



Recruitment Strategies



How to Schedule and Conduct First Degrees

Promptly advancing new members through the exemplification of degrees is absolutely essential to successfully building and maintaining membership. A well-organized, regular schedule of degrees will ensure this progression and help prevent the loss of potential Knights.

- Sponsor a First Degree team, if possible. If not, participate on a district degree team.
- Schedule and conduct frequent First Degrees – preferably every month or every other month.
- Publicize the degree schedule at council meetings, in council bulletins, advertisements and mailings.
- Schedule degrees around important Knights of Columbus/council dates – be sure to avoid major holidays.
- Select honorees for each exemplification for greater impact, visibility and attendance.
- Contact candidates a day or two in advance to confirm attendance. Advise recommended attire.
- Arrange for the proposer or a member of the recruitment committee to pick up candidate and escort him to the First Degree.
- Distribute Candidate Kits (#531) – rosary, Knights of Columbus lapel pin, and *These Men They Call Knights* booklet.
- Advise new members of the next Second and Third degree exemplification date(s).
- Recognize new members and their proposers at the conclusion of the degree.
- Order and present generic New Member Certificates (#268) or current campaign degree certificates to degree recipients.
- Print the names of new members in the next scheduled council bulletin.
- Recognize First and Second degree team members to show appreciation (see certificates flyer, #2640).
- Invite neighboring councils to your degree exemplifications.