

# LAWS OF



Laws of the Kingdom of the West - November 10, 2018

## Contents

Laws of the Kingdom of the West .....	1
Article I - The Law .....	1
Section 1 - Source of Law.....	1
Section 2 - Amendments.....	1
Section 3 - Publication .....	1
Section 4 - Principality Law .....	2
Section 4.1.....	2
Section 4.2.....	2
Section 5 - Instruction of Officers .....	2
Article II - The Crown .....	2
Section 1 - Other Offices .....	2
Section 2 - Succession .....	2
Section 2.1.....	2
Section 2.2.....	3
Section 2.3.....	3
Section 2.4 – Abdication of Royal Heirs .....	3
Section 2.5 - Uncompleted Reigns.....	3
Section 2.6.....	4
Section 2.7.....	4
Article III - Officers and Duties.....	4
Section 1 - Titles and Responsibilities.....	4
Section 1.1 – Officers of State .....	4
Section 1.2.....	4
Section 1.3 – Duties of Officers of State .....	5
Section 1.4.....	5
Section 1.5.....	5
Section 2 - Appointments.....	5
Section 2.1.....	5

---

Section 2.2.....	5
Section 2.3.....	6
Section 3 - Financial Responsibility .....	6
Section 3.1.....	6
Section 3.2.....	6
Section 3.3.....	6
Section 4 - Seneschal .....	6
Section 4.1.....	6
Section 4.2.....	7
Section 5 - Herald .....	7
Section 6 - Marshal .....	7
Section 6.1 Earl Marshal.....	7
Section 6.2 Minister of the Lists.....	7
Section 6.3 Royal Archer.....	7
Section 6.4 Minister of Equestrian Arts.....	7
Section 6.5 Royal Rapier Marshal .....	8
Section 7 - Arts and Sciences.....	8
Section 8 - Exchequer .....	8
Section 8.1 Chancellor of the Exchequer.....	8
Section 8.2 Council of the Exchequer.....	8
Section 8.3 Royal Regalia Minister .....	9
Section 8.3.1 Award Tokens.....	9
Section 8.3.2 Royal Commission for Regalia.....	9
Section 8.4 Inventory .....	9
Section 8.4.1 Charter for the Keepers of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns of the West	10
Section 9 - Chronicler .....	11
Section 9.1 Web Minister .....	11
Section 10 - Constable .....	11
Section 11 – Chancellor Minor .....	11
Section 12 - Notary .....	12
Section 13 – (reserved for later use) .....	12

---

Section 14 - Territorial Baronies.....	12
Section 14.1 Appointment of Baronial Coronet .....	12
Section 14.2 Schedule.....	13
Section 14.3 Reporting for Palatine Baronies.....	14
Article IV - Arms and Orders .....	14
Section 1 - Awards.....	14
Section 1.1.....	14
Section 1.2.....	14
Section 1.3.....	15
Section 2 - Royal Peerages .....	15
Section 3 - Patent Orders .....	15
Section 4 - Grants of Arms .....	15
Section 5 - The Western Lily .....	15
Section 5.1.....	15
Section 5.2.....	15
Section 6 - Leaves of Achievement .....	15
Section 6.1 Leaf of Merit.....	16
Section 6.2 Rose Leaf.....	16
Section 6.3 Ash Leaf.....	16
Section 7 - Other Armigerous Awards.....	16
Section 7.1 Court Baronage .....	16
Section 7.2 Royal Missile Company.....	16
Section 7.3 Western White Scarf (closed order).....	17
Section 7.4 Western Gold Scarf.....	17
Section 7.5 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion.....	18
Section 7.6 - Golden Poppy (closed order).....	19
Section 7.7 - Order of Missile Champions.....	19
Section 7.8 - Order of the Western Prima Spada .....	20
Section 7.9 - Kingdom Equestrian Champion .....	20
Section 7.10 Augmentations of Arms.....	21
Section 8 - Non-Armigerous Orders .....	21

---

Section 8.1 Queen’s Order of Grace .....	21
Section 8.2 Queen’s Cypher .....	21
Section 8.3 Order of Valor.....	21
Section 8.4 Knight Banneret.....	21
Section 8.5 Defender of the West .....	22
Section 8.6 Pillar of the West .....	22
Section 8.7 Order of the King’s Lance .....	22
Section 8.8 Order of the Queen’s Arrow .....	22
Section 8.9 Silver Mantle.....	22
Section 8.10 Royal Page of the West.....	22
Section 8.11 Golden Acorn.....	23
Section 8.12 Western Roll of Honor.....	23
Section 8.13 Wreath of Valor .....	23
Section 8.14 Wreath of Chivalry .....	23
Section 8.15 The Muckin’ Great Clubbe .....	23
Section 8.16 The Old Battered Helm.....	23
Section 8.17 Paragons of Merriment .....	23
Section 8.18 Noble Manor .....	24
Section 8.19 Queen’s Treasure .....	24
Section 8.20 Commendabilis Regni Occidentalis.....	24
Section 8.21 Silver Nib.....	24
Section 8.22 Western Hero .....	24
Section 8.23 Wooden Spoon.....	24
Section 8.24 Pied d’Argent.....	25
Section 8.25 Queen’s Order of Maintenance.....	25
Section 8.26 Crown’s Favor .....	25
Section 8.27 Western Centurion .....	25
Section 8.28 - Order of the Wreath of Athena .....	26
Section 9 - Honors .....	26
Section 9.1 Queen’s Champion.....	26
Section 9.2 Queen’s Guard .....	26

---

Section 9.3 King’s Huscarls.....	27
Section 10 - Principality Awards .....	27
Section 11 - Immigrant Arms .....	27
Section 12 - Charters and Guilds .....	27
Section 12.1 - Charter for the Bard of the West .....	27
Section 12.2 - Charter of the Royal Guild of Fence .....	28
Article V - Events .....	28
Section 1 - Scheduling .....	28
Section 1.1.....	28
Section 1.2.....	29
Section 1.3.....	29
Section 1.4 - Scheduling of Kingdom Champions Event(s).....	29
Section 1.5 – Event Fees.....	30
Section 2 - Eligibility for the Crown Lists.....	31
Section 3 - Fealty .....	31
Section 4 - Intent to Reign .....	31
Section 5 - Opponents.....	31
Section 6 - Arms of Another.....	31
Section 7 - Horses .....	31
Section 7.1.....	32
Section 8 - Pavilions .....	32
Section 8.1 - Locations on the List Field .....	32
Section 8.2 - Spacing .....	32
Section 8.3 – Safety Flagging.....	32
Section 8.4 - Lighting .....	32
Section 9 - Firearms and Explosive Materials .....	32
Section 9.1.....	32
Section 9.2.....	32
Section 9.3.....	32
Section 9.4.....	33
Section 9.5.....	33

---

Section 10 - Smoking.....	33
Article VI - Grievances.....	33
Article VII - The Conduct of Combat.....	33
Section 1 - Primacy of Rules of the Lists .....	33
Section 2 - Enforcement.....	33
Section 3 - Injury .....	34
Section 4 - Substances .....	34
Section 5 - People on the Field of Combat .....	34
Section 6 - Parry Items.....	34
Section 7 - Malice .....	34
Section 8 - Standards .....	34
Section 9 - Fencing and Rapier Combat .....	35
Article VIII - Courts.....	35
Section 1 - Court Types .....	35
Section 2 - Curia Regis .....	35
Section 2.1.....	35
Section 2.2.....	35
Section 2.3.....	35
Section 3 - Special Courts.....	35
Section 4 - Final Decision.....	36
Article IX - Fealty.....	36
Section 1 - Great Officers of State.....	36
Section 2 - Principality Coronets .....	36
Section 3 - Territorial Barons and Baronesses.....	36
Section 4 - Peers.....	36
Section 4.1.....	36
Section 5 - Other Cases.....	37
Section 6 - Violation of Fealty.....	37

# Laws of the Kingdom of the West

As proclaimed by order of King Jean on the first day of May, AS VI, and as amended in the reigns of King Hagen, King James, King Paul, King Andrew, King William II, King Terrence, King Steven, King Strider, King Radnor, King Frederick, King William III, King Thomas, King Rolf, King Ronald, King Stephen, King Jade, King Stephan, King Eric, King Phillip, King Christian, King Fabian, King Valgard, King John, King Obadiah, King Veniamin, King Alden, King Cybi, King Uther, King Hauoc, King Garick, King Connor, King Thorfinn, King Titus, King Marc, King Miles, King Hans, King Alfarr, King Roger, King Heinrich and King Christopher.

## Article I - The Law

### Section 1 - Source of Law

The Word of the Crown is Law. Proclamations of the Crown of the West are the law of the Kingdom from the moment they are spoken, but do not rescind existing law until published in The Page. No provision or changes to law shall be in effect, nor shall the subjects of the Kingdom be responsible for such provision, until such proclamation and publication have taken place. All proclamations are subject to the governing documents and the formal decisions of the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) and the laws of the modern political entities having jurisdiction within the various parts of the Kingdom.

### Section 2 - Amendments

Amendments to these laws shall be presented as changes, additions, or deletions to specific articles or sections. Other proclamations shall have effect only during the reign of the Crown making them.

