

THE LAWS OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF THE SUMMITS

DEFINITIONS:

- The Coronet:** The Prince and Princess of the Summits acting together
- The Crown:** The King and Queen of An Tir acting together
- Coronet Sovereign:** The victor in the Coronet lists of the Summits who has been invested with the title of Prince or Princess as appropriate.
- Coronet Consort:** The companion who inspired the victor in the Coronet lists of the Summits who has been invested with the title of Prince or Princess as appropriate.
- Heirs:** The victorious couple prior to Investiture, titled Tanist or Tanista of Summits, as appropriate.
- Proclamation:** A directive of the Coronet effective only during the reign of the Prince and/or Princess making it.
- Subject / Resident:** A person or group of persons whose primary residence is in the Principality of the Summits
- Defender:** The victor of the Defender's List who shall administer the affairs of the Principality in the event there should be a failure of the Coronet to reign.

ARTICLE I: THE LAW

Section 1 -- The Source of Law

The word of the Coronet is Law within the Principality, limited only by the Crown and *Laws of An Tir*, and the laws of the modern political entities having jurisdiction within the Principality.

Section 2 -- Amendments

The Laws of the Principality may be amended by the Coronet with the Crown's Approval, and after review of the Kingdom and Summits seneschals, by proclaiming and publishing specific changes, additions, or deletions to specific articles and sections. Publication must be in an official publication of the SCA, Inc. Other proclamations shall be understood to be in effect only during the reign of the Coronet and shall lapse upon the Investiture of their Successors.

Section 3 -- When Effective

Any proclamation or amendment to the Law shall be understood to be in effect from the moment it is spoken, but no subject of the Principality shall be held accountable until that proclamation or Law is signed and published.

Section 4 -- Publication

Publication of the proclamations and amendments to the Law shall be accomplished by printing changes in the Kingdom and Principality newsletters. Publication of these Laws results in the obsolescence of all prior versions of the Laws.

Section 5 -- Availability

A complete and current correct copy of the Laws will be made available by the Office of the Seneschal to the populace at the Spring Coronet Tournament.

ARTICLE II: THE CORONET

Section 1 -- Rights and Duties

Rights and Duties are specifically enumerated in the Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

Section 2 -- Completion of Reign

Should either the Sovereign or Consort be unable to complete the reign for whatever reason, the other shall assume the duties of both for the remainder of the reign. Should both Sovereign and Consort be unable to complete the reign, administrative duties of the Coronet shall fall on the Defender, and the Coronet shall revert to the Crown of An Tir until such time as a Coronet List may be held.

Section 3 -- Delegation of Coronet Power

The Coronet may delegate unto any subject the execution of Coronet power for a stated specific purpose, such as transmission of an award to a person properly named and selected.

ARTICLE III: TOURNAMENTS, INVESTITURE, AND SUCCESSION

Section 1 -- Scheduling

There will be two Coronet Tournaments and Investitures each year. They will take place on the weekend closest to the following calendar dates:

Fall Tournament - Autumnal Equinox

Winter Investiture - two weeks prior to Winter Solstice

Spring Tournament - Vernal Equinox

Summer Investiture - Summer Solstice

Section 2 -- Entry to Lists

All authorized fighters resident within the Principality are privileged to compete in the Coronet and Defender's Lists and all residents of the Principality may be prospective Consorts, provided they meet the eligibility standards in III.3 below and are both present on the day of the List, unless the Coronet of the Summits deny them entry, or a fighter or consort be otherwise in violation of the Rules of the Lists, the Laws of the Principality, An Tir, The Society, or the modern entity having jurisdiction.

Landed Barons and Baroness' within the borders of the Summits shall petition the Coronet for entry into the Coronet List no less than thirty days prior to a Coronet Tournament.

Section 3 -- Eligibility

Each competitor in the Coronet Lists must agree to the following conditions to be eligible to compete in the Lists:

The victor and consort will reign.

The victor and consort will attend the next two investitures and the next Coronet Tournament.

The competitor has a companion of the opposite gender who will serve as Consort.

That both are eligible based upon Membership requirements put forth in Corpora.
That both are willing to swear an oath that they are loyal to the Crown and the *Laws of An Tir* and the Coronet, Laws and Populace of the Summits.
That both are aware that these positions may require expenditures in excess of membership fees.

That both must be a resident of the Principality for at least 60 days prior to the Tournament and must live within the Principality for the duration of their reign, or be acceptable to the Coronets.

