



*Middle Kingdom*  
*Boke Of*  
*Ceremonies*

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## **Introduction to the Boke of Ceremonies**

Edward Dragon revised the 2003 edition in May 2016 just before I stepped up as Dragon. It soon was discovered that some things were missed and I published a revision in June 2016. I thought it was done. Then the Crown brought me a couple of other changes that needed to be made and it came to my realization that this must be a living document. I have added a summary of changes in an appendix and that will capture changes from the last revision. Often when a change is made all you will need to do is replace a page or three.

Meister Konrad Mailander



## **Basic Introduction/Procession**

**Oyez! Oyez! All rise and make way for Their Most Royal Majesties of the Middle Kingdom, <Name>, King by right of arms, and <Name>, Our Queen.**

*And if the Tanist and Consort are present:*

**And make way for Their Royal Highnesses, <Name> and <Name>, Heirs to the Dragon Throne.**

## **Boasting for the Crown**

Boasts for the Crown are not as hard to do as it may seem. There are several examples included in this article and suggestions for making your own boasts.

Here are some guidelines on boasting for the Middle Kingdom Crown.

- Not all Royals like to be announced into Court with elaborate statements, and some have specific things or titles that they want included. **ALWAYS ASK.** You can either ask one of the Royal Attendants or the Crown during preparation for Court. While the Crown may smile and say that They are sure you will come up with something nice, read the entire opening statement to the Crown before Court, if possible. It is YOUR job to make the Crown look good.
- If you have the Prince and Princess at the event as well as the King and Queen, it is best to either boast everyone or no one. Usually, it is the King's choice.
- If you have lots of the Royal Family in attendance, it is traditional to announce the King and Queen, then Their Heirs, then the Prince and Princess of a Principality, (oldest Principality first), then Their Heirs.
- After Court is opened, you can then invite in the Royalty of any other Kingdoms, then the local Baron and Baroness. While it is traditional to open Court and then invite in outside Royalty, you may invite Them in with our Crown, in the interest of time, if everyone agrees to this. Below is an example of how this can be done.
- If you have only one Royal at the event, be sure to mention the other in the boast. For example, "King Strong, who is inspired by Queen Beautiful," or "Queen by the prowess of King Strong."
- If you are at an out-of-Kingdom event, be sure to ask the Herald of the other Royalty if they will be boasting or not. Generally, everyone will use the format chosen by the hosting King.
- Wars, in particular, almost always have long and elaborate boasting for everyone, so it is best to be prepared.
- Making up your own boast is fine, as long as you check with the Crown ahead of time. If you want to say something that you think is funny, be sure to verify it with both Royals. (Just because you think that it is funny, does not mean the Crown will find it so.)
- Write down every word that you are going to say before Court, and practice saying it.

- Feel free to stand either in a hallway or outside to say it all out loud. It does not really matter if anyone walks by and hears you; after all, boasts are not State Secrets.
- Stumbling or mumbling during an entrance does not make the Crown look good.

Coming up with a boast does not have to be painful. There are some qualities that apply to ALL Kings and Queens. If you know the Royals, you can mention things that are important to Them, for example, “dexterous with a needle,” or “skillful with a bow.” You can occasionally note physical characteristics, too, such as “flame-colored hair” or “tall of stature.” If you are not sure, it is best to go with a more standard boast. Do not feel that you have to limit yourself to what is usually done, or what is suggested here. Our Royalty is a wonderful part of our Society, and you can express your creativity in Court, too.

It is common to use alternate titles for the Crown if you are at a themed event, such as using Sultan and Sultana at a Middle Eastern event.

*Alternate titles:*

Rex and Regina  
 Sultan and Sultana  
 Czar and Czarina  
 Overlord and Overlady  
 Rulers  
 Kings  
 Monarchs  
 Leaders

*Words that apply to all Kings:*

Strong of Arm  
 Shield of the Weak  
 Champion of the Right and the Good  
 Brave  
 Just  
 Mighty  
 Courageous  
 Valiant

*Words that apply to all Queens:*

Courteous  
 Noble  
 Worthy  
 Beautiful  
 Inspiring  
 Patroness of the Arts and Sciences

*Alternate beginnings:*

All hail

All rise and bow your heads with respect

Rise to your feet, good gentles

Look with awe, people of the Midrealm

*Below are some examples of opening boasts.*

All rise for Their Royal Majesties, Strong and Beautiful, King and Queen of the glorious Middle Kingdom. He who is valiant, brave and just, and She who is an inspiration not only to our King, but to the whole Known World.

All rise for Strong and Beautiful, Rex and Regina of Constellation, Rulers of the Midlands, Monarchs of Oaken, Leaders of Pentamere, King and Queen of the glorious and far-reaching Middle Kingdom.

Oyez! Oyez! All rise for Their Majesties, Strong and Beautiful (or Gracious), King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and for Their Highnesses, Swift and Lovely, Heirs to the Dragon Throne. Also pay heed to Just and Noble, Baron and Baroness of This Place. All shall also show respect to Their Majesties' invited guests, Gallant and Inspiration, King and Queen of the Far Kingdom.



*CORONATION AND INVESTITURE CEREMONIES*



## Coronation of the King and Queen

Herald: **Oyez! Oyez! All rise for Their Royal Majesties, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, His Queen.**

*At the end of Their Royal Majesties' last court, the Herald shall say:*

Herald: **Be there any others with business before the Crown?**

*At this, the Tanist shall come forward with entourage.*

King: **Who comes armed into our presence?**

Tanist: **<<Name>>, Tanist of the Middle Kingdom.**

King: **What is it you seek at Our hand? If it is yours by right, by the Laws of the Society and the customs of Our Kingdom, then it is yours.**

Tanist: **I have come to claim that which is mine by right, Your Crown and Your Throne.**

King: **Who will take oath and bear witness that this is, indeed, the Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, victor in Our Crown Tournament, in accordance with the Laws of the Society and the customs of the Middle Kingdom?**

*Three Great Officers, or those who have been chosen by the Tanist shall step forward and say:*

**I, Lord/Lady <<Name>>, affirm that this is indeed <<Name>>, Champion of the Crown Tournament and rightful Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, and thereto do I pledge my word.**

*The King then turns to the Tanist and says:*

King: **Kneel and learn the duties of a King.**

**This is what it means to be a King: a King is not an all-powerful Sovereign; a King is given the duty to govern.**

**A King must bear the heaviest burdens and strike the mightiest blows, ever to be foremost in the boldest battle and last in the most desperate retreat.**

**A King has no right to the common joys of living, no freedom to indulge personal interests, tastes, and biases.**

**A King is a sacrifice to the common people, one who lives to serve by ruling, protecting the Kingdom by disciplining all private inclinations and sentiments, submitting Himself to absolute objectivity and justice.**

**And, in the time of famine or leanness, as must come from time to time in every land, He must wear the finest raiment and laugh the heartiest at the lightest board of any in all the Kingdom.**

**A King must place the people's needs before all else.**

**To be King is to respect all manner of things that any people hold dear, even though the King may not.**

**Do you still desire the Crown of the Middle Kingdom?**

Tanist: **I do.**

King: **Then take the oath of Kingship.**

*The Tanist shall rise, and the King shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Tanist repeating it.*

**I, <<Name>>,**

**Promise to rule over the Middle Kingdom**

**In accordance with the Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism  
And the customs of the Kingdom,**

**To the best of My ability, as King and Liege Lord,  
Dealing justly with great and small**

**To the benefit of the Kingdom and the Society,  
In good times and in bad,**

**Until My heir rightfully succeeds to the throne,  
'Til Death takes Me,**

**Or 'til the world ends.**

King: **Swear it.**

Tanist: **I swear it to the King of the Middle Kingdom.**

King: **Swear it to the Great Lords and Ladies of the Realm.**

Tanist: **I swear it.**

King: **Swear it to the people!**

Tanist: **I swear it!**

*Then the King shall rise and take the Crown from his head, and the Tanist shall kneel, and the King shall place the Crown upon his head.*

*As the new King rises, the former King shall say:*

Former King: **People of the Middle Kingdom, behold your King!**

Herald: **All hail the King!**

Queen: **Has Your Majesty a lady to reign over us as Queen of Love and Beauty?**

New King: **We have. Call forth Her Royal Highness.**

Herald: **His Royal Majesty calls forth <<Name>>, Crown Princess of the Middle Kingdom.**

*The Princess shall approach the throne with attendants.*

New King: **My Lady, will you accept the Crown of the Middle Kingdom?**

Consort: **I will.**

Queen: **Then kneel and learn the duties of the Crown.**

**This is what it means to be a Queen: the Queen bears also the Crown of the Middle Kingdom, and is given the duties of the Crown.**

**A Queen must ever stand with dignity and grace beneath the burden of the Crown.**

**She must lay aside the privileges of personal choice and bias, and place the good of the Kingdom above all else; be a sacrifice to the common people, and live to serve the Kingdom.**

**She must join their hand to the King's, and, with a sure touch, rule the Kingdom with him.**

**And in times of famine or leanness, as must come from time to time in every land, She must stand fair for all to see, and sit the Throne with grace, for the inspiration of all who stand before Her.**

**The burdens of the Crown cannot be given away or shared, but must be borne by the King and Queen.**

**Do you still desire the Crown and the Throne of the Middle Kingdom?**

Crown Princess/Prince: **I do.**

New King: **Then take the oath of the Queen.**

*The new King or the Queen, at the choice of the Princess, shall administer the oath, phrase by phrase, the Princess repeating it:*

**I, <<Name>>, promise to rule over the Middle Kingdom  
In accordance with the Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism  
And the customs of the Kingdom,  
To the best of My ability, as Queen of Love and Beauty,  
Dealing justly with great and small  
To the benefit of the Kingdom and the Society,  
In good times and in bad,  
Until My heir rightfully succeeds to the throne,  
'Til Death takes Me,  
Or 'til the world ends.**

New King: **Swear it.**

Princess: **I swear it to the King.**

New King: **Swear it to the Great Lords and Ladies of the Realm.**

Princess: **I swear it.**

New King: **Swear it to the people!**

Princess: **I swear it!**

*Then the Queen shall take the Crown from her own head and give it to the new King, who shall speak words from His heart, and then place the Crown upon the head of the new Queen.*

New King: **People of the Middle Kingdom, behold your Queen.**

Herald: **All hail the Queen!**

*When the populace has quieted, the King shall address the former monarchs, who wait to one side of the Thrones.*

King: **My Lord and Lady, you have Our thanks, and Our leave to retire.**

*The former King and Queen shall discreetly retire. The new King and Queen shall be seated upon the Thrones.*

*Their Majesties' first court shall begin.*

**NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:**

*King and Queen*

*Tanist and Crown Princess*

*Herald*

*Three Great Officers or others who will attest*

**NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:**

*Ancient and Honorable Crowns*

## Investiture of a Duke

NOTE: A Duke is not created, but rather acknowledged. He bears the title from the moment that the new Monarch is crowned. A ceremony acknowledging the new title is optional, and should be left to the choice of the new Royal Peer. It need not be done at the new King's and Queen's first court, but can be left until a day when those people whom the new Duke wishes to have participate can attend.

