

YOUTH COUNCIL

F.A.Q.

Q. How do you form a Youth Council?

A. You must get your Lodge and Temple to agree to sponsor the group; apply for a certificate of participation; and get the Brothers and Daughters along with the parents to work with the youth. The Lodge and Temple should appoint a local Youth Director and Directress to oversee the youth activities. With a special dispensation, State Associations, Regions and Districts may form youth councils where there is a lack of interest or support by local Lodges and Temples.

Q. Where do you get the youth from to participate?

A. Family members, local schools, even groups that are already organized, such as drill teams, baseball teams, church choirs or boys and girls clubs.

Q: How many youth are needed to form a Youth Council?

A. You can start with as few as three.

Q. Once the Youth Council is formed, are the youth elected to hold positions?

A. Yes, the youth are elected by their membership to hold elected positions. The adult members working with the council should be there to assist with their duties, such as banking and other leadership roles.

Q. Are the children responsible for their own bank account?

A. Yes, the youth council should have youth financial officers, and they are responsible for banking activities. (with adult supervision)

Q. Are there any ritualistic works with the Youth Council?

A. No, the youth council is a learning phase to teach youth parliamentary procedures instead of ritualistic works. However, participating with the youth council will prepare them to be good Elk leaders.

Q. Does the Antlered Guard Department have jurisdiction over all drill teams?

A. No, they only have jurisdiction over those formed under an Antler Guard unit. The Youth Department may form any group, including drill teams, and these teams are under the jurisdiction of the youth department.

Q. Why are Youth Councils not chartered?

A. The Lodges and Temples are the chartered units and the Council comes under the umbrella of the Lodges and Temples. Youth Council members do not necessary have to be Elks; however, they are recognized as a bonafide auxiliary of Elkdom through Certificates of Participation.

Q. Once the Councils are formed, what protocol should be established for reporting youth activities?

A. The local director and/or directress should report to the State Director and Directress; the State Directors and Directress must report to the State Presidents **and** Regional Directors and Directresses; the Regional Directors and Directresses then report to the Grand Director and Grand Directress who reports to the Grand Lodge and Grand Temple.

Q. Is the Youth Council a Grand Lodge or Grand Temple department?

A. The National Youth Council is a Coed Grand Lodge Department, which consists of Brothers and Daughters. Junior Temples and Juvenile Classes are subordinate Auxiliaries of the Grand Temple, and are not affiliated with the National Youth Council.

Q. Are there any special requirements for pursuing Past Grand Honors through the Youth Department?

A. Yes, along with proper filing fees, and endorsements, a commitment to continue to work and support the activities of the local, state and national youth department.

Q. Who signs the Past Grand application as endorser?

A. The Grand Director or Grand Directress.