### Section 3 - Publication

Proclamations of previous reigns not incorporated herein are rescinded. The Laws of the West Kingdom shall be published in unchangeable formats on the Kingdom web site. Law changes must appear on the web site within 30 days of being announced in court. All law changes must be published in The Page within 60 days of being announced in court, space permitting. In the case of newsletter space constraints, a URL to the location on the official Kingdom website showing the whole text of the change, with a notation of the Article(s) and Section(s) being changed, and published within the 60-day deadline, will be deemed to meet this requirement.



## **Section 4 - Principality Law**

### **Section 4.1**

Within any Principality of the Kingdom of the West, the word of the Coronet of the Principality is Law, subject to the formal decisions of the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism as embodied in the Corpora, the laws of the Kingdom of the West, and the discretion of the Crown of the West.

### **Section 4.2**

Any changes to the laws of a Principality must be first submitted to the Crown of the West in writing and receive Its signature before being proclaimed. The proclamations of the Coronet and the laws of a Principality are subject to the same restrictions as are those of the Crown and the laws of the Kingdom as defined in Section 1, 2, and 3 above, with the following exception: The laws of the Mists, Cynagua, and Oertha need only be published in The Page.

## **Section 5 - Instruction of Officers**

If any officer of the Kingdom of the West receives instructions, directions, or orders, save only routine administrative directives, from anyone not having authority by these laws to give such, that officer shall take no action until the Crown shall have been consulted as to Its pleasure in the matter.

# **Article II - The Crown**

## **Section 1 - Other Offices**

No Sovereign or Consort shall hold any other office in the Kingdom of the West during Their reign. In such time as it is necessary the Crown may temporarily reign as Coronet if that position is vacated and the laws regarding failure of the reign make this provision. The Crown may also temporarily serve as Territorial Baronial Coronet, until such time as the position(s) is filled.

## **Section 2 - Succession**

### **Section 2.1**

Should the successors to the Crown, hereinafter known as the Royal Heirs, through no fault of their own, be unable to attend their Coronation, such steps as are necessary and acceptable to them and the Crown shall be taken that they may achieve their Crowns and Thrones.

## **Section 2.2**

Should either or both of the Royal Heirs fail to intend to reign, and sufficient evidence of this failure be presented to the Crown, a Curia Regis shall be called to consider the matter.

## **Section 2.3**

Should the decision in the Curia Regis be that there was no failure of intent, the Crown shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure that the Royal Heirs achieve their Crowns and Thrones. However, should the finding be that there was a failure of intent to reign, the Royal Heirs shall be instructed to attend their Coronation as scheduled, or else to abdicate.

## **Section 2.4 – Abdication of Royal Heirs**

### **Section 2.4.1**

Should the winner of the previous Crown List elect to abdicate, either directly or through failure to respond, a Crown List shall be called at the beginning of the Coronation festival. This list shall be limited to fighters who competed in the previous Crown List, except for the victor of the previous Crown List, who shall be barred. The winner of the List and the winner's consort shall be crowned immediately.

### **Section 2.4.2**

Should the consort of the winner of the previous Crown Tournament elect to abdicate, either directly or through failure to respond, the winner of the previous Crown Tournament must designate a new consort, acceptable to the Crown, prior to the scheduled Coronation or abdicate.

## **Section 2.5 - Uncompleted Reigns**

### **Section 2.5.1**

Should either the Sovereign or Consort be unable to complete the reign, the other shall assume the duties of both for the remainder of the reign.

### **Section 2.5.2**

Should both the Sovereign or Consort, for any reason whatsoever, be unable to complete Their reign, a Regency Council composed of the reigning Coronet Sovereigns and Consorts of the various Principalities shall be created. The Council shall act in all ways as the Crown, subject to the following limitations: All actions of the Council must be taken under unanimous agreement of its members. The Council shall have the power to change the laws of the Kingdom only to the extent required to correct any contradictions between the laws of the Kingdom and either the Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism or modern civil law. Any changes enacted by a Regency Council must be publicly confirmed by the next Crown of the West, or they shall be automatically rescinded. A Regency Council shall have no power to grant or create peerage of

any sort. The reign of the Council shall cease upon the coronation of a Sovereign and Consort who have been selected via the usual manner prescribed in these laws.

## **Section 2.6**

In the event of an abdication, a written Declaration of Abdication shall be submitted to the Seneschal by the Sovereign or Consort, and the Seneschal shall inform the Coronet Sovereigns and Consorts of their responsibility. Should it be the opinion of the Seneschal that the Crown, by reason of injury or death be unable to make such a written Declaration of Abdication, and that a Regency Council is needed, the Seneschal shall convene the Regency Council and a Declaration of Abdication will be issued by the Council.

## **Section 2.7**

The Sovereign and Consort shall be financially responsible for those items of royal regalia entrusted to them during their reign, pursuant to the conditions of Article III, Section 8.4 of the Laws of the West and the Financial Policies of the Kingdom of the West and the SCA, Inc.

# **Article III - Officers and Duties**

## **Section 1 - Titles and Responsibilities**

### **Section 1.1 – Officers of State**

#### **Section 1.1.1**

There shall be seven Great Officers of State in the Kingdom of the West: the Seneschal, the Vesper Herald, the Earl Marshal, the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chronicler, and the Constable.

#### **Section 1.1.2**

There shall be nine Lesser Officers of State: the Chatelaine, the Minister of the Lists, the Minister of Equestrian Arts, the Royal Archer, the Royal Rapier Marshal, the Royal Regalia Minister, the Web Minister, the Chancellor Minor, and the Notary.

### **Section 1.2**

The Great Officers of State are responsible to the Crown for carrying out the laws and affairs of the Kingdom of the West. They are additionally responsible to their corresponding corporate officers of the SCA, Inc. in matters of policy and administration of their offices.

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## **Section 1.3 – Duties of Officers of State**

### **Section 1.3.1**

The Great Officers of State are charged with administration of the Kingdom under the Crown. Their chief deputies in a Principality hold a corresponding position under the Coronet of that Principality. In all cases, each officer owes allegiance to the Crown of the West, but the direct obedience of Principality officers shall be given to the representative of the Crown in the person of the Coronet.

### **Section 1.3.2**

Each Officer of State is responsible for encouraging and assisting their subordinate officers in the performance of their required duties to ensure the smooth functioning of the realm. As part of this responsibility, each officer shall maintain regular communications with their subordinates, especially those distant from the central part of the Kingdom.

### **Section 1.3.3**

In addition to the specific duties defined hereunder, each officer shall carry out such other duties as are appropriate to the office, or as directed by the Crown.

## **Section 1.4**

Each Officer of State shall give an oral or written report on the state of their offices to the Crown and the Royal Heirs. This report is due at the Kingdom Officers Meeting, to be held between Crown Tournament and Coronation.

## **Section 1.5**

Officers may receive directions from their superiors. However, such directions may not be obeyed if they conflict with an order from the Crown or, if applicable, the Coronet. Such conflicts shall be reported immediately to the superior and, if necessary, to the Crown.

## **Section 2 - Appointments**

### **Section 2.1**

Appointment to and removal from all offices shall be according to the procedures established for warrants or those established for official rosters, as appropriate.

### **Section 2.2**

No term of office shall be more than two years. Prior to the expiration of the term of any Officer of State, the officer shall consult with the Crown concerning renewal of the term, whereupon the Crown shall determine their pleasure in the matter.

### **Section 2.3**

Each officer, at least four months prior to resignation from the office or expiration of his or her warrant, shall advertise in the Kingdom newsletter and other appropriate media soliciting resumes for the upcoming vacancy. Upon review of the available candidates, the officer is expected to recommend a successor to the Crown or to their immediate superior, as appropriate.

## **Section 3 - Financial Responsibility**

### **Section 3.1**

Each officer is held accountable to the Crown for the monies and properties they hold for their office, for the Crown, or for the SCA.

### **Section 3.2**

At the time a new officer is appointed, the outgoing officer shall prepare an accounting of all monies and properties currently held for that office, or for the Crown, that are passing to the successor. This shall include any changes in these monies or properties since the last yearly report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Both the outgoing and the incoming officers are to sign that accounting and a copy of it is to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

### **Section 3.3**

In addition to the required yearly report, each officer shall submit, in writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, a supplemental report detailing any major changes in the amounts of monies and/or properties for which that officer is held accountable.

## **Section 4 - Seneschal**

### **Section 4.1**

The Seneschal is the chief administrative officer of the Crown and the official media representative for the Kingdom of the West. The Seneschal shall serve as the principal legal representative of the Society within the Kingdom of the West, have the ultimate responsibility for planning and carrying out the official events of the Kingdom, coordinate the formal recognition of new branches by the Crown, maintain the Code of Laws and be responsible for providing the official copy for publication, maintain a file of waivers from all events, hold regularly scheduled meetings of the Council of Seneschals, hold regularly scheduled meetings of the Great Officers of State, receive reports from all other Great Officers of State and Lesser Officers of State on the status of their offices, and make such reports as may be required by the Society Seneschal.

## **Section 4.2**

The Chatelaine shall serve under the Seneschal, and shall be responsible for welcoming newcomers and visitors at events, answering the questions of newcomers and visitors, and encouraging the growth and integration of the Realm.