*The herald shall call forth the new Duke, using the title by which he has been known in the past:*

Herald: **Count <<Name>> is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.**

*His Grace the Duke shall present himself before the Throne, with three attendant Knights, bearing the Ducal sword, the banner, and the scroll of honor, and two Dukes bearing the mantle and the Ducal coronet. When all stand before the Throne, then shall the herald say:*

Herald: **From time immemorial, it has been known in this Realm that a man-at-arms fights upon the field, defeating all others in tournament, in order that he might crown his chosen lady our Queen of Love and Beauty. It is therefore fitting that those who have twice been so inspired and have twice borne the Crown, who twice reigned as King, shall be acknowledged Dukes. Then may the King ask their right valuable opinions and advice as concerns diverse matters, as they have proved themselves most knowledgeable in such things.**

**And these Dukes shall bear as their emblem a Ducal coronet, garnished with strawberry leaves and ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence. They shall be addressed as "Your Grace," and great respect shall be given them. And in the King's absence, if occasion should arise, these same Dukes are granted the privilege of bestowing knighthood, should they also be knights: for no one may make a knight who is not a knight.**

*Then shall the sword-bearer say:*

**May it please Your Majesty, Your loyal subject, the most noble <<Name>>, having by his valor, skill, and strength at arms, twice won the Crown of this Kingdom, and thus by his own ability having earned the title and estate of a Duke of this Realm, makes bold to approach you, that he may receive the royal accolade and be invested with the other dignities of this high office. And in token of his loyalty to the Crown and Throne of this Kingdom, His Grace, <<Name>>, here yields this sword into Your Majesty's keeping.**

*The sword-bearer shall step forth and give the sword into the King's hands, and the King shall place it across the arms of the Throne. The sword-bearer shall then bow and move to the other side of the herald, whereupon the King shall say:*

King:           **Noble Sirs, that the people of this, Our Realm, may know the worth of the most noble, His Grace, Duke <<Name>>, let the herald read forth the proclamation of investiture.**

*Here shall the herald read out the scroll.*

King:           **Most Noble Duke, approach the Throne.**

*After the Duke comes forth, then shall the King say:*

King:           **Let My Lord Duke be crowned with the coronet symbolizing his new estate.**

*Here, the coronet-bearer, if they be a Duke, shall place the coronet upon the head of the Duke. If the bearer be not a Duke, the King shall perform that office. Then the King shall rise, holding the sword hilt upward, and say:*

King:           **I return this sword into your keep, My Lord Duke, charging you to use it henceforth as you have heretofore, in a noble, knightly, and honorable manner.**

*And the Duke, taking the sword and girding himself with it, shall say:*

Duke:           **My Liege, upon mine honor, I pledge to do so.**

*If the Duke wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Duke shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,  
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm  
As befits one of my station.  
Thus swear I, <Name>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*Then shall the coronet-bearer, if he be a Duke, extend his right hand and take the hand of the Duke. And the remaining Dukes who are present shall perform the same office. Then, ere the person who served as his Queen approaches, the Duke and those with him shall move to the left hand of the Queen.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King  
Duke  
Herald  
Ducal entourage*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Sword  
Ducal Mantle  
Ducal Coronet  
Scroll  
Banner*

## Investiture of a Duchess

NOTE: A Duchess is not created, but rather acknowledged. She bears their title from the moment that the new monarch is crowned. A ceremony acknowledging the new title is optional, and should be left to the choice of the new Royal Peer. It need not be done at the new King's and Queen's first court, but can be left until a day when those people whom the new Duchess wishes to have participate can attend.

*The herald shall call forth the new Duchess, using the title by which she has been known in the past:*

Herald: **Countess <<Name>> is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.**

*At the time appointed, Her Grace shall present herself before the Throne, with two attendants bearing her banner and the scroll of honor, and two Duchesses bearing the mantle and the Ducal coronet.*

*When all stand before the Throne, then shall the herald say:*

Herald: **From time immemorial, it has been known in this Realm that a man-at-arms fights upon the field defeating all others in tournament, in order to have the privilege of crowning his chosen one Our Queen of Love and Beauty. It is therefore fitting that a lady whose grace has twice inspired her champion(s) to win her the Crown of this Kingdom, who has twice borne the Crown, shall be acknowledged Duchess in her own right.**

**And these Duchesses shall bear as their emblem a Ducal coronet, garnished with strawberry leaves and ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence.**

**They shall be addressed as "Your Grace," and great respect shall be given them.**

Queen: **Let the herald read forth the proclamation of investiture.**

*Here shall the herald read out the scroll.*

Queen: **Most noble Duchess, approach the Throne.**

*After the Duchess comes forth, then shall the Queen say:*

Queen: **Let My Lady Duchess be crowned with the coronet symbolizing her new estate.**

*The Queen shall here take the coronet from the hands of the coronet-bearer and either:*

**Option A:** *Place it upon the head of Her Grace, saying:*

Queen:       **As it was Our honor twice to see you wear the Crown of this Realm,  
so it is Our joy today to proclaim you a Duchess.**

**Option B:** *Hand it to the lord who made her Queen, who shall place it upon her head,  
saying:*

Lord:         **As it was my delight to win the Crown of this Realm for thee, so it is  
my joy to have created thee a Duchess.**

*If the Duchess wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the  
Duchess shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,  
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm  
As befits one of my station.  
Thus swear I, <Name>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*Then shall the Queen, or another Duchess embrace the new Duchess. And the remaining  
Duchesses who are present shall perform the same office. After this has been done, the  
attendants of Her Grace and her lord shall bow low before the Crown and, reforming  
their procession, exit.*

**NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:**

*Queen  
Herald  
Ducal entourage  
Duchess's Lord*

**NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:**

*Ducal Mantle  
Ducal Coronet  
Scroll  
Banner*

## Investiture of a Count

NOTE: A Count is not created, but rather acknowledged. He bears the title from the moment that the new Monarch is crowned. A ceremony acknowledging the new title is optional, and should be left to the choice of the new Royal Peer. It need not be done at the new King's and Queen's first court, but can be left until a day when those people whom the new Count wishes to have participate can attend.

*The herald shall call forth the new Count, using the title by which he has been known in the past:*

Herald:     **Sir/Lord <<Name>> is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.**

*His Excellency shall present himself before the Throne with a procession that should include His Excellency's banner, borne by a goodly knight, his coronet, borne by a Count by Right of Arms, and the scroll of honor, acknowledging him as a Count, borne by another goodly knight. A respectful distance from the Throne, the procession shall halt, bow before Their Majesties, and then shall the herald say:*

Herald:     **From the first days of the Midrealm unto this day, it has been known in this Kingdom that a man-at-arms fights upon the field, defeating all others in tournament, in order that he might crown his chosen lady our Queen of Love and Beauty. It is therefore fitting that one who has been so inspired and has borne the weight of the Crown, who has ruled these lands as King, shall be acknowledged Count.**

**And these Counts shall bear as their emblem a coronet, embattled of gold, ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence. They shall be addressed as "Your Excellency," and great respect shall be given them.**

King:       **Good Gentles, that the people of this, Our Realm, may know the worth of the most noble, His Excellency, Count <<Name>>, let the herald read forth the proclamation of his new estate.**

*Here shall the herald read out the scroll.*

King:       **Most noble Count, approach the Throne. Let my Lord Count be crowned with the coronet symbolizing his new estate.**

*And the King shall here take the coronet from the hands of the coronet-bearer and place it upon the head of His Excellency, saying:*

King:       **As it was Our honor to see you wear the Crown of this Realm, so it is Our privilege today to acknowledge you Count. Bear this coronet, Lord Count, as you have borne the Crown of the Midrealm, with nobility and honor.**

Count: **Your Majesty, upon mine honor, I pledge to do so.**

*If the Count wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Count shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,  
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm  
As befits one of my station.  
Thus swear I, <Name>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*And the Count shall move to the left of the Queen, and his escort shall move to the far left and right, to admit the procession of the consort and their attendants.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King  
Count  
Herald  
His entourage (if desired)*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Coronet  
Scroll  
Banner*

## Investiture of a Countess

NOTE: A Countess is not created, but rather acknowledged. She bears the title from the moment that the new Monarch is crowned. A ceremony acknowledging the new title is optional, and should be left to the choice of the new Royal Peer. It need not be done at the new King's and Queen's first court, but can be left until a day when those people whom the new Countess wishes to have participate can attend.

*The herald shall call forth the new Countess, using the title by which she has been known in the past:*

Herald:       **Lady <<Name>> is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.**

*Her Excellency the Countess shall present herself before the Throne, with attendants bearing the Countess's banner and the scroll of honor, and a Countess bearing the County coronet. At a respectful distance from the Throne, the procession shall halt, bow before Their Majesties, and then shall the herald say:*

Herald:       **From the first days of the Midrealm unto this day, it has been known in this Kingdom that a man-at-arms fights upon the field, defeating all others in tournament, in order to have the privilege of crowning his chosen lady our Queen of Love and Beauty. It is therefore fitting that one who has inspired such valor and has borne the Crown with such grace and courtesy shall be acknowledged a Countess. And these Countesses shall bear as their emblem a coronet embattled of gold, ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence. They shall be addressed as "Your Excellency," and great respect shall be given them.**

Queen:       **Good Gentles, that the people of this, Our Realm, may know the worth of the most noble, Her Excellency, Countess <<Name>>, let the herald read forth the proclamation of her new estate.**

*Here shall the herald read out the scroll.*

Queen:       **Most noble Countess, approach the Throne. Let my Lady Countess be crowned with the coronet symbolizing her new estate.**

*The Queen shall here take the coronet from the hands of the coronet-bearer and either:*

**Option A:** *Place it upon the head of Her Excellency, saying:*

Queen:       **As it was Our honor to see you wear the Crown of this Realm, so it is Our joy today to proclaim you a Countess.**

**Option B:** *Hand it to the lord who made her Queen, who shall place it upon her head, saying:*

Lord:           **As it was my delight to win the Crown of this Realm for thee, so it is my joy to have created thee a Countess.**

*If the Countess wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Countess shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,  
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm  
As befits one of my station.  
Thus swear I, <Name>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*After this has been done, those who stand before the Throne bow and retire from before Their Majesties in good order.*

**NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:**

*Queen  
Countess  
Herald  
Countess's lord  
Her entourage (if desired)*

**NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:**

*Coronet  
Scroll  
Banner*

## Creation of a Lady of the Rose

Herald: **Countess/Duchess <<Name>> is called before this Court of Their Royal Majesties.**

*Countess/Duchess approaches accompanied by Ladies of the Rose.*

Queen: **The Rose stands as a symbol of our Queen of Love and Beauty, one who has set an example of courteous and noble behavior; she has supported the aims and ideals of the Society, and has consistently shown respect for the Crown of the Middle Kingdom. She has willingly shared her knowledge and hospitality with others. Receive this rose, My Lady Countess/Duchess <<Name>>, as a symbol of your graceful service to this Kingdom.**

*Herald reads scroll.*

*The Ladies of the Rose may also choose to offer flowers, a medallion and a lineage cloak.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*Queen*

*Countess/Duchess*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Rose (real)*

*Rose medallion (if available)*

*Rose Lineage Cloak (if available)*

*OATHS OF FEALTY & LOYALTY*



### **Oath of Fealty for Royal Prince/Princess**

*The herald shall say and the Prince and Princess shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To loyally serve this Kingdom and its Crown,  
Giving wise counsel according to my knowledge and abilities.  
Thus swear I, Prince <<Name>> /Princess <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

### **Oath of Fealty for a Territorial Prince/Princess**

*The herald shall say, and the Prince and Princess shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To hold the Principality of <<Place Name>> in fief from the Crown,  
To loyally uphold and enforce your laws in those lands,  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, Prince <<Name>>/Princess <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## Oath of Fealty for Great Officers of State

*The herald shall say, and the Great Officers shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To well and loyally administer my Office  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>, Lord/Lady <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## Oath of Fealty for Royal Peers

*The herald shall say, and the Royal Peer shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,  
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm  
As befits one of my station.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## Oath of Fealty for a Territorial Baron/Baroness

*Then the herald shall say, and the Barons and Baronesses shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To hold the Barony of <<Name>> in fief from the Crown,  
To loyally uphold and enforce Your laws in those lands,  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, Lord/Lady <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice)  
(And Our thanks for keeping Our lands so well).**

## Oath of Fealty for the Chivalry

*The herald shall say, and the Knight shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.  
To ever be a good knight and true,  
Reverent and generous,  
Shield of the weak,  
Obedient to my liege-lord,  
Foremost in battle,  
Courteous at all times,  
Champion of the right and the good.  
Thus swear I, Sir <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget:  
To be your liege-lord,  
Rewarding fealty with love,  
Valor with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## Oath of Fealty for Laurels

*The herald shall say, and the Laurel shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever enrich the Crown  
With my talents and abilities,  
To promote the diverse arts and sciences,  
To continue the instruction of my dependents,  
To increase the glory of the Middle Kingdom,  
And to be worthy of the wreath I wear.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## Oath of Fealty for Pelicans

*The herald shall say, and the Pelican shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.  
To serve the Crown in all things,  
To remember courtesy and kindness,  
To prize justice above personal gain,  
To labor for the common good,  
To enrich the Kingdom and the Society  
So they may flourish and grow,  
And to be worthy of the title of Pelican.  
Here by my honor, my hand  
And my heart swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

