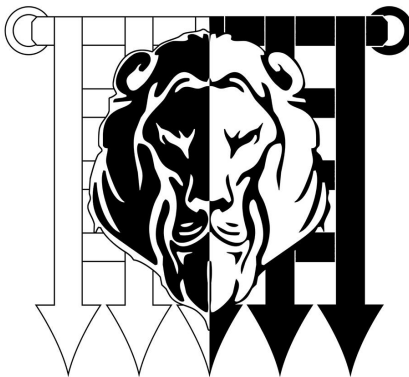


**The Order of the Sergeantry  
in the Barony of Lions Gate**

**Requirements for Sergeants,  
Yeomen, Gallants, Lancers & Foresters.**



## FOREWARD

The positions of Sergeant, Yeoman, Gallant, Lancer and Forester within the Barony of Lions Gate have been developed to allow individuals the opportunity to demonstrate the martial prowess, commitment to service, pursuit of the arts and sciences, dedication to the chivalric qualities and developmental ideals esteemed within the Society for Creative Anachronism. The goal of the Sergeantry is to provide leadership and exemplify commitment to service to the populace of the Barony of Lions Gate, be worthy of respect as ambassadors for all who they interact with and particularly serve as mentors to newcomers to the society. The Sergeantry is responsible for the security and safety of the Barony and will serve as the Honour Guard for the Baroness in battle.

In the year XLIX (49) Anno Societatis, the Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate took steps to separate the Courtiers from the remainder of the Sergeantry, to focus them less on the martial aspects and more on the A&S or Service aspects to which they'd dedicated themselves. As a result, the Order of the Sergeantry contains the Sergeants, Yeomen, Gallants, Lancers and Foresters, and are sworn to the Baroness; the Order of the Courtier are sworn to the Baron.

Those individuals who successfully complete the requirements for Sergeantry will swear fealty to the Baroness, and through that oath to the Barony of Lions Gate, the Coronets of the Principality of Tir Righ and the Crowns of the Kingdom of An Tir. They will earn the right to wear the symbols that denotes this baronial position and accept the obligations of the Sergeantry as outlined in the following pages.

An unsuccessful applicant may re-apply in a subsequent year, but must satisfy the requirements current at the time of the new selection trials.

A member of the Sergeantry represents not only the Barony and Baroness but also is ambassador of the Principality of Tir Righ. It is expected that any member of the Sergeantry will conduct themselves accordingly. Engagement in the Sergeantry of the Barony of Lions Gate is a worthy goal, and brings honour to all who aspire to it.

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# I. Obligations

The Obligations of the Sergeantry of the Barony of Lions Gate are:

1. To assist, protect and support the Baroness in her role within the Society for Creative Anachronism. This will require you to swear fealty to the Barony through the Baroness, and through that oath to the Coronets of the Principality of Tir Righ and the Crowns of the Kingdom of An Tir.
2. To protect and defend the Barony and, through the Barony, the Principality of Tir Righ and the Kingdom of An Tir. You will be expected to fight with the baronial army during Sealion War and lead fighters on the field if necessary. For those members of Sergeantry who are not able to take the field, they are expected to support the Baronial Army in some meaningful capacity such as marshaling, heralding or waterbearing.
3. To champion and protect the populace of the Barony to the utmost of ability and need, in accordance with the code of Chivalry.
4. To uphold by word and deed the ideals of chivalrous behavior as embodied in the Society of Creative Anachronism, and support the Dream by comporting oneself in an appropriately medieval manner and courtly decorum.
5. To bring to the attention of the Baroness those who are deserving of recognition, be that of a baronial nature or otherwise.
6. To maintain an acceptable level of competence in all fields involved in the testing of the Sergeantry.
7. To remain active within the position in accordance with the requirements of this station to the best of one's ability and financial situation.
8. To actively promote the Sergeantry to the Barony and assist the Baroness in organizing future Sergeantry trials and sponsored tournaments.
9. To attend the Sergeantry tournaments, meetings, functions and baronial events to the best of one's ability and financial situation.
10. To acknowledge that there may be a time when you will be unable to uphold the responsibilities of this station, and have the humility to accordingly accept a different status.

