



**November 2013**  
**Agenda for the Meeting of the**  
**Imperial Estates General**  
**As corrected 8 October 2013**

Prepared and submitted by:  
Sir William Baine, Imperial Chancellor  
Sir Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau, Deputy Chancellor  
Sir Robert LaCroix, Deputy Chancellor

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. Call To Order .....6**
- II. Roll Call .....6**
- III. Approval of Minutes.....6**
- IV. Reports.....6**
- V. Crown Business .....6**
  - CRB1. Charter Amendments.....6
  - CRB2. Incoming Crown Budget .....7
  - CRB3. Chattel Goods .....7
- VI. Chancellor’s Business .....7**
  - CH1. Election of BoD Members.....7
  - CH2. Election of BoD President.....7
  - CH3. Court Reports .....7
  - CH4. Add Crown Justice to the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A .....8
  - CH5. Add Complaints and Charges to the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A.....8
  - CH6. Amend the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A, Royal Courts of Justice.....9
  - CH7. Add a Penalty For Breaches to Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.....9
  - CH8. Appeal of ruling re right to remove of combat cards .....10
  - CH9. Appeal of ruling re finding of merit for complaint against Sir Dietrich .....10
- VII. Old Business .....11**
  - OB1. Define when a complaint goes before the local Minister of Justice and when a complaint goes before the Imperial Minister of Justice ..... **Withdrawn for lack of rewrite** 11
  - OB2. Permit Kingdoms to choose an alternate method of selecting their Crown(s).....11
  - OB3. Establishing a South-Central War Site in Texas .....11
  - OB4. Proposal to change the wording of the Articles of Incorporation .....12
  - OB5. Modify the Standard Flow of Information in the Rolls & Lists Manual, IEW 34 .....14
- VIII. New Business .....15**
  - NB1. Set Minimum Ages for Knighthoods .....15
  - NB2. Change the renewal date to 1 August.....15
  - NB3. Transfer Inactive Lifetime Members to Member At Large.....16
  - E. MEMBERSHIP ASSIGNMENT TO CHAPTER.....16
  - NB4. Modify Lex Adria to Require Announcement of Proposed Ministers By Crown Contenders Prior to the Acceptability Vote.....16
  - NB5. Adopt the use of the Rawlings brand synthetic sword for use in Shinai.....17
  - NB6. Modify IEW 7 to Exclude Recreational Drugs .....17
  - NB7. Amend Lex Adria to Replace IEW 22 .....17
  - NB8. Modify Lex Adria to prohibit mercenaries in contested Crown Wars .....18
- IX. Discussion Items .....18**
  - DI1. Alternative Makeup of Imperial Estates.....18
  - DI2. Create a policy for IT .....19
- X. Next meeting of the Imperial Estates:.....20**
- XI. Adjournment:.....20**
- Appendix A. Civil Court Reports.....21**
- Appendix B. Letters of Intent for Board of Directors Nominees and President of the BoD Candidates.....23**
- Appendix C. Proposed Crown Budget .....25**

**Appendix D. Rawlings Synthetic Sword Playtest Results .....26**  
**Appendix E. The combat card case and rulings.....31**

## GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

**Date and Time:**

Fri, 1 Nov: TBA BoD Meeting  
Sat, 2 Nov: 8:00 – 9:00 Sign In  
9:00 – 5:00 Imperial Estates Meeting  
6:00 Coronation and Feast  
Sun, 3 Nov: 9:00 – 5:00 Imperial Estates Meeting (as needed)

Civil Courts (dates and times TBA):

**Location:**

Red Lion Inn  
1021 NE Grand Avenue Portland, Oregon 97232  
503-235-2100 (please call the hotel only--NOT any 800 numbers or on-line)  
Let them know you're with the Adrian Empire for rate and block booking.

**Room Rates:**

\$69.00 + 12.5% tax (Book as soon as possible.)  
Flat rate for either King (2 people) or 2 Queens (up to 4)

**Hotel Parking:**

\$12.00 per car parking overnight. (NO day fee for just the meeting)

**Airport:**

Portland International Airport (PDX)

**Local Transportation:**

Max Airport Light Rail (train) runs from the Airport to the hotel for \$2.50 for an all zone pass. The hotel will refund this when you check in. Just present your receipt. You will need to be on the Red line train. The hotel also sits in the Free zone so if members want to go downtown they can travel for free.

**Restaurant Information:**

The hotel has one but it is only open for breakfast and dinner (they do offer room service as well). Others in the area. Denny's, Red Robin, Burgerville, Subway, Wendy's, McDonald's, Starbucks, these would be the quick ones for a lunch.

**Site Autocrats:**

Gina (Dame Felicia) felicia\_thebold@yahoo.com  
Paul (Sir Dorn) Sir\_Dorn@yahoo.com  
We can be reached at 503-283-4669

**Authority:****Article VI.E.3 Meeting Date, November**

The Imperial Estates General shall meet on the first Saturday of November (and the day following), at which time they shall conduct appropriate business including but not limited to:

- a. Imperial budget
- b. Review associate memberships (Bylaws of the Adrian Empire, Inc.).

**Disqualification (Article VI.E.6)**

Members entitled to a seat by virtue of rank or office whose dues are not current, are under judicial ban, or have not attended at least (2) official events in any chapter within the previous six (6) months will be denied a seat. The membership entitled to vote at a meeting of a given body is fixed as of the summoning of the meeting. It may not be subsequently altered by any means (including expiration of dues, non-participation formation of a new Estates or change in Estate held by a given member) until the meeting is concluded with these exceptions:

- Resignation of a given member
- Judicial Ban
- Creation of a greater estate that does not reduce another greater estate below minimum membership (subject to 2/3 approval of the Estates to waive notice and seat the Estate.)

The Crown, if available, will convene the summoned Estates at the appointed time and place and the meeting will be presided over by the Chancellor, if available.

**Requirement for Written Proxies. (Ratified November, 2010)**

Emailed written proxies must be received by the Imperial Chancellery Office by Friday evening prior the Imperial Estates Meeting, and/or presented to the Imperial Chancellor at Roll Call. If a proxy is not presented to the Chancellery Office by the end of Roll Call, the vote will not be counted.

**Legend:**

~~Deleted or replaced text~~

Added or new text

**Passage requirements**

*Chancellor's Notes, comments, and explanations*

## **AGENDA**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

### **II. ROLL CALL**

- A. Seating of qualified members and written proxies
- B. Petitions to waive as per Article VI.E.6. Disqualifications  
*(Requires 2/3 to approve)*

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- (Requires majority to approve)*
- Approval of the minutes of the July 2013 Imperial Estates Meeting

### **IV. REPORTS**

#### **A Executive**

- 1 Crown
- 2 Board of Directors

#### **B Ministers**

- 1 Archery
- 2 Arts and Sciences
- 3 Chancellor
- 4 Hospitaler
- 5 Joust and War
- 6 Physiker
- 7 Publishing (includes Imperial Webmaster, Chronicler, etc.)
- 8 Rolls and Lists
- 9 Sovereign of Arms
- 10 Steward
- 11 Other Officers

### **V. CROWN BUSINESS**

#### **CRB1. Charter Amendments**

- A Consider reducing the following Chapters in status due to insufficient numbers:**  
*(Requires majority to approve)*

Kingdoms:

- Esperance
- Terre Neuve
- York

Archduchies:

- Brandenburg

Duchies:

- Alhambra
- Cyprus
- Gloucester
- Pembroke
- Sumerset
- Wolfendorf

Shires:  
 Cambridge  
 Carolingia  
 Kent

*Chancellor's Note: the above listing is based on the Membership Summary as of 8 Oct*

**B Elevate the following Chapter in status:**

*(Requires majority to approve)*

None

**C Approve the Creation of a New Chapter**

None

**CRB2. Incoming Crown Budget**

*(Requires majority to approve)*

(See Addendum C)

**CRB3. Chattel Goods**

*(Requires 2/3 to approve)*

Any "freeze" imposed on legislative or judicial proceedings related to the chattel goods issue shall be lifted and any normal Adiran dispute process shall continue.