Exceptions may be granted by the Coronet, limited by Corpora and Crown.

Section 4 -- Combat Conventions

The Coronet Lists combat conventions shall be determined by the Coronet.

Section 5 -- Investiture

Oaths to Kingdom and Crown: At their investiture, the Tanist and Tanista of the Summits shall swear fealty to the Crown and obedience to the *Laws of An Tir*. Should the Crown not be present to accept their oaths, written oaths shall be sent to the Crown immediately and spoken oaths given as soon as possible.

Oaths to the land and Populace: The Heirs shall swear fealty to the people of the Summits and swear to uphold the Laws. These oaths shall be witnessed by the Summits Seneschal, the Summits Herald, the Earl Marshall, and such members of the Peerage attendant at the tournament who may bear witness to the claims of the Heirs of the Summits. Upon completion of these Oaths, the Heirs shall receive the Coronets from the outgoing Prince and Princess.

Failure to Invest: Should for any reason a Coronet Tournament be declared invalid or the victor and/or consort elect to abdicate directly, or by failure to appear or respond, a Coronet List shall be called for the beginning of the Investiture. This tournament shall be open to all who meet eligibility requirements put forth above and who were eligible at the time of the original Coronet Tournament. Any person or persons whose actions or inaction were the grounds for an invalidation, as well as a victor and consort who abdicate, are explicitly excluded as both combatants and consorts from the new Lists.

Failure to Reign: Failure of the Prince and Princess to attend Coronet events constitutes failure to reign and shall be taken as abdication, unless such failure to attend is beyond the control of the Coronet and no failure to reign is demonstrated.

ARTICLE IV: CHAMPIONS

Section 1 - Designation of Champions

The Coronet shall determine and create such Titled Champions, as they deem necessary. The current Champions are the Defender, the Champion of the Arts and Sciences (Alpine Scholar), the Archery Champion (Captain of Eagles), and the Rapier Champion (Captain of Cats).

Section 2 -- Defender of the Summits

- A. The fighter who is victorious in the Summits Defender's list shall bear the title Defender of the Summits for the duration of one year. Should the Defender be unable to fulfill the obligations of the position, or is victorious in a Crown or

Coronet list, s/he shall resign the title to the Coronet. The Coronet shall choose a suitable person to serve as Defender until the next Defender's List.

- i. All fighters must be residents of the Principality and members of the SCA to be eligible to compete in the lists.
 - ii. The Defender's List shall be of a kind that promotes a tactical victory, rather than of sole prowess at arms.
 - iii. The Coronet shall determine the conventions of the list.
 - iv. The Defender's List shall be held in conjunction with a traditional local event in the spring, following the March Coronet, but prior to the June Investiture
- B. Duties and Privileges of the Defender**
- i. The Defender shall accompany and defend the Coronet.
 - ii. The Defender shall bear the Banner of the Summits in times of war and peace.
 - iii. The Defender shall occupy the post of Warlord of the Summits and coordinate those duties with the Principality Marshal and Kingdom Warlord.
 - iv. The Defender shall attend the Coronet at Court.
 - v. The Defender shall have a seat at the Principality High Table.
 - vi. If, for any reason, the Summits is without a Coronet, the Defender shall assume the administrative duties of the Coronet as the Crown's representative and shall take the appropriate steps to either invest the Tanist and Tanista of the Summits as scheduled, or hold a Coronet list as scheduled and immediately invest the victor and companion as the Coronet of the Summits.
 - vii. Should the Defender be unable to carry out his or her duties in the absence of the Coronet, the Crown shall select the most suitable person to serve as Defender.

Section 3 - Summits Champion of Arts and Sciences – “Alpine Scholar”

- A.** The individual who is judged victorious in the Arts and Sciences Competition shall bear the title Summits Champion of Arts and Sciences for the duration of one year. Should the Champion of Arts and Sciences be unable to fulfill the obligations of the position, or is victorious in a Crown or Coronet list, s/he shall resign the title to the Coronet. The Coronet shall choose a suitable person to serve as Champion until the next Arts and Sciences Competition. The Arts and Science competition shall take place at Winter Investiture.
- B. Duties and Privileges of the Champion of the Arts and Sciences**
- i. The Champion shall have a position beside the throne at Principality Court.
 - ii. The Champion shall promote and encourage Arts and Sciences throughout the Principality.
 - iii. The Champion shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a contest to select an appropriate successor.