## II. Privileges

The privileges of the of the Sergeantry of the Barony of Lions Gate are:

1. To wear the symbols of the Sergeantry as an appropriate token of this accomplishment.
2. To receive written certification that one has been duly tested and admitted into the Sergeantry.
3. To take on and train Men-at-arms. Men-at-arms are not automatically candidates for testing nor are they required to submit to test.
4. To be recognized as the Honour Guard of the Baroness, serving her both on the field of battle and within the Baronial Courts and other appropriate occasions.
5. To use / display the heraldic symbol of the Sergeantry even after leaving the active group (this has been extended to present, past and future Baronesses of Lions Gate).
6. To be valued advisers to the Baroness on matters of the Sergeantry with the ability to speak freely and without fear of retribution.

## III. Guidelines for the Sergeantry

1. The Sergeantry shall be self-administering. All codes of conduct and regulations specific to the Sergeantry shall be developed with the approval of the Baronesses and enforced by the Sergeantry and the Baronesses. Such codes and regulations shall not conflict with the Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism, the laws of the Kingdom of An Tir, the laws of the Principality of Tir Righ or the financial policy of the Barony of Lions Gate.
2. In all matters regarding the Order of Sergeantry, the Baroness has the authority of final judgment over any decision reached.
3. Under the direction of the Baroness, the active Sergeantry shall:
  - a. Organize the annual event whereby candidates for the Sergeantry will be tested
  - b. Provide commentary to the Baronesses regarding and modifications deemed necessary to the testing criteria.
  - c. Observe candidates upon the submission of the Petition.
  - d. Assemble and verify all judging results.
4. The Baroness will oversee the Sergeantry and the testing process used to evaluate candidates. Modifications to the *Privileges and Obligations* are made on the authority of the Baroness, in direct consultation with – and the agreement of – a majority of the collective members of the active Sergeantry. Modifications to the *testing requirements* are made on the authority of the collective members of the active Sergeantry in direct

consultation with the Baroness, as they have the skill and knowledge to their respective core focus. Keeping in mind that all ranks of the Sergeantry must retain an equal level of testing difficulty; it should not be more difficult to achieve one rank over another.

5. There are four statuses within the Sergeantry of Lions Gate; Active, Provost, Emeritus, and Retired.
  - a. **Provost:** A member of the Sergeantry who is active in all respects, but unable to fulfill their duties in the Core Focus for which they tested, must inform the Baroness and request the status of Provost. The Provost is an active and valued member of the Sergeantry, providing wisdom, guidance and leadership despite their inability to be active in there are of Core Focus.
  - b. **Emeritus:** Those individuals who are not active in the Barony they are sworn to serve and unable to continue in maintaining the obligations and responsibilities of the Sergeantry must inform the Baroness, request the status of Emeritus, and return any official symbols of their rank. If the Emeritus member requests to return as an active member within two years, retesting may be waived at the Baroness' discretion. For a lapse of greater than two years Emeritus Sergeantry shall be asked to retake the Sergeantry trials in order to be restored to their former position.
    - i. Upon becoming a Peer in the SCA, a member of the Sergeantry may ask the Baroness to be released from fealty, enter Emeritus status and return the symbols of the Sergeantry. For those orders who are a Grant of Arms and not an SCA Peerage (i.e. Grey Goose Shaft), they may request the status of Emeritus.
  - c. **Retired:** This status denotes those individuals who are no longer active. Any member of the Sergeantry who has not been in contact with the Baroness for a period of three years shall be considered Retired and required to return any official symbols of the Sergeantry to the Baroness.
    - i. In the event of a change in Baroness, all of the current members of the Sergeantry are obliged to contact the new Baroness prior to her stepping up and declare their chosen status within the Sergeantry. If a member of the Sergeantry has not declared their intentions by the investment of the new Baroness they shall be considered to be Emeritus. If they have had no contact with the Baroness within the first year of her reign, their status shall be changed to Retired.
6. A member of the Sergeantry may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of currently active members if just cause is shown and no conflict resolution is successful or can be found. The sanctioned member may appeal the decision to the Baroness, who reserves the right to final judgment. Any member removed is required to return any official symbols of the Sergeantry to the Baroness.
7. A Baroness may temporarily suspend any member of the Sergeantry at her discretion for gross failure in their commitment to the Sergeantry, or for violation of the Obligations of the Sergeantry until such time that a delegation of the active Sergeantry can convene and discuss the situation for further action.

