

Ceremonial
of the
Barony
of
Lions Gate



Table of Contents

Preface: Pronunciation Notes.....	2
Chapter 1 - The Champions.....	4
Heavy Champion of Lions Gate.....	5
Archery Champion of Lions Gate.....	9
Rapier Champion of Lions Gate.....	13
Bardic Champion of Lions Gate.....	17
Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate.....	21
Chapter 2 - The Sergeantry and Courtiers	25
Sergeantry of Lions Gate.....	26
Courtiers of Lions Gate.....	27
Chapter 3 - The Officers.....	28
Officers of State.....	29
Ceremony for the Investiture of the Sable Loat Pursuivant.....	31
Chapter 4 - The Populace.....	33
Baronial Oath of Fealty.....	34
Baronial Retinue.....	35
Ceremony for a Great Household of Lions Gate.....	36
Chapter 5 - Baronial Awards and Orders.....	37
Chapter 6 - Miscellaneous and Historic Ceremonies.....	38
Transfer of the Courtiers.....	39

Preface: Pronunciation Notes

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias: WILL-yum mak FAR-kar vik gill-eh AHN-drahs

Caitrina inghean Aindriasa: ka-TREE-na in-yen ahn-DRAH-sha

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Chapter 1 - The Champions

Heavy Champion of Lions Gate

Invocation of the Lists

HERALD: Let all combatants who wish to compete this day for the title of Baronial Heavy Champion present themselves before their undoubted Baron and Baroness.

When they are assembled:

HERALD: Today you enter the lists to vie for the honour of becoming the Baronial Heavy Champion of Lions Gate. The person who carries this title is sworn to uphold the duties of this office, that whenever Their Excellencies marshals Their forces, there shall Their Champion be to battle at Their side, and to defend Their Excellencies and The Barony of Lions Gate against all who would take up arms against Them.

Know well that the Champions are required, when present, to join the Baron and Baroness at Their Court; that they will represent the Barony when traveling to other lands; and that they swear fealty or an oath of service to the Barony.

And know too, that the Champions of the Barony of Lions Gate will be an active and positive force in the education and proctoring of their skills within our fair Barony, as well as reaching out to travel and shine as an exemplar of skill and teaching ability to the remainder of our strong Principality of Tir Righ, the great Kingdom of An Tir, and beyond.

And so, understanding the position for which you compete, harken now to the words of your Baron and Baroness.

The Baron and Baroness shall deliver Their personal or inspirational message, then the Herald shall lead the competitors in the oath:

HERALD: Do each of you now swear that should you be given victory this day, you will fulfill the obligations of the Heavy Champion of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the rulings of this Barony, and that you will bear yourself now and in future with the honour and chivalry, virtue and loyalty, which must mark the Heavy Champion of Lions Gate?

COMPETITORS: I so swear.

HERALD: Then make yourselves ready for competition, which will begin at _____.

Bowing to Their Excellencies, the competitors withdraw.

Investiture of the Champion

Return of the Regalia

At the Baron's command, the Herald shall call forth the current Heavy Champion.

HERALD: _____, Heavy Champion of Lions Gate, come before Their Excellencies.

BARON: _____, you have nobly served the Barony of Lions Gate as Our Heavy Champion. Now, in accord with the laws and customs of the Realm and Barony, We release you from your duties with Our deepest thanks for your loyal service.

Champion: Your Excellencies, as I have completed my term as Champion, I return into your keeping the Sword of Lions Gate, and the Heavy Champion's Belt, so that the new Champion might receive them from your hand.

Upon receiving the regalia, the Baron shall say:

BARON: We thank you for your service to the Barony, and before all assembled here wish to honour you for it.

The Lion's Fang

If there is a scroll ready, read from the scroll. If not, follow these words.

HERALD: Know all people by these words that _____, having served faithfully and chivalrously as Heavy Champion of Lions Gate, is hereby granted the Honour of the Lion's Fang.

The Baron will present the former Champion with the token of the Honour. The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace. The former Champion may leave, or may be invited to witness the investiture of the Champion.

Investiture

HERALD: People of Lions Gate, today you witnessed the skills of many honourable combatants, vying for the title of Heavy Champion of Lions Gate. And while the talent of all our people is great, one has been chosen Champion.

Will _____, and their inspiration, come forth before Their Excellencies.

(If an inspiration is present...)

BARON: _____, you have fought well this day, and We would like to present your inspiration with this small recognition.

(Continue...)

BARON: _____, by your valour and skill, you have won the right to the title of Heavy Champion of Lions Gate. Will you take the Champions Oath?

Champion: I will.

The Baronial Sword is presented for the Champion and Their Excellencies to place their hands upon.

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing fealty ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness and your liege lord and lady, to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing the oath of service ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

Champion: I so swear.

The Baron and Baroness shall place the Champion's Belt on the Champion and say:

BARON: We accept your homage, and give to you this symbol of office, the Heavy Champion's Belt, to keep while you are Champion so that all may know we grant you the rights due to a true Champion of Lions Gate, a place at Our Court, and the right to fight by Our side.

