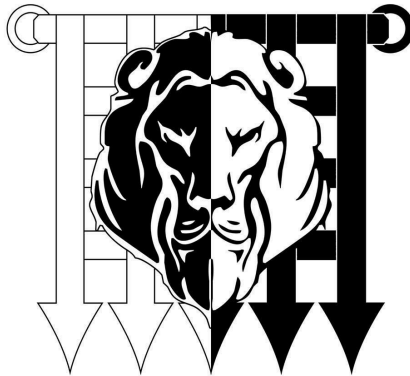


**The Order of the Sergeantry  
in the Barony of Lions Gate**

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



## FOREWORD

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 Baronial Coronet 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 Baronial Coronet; the Order of the Courtier are sworn to the other Baronial Coronet.

Those individuals who successfully complete the requirements for Sergeantry will swear fealty to the Baronial Coronet, 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 denote 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 Baronial Coronet 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

**The Sergeantry are the bastions of Lions Gate, sworn to the Coronets, intended to be the stalwarts in the development of the Barony, its People, and their Interests.**

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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 Coronet of Lions Gate in their role within the Society for Creative Anachronism. This will require you to swear fealty to the Barony through the Coronet, 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.
3. To champion and protect the populace of the Barony to the utmost of ability and need.
4. To uphold by word and deed the ideals embodied in the Society of Creative Anachronism and be exemplars of courtly decorum.
5. To bring to the attention of the Baronial Coronet those who are deserving of recognition.
6. To maintain a level of activity and competence in the fields of testing according to one's capacity.
7. To acknowledge that there may come a time you are not able to fulfill the responsibilities of the Sergeantry in an ongoing capacity, and to retire to Provost-Sergeant if warranted. To actively promote the Sergeantry within Lions Gate by facilitating learning & forging connections throughout the community.
8. Assist the Baronial Coronet in organizing future Sergeantry trials.
9. To attend the Sergeantry Trials, meetings, functions and baronial events to the best of one's capacity.

## II. Privileges

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

1. To wear the buckle & badges of the Sergeantry as an appropriate token of their accomplishment, and to continue to use & display these heraldic symbols after leaving the active group in good standing (this has been extended to all Baronial Coronets of Lions Gate)
2. To receive written certification that one has been duly tested and admitted into the Sergeantry.
3. To take on and train students-at-arms. Students-at-arms are not automatically applicants for testing nor are they required to test.
4. To be recognized as the Vanguard of the Baronial Coronets, serving them on the field of battle, within the Baronial Courts, and other appropriate occasions.
5. To be valued advisors to the Baronial Coronets on matters of the Sergeantry.

## 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 Baronial Coronet and enforced by the Sergeantry and the Baronial Coronet. 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 Baronial Coronet has the authority of final judgment over any decision reached.
3. Under the direction of the Baronial Coronet, the active Sergeantry shall:
  - a. Organize the annual event whereby applicants for the Sergeantry will be tested
  - b. Provide commentary to the Baronial Coronets regarding any modifications deemed necessary to the testing criteria.
  - c. Observe applicants upon the submission of the Petition.
  - d. Assemble and verify all judging results.
4. The Baronial Coronet will oversee the Sergeantry and the testing process used to evaluate applicants. Modifications to the **Privileges and Obligations** are made on the authority of the Baronial Coronet, 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 Baronial Coronet, 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 Baronial Coronet 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 their area 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 Baronial Coronet, 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 Baronial Coronets' 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 Baronial Coronet 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 Baronial Coronet for a period of three years shall be considered Retired and required to return any official symbols of the Sergeantry to the Baronial Coronet.
    - i. In the event of a change in Baronial Coronet, all of the current members of the Sergeantry are obliged to contact the new Baronial Coronet prior to their 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 Baronial Coronet they shall be considered to be Emeritus. If they have had no contact with the Baronial Coronet within the first year of their 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 Baronial Coronet, who reserves the right to final judgment. Any member removed is required to return any official symbols of the Sergeantry to the Baronial Coronet.
7. A Baronial Coronet may temporarily suspend any member of the Sergeantry at their 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 applicant must notify the Baronial Coronet of their intention to participate in the Sergeantry trials. This petition shall be created by the applicant's 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 Baronial Coronet 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 applicant or he/she is successful in the trials. Each petition will be judged by the Baronial Coronet 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. Possess 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. Applicants 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. Possess 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 targets. 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. 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. Possess 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:
  - a. Single rapier and any one of the following combinations:
    - i. Rapier and dagger
    - ii. Rapier and cloak,
    - iii. Rapier and buckler,
    - iv. Case of rapiers, and
    - v. 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 authorised in, at least one of the following;
  - a. Mounted Gaming
  - b. Mounted Archery
  - c. Crest Combat
  - d. Mounted Combat
  - e. Jousting
  - f. 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 Applicant 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 21 at Ring Tilt, 30 at Reed Chop and 30 at Beheading the Enemy. They must make 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 ride 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. Applicants 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. Overall Royal Rounds score of 120, with an archery minimum of 40 and a thrown weapons minimum of 40. Completed within a maximum of three attempts during the event.
11. Display courtesy on and off the field.



