

New Ordeal Tasks “Definitely Not Hazing,” Says Lodge Chief

From *The Dam News* by Jerry S.

Scout Office, Press Room - Upon announcing the brand new Ordeal tasks, which involve new penalties for talking and a more exciting and challenging Ordeal ceremony, Lodge Chief “Big Will” was quick to point out that the new tasks candidates will undertake are “definitely not hazing,” although “a bit more arduous.”

The new ordeal was created after several closed-door meetings between high-level LEC members. The changes are due to some feelings in the higher tiers of the Lodge that some of the new members are a little weak, and spineless, and believe that the Ordeal no longer presents itself as challenging or even difficult. Slacking off, sneaking snacks, and “inadvertent talking” have become more commonplace, and some even believe the candidates are getting more and more food every year. Some officers were quoted as saying that some candidates “coast through,” the Ordeal.

“We’re still keeping the basic ‘work all day, eat little food, and don’t talk,’ policies, but we’re going to crack down on violators. Well that’s just the beginning. The candidates are going to go through a few more challenges,” said spokesperson Jeff R. Jeff was a leading figure behind the change, which some believe is an attempt to throw his name and face about the lodge in an upcoming attempt to run for Lodge Chief.

Due to a decision to keep most changes secret, LEC members were unable to discuss all the changes. Big Will was able to offer reporters some enticing previews, though. For one, anyone who talks, eats extra food, or is caught slacking off, may end up with an arm or leg tied behind his back, which is not hazing, just character building. The final ceremony will also include some nice surprises, which may involve mortal combat with a wild beast. The beast so far has not been chosen, but has been narrowed down to either a badger or “some kind of pointy animal.” Catching the animals should prove to be an interesting diversion to Eco/Con, which is known to have lots of free time during the week. The new Ordeal ceremony program should also attract attendance from existing members, which, besides the Indians occasionally screwing up lines, provides little other than the “same-old, same old.”

Most of the details are being kept hush-hush, but most who know what’s coming ensure *The Dam News* that there will be no hazing whatsoever. It’s all strictly character building.

Other possibilities include turning the ordeal into a two-day process, and “spicing up the call-out ceremony.”

Mascoutens Quiz Answers

1. "Little People of the Prairie"
2. Oh-Da-Ko-Ta 153 and Chippecotten 524
3. False, when the two lodges merged, national assigned us the number 8
4. 283 active members