

A Kingdom's culture can be seen at its Art and Science Faires. Much of what is great about the Society can be observed at the Faires – such as learning new skills, sharing knowledge, and gaining feedback. With this year's Faires, We want to emphasize learning and sharing of knowledge. As such, We are making a few changes to the rules. The largest change is that We are not awarding placements, and that scores will only be available on request and then only anonymously. It is Our hope that these changes will take the focus off of numbers and put it back on the incredible work that the Middle Kingdom does.

Cellach and Vukasin

## **2018 A&S Faire Rules**

### General Rules

Entries will be judged using the criteria (along with any corrections) that has been used for the past several years.

Judging will be done face-to-face if possible.

All entrants will receive their comment sheets, and scores will be recorded separately so as to determine who is eligible for Kingdom A&S.

We will not be awarding first, second, and third places.

Scores will not be provided on the day of the Faire. Requests must be emailed to the Regional MOAS. Scores will then be provided as the average score the entry earned in each section.

If someone submits a non-Pentathlon entry, they should expect to help with the judging.

Mail-in categories must be post-marked by January 15.

The general rules from years' past are also in effect and can be found in Appendix 1.

Entrants are expected to not plagiarize; guidance on plagiarism can be found in Appendix 2.

### *Individual Entries: Regional Faires*

The five entries in each region with the highest score will be announced in alphabetical order. This excludes entries associated with Pentathlons.

Non-Pentathlon entries can be entered into any regional faire.

### *Pentathlon Entries: Regional Faires*

Each contestant will be allowed only one Pentathlon entry consisting of no more than five entries.

The contestant must have scores in five categories drawn from at least four separate divisions, with entries in no more than two categories in any one division.

All entries used in a regional Pentathlon championship must score higher than 19 points to be eligible to participate at the Kingdom Pentathlon Championship.

Pentathlons must be entered into the entrant's home region's faire.

The top scoring Pentathlon will be named as the Regional A&S Champion.

### *Kingdom Faire*

The Kingdom Faire should be a showcase of the best that our kingdom has to offer; as such, the judging at the Kingdom level will be more critical than at the Regional Faires.

The Kingdom Faire will be limited to fifty individual entries and to six Pentathlon entries.

For individual entries, after the final Regional Faire, a list of scores from all of the faires will be compiled by division. Each division will be awarded a number of spots at the Kingdom Faire based on the division's percentage of total entries. (If there are a total of 100 entries and Division 1 has 50 entries, they will receive half (25) of the total entries to the Kingdom Faire.) The spots will be made available in the order that the entries finished.

At the Kingdom Faire, the top three non-Pentathlon scoring pieces in each Division will be announced.

The top scoring Pentathlon from each region will advance to the Kingdom Faire, provided that all five entries meet the minimum score requirement.

After the last Pentathlon, the top Pentathlon from across the kingdom that did not win their regional faire will also advance to the Kingdom Faire. Additional Kingdom Pentathlon spots may become open if a region does not have one advance, or if a regional champion decides not to advance to the Kingdom Faire.

A Pentathlon entry that did not qualify for the Kingdom Faire may have its component entries changed to individual entries and have them entered into the pool for advancement to the Kingdom Faire as individual entries.

At the Kingdom Faire the Pentathlon entries will be announced in reverse order (highest score announced last).

## Appendix 1

### General Rules for Participation in the Middle Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire: Regional and Kingdom Level

1. The Middle Kingdom Arts & Sciences Faire is open to all SCA participants.
2. All entries must represent pre-seventeenth century culture and be derived from a European culture or another culture which had documentable contact with Europe during that period.
3. In order to be eligible for participation, an entry
  - must have been completed (but not started) within the previous two years.
  - may not have been entered in any previous year's Regional or Kingdom-level Faire. An entry may have been entered in any other competition, show or display either in or outside the Middle Kingdom.
  - must comply with the General Rules for the Faire as well as the rules of the particular category under which the entry is placed, as well as any other rules for the specific A&S season declared by the KMOAS.
4. Participants and judges are required to register in advance for Regional and Kingdom Faires. Entrants not preregistered for a Faire will not be allowed to participate. Persons wishing to judge who do not pre-register will not be guaranteed assignments. The Judges' Coordinator or RMOAS/KMOAS may choose to allow fill-in judges on the day of the Faire, at their discretion. \*\*\*Entrants or Judges who are "no-shows" (those who fail to give advance notice to the Judges' Coordinator directly, either by phone or email, that they will not be attending a Faire for which they registered, with the exception of immediate emergency situations) will be denied participation in subsequent Faires during that season.\*\*\*
5. Participants may submit their work for critique and advancement to Kingdom Finals in any Regional Faire. Participants in the Pentathlon must submit their entries in their home Region.
6. The entrant's name, the name of the person the entry was created for, or an SCA group name, must appear on the Supporting Evidence documents, or on a sheet of paper placed with the entry if Supporting Evidence is presented verbally.
7. Face-to-face judging is the default judging method at Regional and Kingdom levels. Judging solely from written documentation must be requested at the time the entrant registers.
8. Each entry must be accompanied by one entry ticket and three expendable copies of written Supporting Evidence. In the case of verbal presentation of Supporting Evidence, the entrant is strongly advised to provide at least a typed outline or source list for judges to retain while filling out score sheets. It is strongly recommended that once an entry number has been assigned to an entry, the participant should record that entry number on all copies of the entry's Documentation.
9. The amount and style of supporting evidence provided is at the participant's discretion. Supporting evidence includes all information given in writing and verbally.
10. A participant must do his or her own research; however, the participant may have help in preparing the written documentation, provided that such assistance is indicated on the entry

ticket.