The Baron shall hand the Sword to the Champion

BARON: And we give this Sword of Lions Gate into your safe-keeping, and charge you to deliver it to Us as such time as the Barony has need and We shall require it.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

BARON: Now take your place at Our Court, as you have won the right to do so this day.

As the Champion takes their place, the Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

OPENING THE TOURNAMENT

INVOCATION OF THE LIST

- Remind Their Excellencies about the Charge to the competitors.
- How long a break will there be (if any), between the invocation and the lists?

RETURNING THE REGALIA

- Ensure the current Champion knows what is expected. If the current Champion is not present, have the regalia already been returned?
- Remind Their Excellencies about the token for the Lion's Fang. Has a scroll been yet made for the recipient?
- Will the old Champion remain in court to witness the new Champion's invocation?

INVESTITURE OF THE CHAMPION

- Remind Their Excellencies about a token of recognition for the victor's inspiration.
- Check with the victor to see if they will swear fealty or an oath of service. The oath of service is traditionally sworn instead if the victor has already sworn fealty to Their Excellencies, Their Highnesses of Tir Righ, or Their Majesties of An Tir. Even so, the victor may wish to swear fealty, and may do so.

Archery Champion of Lions Gate

Invocation of the Lists

HERALD: Let all combatants who wish to compete this day for the title of Baronial Archery Champion present themselves before their undoubted Baron and Baroness.

When they are assembled:

HERALD: Today you enter the lists to vie for the honour of becoming the Baronial Archery Champion of Lions Gate. The person who carries this title is sworn to uphold the duties of this office, that whenever Their Excellencies marshals Their forces, there shall Their Champion be at the fore, reflecting the skill of the Barony's archers.

Know well that the Champions are required, when present, to join the Baron and Baroness at Their Court; that they will represent the Barony when traveling to other lands; and that they swear fealty or an oath of service to the Barony.

And know too, that the Champions of the Barony of Lions Gate will be an active and positive force in the education and proctoring of their skills within our fair Barony, as well as reaching out to travel and shine as an exemplar of skill and teaching ability to the remainder of our strong Principality of Tir Righ, the great Kingdom of An Tir, and beyond.

And so, understanding the position for which you compete, harken now to the words of your Baron and Baroness.

The Baron and Baroness shall deliver Their personal or inspirational message, then the Herald shall lead the competitors in the oath:

HERALD: Do each of you now swear that should you be given victory this day, you will fulfill the obligations of the Archery Champion of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the rulings of this Barony, and that you will bear yourself now and in future with the honour and chivalry, virtue and loyalty, which must mark the Archery Champion of Lions Gate?

COMPETITORS: I so swear.

HERALD: Then make yourselves ready for competition, which will begin at _____.

Bowing to Their Excellencies, the competitors withdraw.

Investiture of the Champion

Return of the Regalia

At the Baron's command, the Herald shall call forth the current Archery Champion.

HERALD: _____, Archery Champion of Lions Gate, come before Their Excellencies.

BARON: _____, you have nobly served the Barony of Lions Gate as Our Archery Champion. Now, in accord with the laws and customs of the Realm and Barony, We release you from your duties with Our deepest thanks for your loyal service.

Champion: Your Excellencies, as I have completed my term as Champion, I return into your keeping this Quiver of Arrows, and the Archery Champion's Belt, so that the new Champion might receive them from your hand.

Upon receiving the regalia, the Baron shall say:

BARON: We thank you for your service to the Barony, and before all assembled here wish to honour you for it.

The Lion's Fang

If there is a scroll ready, read from the scroll. If not, follow these words.

HERALD: Know all people by these words that _____, having served faithfully and chivalrously as Archery Champion of Lions Gate, is hereby granted the Honour of the Lion's Fang.

The Baron will present the former Champion with the token of the Honour. The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace. The former Champion may leave, or may be invited to witness the investiture of the Champion.

Investiture

HERALD: People of Lions Gate, today you witnessed the skills of many honourable combatants, vying for the title of Archery Champion of Lions Gate. And while the talent of all our people is great, one has been chosen Champion.

Will _____, and their inspiration, come forth before Their Excellencies.

(If an inspiration is present...)

BARON: _____, you have fought well this day, and We would like to present your inspiration with this small recognition.

(Continue...)

BARON: _____, by your valour and skill, you have won the right to the title of Archery Champion of Lions Gate. Will you take the Champions Oath?

Champion: I will.

The Baronial Sword is presented for the Champion and Their Excellencies to place their hands upon.

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing fealty ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness and your liege lord and lady, to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing the oath of service ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

Champion: I so swear.

The Baron and Baroness shall place the Champion's Belt on the Champion and say:

BARON: We accept your homage, and give to you this symbol of office, the Archery Champion's Belt, to keep while you are Champion so that all may know we grant you the rights due to a true Champion of Lions Gate, a place at Our Court, and the right to fight by Our side.

The Baron shall hand the Quiver to the Champion

BARON: And we give this Baronial Quiver of Arrows into your safe-keeping, and charge you to defend the Barony as required.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

BARON: Now take your place at Our Court, as you have won the right to do so this day.

As the Champion takes their place, the Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

OPENING THE TOURNAMENT

INVOCATION OF THE LIST

- Remind Their Excellencies about the Charge to the competitors.
- How long a break will there be (if any), between the invocation and the lists?