## **IV. Requirements for Selection**

### **1. Petition**

Each candidate must notify the Baroness of their intention to participate in the Sergeantry trials. This petition shall be created by the applicants own hand and in a persona appropriate method. No advantage will be given for the quality of the petition, beyond that it must be legible. All petitions must be delivered to the Baroness no later than four weeks prior to the trial weekend unless an official announcement has been made otherwise.

Once submitted, the petition is valid until withdrawn by the candidate or he/she is successful in the trials. Each petition will be judged by the Baroness as a test of skill in the arts.

### **2. Test of Skill in Core Focus**

#### **A. Sergeants**

To demonstrate the Sergeant applicant's prowess at arms there will be a melee between the applicants and other fighters of all levels. To the testers' satisfaction, each applicant must:

1. Own their own full harness, shield, and at least one weapon. All items shall be complete, suitable, and in good repair. At least one item shall be of the applicant's own making.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the most current An Tir Book of Combat,
3. Be at minimum a warranted junior armored combat marshal,
4. Posses a current and valid combat authorization card,
5. Demonstrate knowledge of armor, weapons and other equipment standards as regards to armored combat, and perform a pre-combat inspection,
6. Show an ability to conduct fighting practices and train new fighters,
7. Demonstrate ability with:
  - a. Single-handed weapon and shield,
  - b. Pole or great weapon, and
  - c. Another weapon or style of choice.
8. Show an ability to organize and command troops in a war situation.
9. Display courtesy on and off the field.

#### **B. Yeomen**

To demonstrate a Yeoman applicant's prowess at arms each applicant must:

1. Own their own armor as required for combat archery, that shall be complete, suitable, and in good repair. Applicant must also have sufficient supply of weaponry, as required for testing. At least one item shall be of the applicant's own making.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the most current An Tir Book of Combat, as it pertains to combat Archery,
3. Be at minimum a warranted junior armored combat marshal,

4. Posses a current and valid combat authorization card,
5. Demonstrate knowledge of armor, weapons and other equipment standards as regards to combat archery and missile combat, and perform a pre-combat inspection,
6. Show an ability to conduct combat archery practices and train new fighters,
7. Have sufficient supply of weaponry for one of the four possible test weapons:
  - a. War-legal bow, six target arrows, 12 war arrows,
  - b. War-legal crossbow, six target bolts, 12 war bolts,
  - c. Four war-legal javelins, or
  - d. Four war-legal throwing axes.
  - e. Crossbows and others will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
8. Display the ability to organize and command troops in a war situation.
9. Demonstrate proficiency in combat including conduct, initiative, command skills, accuracy of fire, rate of fire, dodging and mobility.
10. Fully armed and equipped, walk one field course using a bow weapon and one field course using a hand weapon. At each of 10 or more stations on the course halt, aim, and fire at designated target. On each course applicants must hit over 50% of the targets.
11. Shoot a 40 point Royal Round in a maximum of three attempts during the event.
12. Show an ability to organize and command troops in a war situation.
13. Display courtesy on and off the field.

