or materials will be provided. Ceremonial teams will have to provide any tokens and additional props they need.
9. Teams are not required to have candidates present for their presentation of the ceremony. However, teams are welcome to provide their own candidates if they feel that will enhance their presentation.

Details

For details on the Evaluations process, please see the “NOAC 2012 Pre-Ordeal and Brotherhood Ceremony Evaluation Details” or the “NOAC 2012 Vigil Ceremony Evaluation Details.”

For details on the Competitions process, please see the “NOAC 2012 Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Competition Details.”

Registration

In addition to the information submitted at http://bsaweb.org/, all ceremony team members should pre-register online at the NOAC registration web site **for both Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Evaluations and Pre-Ordeal Ceremony Competition**. All ceremony teams must check-in on Monday when their lodge contingent registers at NOAC. While the contingent leader or his representative checks-in, a member of the Ceremony Team will need to confirm each lodge team's schedule and the name and spelling of each principal at the Inductions and Ceremonial Events (ICE) registration area. Please make every effort to ensure that all team members are registered properly online. Inductions and Ceremonial Events (ICE) Staff members will be available throughout the on-site registration process to assist your lodge.

Ceremonial teams that do not check-in when their lodge contingent registers may be unable to participate in the Evaluations. Only pre-registered teams will be guaranteed a venue for an Evaluation. Teams that have not pre-registered, but would like to participate, MUST check-in during their lodge contingent registration on Monday. Teams may register for Evaluations on a first-come, first-served basis, and may be turned away due to space, time, and staffing constraints.

Questions

Any questions seeking clarification of the competitions procedures should be directed to Competitions Chief Jim Prowse and Competitions Advisor Bradley Ellis at: ceremonycompetitions@oa.bsa.org.

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