

# **Cub Scout Day Camp “Tomahawk Award” Ceremony**



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## **TOMAHAWK CEREMONY (Overview)**

The Tomahawk Ceremony was developed and written for use in Cub Scout Day Camp of the Buckeye Council to provide an honors program that encourages year after year attendance.

It is a theatrical awards ceremony with an Indian motif that promotes the HAWK & PIPESTONE Camp Honors programs.

The Tomahawk was chosen because it was used by Indians in the past to . . .  
"With regards to war, when councils were called to deliberate on the matter, a tomahawk would be placed on the ground by the chief. If the chief raised the tomahawk following the meeting, it would signify a call to arms. On the other hand the peaceful image of the tomahawk could be witnessed during treaty meetings arranged between the different tribes. The head of a tomahawk would be buried into the ground to show the peaceful intent of the gathering.

The Colors of the Tomahawks are:  
Orange - Tigers (Search Discover, Share)  
Yellow - Wolves (Golden Color of the Sun)  
Blue - Bears (Honor & Truth)  
Green - Webelos I (Nature)  
Red - Webelos II (Boy Scout Color)

By wearing their "Tomahawk Award," Scouts will remember the fun times and lessons learned at day camp. They will look forward to next year and bring others with them.

## Day Camp - Day 1

### OPENING CEREMONY:

Two Indian Braves visit Day Camp during the opening ceremony.  
(One should be beating a drum as they enter)

- Brave 1: (Hold up Scout sign until everyone is quiet)  
Welcome Young Braves. You have come to Cub Scout Day Camp to have fun. We have brought the "Tomahawk" to bring peace to your camp.  
(Hold up a tomahawk with feathers and leather on it)
- Brave 2: When a Tomahawk is brought to a meeting, it is either raised in battle or laid down in peace, so that all gathered may have a peaceful time together.
- Brave 1: The Mighty Chief of our tribe will be here at the end of your week of camp. He will pick up this tomahawk . . . he has asked me to leave it with you, as a sign of peace among all scouts at this camp.
- Brave 2: Those who attend this camp will at the end of the week meet the Chief who will give them their Tomahawk Award. The Mighty Chief is also bringing his Order of the Arrow Brothers to help with the great "Tomahawk Ceremony."
- Brave1: We leave this Tomahawk in your camp director's care. Now if we can have complete silence. As you think of the "Tomahawk Ceremony," we must leave to join our brothers.

Braves raise their arms until there is complete silence; then they lower them and leave to a drum beat.

As the week progresses the director needs to mention the upcoming "Tomahawk Ceremony" at the end of the week. Remind the scouts that the Tomahawk was brought to bring peace to Day Camp.

- Day 2: The real Mighty Chief did not speak our language, but was such a great communicator that he got along with all men.
- Day 3: The Mighty Chief was so respected that a president invited him to Washington to honor him.
- Day 4: The Mighty Chief was such so highly regarded that all who knew him admired and respected him.

## **TOMAHAWK CEREMONY:**

All scouts need to be seated with their rank. (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos)

Have tables set up on each side of the speaker in the front of the ceremony.

### **CAMP DIRECTOR:**

Scouts and families - we are all here for the Tomahawk ceremony.  
Please help me call the Mighty Chief and his Order of the Arrow brothers  
to our camp.  
Repeat this Chant with me . . .

#### **OH GREAT SPIRIT**

(Scouts) Oh Great Spirit

#### **HEAR OUR CALL**

(Scouts) Hear our Call

#### **WE ARE GATHERED HERE**

(Scouts) We are gathered here

#### **SCOUTS ONE & ALL**

(Scouts) Scouts one & All

#### **OH GREAT SPIRIT**

(Scouts) Oh Great Spirit

#### **IF YOU ARE NEAR**

(Scouts) If you are near

#### **BLESS US WITH**

(Scouts) Bless us with

#### **YOUR PRESENCE HERE**

(Scouts) Your presence here.