*Commentary:*

*Chancellor's Note:*

**VI. CHANCELLOR'S BUSINESS**

**CH1. Election of BoD Members**

*(Requires Plurality)*

Letters of Intent have been received (see Addendum B):

Region 1: 1, 2 year term)

Corwin Taylor, (Ritter Dietrich VonHolstein)

Eric Malmquist (HIH Erik Harbinger)

**CH2. Election of BoD President**

*(Requires majority)*

Letters of Intent have been received (see Addendum B):

Election of the President of the BoD

Anthony DeRivi, (HIH L'Bet'e deAcmd)

*Note: The BoD shall met on Sunday to be sworn, elect it's Vice President and Secretary, and approve any banking resolution if needed.*

**CH3. Court Reports**

*(While no action is required, the Estates may review.)*

**A. Judicial Courts**

*(None received)*

**B. Civil Courts**

*(See Appendix A)*

#### CH4. Add Crown Justice to the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A

*(Requires majority to approve)*

Add a second item to the Codex Adjudicata Royal Court Section IV. COURTS OF JUSTICE A. ROYAL COURT :

Option A:

2. The term "Crown Justice" is applied to those individuals who choose a Royal Court, but instead choose to plead guilty and waive the right of a trial. The sentence is determined by the Crowns. The Crowns may consult with both plaintiffs and defendants regarding the sentence.

Option B:

2. The term "Crown Justice" is applied to those individuals who choose a Royal Court, but instead choose to plead guilty, and waive the right of a trial. If the Crowns approve, a plea of "No Contest" may be entered in lieu of 'guilty', which does not require any admission of guilt from the defendant. The sentence is determined by the Crowns. The Crowns may consult with both plaintiffs and defendants regarding the sentence.

*Commentary: There have been complaints that the word "Crown Justice" is not clearly defined. The long time interpretation is that it is a plea of guilty to a Royal Court, waiving all rights to a trial. Option 2 officially adds a plea of "no contest".*

#### CH5. Add Complaints and Charges to the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A

*(Requires majority to approve)*

Option A:

3. If the Plaintiffs who filed a complaint that has been found with merit willfully choose not to participate in the trial, all merit will be dismissed and the defendant found innocent of all wrongdoing.

*Commentary: This prevents people filing frivolous or harassing charges against members and then dropping out of the trial, such that the accusations are left hanging.*

Option B:

3. If the Plaintiffs who filed a complaint that has been found with merit willfully choose not to participate in the trial, all merit may be dismissed and the defendant may be found innocent of all wrongdoing.

*Commentary: This could be an option for the Crown but not an inflexible rule. Complainant may have second thoughts or become intimidated, but the Crown may determine that the case should be pursued anyway (truth must be more important than technical issues).*

Option C:

3. If the Plaintiffs who filed a complaint that has been found with merit willfully choose not to participate in the trial, all merit will be dismissed and the defendant found innocent of all wrongdoing, and the plaintiffs will be immediately charged by the Ministry of Justice for harassment of a member and the government.

*Commentary: See the commentary for A, but this also adds a punishment.*

Option D (Counterproposal):

3. If the Plaintiffs who filed a complaint that has been found with merit willfully choose not to participate in the trial, all merit may be dismissed and the defendant found innocent of all wrongdoing, and the plaintiffs may be immediately charged by the Ministry of Justice for harassment of a member and the government.



## CH6. Amend the Codex Adjudicata, Section IV.A, Royal Courts of Justice

*(Requires majority to approve)*

4. All complaints must be corroborated by prima facie (without rebuttal) evidence (examples: witness statements, emails, announcements, meeting minutes, agendas, IM printouts.) This evidence must prove that the plaintiff has standing in the case and experienced harm. At least three Knights without direct standing in a case can conjoin to represent the Chivalry as a body in a complaint of Conduct Unbecoming.

*Commentary: This procedure was defined in a ruling in 2002 which is difficult to understand and should have been rolled into the Codex.*

## CH7. Add a Penalty For Breaches to Codex Adjudicata, Section IV

*(Requires majority to approve)*

Option A:

K. A member who breaches a sentence or mediated agreement will be immediately put on Judicial Ban preventing participation within the Adrian Empire. A panel as described in the Bylaws Article III.A.4 will be convened no later than the next IEM to determine membership and participation suspension within the Adrian Empire for the period of not less than one year. All mediated agreements and sentences must be in writing. If a member does not renew, all sentences and agreements are put on suspension to be completed in full upon membership renewal. Membership must remain in place to fulfill banishments not expressly requiring a "do not accept" status.

Option B:

K. A member who breaches a sentence or mediated agreement will be immediately put on Judicial Ban preventing participation within the Adrian Empire. The case will be brought before the Imperial Estates at the next IEM and will automatically be in conjunction with a sentence appeal All mediated agreements and sentences must be in writing. If a member does not renew, all sentences and agreements are put on suspension to be completed in full upon membership renewal. Membership must remain in place to fulfill banishments not expressly requiring a "do not accept" status.

*Commentary: Members agree to follow the laws and codicils of the Adrian Empire upon membership. Every few years, we have the case where a mediated or court applied sentence is not followed. We need a way to enforce the process in some way or it is a pointless process. Mundanely they have agreed to follow our rules. The last two sentences are reflecting a process that has been in place for over 14 years.*

Option C: (may be added to either Option A or B)

Any alleged breach must be adjudicated.

Suboption 1:

The breach shall be treated as a separate offense, requiring a filling, a finding of merit, and a trial and conviction or guilty plea.

## Suboption 2:

A special magistrate shall be appointed by the Crown to investigate and rule whether a breach of sentence has occurred. The ruling of the special magistrate is subject to an appeal.

*Commentary: Technically, breaches are separate crimes. Merely being accused of one is not proof nor a finding of guilt. Judicial bans or membership suspension could be adopted, but if the accusation is for an improper purpose (such as manipulating the Crown process to make a candidate ineligible for office)--how do we avoid abuse and how seriously do we punish abusers? Some Adrian equivalent to mundane parole and probation procedures may work and satisfy due process concerns.*

**CH8. Appeal of ruling re right to remove of combat cards**

On behalf of another knight, Sir Dorn filed a complaint against Sir Dietrich, Imperial Minister of War & Joust, for "Misfeasance of office & violation of Article I.C (Conduct Unbecoming)" for "knowingly and willfully issu[ing] a ruling that was in direct conflict with an IEW", specifically IEW 17 (the Combat Manual). The Chancellor's interpretation of IEW 17 is that Sir Dietrich acted in accordance with the writ. Sir Dorn is appealing that interpretation.

