



Position of companies with respect to rafter poles

Singing stops after center pole is in position.

Rafter poles (ridge poles) put up after center pole is in place. Clans put up rafters, each clan lifting the rafters associated with its direction. biitw'hw'ein'ew' put up the rafters in the NW quadrant.

Brush is put up last.

Then clan members go to their leader's tent to dress. Dog Clan members and their wives and some biitw'hw'ein'ew' remain and sing seven songs. Can be either inside or outside of the lodge. They sing Dog Clan songs. Seventh song may be sung a long time.

At end of seventh song the clans approach. The leader of each clan rides a horse. They come from the four directions they're in charge of.

Fox Clan usually goes into the lodge first, after all clans are present. No set rule about order of going in, but members go to position of their company. All companies dance, up-and-down step, to special songs. Horses given away. biitw'hw'ein'ew' dance on the NW side. Some of them also sing. They draft some men from younger clans to dance with them, to fill out their number. Could be from any younger clan.

All clans exit before sundown.

Sun Dance begins later.



Position of companies in dance dedicating Sun Dance Lodge.