

## Animal Husbandry

**Category Rules:** The category is administered through the mail and entries should be sent to the Middle Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences. Since this category is administered as a mail-in category, entries in the *Animal Husbandry* category are **not** eligible for participation in a principality or regional A & S Faire. The deadline for all of the mail-in categories is announced in the Middle Kingdom newsletter, *The Pale* by the Middle Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences. An entry must include four typed or clearly handwritten (no calligraphy, please) copies of the documentation on which the entrant's name **does not appear**, four disposable video tapes of the performance, and a completed Entry Registration Form. Modern videotapes are permitted in this category. The entrant is on her/his honor to produce the video as if s/he were actually at an A & S Faire. The category includes entries in a large range, from feeding songbirds in their local environment, to coursing greyhounds, to falconry or hawking, to the training of a warhorse.

Period training techniques may range into the unacceptable and cruel. Knowledge of, rather than practice of, these techniques and acceptable substitutes should be stressed. The scoring under the Skill category should reflect the appropriate use and choice of animals for a given time or place. Consideration must also be given to the legality of owning certain species, namely raptors.

### **Documentation** (0 to 4 points):

- 0: No documentation provided with entry.
- 1: Minimal information consisting of time, place and style.
- 2: As in #1, plus use of general sources; reliance on tertiary sources with perhaps one secondary source (ex: use of encyclopedia articles with a possible additional use of a book or article that refers to a period source.).
- 3: As in #2, plus a developed discussion making use of critical references; sources are largely secondary (ex: sources refer to period references; documentation discusses, compares, and contrasts the source's views).
- 4: As in #3, plus explanation of original research/experiment and relation of source material to it. Primary sources, if available, are emphasized (ex: sources used are from the appropriate period for the entry, such as period manuscripts, paintings or artifacts).

### **Methods and Materials** (0 to 4 points):

- 0: Entry is completely modern with no relationship to period elements or practices.
- 1: Use of modern materials and methods to produce a performance that would not be accepted in period but either bears some relationship to an authentic work or which might be useful within SCA Culture (ex: authentic use of an animal in a period activity. Modern or non-period breed used. Modern elements are obvious).
- 2: Use of **both** modern materials and methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic to the time period it purports to be (ex: breed may vary culturally and chronologically. Breed may be inauthentic but is a reasonable substitute).
- 3: Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks, feels or sounds authentic (ex: some modern training techniques used, but the breed is authentic. Equipment is authentic, unless safety or humanely related. Vocabulary is authentic.).
- 4: Use of totally authentic materials and methods (ex: all training techniques equipment, breed, culture and chronology are as close to period as currently possible. Results are as close to period style and easily recognizable as such. Safety and humane treatment must be taken into account).

**Scope** (0 to 6 points): Rank the ambition, **not** the success, of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 points for **each** of the following elements and average for the total Scope score (Total of element scores divided by 6).

- Size and/or complexity of project (number of animals used, combination of breeds).
- Type of training (work, entertainment, produce).
- Intricacy of training (work, entertainment, produce).
- Type of animal used.
- Breeding for product (milk, wool, hunting, war, etc.).

- Extent gone to ensure conservation of breeds.

**Skill** (0 to 6 points): How well is the entry made? Rank the success of the entry on a scale of 0 to 6 points for **each** of the following elements and average for the total Skill score (Total of element scores divided by 6).

- Appropriateness of breed used.
- How the animal is used (hunter, entertainment, work, produce, etc.).
- Application of training techniques.
- Developing potential of breed.
- Handling of animal.
- Animal related product.

**Creativity** (0 to 4 points):

0: Uninformative with no innovation.

1: Informative with little innovation.

2: Logical combination of breeding and/or training techniques with some innovation on the trainer's part, all logical to period context.

3: Same as #2, plus much innovation on the trainer's part and logical to period.

4: Same as #3, plus each training technique is logically innovative in itself. Animal and entrant work together in a cohesive fashion, which is specific to the needs of the project.

**Judge's Observations** (0 to 6 points): Rank the entry as a whole. How well do all the separately judged parts fit together? The entry's overall effect is judged in this section. This is the only section of the Criteria where the judge may allow her/his personality, private opinions and personal preferences to influence scoring.

*Contributor:* Beowulf Gordan, 1995.

*Editor:* Melisande of Woodcrest, 1995; Thorhalla Carlsdottir af Bröberg, 1997; Gwyneth Banfhidhleir, 2003.