Section 4 - Summits Archery Champion – “Captain of Eagles”

- A. The individual who is judged victorious in the Summits Archery Competition shall bear the title Summits Archery Champion for the duration of one year. Should the Archery Champion be unable to fulfill the obligations of the position, or is victorious in a Crown or Coronet list, s/he shall resign the title to the Coronet. The Coronet shall choose a suitable person to serve as Archery Champion until the next Archery Competition. The Archery competition shall take place in the late summer, between the June Investiture and September Coronet.
- B. Duties and Privileges of the Archery Champion:
 - i. The Champion shall have a position beside the throne at Principality Court.
 - ii. The Champion shall promote and encourage archery and light infantry throughout the Principality.
 - iii. The Champion shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a contest to select an appropriate successor with the help of the Captain of the Bow.

Section 5 - Summits Rapier Champion – “Captain of Cats”

- A. The individual who is judged victorious in the Summits Rapier Competition shall bear the title Summits Rapier Champion for the duration of one year. Should the Rapier Champion be unable to fulfill the obligations of the position, or is victorious in a Crown or Coronet list, s/he shall resign the title to the Coronet. The Coronet shall choose a suitable person to serve as Rapier Champion until the next Rapier Competition. The Rapier competition shall be held at the June Investiture.
- B. Duties and Privileges of the Rapier Champion:
 - i. The Champion shall have a position beside the throne at Principality Court.
 - ii. The Champion shall promote and encourage period fence throughout the Principality.
 - iii. The Champion shall be responsible for preparing and conducting a contest to select an appropriate successor with the help of the Captain of Fence.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1 -- Officers

The Greater Officers of the principality of the Summits shall be: The Seneschal, The Summits Herald, The Earl Marshal, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chronicler, the Chatelaine, the Chirurgion, and the Constable. The Greater Officers of the Summits shall be responsible to the Coronet of the Summits and the Greater Officers of An Tir, and shall safeguard the interests and honor of the Society. All officers shall carry out such duties as appropriate to the post or as directed by the Coronet.

Section 2 -- Reports

- A. Principality officers shall give a written quarterly report on the state of their office. All Principality officers will report to the Coronet, Principality

Seneschal, Kingdom Superior, the Tanist and Tanista when applicable, and to any others required by Law and policy.

The reporting quarters are:

January, February and March (First Quarter) due May 1st.

April, May, and June (Second Quarter) due August 1st.

July, August, September (Third Quarter) due November 1st.

October, November, and December (Fourth Quarter) due February 1st.

- B.** Branch officers shall give a written quarterly report on the state of their office and relevant branch activity to their Principality superior by the 15th of the month following the end of each quarter.
- C.** Failure to report
 - i.** Failure to report on two consecutive reporting periods will result in the suspension of that officer. Suspension will be in force until reinstatement by the Coronet and Principality Seneschal.
 - ii.** If an officer remains in suspension for a full reporting period, that office shall, at the end of that reporting period, be considered vacant.
 - iii.** Failure of a branch officer to report to their Principality superior on two consecutive reporting periods, or twice in a twelve-month span of time, will result in the suspension of that officer. Suspension will be in force until reinstatement by the Coronet and Principality Seneschal. Such a suspension, especially of the critical offices of Seneschal and Exchequer, may result in that branch passing into abeyance. Branches in abeyance may at the discretion of the Coronet and Summits Seneschal, be passed over as a hosting branch of Principality level events. New branches in abeyance, or with poor reporting records for any office, risk demotion back to incipient status, at the discretion and advice of the Coronet, and Kingdom, New Branches, and Principality Seneschals.
- D.** Vacant Offices:
 - i.** The Principality Seneschal shall assume the duties of vacant Principality offices until a suitable officer can be installed.
 - ii.** The branch Seneschal shall report vacant branch Great Offices to the relevant Principality superiors on a quarterly basis, providing their own contact information. Such reports shall be as brief as is needed to report the vacancy, the seneschal's contact info, and a lack of activity or little activity.

Section 3 -- Appointment and Deputies

- A.** Greater Officers are warranted by the Coronet after countersigned approval of the corresponding Kingdom officer. Each may warrant deputies, assistants, and subordinates as are necessary to the functioning of the office.
- B.** All Greater Officers must have a deputy to effect an orderly transfer of the office should the office become unexpectedly vacant.
- C.** If the office becomes vacant or if an officer announces intention to resign, the Coronet, in consultation with the Kingdom superior and the Crown, shall warrant a new officer.