## **Section 5 - Herald**

The Vesper Herald is the principal heraldic officer of the Crown and the head of the College of Heralds. The College of Heralds shall provide the Crown's voice at events and shall be responsible for supervising all degrees of heraldic officers, processing of names and armory for registration by the Society, conducting heraldic research and education, and providing ceremony and devising protocol for the Kingdom.

## **Section 6 - Marshal**

### **Section 6.1 Earl Marshal**

The Earl Marshal is the chief martial officer of the Kingdom and shall be responsible for overseeing the conduct of all martial arts activities in the Kingdom. These activities include but are not limited to: Tournament lists, rapier combat, target archery, melee and war combat and related activities such as combat archery and scouting. The Earl Marshal shall encourage the development of safety, chivalry, and authenticity upon the field, maintain a file of authorized fighters, and maintain, publish, and enforce standards for construction and use of all weapons and armor.

### **Section 6.2 Minister of the Lists**

The Minister of the Lists shall serve under the Earl Marshal as a Lesser officer of state and shall organize and coordinate the lists as directed by the Crown in cooperation with the College of Heralds and the Marshalate.

### **Section 6.3 Royal Archer**

The Royal Archer shall serve under the Earl Marshal as a Lesser officer of state and shall be responsible for encouraging the development of archery. The Royal Archer shall maintain, publish, and enforce rules for archery activities at events, and maintain, publish, and enforce standards for archery equipment.

### **Section 6.4 Minister of Equestrian Arts**

The Minister of Equestrian Arts shall serve under the Earl Marshal as a Lesser officer of state and shall be responsible for encouraging the development of and research into period equestrian arts. The Minister of Equestrian Arts shall maintain, publish, and enforce rules governing the use of horses at events.

## **Section 6.5 Royal Rapier Marshal**

The Royal Rapier Marshal shall serve under the Earl Marshal as a Lesser officer of state and shall maintain a file of authorized rapier combatants and encourage the development of period rapier combat. The Royal Rapier Marshal shall maintain, publish, and enforce rules for rapier combat activities at events, maintain, publish, and enforce standards for rapier combat, and perform any duties stipulated in the Kingdom rapier combat documents.

## **Section 7 - Arts and Sciences**

The Minister of Arts and Sciences is the chief artistic and scientific officer of the Crown and is responsible for the encouragement and development of the arts and sciences within the realm. The Minister of Arts and Sciences conducts the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition (see Article IV Section 7.5), oversees the Order of the Wreath of Athena display (see Article IV, Section 8.28), organizes displays and classes at Kingdom events, and serves on the Royal Commission for Regalia. The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall assist the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion with the planning of any Kingdom-level arts and sciences events. The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall maintain communication with the Ministers of the Wooden Spoon and the Pied d'Argent, and offer assistance should they need it.

## **Section 8 - Exchequer**

### **Section 8.1 Chancellor of the Exchequer**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is the chief financial officer of the Crown and is responsible for collecting, safeguarding, and disbursing the moneys of the realm, maintaining records of the physical assets of the Kingdom and their monetary value, reporting on the status of the Exchequer as required, publishing in The Page by each July the financial statement for the Kingdom, receiving reports from the several parts of the realm and from the Officers of the Kingdom, heading the Council of the Exchequer of the Kingdom, establishing and maintaining bank accounts for officers and local branches as needed, and assisting the Seneschal and Exchequer of any branch within the Kingdom placed in abeyance to reestablish that branch with the Society.

### **Section 8.2 Council of the Exchequer**

The Council of the Exchequer shall consist of the Sovereign and Consort, the Kingdom Seneschal, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and may include the Royal Heirs, if there are heirs. It shall meet once each reign to determine major expenditures for the reign. At its first meeting for the calendar year, it shall also determine the budget for the following calendar year. It may also meet at other times as needed. All requests and proposals for the use of the Kingdom's moneys, which are not already preapproved by the budget or by prior consent of the Council, must be submitted in writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Unanimous consent of

the Council is required to disburse funds. If there are Royal Heirs, they must be consulted before a decision is made.

### **Section 8.3 Royal Regalia Minister**

The Royal Regalia Minister serves as a Lesser officer, warranted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and reporting to the Crown, and is responsible for maintaining and storing the royal regalia, maintaining an inventory of all kingdom regalia, including the date it was obtained and who has possession of it, informing the Chancellor of the Exchequer of any regalia obtained or retired and its value, and holding a meeting of the Royal Commission for Regalia at least once each reign. The Royal Regalia Minister shall transport royal regalia to and from events from storage at the request of the Sovereign and Consort.

#### **Section 8.3.1 Award Tokens**

The Royal Regalia Minister shall maintain an inventory of Rose Leaf tokens, Leaf of Merit tokens, Ash Leaf tokens, Western Lily tokens, Commendabilis tokens, Queen's Order of Grace tokens, Order of Valor torsos, Defender of the West torsos, Wooden Spoon tokens, Pied d'Argent tokens, King's Lance tokens, Golden Acorn tokens, and Western Roll of Honor tokens to be awarded by the Crown. The Royal Regalia Minister shall be responsible for the award token molds unless the molds are in use by an artisan or contractor.

#### **Section 8.3.2 Royal Commission for Regalia**

There shall be a Royal Commission for Regalia. Its duties are to advise the Crown as to the artistic and practical merit of proposed regalia and equipment, to advise the Crown as to the acceptability of such items, and to recommend specific acquisition and retirement of regalia and equipment as needed. All offers of donation and all proposals for acquisition of royal regalia given to the Crown without having first been approved by this commission will be deemed a personal gift to the Royal Couple to whom it is presented. All items of regalia are considered to be the property of the Kingdom of the West and may be disposed of only with the unanimous consent of the Commission. The Commission shall consist of the Sovereign and the Consort, the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Royal Regalia Minister.

### **Section 8.4 Inventory**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Royal Regalia Minister will conduct an inventory of all regalia, including its location and condition, to be completed immediately prior to its transfer to the incoming Sovereign and Consort. The outgoing Sovereign and Consort shall be financially responsible for lost regalia that was entrusted to their care. The Commission shall determine if the outgoing Sovereign and Consort shall be held financially responsible for damaged regalia or if the damage is due to normal wear and tear. The incoming Sovereign and Consort will accept custody of regalia to be placed in Their care by signature receipt of the completed inventory. The Royal Regalia Minister shall make a written report to the Royal Commission for Regalia at the



conclusion of the transfer process. This section shall not be amended without unanimous approval of the Royal Commission for Regalia.

### **Section 8.4.1**

#### **Charter for the Keepers of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns of the West**

The Keeper(s) of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns are appointed by the Crown, with the advice of the Kingdom Seneschal, Vesper Herald, the current Keepers, and the Regalia Minister.

The Keeper(s) of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns shall serve for an indefinite term, but shall be subject to review by the Crown and the Regalia Commission every five years at the Great Officer meeting closest to Beltane. The first review shall take place in the spring of A.S. XLV (45). The review will take place every five years thereafter regardless of the date of appointment of the Keepers.

The Keeper(s) of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns may give up their office at any time by resignation in writing to the Crown and delivery of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns into the hands of the Crown, the Kingdom Seneschal, or the Vesper Herald.

The Keeper(s) of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns may be removed from office only for malfeasance or non-feasance in their duties as determined by a meeting of the Regalia Commission plus the Seneschal and Vesper Herald.

The duties of the Keeper(s) of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns of the West:

To maintain the Ancient and Honorable Crowns in good condition as property of the Kingdom of the West.

To execute such documents as may be necessary to ensure that the Keeper(s)'s heirs are aware of the status of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns as property of the Kingdom of the West in the event of the death of the Keeper(s).

To ensure that the Ancient and Honorable Crowns of the West are treated at all times with respect.

To bring the Ancient and Honorable Crowns to all Crown Tournaments and Coronations or ensure through other means that they will be there. If the Royalty states that they do not wish to have the Ancient and Honorable Crowns at the event, the Keeper(s) need not bring them.

To bring the Ancient and Honorable Crowns to other such events as the King and Queen shall command, or ensure through other means that they will be there.

To report yearly in writing to the Regalia Commission, at the Great Officer's Meeting prior to Beltane, on the condition of the Ancient and Honorable Crowns and the location at which they are kept.

## **Section 9 - Chronicler**

The Chronicler is the manager of the Kingdom Office of Communications. The Chronicler will supervise these deputies: Publication Manager, Social Media Manager, and Event Publicity Content Editor, and the Lesser office of Web Minister. The Chronicler may elect to personally fill a deputy post or the Lesser office of Web Minister, but must have other members executing the duties and responsibilities of the other three posts.

The Publications Manager is responsible for print media, including all official publications within the realm, regular publication of The Page as the newsletter of the Kingdom, publishing the current Laws of the Kingdom and the Principalities every five years in an Administrative Issue, and encouraging the publication of the results of research by any subject of the Kingdom.

The Social Media Manager and team will facilitate communications from the SCA, Inc. and other official channels to various social media platforms, including announcements and discussion pertaining to matters of import to the Kingdom, and will report to the Chronicler and Seneschal regarding the Kingdom's social media presence.