### Oath of Fealty for Defence

*The herald shall say, and the people who have come forth shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever stand in its defense,  
Facing my foes with courage and honor,  
Protecting the Innocent,  
Mindful of mercy,  
Obedient to my Liege Lord,  
Guardian of the just and right,  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

### Oath of Fealty for the Populace

*The herald shall say, and the people who have come forth shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To uphold the laws and customs of the Midrealm,  
And to serve where serve I might,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

## **Oath of Fealty for Lesser Officers and Deputies**

**I here swear fealty and service**

**To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:**

**To well and loyally administer the Office of <<Office Name>>**

**And give wise counsel to the Crown, and my Superior,**

**According to my knowledge and ability.**

**Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

## **Oath of Loyalty for the Red Company**

**We here pledge service to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom  
To show leadership upon the field of battle,  
To train others in the skills of combat,  
And to support our Liege.  
Thus we pledge our swords and service.**

## **Oath of Loyalty for the Greenwood Company**

**We here pledge service to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom  
To show leadership upon the archery and thrown fields,  
To train others in the skills of the range,  
And to support our Liege Lord.  
Thus we pledge our bows and blades.**

## **Oath of Loyalty for the Bronze Ring**

**I hear swear service to protect the Dragon Throne,  
And all Her diverse lands and holdings,  
To be the steel before her foes,  
To defend those in rightful need,  
Generous in my knowledge,  
Courteous in my doings,  
Honest in my tongue,  
And first into the fray,  
In service to Kingdom and Crown.**

## **Response for Oaths of Loyalty**

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Loyalty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*CROWN TOURNAMENT*



## Invocation of the Lists for Crown Tournament

*When all invited and privileged fighters who wish to do so have registered for the lists, and their memberships and those of their prospective consorts have been checked by the Kingdom Seneschal (as the representative of the Crown), then the herald shall present the fighters and consorts before the Crown and populace. When all are assembled the Crown shall direct the Seneschal to begin.*

Seneschal: **My Lords and Ladies, do you affirm that each of you and your prospective consorts have read and understood the Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism and the laws of the Middle Kingdom?**

*After all of the Lords and Ladies have answered "aye," the Crown shall direct the Earl Marshal to continue.*

Earl Marshal: **My Lords and Ladies, have you all read and do you understand the Rules of the Lists and the conventions of combat of the Middle Kingdom? Do you understand and do you agree to assume the possible risk of injury arising directly or indirectly out of combat-related activities?**

*After all of the Lords and Ladies have answered "aye," the Crown shall direct the herald to continue.*

Herald: **Good Gentles, you know well that the one for whom you fight is the personification of all Honor, Respect, and Truth, the living representation of that Love which is worthy of honor not only now, but in all times and in all seasons.**

**Therefore, today you fight in these lists not to gain power for yourself, nor for your own glory and honor, but for the honor and greater glory of the one whose favor you bear upon the field. By your valor, skill, and courtesy will you advance that person's honor, and the one to whom victory is given this day shall declare the name of that person for all to know, and crown that person as Royal Consort, to reign alongside after ascending the Throne of the Middle Kingdom.**

King: **You have heard the reason of Our lists. Do each of you here today have a lady or lord whose favor you advance and whom you may crown as Royal Consort, should you prove victorious upon the field?**

*After all of the Lords and Ladies have answered "aye," the Queen shall continue:*

Queen: **Then bear your favors bravely into the lists, either in victory or in honorable defeat.**

King: **Let the tournament commence.**

*Then shall the field heralds call forth the first fighters.*

### **Finals of Crown Tournament**

*After the final combatants and their consorts have been announced, the Crown shall invite the members of the Chivalry to sit around the edge of the list field. They shall also invite all former Queens to surround the Royal dais.*

#### *NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King*

*Queen*

*Kingdom Seneschal*

*Herald*

*Earl Marshal*

## Investiture of the Tanist and the Consort

King: **Call forth the victor in today's Crown Lists.**

Herald: **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, present yourselves before Their Majesties.**

*When the victor has approached and knelt before the Throne, the King shall say:*

King: **<<Name>>, by your victory in today's Crown Lists, you have shown yourself to be of high mettle and worthy of the title of Tanist, which is borne by the Crown Prince/Princess of Our Kingdom. Is it your desire to assume the title and responsibilities of Tanist, and, when the proper time should come, to rightfully succeed Us upon the Dragon Throne?**

*And the victor shall reply, if he/she is so minded:*

Victor: **It is.**

*Whereupon the King shall place the Tanist's coronet upon the victor's head. Then the King shall say:*

King: **Rise, Prince/Princess <<Name>>.**

Herald: **All hail the Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, Prince/Princess <<Name>>!**

*After the acclaim of the populace has subsided, the Queen shall address herself to the Tanist.*

Queen: **As has been known in this Realm from ancient times, the victor in the Crown Lists fights neither for his/her personal glory nor for the Crown, but for the honor of his lady/her lord. Bring forth your lady/lord, Prince/Princess <<Name>>, that she/he may be crowned as befits her/his rank.**

Tanist: **Call forth Lady/Lord <<Name>>.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth Lady/Lord <<Name>>.**

*When the lady/lord has approached and knelt before the Throne, the Tanist (may say something personal if he/she wishes, and) shall place the coronet of the Consort upon her/his head, saying:*

Tanist: **Rise, Princess/Prince <<Name>>.**

Herald: **All hail Her/His Royal Highness, Princess/Prince <<Name>>!**

*If Their Highnesses are swearing fealty, the herald shall say and the Prince and Princess shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To loyally serve this Kingdom and its Crown,  
Giving wise counsel according to my knowledge and abilities.  
Thus swear I, Prince <<Name>> /Princess <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*The Prince and Princess shall arrange themselves upon the thrones to the right and left of Their Majesties, and Their Majesties' court shall continue.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King  
Queen  
Tanist  
Consort  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Coronets*

*VIGIL CEREMONIES*



## Placing a Chivalric Candidate On Vigil

- Herald: **Their Majesties call forth Sir <<Name>>.**
- Knight: **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**
- King: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**
- Knight: **I ask that Your Majesty bestow the accolade of Knighthood upon Lord/Lady <<Name>>.**
- King: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**
- Herald: **Their Majesties call the Knights and Masters-at-Arms of the Society.**
- King: **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that <<Name>> is worthy to be numbered among Our chivalry in prowess, loyalty and courtesy?**
- Chivalry: **Aye.**
- King: **Call forth the candidate.**
- Herald: **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, stand forth and kneel before your King!**
- King: **As it is the judgment of these, your peers, that you have shown the tenets of prowess, honor, and courtesy that betoke a member of Our Order of Chivalry that we now charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart, and listen to the words of Our Peers. Then present yourself before Our Court <<date/time>>, where you will be offered the accolade of Knighthood or the baldric of Master of Arms.**
- You have Our leave to go. Please escort the candidate to his/her vigil.**

### *NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Knight/Master  
Candidate  
Order of the Chivalry  
Herald*

## Placing a Laurel Candidate On Vigil

Herald: **Their Majesties invite forth Master/Mistress <<Name>> to present himself/herself in Their Court.**

Master/Mistress: **Your Majesties, I beg a boon.**

King &/or Queen: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Master/Mistress: **I ask that Your Majesties create Lord/Lady <<Name>> a Master/Mistress of the noble Order of the Laurel.**

King &/or Queen: **Summon forth the members of Our most noble Order of the Laurel.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Laurel.**

Queen: **Masters and Mistresses, is it your judgment that Lord/ Lady <<Name>> is worthy to be numbered among the Order of the Laurel?**

Laurels: **Aye.**

Queen: **Herald, call forth the candidate.**

Herald: **Lord/ Lady <<Name>>, please present yourself before Their Majesties.**

Queen: **<<Name>>, it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of courtesy, noblesse, and service to the arts/sciences that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of the Laurel. Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart and present yourself before Our Court <<date/time>>, where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of the Laurel.**

**You have Our leave to go.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Master/Mistress of the Laurel*

*Order of the Laurel*

*Herald*

*Candidate*

## Placing a Pelican Candidate On Vigil

Herald: **Their Majesties invite forth Master/Mistress <<Name>> to present himself/herself in Their Court.**

Master/Mistress: **Your Majesties, I beg a boon.**

King &/or Queen: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Master/Mistress: **I ask that your Majesties create Lord/Lady <<Name>> a Master/Mistress of the noble Order of the Pelican.**

King/Queen: **Summon forth the members of Our most noble Order of the Pelican.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call for the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Pelican.**

King/Queen: **Masters and Mistress, is it your judgment that Lord/Lady <<Name>> is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Pelican.**

Pelicans: **Aye.**

King/Queen: **Herald, call forth the candidate.**

Herald: **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, please present yourself before Their Majesties.**

King/Queen: **<<Name>>, it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of courtesy, noblesse, and service to this, Our Kingdom, that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of the Pelican. Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart and present yourself before Our Court <<date/time>>, where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of the Pelican.**

**You have Our leave to go.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Master/Mistress of the Pelican*

*Order of the Pelican*

*Herald*

*Candidate*

## Placing a Defence Candidate On Vigil

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth Master/Mistress <<Name>>, to present himself/herself in Their Court.**

Defence: **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

Crown: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Defence: **I ask that Your Majesty create Lord/Lady <<Name>> a Master/Mistress of the noble Order of Defence.**

Crown: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of Defence.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of Defence.**

Crown: **Noble Masters and Mistresses, is it your judgment that <<Name>> is worthy to be numbered among Our Order of Defence in prowess, noblesse, service, and courtesy?**

Order: **Aye.**

Crown: **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald: **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, please present yourself before Their Majesties.**

Crown: **<<Name>>, it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of prowess, noblesse, service, and courtesy that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of Defence. Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart, and present yourself before Our Court <<date/time>>, where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of Defence.**

**You have Our leave to go.**

### *NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Master / Mistress of Defence*

*Candidate*

*Order of Defence*

*Herald*

*CREATION OF PEERS AND NOBILITY*



## Dubbing of a Knight

*The herald shall call forth a knight or master previously chosen.*

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth Sir/Master <<Name>>.**

Knight: **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

King: **Ask, and if it be within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Knight: **I ask that Your Majesty bestow the accolade of knighthood upon <<Name>>.**

*Then the King shall say to the herald:*

King: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth the Knights and Masters-at-Arms of the Society.**

*All members of the Chivalry shall approach the Throne and kneel before the King, and the King shall say:*

King: **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that <<Name>> is worthy to be numbered among Our Chivalry in prowess, loyalty, and courtesy?**

*After the assembled Chivalry answer "aye," the King shall say to the herald:*

King: **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth <<Name>>.**

*After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to <<Name>>'s nobility?**

*The chosen Royal Peer should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to <<Name>>'s skill in the arts and sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to <<Name>>'s service?**

*The chosen Pelican should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to <<Name>>'s courage and honor?**

*The chosen Master of Defence should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **<<Name>>, right mindful of your prowess on the field, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to make you knight.**

**Know that to wear the belt and chain of a knight is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of knighthood will demand your efforts every moment of your life.**

**A knight of the Society must be respectful of all religions, never offending the faith of another. A knight must respect all those who are weak or defenseless, whether because of age, infirmity, poverty, or vow, and be steadfast in defending them.**

**A knight must love his Kingdom and his province, and fulfill most faithfully his feudal duties to his baron and his King.**

**His word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. He must never flee from the face of his foes. He must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, he must be the champion of the right and the good.**

**The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a knight be prow, as you have demonstrated you are upon the field; that a knight be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these noble gentleman (and ladies) attest; and that a knight be loyal to his Kingdom and the Society.**

**Do you then desire to accept the burden of knighthood and swear fealty to the Crown?**

Candidate: **I do.**

King: **Then swear fealty and pay homage to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.**

*The herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom;  
To ever be a good knight and true,  
Reverent and generous,  
Shield of the weak,  
Obedient to my liege-lord,  
Foremost in battle,**

**Courteous at all times,  
Champion of the right and the good.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget:  
To be your liege-lord,  
rewarding fealty with love,  
Valor with honor,  
and oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*The King shall then receive the belt and shall give it into the hands of the candidate's lady/lord, saying as it is buckled about him/her:*

King: **Wear this belt in token of your prowess.**

*(If the chain has a lineage, the knight passing it on may recite it here.)*

*Then the King shall receive the chain, saying as he places it about the candidate's neck:*

King: **Wear this chain in token of your fealty.**

*If spurs are available, they may be buckled on as the King says:*

King: **Wear these spurs in outward token of your new station.**

*The King may either give a sword to the new knight and say, or simply say:*

King: **Bear your sword with strength, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and the right.**

*Then shall the King receive Oathbinder and shall strike the candidate upon the shoulders with the flat of the blade, saying:*

King: **Bear these blows and no others. Rise, Sir <<Name>>.**

**Or**, the King may, at his own choice, use these words to accompany the blows, or words of his own choice:

King: **Bear these blows and no others.  
In remembrance of oaths given and received.  
(Strikes right shoulder.)  
In remembrance of your lineage and obligations.  
(Strikes left shoulder.)  
Be thou a good knight.  
(Strikes head.)  
Rise, Sir <<Name>>.**

**Or** the King may, at his choice, use these words to accompany the blows:

King: **Bear these blows and no others. We dub thee once, twice, thrice.  
Rise, Sir <<Name>>.**

*The new knight shall rise, be greeted by the Chivalry as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, then all shall retire in good order.*

**NOTE:** If the King is not a knight himself, the accolade must be given through a knight, clasping the hand of the King about the sword, as provided in Corpora.

