



Shining Armor Award Program

Office Of
State Membership Director
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Worthy Grand Knights,

One of the most important recruitment tools we have at our disposal is the *Shining Armor Award Program*. As a condition of the award, all **new members** are requested to recruit one (1) new member. **Existing members** are eligible if they recruit two (2) new members!

The **Shining Armor Award Program** is a voluntary program for newly initiated and existing members. It is designed to provide recognition of recruitment stars and to get new and existing members involved in the activities of the Council.

Your District Deputy or Field Agent should present a **Shining Armor Award** tracking card (available in English and Spanish) to the new members at the conclusion of their First Degree. Existing members should also be informed that they too, can earn the **Shining Armor Award**. To be eligible for the award they must accomplish the same tasks listed on the back of the card as the new members, except they must recruit two (2) members.

The four requirements listed on the back of the card are as follows:

1. Work on three council projects. (Church, Community, Council, Family, Vocations, Culture of Life or Youth)
2. Attend at least three council business meetings.
3. Receive the Third Degree
4. Meet with the Council Insurance Representative
5. Recruit one (1) new member
(existing Brothers of the Order must recruit two (2) new members)

These activities need to be accomplished within one year from the date of the First Degree (or within a single Columbian Year for existing members).

Once the requirements have been completed, a certificate and Lapel Pin (available from Supreme), should be ordered by your FS, and both should be presented to the member at an appropriate time. New and existing members need to be recognized for their recruitment and participation efforts.

Shining Armor Award Program

Review the required activities and it is apparent how both the members and Council benefit from this program. The Brother is more likely to become an involved member, one who will stay a member after completing his Third Degree. He has an opportunity to become an insured member, and will have helped with recruitment by bringing in at least one (1) or two (2) new members.

During the Fraternal Year 2013 – 2014, we would like to promote the Shining Armor Award Program as being open and available to existing council members as well. The existing member will need to have accomplished requirements 1 – 3 on the back of the Shining Armor Award card just like the new member, and sponsor two (2) new members into the Order between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

Appropriate recognition will be made at the State Convention in May, 2014 for the top council in each Diocese and the top Council in the State that has the most Shining Armor Award qualifiers in their council between July 1, 2013 and March 30, 2014.

Councils will be recognized with a Program Participation certificate.

Once all requirements have been completed, the council obtains and presents the member his award and certificate and a **Shining Armor Award Program Qualification Submittal Form** should be submitted to the State Membership Chairman (address above) to track Council progress in this program. The Qualification Submittal Form is attached to this letter and will be available on the State Website www.illinoisknights.org under the forms section.

Let's utilize this great tool to encourage our members to be more involved and active in our programs and the recruitment efforts in our Councils.

Vivat Jesus

Erik Lockett

Erik Lockett
State Membership Director



Honor Your Knights In Shining Armor!

Shining Armor Award

Awarded for service to the Order with distinction during the first year of membership, the “Shining Armor Award” is given to those men that exemplify what a true Knight of Columbus is.

The concept of the “Shining Armor Award” program is to get new members active in the many facets of the Knights of Columbus as early as possible and assist in maintaining that activity and also honor them as a valued member of your council.

To qualify for the “Shining Armor Award” new Knights must during their first year of membership:

- Be involved in at least 3 council service programs.
- Attend at least 3 council business meetings.
- Receive their Second and Third degrees.
- Meet with their council’s insurance field agent.
- Recruit at least one new member.

These are the qualifications for the basic program; consider implementing it in your council. Keep in mind, the main focus of the program is to get new members actively involved within their council from the very beginning. Councils can order materials for this program through the Supreme Council Supply Department by using the form #1:

- **Qualification Cards** (#4292), help new members keep track of their progress toward attaining the “Shining Armor Award” as their grand knight verifies each completed requirement. These cards are available free of charge.
- **Certificates of Recognition** (#4293) are a special way to commemorate the hard work of these new Knights. These certificates are available for .25 each.
- **“Shining Armor” Lapel Pins** (#1700) will not only be an honor for those who earn them to wear them, but they will also serve as a promotion for the program to other new Knights. These pins are available for \$3.00 each.

PASSION ~ PRIDE ~ PERFORMANCE

Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus
Shining Armor Award Program Qualification Submittal Form
Fraternal Year 2013 – 2014

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

First Degree Date: _____ Third Degree Date: _____

New Member's Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

Date of First Degree: _____

If the shining Armor Award qualifier is qualifying under the Existing Member Program (sponsoring two (2) new members), please provide the following information for the second new member sponsored:

New Member's Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

Date of First Degree: _____

The following information is required in order to be eligible for appropriate recognition at the State Convention:

Council Number: _____ District Number: _____ Diocese: _____

Grand Knight (printed): _____

Grand Knight (signature): _____

Date Completed and Presented: ____ / ____ / ____

Submit Completed form to:

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