11. Entries must be physically present the day of the Regional or Kingdom level Faire.

Performance and Demonstration entries must be live unless other arrangements have been approved by the KMOAS in advance. Entries for Mail-In Categories must be completed and postmarked (if physically mailed) or emailed to the KMOAS by midnight, January 15, 2018, for consideration in the 2018 Faire Season.

12. Substitutions of modern alternatives for products derived from endangered plant, animal, and insect species, materials that may be toxic or hazardous, or which are prohibitively expensive, will not be penalized.

13. Materials used in the creation of entries may be modern if they resemble period materials. An entrant may procure period materials, such as hand-woven, naturally-dyed cloth, from another source. An entrant is not required to produce these materials, but they are welcome to do so.

14. Entries produced from kits are not eligible for entry. The use of templates is permitted.

15. Entries should not be penalized for reasonable wear on an entry.

16. The entry's Scope will be evaluated within the entry's time period, culture, and item type. That is, the judge will not assume that the earlier S.C.A.-period works are automatically simple in Scope while later S.C.A.-period works are automatically difficult in Scope. Judges will judge entries by the Criteria, but using standards and norms for the specific form presented in the entry. E.g., narrow, band-type weaving should be judged using the standards and norms for that form, and not using the standards for more complicated large format loom styles.

17. A group submission may be entered in any category; one entrant must act as "spokesperson" for the entry. An individual may enter a group project for individual critique only if their work is clearly distinguishable.

18. Any entrant who has an entry that cannot be presented inside on a 3"x3" table in 20 minutes or less should contact the KMOAS at least four weeks before the Faire to determine if there are suitable facilities for presenting the entry.

19. Any beverage, foodstuff, or herbal entry must conform to the Prohibited and Restricted Herbs list if intended for tasting and/or ingestion (including skin absorption). Any herb used in an entry must be listed in the documentation by its common English name and its Latin botanical name.

20. Brewing and Vinting judges must be age 21 years and older. Brewing and Vinting judges must be able to supply photo identification which provides proof of age.

21. If appropriate, an entry may be cross-entered in only one other category. A separate entry ticket and documentation must be submitted for the cross-entry. Any entry that is entered as a suite of items may not be broken up into individual components to cross-enter into other categories. The entry may be cross-entered as a suite into only one other category.

22. Judges will follow the Middle Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire Judging Criteria when judging entries. If the judge or entrant disagrees with the criteria, they may submit their comments in writing to the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences to be used in future revisions of the Criteria.

23. Judges may use 0.5 but no other fractional increments in scoring.

24. An entry's score will be the average of scores given to it by the judges in that category.
25. The Regional and Kingdom-level Faires will operate on the honor system. Any person who deliberately submits false information, or claims works which have not been done by them (with the documentation exception detail in rule #10), will have all entries disqualified and will be barred from participation the following year.
26. If a judge suspects plagiarism, the judge is not to discuss this with the entrant. The judge must stop judging immediately and find the highest ranking A&S officer at the faire (JC, RMOAS or KMOAS) and describe the issue. The entry is suspended from the Faire until an investigation is made. If an entrant is shown to have committed plagiarism, the entrant and all his/her entries are disqualified, and the entrant is barred from entry on the 2018 and 2019 Midrealm A&S Regional and Kingdom Faires. If the entrant is not found to have committed plagiarism, the judge will be excused from participating in the 2018 and 2019 Midrealm A&S Regional and Kingdom Faires. Please see the Guideline on Plagiarism for additional details.
27. Entries may be modified between the Regional and Kingdom-level Faires, but this modification must be noted with a paragraph at the end of the documentation noting changes and reasoning. Documentation may be enhanced between the Regional and Kingdom-level Faires to include new information or to incorporate comments and information from the Regional-level judges.
28. Any entrant at a Regional Faire may appeal to the Regional MOAS for re-judging of a piece. At Kingdom, any entrant may appeal to the KMOAS for re-judging. If re-judging is requested, the new scores are final.

The Middle Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire Judging Criteria, 2018 Edition.

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## Appendix 2

### Plagiarism

*What is it?* – put simply it is the presentation of another's words, work or conclusions as your own.

*How can we detect it?* – one of the easiest ways to detect plagiarism in written works is to be familiar with the sources, triggering a “this looks familiar” moment. However, with the proliferation of websites, online libraries, books and resources that the internet has brought this becomes increasingly difficult. Most educational systems use plagiarism checkers such as Turnitin which are available by subscription. Fortunately there are a number of free plagiarism checkers online and they are described here:

<https://elearningindustry.com/top-10-free-plagiarism-detection-tools-for-teachers>

Unfortunately we can only use such tools for the submitted papers and not for the individuals who are writing their docs. As such changes in language are often a key that something is copied directly. I.e. if the writing is a fairly low grade level and there are two or more really well written, erudite sentences with many multisyllabic words there is a good chance that the sentences were copied.

*What education can we give to entrants?* – I would strongly recommend that we educate entrants on appropriate use of source material and appropriate citations and end notes. This is a good website to read to understand what is plagiarism and how to avoid it in research papers. Plus articles about how to cite appropriately, lots of good information here.

<http://en.writecheck.com/plagiarism-guide>

One thing that helps avoid inadvertent plagiarism is removing the writing one step from the source material. Read the source, take notes, write your paper from your notes not from the source material. This allows you to reformulate topics in your own words.

Recommend that entrants run their documentation through a free online plagiarism checker.

*What education can we give to judges?* – can plagiarism be proven without direct comparison of sources? No. The same website should be recommended to judges to educate themselves about plagiarism. If plagiarism is suspected then it should be brought to the attention of the tallyroom staff ONLY. Accusations should not be made to the entrant.