### **C. Gallants**

To demonstrate the applicant's prowess at rapier combat, each applicant must:

1. Own their own full harness and at least one weapon. All items shall be complete, suitable, and in good repair. At least one item shall be of the applicant's own making.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the most current An Tir Book of Combat, as it pertains to Rapier combat,
3. Be at minimum a warranted junior rapier combat marshal,
4. Posses a current and valid combat authorization card,
5. Demonstrate knowledge of armor, weapons and other equipment standards as regards to rapier combat, and perform a pre-combat inspection,
6. Show an ability to conduct rapier fighting practices and train new fighters,
7. Ability in the following weapon styles:
 

Single rapier and any one of the following combinations:

  - a. Rapier and dagger,
  - b. Rapier and cloak,
  - c. Rapier and buckler,
  - d. Case of rapiers, and



- e. Any other off-hand parrying device that is recognized and certifiable.
8. Show an ability to organize and command troops in a war situation.
9. Display courtesy on and off the field.

## **D. Lancers**

To demonstrate the applicant's prowess at horsemanship, each applicant must:

1. Own their own full harness (safe helmet and boots, whip or goad) and at least one weapon. All items shall be complete, suitable, in good repair and dressed or disguised to be persona appropriate.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the most current An Tir Book of Horse,
3. Demonstrate a working knowledge of grooming equipment, tack, caparison and other equipages,
4. Be at minimum a warranted Junior Equestrian marshal and additionally, at least one of the following;
  1. Mounted Gaming
  2. Mounted Archery
  3. Crest Combat
  4. Mounted Combat
  5. Jousting
  6. Driving
5. Possess a current and valid equestrian authorization card,
6. Demonstrate knowledge of armor, weapons and other equipment standards as regards to mounted games,
7. Be prepared to answer questions pertaining to safety in a variety of scenarios,
8. Ability in mounted weapon skills on an IKEqC course consisting of Ring Tilt, Beheading the Enemy and Reed Chop, conforming with all rules and regulations of the Inter Kingdom Equestrian Competition, as well as variable Challenge components for Heavy Cavalry (Quintain and Pig Sticking, etc) and Light Cavalry (Mounted Archery, Javelin Throw, etc) will be offered. The Candidate MUST compete in all three IKEqC components and pick at least 2 other components of the Challenge course to showcase their skills,
9. Demonstrate familiarity with all safe handling procedures of their chosen weapons for each component, and to present a credible challenge to the assembled competitors. A credible challenge means a score of at least 1/3 the total possible points for that component, for example - must have a score of at least of 21 at Ring Tilt, 30 at Reed Chop and 30 at Beheading the Enemy. No more than three attempts to achieve this score,
10. Demonstrate a sufficient level of horsemanship so as to be able to appraise the safety of an equestrian activity, including recognition of how horse temperament and rider

- experience may affect a situation,
11. Show an ability to organize and command troops in a war situation.
  12. Display courtesy on and off the field regardless of your or your opponent's horse's behaviour.

## **E. Foresters**

To demonstrate a Forester applicant's prowess at arms each applicant must:

1. Own their own equipment as required for archery and thrown weapons, that shall be complete, suitable, and in good repair. Applicant must also have sufficient supply of weaponry, as required for testing. At least one item shall be of the applicant's own making (see item 4 below).
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the most current An Tir Book of Target, as it pertains to Archery and Thrown Weapons,
3. Be at minimum a warranted junior archery or thrown weapons marshal,
4. Be able to create by their own hand two of the following;
  - a. Bowstring or crossbow string
  - b. Quiver
  - c. Arrow or Bolt
  - d. Bow or crossbow
  - e. Throwing knife
  - f. Throwing axe
  - g. Throwing spear
5. Demonstrate knowledge of targets, weapons and other equipment standards as regards to archery and thrown weapons, and perform a range inspection,
6. Demonstrate knowledge of traps used in period (types and functions),
7. Show an ability to conduct archery and/or thrown weapons practices and train new archers and throwers,
8. Display the ability to use a hunting horn by sounding two different period hunting calls and explain how they were used.
9. Fully equipped, walk one field course using a bow weapon and one field course using a thrown weapon. At each of 10 or more stations on the course halt, aim, and fire at designated target (targets will be varying heights and visibility). On each course applicants must hit over 50% of the targets.
10. Shoot at least a 60 point Royal Round in archery and a 40 point Royal Round in thrown weapons. Completed within a maximum of three attempts during the event.
11. Display courtesy on and off the field.