(See Appendix E)

*Comment: It is my (our) contention that Sir Dietrich's application of IEW 17 does not match the law. Sir Dorn der Schwarzen Rose, Advocate for Sir Hanzel*

**CH9. Appeal of ruling re finding of merit for complaint against Sir Dietrich**

On behalf of another knight, Sir Dorn filed a complaint against Sir Dietrich, Imperial Minister of War & Joust, for "Misfeasance of office & violation of Article I.C (Conduct Unbecoming)" for "knowingly and willfully issu[ing] a ruling that was in direct conflict with an IEW", specifically IEW 17 (the Combat Manual). The Imperial Deputy Minister of Justice ruled that the complaint had no merit. Sir Dorn is appealing that ruling.

(See Appendix E)

*Comment: We ask how these two situations are different.*

1) A man known to have "temper issues" can have more than one outburst during an event (witnessed by the DIMoJ&W) including throwing a weapon; yet no action is taken.

2) A man known to have "temper issues" gets hit by a shot that he believes is over powered he yells loudly & removes himself from the field. The IMoJ&W is told of this & revokes his combat card

*The DIMoJ&W in 1) is the same person as the IMoJ&W in 2)*

*In both cases the Imperial Crown is the same*

*The only difference that I can see in these is the rank of the "offender"*

*IF these are different, we further ask; Why is throwing a weapon acceptable but yelling is not?*

*IF these are the same we ask that the offender in the first situation be handed the same sentencing as the offender in the second situation. Or, we ask that the combat card is reinstated & a public apology is issued. Sir Dorn der Schwarzen Rose, Advocate for Sir Hanzel*

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

### OB1. Define when a complaint goes before the local Minister of Justice and when a complaint goes before the Imperial Minister of Justice

*Withdrawn for lack of rewrite as per law (Chancellor's Manual II.A.8).*

### OB2. Permit Kingdoms to choose an alternate method of selecting their Crown(s)

*(Requires 2/3 to approve)*

- A. Amend the Lex Adria to allow Kingdoms to create codicils defining an alternative method for selecting their Crown. These methods may include, but are not limited to: direct election by the populace, Estates election, lottery, . . . .
- B. Amend A to allow more than 2 consecutive terms if there are no other contenders.

*Comment: If Archduchies may choose the method of selecting their Crown, why should Kingdoms be more restricted?*

*Author: Sir William Baine, Count Royal KPr*

*Sponsor: Sir Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau CtR*

### OB3. Establishing a South-Central War Site in Texas

*(Requires majority to approve)*

The site is to be the current location of Bisqaia's monthly events, Killeen, TX. It includes a feast hall with full kitchen, an archery range, fighting field, a ship, and a bardic fire pit. Note: The outside facilities can be seen by going to the interactive map on the Imperial web site.

*Comments: A South-Central site would signal the desire to develop the middle of the Empire by making a war site much closer for groups currently too far away to participate in the current sites.*

*Author: TRGs Sir Gilbert Ostwestley and Dame Alinore D'Archy du Calais, Archduchy of Bisqaia*

*Sponsors: TEs Sir Mandrea Kahn and Dame Rose Thorne of the Barony of Bloodhaven, Dame Rhiannon Roysdotter of House Kynligr Mjoor (Sr Minor Estates)*

*Chancellor's Note: It is the authority of the Imperial Crown to sanction Imperial events. The Estates may encourage it, but they cannot require it without changing the relationship between Crown and Estates, which requires a 2/3 majority.*

Option A: Change the Lex Adria to require a South-Central War Site in Texas for Imperial Wars.

*Chancellor's Note: To do so suggests we should establish the other 5 sites in Law as well.*

Option B: Amend the Imperial Budget to add budget authorization for a South-Central War Site

Option C: Approve as a resolution requesting the Crown to authorize a South-Central War site in Texas. *(Requires a majority)*

*Chancellor's Note: Option A requires a war in that location, Options B & C permit it but do not require it.*

*Author: TRGs Sir Gilbert Ostwestley and Dame Alinore D'Archy du Calais, Archduchy of Bisqaia*

*Sponsors: TEs Sir Mandrea Kahn and Dame Rose Thorne of the Barony of Bloodhaven, Dame Rhiannon Roysdotter of House Kynligr Mjoor (Sr Minor Estates)*

**OB4. Proposal to change the wording of the Articles of Incorporation  
EXHIBIT A, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND RESTATEMENT OF  
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE ADRIAN EMPIRE,  
INCORPORATED**

*(Requires majority to approve)*

ARTICLE II, Purposes

- A. The Corporation ... shall be operated [~~exclusively~~] for charitable, educational and literary purposes ...
- B. ... promoting activities and education in the field of ...
- C. ... the field of medieval Western European Culture ...
- D. ... between [~~1150 A.D.~~] 1066 C.E. and [~~1550 A.D.~~] 1603 C.E. ...
- E. ... events which re[-]create the environment ...
- F. ... present activities and events ... but not limited to ... [~~jousts,~~] demonstrations, tournaments, fairs, revels, classes, etcetera ...
- G. ... to encourage its members and chapters to research, acquire or produce [list of stuff] ...
- H. ... to [~~acquire authentic or reproduced replicas of chattels~~] research, acquire and produce items representative of said era ...
- I. ... to collect a library of works relevant to the era ...
- J. ... The Corporation , or its authorized chapters as defined in the Bylaws may ... [make] gifts, grants or other payments to other qualifying organizations as defined in Article VIII of this document. From time to time the Corporation may authorize one of its chapters to make such a gift, grant or other payment. Chapters at a kingdom level (as defined in the Bylaws) may make such gifts, grants or other payments without prior Corporation authorization, but must adhere to the rules as set out in this article....

ARTICLE III, Activities and Restrictions

- K. [~~Section 5. Whenever the Corporation is a private foundation...~~]

ARTICLE VII, Amendment

- L. ... [~~These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by the Estates of the Corporation by vote of~~] 2/3rds of [~~the number of directors in office at the time that the amendment is adopted~~] said Estates of the Corporation ...

ARTICLES VIII, Principal Office; Registered Office and Registered Agent

- M. At the March Estates meeting, the incorrect address was crossed off, and the correct address penciled in. Type the correct information

**COMMENTARY:**

- A. *There is no need to take the absolute most narrow view of our purpose. By eliminating the word "exclusively" we still define our purpose but give ourselves just a little bit of room to breathe.*
- B. *As it stands, everything we do must be education-based. If this addition is accepted, then activities are included as well as education. Some of our activities are questionable as to the medieval education purpose. For instance, the purpose of our Imperial Estates meetings are to address the government of our modern organization. The only medieval education there is purely accidental. (If there are*

*classes, they are held in conjunction with the meeting and aren't part of the meeting itself.)*