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Order of Chivalry*

*Royal Peer/Lady of the Rose*

*Master/Mistress of the Laurel*

*Master/Mistress of the Pelican*

*Candidate*

*Candidate's Lady/Lord*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Oathbinder*

*Belt*

*Chain*

*Spurs*

*Sword*

## Dubbing of a Master of Arms

*The herald shall call forth a knight or master previously chosen.*

Herald:     **Their Majesties call forth Sir/Master <<Name>>.**

Knight/Master:   **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

King:         **Ask, and if it be within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Knight/Master:   **I ask that Your Majesty elevate <<Name>> to the Order of Chivalry.**

*Then the King shall say to the herald:*

King:         **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**

Herald:     **Their Majesties call forth the Knights and Masters of Arms of the Society.**

*All members of the Chivalry shall approach the Throne and kneel before the King, and the King shall say:*

King:         **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that <<Name>> is worthy to be numbered among Our Chivalry in prowess, loyalty, and courtesy?**

*After the assembled Chivalry answer "aye," the King shall say to the herald:*

King:         **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald:     **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, stand forth and kneel before your King!**

*After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to <<Name>>'s nobility?**

*The chosen Royal Peer should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to <<Name>>'s skill in the arts and sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to <<Name>>'s service?**

*The chosen Pelican should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to <<Name>>'s courage and honor?**

*The chosen Master of Defence should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: <<Name>> **do you wish the accolade of knighthood or the baldric of a Master of Arms?**

Candidate: **I choose the baldric.**

Crown: <<Name>>, **right mindful of your prowess on the field, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to make you Master of Arms.**

**Know that to wear the baldric of a Master of Arms is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of the Order of Chivalry will demand your efforts every moment of your life.**

**A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must be respectful of all religions, never offending the faith of another. A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must respect all those who are weak or defenseless, whether because of age, infirmity, poverty, or vow, and be steadfast in defending them.**

**A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must love his Kingdom and his province.**

**His word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. He must never flee from the face of his foes. He must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, he must be the champion of the right and the good.**

**The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a Companion of the Order of Chivalry be prow, as you have demonstrated you are upon the field; that they be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these noble gentlemen (and Ladies) attest; and that a Companion of the Order of Chivalry be loyal to his Kingdom and the Society.**

**Do you then desire to accept the burden of the Order of Chivalry?**

Candidate: **I do.**

King: **Then according to the Laws of the Society and the traditions of this Kingdom, We offer you the title and position of Master of Arms. To be a Master is like unto being a knight, its honor neither greater nor lesser, and its responsibilities being likewise, save for that of swearing fealty to the Crown. Do you then desire to accept the burden of Masterhood?**

Candidate: **I do.**

*If the candidate cannot or does not wish to swear fealty then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Then We ask of you your promise to uphold the ideals of Chivalry.**

*The herald shall say, phrase, by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:*

**I here do promise  
To ever be a noble Master of Arms,  
Reverent and generous,  
Shield of the weak,  
Obedient to my liege-lord,  
Foremost in battle,  
Courteous at all times,  
Champion of the right and the good.  
Thus I promise, <<Name>>.**

*Or, if the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty:*

Candidate: **It is my wish to swear fealty and pay homage to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.**

*The herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom;  
To ever be a noble Master of Arms,  
Reverent and generous,  
Shield of the weak,  
Obedient to my liege-lord,  
Foremost in battle,  
Courteous at all times,  
Champion of the right and the good.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget:  
To be your liege-lord,  
rewarding fealty with love,  
Valor with honor,  
and oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

*The Crown shall then receive the baldric and shall give it into the hands of the candidate's lady/lord, saying as it is placed about him/her:*

Crown: **Wear this baldric in token of your prowess.**

*The King may either give a sword to the new Master of Arms and say, or may simply say:*

King: **Bear your sword with strength, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and right.**

*Then shall the King receive Oathbinder and shall strike the candidate upon the shoulders with the flat of the blade, saying:*

King: **Bear these blows and no others. Rise, Master <<Name>>.**

*Or, the King may, at His choice, use these words to accompany the blows, or words of His own choice:*

King:           **Bear these blows and no others.**  
*(Strikes right shoulder.)*  
                  **In remembrance of oaths given and received.**  
*(Strikes left shoulder.)*  
                  **In remembrance of your lineage and obligations.**  
*(Strikes head.)*  
                  **Be thou a good Master.**

**Rise, Master <<Name>>.**

*Or the King may, at His choice, use these words to accompany the blows:*

King:           **Bear these blows and no others. We dub thee once, twice, thrice.**  
                  **Rise, Master <<Name>>.**

*The new Master shall rise, be greeted by the Chivalry as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, then all shall retire in good order.*

**NOTE:** If the King is not a Master himself, He may wish to allow the accolade to be given through a Master, clasping the hand of the King about the sword.

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Order of Chivalry  
Royal Peer/Lady of the Rose  
Master/Mistress of the Laurel  
Master/Mistress of the Pelican  
Master/Mistress of Defence  
Candidate  
Candidate's Lord/Lady  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Oathbinder  
Baldric  
Sword*

## Creation of a Laurel

*The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of the Laurel previously chosen.*

Herald:     **Their Majesties call forth Master/Mistress <<Name>>, Master/Mistress of the Laurel.**

Laurel:     **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

Crown:     **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Laurel:     **That, for her/his skill in <<accomplishment>>, you enter <<Name>> into the most noble Order of the Laurel.**

Crown:     **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of the Laurel.**

Herald:     **Masters and Mistresses of the Laurel, present yourselves before Their Majesties.**

Crown:     **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that <<Name>>, for her/his skill in <<accomplishment>>, is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Laurel?**

*And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:*

Crown:     **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald:     **Lady/Lord <<Name>>, present yourself before Their Majesties.**

*After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:*

Crown:     **Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to <<Name>>'s nobility?**

*The chosen Royal Peer should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:     **Is there a member of the Chivalry who will attest to <<Name>>'s courtesy and chivalry?**

*The chosen Chivalry should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:     **Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to <<Name>>'s service?**

*The chosen Pelican should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to <<Name>>'s courage and honor?**

*The chosen Master of Defence should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **<<Name>> right mindful of your service to the Society and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Mistress/Master of the Laurel. As the Laurel wreath has ever stood for excellence, so do We give it to you as the symbol of the mastery of your art. Therefore, will you, <<Name>>, give us your word to continue to fulfill the requirements set forth for the governance of this Order, as you must surely have till now?**

Candidate: **I will.**

Crown: **Will you increase your labors nobly, increase your talents as befits one of your rank, and seek to disseminate your talents and abilities throughout the Society?**

Candidate: **I will.**

Crown: **Do you promise to train any dependents you may have to do likewise?**

Candidate: **I will.**

*The Crown shall then take the ribbon with the medallion of the Order depending from it and place it about the candidate's neck, saying:*

Crown: **Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your skills and your service as We have acknowledged it this day.**

*If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:*

Crown: **Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.**

*If a wreath is available, it may be placed upon the candidate's head as the Crown says:*

Crown: **Wear this wreath as a symbol of your excellence.**

*If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Laurel shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever enrich the Crown**

**With my talents and abilities,  
To promote the diverse arts and sciences,  
To continue the instruction of my dependents,  
To increase the glory of the Middle Kingdom,  
And to be worthy of the wreath I wear.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Crown: **Rise, Mistress/Master <<Name>>, Companion of the Laurel.**

*Then shall the new Laurel make thanks to the Crown, be greeted by the other Laurels as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, and all shall retire in good order.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Order of the Laurel  
Royal Peer/Lady of the Rose  
Knight/Master of the Chivalry  
Master/Mistress of the Pelican  
Master/Mistress of Defence  
Candidate  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Medallion  
(cloak)  
(wreath)*

## Creation of a Pelican

*The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of the Pelican previously chosen.*

Herald:     **Their Majesties call forth Master/Mistress <<Name>>, Master/Mistress of the Pelican.**

Pelican:    **Your Majesty, I crave a boon.**

Crown:      **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Pelican:    **That, for his/her service (as <<accomplishment>>), you enter <<Name>> into the most noble Order of the Pelican.**

Crown:      **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of the Pelican.**

Herald:     **Masters and Mistresses of the Pelican, present yourselves before Their Majesties.**

Crown:      **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that <<Name>> is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Pelican?**

*And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:*

Crown:      **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald:     **Lord/Lady <<Name>>, present yourself before Their Majesties.**

*After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:*

Crown:      **Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to <<Name>>'s nobility?**

*The chosen Royal Peer should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:      **Is there a member of the Chivalry who will attest to <<Name>>'s courtesy and chivalry?**

*The chosen Chivalry should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:      **Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to <<Name>>'s skill in the arts and sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to <<Name>>'s courage and honor?**

*The chosen Master of Defence should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **<<Name>>, right mindful of your service to the Society and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Master/Mistress of the Pelican; which creature will nourish her young, when necessary, with the blood from her own breast, and therefore has been chosen as the most appropriate symbol of service to our Society. Therefore, will you, <<Name>>, give us your word to continue to fulfill the requirements set forth for the governance of this Order, as you must surely have till now?**

Candidate: **I will.**

Crown: **Will you increase your labors nobly, increase your talents as befits one of your rank, and seek to disseminate your talents and abilities throughout the Society?**

Candidate: **I will.**

Crown: **Do you promise to train any dependents you may have to serve as you have served?**

Candidate: **I will.**

*The Crown shall then take the ribbon with the medallion of the Order depending from it and place it about the candidate's, saying:*

Crown: **Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your service as We have acknowledged it this day.**

*If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:*

Crown: **Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.**

*If a cap of maintenance is available, it may be placed upon the candidate's head as the Crown says:*

Crown: **Wear this cap of maintenance as a symbol of your service.**

*If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Pelican shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To serve the Crown in all things,  
To remember courtesy and kindness,**

**To prize justice above personal gain,  
To labor for the common good,  
To enrich the Kingdom and the Society  
So they may flourish and grow  
And to be worthy of the title of Pelican.  
Here by my honor, my hand  
and my heart swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Crown: **Rise, Master/Mistress <<Name>>, Companion of the Pelican.**

*Then shall the new Pelican make thanks to the Crown, be greeted by the other Pelicans  
as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, and then all shall retire in good order.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Order of the Pelican*

*Royal Peer/Lady of the Rose*

*Knight/Master of the Chivalry*

*Master/Mistress of the Laurel*

*Master/Mistress of Defence*

*Candidate*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Medallion*

*(cloak)*

*(cap of maintenance)*

## Creation of a Master of Defence

*The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of Defence previously chosen.*

Herald:     **Their Majesties call forth Master/Mistress <<Name>>, Master/Mistress of Defence.**

Defence:    **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

Crown:       **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Defence:    **That, for her/his prowess with rapier, you enter <<Name>> into the most noble Order of Defence.**

Crown:       **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of Defence.**

Herald:     **Masters and Mistresses of Defence, present yourselves before Their Majesties.**

Crown:       **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that <<Name>>, for her/his prowess, loyalty, and courtesy is worthy of elevation into the Order of Defence?**

*And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:*

Crown:       **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald:     **Lady/Lord <<Name>>, present yourself before Their Majesties.**

*After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to <<Name>>'s nobility?**