- D. In the event that a lesser office is deemed unnecessary, the office shall be left vacant and the duties assumed by the corresponding greater office.
- E. Officers shall serve for one term of up to two years. At the end of that time they may seek reappointment to the same post for one more term. No individual may serve in that capacity for more than four consecutive years.

Section 4 -- Specific Duties and Jurisdictions

- A. The **Seneschal** is the chief administrative officer of the Principality, and the principal legal representative within the Principality.
 - i. **Summits Calendar/Events Deputy** is responsible for the maintaining the Summits event calendar and forwarding the full and complete information to the An Tir Calendar. They are also responsible for assisting and supervising branches and autocrats for Principality events.
 - ii. **Minister of Children/Fledglings** is responsible for coordinating and overseeing children activities within the Summits and during events, including Pied Piper, whalebone, and boffer.
- B. **The Summits Herald** is responsible for the submission of Heraldic devices, orders of precedence, ceremony, and the promotion of the Art of Heraldry within the Principality. The Summits Herald shall coordinate efforts with the Gryphon Scribe as appropriate.
- C. **The Summits Marshal** has jurisdiction over all martial combat and the Field of Honor. The Keeper of the Lists is directly subordinate to the Summits Marshal. The Captain of the Bow and Captain of Fence are overseen in administration and logistics by the Summits Marshal, in matters of policy by the appropriate Kingdom Deputy Earl Marshals, and report directly to both. The Warlord answers to the Coronet, though is required to make reports to the Principality Marshal and Kingdom Warlord. The duties of these offices are as follows:
 - i. **The Captain of the Bow** shall encourage and coordinate activities pertaining to archery and Light Infantry.
 - ii. **The Keeper of the Lists** shall be responsible for the scheduling of fights in the Coronet Lists and shall maintain records of the names of the authorized fighters and marshals within the Principality.
 - iii. **The Rapier Marshal** shall encourage and coordinate activities pertaining to rapier combat within the Principality.
 - iv. **The Warlord** is not appointed, rather the post is claimed along with victory in the Defender's List and is held for a term of one year. In this capacity, the Defender coordinates the raising of the Summits Army in service to An Tir, and is available for advice to the Crown, Coronet and Kingdom Warlord in preparing for wars.
- D. **The Chancellor of the Exchequer** is responsible for accounting for the moneys, property, and regalia of the Principality and the vassal branches of the Principality, shall have custody of the moneys of the Principality, and shall report to the Kingdom Exchequer as per Kingdom financial reporting schedule. The Exchequer shall oversee the appointed Chamberlain.

- i. **The Chamberlain** shall be delegated all responsibility for maintenance and inventory of regalia.
- ii. Unlike other officers, the Chamberlain shall have a term that matches each Coronet's reign, and shall be appointed by each incoming Coronet with the advice of the Exchequer, to whom the Chamberlain will report.
- E. **The Minister of Arts and Sciences** is responsible for encouraging the study and display of the medieval arts and sciences of the Principality. The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall coordinate efforts with the Gryphon Scribe as appropriate.
- F. **The Chronicler** is responsible for publishing the Principality newsletter; and such other publications as shall be required by the Coronet.
- G. **The Chirurgeon** is responsible for administering the chirurgionate to provide voluntary first aid at Society events, including but not limited to tournament combat, and; and procedures for notifying attendees of health and safety concerns at Society events. The Chirurgeon will oversee the Lesser Office of Minister of the Water Bearers.
 - i. **The Minister of the Water Bearers:** The responsibilities of the Minister of the Water Bearers shall include: establish guidelines and coordinate the activities of water bearers at all Principality and local events.
- H. **The Chatelaine** shall encourage and coordinate recruiting activities within the Principality. The Chatelaine shall be directly responsible for the Lesser Office of Ministry of the Gold Key. The duties of this office areas follows:
 - i. **The Minister of the Gold Key** is responsible for the storage and offering of appropriate clothing for loan.
- I. **The Constable** is responsible for coordinating on-site security and safety at Principality events.
- J. **The Gryphon Scribe** shall encourage the arts of calligraphy and illumination and coordinate the production of scrolls as required by the Coronet. The lesser office reports directly to the Coronet and the Kingdom Scribe, with courtesy reports and coordination of effort extended to the Summits Herald and the Minister of Arts and Sciences.