**Note:** Candidates should be prepared to answer questions pertaining to this rank in period

during the Persona testing. Examples are the preparing of game once killed, care of various animals used in period hunting, types of hunts, etc.

### **3. Test of Persona Development**

Persona development enriches the medieval experience within the SCA. Applicants are expected to demonstrate the time they have taken to research and develop a chosen persona. Applicants must submit a text of at least one page, or be able to answer questions, describing the culture, time period, daily life, family connections, occupation, and possession of his or her persona.

### **4. Test of Heraldry**

Candidates must have created and submitted their own heraldic device to the College of Heraldry prior to the trials weekend. Each candidate will also display their chosen device on some personal item such as a shield, armour, clothing or banner. In addition the candidates must:

- a. Be able to identify the following: Arms of An Tir, Arms of Tir Righ, The Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, the Principalities within An Tir and the Branches within Tir Righ.
- b. Be able to identify at least 5 arms out of a selection of prominent Peers of An Tir and of Tir Righ.
- c. Be able to recognize a number of devices of the Sergeantry, past and present.
- d. Be able to identify the badges of the Kingdom, Principality, and Baronial Offices.
- e. Be able to answer questions about basic heraldry; colours, metals, furs, field divisions, and charges.
- f. Blazon their own device, that of Lions Gate, and three others selected by the tester.

### **5. Test of Geography**

Members of the Sergeantry must be knowledgeable in the geography of the Known World. Candidates must:

- a. Be able to locate the Kingdoms of the Known World on an outline map.
- b. Be able to locate Principalities and Baronies of An Tir on an outline map.
- c. Be able to locate at least 10 other branches of Tir Righ on an outline map.
- d. Answer questions on politics and current events (i.e. Crown, Principality or Baronial changeovers or other major changes at the SCA inc level).

### **6. Test of Chivalry, Courtesy and Etiquette**

Members of the Sergeantry are expected to be exemplary models of chivalry and courtesy. This behavior is not only expected during the testing period, but at all times. The Baroness will host a chivalry court where the candidates' behavior, courtesy, and service to the Barony and its

populace will be discussed and reflected upon.

These standards will be guidelines for this judging:

- a. The courteous person knows their worth. They have no false modesty. They are quick to praise others but not themselves untruly.
- b. The courteous person on their honour will not break their word and thus never give it lightly. They speak the truth or remain silent.
- c. The courteous person speaks gently and with respect to others.
- d. The courteous person is always the first to offer their help to those who require it.
- e. A courteous person is always ready to offer hospitality, be it ever so meager and to receive with grace the hospitality of others.

To further demonstrate courtly manner, candidates must learn the definition, how to identify and proper address for the following SCA ranks:

- a. King and Queen
- b. Crown Prince and Princess
- c. Prince and Princess
- d. Duke and Duchess
- e. Count (Earl, Jarl) and Countess
- f. Viscount and Viscountess
- g. Baron and Baroness
- h. Peers of the Realm

## **7. Test of Gaming**

Candidates must demonstrate an understanding of games from their time period, as well as from the time period encompassed by the SCA. This includes:

- a. Setting up a chess board; identify the pieces and their moves.
- b. Demonstrating an understanding of the game by playing at least ten moves with the games tester.
- c. Playing a game of Nine Men's Morris to demonstrate tactical strategies.
- d. Playing and instructing others in a game of your choice appropriate to your persona.
- e. Naming and describing the characteristics of at least 4 other games played prior to the 16th century.