The Event Publicity Content Editor and team will vet all event copy for official events held in the West Kingdom, assuring that required content is included and distributing the vetted copy to the Publication Manager, Social Media Manager, and Web Minister, or their local group counterparts, for dissemination to the communication outlets for the Kingdom.

### **Section 9.1 Web Minister**

The Web Minister shall serve as a Lesser officer under the Chronicler and shall be responsible for developing and maintaining the Kingdom web site, maintaining a roster of all branch Web Ministers, and advising the Crown and Officers regarding issues related to electronic media. The Web Minister will supervise a team to manage the content on the Kingdom web site and facilitate needed updates and changes, in cooperation with the needs of the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal for orderly management of Kingdom information.

## **Section 10 - Constable**

The Constable is the chief public safety officer of the Crown. The Constable reports directly to the Seneschal, and shall be responsible for maintaining order amongst people at events, working with modern authorities to promote public safety at events, collecting site fees and delivering the collected money to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, providing general waivers, and ensuring that people attending events sign waivers.

## **Section 11 – Chancellor Minor**

The Chancellor Minor serves directly under the Crown, reporting to the Kingdom Seneschal and is responsible for ensuring and encouraging Youth arts and sciences opportunities and

participation of youth ages six through sixteen within the West Kingdom on a kingdom level. The Kingdom Chancellor Minor is responsible for supporting and encouraging youth officers on the Principality and local levels of the office.

## **Section 12 - Notary**

The Notary serves directly under the Crown, and is responsible for coordination and communication to ensure that Kingdom law changes are properly proclaimed and published, and that the current laws are available to the populace on the Kingdom website. This lesser officer will communicate with the Seneschal, Chronicler, and Web Minister in matters concerning law updates and changes, and will also coordinate with the Principality Seneschals and Palatine Baronial Seneschals to maintain their laws and codes in a current and updated state. The Notary will also serve as an advisor to the Crown, Principality Coronets, and Palatine Baronial Coronets in matters concerning changes and updates to the laws of the Kingdom, its Principalities, and the charters/codes of the Palatine Baronies. Properly signed and witnessed law change documents will be stored electronically by the appropriate Seneschal, who may delegate the collection of said signatures and the scanning of signed documents to the Notary.

## **Section 13 – (reserved for later use)**

## **Section 14 - Territorial Baronies**

### **Section 14.1 Appointment of Baronial Coronet**

Per Corpora, Section V.A.1: “The Crown shall appoint a territorial Baron and/or Baroness according to the laws and customs of the kingdom when a branch is granted baronial status, or whenever a new Baron and/or Baroness are required. The barony’s opinion on the matter must be requested and received in writing, and the appointments must not be substantially opposed by the populace of the barony. Territorial Barons and Baronesses are officers and must maintain appropriate membership status.” When a branch is granted Baronial status or a new Baron and/or Baroness are required, the Seneschal of the Barony (or incipient Barony) will consult with the Kingdom Seneschal as to the current procedure for selection of candidates for the Baronial Coronet(s). The procedure must include a polling, in writing, of the paid members of the Barony, unless it is a Palatine Barony, which will follow the process approved by the Crown when Palatine status was granted.

**Section 14.1.1**

Territorial Baronies (traditional Baronies), which are not Palatine Baronies, will conduct a polling of confidence of the currently serving Baron and/or Baroness upon the completion of their first 20 months of service, and thereafter at least once every 24 months that they continue to serve. The Crown, after consulting with the Kingdom Seneschal, may either confirm the current Baron and/or Baroness in their office or appoint a new Baron and/or Baroness at the Kingdom event where the baronial report is presented, after consulting with the populace of the Barony as required by Section 14.1.

**Section 14.2 Schedule**

The Kingdom Seneschal will maintain a schedule of baronial reporting dates and will ensure that the Baron and/or Baroness and Seneschal of each Barony knows the event at which their baronial report is due at least eight weeks in advance. The baronial reporting schedule will be, on the modern calendar, as follows:

Even-numbered years:

- March Crown - Allyshia
- Beltane - Selveirgard
- June Crown - Darkwood
- Purgatorio - Eskalya
- October Crown – Tarnmist

Odd-Numbered years:

- March Crown – Allyshia
- Beltane - Fettburg
- June Crown - Winter's Gate
- Purgatorio - Rivenoak
- October Crown - Westermark

The Barony of the Far West will report according to Section 14.3, below. There will be no oral baronial reports or taxes accepted in court at Twelfth Night.

**Section 14.2.1 Reports and Taxes**

The currently serving Baron and/or Baroness and Seneschal of each traditional Barony will submit written reports at least six weeks prior to the Kingdom event at which the Barony is scheduled to report. The Baron and Baroness will report in writing to the Crown, and the Seneschal will report in writing to the Kingdom Seneschal. At the scheduled Kingdom event, each Barony will present to the Crown an oral report in court relating the accomplishments of the Barony during the previous reporting period and the current state of the Barony. If the Baronies wish to make a presentation of taxes to Their Majesties, it is suggested they do so in conjunction with their oral report. The oral reports given in Court should be brief and informative, and the presentations of taxes should likewise be kept brief. If the Barony is prohibited from presenting their oral report in court at the scheduled Kingdom event due to far distance, the report may be

offered by a signed document, and presented by a designated representative in court at the scheduled Kingdom event.

### **Section 14.3 Reporting for Palatine Baronies**

The currently serving Baron and/or Baroness and Seneschal of each Palatine Barony will submit written reports at least six weeks prior to each scheduled Baronial changeover. The Baron and Baroness will report in writing to the Crown, and the Seneschal will report in writing to the Kingdom Seneschal. When a Palatine Baron and/or Baroness have completed their term, upon the occasion of the investiture of their successors, they will offer an oral, in court report relating the accomplishments of the Barony during their Baronial leadership and the current state of the Barony. If the Baronies wish to make a presentation of taxes to Their Majesties, it is suggested they do so in conjunction with their oral report. The oral reports given in Court should be brief and informative. If the Palatine Barony is prohibited from holding the Baronial Investiture in a Kingdom court due to far distance, the report may be made electronically, or witnessed by any Peers and Nobles present, and a statement from these witnesses that the report was made and the State of the Barony was fairly represented will suffice. The electronic report or witness statement will be forwarded to the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal within one week of the Baronial Investiture.

## **Article IV - Arms and Orders**

### **Section 1 - Awards**

#### **Section 1.1**

The sole power to create Patents, Grants, and Awards of Arms rests with the Crown. The Crown hereby grants to the Coronet of each Principality the right to offer Awards of Arms to subjects of the Principality, and to offer a Patent of Arms and the title of Viscount or Viscountess to those who have served the Principality in the capacity of Sovereign or Consort for a full reign. The Crown hereby grants to the Baron and Baroness of the Palatine Barony of the Far West the right to offer Award of Arms to subjects of the Palatine Barony of the Far West. The Crown specifically reserves the right to grant Grants and Patents of Arms and create Peerages for any other reason and title unto Themselves.

#### **Section 1.2**

It is the responsibility of the Crown or Coronet giving Arms or other awards to ensure that the type of Arms or award, the date given, and the full name of the recipient is published in the Order of Precedence within nine months of the date the Arms or award was given. Awards not published within this time limit must be reaffirmed by the Royalty in an official court and published within nine months of that reaffirmation.

### **Section 1.3**

Never, under any circumstances, shall the signatures of the Sovereign or Consort, or of any previous Sovereign or Consort, be forged on any scroll or other document.

## **Section 2 - Royal Peerages**

Royal Peerages earned in the Kingdom of the West shall be accompanied by Patents of Arms. People earning such peerages shall be assumed to fulfill the basic requirements for the elevation to the Peerage.

## **Section 3 - Patent Orders**

All members of the Order of Chivalry, the Order of the Laurel, the Order of the Pelican and the Order of Defense have the right to advise the Crown regarding selection of members for their Orders, and no member may be excluded from a conclave convened for that purpose.

## **Section 4 - Grants of Arms**

Grants of Arms may be offered to the Great Officers of State or to other officers of the Crown for conscientious execution of their duties while in office. The Crown may also offer Grants of Arms to any individual whose great, unremitting, and excellent service is of equivalent value to the Kingdom.

## **Section 5 - The Western Lily**

### **Section 5.1**

The Order of the Western Lily may be offered to those the Crown finds deserving of great honor for both their individual excellent achievements and for their consistent contributions in teaching others of their skills and knowledge of the arts, sciences, and other activities that strengthen and enhance the Kingdom.

### **Section 5.2**

If the recipient is not an armiger, they shall also receive an Award of Arms. Members of the Order of the Western Lily shall stand in precedence with holders of Leaves of Achievement, between holders of Grants of Arms and holders of Awards of Arms who also hold the title Court Baron/Baroness.

## **Section 6 - Leaves of Achievement**

Leaves of Achievement shall be bestowed upon those the Crown wishes to honor. If the recipient is not an armiger, they shall also receive an Award of Arms. Members of the Orders of Leaves of

Achievement shall stand in precedence with holders of the Western Lily, between holders of Grants of Arms and holders of Awards of Arms who also hold the title Court Baron/Baroness.