ARTICLE VI: AWARDS

Section 1 - Creation of Awards

The Coronet shall determine and create such awards as they wish to bestow. The precedence of these awards shall be determined by the Crown of An Tir.

Section 2 - Summits Award

- A. **The Order of the Aerie:** this is a closed order consisting of all those who held the position of Defender or Lady of the Summits prior to the recognition of Summits as a Principality. Members may wear a black garter with a grail tippet.
- B. **The Order of the Gryphon's Sword:** consists of those fighters who have placed second in the Coronet lists. Members may wear an argent sword bent into a ring.

- C. **Morgan's Rose** is given to the consorts of those fighters who have placed second in the Coronet List. Recipients may wear an argent rose wrapped around a spear.
- D. **The Shield of Chivalry** is given by the Princess to that fighter whom she judges to have been most chivalrous during the Coronet Lists. It is passed on at each Coronet Lists.
- E. **The Order of the Summits:** this award is given no more than once per Coronet reign and need not be given every reign. It recognizes extraordinary contribution to the Principality and Populace of Summits. Companions in this Order must be consulted by the Coronet for advice before invitation is offered to a new Companion.
- F. **The Evergreen** is given as a token of appreciation and honor by the Consort to select gentles deemed worthy. Recipients may wear an argent spray of barberry on a beaded necklace.
- G. **The Award of the Grail:** this award may be given by the Coronets for notable contributions in the Arts and Sciences, Service, or Martial endeavor. Recipients may wear an argent grail pendant with colored field (vert for Arts and Science, gules for service, sable for Martial) on a beaded necklace. Due to the varied nature of the award, one of each may be given to the same recipient.
- H. **The Throne Favor of Summits** is given to those within and without the Principality who make noteworthy general contributions to the Principality or the Coronet. The token for this award is determined by each Coronet.
- I. **Gryphon's Favor:** Given to those outside the Summits who make great contributions in support of the Principality. Recipients may wear an argent grail pendent with an azure field on a beaded necklace.
- J. **The Order of the Wounded Gryphon:** Given for exceptional conduct and prowess upon the field of battle. Members may wear a gryphon sejant pierced in the breast by an arrow bendwise sinister argent, fletched azure.

ARTICLE VII: COUNCILS AND COURTS

Section 1 - Designation of Councils and Courts

The Coronet shall determine and create such subordinate administrative bodies they deem necessary. As appropriate, these matters shall be determined by the Crown of An Tir.

Section 2 - the Exchequer's Council

- A. The Exchequer's Council shall consist of the Coronet, the Heirs when applicable, the Principality Seneschal, and the Principality Exchequer. All requests and proposals for the use of Principality moneys for extraordinary expenses must be submitted in writing to the Exchequer. The consent of a majority of the Council is needed to disburse moneys for anything but regular approved expenses.
- B. The Exchequer's Council shall create and maintain a Summits Financial Policy, approved by the Kingdom Exchequer and published annually in Echoes, with changes announced via Echoes and online information sources.

- C. Any permanent special purpose funds overseen by the Principality must be included in the Financial Policy, balances published quarterly in the Echoes and be reported to every Moot. Current permanent funds: Travel Fund, Gryphon Fund.
- D. The Exchequer's Council will meet (at a minimum) each Coronet and Investiture. Other meetings may be called as needed, and online discussions between members of the Council constitutes a meeting if necessary; providing all Council members are included in and respond to the discussion.
- E. The Exchequer's Council shall adhere to all policies as stated within the current Summits Financial Policy.

Section 3 - the Moot

- A. The Moot shall be the forum for the populace of Summits to express their concerns, the officers to account for their offices and branch Seneschals to give reports on local activity. Anyone may attend Moots.
- B. Summits officers and Branch Seneschals, or a representative, must attend Moot.
- C. Autocrats, or a representative, must give a status report for all Principality events occurring in the next six months following the quarterly Moot. Written reports given to the Principality Seneschal prior to the Moot are acceptable when necessary. Principality Champions shall also announce the rules and guidelines for those Championships which choose their successors.
- D. There shall be a Moot at each Coronet event, and additional Moots may be scheduled by the Coronet as needed.

Signed this ninth day of November A.S. XXXVIII, being 2002 CE