

BROTHERHOOD OF PURPOSE
PRACTICAL LODGE GUIDES

Asking Your Brothers What Needs to Change

*A practical lodge survey, from the
first conversation to the report back*

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VISUAL GUIDE

The whole plan, on one page

1
↓

Start with a few conversations

Use the short route on 7-10. Choose a formal survey only if you need comparable counts.

2
↓

Explain the invitation

Say what you want to learn, who will read notes and when you will report. Small route: page 7.

3
↓

Ask; listen; check the note

Ask about experience, what to keep and what gets in the way. Read back his meaning: page 8.

4
↓

Notice what repeats and differs

Write what you heard and what differed. Do not turn a few conversations into a percentage of the lodge.

5

Report and keep the promise

Use the short report on 10 and close notes as promised. That completes the first route. Formal survey commitment: 11.

WHAT TO BRING

A clear question, a pen if wanted, an honest privacy explanation and a report date you can keep.

Listening is not a vote or a request to volunteer. Start small if that is the work you can do well.

FIELD GUIDE

Ask three questions, not nine boxes

Your move	Words you can adapt
Begin with his experience	"What has being a member here been like for you?" Let him choose where to start.
Keep what works	"What would you want us to keep doing?" Do not spend the whole conversation hunting faults.
Understand the difficulty	"What gets in the way, or what would make this more useful to you?" If needed: "Can you give me an example?"
Check the meaning	"I wrote that you value supper but need earlier notice of dates. Have I got that right?" Correct the note.
Finish	Tell him when and how he can see the summary. A request for help uses a separate appropriate route; it is not material for a public report.

Fictional example: Alex values conversation at supper but sometimes learns dates too late to plan. The checked note says exactly that. It does not say he is lonely or promise that earlier notices will bring him back.

WRITE ONLY WHAT HELPS

One page of optional notes follows. Use no notes if you cannot keep them as promised. Explain how you will accurately summarize the conversation instead.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Structured survey: a plan the lodge can keep

Cedar Lodge | people and protection

A short plan prevents promises nobody can keep. One person may have more than one job. Two named readers check answers and the report. Read this fictional plan before completing the planning worksheets on pages 16-18.

People and protection

1 Lodge and group	Cedar Lodge; invite the whole roll of 20 brothers.
2 Approval and work	Usual lodge approval confirmed March 25. No new spending. Share calls; provisionally allow 20 hours for 20 invitations, conversations and notes, plus setup, reading and reporting. Recheck after practice.
3 People	Owen leads and calls; Luis backs him up and also calls. Owen and Noah read answers. Noah receives sealed returns. All agree.
4 Private files	Owen locks the name/code list separately. Noah locks answer pages; only the two readers see them. Callers return checked notes.
5 Help and limits	Noah receives concerns; Luis is the alternate. Before launch they confirm local duties, outside help and what may need sharing.

DO THIS

Roles may overlap, but access must stay explicit. The lead may read answers only if he is also a named reader. The calendar follows on the next page.

WORKSHEET

Optional note for one listening conversation

Keep this in the agreed private place. Use the example on page 8. Do not collect a personal history or treat this as a vote.

What he values and wants to keep

What gets in the way - in his meaning, not your diagnosis

Different view, uncertainty, or suggestion he wants preserved

What did he correct when you read the note back?

Report date / how to correct it / when working notes end under the agreed rules