The Coronet, with the permission of the Crown, shall offer Leaves of Achievement to those residing within Its Principality It finds deserving of honor. The Crown shall declare whether or not They intend to grant this permission at the commencement of each reign.

### **Section 6.1 Leaf of Merit**

The Order of the Leaf of Merit may be offered to those the Crown finds deserving of honor, especially for substantial and unobtrusive service to the Kingdom. The token given is a pendant in the shape of a laurel leaf.

### **Section 6.2 Rose Leaf**

The Order of the Rose Leaf may be offered to those the Crown finds deserving of honor, especially for achievement in the arts and sciences. The token given is a pendant in the shape of a rose leaf.

### **Section 6.3 Ash Leaf**

The Order of the Ash Leaf may be offered to those the Crown finds deserving of honor, especially for expertise in combat including, but not limited to, heavy armored combat, rapier combat, and combat archery. The token given is a pendant in the shape of an ash leaf.

## **Section 7 - Other Armigerous Awards**

### **Section 7.1 Court Baronage**

The title of Court Baron or Court Baroness may be offered to those the Crown wishes to honor. If the recipient is not an armiger, they shall also receive an Award of Arms. Court Barons and Baronesses shall stand in precedence between holders of Leaves of Achievement/Western Lily and holders of Awards of Arms.

#### **Section 7.1.1**

A territorial Baron or Baroness, upon retiring from that office, may receive the title of Court Baron or Baroness at the discretion of the Crown.

### **Section 7.2 Royal Missile Company**

There shall be created a Royal Missile Company. The members thereof shall have demonstrated high achievement and service to the Kingdom in archery or missile combat. Further, they shall have demonstrated chivalry, courtesy, and those aspects of courtly behavior and accomplishment expected of any armiger of the West.

**Section 7.2.1**

The duties of the members of this Order shall be to advise the Royal Archer and the Earl Marshal and to conduct research into aspects of the arts of archery or missile combat including, but not limited to, safety, tactics, marshaling, training, qualification, and competition.

**Section 7.2.2**

This Order will include all members of the former Royal Company of Archers, who will be entered into this Order as of the date of their inclusion in the Royal Company of Archers. This Order will include all members of the former Royal Company of Yeomen, who will be entered into this Order as of the date of their inclusion in the Royal Company of Yeomen.

**Section 7.2.3**

The selection of members of the Order will be at the pleasure of the Crown after consultation with the existing members of the Order.

**Section 7.2.4**

Membership in this Order shall carry a Grant of Arms.

**Section 7.3 Western White Scarf (closed order)**

The Order of the Western White Scarf was closed upon the creation of the peerage Order of Defense. All extant members of the Order of the Western White Scarf shall retain the honors received for their achievements related that order.

**Section 7.4 Western Gold Scarf**

There shall be an Order of the Western Gold Scarf. The members thereof shall have demonstrated high achievement and service to the Kingdom in the development and teaching of the equestrian arts, as well as skill in riding. Further, they shall have demonstrated chivalry, courtesy and those aspects of courtly behavior and accomplishment expected of any armiger of the West.

**Section 7.4.1**

The duties of the members of this Order shall be to advise the Kingdom Minister of Equestrian Arts and the Crown on, and conduct research into, all aspects of the equestrian arts.

**Section 7.4.2**

The selection of members of the Order will be at the pleasure of the Crown after consultation with the existing members of the Order.

**Section 7.4.3**

Membership in this order shall carry a Grant of Arms.



## **Section 7.5 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion**

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Minister is responsible for furthering the arts and sciences within the Kingdom of the West through organization of lectures, classes, demonstrations of period arts and sciences techniques, creation of prize challenges, and any other activity that will further the arts and sciences to the populace. Therefore, the Arts and Sciences Minister is responsible for administration of the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition to determine the next Arts and Sciences Champion.

### **Section 7.5.1**

In order to encourage a culture of competition for personal betterment, the annual Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition shall be held all on one day. It may be scheduled concurrent with any or all of the other Kingdom Championships (currently Archery, Equestrian and Rapier). The purpose of the competition will be to select the next Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion and encourage constructive criticism of the entrant's personal art such that each entrant may grow from the experience. The title Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion shall be awarded to the individual who achieves the highest overall qualifying score, in all categories, during the competition.

### **Section 7.5.2**

The competition for the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Championship will be a Pentathlon of five broad categories. Competitors may enter any or all of the competitions, but must compete in each of the five categories to be considered for the Championship. The five broad categories are Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Practical Sciences, Technical Sciences and a) Research Paper or b) Masterwork. A Masterwork is defined as a separate item or project that combines at least two of the other categories into a masterwork piece but does not replace an item from any other category. The Minister of Arts and Sciences may, at their discretion, make suggestions for each category but may not limit them.

A competition will be deemed to have been held if either of the following occurs:

Three or more individual entries are signed in (which may be by one or multiple entrants)

OR

Two or more entries are signed in (which may be one or multiple entrants), AND both have qualifying scores.

At least 50% of available points based on current judging sheets must be earned to be considered qualifying scores.

### **Section 7.5.3**

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion may choose to swear fealty, receive the protection of the Crown, and be available to advise the Crown upon the Crown's request. The position of Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion carries an Award of Arms if the Champion is not already armigerous.

### **Section 7.5.4**

The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion may wear the medallion and/or cloak of office, to be passed on to the new champion at Twelfth Night Coronation.

### **Section 7.5.5**

During their tenure the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion, with the approval of the Minister of Arts and Sciences and the Crown, must begin at least one project for the benefit of the Kingdom, such as teach classes, organize guest lectures, demonstrate period A&S techniques, create an A&S prize challenge, contribute to the kingdom through regalia (in consultation with the Kingdom Regalia Committee) or fundraising prize(s). The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion shall assist the Minister of Arts and Sciences with the planning of any Kingdom-level arts and sciences events.

## **Section 7.6 - Golden Poppy (closed order)**

The Order of the Golden Poppy shall be closed as of March Crown AS 51. All extant members of the Order of the Golden Poppy shall retain the honors received for their achievements related that order.

## **Section 7.7 - Order of Missile Champions**

An annual Kingdom Archery Championship will be held prior to 12th Night (see Article V.1.4). Membership in the Order of Missile Champions shall be offered by the Crown to the winner of the annual Kingdom Archery Championship, who shall be invested as Kingdom Archery Champion at 12th Night Coronation. Membership in this Order carries an Award of Arms if the new member is not already armigerous.

### **Section 7.7.1**

Duties of the Kingdom Archery Champion during their year of their service shall include: running the next annual competition to find a successor with the assistance of the Kingdom Missile Marshal/Royal Archer; answering any missile-related challenge to the Crown from any

other Kingdom; offering counsel and support at Kingdom level wars; and attending the Crown as needed.

### **Section 7.7.2**

The tokens of the Kingdom Archery Champion shall be a medallion and a cloak to be passed to successive champions at 12th Night Coronation.

## **Section 7.8 - Order of the Western Prima Spada**

An annual Kingdom Rapier Championship will be held at Beltane Coronation. Membership in the Order of the Western Prima Spada shall be offered by the Crown to the winner of the annual Kingdom Rapier Championship, who shall be invested as Kingdom Rapier Champion at Beltane Coronation. Membership in this Order carries an Award of Arms if the new member is not already armigerous.

### **Section 7.8.1**

Duties of the Kingdom Rapier Champion during their year of their service shall include: running the next annual competition to find a successor with the assistance of the Kingdom Rapier Marshal, answering any rapier related challenge to the Crown from any other Kingdom, offering counsel and support at Kingdom level wars, and attending the Crown as needed.

### **Section 7.8.2**

The token of the Kingdom Rapier Champion shall be the Kingdom Rapier Champion's cloak bearing the badge of the Order, to be passed to successive Champions at Beltane Coronation. Former Champions, as members of the Order, will be given a Green and Gold Sword Knot to display attached to the hilt of their sword on formal occasions.

## **Section 7.9 - Kingdom Equestrian Champion**

An annual Kingdom Equestrian Championship will be held prior to 12th Night (see Article V Section 1.4). The winner of the annual Kingdom Equestrian Championship shall be invested as Kingdom Equestrian Champion at 12th Night Coronation. The position of Kingdom Equestrian Champion carries an Award of Arms if the Champion is not already armigerous.

### **Section 7.9.1**

Duties of the Kingdom Equestrian Champion during the year of their service shall include: running the next annual competition to find a successor with the assistance of the Kingdom Equestrian Officer, answering any Equestrian-related challenge to the Crown from any other Kingdom, offering counsel and support to the Equestrian Community, and attending the Crown as needed.

**Section 7.9.2**

The tokens of the Kingdom Equestrian Champion shall be a banner and a heraldic caparison, to be passed to successive Champions at 12th Night.

**Section 7.10 Augmentations of Arms**

Augmentations of Arms are given at the discretion of the Crown for whatever reason the Crown may so desire. They are an addition to the Arms of the recipient, the form of which is determined after consultation with the College of Arms. The Augmentation of Arms carries an Award of Arms if the recipient does not already hold such.