*The chosen Royal Peer should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **Is there a member of the Chivalry who will attest to <<Name>>'s courtesy and chivalry?**

*The chosen Chivalry should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to <<Name>>'s skill in the arts and sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to <<Name>>'s service?**

*The chosen Pelican should answer in his/her own words. Then the Crown shall say:*

Crown: **<<Name>>, right mindful of your prowess in the art of defence and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Mistress/Master of Defence.**

**Know that to wear the Collar of a Master of Defence is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of Peerage will demand your efforts every moment of your life.**

**A Master of Defence must be honorable in all things, bearing with courage all trials and tribulations.**

**A Master of Defence must love virtue above himself, being willing to sacrifice himself in its defense.**

**A Master of Defence must ever be mindful of the power of his weapon, tempering its use with mercy and forbearing unwarranted violence.**

**A Master of Defence must love his Kingdom and his province, and fulfill most faithfully his feudal duties to his baron and his King.**

**His word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. He must never flee from the face of his foes. He must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, he must be the guardian of the just and the right.**

**The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a Master possess exceptional prowess, as you have demonstrated upon the field; that a Master be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these noble gentlemen (and ladies) attest; and that a Master be loyal to his Kingdom and the Society.**

**Do you then desire to accept the burden of Peerage?**

Candidate: **I do.**

*The Crown shall then take the white livery collar or the medallion of the Order and place it about the candidate's neck so that it rests upon the breast, saying:*

Crown: **Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your skills and your service as We have acknowledged it this day.**

*The King may either give a sword to the new Master of Defence and say, or simply say:*

King: **Bear your sword with skill, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and the right.**

*If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:*

Crown: **Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.**

*If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Master/Mistress of Defence shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,  
To ever stand in its defense,  
Facing my foes with courage and honor,  
Protecting the Innocent,  
Mindful of mercy,  
Obedient to my Liege Lord,  
Guardian of the just and right,  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Crown: **Rise, Mistress/Master <<Name>>, Master of Defence.**

*Then shall the new Master of Defence make thanks to the Crown, be greeted by the other Masters of Defence as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, and all shall retire in good order.*

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Order of Defence*

*Royal Peer/Lady of the Rose*

*Knight/Master of the Chivalry*

*Master/Mistress of the Laurel*

*Master/Mistress of the Pelican*

*Candidate*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*medallion and/or white livery collar*

*(cloak)*

*(sword)*

## Creation of a Founding Territorial Baron/Baroness

*The herald shall call forth the baronial candidate(s) and members of the affected barony; and when they have presented themselves before the Thrones, the Crown shall say:*

Crown:       **<<Name>>, it has well pleased Us that the diligence of your efforts have offered Us such a noble and illustrious addition to the prestige of Our Realm.  
That the people of this Kingdom may know the worth of these efforts, let the herald read forth the proclamation of investiture.**

*The herald shall read the proclamation.*

*Thereupon will the King place upon the head of the baron (and the Queen upon the head of the baroness) a coronet of gold bearing six pearls (roundels), and the Crown will say:*

Crown:       **Wear this coronet in token of your new station.**

*The herald shall say, and the baron/baroness shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:  
To hold the Barony of <<Place Name>> in fief from the Crown,  
To loyally uphold and enforce your laws in those lands,  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).  
Rise, good Baron/Baroness and be presented to your people.**

Herald:       **All hail <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>.**

### *NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*Crown  
Baronial candidates  
Members of the barony  
Herald*

### *NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Baronial coronets*

## Investiture of a Succeeding Territorial Baron/Baroness

Herald: **Their Majesties summon Their Excellencies <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>.**

Baron/Baroness: **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power, and a proper thing, it is yours, my Lord Baron/Lady Baroness.**

Baron/Baroness: **My/Our time as Baron/Baroness has come its end. And now, according to custom, I/We wish to relinquish my/our title as Baron/Baroness and ask that you bestow it upon <<Name>> as my/our successor(s).**

Crown: **Call forth the candidate(s).**

Herald: **Their Majesties call forth <<Name>>**

Crown: **Is it your desire to succeed <<Name>> as Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>?**

Candidate: **It is.**

*Thereupon shall the former Baron/Baroness give the coronets to the Crown, who shall place them upon the candidates' heads, saying:*

Crown: **Always bear this as nobly as Baron/Baroness <<Name>>. Now, swear fealty to the Crown.**

*The herald shall say, and the Baron/Baroness shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and do homage  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:  
To hold the Barony of <<Place Name>> in fief from the Crown,  
To loyally uphold and enforce your laws in those lands,  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, Lord/Lady <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).  
Rise, good Baron/Baroness <<Name>>.**

*The Baron/Baroness shall rise, and, should the Crown so desire, the King may address the former Baron/Baroness, saying:*

Crown:       **It is not right that one should relinquish such power and receive nothing in return. Please kneel, Lord/Lady <<Name>>. It is Our pleasure that Lord/Lady <<Name>> be created a baron/baroness of Our Court for his/her most noble sacrifice.**

*Thereupon the Crown shall place a silver coronet, embellished with twelve pearls, upon the head of the baron/baroness, saying:*

Crown:       **Arise, Baron/Baroness <<Name>>.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Outgoing Baron/Baroness  
New Baron/Baroness  
Herald  
Entourage (if desired)*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Oathbinder  
Baronial coronet(s)  
Silver coronet(s)  
(possibly scroll)*

## Creation of a Court Baron/Baroness

*The herald shall call forth the candidate, and when the candidate presents himself/herself and kneels before the Throne, the herald shall say:*

Herald: **As has been known in this Realm from ancient times, it is the privilege of the Crown to create certain honors and to bestow these honors upon worthy subjects at its pleasure. And foremost among these honors is that of Court Baron/Baroness. For to be created Court Baron/Baroness is to be admitted to the rank of nobility and to be warranted a special position in the Order of Precedence; and while a Court Baron/Baroness shall have no power, by that title, over others, still shall that title bear suitable honor and great distinction for himself/herself and his/her deeds. For a Court Baron/Baroness may be known by the title "Baron/Baroness", and then his/her proper name, and may wear, to signify his/her nobility, a silver coronet ornamented with six pearls.**

Crown: **Know you all, that by reason of his/her service to Ourselves and Our Realm, most specifically (here shall the Crown cite the specific instances of the honor), We are minded to create <<Name>> a Baron/Baroness of Our Court.**

*The Crown shall place a silver coronet ornamented with six pearls upon the candidate's head and say:*

Crown: **Rise, Baron/Baroness <<Name>>.**

*After this has been done, upon making suitable thanks to the Crown, the new Court Baron/Baroness shall retire.*

### NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:

Crown  
Candidate  
Herald

### NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:

Court baronial coronet

## Creation of a Vicar

Herald: **Their Majesties summon His/Her Excellency <<Name>>, Baron/Baroness <<Place Name>>.**

Baron/Baroness: **Your Majesty, I beg a boon.**

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power, and a proper thing, it is yours, my Lord/Lady Baron/Baroness.**

Baron/Baroness: **Shortly I shall be making extended journeys from my home barony; and, as it is not proper for a Barony to remain unattended, it is my wish to convey the responsibilities of my Baronage into the hands of a Vicar, to hold until I return and may serve once again as Lord/Lady of my Barony.**

Crown: **Who is the candidate?**

*The Baron/ess shall speak the name, and the Crown shall command the herald:*

Crown: **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald: **<<Name>>, present yourself before Their Majesties.**

Crown: **Is it your desire to act as Vicar for Baron/Baroness <<Name>>?**

Candidate: **It is.**

*Whereupon shall the Baron/Baroness convey his/her baronial coronet or some other token of power into the hands of the Crown, and the Crown shall deliver this token into the hands of the candidate, saying:*

Crown: **Bear this, then, in trust, until such time as your Baron/Baroness returns, ruling with the power of a Baron, and yet recalling that one day your Baron/Baroness shall return to claim what is rightfully His/Hers.**

*The Baron/Baroness and Vicar shall make their obeisances and leave the Sanctum.*

### NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:

Crown  
Baron/Baroness  
Vicar  
Herald

### NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:

Baronial coronet or banner



*MINOR CEREMONIES*

## Creation of the King's Champion

*This ceremony, first used by King Eliahu to swear in his King's champion, Sir Elestron, in His first reign, is based on the ceremony performed by the King's champions of England. Within our period, the King's champion would ride into the hall upon a charger, and issue the oath found in this ceremony as a challenge. This was adapted by King Eliahu.*

Herald:       **We call <<Name>> before Their Majesties.**

*When Candidate has approached and knelt before the Throne, the King shall speak:*

King:       **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, We are pleased by your valor, your skill and your chivalrous demeanor on and off the field. We would ask you to continue to be an example of those ideals We hold dear. My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, will you serve as My Champion?**

Candidate: **I will.**

King:       **Then take the oath of your office.**

*The herald shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Champion repeating it all after.*

Herald:       **I, <<Name>>  
Here do swear  
That if any person  
Of any degree so ever high or low  
Shall deny or gainsay  
His Majesty's right as King  
To be the King by Right of Arms  
That I stand as His Champion,  
Ready to defend His right and these lands  
In combat with any who would deny it.**

King:       **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, wear this tabard as a sign of Our high esteem, and please take your place.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Champion  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard*

## Creation of the Queen's Champion

Herald: **We call <<Name>> before their Majesties.**

*When Candidate has approached and knelt before the Throne, the Queen shall speak:*

Queen **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, We are pleased by your valor, your skill and your courteous demeanor on and off the field. We would ask you to continue to be an example of those ideals which We hold dear. My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, will you serve as My Champion?**

Candidate: **I will.**

Queen: **Then take the Oath of your office.**

*The herald shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Champion repeating it all after.*

Herald: **I <<Name>>  
Here do swear  
That if any person  
Of any degree so ever high or low  
Shall deny or gainsay our Sovereign Lady  
To be the Queen of the Middle Kingdom  
Or that She ought not enjoy the same  
That here I stand as Her Champion,  
Ready to defend Her right  
In combat with any who would deny it.**

Queen: **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, wear this tabard as a sign of Our high esteem, and please take your place behind Our thrones.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Champion*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard*

## Creation of the Kingdom Archery Champion

*Herald calls forth the candidate.*

King/Queen: <<Name>>, **your prowess, valor, and superior skills both on and off the Archery Field are held in high regard by Ourselves. Therefore, We are minded to make you Our King's/Queen's Archery Champion. To be Our champion means to uphold chivalry and courtesy at all times, and serve as an example of those ideals we hold dear.**

**<<Name>>, do you wish to accept this honor?**

Candidate: **I will.**

*The herald shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Champion repeating it all after.*

Herald: **I, <<Name>>  
Here do swear  
That if any person  
Of any degree so ever high or low  
Shall deny or gainsay  
Their Majesties' rights as Sovereigns  
To rule the Middle Kingdom  
That I stand as Their Archery Champion  
Ready to defend Their rights and these lands,  
My arrows flying true against any who would deny it.**

King/Queen: **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, wear this tabard as a sign of Our high esteem, and please take your place upon the dais.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Champion  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard*

## Creation of the Kingdom Rapier Champion

Herald: **We call <<Name>> before Their Majesties.**

*When the Candidate has approached and knelt before the Throne, the King or Queen shall speak:*

King/Queen: **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, We are pleased by your valor, your skill and your honorable demeanor on and off the field. We would ask you to continue to be an example of those ideals We hold dear. My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, will you serve as Our Rapier Champion?**

Candidate: **I will.**

King/Queen: **Then take the oath of your office.**

*The herald shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Champion repeating it all after.*

Herald: **I, <<Name>>  
Here do swear  
That if any person  
Of any degree so ever high or low  
Shall deny or gainsay  
Their Majesties' rights as Sovereigns  
To rule the Middle Kingdom  
That I stand as Their Rapier Champion  
Ready to defend Their rights and these lands,  
To beat aside with my blade any who would deny it.**

King/Queen: **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, wear this tabard as a sign of Our high esteem, and please take your place upon the dais.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Champion*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard*

## **Creation of an Arts and Sciences Champion**

*This ceremony was created by King Valerius and Queen Fern to demonstrate their support and patronage of the arts and sciences. They felt that this kind of recognition strengthened the arts and sciences.*