RETURNING THE REGALIA

- Ensure the current Champion knows what is expected. If the current Champion is not present, have the regalia already been returned?
- Remind Their Excellencies about the token for the Lion's Fang. Has a scroll been yet made for the recipient?
- Will the old Champion remain in court to witness the new Champion's invocation?

INVESTITURE OF THE CHAMPION

- Remind Their Excellencies about a token of recognition for the victor's inspiration.
- Check with the victor to see if they will swear fealty or an oath of service. The oath of service is traditionally sworn instead if the victor has already sworn fealty to Their Excellencies, Their Highnesses of Tir Righ, or Their Majesties of An Tir. Even so, the victor may wish to swear fealty, and may do so.

Rapier Champion of Lions Gate

Invocation of the Lists

HERALD: Let all combatants who wish to compete this day for the title of Baronial Rapier Champion present themselves before their undoubted Baron and Baroness.

When they are assembled:

HERALD: Today you enter the lists to vie for the honour of becoming the Baronial Rapier Champion of Lions Gate. The person who carries this title is sworn to uphold the duties of this office, that whenever Their Excellencies marshals Their forces, there shall Their Champion be to battle at Their side, and to defend Their Excellencies and The Barony of Lions Gate against all who would take up arms against Them.

Know well that the Champions are required, when present, to join the Baron and Baroness at Their Court; that they will represent the Barony when traveling to other lands; and that they swear fealty or an oath of service to the Barony.

And know too, that the Champions of the Barony of Lions Gate will be an active and positive force in the education and proctoring of their skills within our fair Barony, as well as reaching out to travel and shine as an exemplar of skill and teaching ability to the remainder of our strong Principality of Tir Righ, the great Kingdom of An Tir, and beyond.

And so, understanding the position for which you compete, harken now to the words of your Baron and Baroness.

The Baron and Baroness shall deliver Their personal or inspirational message, then the Herald shall lead the competitors in the oath:

HERALD: Do each of you now swear that should you be given victory this day, you will fulfill the obligations of the Rapier Champion of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the rulings of this Barony, and that you will bear yourself now and in future with the honour and chivalry, virtue and loyalty, which must mark the Rapier Champion of Lions Gate?

COMPETITORS: I so swear.

HERALD: Then make yourselves ready for competition, which will begin at _____.

Bowing to Their Excellencies, the competitors withdraw.

Investiture of the Champion

Return of the Regalia

At the Baron's command, the Herald shall call forth the current Rapier Champion.

HERALD: _____, Rapier Champion of Lions Gate, come before Their Excellencies.

BARON: _____, you have nobly served the Barony of Lions Gate as Our Rapier Champion. Now, in accord with the laws and customs of the Realm and Barony, We release you from your duties with Our deepest thanks for your loyal service.

Champion: Your Excellencies, as I have completed my term as Champion, I return into your keeping this Baronial Rapier, and the Rapier Champion's Belt, so that the new Champion might receive them from your hand.

Upon receiving the regalia, the Baron shall say:

BARON: We thank you for your service to the Barony, and before all assembled here wish to honour you for it.

The Lion's Fang

If there is a scroll ready, read from the scroll. If not, follow these words.

HERALD: Know all people by these words that _____, having served faithfully and chivalrously as Rapier Champion of Lions Gate, is hereby granted the Honour of the Lion's Fang.

The Baron will present the former Champion with the token of the Honour. The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace. The former Champion may leave, or may be invited to witness the investiture of the Champion.

Investiture

HERALD: People of Lions Gate, today you witnessed the skills of many honourable combatants, vying for the title of Rapier Champion of Lions Gate. And while the talent of all our people is great, one has been chosen Champion.

Will _____, and their inspiration, come forth before Their Excellencies.

(If an inspiration is present...)

BARON: _____, you have fought well this day, and We would like to present your inspiration with this small recognition.

(Continue...)

BARON: _____, by your valour and skill, you have won the right to the title of Rapier Champion of Lions Gate. Will you take the Champions Oath?

Champion: I will.

The Baronial Sword is presented for the Champion and Their Excellencies to place their hands upon.

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing fealty ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness and your liege lord and lady, to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing the oath of service ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear to faithfully discharge your duties and defend Lions Gate, to abide by the laws of the Realm, and to loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

Champion: I so swear.

The Baron and Baroness shall place the Champion's Belt on the Champion and say:

BARON: We accept your homage, and give to you this symbol of office, the Rapier Champion's Belt, to keep while you are Champion so that all may know we grant you the rights due to a true Champion of Lions Gate, a place at Our Court, and the right to fight by Our side.

The Baron shall hand the Rapier to the Champion

BARON: And we give this Baronial Rapier into your safe-keeping, and charge you to deliver it to Us at such time as the Barony has need and We shall require it

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

BARON: Now take your place at Our Court, as you have won the right to do so this day.

As the Champion takes their place, the Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

OPENING THE TOURNAMENT

INVOCATION OF THE LIST

- Remind Their Excellencies about the Charge to the competitors.
- How long a break will there be (if any), between the invocation and the lists?