Director (Raise his hand for silence)

Drums start .... Get louder & louder

The Mighty Chief enters, followed by his OA Brothers

He goes to the front center of the ceremony,

OA Brothers line up behind the 2 tables

(Table on the right ... for those striping the scouts)

(Table on the left ... speaking Braves & those playing drums)

The Mighty Chief walks to the front (Crosses his arms)(Drums stop)(Lifts one arm,  
waits for quiet)

When there is silence, turns his back to the group >>>

CHIEF: (Lifts both arms to the sky)  
"Oh Great Spirit of Earth & Wind ... bring peace and honor to this ceremony" (Turn around - lowers arms)  
"I have come to honor the young Scouts of this Day Camp"  
"I have heard of the great things you have learned together"  
" A true Scout remembers these lessons and carries them with him and the trails of his life"

DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "The sound of the drums will always remind you of the time we gathered at this place to receive your Tomahawk Award"

DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "The Tomahawk Award is to be worn in great honor as a token of many lessons learned and time spent with fellow Scouts"

DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "At this time we will honor the Tiger Scouts. My brave will mark you with orange stripes. Let these stripes remind you of the things a Tiger does as he SEARCHES, DISCOVERS and SHARES.

The drums should play softly as the line of Scouts moves through.

The Mighty Chief motions for a Brave to go lead the Tigers to the front, they stay in a line as they are striped.

After he is striped, the brave leads him to the Chief for his award ...

The Mighty Chief raises his right hand, the scout raises his right hand, He gives the scout his award.

The scout is led to the front to stand in lines until all Tigers and Leaders are there.

As the Mighty Chief moves forward drums stop beating when he raises his arms.

CHIEF: (Steps forward, looks at group of Tigers, and lifts arms to the sky)  
Tigers, I am honored to be here with you. You are about to enter your first year of Scouts. You have traveled the Tiger Trail this year. My Braves will share the journey of the Tiger Trail with You.

BRAVE: Tigers learn of SEARCHING FOR TRUE FRIENDS,  
Tigers will DISCOVER THAT TRUTH & HONOR ARE ABOVE ALL,  
Tigers will SHARE WITH YOUR FELLOW SCOUTS & FAMILIES.

CHIEF: NOW GO YOUNG TIGERS . . . TRAVEL THE PATH WITH YOUR PACK!!  
(A couple of scouts help them to go to their places)

## DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "At this time we will honor the Wolf Scouts. My brave will mark you with Yellow Stripes. Let these stripes remind you of the things a Wolf does as he travels the trails of the Great Bobcat and the Wolf.

The drums should play softly as the line of scouts moves through.

The Mighty Chief motions for a Brave to go lead the Wolves to the front; they stay in a line as they are striped.

After he is striped, the brave leads him to the Chief for his award ...

The Mighty Chief raises his right hand, the Scout raises his right hand, the Chief gives the Scout his award.

The Scout is led to the front to stand in lines until all Wolves and Leaders are there.

As the Mighty Chief moves forward drums stop beating when he raises his arms.

CHIEF: (Steps forward, looks at group of Wolves, and lifts arms to the sky)  
Wolves, your stripes are the golden color of the sun ... Be proud to wear it as you go to your Scout meetings where you will learn the ways of a true Scout.  
My Braves will share the journey of the Wolf Trail with You.

BRAVE: Wolves learn how to take care for our Country's Flag.  
Wolves learn the law of the Pack and live by it.  
A Wolf is a true outdoorsman who studies wildlife, birds and all nature.

CHIEF: NOW GO YOUNG WOLVES ... TRAVEL THE PATH WITH YOUR PACK!!  
(A couple of scouts help them to go to their places)

## DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "At this time we will honor the Bear Scouts. My brave will mark you with Blue Stripes, blue is the color of honor and truth, so be proud to wear it. Let honor and truth lead you down the Bear Trail.

The drums should play softly as the line of Scouts moves through.

The Mighty Chief motions for a Brave to go lead the Bears to the front, they stay in a line as they are striped.

After he is striped, the Brave leads him to the Chief for his award ...

The Mighty Chief raises his right hand, the scout raises his right hand, the Chief gives the Scout his award.

The Scout is led to the front to stand in lines until all Bears and Leaders are there.

As the Mighty Chief moves forward, drums stop beating when he raises his arms.