- C We need to say we are European history, not North American history.*
- D The years have been 1066 to 1603 for a number of years now. The change from A.D. to C.E. (Common Era) simply reflects current standards.*
- E This fixes a typographical error and more accurately describes our mission.*
- F 1. We have consistently resisted hosting jousts so it should not be stated so obviously in this document. If we ever host a joust, it is covered by the phrase "not limited to".*  
*2. The same should be said of revels, which are defined as "frolic noisily, dancing, drinking, or partying" (source: several internet and hard copy dictionaries), not something we endorse as a family friendly corporation. 3. Demonstrations are not included in this list of our common (or most important) examples of our activities.*
- G The purpose of The Adrian Empire is not to go out and buy [list of stuff]. Our members do, but their items remain their own private property. Less frequently the Adrian Empire, or its chapters, will acquire [list of stuff].*  
*Note: The [list of stuff] is addressed as separate items. They are not included here to avoid confusing the issue.*
- H This phrasing is much more representative of what we actually do (and encourage) in Adria.*
- I If item G is accepted, then no change is needed to this item. If it is not accepted, the proposal is to eliminate this phrase in its entirety. There has never been an Adrian Empire Library and it is dishonest to include it in our articles of incorporation.*
- J As this reads (or strongly implies), The Adrian Empire may make gifts to other groups only at an Imperial level. There is ample precedence that chapters also make gifts or donations to other groups. As to which organizations are "acceptable", I have referred to Article VIII, Dissolution. It describes organizations with "purposes substantially similar to those of the Corporation" and with specific IRC codes (for instance, ours is 501(c)3). Kingdoms currently control their own funds (including bank accounts) and should be allowed to make gifts and payments without asking permission of Mom and Dad. It is very strict about what organizations can be on the receiving end of a gift, so there should be no fear of kingdom mismanagement. Everything they do is still submitted to the Imperium for review.*  
*Note: If the Imperial Estates wish to place a ceiling on the value of such a gift, grant or other payment, it may make a separate proposal to that effect. This is to change the Articles to accurately reflect current practice, not to define it for the future.*
- K This section should be deleted in its entirety. We are not a privately funded organization, and any reference to being one does not belong in our documents.*
- L As this reads, we can change the Articles of Incorporation by having an Imperial Estates proposal that is passed by a vote of 6 in favor of the change. 6 is 2/3rds of the number of directors currently in office. This is a serious error that needs to be changed as soon as possible.*
- M Handwritten changes to a document like this are unacceptable. It makes us look far more unorganized and unprofessional that we actually are. It also indicates to the government agency receiving the document a lack of attention to detail and a*

*lack of care for proper procedure. To me, it would immediately raise the question, "What else do they do sloppily?"*

**Commentary:** *There are inaccuracies in the Articles of Incorporation that were submitted to Arizona after approval during the March Imperial Estates Meeting. Both serious and more trivial issues are included in this proposal. To avoid confusion, each proposed change is presented separately. If the Imperial Estates wish to consider the items separately, it will be considered a friendly amendment to the proposal that would not be opposed. Sir Jehan*

**Commentary:** *I want to stress that this is NOT to change Adria or the Articles' intent, just to clarify what I feel are mistakes. If someone wanted to present a change to the Articles, I would not accept it as a friendly amendment. Let's get it right before we start to change the way things really are. Dame Maeb*

**Author:** *HIH Dame Maedb Hawkins*

**CoSponsor:** *HIH Sir Jehan von Hapsburg*

## **OB5. Modify the Standard Flow of Information in the Rolls & Lists Manual, IEW 34**

***(Requires majority to approve)***

Modify Article I.C as follow:

- e. Once a month, within 30 days of the last event in that calendar month, the local Office of Rolls and Lists sends the original or scanned sign-in forms for the previous month to the Imperial Office of Rolls and Lists. The local Office should keep copies and is encouraged to do so, if more time is needed to address actual problems the Imperial Rolls Minister shall be notified and told why. . See V.A.2. Physical Reporting (Sending in the Paperwork) on page 18.
- f. The Imperial Office of Rolls and Lists reviews the paperwork, handles questions that arise from the paperwork, compares the paperwork to the information in the Imperial Database, and verifies the entry of each event in the Imperial Database within ~~[90]~~ 30 days, if more time is needed to address actual problems the local Rolls Minister shall be notified and told why.
- g. The Imperial Office of Rolls and Lists is also responsible for paperwork resulting from Imperial Events and for entry of the event into the Imperial Database within ~~[60]~~ 30 days, if more time is needed to address actual problems the Imperial event autocrat shall be notified and told why.

### **CounterProposal:**

As the primary proposal but in f, the change would be to 60 days, and g would not be modified.

**COMMENT:** *I first posted this in March of 2012 since that time I have had many inquiries as to why it is taking so long, so I am reposting it. I want to change the amount of time from 90 days to 30 days for Imperial recording. No more time than that is needed to look the events over and approve them. 90 days to post the events coming from the Chapters and 60 days to post the events coming from the Imperial Events is much more time than needed. 30 days is plenty of time to get those posted. If there are problems with the events, it could take a little longer for the Rolls Minister to get an answer back, but the local Rolls minister or Imperial event autocrat should know why it hadn't been posted yet.*

**Authors:** *TIM Dame Etaine Llewelyn and Sir Thomas Cottone*

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### NB1. Set Minimum Ages for Knighthoods

Amend Lex Adria IX.C.3

3. Any member may become a knight, [~~regardless of age (particularly in arts, archery, and ministry),~~] if that member has met the requirements. Members of all ages may participate.

Add the following to IX.D before D.1:

The minimum age required to attain the Knightly Ranks are: 14 for First Level (Bachelor, Robe, Minister, Archer), 16 for Second Level (Bannerette, Master, Civil, Forrester), and 19 for Third Level (Champion, Doctor, Premier, Warden).

*Commentary: Current rules limit a member to attaining Knighthood as well as advancing in Combat based age & participation. This would bring the other Rolls into those same standards*

*Current age requirements for combat:*

*Shiani – age 12*

*Rapier – age 14*

*Armor – age 16*

*Current participation requirements for combat:*

*Knight Bachelor*

*Sergeants List- 8EP (for this example shinai only)*

*Knights List- 10EP (for this example rapier only)*

*First level attainable as early as age 14*

*Knight Bannerette*

*Knights list- 18EP (of which 8 must be armored)*

*Second level attainable as early as age 16*

*Knight Champion*

*Knights List – 36EP*

*Third level attainable as early as age 19*

*Following the numbers set above, if a member fights in his first shinai tournament on his 12th Birthday he can earn his final EP required for Knight Champion on his 19th Birthday (assuming that he wins regularly so no additional tournaments are needed).*

*Author: Sir Dorn der Schwarzen Rose KPr*

*Sponsors: HIM Etaine Llywelyn, Dietrich von Holstein KCh, Felicia der Schwarzen Rose KPr*

### NB2. Change the renewal date to 1 August

Amend ByLaw III.D as follows:

For membership accounting, annual memberships cover the period [~~July 1 to June 30~~]August 1 to July 31. Annual memberships are due on [~~July~~]August 1 of each year. .