RETURNING THE REGALIA

- Ensure the current Champion knows what is expected. If the current Champion is not present, have the regalia already been returned?
- Remind Their Excellencies about the token for the Lion's Fang. Has a scroll been yet made for the recipient?
- Will the old Champion remain in court to witness the new Champion's invocation?

INVESTITURE OF THE CHAMPION

- Remind Their Excellencies about a token of recognition for the victor's inspiration.
- Check with the victor to see if they will swear fealty or an oath of service. The oath of service is traditionally sworn instead if the victor has already sworn fealty to Their Excellencies, Their Highnesses of Tir Righ, or Their Majesties of An Tir. Even so, the victor may wish to swear fealty, and may do so.

Bardic Champion of Lions Gate

Invocation of the Lists

HERALD: Let all combatants who wish to compete this day for the title of Baronial Bardic Champion present themselves before their undoubted Baron and Baroness.

When they are assembled:

HERALD: Today you enter the lists to vie for the honour of becoming the Baronial Bardic Champion of Lions Gate. The person who carries this title is sworn to uphold the duties of this office, that when Their Excellencies marshal the performers, bards, minstrels, and poets of the Barony, there shall the Champion be at the fore, reflecting the glory of the Barony's lore and skill.

Know well that the Champions are required, when present, to join the Baron and Baroness at Their Court; that they will represent the Barony when traveling to other lands; and that they swear fealty or an oath of service to the Barony.

And know too, that the Champions of the Barony of Lions Gate will be an active and positive force in the education and proctoring of their skills within our fair Barony, as well as reaching out to travel and shine as an exemplar of skill and teaching ability to the remainder of our strong Principality of Tir Righ, the great Kingdom of An Tir, and beyond.

And so, understanding the position for which you compete, harken now to the words of your Baron and Baroness.

The Baron and Baroness shall deliver Their personal or inspirational message, then the Herald shall lead the competitors in the oath:

HERALD: Do each of you now swear that should you be given victory this day, you will fulfill the obligations of the Bardic Champion of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the rulings of this Barony, and that you will bear yourself now and in future with the honour and chivalry, virtue and loyalty, which must mark the Bardic Champion of Lions Gate?

COMPETITORS: I so swear.

HERALD: Then make yourselves ready for competition, which will begin at _____.

Bowing to Their Excellencies, the competitors withdraw.

Investiture of the Champion

Return of the Regalia

At the Baron's command, the Herald shall call forth the current Bardic Champion.

HERALD: _____, Bardic Champion of Lions Gate, come before Their Excellencies.

BARON: _____, you have nobly served the Barony of Lions Gate as Our Bardic Champion. Now, in accord with the laws and customs of the Realm and Barony, We release you from your duties with Our deepest thanks for your loyal service.

Champion: Your Excellencies, as I have completed my term as Champion, I return into your keeping the Bardic Champion's Belt, so that the new Champion might receive it from your hand.

Upon receiving the regalia, the Baron shall say:

BARON: We thank you for your service to the Barony, and before all assembled here wish to honour you for it.

The Lion's Fang

If there is a scroll ready, read from the scroll. If not, follow these words.

HERALD: Know all people by these words that _____, having served faithfully and chivalrously as Bardic Champion of Lions Gate, is hereby granted the Honour of the Lion's Fang.

The Baron will present the former Champion with the token of the Honour. The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace. The former Champion may leave, or may be invited to witness the investiture of the Champion.

Investiture

HERALD: People of Lions Gate, today you witnessed the skills of many honourable combatants, vying for the title of Bardic Champion of Lions Gate. And while the talent of all our people is great, one has been chosen Champion.

Will _____, and their inspiration, come forth before Their Excellencies.

(If an inspiration is present...)

BARON: _____, you have fought well this day, and We would like to present your inspiration with this small recognition.

(Continue...)

BARON: _____, by your valour and skill, you have won the right to the title of Bardic Champion of Lions Gate. Will you take the Champions Oath?

Champion: I will.

The Baronial Sword is presented for the Champion and Their Excellencies to place their hands upon.

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing fealty ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness and your liege lord and lady, that whenever They marshal the performers of the Barony, there shall you be at the fore to bring honour and glory to The Circlets and Barony of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the laws of the Realm, and loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing the oath of service ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear that whenever Their Excellencies marshal the performers of the Barony, there shall you be at the fore to bring honour and glory to The Circlets and Barony of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the laws of the Realm, and loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

Champion: I so swear.

The Baron and Baroness shall place the Champion's Belt on the Champion and say:

BARON: We accept your homage, and give to you this symbol of office, the Bardic Champion's Belt, to keep while you are Champion so that all may know we grant you the rights due to a true Champion of Lions Gate, a place at Our Court, and the right to stand by Our side.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

BARON: Now take your place at Our Court, as you have won the right to do so this day.

As the Champion takes their place, the Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

OPENING THE TOURNAMENT

INVOCATION OF THE LIST

- Remind Their Excellencies about the Charge to the competitors.
- How long a break will there be (if any), between the invocation and the lists?