**Note:** Applicants should be prepared to answer questions pertaining to this rank in period during the Persona testing. Examples are the preparation 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 their persona.

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

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

1. Be able to identify the following: Arms of An Tir, Arms of Tir Righ, The Baron and Baronial Coronet of Lions Gate, the Principalities within An Tir and the Branches within Tir Righ.
2. Be able to identify at least 5 arms out of a selection of prominent Peers of An Tir and of Tir Righ.
3. Be able to recognize a number of devices of the Sergeantry, past and present.
4. Be able to identify the badges of the Kingdom, Principality, and Baronial Offices.
5. Be able to answer questions about basic heraldry; colours, metals, furs, field divisions, and charges.
6. 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. Applicants must:

1. Be able to locate the Kingdoms of the Known World on an outline map.
2. Be able to locate Principalities and Baronies of An Tir on an outline map.
3. Be able to locate at least 10 other branches of Tir Righ on an outline map.
4. 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 Baronial Coronet will host a chivalry court where the applicants' behavior, courtesy, and service to the Barony and its populace will be discussed and reflected upon. These standards will be guidelines for this judging:

1. The courteous person knows their worth. They have no false modesty. They are quick to praise others but not themselves untruly.
2. The courteous person on their honour will not break their word and thus never give it lightly. They speak the truth or remain silent.
3. The courteous person speaks gently and with respect to others.
4. The courteous person is always the first to offer their help to those who require it.
5. 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, applicants must learn the definition, how to identify and proper address for the following SCA ranks:

1. King and Queen
2. Crown Prince and Princess
3. Prince and Princess
4. Duke and Duchess
5. Count (Earl, Jarl) and Countess
6. Viscount and Viscountess
7. Baron and Baronial Coronet
8. Peers of the Realm

### **7. Test of Gaming**

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

1. Setting up a chess board; identify the pieces and their moves.
2. Demonstrating an understanding of chess by playing at least ten moves with the games tester.
3. Playing a game of Nine Men's Morris to demonstrate tactical strategies.
4. Playing and instructing others in a game of your choice appropriate to your persona.
5. 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. Applicants must be able to perform the following set dances:

1. The Baron's Bransle (in armour if appropriate)
2. A court dance – Black Allemande
3. 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 Baronial Coronet and the Dance Coordinator 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 Applicants must:

1. Perform from memory a piece of Period Music or Period Poem, Story or Play.
2. 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:

1. Identify various machines of war.
2. Identify the parts of a castle.
3. Show knowledge of care and feeding of the troops.

4. List and explain various siege techniques.
5. Identify parts of armour, including equestrian,
6. Identify types of weapons.
7. Describe the types of weapons and fortifications appropriate to your persona.

### **11. *The Baronial Coronet' Challenge***

The final challenge of the Sergeantry Trial (if time permits) requires the applicant to stand before the Baronial Coronet and their advisers and answer a question of their choice. It will require the applicant to explain their position clearly, and argue in support of the ideal. The Baronial Coronet may ask follow up questions. The applicant 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 applicant.

## **V. Judging**

Each tester will evaluate whether or not an applicant has met the requirements within the subject and report to the Baronial Coronet on whether they feel the applicant 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 Applicants 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 Applicant may slightly lack in an area may be partly made up by additional effort, such as outstanding results in another area.

All Applicants will be welcome at the trials however only successful applicants will be taken as a member of the Sergeantry. The Baronial Coronet will meet with each applicant privately to discuss their trial and results before final court on the 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 Applicant 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 Baronial Coronet upon assessment of the applicant and the testing process by which they initially were evaluated.

## **VII. Conclusion**

It is the hope of the Baronial Coronet of Lions Gate and the active members of the Sergeantry, 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 applicant 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. Applicants are encouraged to bear all of this in mind as they prepare for their Trials.