*Commentary: July is the month the Steward has to give a complete report of the finances. It is also the month he has to do renewals. There are the rosters to do. As it is now we have to check and see if they have paid, also take in renewals at the IEM. If the renewal was in August we wouldn't have to check to see if everyone had paid because if they hadn't paid they wouldn't show up on the board.*

*Author: HIM Etaine Llwelyn*

*Sponsors: HRG William Baine KPr*

**NB3. Transfer Inactive Lifetime Members to Member At Large**

Modify ByLaw III.E as follows:

**E. MEMBERSHIP ASSIGNMENT TO CHAPTER**

1. Members may join or change their Chapter when they pay or renew their membership. Renewals are effective on July 1, and lifetime members can change their Chapter on July 1. Members can only form estates or be estate holders in the Chapter they have joined. If no choice is made, members will be subjects of the Chapter in which they reside (where the members physically live). Chapter re-assignment is also allowed for a change of physical residence. If members do not physically live within 200 miles of the requested Chapter, they must apply directly to that Chapter's Crown for approval. If the members' change of Chapter takes their former Chapter below numbers, the members must provide a written reason why they are requesting the change, and appeal directly to Imperial Crown for permission.
2. In the case where members may have multiple residences or special circumstances, the Imperial Crown shall decide which Chapter the members join.
3. [Lifetime members who are inactive for 2 or more years shall be assigned as Imperial Members At Large.](#)

*Commentary:* We have people who haven't played in years but because they paid a lifetime membership they must remain on the board. After two years they should be put on the Members at Large board. If they decide to come back they would need to fill out a new membership form with their current information. They should be put in members at large. They no longer play and should not be counted in the Chapters toward how many members they have. The members that count towards how many are in your Chapter should be playing members

**Authors:** HIM Etaine Llwelyn

**Sponsors:** HRG William Baine KPr

**NB4. Modify Lex Adria to Require Announcement of Proposed Ministers By Crown Contenders Prior to the Acceptability Vote**

Add the following between the first and second sentences of Article XVI.A.2.b:

Option A:

[The contenders shall submit a list of proposed ministers to the Chancellor prior to the opening of the meeting of the Estates General.](#)

Option B:

[The contenders shall publish a list of proposed ministers 30 days prior to the opening of the meeting of the Estates General.](#)

*Commentary:* It is not a law so if someone doesn't want to tell us their choice of ministers they don't have to. Some of us feel that this should be a rule because who the ministers are going to be might make a difference in who we fight for.

**Authors:** HIM Etaine Llwelyn HRG William Baine (KPr), HRG Gregor Pent (CtR)



**NB5. Adopt the use of the Rawlings brand synthetic sword for use in Shinai**

Modify IEW-17 the Combat Manual to include the use of the Rawlings brand synthetic sword in Shinai as an alternative to using shinai. Shinai and the synthetic swords may be used together.

*Commentary:* Please review the playtest report (Appendix C) for full details and testing results.

*Authors:* HG Connor O'Readon CtR

*Sponsors:* Ritter Dietrich von Holstein KCh,  
HG Hawthorne de Tallyrand Perigord KCh

**NB6. Modify IEW 7 to Exclude Recreational Drugs**

Modify IEW 7 as follows:

Mundane law establishes an age at which a person may use tobacco or alcohol. Adria's policy is that no under-age person may use tobacco, ~~or~~ alcohol, or recreational drugs (or be under the influence thereof) at an Adria event site. No person shall use non-prescribed controlled substances or recreational drugs or be under the influence thereof at an Adria event site. ...

*Commentary:* At this time there are two States that allow recreational use of marijuana, affecting four Chapters on a monthly basis, and up to six at Imperial events. A third state will be voting on it soon, adding another Chapter being affected monthly.

*Authors:* Sir Dorn der Schwarzen Rose KPr

*Sponsor:* HRG Dame Margarita du Bois CtR

**NB7. Amend Lex Adria to Replace IEW 22**

Repeal Imperial Estates Writ 22 and add Article XVI.A.5.d: as follows:

*Note:* These are separate matches, and must be competed in separately.

d. All disciplines must be competed in separately, no contested war shall be determined based on the size of the army that signed in, but based on the actual participation in the discipline.

The nine combat points are to be determined based solely on participation. The eight arts points must reflect verified entries for each level, as well as TW and MW. The four archery points must reflect verified scores for each level.

*Commentary:* Imperial Estates Writ 22 was initiated 2003 based on the refusal of one set of contenders to cede war based on the size of the army for combat. In 2003, Adria had two Imperial War Sites. Today, at the discretion of the Imperial Crowns we may have up to six Imperial War sites. In addition, we now have a very strong precedence in Archery, as well as the Arts and therefore these disciplines must be determined on their own scores. In some cases, our archers outnumber our combatants.

*Author:* HG Marion Leal Durius (CtR)

*Sponsors:* HG Rosa Fiend CtR, HG Margarita Dubois CtR, Jarl Doom Solig,  
HG Dame Seraphine McLaren CtR; Ritter Dietrich von Holstein KCh

**NB8. Modify Lex Adria to prohibit mercenaries in contested Crown Wars**

Add the following to Lex Adria XVI.B.3:

d. Recruitment of mercenaries for contested Imperial Crown Wars shall not be allowed. No offer of money, Armour, goods, material content or promises of awards or rewards of any nature will be allowed.

*Commentary: Mercenaries are very period and in Fun wars most acceptable, mercenaries. Support in contested wars to chose those who rule the Empire, protect the Empire and insure the growth of the Empire should be based on integrity and leadership ability.*

*Author: Dame Marion Leal Durius (CtR)*

*Sponsors: HG Dame Seraphine McLaren (CtR); Dame Rose Fiend (CtR); Dame Margarita Dubois (CtR)*

**IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS****DI1. Alternative Makeup of Imperial Estates**

Reestablish the Senate and Assembly with the Senate consisting of those voters who attended the IEM in person, and those who “stayed home” would constitute the Assembly. The Senate would debate the items on the agenda, make modifications as appropriate, and recommend for or against each item. The Assembly would then vote for, against or abstain on each item. The Assembly votes would be cast electronically or by mail no later than one month after the meeting of the Senate. Proxies are no longer valid.

Option A: The members of the Senate would cast all of their votes in the Senate and have no vote in the Assembly.

Option B: The members of the Senate must use one of their votes in the Senate. If they have 2 votes (one landed and one personal/non-landed), they may choose which vote they are casting in the Senate and may cast the other vote in the Assembly.

Option C: The members of the Senate may choose to either cast all of their votes in the Senate or to split their votes between the Senate and Assembly.

*Comment: There have been many discussions about the problems with the IEMs: the IE has too many voters which makes meetings long and difficult and voting hard to count; the IE is not representative of the members because there are too many non-landed voters and not enough landed estates votes; proxies come in late; changes to agenda items can't be made because the proxy holders don't know about them; proxy holders don't vote the will of the estate when the proxy is an open proxy; etc. This item seeks to correct all of the above problems by:*

1. *eliminating all proxies (if you are there, you vote in the Senate, if not, you vote in the General Assembly, and if you have 2 votes, you vote up to 1 in the Senate and the rest in the General Assembly),*
2. *limiting the discussion and voting in the Senate to those who are present at the meeting,*
3. *allowing everyone a direct vote after all of the changes to the proposals have been made and discussed openly,*
4. *General Assembly votes would be counted electronically, so the count is “guaranteed” to be accurate.*

*The time-table and operation would be as follows:*

1. 60 days prior to the Imperial Senate Meeting (ISM), the call for agenda items is posted and the membership in the Imperial Estates General is set.
2. 45 days prior to the ISM, the ISM agenda is published
3. 30 days prior the ISM, the ISM agenda is finalized
4. The ISM is held:
  - a. All those in attendance sign in and specify which vote they are casting.
  - b. The Agenda is discussed and modified as appropriate.
5. The day after the ISM, the Chancellery and the Ministry of Information establish the make-up of the Assembly of the Imperial Estates (aka General Assembly or AIE) and the AIE discussion and voting group is established over the next 7 days.
6. 7 days after the ISM:
  - a. The minutes of the ISM are published and the AIE Agenda is published with those items approved by the Imperial Senate (IS) only.
  - b. The members of the AIE sign in to the discussion and voting group and -
  - c. Online discussion now begins in a "closed" group of all of the Imperial Estate holders, both landed and non-landed (the general public is not allowed access to this group but all members of Adria could be given read-only access with only the members of the AIE being given posting privileges).
7. 21 - 24 days after the ISM: The discussion is closed and the online voting begins
8. 28 - 30 days after the ISM voting ends.
9. 1-4 day after the AIE voting ends, the results are published.