RETURNING THE REGALIA

- Ensure the current Champion knows what is expected. If the current Champion is not present, have the regalia already been returned?
- Remind Their Excellencies about the token for the Lion's Fang. Has a scroll been yet made for the recipient?
- Will the old Champion remain in court to witness the new Champion's invocation?

INVESTITURE OF THE CHAMPION

- Remind Their Excellencies about a token of recognition for the victor's inspiration.
- Check with the victor to see if they will swear fealty or an oath of service. The oath of service is traditionally sworn instead if the victor has already sworn fealty to Their Excellencies, Their Highnesses of Tir Righ, or Their Majesties of An Tir. Even so, the victor may wish to swear fealty, and may do so.

Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate

Invocation of the Lists

HERALD: Let all combatants who wish to compete this day for the title of Baronial Arts and Sciences Champion present themselves before their undoubted Baron and Baroness.

When they are assembled:

HERALD: Today you enter the lists to vie for the honour of becoming the Baronial Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate. The person who carries this title is sworn to uphold the duties of this office, that when Their Excellencies marshal the scholars and artisans of the Barony, there shall the Champion be at the fore, reflecting the glory of the Barony's lore and skill.

Know well that the Champions are required, when present, to join the Baron and Baroness at Their Court; that they will represent the Barony when traveling to other lands; and that they swear fealty or an oath of service to the Barony.

And know too, that the Champions of the Barony of Lions Gate will be an active and positive force in the education and proctoring of their skills within our fair Barony, as well as reaching out to travel and shine as an exemplar of skill and teaching ability to the remainder of our strong Principality of Tir Righ, the great Kingdom of An Tir, and beyond.

And so, understanding the position for which you compete, harken now to the words of your Baron and Baroness.

The Baron and Baroness shall deliver Their personal or inspirational message, then the Herald shall lead the competitors in the oath:

HERALD: Do each of you now swear that should you be given victory this day, you will fulfill the obligations of the Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the rulings of this Barony, and that you will bear yourself now and in future with the honour and chivalry, virtue and loyalty, which must mark the Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate?

COMPETITORS: I so swear.

HERALD: Then make yourselves ready for competition, which will begin at _____.

Bowing to Their Excellencies, the competitors withdraw.

Investiture of the Champion

Return of the Regalia

At the Baron's command, the Herald shall call forth the current Arts and Sciences Champion.

HERALD: _____, Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate, come before Their Excellencies.

BARON: _____, you have nobly served the Barony of Lions Gate as Our Arts and Sciences Champion. Now, in accord with the laws and customs of the Realm and Barony, We release you from your duties with Our deepest thanks for your loyal service.

Champion: Your Excellencies, as I have completed my term as Champion, I return into your keeping the Arts and Sciences Champion's Belt, so that the new Champion might receive it from your hand.

Upon receiving the regalia, the Baron shall say:

BARON: We thank you for your service to the Barony, and before all assembled here wish to honour you for it.

The Lion's Fang

If there is a scroll ready, read from the scroll. If not, follow these words.

HERALD: Know all people by these words that _____, having served faithfully and chivalrously as Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate, is hereby granted the Honour of the Lion's Fang.

The Baron will present the former Champion with the token of the Honour. The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace. The former Champion may leave, or may be invited to witness the investiture of the Champion.

Investiture

HERALD: People of Lions Gate, today you witnessed the skills of many honourable combatants, vying for the title of Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate. And while the talent of all our people is great, one has been chosen Champion.

Will _____, and their inspiration, come forth before Their Excellencies.

(If an inspiration is present...)

BARON: _____, you have fought well this day, and We would like to present your inspiration with this small recognition.

(Continue...)

BARON: _____, by your valour and skill, you have won the right to the title of Arts and Sciences Champion of Lions Gate. Will you take the Champions Oath?

Champion: I will.

The Baronial Sword is presented for the Champion and Their Excellencies to place their hands upon.

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing fealty ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness and your liege lord and lady, that whenever They marshal the scholars and artisans of the Barony, there shall you be at the fore to bring honour and glory to The Circlets and Barony of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the laws of the Realm, and loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

*(*** use this when Champion is swearing the oath of service ***)*

HERALD: Do you now swear that whenever Their Excellencies marshal the scholars and artisans of the Barony, there shall you be at the fore to bring honour and glory to The Circlets and Barony of Lions Gate, that you will abide by the laws of the Realm, and loyally serve the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate for so long as you remain Champion, and They remain Baron and Baroness?

Champion: I so swear.

The Baron and Baroness shall place the Champion's Belt on the Champion and say:

BARON: We accept your homage, and give to you this symbol of office, the Arts and Sciences Champion's Belt, to keep while you are Champion so that all may know we grant you the rights due to a true Champion of Lions Gate, a place at Our Court, and the right to stand by Our side.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

BARON: Now take your place at Our Court, as you have won the right to do so this day.

As the Champion takes their place, the Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

OPENING THE TOURNAMENT

INVOCATION OF THE LIST

- Remind Their Excellencies about the Charge to the competitors.
- How long a break will there be (if any), between the invocation and the lists?

RETURNING THE REGALIA

- Ensure the current Champion knows what is expected. If the current Champion is not present, have the regalia already been returned?
- Remind Their Excellencies about the token for the Lion's Fang. Has a scroll been yet made for the recipient?
- Will the old Champion remain in court to witness the new Champion's invocation?