CHIEF: (Steps forward, looks at group of Bears, and lifts arms to the sky)  
Bears, remember your blue stripes as you travel the path this next year.  
Honor & Truth must be with you in your everyday walk of life.  
My Braves will share the journey of the Bear Trail with You.

BRAVE: Bears show respect for God and our Country  
Bears learn how to use a knife and earn their whittlin' chit.  
Bears learn how to track in the great outdoors.

CHIEF: NOW GO YOUNG BEARS ... TRAVEL THE PATH WITH YOUR PACK!!  
(A couple of Scouts help them to go to their places)

CHIEF: "At this time we will honor 1st year Webelos Scouts. My Brave will mark you with Green stripes. Green is the color of nature, let the call of the outdoors be with you as you begin the great journey of the Webelos Scout.

The drums should play softly as the line of Scouts move through.

The Mighty Chief motions for a Brave to go lead the Webelos to the front; they stay in a line as they are striped.

After he is striped, the Brave leads him to the Chief for his award ...

The Mighty Chief raises his right hand, the scout raises his right hand, the Chief gives the Scout his award.

The Scout is led to the front to stand in lines until all Webelos and Leaders are there.

As the Mighty Chief moves forward drums stop beating when he raises his arms.

CHIEF: (Steps forward, looks at group of Wolves, and lifts arms to the sky)  
Webelos let your green stripes show you the greatness of all Creation.  
May you take another journey this summer to Webelos Resident Camp for your HAWK award.  
My Braves will share the journey of the Webelos Trail with You.

BRAVE: Webelos spend time camping and learning their knots.  
Webelos learn first aid to help their fellow man.  
Webelos learn of fire and how to be careful with it.

CHIEF: NOW GO YOUNG WEBELOS ... TRAVEL THE PATH WITH YOUR PACK!!  
(A couple of scouts help them to go to their places)

DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: "At this time we will honor 2nd year Webelos Scouts. My brave will mark you with Red Stripes, the color of Boy Scouts, this year you will finish your Cub Scout journey and cross over to join your brothers in Boy Scouts.

The drums should play softly as the line of scouts moves through.

The Mighty Chief motions for a Brave to go lead the Webelos to the front, they stay in a line as they are striped.

After he is striped, the Brave leads him to the Chief for his award ...

The Mighty Chief raises his right hand, the scout raises his right hand, the Chief gives the Scout his award.

The Scout is led to the front to stand in lines until all Webelos and Leaders are there.

As the Mighty Chief moves forward, drums stop beating when he raises his arms.

CHIEF: (Steps forward, looks at group of Webelos, and lifts arms to the sky)  
Webelos, I am honored to send you on your last journey in Cub Scouts, learn from your leaders and may your Summer Trail lead you to Webelos Resident Camp & the HAWK award.  
My Braves will share the final journey of the Webelos Trail with You.

BRAVE: 2nd Year Webelos, learn the life of a Naturalist & Outdoorsman.  
The Webelos learn the Outdoor Code and live it when Camping & Hiking.  
A True Webelo studies to be a Loyal Scout at the end of his Cub Scout Journey.

CHIEF: NOW GO YOUNG WEBELOS ... TRAVEL THE PATH WITH YOUR PACK!!  
(A couple of Scouts help them to go to their places)

DRUMS BEAT

CHIEF: (Raises his hand - drums stop)  
I have truly been honored to be here with each of these Scouts.  
I will now close this great Tomahawk Ceremony  
as I send the Great Spirit with each one here as you journey your many trails in life.

DRUMS BEAT >>>> as the Mighty Chief leads the way, and his OA Brothers follow.

### **NOTES:**

#### **COLORS OF THE CEREMONY >>>**

TIGER - Orange

WOLF - Yellow

BEAR - Blue

1st Year WEBELOS - Green

2nd Year WEBELOS - Red

Each Day Camp Director must use his own judgment.  
Boys should not be allowed to attend only day 5 just to receive their award.

Adult Leaders and Boy Scouts who have been a part of Day Camp can follow any group of Scouts to be striped and receive that color Tomahawk.

(Anyone who has all five Tomahawks should no longer go up front)