**Section 8 - Non-Armigerous Orders**

In addition to the armigerous Orders, the Crown may create orders which do not in themselves convey the right to bear arms. At present, these include the Queen's Order of Grace, the Order of the Queen's Cypher, the Order of Valor, Knight Banneret, Defender of the West, Pillar of the West, the Order of the King's Lance, the Order of the Queen's Arrow, the Order of the Silver Mantle, Royal Page of the West, the Order of the Golden Acorn, the Western Roll of Honor, the Wreath of Valor, the Wreath of Chivalry, the Muckin' Great Clubbe, the Old Battered Helm, the WKPM (West Kingdom Paragons of Merriment), the Order of the Noble Manor, the Order of the Queen's Treasure, Commendabilis, the Order of the Silver Nib, Western Hero, the Order of the Wooden Spoon, the Order of the Pied d'Argent, the Queen's Order of Maintenance, the Crown's Favor, and the Order of the Western Centurion.

**Section 8.1 Queen's Order of Grace**

The Queen's Order of Grace is offered by the Queen to individuals She regards as having displayed great courtesy and chivalry.

**Section 8.2 Queen's Cypher**

The Order of the Queen's Cypher is offered by the Queen to individuals who have helped Her personally during Her reign.

**Section 8.3 Order of Valor**

The Order of Valor is offered by the Crown for those fighters who have made noteworthy contribution to the Kingdom in war, especially in leading war units.

**Section 8.4 Knight Banneret**

Knight Banneret is given by the Crown to those members of the Chivalry who have given continuing outstanding support to the Crown in battle.

### **Section 8.5 Defender of the West**

Defender of the West is given by the Crown to those who have supported the army of the West in any significant manner.

### **Section 8.6 Pillar of the West**

Pillar of the West is given by the Crown to groups, such as households, who have as a group made noteworthy contribution to the Kingdom.

### **Section 8.7 Order of the King's Lance**

The Order of the King's Lance is given by the Crown to those who have shown excellence in and continued support of the equestrian arts.

#### **Section 8.7.1**

The duties of the members of this Order are to advise the Minister of Equestrian Arts and to conduct research into aspects of medieval equestrian arts.

#### **Section 8.7.2**

The token of this order shall be a small silver lance suspended on a ribbon.

### **Section 8.8 Order of the Queen's Arrow**

The Order of the Queen's Arrow is given by the Crown to those who have shown excellence in and continued support of target archery.

#### **Section 8.8.1**

The duties of the members of this Order are to advise the Royal Archer and to conduct research into all aspects of medieval archery.

#### **Section 8.8.2**

The token of this order shall be a small arrow suspended on a ribbon.

### **Section 8.9 Silver Mantle**

The Order of the Silver Mantle is given by the Crown to those participants in the martial disciplines, such as armored combat, combat archery, rapier, and equestrian combat, whose harness and equipment is of exceptional beauty.

### **Section 8.10 Royal Page of the West**

The title Royal Page of the West is given by the Crown to those children who have demonstrated exceptional courtesy and given of their service or talents to benefit the Kingdom.

**Section 8.11 Golden Acorn**

The Order of the Golden Acorn is given by the Crown to those who have given willingly and generously of their time and abilities for the sake of the children.

**Section 8.12 Western Roll of Honor**

The Western Roll of Honor is given by the Crown to those individuals who by their actions have inspired the populace or have substantially enriched the realm. Their name is added to the Western Roll of Honor, a scroll listing the name, date, and deed for which they are being recognized. The token given is a heater-shaped medallion with the Western demi-sun above a rolled scroll.

**Section 8.13 Wreath of Valor**

The Wreath of Valor is given by the Crown at Crown Tournaments to the fighter whose valor on the field has proved most worthy to Their Majesties.

**Section 8.14 Wreath of Chivalry**

The Wreath of Chivalry is given by the Crown at Crown Tournaments to the fighter whose Chivalry throughout the tournament has proved most worthy to Their Majesties.

**Section 8.15 The Muckin' Great Clubbe**

The Muckin' Great Clubbe is given at Crown Tournaments for ferocity upon the field. The recipient of the Muckin' Great Clubbe is chosen by the current holder. The new member is presented with the Clubbe and is charged with choosing the next holder and with attempting to rub a pound of wax into the Clubbe.

**Section 8.16 The Old Battered Helm**

The Old Battered Helm is given at Crown Tournaments to a fighter who dies gloriously upon the field. The recipient of the Old Battered Helm is chosen by the current holder. The new member is presented with the Helm, and is charged with choosing the next holder and marking the helm with a battering from a live weapon.

**Section 8.17 Paragons of Merriment**

The West Kingdom Paragons of Merriment (WKPM) is given at the discretion of the Crown to those individuals who help create and support period entertainment and activities for the enjoyment of the populace of the kingdom. In particular those whose efforts enhance the festivities and evening revels through dance, music, performance arts, and any other social activity may prove worthy for this honor. The token for this honor shall be a ribbon of festive colors with a leather roundel stamped with the initials of the award.

### **Section 8.18 Noble Manor**

The Order of the Noble Manor will be given once per year at June Crown to those individuals whose excellent and regular efforts have created an exceptionally period and well-appointed encampment. The most recent recipient of the award will be given a banner to display, which shall be passed on each year, or may create a banner in a form that best suits their encampment. Any such banner shall incorporate kingdom colors and the silhouette of a culturally appropriate dwelling. After the year of holding the initial banner, recipients of this honor may display a personal banner as mentioned herein.

### **Section 8.19 Queen's Treasure**

The Order of the Queen's Treasure is offered by the Queen to those who, by their consistent efforts in creating various excellent works and providing such items to the Crown to use as gifts to others, greatly contribute to the Crown's ability to show largesse. The token for this award shall be a treasure chest depending from a ribbon of kingdom colors.

### **Section 8.20 Commendabilis Regni Occidentalis**

The title Commendabilis is given by the Crown to both the fighter who was vanquished in the final round of the Crown Lists and their consort. It is given in recognition of all the combatants who fought with honor and chivalry in the Lists and those who inspired them. The ceremony names those so recognized as Commendabilis Regni Occidentalis. The token given is a pendant in the shape of an oak leaf.

### **Section 8.21 Silver Nib**

The Order of the Silver Nib is given by the Crown to scribes of the Kingdom for both the excellence of their scribal work and the quantity of scrolls they have produced. The token given is a silver pen nib on a black and gold braided ribbon.

### **Section 8.22 Western Hero**

The Western Hero is granted by the Crown to those few fighters whose actions in war have transcended that of their fellow combatants by displaying indomitable spirit and honor on the field of battle. Those so honored will have their name, the date and field of battle, and the act(s) that earned them recognition inscribed on a Scroll of Honor with all others who have been so recognized to be immortalized for all time. There is no token given for this award.

### **Section 8.23 Wooden Spoon**

The Order of the Wooden Spoon is given by the Crown to winners of the Kingdom cooking competitions. The token given is a wooden spoon dependent from a ribbon. An individual may receive this award and token multiple times.

**Section 8.24 Pied d'Argent**

The Order of the Pied d'Argent is given by the Crown to winners of the Kingdom dance competitions. The token given is a small pendant or pin of a silver dance slipper.

**Section 8.25 Queen's Order of Maintenance**

The Queen's Order of Maintenance is given to the individual (or, rarely, individuals) who are found by a Queen to be critical to the success of Her reign. They are given a token which includes a teardrop as a part of the design.

**Section 8.26 Crown's Favor**

The Crown's Favor is given to those individuals who, by their actions, have assisted Their Majesties in a significant fashion. They are given a token carrying the depiction of the King's Crown on one side and the Queen's Crown on the other.

**Section 8.27 Western Centurion**

The Order of the Western Centurion is given to those fighters who, by their actions and leadership, substantially contribute to the Kingdom's war effort.

**Section 8.27.1**

The token of this order will be a pendant in the form of a silver shield.

**Section 8.27.2**

Members of this order shall have the right to carry a centurion's swagger stick appropriate to their culture.

**Section 8.27.3 First Spear Centurion**

Members of this order who continue to display these leadership skills may be designated First Spear Centurion. The person so designated shall hold that position until a new First Spear Centurion is named by the Crown.

**Section 8.27.4**

Those members of the Order named as First Spear Centurions shall have the right to mark their tokens with a spear for each instance they serve as First Spear Centurion.



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## **Section 8.28 - Order of the Wreath of Athena**

### **Section 8.28.1**

At every Crown Tournament event, individual artisans will be invited to display their Arts and Sciences projects; these projects need not be completed nor need they be accompanied by documentation. This display, hosted by the Minister of Arts and Sciences, represents the work of populace members who are practicing the Arts and Sciences to the best of their ability.

### **Section 8.28.2**

The Minister of Arts and Sciences will facilitate a popular polling format wherein each member of the populace votes on their favorite item in the display, i.e. each member of the populace selects the item that they like the best without executing a judging sheet or making comments.

### **Section 8.28.3**

The individual who prevails, as well as the artisans responsible for the next two highest placing displayed pieces, shall be called into court to display their work and to receive three cheers.