INVESTITURE OF THE CHAMPION

- Remind Their Excellencies about a token of recognition for the victor's inspiration.
- Check with the victor to see if they will swear fealty or an oath of service. The oath of service is traditionally sworn instead if the victor has already sworn fealty to Their Excellencies, Their Highnesses of Tir Righ, or Their Majesties of An Tir. Even so, the victor may wish to swear fealty, and may do so.

Chapter 2 - The Sergeantry and Courtiers

Sergeantry of Lions Gate

Opening Court

*Note: This is **always** to be the last item of Opening Court.*

BARONESS: Good gentles, today (*number of Sergeant, Yeoman, and Gallant applicants*) have applied to become (Sergeants / Yeomen / Gallants) of Lions Gate. So that you may know them, I ask them now to come before this Court, with their shields or their bucklers, their helms and their heraldry, and introduce themselves by name, while their petitions are shown to all.

The candidates all come forward one at a time, and their petitions are shown to the populace.

BARONESS: I ask you all to watch and support these candidates, and let me know of things which you see, so that each candidate may be truly and fairly judged.

Candidates, you may make yourselves ready for the trials of the day.

Bowing to Her Excellency, the candidates withdraw.

Closing Court

*Note: This is **always** to be the last item of Closing Court.*

BARONESS: Please call forward my Sergeantry.

HERALD: Let Baroness Caitrina's Sergeants, Yeomen, and Gallants come now into court and attend Her Excellency.

When the Sergeantry have all gathered, Her Excellency will often take this time to say a few words on the candidates. She may call the successful candidates at once, one at a time, or have the herald call them. When a successful candidate or group of such comes forward;

BARONESS: Is it your wish at this time to become a (Sergeant / Yeoman / Gallant) of Lions Gate?

CANDIDATE: It is, Your Excellency.

HERALD: Do you now give your fealty to Baroness Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, and through Her the Barony of Lions Gate, that you will keep faithful the obligations and enjoy the privileges as a member of Her Sergeantry, that you will bear yourself now and in future with honour, virtue and loyalty, and deal courteously with those of every degree, that you will strive to serve and defend Her in all matters which concern Her, in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, for so long as Her Excellency remains Baroness of Lions Gate, death take you, or the world end?

CANDIDATE: I so swear.

BARONESS: And I, for my part, do swear fealty to (this / these), my new (Sergeant / Yeoman / Gallant), and to support and defend them against every creature with all my power, for so long as I remain Baroness of Lions Gate, death take me, or the world end.

So say I, Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, Baroness of Lions Gate.

Here the successful candidate will be given their symbol of rank. When complete, the herald will exhort the cheers of the populace for the new member of the Sergeantry.

Courtiers of Lions Gate

Opening Court

Note: This is to be the second last item of Opening Court, proceeding the Sergeantry.

BARON: Good gentles, today (*number of applicants*) have applied to become Courtiers of Lions Gate. So that you may know them, I ask them now to come before this Court, with their heraldry, and introduce themselves by name, while their petitions are shown to all.

The candidates all come forward one at a time, and their petitions are shown to the populace.

BARON: I ask you all to watch and support these candidates, and let me know of things which you see, so that each candidate may be truly and fairly judged.

Candidates, you may make yourselves ready for the trials of the day.

Bowing to His Excellency, the candidates withdraw.

Closing Court

Note: This is to be the second last item of Closing Court, proceeding the Sergeantry.

BARON: Please call forward my Courtiers.

HERALD: Let Baron Uilliam's Courtiers come now into court and attend His Excellency.

When the Courtiers have all gathered, His Excellency will often take this time to say a few words on the candidates. He may call the successful candidates at once, one at a time, or have the herald call them. When a successful candidate or group of such comes forward;

BARON: Is it your wish at this time to become a Courtier of Lions Gate?

CANDIDATE: It is, Your Excellency.

HERALD: Do you now give your fealty to Baron Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, and through Him the Barony of Lions Gate, that you will keep faithful the obligations and enjoy the privileges as a member of His Order of Courtiers, that you will bear yourself now and in future with honour, virtue and loyalty, and deal courteously with those of every degree, that you will strive to serve and defend Him in all matters which concern Him, in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, for so long as His Excellency remains Baron of Lions Gate, death take you, or the world end?

CANDIDATE: I so swear.

BARON: And I, for my part, do swear fealty to (this / these), my new Courtier/s, and to support and defend them against every creature with all my power, for so long as I remain Baroness of Lions Gate, death take me, or the world end.

So say I, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, Baron of Lions Gate.

Here the successful candidate will be given their symbol of rank. When complete, the herald will exhort the cheers of the populace for the new member of the Order of Courtier.

Chapter 3 - The Officers

Officers of State

The herald will call forth the retiring officer.

HERALD: (Name) _____, (office) _____,
has business before Their Excellencies.

The officer will come and kneel before Their Excellencies.

OFFICER: Excellencies, I have come to resign my office of _____.

BARON: We accept your desire to resign your office, and We thank you for your service to Us and to the Barony and People of Lions Gate.