Crown: **Call forth the winner in Our Arts and Sciences Pentathlon.**

Herald: **Their Majesties summon <<Name>> to stand before the Thrones.**

Crown: **A Kingdom stands or falls by its accomplishments. The Middle Kingdom stands through the wars of summer by force of arms, by the strength of its armies. Yet these armies would stand unclothed and disarmed without the artisans and craftsmen of the Kingdom. As Our Champions stand by Us in Court, bearing the sword and shield with which the Kingdom stands, so too is it Our desire that Our Champion in the Arts and Sciences accompany Us as well. You shall be as the very foundation upon which Our armies and all of the people of Our Kingdom stand. <<Name>>, do you wish to accept this honor?**

Candidate: **I will.**

King/Queen: **Then take your place with Us upon the dais.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Champion*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard*

## Creation of a Bardic Champion

Crown: **Call forth the winner in Our Bardic Championship.**

Herald: **Their Majesties summon <<Name>> to stand before the Thrones.**

Crown: **A Kingdom stands or falls by its accomplishments. The Middle Kingdom stands through the wars of summer by force of arms, by the strength of its armies. Yet these armies would stand uninspired without the bards of the Kingdom.**

**As Our Champions stand by Us in Court, bearing the sword and shield with which the Kingdom stands, so too is it Our desire that Our Champion in the Bardic Arts accompany Us as well. You shall be as the very foundation upon which Our armies and all of the people of Our Kingdom stand.**

**<<Name>>, do you wish to accept this honor?**

Candidate: **I will.**

King/Queen: **Then take the oath of your office.**

*The herald shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Champion repeating it all after.*

Herald: **I here do swear  
To do honor to my King and Queen  
With my words in story and song;  
To lead the voices of the Dragon people  
In praise of You, Your deeds, and Your subjects;  
To support the bardic arts and encourage all to  
Sing of Your greatness and the might of the Midrealm.**

King/Queen: **My Lord/Lady <<Name>>, bear this staff as a sign of Our high esteem, and please take your place upon the dais.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen*

*Champion*

*Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Bardic staff*

## Creation of a Dragon Herald

*This ceremony was used by Mistress Graidhne ni Ruaidh when she retired as Dragon Principal Herald and installed Baron Charles Stewart O'Connor as her successor.*

*The retiring Dragon Herald and the College of Heralds are called into court.*

Crown:       <<Name>>, **what would you have of Us?**

Dragon Herald: **I would lay down the burden of the Dragon Principal Herald's position, as I have served my time in that office.**

*The Dragon Herald returns the tabard of office to the Crown.*

Crown:       **One last service We would ask of you. Would you suggest to the Crown a successor?**

Dragon Herald: **I would nominate to Your Majesties, <<Name>>.**

Crown:       **Call forth the candidate.**

*The Dragon Herald calls forth the College of Heralds.*

Crown:       **Will the College of Heralds attest that <<Name>> is right, proper, and fitting for this office?**

*The full Heralds of the College of Heralds attest:*

College:     **Aye.**

Crown:       <<Name>>, **do you swear and attest to carry out the duties of the Dragon Principal Herald? To act as Our voice to Our people and Our people's voice to Us? To serve well and faithfully the heraldic needs of the Realm? To guide the scholarship and administer the Middle Kingdom College of Heralds?**

Candidate: **I do.**

Crown:       **As a token of your pledge, do not let this cup pass, but drink of it to the dregs. The cup is yours to remember your oath by.**

*Traditionally, the cup that is presented contained Irish whiskey. It would be a courtesy if the officiating herald asked the candidate before the ceremony if an alcoholic beverage is acceptable. The new Herald drains the cup.*

Crown: **Bring forth the regalia of the Dragon Herald. This is the tabard of the office that you will hold. Wear it proudly as the Arms of this land deserve. Never forget that you stand as a symbol of the Crown, the Kingdom, and the Society. Acquit yourself accordingly. Now swear fealty to the Crown.**

*The herald shall say, and the new Dragon Herald shall repeat:*

**I here swear fealty and service  
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:  
To well and loyally administer my Office  
And give wise counsel to the Crown,  
According to my knowledge and ability.  
Thus swear I, <<Name>>.**

*And the Crown shall reply:*

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,  
Nor fail to reward that which is given:  
Fealty with love, service with honor,  
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

**We name you Dragon Principal Herald of the Middle Kingdom.**

**People of the Middle Kingdom, We give you Our Dragon Herald.**

*NECESSARY PARTICIPANTS:*

*King/Queen  
Dragon Herald  
Candidate  
College of Heralds  
Herald*

*NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS:*

*Tabard  
Cup  
Medallion*

*APPENDIX A: TABLE OF PRECEDENCE*



## Table of Precedence of the Middle Kingdom

"The only person whose precedence is absolute is the King. The precedence of all others is the King's prerogative. Even the precedence of those who appear in the official Tables of Precedence varies from time to time. Moreover, there are many varieties of precedence: national and local; and it not infrequently happens that, in the relationship between host and guests, the requirements of courtesy and hospitality override any strict order of precedence." Taken from Debrett's *Correct Form*, p. 309.

**NOTES:** Items shown in **bold** are from the current order of precedence of the Middle Kingdom. Others are customary positions in the SCA or taken from Debrett's *Correct Form*, which shows the precedence of England.

- ❖ **King and Queen of the Midrealm.**
- ❖ Visiting Kings and Queens, by creation of Kingdom.
  - *This is how it is done at Pennsic.*
- ❖ **Crown Prince and Princess of the Midrealm.**
- ❖ Visiting Crown Princes and Princesses by creation of Kingdom.
- ❖ **Midrealm Territorial Princes and Princesses.**
  - *Hosting Principality has precedence, otherwise by creation of Principality.*
- ❖ Visiting Territorial Princes and Princesses, by creation of Kingdom, then Principality within Kingdom.
- ❖ **Heirs to Midrealm Territorial Principalities.**
  - *Hosting Principality has precedence, otherwise by creation of Principality.*
- ❖ Visiting Royal Heirs of Territorial Principalities, by creation of Kingdom, then Principality within Kingdom.
  - *If Their Kingdom considers Them as part of the royal family.*
- ❖ Visiting Non-Royal Heirs of Territorial Principalities, by creation of Kingdom, then Principality within Kingdom.
  - *If Their Kingdom does not consider Them as part of the royal family.*
- ❖ Great Officers of State
- ❖ Ambassadors and Emissaries from SCA Kingdoms, by creation of Kingdom.
- ❖ **Dukes**
- ❖ **Counts**
- ❖ **Viscounts**
- ❖ Lesser Officers of State
- ❖ **Midrealm Territorial Barons and Baronesses.**
  - *Hosting Barony has precedence, otherwise by creation of Barony.*
- ❖ Foreign Territorial Barons and Baronesses, by creation of Kingdom, then by creation of Barony.
- ❖ **Knights, Master of Arms, Laurels, Pelicans, Masters of Defence.**
- ❖ **Court Barons and Baronesses, regardless of Kingdom.**
- ❖ **Companions of the Dragon's Heart.**
- ❖ **Companions of the Greenwood Company, Bronze Ring, White Lance, Gold Mace, Evergreen.**
- ❖ **Foreign Awards and Orders that convey a Grant of Arms.**

- ❖  **Holders of Grants of Arms.**
- ❖  **Companions of the Willow, Silver Oak.**
- ❖  **Recipients of the Purple Fret, Queen's Favor, Doe's Grace, King's Chalice.**
- ❖  **Companions of the Dragon's Tooth, Dragon's Barb, Cavendish Knot, White Chamfron, Red Company.**
- ❖  **Companions of the Gaping Wound.**
- ❖  **Foreign Awards and Orders that convey an Award of Arms.**
- ❖  **Award of Arms.**

### Kingdom Order of Precedence

<b>Kingdom</b>	<b>Date Created</b>	<b>A.S.</b>
West Kingdom	May 1, 1966	1
East Kingdom	June 1968	3
Middle Kingdom	September 1969	4
Atenveldt	January 1971	5
Meridies	January 1978	12
Caid	June 1978	13
Ansteorra	June 1979	14
Atlantia	May 1981	16
An Tir	January 1982	16
Calontir	February 1984	18
Trimaris	September 1985	20
Outlands	June 1986	21
Drachenwald	June 1993	28
Artemisia	July 1997	32
Æthelmearc	September 1997	32
Ealdormere	October 1988	33
Lochac	July 2002	37
Northshield	October 2004	39
Gleann Abhann	November 2005	40
Avacal	June 2015	50

### Baronial Order of Precedence

<b>Barony</b>	<b>Date Created</b>	<b>A.S.</b>
Northwoods	October 31, 1970	5
Middle Marches	Date unknown, est. position	
Andelcrag	October 1975	10
Rivenstar	October 25, 1977	10
Cleftlands	May 6, 1978	13
Carraig Ban	January 6, 1979	13
Flaming Gryphon	October 13, 1979	14
Flame	December 10, 1981	16
Illiton	June 25, 1983	18
Sternfeld	May 27, 1984	19
Shattered Crystal	November 19, 1988	23
Red Spears	October 13, 1990	25
Fenix	May 14, 1994	29
Roaring Waste	September 23, 1995	30
White Waters	January 31, 1998	32
Cynnabar	June 6, 1998	33
Brendoken	February 21, 2004	38
Donnershafen	September 30, 2006	41
Ayreton	September 11, 2010	45
Shadowed Stars	May 30, 2015	50

## Order of Precedence of the Middle Kingdom

Royal Family	<b>King / Queen</b> <b>Crown Prince / Princess</b> <b>Territorial Prince / Princess</b> <b>Territorial Heirs</b>
Royal Peers	<b>Duchy</b> <b>County</b> <b>Viscounty</b>
Baronage	<b>Territorial Barony</b>
Bestowed Peerages	<b>Chivalry / Laurel / Pelican / Defence</b>
Grant Level	<b>Court Barony</b> <b>Dragon's Heart</b> <b>Evergreen / Gold Mace / White Lance / Bronze Ring / Greenwood</b> <b>Grant of Arms</b>
AoA Level	<b>Silver Oak / Willow</b> <b>King's Chalice / Doe's Grace / Queen's Favor / Purple Fret</b> <b>Red Company / White Chamfron / Cavendish Knot / Dragon's Barb / Dragon's Tooth</b> <b>Gaping Wound (Closed)</b> <b>Award of Arms</b>
<i>The following awards/orders do not convey precedence:</i>	
Augmentations	<b>Kingdom Augmentation of Arms</b> <b>Royal Augmentation of Arms</b>
Individual Awards	<b>Rose / Sapphire / Royal Vanguard</b>
Group Awards	<b>Grove / Dragon's Flight / Dragon's Teeth / Purple Fretty</b>
Youth Awards	<b>Silver Acorn / Baton / Dragon's Treasure</b>



*APPENDIX B: MIDDLE KINGDOM SCROLL TEXTS*



### **Award of the Dragon's Treasure**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, do know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in such gentles as <<Name>>, its future. As one who shall someday lead and serve Our Kingdom, and as one who has shown his/her worth through his/her present service, so is it fitting that We honor <<Name>> by naming him/her a Dragon's Treasure. As he/she has adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall he/she continue to serve. Done by Our hand this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting upon Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Baton**

We, <<King>>, King by Right of Arms, and <<Queen>>, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send greetings. As We know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in its future leaders, so do We know that such a person is before Us in <<Name>> and in recognition of his/her accomplishments in the martial arts (specific deed can be mentioned), it is fitting that we honor (name of recipient) by naming him/her a Baton. As he/she has adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall he/she continue to do so in Our hearts. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Silver Acorn**

We, <<King>>, King by Right of Arms, and <<Queen>>, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send greetings. As We know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in its future leaders, so do We know that such a person is before Us in <<Name>> and in recognition of his/her accomplishments in the arts and sciences (specific art or science can be mentioned), it is fitting that we honor (name of recipient) by naming him/her a Silver Acorn. As he/she has adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall he/she continue to do so in Our hearts. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Royal Vanguard**

Proclaim throughout Our Realm that We, <<King>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Queen>>, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send heartfelt greetings. Know that in consideration of his/her outstanding service as Our <<King's/Queen's Champion>> we hereby make <<Name>> a Companion of Our Order of the Royal Vanguard. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities associated with this Order and the right to bear the badge of the Order. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Sapphire**