### **Section 8.28.4**

The individual who prevails is given the "Wreath of Athena" which is a rosemary wreath decorated with purple and yellow ribbons, i.e. the colors of the Arts and Sciences Office. The victor of this popular polling will then be allowed to wear this wreath for the duration of the event and this honor will be recorded in the awards list.

## **Section 9 - Honors**

Honors are positions that last only for the duration of a reign. These include the Queen's Champion, the Queen's Guard, and the King's Huscarls.

### **Section 9.1 Queen's Champion**

The Queen's Champion is selected solely at the discretion of the Queen to champion Her Honor. The Champion is given a leather baldric to wear on which the Queen's Arms are displayed.

### **Section 9.2 Queen's Guard**

The Queen's Guard is offered to individuals selected solely at the discretion of the Queen. Members of the Queen's Guard are given a red leather baldric to wear on which the Queen's Arms are displayed.

### **Section 9.3 King's Huscarls**

The King's Huscarls are fighters (usually of the Chivalry, but not limited to the Chivalry) selected solely at the discretion of the King who serve as the King's house guard, specifically during time of war. The King's Huscarls may wear the badge 'Or, a crown dancetty of three voided vert surmounted by a sword gules,' to signify that they will stand between the Crown of the West and any danger that threatens it.

## **Section 10 - Principality Awards**

The right to establish non-armigerous orders and awards to be recognized solely within the borders of a Principality is hereby granted to the Coronet of each Principality.

## **Section 11 - Immigrant Arms**

The Kingdom of the West recognizes the Arms and Orders awarded by other Kingdoms of our Society. Armigers moving to the West will be placed on the Western Order of Precedence as though they had received the equivalent Western awards.

## **Section 12 - Charters and Guilds**

### **Section 12.1 - Charter for the Bard of the West**

#### **Section 12.1.1 - Purpose**

The Bard of the West is established with the goal of advancing the cause of Bardic pursuits and activities in the Kingdom at large, and for the King and Queen at Their request. The Bard of the West will focus on performing for the Crown and populace in a manner that inspires all listeners, and regales them with songs, stories, and recountings about the deeds and lives of our ancestors, as well as the happenings of Our Current Middle Ages in the Kingdom of the West. The Bard of the West will serve as a chronicler of great events, deeds, and matters of import in the Kingdom of the West through the songs and stories they will perform and record for posterity.

#### **Section 12.1.2 - Competition**

The competition for the Bard of the West will be held at Beltane Coronation. The Bard of the West shall be responsible for sponsoring and organizing the competition to determine their successor. All should be made welcome to enter the competition. The Crown and the current Bard shall judge the competition and determine the new Bard. The new Bard of the West shall be invested at June Crown and hold that position for one year.

#### **Section 12.1.3 - Restrictions**

The current Bard of the West may not enter the competition to succeed himself, and is expected to hold no other Bardic offices during their term. Should the victor of the Bard of the West competition be a current holder of another Bardic office, they shall fill out their term for that

office if the time left is less than three months. Otherwise, they will be expected to arrange a suitable replacement for their previous position. It is important to note that while there will be no rank or seniority of position for the one Bardic office over any other, the purpose of limiting the number of Bardic offices the Bard of the West may hold is to ensure that there are more bards.

#### **Section 12.1.4 - Duties of the Bard**

The Bard of the West shall present each new King and Queen with a bardic piece to honor Them at Their Coronation. The new King and Queen shall be consulted to determine when the piece should be presented, whether it will be at Court, or at a celebration feast, or some other time of the Crown's choosing.

The Bard of the West shall perform a Bardic piece for Invocation at all Crown Tournaments, at the Crown's discretion. If the Bard of the West cannot be present at a Crown Tournament or Coronation event during their term, they are expected to arrange for a Bard to perform in their stead. The Bard's selected performer shall perform either a piece written by the Bard of the West, or an original piece of their own, at the Bard's discretion.

The Bard of the West is requested to attend wars in which the Kingdom of the West is a named participant (for example: the West/An Tir war) and be ready to perform pieces appropriate to the day's activities and events. If the Bard cannot attend, they are requested to arrange for another Bard to perform in their place.

The Bard of the West is expected to foster bardic activities in the Kingdom at large, and is encouraged to work with the Principalities' Bards in that regard.

#### **Section 12.2 - Charter of the Royal Guild of Fence**

The Royal Guild of Fence and its lawful agents are empowered by their charter to manage and control all manner of things that pertain to the good ordering of the practice of the art and science of rapier combat within the Kingdom of the West, except those matters that fall under the responsibilities of the Rapier Marshalate and its processes. The charter of the Royal Guild of Fence is incorporated by reference. As this document carries the force of law, it can only be changed with the consent and signature of the Crown.

## **Article V - Events**

### **Section 1 - Scheduling**

#### **Section 1.1**

There shall be three official Crown Tournaments and three official Coronation events per year in the Kingdom. They shall be held on the weekends closest to the following dates:

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January 6 .....	Twelfth Night Coronation
March 21 .....	March Crown Tournament
May 1 .....	Beltane Coronation
June 21 .....	June Crown Tournament
August 27 .....	Purgatorio Coronation
October 15 .....	October Crown Tournament
(but may not be held on Columbus Day weekend)	

## **Section 1.2**

No Coronet tournament or Investiture may be scheduled in any Principality of the West for the same date as a Crown Tournament or Coronation.

## **Section 1.3**

The locations of the three Crown tournament events and three Coronation events shall be distributed among all regions of the Kingdom, as evenly as practical. If one of these events is to be held in Oertha or the Far West, this decision must be made 18 months preceding the event, and shall be made only after consultation with the Royal Heirs and the Great Officers, and following the receipt of an acceptable proposal for the event from a branch in those regions. The geographical placement of Crown Tournament and Coronation events should take into consideration the expected weather for that time of year in the proposed location, and the proposed sites (indoor, outdoor, or a combination) should accommodate possible extremes of heat, cold and rain/sleet/snow appropriately.

## **Section 1.4 - Scheduling of Kingdom Champions Event(s)**

The Kingdom Seneschal will coordinate with the Crown, the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion and the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Order of the Western Gold Scarf and Minister of Equestrian Arts, and the Order of Missile Champions, Kingdom Archery Champion and Royal Archer to ensure annually event (or events) are held, prior to 12th Night, featuring competitions to select the Kingdom Arts and Sciences, Equestrian, and Archery Champions.

In consultation with the Crown, this event (or events) will be held at a suitable location or locations that will permit each of these activities. (See Article IV, Section 7.8 for Western Prima Spada/Kingdom Rapier Champion).

## **Section 1.5 – Event Fees**

### **1.5.1 Event Registration Fees**

All events sponsored by an official branch of the SCA, Inc. in the Kingdom of the West may charge a reasonable event registration fee. This fee is intended to cover the costs of holding the event, including site rental and incidentals (privies, supplies, day board if offered, etc.) and other event-related expenses paid by the sponsoring official branch. Paid members of the SCA, Inc. will receive a discounted event registration cost. Fees may not be paid to any SCA event staff member as an individual, by check made payable to them, through their electronic payment account, or in cash. These fees may be paid in cash to the Constable on duty upon arrival and sign in at the gate.

### **1.5.2 Donation Events**

Official branches may choose to hold events on a “donation only” basis. The regular gate waiver must be used, and all attendees must sign in. There can be no “suggested” donation amount.

### **1.5.3 Other Event Fees**

Ancillary fees are amounts that are charged for things other than event attendance, and often are not charged to all attendees at a given event.

Ancillary fees may be charged by the site owner for accommodations or services apart from the site rental charge. These fees may include, but are not limited to: parking, RV parking/hookup, horse stabling, or cabin rental. The amount of such fees must be specified in the site contract and disclosed as part of the event copy when they apply to individual event attendees. These fees must be collected with registration fees, either as part of pre-registration or at gate, and will be paid to the site owner by the sponsoring official branch as part of event expenses.

A feast fee may be charged by the sponsoring official branch for the meal served at an event, separate from the event registration fee. Feast fees must be disclosed as part of event copy. Feast fees may be paid in cash in advance if a receipt, ticket or e-mail acknowledgement showing the amount of cash received and describing what the payment is for is given to the payor (i.e. a feast ticket that says “\$12 – Boar Hunt Feast 2016” is sufficient).

Class instructors may charge a “materials fee” for hands-on-classes. The fees may be paid directly to the instructor. These fees should be disclosed as part of event copy/class description, and must be disclosed if the fee exceeds ten dollars US (\$10).

## **Section 2 - Eligibility for the Crown Lists**

All who wish to compete in the Crown List of the Kingdom of the West, either as a fighter or a consort, must meet the following conditions:

- Competitors must have primary residence within the Kingdom of the West, or have permission from the Crown to participate.
- Competitors must be current members of the SCA, and be in compliance with the Laws of the Kingdom and the governing documents of our Society. Competitors must not have been excluded by the Crown for reasons it deems valid.
- The fighter of a competing couple must be authorized for SCA armored combat and must be in compliance with the Rules of the Lists.

## **Section 3 - Fealty**

By entering the Crown Lists, fighters and their consorts declare that they are willing and able to pledge fealty to the Crown and Kingdom of the West should they obtain victory over the field.