*We realize that there are still some details to be worked out (how the AIE discussion board will be created, how the AIE will vote, how Estates with no viable internet access will participate, ...), but we believe those issues can be resolved (including testing) prior to or within 3 months of passage with implementation beginning after the IEM following the approval, e.g. if this item is approved at the March 2014 IEM, it can be implemented in time for the November 2014 meeting.*

*Authors: Sir Robert LeCroix, Marquis, Sir Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau CtR,  
Sir William Baine KPr*

## **DI2. Create a policy for IT**

Establish an IT policy for all Imperial activities

1. Asset Management: A system that monitors and maintains items of value.
  - a. Laptop: Who is responsible for maintaining? Where do we obtain?
    - i. Warranty
  - b. Software: What software is needed to perform duties of position maintaining the physical item? How often do we upgrade software we get to newer versions?
    - i. Editor: Word, Open Office?
    - ii. Virus: Kaspersky, Norton, MacAfee? Which offers the best protection?
  - c. Domain: Who controls, who has access? If we had to gain control of the domain how would we do that?
    - i. Do we have the option to set up emails through the domain for Imperial positions?
      1. This will maintain a central location for business emails to be located. And will maintain continuity of information coming into Imperial Positions across the years. This also removes personal emails from public sites.

- d. Working Documents: What documents does the Empire maintain and who do they belong to?
2. Back up
  - a. Site: Who maintains a backup?
    - i. What's the policy of our hosting provider should things go bad with the hosting plan?
    - b. Working docs: Per our hosting providers Terms of Service files on the hosting plan have to be used for the site. We need to come up with a central location to store and make documents available for edits. Something like Google Docs or Online File Storage through Go Daddy. Not sure if Blue Host has something similar.
    - c. Update protocols: Who updates what? How are things 'checked out' for edits? Some services allow multiple people in the same document for edits: Google Docs, SharePoint

*COMMENTARY: Seeing a need for a policy for IT within the Adrian Empire, I have drafted this as a beginning.*

*Author: HRM Giselle Arndt of Umbria*

*Sponsor: Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau CtR*

## **X. NEXT MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL ESTATES:**

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

## Appendix A. Civil Court Reports

**Case:** Cv Ct Imp 120722-2 – Define One Event  
**Petitioner:** Sir Dorn Das Schwarz Brause  
**Petition:** Define “one event per month” as stated in Lex Adria Article V.E.  

- What is the limit for abuse?
- What’s the legal event for deciding this?
- Flexibility per Chapter?
- Should there be a penalty if not all events are held?

**Panel:** Princess Presiding Judge Prince Wright Bentwood, Countesses Royal Lenora Greyphis, Margarita Dubois seated judges  
**Summary:** Concerns were raised that chapters holding multiple makeups at a single event were exceeding his authority. In some cases, an entire winters worth of events were held on the same day. Other chapters acted similarly during summer. This was questioned as abuse of the “other conditions” section of the law.  
**Reasoning:** We believe the intent is to hold regular monthly events when at all possible. The intent is not to hold a few multiple events that equal twelve EP’s. Makeup event procedures for situations beyond Crown control are listed in Lex Adria.  
 Concerns that local crown are suspected of abusing the invocation of the other conditions section should be addressed in the following manner:  
 Shires report to Imperial Crowns. Duchy, Archduchy and Kingdoms either report to their local Estates for decision. Members unhappy with those finding may consider legal recourse.  
**Ruling:** It is our opinion that holding more than 2 makeups in addition to the normal monthly event (for a total of 3 events) may be considered excessive.

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**Case:** Cv Ct Imp 130721-03 - Appealing the finding of “No Merit”  
**Petitioners:** Imperial Estates  
**Petition:** Clarify if, when, and how you may appeal a finding of “No Merit”  
**Panel:** Sir Terrin Greyphis (Presiding Judge), Dame Rosa Fiend, Sir John Roper  
**Summary:** Concerns were voiced that the petitioner may exaggerate facts. Furthermore, concerns were presented that the matter could be appealed only on procedural matters, which is in conflict with a basic tenet of Adrian law that all acts are appealable. Also the whole judicial process is based on getting to the truth of the matter.  
**Reasoning:** We believe that potential exaggerations or omissions by the petitioner cannot be proven during the finding of merit process and should be addressed at trial. There is no more likelihood that these would arise during appeal than it would be in the original complaint. Current judicial procedures only allow appeals for finding of No Merit for procedural errors, but general Adrian law allows for appeals for any act. This court finds that a finding of No Merit may be based on both procedural errors and errors or omissions of material facts.  
**Ruling:** Our ruling is that a finding of “No Merit” is appealable for procedural errors, or errors or omissions related to material facts. A material fact is evidence directly related to the case which may affect the outcome of the case.  
 The appeal process is:  
 Local:  
 1. Ask original Minister to reconsider (optional).  
 2. Appeal to the Crown of the local minister.

3. Appeal to the Imperial Crown who may defer to their Imperial Minister.
4. Appeal to the Imperial Estates who may defer the appeal to a committee.

Imperial:

1. Ask the Imperial Minister to reconsider (optional).
2. Appeal to the Imperial Crown.
3. Appeal to the Imperial Estates who may defer the appeal to a committee.

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**Case:** Cv Ct Imp 130721-4 – Requirements for the Elevation of a Duchy to an Archduchy (See CH 8)

**Petitioner:** Chancery

**Petition:** A request to clarify the rules for the advancement from Duchy to Archduchy.

**Panel:** Princess Lenora Greyphis, Presiding Judge, Prince Wright Bentwood, Countess Royal, Margarita Dubois seated judges

**Summary:** While clarifying the rules for the advancement from Duchy to Archduchy the panel found upon looking into the laws and historical records that several questions became relevant.

**Reasoning:** Lex Adria Adjudicate findings:  
 V.I.F.3.a.5 Specifically grants the Imperial Crown the right to grant charters and the right to promote existing charters to higher degrees of sovereignty.  
 This clearly shows establishment and promotion are two separate functions.  
 V.I.F.d. iv. Specifically grants the Imperial Estates general to approve writs and charters issued by the Imperial Crowns. No mention of promoting existing charters to higher degrees of sovereignty are mentioned.  
 Historical records (minutes of the Estates general including but not limited to Nov 2000, November 2002, November 2003, July 2005, July 2007) show inconsistent application of law. Historical precedence exists all ways. (voted and no action were both stated.)

