

WK Equestrian Marshal Authorization Process and Sample Questions

(last updated: 3/19/2014)

An Equestrian Marshal-in-Training must have the knowledge, skills and good judgment to become an effective Equestrian Marshal. Typically a MIT will shadow experienced EQMs and observe a variety of marshalling situations and assist in common tasks such as equipment inspections, monitoring riders and running activities. In the course of training, the marshal conducting the training should discuss the following or similar questions with the MIT. The marshal conducting the training will report to the KEO on how it went. Senior Marshals should encourage Marshals to shadow authorizations as training to become an SM.

All marshal candidates must be paid members of the SCA at the time of their authorization. In order to function as a marshal at an event or practice, a marshal must have a current SCA membership card.

A candidate will have read and be able to apply the rules in the Society Equestrian Handbook as well as West Kingdom conventions and policies. He/she should be able to answer questions about the rules with the book in hand.

- Q: Have you read the Equestrian Handbook?
- Q: Is there anything in the rules you have questions about?
- Q: What is your primary responsibility as an Equestrian Marshal?

Candidates must be able to enforce these rules in a balanced and fair manner.

- Q: When inspecting weapons or armor, what do you do if confronted with equipment or armor for which you question the legality?
- Q: How should you handle a rider that is becoming agitated?
- Q: When should a verbal warning be issued?

The candidate will have a working knowledge of weapons and equipment used in equestrian activities and is able to inspect them.

- Q: Can you use brittle materials in mounted games?
- Q: What bow poundage is permitted in Mounted Archery?
- Q: What are the minimum armor standards for Foam Tip Jousting? Crest Combat? Heavy Mounted Combat?

A candidate will demonstrate the ability to recognize when a rider is in control of a horse.

- Q: Name three signs that a horse might be agitated.
- Q: If a horse is agitated and becoming difficult to control, how should a weapon or shield be safely discarded?
- Q: How much space should you leave between your horse and another horse? And someone on the ground?

Demonstrate awareness of the risks inherent to equestrian activities.

- Q: How far can a horse kick?
- Q: What can happen if a horse is surprised?
- Q: What do you do with a loose horse in an arena? In the barns? On the Eric?
- Q: Should the EqMIC be told about all falls?

Demonstrate the ability to safely control SCA equestrian activities to minimize those risks.

- Q: When should a “hold” be called on the equestrian field?
- Q: What style of blow is used when striking with a short weapon?
- Q: How should a long weapon be carried when not aiming at a target?
- Q: What does “couching” mean?
- Q: Is thrusting permitted in Crest or Mounted Combat?

Marshal Levels

Marshals-in-Training and Ground Crew:

- Everyone
- No need to roster or be a paid member.

Marshal:

- Must have a good familiarity with the rules (e.g., the ability to set up common EQ activities with the rulebook in hand).
- Must have the ability to inspect weapons and armor to the published standard.
- Must have sufficient horse knowledge to prevent common problems and handle common emergencies.
- Must be capable of running activities safely.
- Must have the knowledge, skills, and ability to fill out event paperwork.
- May serve as an Equestrian Marshal in Charge (EqMIC).
- Must have sufficient horse knowledge to handle unusual problems and emergencies.

Senior :

- May authorize for any equestrian activity for which they themselves are authorized, including Marshals.
- Must have the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete and return authorization paperwork.
- Senior marshals receive their authorization from the KEO and serve at his or her pleasure.