## **Section 4 - Intent to Reign**

All fighters and their consorts, by entering the Crown Lists or by agreeing to be fought for therein, declare that they will be available for the weekends of their Coronation, the following Crown Tournament, and the Coronation of their successor, for no one shall compete for the Crown without intending to reign should they emerge victorious.

## **Section 5 - Opponents**

Each fighter, by entering the Crown Lists, declares willingness to fight all opponents in the Lists.

## **Section 6 - Arms of Another**

No fighter may bear upon the field any Arms or device of another unless, in unusual circumstances, the Sovereign and the owner of the Arms shall personally grant a temporary exception in a specific case.

## **Section 7 - Horses**

The use of horses at events shall be governed by the Minister of Equestrian Arts subject to these rules:

Horses shall not be ridden faster than a walk within the pavilion area

Horses may only be used in combat activities that have been approved by the Society Equestrian Office

## **Section 7.1**

To participate in mounted activities, riders must conform to Society Equestrian standards. An exception to the above is given to riders undergoing training for qualification at designated equestrian events.

## **Section 8 - Pavilions**

### **Section 8.1 - Locations on the List Field**

Only pavilions of reasonably period appearance shall be erected on the List Field at Kingdom events. No pavilion or other structure erected on the List Field perimeter shall be taken down prior to closing court at any Kingdom event without the express permission of the Crown or, in Their absence, the event steward or Kingdom Seneschal. Principalities and other local groups may enforce this provision at their option.

### **Section 8.2 - Spacing**

No pavilion shall be erected closer than ten feet to the List Field perimeter (this includes guy ropes) unless a specific exemption is granted by the Crown.

### **Section 8.3 – Safety Flagging**

All guy ropes must be flagged with at least one flag visible by night.

### **Section 8.4 - Lighting**

No overly bright, unshielded gas or electric lanterns may be used outside of closed pavilions.

## **Section 9 - Firearms and Explosive Materials**

### **Section 9.1**

No non-period firearms shall be borne upon the site of any SCA event except by those required by modern law to bear such weapons or in Alaska for the use of discouraging wildlife encroachment.

### **Section 9.2**

Period firearms must not be loaded.

### **Section 9.3**

The use of explosive materials such as, but not limited to, black powder, white powder, smokeless powder, flash powder, or gunpowder is prohibited upon the site of any SCA event.

## **Section 9.4**

Flammable liquids or gases used for the purpose of a noisemaker or simulated weapons fire are prohibited at any SCA event.

## **Section 9.5**

Fireworks and noisemakers are prohibited at any SCA event.

## **Section 10 - Smoking**

Smoking is defined herein as inhaling and exhaling any burning or vaporized substance, when such action also creates smoke or vapor that enters the environment as a “second hand” breathable substance. Using a nebulizer or inhaler for a medical condition is NOT to be considered smoking under this section. Smoking is prohibited in main public areas of the event including, but not limited to, the List Field, Court, merchants row (except within a pavilion, with permission), feast halls, etc. Nothing in this article should be construed to limit smoking within private encampments that are set up on the edges of the List Field. The area between the encampment and List Field perimeter is specifically designated as off limits for smoking.

## **Article VI - Grievances**

While it is the desire of everyone in the Kingdom to work smoothly together, treat all with courtesy and respect, and trust each other to behave in a mature and responsible fashion, there are times when tensions and disputes cause members of the populace to feel unduly distressed. In these cases, the guidelines listed in the SCA, Inc. Organizational Handbook, Corpora Section X.B. Grievances, should be utilized.

## **Article VII - The Conduct of Combat**

### **Section 1 - Primacy of Rules of the Lists**

Nothing in this article shall be construed as contravening the Rules of the Lists.

### **Section 2 - Enforcement**

It is the duty of the Earl Marshal to maintain and enforce the combat standards. The Earl Marshal shall consult with and gain approval of the Crown before making any changes to the armor, weapon, or fighting standards of the Kingdom of the West. Changes to armor, weapon, or fighting standards shall have the express written approval of the Earl Marshal, who will consult with and obtain approval from the Crown, before their approval and implementation.



### **Section 3 - Injury**

In case of injury on the field of combat, no persons shall join the combatants and marshals already present, except the King, the Queen, first aid personnel (responding at the request of the Earl Marshall, Marshall in Charge, or Crown), the Earl Marshal or Marshal-in-Charge, the Lord or Lady of the injured person, the parents or legal guardian of the injured person, other individuals summoned by the Crown or attending first aid personnel.

### **Section 4 - Substances**

No person shall be allowed on the field of combat while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or any drug that impairs judgment. Smoking is not permitted at any time upon the field of combat.

### **Section 5 - People on the Field of Combat**

All persons who are on the field of combat during combat must first have signed a waiver. No person shall enter the field of combat during combat except the combatants, the officiating marshals, heralds, pages to the Office of the Lists, and others who have obtained permission from the Crown or Its representative in a specific instance.

### **Section 6 - Parry Items**

All persons in the area of combat while combat is occurring shall have with them some implement capable of blocking blows.

### **Section 7 - Malice**

Any person who deliberately attempts to injure an opponent on the field of combat shall be summarily removed from the field and the matter referred to the Crown.

### **Section 8 - Standards**

The Combat Standards Manual of the Kingdom of the West (or its successor document) is hereby incorporated into the Code of Laws of the Kingdom of the West by reference. As this document carries the force of Law, it can only be changed with the consent and signature of the Crown.

## **Section 9 - Fencing and Rapier Combat**

All period fencing and rapier activities in the Kingdom of the West will be governed by rules, standards, and practices as detailed in the West Kingdom Rapier Combat Rules and Marshallate Manual; this document (or its successor document) is included in these laws by reference. As this document carries the force of Law, it can only be changed with the consent and signature of the Crown.

## **Article VIII - Courts**

### **Section 1 - Court Types**

The Courts of the Kingdom of the West shall be the Curia Regis and such special courts as the Crown may periodically or occasionally convene. Each Court shall be concerned with those matters delegated to it by the Crown.

### **Section 2 - Curia Regis**

#### **Section 2.1**

The Curia Regis shall consist of the Sovereign and Consort, who convene the Court and preside over it, the Seneschal, and such other ministers as may be concerned with the subject of the Court, and such other persons as the Crown may desire to include at a particular meeting of the Court. Decision of the Court shall be by the Sovereign and Consort after hearing the advice of their ministers.

#### **Section 2.2**

Any subject of the Crown of the West may attend sessions of the Curia Regis and may petition the Crown upon matters relevant and appropriate.

#### **Section 2.3**

The time and place of any Curia Regis must be announced at an official Crown event and, if time permits, published in The Page before the Curia Regis can convene.

### **Section 3 - Special Courts**

Special Courts shall be composed of individuals selected by the Crown and shall be conducted as the Crown directs.

## **Section 4 - Final Decision**

When the Crown has declared a Kingdom investigation complete and the decision final, no officer may reopen the investigation save at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Society.

# **Article IX - Fealty**

## **Section 1 - Great Officers of State**

All Great Officers shall pledge fealty to the Sovereign and Consort for their office at Coronation. If a Great Officer is unable to attend Coronation, they shall send written fealty with a representative or send their fealty to the Crown prior to Coronation.

## **Section 2 - Principality Coronets**

The Coronets of the Principalities shall pledge fealty to the Sovereign and Consort for their Principality at Coronation. If the Coronet is unable to attend Coronation, They shall send written fealty with a representative or send Their fealty to the Crown prior to Coronation.

## **Section 3 - Territorial Barons and Baronesses**

Each territorial Baron and Baroness shall pledge fealty to the Sovereign and Consort for their Barony at Coronation. If the Baron and Baroness are unable to attend Coronation, they shall send written fealty with a representative or send their fealty to the Crown prior to Coronation. Territorial Barons and Baronesses residing within a Principality may, if they choose, offer their fealty to the current Sovereign and Consort, through the Coronet as the Crown's representative. The Coronet shall convey these fealties to the Crown.

## **Section 4 - Peers**

All peers of the West have the right to offer fealty to the Sovereign and Consort. If they are unable to do so in person, they may, if they chose, offer their fealty to the Sovereign and Consort through the Baron and/or Baroness or Coronet of the territory in which they reside as the Crown's representative.

### **Section 4.1**

All peers residing in a Principality have the right to offer fealty to the Coronet of that Principality, saving only their fealty to the Crown of the West.

## **Section 5 - Other Cases**

No subject of the West shall be required to pledge fealty to any branch below the level of a Principality, nor to any individual save the Crown of the West or the Coronets of the Principalities.

## **Section 6 - Violation of Fealty**

No statement that suggests or advocates violation of fealty to a Principality or to the Kingdom shall be used by any person, group, or entity in the West. Fighters advocating such violations shall at once be forbidden to participate in any Society combat. Officers advocating such violations shall at once be suspended from office. If an entire branch advocates such violations, it shall be suspended. The above suspensions and restrictions shall remain until they have been considered in Curia by the Crown or Its appointed representatives, at which point the suspensions shall be lifted or confirmed. At the same occasion, other penalties may be assessed, if such is the pleasure of the Crown. Any restriction, suspensions, or other penalties assessed will be forwarded by the Crown to the Board of Directors of the Society, if necessary, to ensure their enforcement.