In the Realm We, <<King>>, and <<Queen>>, King and Queen of the fair lands of the Middle Kingdom, have heard of the kind and courteous actions of a member of Our Populace. It has come to Our attention that <<Name>> has exhibited great courtesy, grace, and honor to people of all ranks, and exemplifies what it means to be the embodiment of The Dream. Therefore we are minded to bestow upon him/her the Award of the Sapphire, with all rights and responsibilities due upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, Fieldless, a stepcut gemstone fesswise azure. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of Arms**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, are minded to make unto <<Name>> an Award of Arms in recognition of his/her service to the Middle Kingdom, specifically for <<Service >>. We bestow upon him/her the right to bear <<Blazon>> as arms within the Society for Creative Anachronism without let or hindrance from any person, and the rights and responsibilities conveyed by his/her elevation to this rank (or: attendant upon this rank) from this day onward. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting upon Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Dragon's Tooth**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, right mindful of the dramatic deeds and skills that <<Name>> hath displayed upon the field of battle, are minded to bestow upon him/her an Award of the Dragon's Tooth. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Vert, on a pale or, three fangs vert, without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting upon Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Dragon's Teeth**

May it be known to all that We ,<<Name>>, and <<Name>>, King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, right mindful of the dramatic deeds and skills the <<Group Name>> hath displayed upon the field of battle, especially <<Specific deeds>>, wish to bestow unto <<Group Name>> the Award of the Dragon's Teeth. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Argent, on a dance between two broken dragon's teeth vert another argent, without let or hindrance from any person. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Order of the Dragon's Barb**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, would fain honor <<Name>> for her/his superior skill in archery and service to the Archer Corps of the Middle Kingdom. We are minded to create her/him a Companion of the Order of the Dragon's Barb, and thus to bestow upon her/him all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, A dragon's tail palewise, barb to chief, within and issuant from an annulet vert scaly argent, without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting upon Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Award of the Dragon's Flight**

Proclaim unto all that We, <<Name>>, and <<Name>>, King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, wish to commend the superior skill and service of <<Group Name>> to the Archer Corps of the Middle Kingdom. We are minded to bestow upon him/her the Award of the Dragon's Flight with all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Argent, a pale vert scaly argent between four pheons vert, without let or hindrance from any person. Done by Our hands the <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Order of the Cavendish Knot**

We, <<King>>, the strong and just, and <<Queen>>, the graceful and wise, Regnum Mediterranae/Rulers of the Middle Kingdom, have seen the skill, devotion and support that <<Candidate's Name>> has displayed in the discipline of rapier combat. We are therefore minded to make him/her a member of Our Order of the Cavendish Knot and bestow upon him/her all duly pertaining rights and attendant responsibilities that he/she may discharge their new duties to the Crown. He/She may wear as a token of this new membership the badge, Four Cavendish Knots in cross vert. Done by Our hands the <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Order of the White Chamfron**

We, <<King>>, the strong and just, and <<Queen>>, the graceful and wise, Regnum Mediterranae, have seen the skill, devotion and support that <<Name>> has displayed in the discipline of horsemanship. We are therefore minded to make him/her a member of Our Order of the White Chamfron and bestow upon him/her all duly pertaining rights and attendant responsibilities that he/she may discharge his/her new duties to the Crown. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Red Company**

In all the armies in history there have been many warriors who have fought and led from within the ranks, rising to positions of great honor. A warrior has many virtues, such as skill at arms, leadership on the field, and teaching of the arts martial. Therefore, We, <<Name>>, and <<Name>>, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize <<Recipient's Name>> as a Member of the Order of the Red Company. He/She may style himself/herself a Serjeant of this noble Order, and may bear its badge as duly registered with the College of Arms, in canton upon his/her shield. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Award of the Doe's Grace (Service)**

*For personal service to the Crown:*

We, <<Name>>, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our King, right mindful of the high esteem in which <<Name>> is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, (and in acknowledgment of <<Accomplishment>>,) are pleased to bestow upon him/her this sign of the Queen's favour, the Award of the Doe's Grace. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Azure, a sword proper enfiled of a wreath of flowers argent, slipped and leaved or, without let or hindrance from any person. Given by Our hand(s) this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand(s) and seal.

### **Award of the Doe's Grace (Courtesy)**

*For grace and courtesy:*

Unto all Gentles and Nobles to whom these presents come, know that We, <<Queen's Name>>, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and <<King's Name>>, Our King, right mindful of the high esteem in which <<Recipient's Name>> is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, and in acknowledgment of <<Specific Mention>>, are pleased to bestow upon him/her the Award of the Doe's Grace. We bestow upon him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, Azure, a sword proper enfiled of a wreath of flowers argent, slipped and leaved or. Given by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Award of the Purple Fret**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, do recognize the exemplary service that <<Name>> hath rendered unto the Middle Kingdom, specifically <<Service>>. We do here publicly commend him/her and are pleased to bestow upon him/her the Award of the Purple Fret. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Or, a fret purple, without let or hindrance from any person. Given by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Award of the Purple Fretty**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom and <<Name>>, Our beloved Queen, have heard of the exemplary service that <<Group Name>> has provided to Our Kingdom. Therefore, We do publically commend them and wish to bestow upon them the Award of the Purple Fretty. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, Or, fretty purpure, without let or hindrance from any person. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>> while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony where of We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Award of the King's Chalice**

See, read, hear, and understand by these presents that We, <<King>>, King of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Queen>>, Our Queen, right mindful of the high esteem in which <<Name>> is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, and in acknowledgement of his/her authenticity in <<accomplishment>>, are pleased to bestow upon him/her the Award of the King's Chalice. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge of the award without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Willow**

We, <<Name>>, Queen of the Middle Kingdom and Patroness/Patron of the Arts and Sciences, and <<Name>>, Our King, right mindful of the skills that <<Name>> hath displayed in the Art of <<Skill>>, wish to recognize him/her as a Companion of Our Order of the Willow. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Purpure, a willow tree eradicated or, without let or hindrance from any person. Given by Our hand(s) this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand(s) and seal.

### **Order of the Silver Oak**

May it be known by all that We, <<Consort's Name>>, Royal Patroness/Patron of the Sciences, and <<King's Name>>, our King, right mindful of the skills that <<Recipient's Name>> hath displayed in the science of <<Specific Mentions>>, wish to recognize him/her as a Companion of Our Order of the Silver Oak. We bestow upon him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, Purpure, an oak tree blasted and eradicated argent, fructed or, without let or hindrance from any person. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Award of the Grove**

Be it known that Queen <<Name>>, Patroness/Patron of the Arts and Sciences in the Middle Kingdom, and King <<Name>> are well aware of the endeavors and successes of the people of <<Group Name>> in the artistic and/or scientific area of <<Artistic/Scientific Area>>. We wish for all to know that they are held in high regard by Ourselves, to which purpose We bestow upon them the Award of the Grove. <<Group Name>> may embellish their device with Per pale or and argent, a hurst purpure, the badge of this Order, and shall be set in accordance to the standards of Precedence of the Midrealm. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Grant of Arms**

We, <<Name>>, by Right of Arms King of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, in consideration of the excellent service that <<Name>> has given the Middle Kingdom as <<Office>>, are minded to make unto him/her a Grant of Arms. We grant unto him/her the right to bear <<Description>> as Arms within the Society for Creative Anachronism, and We grant him/her as a crest a Dragon <<Specify Position>> as token of his/her service to this Kingdom. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Order of the Greenwood Company**

To all and singular unto whom these presents shall come, know that We, <<King>>, and <<Queen>>, King and Queen of the Midrealm, right mindful of his/her superior skill, leadership, and exemplary service to the Archer Corps of Our Kingdom, do herewith recognize <<Name>> as a Member of the Order of Greenwood Company. He/She may style himself/herself a Forester of this noble Order, and may bear its badge, On a hurst of pine trees vert, a pheon inverted Or. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Company of the Bronze Ring**

To all and singular unto whom these presents shall come, know that We, <<King>> and <<Queen>>, King and Queen of the Midrealm, right mindful of his/her superior skill, leadership, and exemplary service to the Rapier Legions of Our Kingdom, do herewith recognize <<Name>> as a Companion of Our Company of the Bronze Ring. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Company of the White Lance**

Both in times of war and times of peace the undaunted Equestrians honed their battle skills in tournaments to prepare rider and steed for the defenses of Our glorious Kingdom. An equestrian has many virtues such as skill in riding, mounted precision at arms, and teaching of the arts equestrian. True leadership is displayed when all culminate in a symbiosis of horse and rider to carry them to victory. Therefore, We, <<King>>, and <<Queen>>, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize <<Name>> as a Companion of Our Company of the White Lance. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Gold Mace**

In all the armies in history there have been many warriors who have fought and led from within the ranks, rising to positions of great honor. A warrior has many virtues, such as skill at arms, leadership on the field, and teaching of the arts martial. Therefore, We, <<King>>, and <<Queen>>, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize <<Name>> as a Member of the Order of Gold Mace. He/She may style himself/herself a Captain of the Red Company, and may bear its badge, Gules, two maces in saltire Argent, in canton upon his/her shield. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Evergreen**

Let it be known throughout the vastness of the realm that we, <<Queen>>, Royal Patroness/Patron of the Arts and Sciences, and <<King>>, our King, are well aware of the skills and teaching accomplished by <<Name>> in the <<art/science/research>> of <<skill>>. Therefore we wish for all to know of the high regard in which We hold him/her, and so We are minded to create him/her a Companion of the Order of the Evergreen. We grant unto him/her all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge of the Order as registered with the College of Heralds. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Dragon's Heart**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, give greetings. Know ye that <<Name>> hath given most freely unto the Middle Kingdom her/his time and labor and love by <<Labor>>, and We are minded to make her/him a Companion of Our noble Order of the Dragon's Heart. We grant unto her/him all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, Argent, a heart vert scaly argent, without let or hindrance from any person. Given by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Court Baron/ess**

We, <<Name>>, being King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, are pleased to bestow upon <<Name>> the right to style himself/herself Baron/ess of Our Court by reason of <<Service>>. We confirm and acknowledge to him/her all rights, titles and badges accorded him/her by this rank without let or hindrance from any person from this day onward. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Territorial Baron/ess**

We, <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, are most pleased with the service given Us by <<Name>> in Our Barony of <<Place Name>>. In consideration of these unceasing efforts, We do create Lord/Lady <<Name>> Baron/ess <<Group Name>>, to have and to hold of Us and Our successors in fealty and honor the lands of <<Place Name>>, and to employ without let or hindrance all symbols and ornaments of that rank from this time onward. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, while sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Order of Chivalry**

We, (Sir) <<Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, in consideration of his/her courtesy, chivalry, and skill both on and off the field of battle, do of Our especial grace and certain knowledge recognize <<Name>> as Knight/Master of Arms of the Society for Creative Anachronism, to be in all places of honor numbered a Peer of Our Realm and a member of the Order of Chivalry, with all rights, privileges, insignia, precedence, and responsibilities thereto appertaining. And furthermore do We confirm unto him/her by Letters Patent the right to bear <<Description>> as Arms within the Society without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Laurel**

We, <<Queen>>, Queen and Patroness of the Arts and Sciences, and <<King>, King by Right of Arms, unto all to whom these letters come, give greetings. Know ye that We, in consideration of the singular excellence and expertise in the art of <<Skill>>, and the generosity of spirit with which he/she has shared with our Society, do create and advance <<Name>> to the title and degree of Master/Mistress of the most noble Order of the Laurel, to be in all places of honor numbered a Peer of Our Realm, with all rights, privileges, insignia, precedence, and responsibilities thereto appertaining. And furthermore do We confirm unto him/her by Letters Patent the right to bear <<Description>> as Arms within the Society, without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Order of the Pelican**

We, <<Name>>, by Right of Arms King of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, unto all to whom these letters come, give greetings. Know ye that We, in consideration of the singular noble virtues and distinguished service, alike in courtesy and honor as in patience and toil, of (Our loving and faithful) <<Name>>, do create and advance him/her to the title and degree of Master/Mistress of the most noble Order of the Pelican, to be in all places of honor numbered a Peer of Our Realm, with all rights, privileges, insignia, precedence, and responsibilities thereto appertaining. And furthermore do We confirm unto him/her by Letters Patent the right to bear <<Description>> as arms within the Society, without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Order of Defence**