If there are regalia of the office:

OFFICER: Please accept this regalia of the office, so that my successor may accept them from your hand.

The Baron and Baroness will most likely wish to say a few words at this time, and the retiring officer may wish to swear fealty to Their Excellencies. After which, the Herald shall exhort the cheers of the populace. The retiring officer may wish to stay as witness to the oath of the new officer.

HERALD: Let (new officer) _____, come before Their Excellencies.

The new officer will come and kneel before Their Excellencies.

HERALD: _____, Their Excellencies have chosen you to succeed to the office of _____. Are you prepared to undertake the tasks and responsibilities of this Office of State, to serve the Barony and the People of Lions Gate, and to swear fealty to Their Excellencies?

OFFICER: I am.

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness, that you will faithfully discharge your office, obeying Their Excellencies lawful commands in all matters that concern this Realm, upholding the Coronet and Barony of Lions Gate; and, mindful that the harmony of the Barony springs from your own deeds, that you will deal courteously with those of every degree so long as Their Excellencies remain Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate?

OFFICER: I so swear.

BARON: And We, for our part, do swear fealty to this Our officer of Lions Gate, and all who server under them, and to their household; to protect and defend them with all of Our power, so long as We remain Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

If there are regalia of the office:

BARON: Please accept this regalia of your office, so that all may know you are Our representative.

BARON: Henceforth be known as (office) _____ of the Barony of Lions Gate.

The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

NOTES FOR THE HERALD

Check to see if there is regalia for the office.

Check to see if the retiring officer wishes to swear fealty upon retiring, and if they will remain to witness the new officer's oath.

Ceremony for the Investiture of the Sable Loat Pursuivant

The herald will call forth the current Sable Loat Pursuivant.

HERALD: _____, come now into Their Excellencies' Court.

When the Sable Loat Pursuivant has arrived they shall say:

SLP: Your Excellencies, I have come to resign my office as Sable Loat Pursuivant, and do here surrender these symbols of my former office. I recommend to Your Excellencies _____ as my successor in Your service.

Here the retiring Sable Loat Pursuivant surrenders the tabard and staff of office.

BARON: We thank you for your service to Us and Our Barony, and wish you success in your future efforts.

The Baron and Baroness will most likely wish to say a few words at this time, and the retiring Sable Loat may wish to swear fealty to Their Excellencies. After which, the Herald shall exhort the cheers of the populace. The retiring officer may wish to stay as witness to the investiture.

HERALD: It was the custom in times past that persons named to an Office of Arms be invested in that office by a solemn and fitting ceremony, and we today continue that tradition according to the Laws and Customs of the Kingdom of An Tir, the Principality of Tir Righ, and the Barony of Lions Gate.
_____, Their Excellencies command your presence.

Any other heralds present may accompany the new Sable Loat Pursuivant into court, or the Herald should call them forth.

HERALD: Will all members of the College of Arms please join Their Excellencies as witnesses to this ceremony.

And when the new Sable Loat Pursuivant, and any further heralds, are in place:

HERALD: Uilliam and Caitrina, Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, are minded to name you Sable Loat Pursuivant. Will you accept the responsibilities and honour of this office?

CANDIDATE: I will.

HERALD: Are you then prepared to take the Oath of Arms?

CANDIDATE: I am.

HERALD: Do you now swear that you will be ever true to Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias and Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, your undoubted Baron and Baroness, that you will obey Their lawful commands in all matters that concern this realm, and further that you will honour all lords and ladies of this realm?

CANDIDATE: I so swear.

HERALD: Do you swear that you will bear yourself thoughtfully, sedately, discreetly; keeping all secrets save only treason against the Crown, the Coronet, and your Barony; that you will

seek out and report worshipful deeds; that you will be ever ready to commend and loath to blame in all your dealings?

CANDIDATE: I so swear.

HERALD: Will you preserve to the best of your ability the rights and privileges of the Office of Arms, to make known to your fellows any deeds of arms, feasts, tournaments, jousts and other assemblies of honour at which they may be able to acquire thanks, honour and profit, sharing truly the goods and gifts coming from this noble Office of Arms?

CANDIDATE: I so swear.

HERALD: Do you further swear that you will faithfully participate in the activities of the An Tir College of Heralds, and continue to delight in the study and practice of the science of arms, pledging your knowledge to the service of the Barony and the People of Lions Gate?

CANDIDATE: All this I do swear.

BARON: And We, for our part, do swear fealty to this, Our Sable Loat Pursuivant, and all who server under them, and to their household; to accept their faithful council and honestly give Our own, and to protect and defend them with all of Our power, so long as We remain Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate.

So say I, Uilliam, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina, Baroness of Lions Gate.

The Baron will now pour the water over the candidate's head, saying:

BARON: Henceforth be known as _____ Sable Loat, Pursuivant for the Barony of Lions Gate.

Giving the new Sable Loat Pursuivant a full cup to drink:

BARON: Drink deep to seal the oath that you have taken this day, and keep this cup as a token of your pledge.

The Baroness shall hand the staff of office to the new Sable Loat Pursuivant:

BARONESS: Bear this staff as a symbol of your office so that all who see may know that you are Our representative.