**Ruling:** Elevation is not listed under the rights of the Estates and thus leaves it as a right of the Imperial Crown.  
 If the Estates want the right of approval over promoting existing chapters to higher degrees of sovereignty that would need to be added to section V.I.F.d.iv.  
 The other issues we discovered upon looking at historical precedence warrant the following rulings:

1. Charter creation is clearly crown right. All crown documents rise to the level of Crown Writ and are enforceable by publication.
2. The Imperial Estates clearly have the right and responsibility to elevate Crown Writ to Estate Writ upon notification by the Imperial Crown. The Imperial Estates also have the right to reject Crown Writ. The Estates also have the right to leave it as a Crown Writ without elevating it to Estate Writ.
3. Issuance of a charter does not mean you have an Estates Writ. If you have a Charter that does not rise to the level of Estate Writ then it does not need to go to the Estates General for any changes to the Charter.
4. Stylization changes do not constitute a charter change (ie. Changing the name of the current Imperial Crown does not warrant a new Charter, list a change in local sovereign does not warrant a new Charter but a border change or name change would require a Charter change.)

## **Appendix B. Letters of Intent for Board of Directors Nominees and President of the BoD Candidates**

It is my intent to seek to fill the vacant Region 1 seat.

In Adria, I am a Knight Champion and a Knight Minister. I am currently the Imperial Minister of Joust & War. I would like to represent my region on the BOD and attempt to concentrate on the business aspect of Adria.

Mundanely I have been an Operations Manager at a major electronic retailer. I handled the day to day operations of my store as well as human relations. I have sat on the board of Directors for a San Diego area Head start agency. I also sat on the Policy Committee for NHA, a federal Head Start grantee.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Ritter Dietrich Von Holstein/ Corwin Taylor

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Unto the Populace of Adria ,

I Sir Erik Harbinger(mundanely Eric Malmquist)do intend to submit my candidacy for the region one seat of the Board of Directors of the Adrian Empire Inc.

It would be my honor and privilege to serve the empire in the capacity of a board member . I have been a member of the Adrian Empire since 1990 , I have held the elected positions of House Sire, Baron,Count , Duke , Archduke, King And Emperor. I have been Imperial Minister of Joust and War , Imperial Marshal as well as numerous local ministries . I believe that Adria can only survive if the membership is engaged with the corporation to guide it . I look forward to serving Adria on the board . Thank you for your consideration.

Sir Erik Harbinger (MKA Eric Malmquist)

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Greetings to the Imperial Estates,

I come before you to seek permission to serve as President of the Board of Directors.

My qualification is an objective based principle, in as I have a history and am capable of managing and facilitating groups and projects through to completion. Though I have a belief that it is in the organizations best interest to return to a customary Board of Directors I am completely capable of working within the current mandates.

Even with my directional beliefs though, I do not feel the current BoD existence is purposeful enough in its application, organization and direction to make such a leap at this time. My goal and mission statement as President would be "Clarity with purpose and accountability towards even greater solidarity and contribution for the Organization".

Clarity is important, what are we supposed to be doing and how do we go about doing it. Members of the Board need to be clear in their duties and responsibilities. You the Estates need to clearly understand its function. The BoD further more needs to provide you the Estates and membership with clear accounting of its actions. The path for the populace to communicate and work with the BoD needs to be clear and free of pitfalls.

The Purpose of the BoD is multifaceted, yet its responsibility is also far more than an advisory committee. One purpose has to be to protect the mundane interests of the organization so that every member has the opportunity to thrive and enjoy the game part of the organization.

Accountability, Solidarity and Contribution, the people of this organization would be far better served with members of the BoD moving away from the 'I am only a volunteer – call me when you need me' philosophy and start defining functions and actions each person can and would be willing to do to contribute. Then make such commitments with the zeal of accountability.

It is my hope that by leading the BoD with such practices the organization will benefit whether we continue under the current BoD policy or move to a new one.

Please feel free to send any questions to my email address: [caderivi@aol.com](mailto:caderivi@aol.com)  
I will also endeavor to answer questions posted to the IE Board.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Anthony DeRivi  
aka Prince L'Bet'e deAcmd



## **Appendix C. Proposed Crown Budget**

1.

## **Appendix D. Rawlings Synthetic Sword Playtest Results**

### **Scope:**

The intent is to determine the suitability, if possible, of the Rawlings brand synthetic sword as a possible replacement to the shinai that has been used for the past 20 years to simulate armored/unarmored medieval combat. The author refuses to provide an opinion for or against this weapon and leave it to those who read this document to form their own opinion.

### **Weapon details**

#### Longsword:

Retail Price: \$73 + tax (complete sword)

From the website (<http://www.woodenswords.com/SearchResults.asp?Cat=1837>):

Blade Length 96.5cm (38") - \$43 Guard 24cm (9 ½") - \$16 Handle/Grip 19.5cm (7 ¾") - \$16

Pommel 6.5cm (2 ½") - \$16 Hilt Length 27cm (10 ½") Total Length 124cm (48 ½") Total Weight 785g (1.73lbs) POB 6" All sizes are approximate.

From the manufacturer's website: Our swords are designed as the ultimate training tool. They can be used like a waster for Drilling and Pell Work and can also be used for Sparring (with appropriate protection). The Blades are constructed to flex in the last 1/3 towards the tip. This gives us a blade that can be used for thrusting (protection should ALWAYS be worn) without being whippy. The blade/tang joint (traditionally a weak point) is reinforced by a steel rod running along the full length of the handle. This also removes any flex in the handle traditionally associated with plastic training swords. The Standard Guard is constructed from nylon. The ball shaped quillions are designed for safety when sparring (large surface area = less chance of being impaled). They are modeled using the same dimensions as seen on an existing 15th Century Longsword. This is a nice example of a historical design that helps us with safe sparring. The slide on Grips are constructed from a thermoplastic elastomer to provide the feel of leather over wood. They offer excellent impact absorption without feeling spongy. The Pommel is constructed from nylon. This provides our swords with excellent balance and makes them safer than metal pommels for pommel strikes. A brass nut is molded into the pommel to provide a tight metal on metal joint to the tang. The swords can be taken apart easily by unscrewing the pommel. This not only makes transporting them easy – it also allows you to customize your sword with our range of interchangeable parts (available separately).

Materials Our range of swords is manufactured in the U.K to the highest quality. They are constructed from high grade nylon (U.K. sourced for quality control) instead of cheaper polypropylene used by other manufacturers. Nylon swords offer much greater durability, impact resistance and perform in a wider range of temperatures.

#### Shortsword:

Retail Price: \$70 + tax (complete sword)

From the website (<http://www.woodenswords.com/SearchResults.asp?Cat=1854>):

Blade Length 86.5cm (34") - \$43 Guard 20cm (8") – \$16 Handle/Grip 11.5cm (4 ½") - \$16 Pommel

6.5cm (2 ½") \$16 Hilt Length 19cm (7 ½") Total Length 106cm (41 ½") Weight 698g (1.54lbs)

POB 5.5" All sizes are approximate.