All Gentles and Nobles know by these presents that We, <<Name>>, King by right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name>>, Our Queen, in consideration of his/her courtesy, skill, valor, and honor both on and off the field, are right mindful to recognize Our subject <<Recipient's Name>>, as a Master/Mistress of Defence within the Society, to be in all places of honor numbered as a Peer of Our Realm and a member of the Order of Defence. We bestow all rights, privileges, insignia, precedence, and responsibilities thereto appertaining. That he/she may be known by bearing the Order's regalia; a white livery collar. And furthermore do We confirm unto him/her by Letters Patent the right to bear <<Description>> as arms within the Society, without let or hindrance from any person. Done this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Viscount**

All Gentles and Nobles know by these presents that We, <<Name of King>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Consort's Name>>, Our Queen, right mindful of the valiant efforts in battle and wisdom in council given by <<Recipient's Name>> and in recognition of his service to Our Kingdom as Prince/Consort of <<Principality's Name>>, are most pleased to acknowledge him as Viscount. And though a Viscount holds no authority or power to command, yet is he to be granted such honor and respect as befits a person of great worth and courtesy. He shall be known by his coronet of silver, embattled, and his counsel shall be weighed as befits one who has borne the coronet of a Principality within the Middle Kingdom. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Viscountess**

All Gentles and Nobles know by these presents that We, << King's Name >>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Consort's Name>>, Our Queen, right mindful of the grace and nobility which <<Recipient's Name>> lent to the Coronet of <<Principality's Name>>, as Princess by Right of Arms/Consort, and knowing full well the toil and patience with which she has served the Kingdom, are pleased to acknowledge her Viscountess. And though a Viscountess holds no authority or power to command, yet is she to be granted such honor and respect as befits a person of great worth and courtesy. She shall be known by her coronet of silver, embattled, and her counsel shall be weighed as befits one who has borne the coronet of a Principality of the Middle Kingdom. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Count**

All Gentles and Nobles know by these presents that We, <<King>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Queen>>, Our Queen, in rightful succession to <<Name of Previous King>> and <<Name of Previous Consort>>, and mindful of the excellent manner in which <<Recipient's Name>> has served the Middle Kingdom, giving of his valiant efforts in battle, and of his wisdom in council, are most pleased to acknowledge him as a Count. He shall be known by his coronet of gold, embattled, and his counsel shall be weighed as befits one who has borne the Crown of the Middle Kingdom. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Countess**

All Gentles and Nobles know by these presents that We, <<King's Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Consort's Name>>, Our Queen, in rightful succession to <<Name of Previous King>> and <<Name of Previous Consort>>, and mindful of the excellent manner in which <<Recipient's Name>> has served the Middle Kingdom, and knowing full well the toil and patience with which she has served as Consort, are most pleased to acknowledge her as a Countess. She shall be known by her coronet of gold, embattled, and her counsel shall be weighed as befits one who has borne the Crown of the Middle Kingdom. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Duke**

We, <<Name>> and <<Name>>, King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, in rightful succession to <<Name>> and <<Name>>, mindful of the excellent manner in which <<Name>> has twice served the Midrealm, giving of his valiant efforts in battle/duties as King, and of his wisdom in council and court, are most pleased to acknowledge him as Duke <<Name>>. He shall be known by his coronet of gold, embellished with strawberry leaves, and his counsel shall be weighed as befits one who has borne the Crown of the Middle Kingdom. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

### **Duchess**

We, <<Name>> and <<Name>>, King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, in rightful succession to <<Name>> and <<Name>>, mindful of the grace and nobility which <<Name>> lent to the Crown of the Midrealm, and knowing full well the toil and patience with which she has twice served the Kingdom as Queen, are most pleased to acknowledge her as Duchess <<Name>>. She shall be known by her coronet of gold, embellished with strawberry leaves, and she shall stand for all to see as that honor for which Chivalry exists. Done by Our hand this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, A.S. <<Year>>, sitting on Our thrones in Our <<Place Name>>, in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

### **Royal Augmentation of Arms**

Proclaim to all throughout the land that We, <<King's Name>>, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Consort's Name>>, Our Queen, have witnessed the service with which <<Recipient's Name>> hath exemplified the ideals which We strive to uphold, and therefore do We wish to acknowledge him/her in a fitting and seemly manner with some visible token of Our esteem. We are minded to give unto him/her a Royal Augmentation of Arms (of.....) in recognition of his/her deeds. It shall be a specific charge signifying our appreciation and commendation, to be incorporated into his/her arms in accordance with both his/her wishes and the Rules of the College of Arms of the Known World. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>>, in Our <<Place Name>>.

### **Kingdom Augmentation of Arms Special:**

Because of the nature of this award, the Office of the Dragon Herald prefers the scribe to obtain a specific wording from Their Majesties at the time of the assignment.

### **Order of the Rose**

Proclaim to all Gentles and Nobles that We, <<Name of Queen >>, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and <<Name of King >>, Our King, knowing full well the grace and dignity with which <<Name of Recipient>> has served the Middle Kingdom as Queen/King, are minded to do her/him honor, We do, therefore, recognize her/him as a Lady/Lord of the Rose, with all of the rights, privileges, insignia, precedence and responsibilities thereto appertaining. Done by Our hands this <<Date>> day of <<Month>>, Anno Societatis (A.S.) <<Year>> in Our <<Place Name>>.

*APPENDIX C: ROYAL COURT CHECKLIST*



So you're going to herald Royal Court, and you've never done it before? This is a checklist of things to do before, during, and after court. Use it to help plan court, but make a separate list of things that will happen during court. Write down exactly what you need to say, in the order in which it needs to be said. As herald, it is your responsibility to present the glory of the Crown of the Middle Kingdom to its people. It is our hope that this list will aid you in that task. If you still have trouble, find an experienced herald to help you.

### **During the Day**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Announce that anyone who wishes to make presentations to Their Majesties should see you. It helps if you have a specific place for them to find you and add that to the announcement.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Divide the list of presentations into these:
  - personal presentations for the King and the Queen, to be given at feast; and
  - presentations to the Crown, which will be given in court.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure that presentations inappropriate to either of these two settings are made privately.
- \_\_\_\_\_ During court prep with Their Majesties, go over the list of presentations to be sure They have no objections. If it is going to be a long court, They may wish for the presentations not to be made in court and will suggest an alternative time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ask the Signet for a list of awards to be presented in court, and prepare the list for court.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Check pronunciation of names (yourself or via ladies-in-waiting).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Check scrolls for legibility. Most scrolls will have a typed gloss on the back of the scroll. If there is not one and you have trouble reading the calligraphy, ask the Signet for assistance. Normally they will be happy to hand-write one for you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure there will be a seneschal for court. Ask Their Majesties' preference. If They do not have a preference, start with the local seneschal. If they are not able or willing, try the regional, then Kingdom. If none are available or willing to stand in court, any warranted seneschal will suffice.

## **Just Before Court**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Wash and dry hands thoroughly, ESPECIALLY if after feast.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure that the scrolls are in the order in which they will be given out. Work with the Signet and compare your lists.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have nice looking folder for your list at court.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Signet of the day will be on the dais to hand you the scrolls as they are needed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure you have the texts for any ceremonies that will be done in court, and the scroll texts for any awards given that have no scroll.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make certain that the Thrones are on the correct sides--the Queen sits to the King's right, with the Prince next to the Queen, and the Princess sits next to the King.
- \_\_\_\_\_ If Their Serene Highnesses (if the Midrealm has Principality) are present, they sit to the King's left and Their Royal Highnesses sit to the Queen's right.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure the Kingdom banner is centered behind the Thrones, and is otherwise hung properly. It should be higher than any other banners present. If both banners for the King and the Queen are present, they should be behind the respective Thrones. Again, none higher.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure there is a small table between the Thrones, if circumstances permit, on which presentations can be kept, goblets of water should Their Majesties need refreshment, calligraphy pens if there are charters to be signed, etc. Be aware of any of these needs that must be met! (Work with the Royal retainers.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ If there is a carpet of some sort available, set it up to denote the area where people who have been called up are to kneel, within Their Majesties' reach. Take steps and stages into consideration. The Royal Kneeling Pillow should be placed on this area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Help Their Majesties set up the order of Their processional.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give a 5-minute warning to the crowd.

## **During Court**

\_\_\_\_\_ Stand to the left of the King's Throne and announce Their Majesties' entrance.

Words to this effect may be used: "Oyez! Oyez! All rise for Their Most Royal Majesties, King <<Name>> and Queen <<Name>>!" (See beginning of Ceremonies book.)

\_\_\_\_\_ If Their Royal Highnesses are present, announce their entrance as soon as Their Majesties have reached the Thrones and have turned to face the populace.

Words may be used to this effect: "Make way for Their Royal Highnesses, Prince <<Name>> and Princess <<Name>>!"

\_\_\_\_\_ If Their Serene (Principality) Highnesses are present, you or their personal herald should announce their entrance directly after Their Royal Highnesses. Words may be used to this effect, "Make way for Their Serene Highnesses of <<Place Name>>!"

\_\_\_\_\_ Open court, stating the date and place. "This opens the court of Their Majesties (name and name), this Xth day of (month), A.S. (XX), while sitting on Their Thrones in Their (group name).

\_\_\_\_\_ Start with the business of the people to the Crown. Any presentations to be made to the Crown or the Kingdom should be made now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any official business from outside of the Kingdom, such as presentations from ambassadors, would be done now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Start the applause for the person.

\_\_\_\_\_ The business of the Crown with the people would come next, beginning with oaths of fealty (inquire of them during the day, if they have not yet sworn).

**Check ahead of time to find out whether these oaths are necessary or not. If they are necessary, make sure that you have copies of the appropriate oaths with you.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Any new Kingdom Laws that are to be read out in court should be read now. Make sure you have the text of any such laws with you.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Always check with Their Majesties prior to court to find out exactly how They wish to handle award recipients who are not present.*

- *They could choose to have someone come up to accept the award for them.*
- If someone is not there, read "<<Name>> is receiving <<Award>>. Hoobah!!"

\_\_\_\_\_ Any non-armigerous awards, presentations, or titles would be given next.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Awards of the Dragon's Treasure, a non-armigerous award for the youth of the Kingdom, would be given now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Awards of Arms would be presented. These are given in the order that Their Majesties desire. Since the date and place have already been announced, when

reading the scrolls they can be shortened to include only the greeting from the Crown, the recipient's name, the award, and why it's being given.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Dragon's Teeth or Dragon's Barbs would be given now. (Dragon's Teeth are seldom given off the field of battle.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Doe's Graces (formerly Queen's Favours) or Purple Frets would be given now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Willows, Silver Oaks, Order of the Grove, or Order of the Red Company would be given now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Dragon's Hearts would be given now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Court Barons or Baronesses would be made next. Make sure you have the appropriate ceremony with you. Be aware of where the coronets (if any) are that will be used.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Territorial Barons or Baronesses would be made next. Make sure that they are aware of when their ceremony will be occurring, and make sure they've had a chance to see their parts of that ceremony. Make sure you have that ceremony with you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Grants of Arms would be given now.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any Peers would be made next. Make sure you have the ceremony with you, and make sure you know who must be called up to beg the boon and check on necessary accoutrements of the peerage to be given.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ask His Majesty if He has any further business. If His answer is negative, close court with words such as these: "There being no further business before this court, it is now ended. All rise for Their Majesties and Their Highnesses!"

**Note that this order is arbitrary. If the Crown wishes it changed, it shall be changed.**

### **After Court**

\_\_\_\_\_ File a court report within one week of the event. The form can be found online on the Midrealm website, under the Herald section. This form is automatically emailed to all the appropriate recipients, including a copy to you.

May all your courts be joyous ones, and may all your words be heard clear to the back of the hall!

*APPENDIX D: Summary of Changes*



<b>Version</b>	<b>Summary of Changes</b>	<b>Dragon Herald</b>
April 2003	Initial Publication	Thorvald Redhair
May 2016	Added Order of Defence. Removed some little used minor ceremonies.	Edward Aelredson
June 2016	Updated Peerage ceremonies to include the Masters of Defence. The suggested qualities that the Peerages attest to were standardized between the different Peerage ceremonies Changed Master of Arms ceremony so they do not have to refuse knighthood. Other minor changes.	Konrad Mailander
February 2017	Updated the Loyalty Oath of the Greenwood Company and the Crown's response to the Loyalty Oaths. Donnershafen added to list of Baronies.	Konrad Mailander