The Pursuivant shall now receive the tabard. If the new Sable Loat has not been titled previously, the tabard shall be placed over their head athwart, and turned clockwise until it comes to its proper positioning. This must be done by two people, be they heralds, the Baron, the Baroness, or any combination thereof.

HERALD: Bear this tabard as a symbol as Their Excellencies' voice, and your office within the College of Heralds of An Tir.

Here the herald will exhort the cheers of the populace, as the new Sable Loat Pursuivant takes their place.

Chapter 4 - The Populace

Baronial Oath of Fealty

The herald will call forth the populace.

HERALD: Let all members of the populace who wish to swear fealty come now before Their Excellencies.

When all have come and knelt before Their Excellencies:

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias and Caitrina inghean Aindriasa; that they are your undoubted Baron and Baroness, and through them to the Barony of Lions Gate; and that you will strive to serve and defend them and the Barony, in all matter which concern it and them, in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, except as it conflicts with such duties you may have with the Sovereign of An Tir, until Their Excellencies depart their thrones, death take you, or the world ends?

POPULACE: I so swear.

BARON: And We, for our part, do swear fealty to these people of Our Barony; to protect and defend them and their households with all of Our power, until we depart Our thrones, death take Us, or the world ends.

So say I, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, Baroness of Lions Gate.

The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

Baronial Retinue

The herald will call forth the new members of the retinue.

HERALD: Let (list of names) _____, come before Their Excellencies.

The members of the retinue will come and kneel before Their Excellencies.

BARONESS: Because of your courtesy and gentility, honour and loyalty, We have chosen to invest you as members of Our retinue. Is it your desire to serve Us in this manner?

RETINUE: It is.

HERALD: Are you then prepared to enter Their Excellencies service, and swear fealty to your Baron and Baroness?

RETINUE: We are.

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness, that you will faithfully serve Them and obey Their lawful commands, and that you will deal courteously and graciously with those of every degree so long as Their Excellencies remain Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate?

RETINUE: I so swear.

BARON: And We, for our part, do swear fealty to these Our retinue; to treat them with courtesy and honour, to protect and defend them with all of Our power, so long as We remain Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate.

So say I, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, Baroness of Lions Gate.

The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

Ceremony for a Great Household of Lions Gate

The herald will call forth the members of the household.

HERALD: Let all members of *(name of the household)* _____ come forth before Their Excellencies.

When all have come and knelt before Their Excellencies:

HERALD: Do you now swear fealty to Uilliam and Caitrina, your undoubted Baron and Baroness, and through them to the Barony of Lions Gate; that all your deeds may be for the greater glory of the Barony of Lions Gate, and that you will strive to serve and defend them and the Barony, in all matter which concern it and them, in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until Their Excellencies depart their thrones, death take you, or the world ends?

MEMBERS: We so swear.

BARON: And We, for our part, recognize _____ as a greater household of Lions Gate, and do swear fealty to these people of Our Barony; to protect and defend them and their household with all of Our power, until we depart Our thrones, death take Us, or the world ends.

So say I, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, Baron of Lions Gate.

BARONESS: So say I, Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, Baroness of Lions Gate.

The Herald will exhort the cheers of the populace.

Chapter 5 - Baronial Awards and Orders

Chapter 6 - Miscellaneous and Historic Ceremonies

NOTES:

This ceremony was used during AS 49, when Baron Uilliam and Baroness Caitrina separated the Courtiers from the Order of the Sergeantry.

Transfer of the Courtiers

The members of the Sergeantry will already be in court, Caitrina will call forward Her Courtiers.

HERALD: Years ago, you chose a path of service to the Baroness and through her the Barony of Lions Gate, as a Courtier, and a member of the Baroness' Sergeantry. Since Her investiture as your Baroness, you have well served and greatly advised Her Excellency Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, as you have the Baronesses before her.

But as so often happens, with growth comes change. The Order of the Courtier will now be an entity unto themselves, separate from – and equal to – the Order of the Sergeantry. Further, they will be sworn in service to the Baron of Lions Gate, and through Him to the Barony.

BARONESS: And so, it is with sadness and pride that I release you from your oaths, from my service, and from the duties and responsibilities you have borne so well, and into the keeping of His Excellency, Baron Uilliam. I charge you to serve Him with the same dedication and loyalty in service as you have given me.

Personal words from Caitrina, hugs, tears, and Uilliam takes Caitrina's place. Words from Uilliam, then...

HERALD: Do you now give your fealty to Baron Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, and through Him the Barony of Lions Gate, that you will keep faithful the obligations and enjoy the privileges as a member of this new Order of Courtiers, that you will bear yourself now and in future with honour, virtue and loyalty, and deal courteously with those of every degree, that you will strive to serve and defend Him in all matters which concern Him and this Barony, in need or in plenty, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, for so long as His Excellency remains Baron of Lions Gate, death take you, or the world end?

COURTIERS: I so swear.

BARON: And I, for my part, do swear fealty to (this / these), my new Courtier/s, and to support and defend them against every creature with all my power, for so long as I remain Baron of Lions Gate, death take me, or the world end.

So say I, Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias, Baron of Lions Gate.