## **8. Test of Dancing**

As examples of well-rounded members of medieval society the Sergeantry must show their familiarity with the art of dance. Candidates must be able to perform the following set dances:

- a. The Baron's Bransle (in armour if appropriate)

- b. A court dance – Black Allemande
- c. A country dance – Sellinger’s Round

As well as the set dances, applicants must be able to instruct a dance appropriate to their persona.

Please inform the Baroness and the Dance Master/Mistress of which dances you will be demonstrating well in advance of the trials date to ensure the necessary music will be available.

## **9. Test of Bardic Arts**

To demonstrate knowledge of Music and Literature Candidates must:

- a. Perform from memory a piece of Period Music or Period Poem, Story or Play.
- b. Perform a piece in period style. This may be a poem, story, morality play, simple song, round, or music. Language and/or style should reflect the spirit of the middle ages and be persona appropriate. Modern slang and filks are unacceptable.

## **10. Test of Sciences of War**

All applicants must be knowledgeable in several aspects of warfare and defense. They must be able to:

- a. Identify various machines of war.
- b. Identify the parts of a castle.
- c. Show knowledge of care and feeding of the troops.
- d. List and explain various siege techniques.
- e. Identify parts of armour, including equestrian,
- f. Identify types of weapons.
- g. Describe the types of weapons and fortifications appropriate to your persona.

## **11. The Baroness’ Challenge**

The final challenge of the Sergeantry Trial (if time permits) requires the candidate to stand before the Baroness and her advisers and answer a question of her choice. It will require the candidate to explain his/her position clearly, and argue in support of the ideal. The Baroness may ask follow up questions. The candidate will be expected to be able to discuss and comment upon the central values of the Society, such as Honour, Responsibility, Courtesy, Fealty, Humility, Courage, Chivalry, Service, Loyalty and Charity. Strict time limit of 10 minutes per candidate.

## **V. Judging**

Each tester will evaluate whether or not a candidate has met the requirements within the subject

and report to the Baroness on whether they feel the candidate has passed or failed the subject they were testing on.

One may not judge a family member or someone connected to them by fealty. They may however participate in the testing process in an advisory capacity.

The Trials are tough, and are there to challenge Candidates to their limits, but positive attitude and an understanding of service within the society are rewarded and opportunities for extra points exist throughout. What a Candidate may slightly lack in an area may be partly made up by additional effort, such as outstanding results in another area.

All Candidates will be welcome at the trials however only successful candidates will be taken as a member of the Sergeantry. The Baroness will meet with each candidate privately to discuss their trial and results before final court on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the trials.

## **VI. Attaining Multiple Classes of Sergeantry**

While an individual may belong to multiple classes within the Sergeantry, the Trials for each class must be undertaken one at a time. Should an individual wish to attempt additional Trials for a second or even third class the Candidate may not be required to reattempt all categories, but will at minimum be required to undertake the categories relevant to the attempted class of Sergeantry.

The determination of which categories must be satisfied for additional classes will be determined by the Baroness upon assessment of the candidate and the testing process by which they initially were evaluated.

## **VII. Conclusion**

It is the hope of the Baroness of Lions Gate and the active members of the Sgtry, that this overview of the process of becoming a member of the Sergeantry has been both instructive and inspiring. The requirements are demanding and require much commitment and preparation to pass them successfully, but a place in this venerated and time-honoured tradition is worth all the more for it having been hard-won.

The goal is that the testing will challenge each candidate to step out of their normal routine and explore new areas of knowledge and gain new skills.

Engagement in the Sergeantry of Lions Gate truly is a worthy goal, and brings honour to all who aspire to it. Candidates are encouraged to bear all of this in mind as they prepare for candidacy.