

# HO-CHUNK PROTOCOL – TEACHINGS – VALUES

1. Be respectful
  - a. Tone of voice
  - b. Eye contact
  - c. Touching – show of affection
  - d. Never walk in front of a male/elder
2. Food and drink
3. Language – interpreter/elders are capable of voicing their concerns/preferences
4. Respect households – sacred items need to be protected
  - a. Never step over a Ho-Chunk Member, regardless of age
5. Do not compliment a Ho-Chunk client on garments, jewelry, or other items, if you don't know what Clan he/she is a member of. It's OK to say "You look nice". (it's Ho-Chunk Bear Clan – tradition to give the item(s) to that person, and for the to reciprocate, then or in the near future.)
6. Dress code
7. Patient/client refusing meds or care. They have the right per "Patient Bill of Rights".
8. Do not interrupt Ho-Chunk conversation
9. Respect End of Life issues/beliefs

## How Language Defines Me

### HOCAK CLANS

The Hocak people organize themselves into two major divisions regarding social and political structure. The two divisions are the Sky/Upper clans and the Earth/lower clans. Within the two main divisions of the Hocak Wazija Háci, the structure is further divided into twelve (12) patrilineal clans. Patrilineal means tracing descent through the male line, also in reference to clans, that the children take the father's clan at birth, at one time, one had to marry into the upper clan. Your waksik (Indian) name, more often than not, is a clan name, and could possibly have belonged to someone else on your father's side of the family. Each and every clan has certain responsibilities representing the Hocak way of life. Your father may observe certain customs/traditions relating to his clan, but you also learn your mother's clan ways, through your mother's brothers (Tega), they have the right to call on you for assistance in whatever function that they may be observing.

Below is a very brief description of clan duties/responsibilities:

1. Thunder: also known as the chief clan as this clan supplied civil leaders for the office of chief; functions of preserving peace and acting as intermediary.
2. Eagle: supplied soldiers for warfare, also possessed other important political and social functions.
3. Pigeon: supplied soldiers for warfare, also possessed other important political and social functions.
4. Warrior: functions connected to war; also had the responsibility to decree a life or death decision on captives taken in war, also supplied soldiers for warfare possessed other important political and social functions.
5. Bear: police and peace keeping functions relating to village life, traveling and hunting and selection village sites, also responsible for carrying out orders delegated from the Thunder clan.
6. Buffalo: functions as village crier and intermediary between the chief and his people.
7. Elk: connected with the care of the fire/fireplace throughout the village and when on the hunt or warpath: also possessed other important political and social function.
8. Deer: dealt with the environment issues and the weather; also possessed other important political/social functions.

9. Fish: supplied soldiers for warfare; environmental issues of the village; also possessed other important political and social functions.
10. Wolf: regarded as 'minor' soldiers; performed roles regarding public health and safety issues; monitored the quality of water used by the people and animals; also possessed other important political and social functions.
11. Water Spirit: are connected with passage of streams, rivers, water, etc.; handled the issues of water used in sacred ceremonies; also possessed other important political and social functions.
12. Snake: supplied soldiers' warfare; environmental issues of the village; also possessed other important political and social functions.