From the manufacturer's website: Our swords are designed as the ultimate training tool. They can be used like a waster for Drilling and Pell Work and can also be used for Sparring (with appropriate protection). The Blades are constructed to flex in the last 1/3 towards the tip. This gives us a blade that can be used for thrusting (protection should ALWAYS be worn) without being whippy. The blade/tang joint (traditionally a weak point) is reinforced by a steel rod running along the full length of the handle. This also removes any flex in the handle traditionally associated with plastic training swords. The Standard Guard is constructed from nylon. The ball shaped quillions are designed for safety when sparring (large surface area = less chance of being impaled). They are modeled using the same dimensions as seen on an existing 15th Century Longsword. This is a nice example of a

historical design that helps us with safe sparring. The slide on Grips are constructed from a thermoplastic elastomer to provide the feel of leather over wood. They offer excellent impact absorption without feeling spongy. The Pommel is constructed from nylon. This provides our swords with excellent balance and makes them safer than metal pommels for pommel strikes. A brass nut is molded into the pommel to provide a tight metal on metal joint to the tang. The swords can be taken apart easily by unscrewing the pommel. This not only makes transporting them easy – it also allows you to customize your sword with our range of interchangeable parts (available separately). The swords weigh about 2/3 of the weight of a real sword. This is designed to lower the impact when sparring. The weight is kept back towards the hilt further lessening this impact. They are very well balanced and are heavier than most wooden wasters on the market. Materials Our range of swords is manufactured in the U.K to the highest quality. They are constructed from high grade nylon (U.K. sourced for quality control) instead of cheaper polypropylene used by other manufacturers. Nylon offers much greater durability, impact resistance and performs in a wider range of temperatures.

### **Practical application analysis.**

Joel has personally owned the longsword for 2 years and has been using it weekly for that time. The sword has proven very durable against both shinai and another Rawlings sword. No other types of swords have been used against this weapon. Stainless steel pommel and cross guards are available but were not purchased as they add about 10.5 oz of weight each and change the balance point of the weapon. They were also not available 2 years ago.

The manufacturer analysis is fairly accurate. The sword is not very whippy when wielded properly but did exhibit some floppiness when wielded improperly (such as on the flat), but these characteristics are actually no different than the metal feather swords on the market that are also used for unarmored combat.

The sword was taken to the National Steel Tournament (NST) in Nevada in October of 2012. The crowns of Albion allowed their field to be used to test the swords and demonstrate them to the Empress. The sword was handed to both knights and current shinai fighters to spar with and described their opinions about them. As these were intended to be true analogs to the metal originals, thrusting was allowed and was done frequently. The blades flexed reasonably, even when run upon and no one expressed a fear of the sword breaking or of being injured. Each fighter went to Empress Etaine, who was present, and gave their opinion of the weapon to her. Overpowered testing did occur in which a subject either struck or were struck intentionally with blows of significant power deemed in excess of the rules. This was done with permission and demonstrated the weapon's ability to withstand strikes that are considered too hard. Protective equipment, including the fencing mask was not damaged. It does need to be noted that a metal shield, normally used in steel, was used as part of the playtest and noticeable damage was incurred on the weapon. Shinais used against this shield also noted similar gouges, but not as deep as was done to the nylon. This particular shield had a metal rolled edge and not covered in leather or rubber.

Some combatants remarked that receiving strikes with the weapon did feel like it hit harder than when struck with a shinai but also noted that due to the lighter weight of the weapon it was easier to strike harder because they could swing faster. These same combatants also noted that when fighting someone who was more skilled at controlling the strikes, the hits were less painful. All of these combatants were wearing at least one piece of armor that was the bare minimum allowed by Adria rules and these were the areas they expressed pain when struck.

## **Cost and benefits vs detriments comparison.**

The shinai offers a cheap means of participating in combat. On average a typical, non-tournament grade shinai runs \$30, and once broken you would replace the entire weapon for another \$30. The Rawlings sword costs \$70/\$73 for a complete sword. This is a one-time cost. After this, when the sword breaks you only need to replace the part that broke (\$16 or \$43). The blade itself is \$13 more than a whole shinai, but the characteristics of both are completely different and really cannot be compared with any kind of reasonable accuracy.

Before now the technology did not allow for an accurate analog to a medieval sword without it being made of metal and still conform to the necessary protection requirements currently in place. The swords provided by Rawlings are the analog we've been waiting for.

The benefits of this weapon are:

- 1). The increased level of accuracy to the real western medieval sword of the period.
- 2). The sword is safe for thrusting, which was a characteristic of a sword that was unavailable to us before.
- 3). It's customizable and parts interchangeable, you can choose different pommels and if something breaks you only need to purchase the broken part, not a whole new sword.
- 4). They hold up to a shinai, so shinai's can be used on the same field as the Rawlings synthetic sword, However, the detriment is to the shinai as you cannot thrust with a shinai like you can with the Rawlings synthetic sword.

The detriments of this weapon are:

- 1). Increased cost. The cost of buying a complete weapon is twice that of a shinai, the cost of a replacement blade if it breaks is still \$10 more than the average cost of a shinai as noted earlier in this document.
- 2). They are not indestructible. While nylon and bamboo are not the same material, both can still be damaged in the course of using the weapons and can eventually lead to the weapon breaking. The overall life of this weapon can be decreased at a faster rate if used improperly, possibly in less time than the shinai. However, this is only theory as no destructive testing was conducted here.
- 3). There is a learning curve. Shinai's, just like rattan do not require a specific manner in which to wield them, the Rawlings synthetic sword is much like a real sword and therefore requires more training/practice to use them effectively.
- 4). There are no pole weapons, axes or maces. Only swords currently exist from Rawlings. There is a rubber headed poleaxe on the market, however the size and density of the head make it unsuitable and unsafe for unarmored combat.
- 5). Have the potential to hit harder because of the thinner surface area and significantly lighter weight (blade edge as opposed to the shinai slat).

## **Incidents:**

1. On 4/13/13. Ritter Dietrich was injured during a war scenario when he received a thrust that went under the bib of his mask and struck his gorget. While the strike did cause him to stop and get his breath, no damage to the throat area or bruising was present. Ritter Dietrich commented that the feeling was similar to taking a rapier thrust to the gorget. Physicker did not feel it necessary to pull him from the field and Ritter Dietrich chose to continue. His analysis detailed below.
2. On 4/13/13. Ritter Dietrich was again injured during a war scenario when he received a slash to the index finger to his right hand. Sir Geoffrey chose to sacrifice himself to the opposing arming in an attempt to take someone out of the battle with him. He came forward and dropped to his knees with the blade extended and struck Ritter Dietrich with the strong of the weapon, on top of the index finger near the back of the hand. Ritter Dietrich was wearing a leather work glove for protection. His finger did show some swelling and bruising and Ritter Dietrich chose to pull himself from the field.

Ritter Dietrich later confirmed that he suffered a fractured finger as a result of this incident (see email below)

## FAQ:

Q: Can these things hit too hard?

A: Absolutely. Just like any weapon currently used within the Empire, these have the potential to be “abused” or used with excessive force leading to potential injury. Also like any weapon currently used within the Empire a certain amount of training and practice is expected to the point where one can use the weapon in a safe manner. Of course accidents happen, if they didn’t we wouldn’t need a physicker. The challenge will be most apparent with veteran combatants as they have the greatest potential of overpower since they are accustomed to the speed and force necessary to be effective in shinai related scenarios and these will require a more skilled touch.

Q: Is this playtest intended to replace shinai altogether?

A: No. Maybe in the future someone will make that proposal, but this is simply meant to introduce a new type of light weapon analog that is more physically accurate for our corporate framework that was previously unavailable.

Q: Does this company make pole weapons?

A: No. Rawlings does not make poleaxes. Purpleheart Armory, where I purchased these swords does make a rubber headed poleaxe that are to be attached to wood hafts. My personal opinion is that these are more suited for armored combat. As a result, the shinai “poleaxe” is still the only suitable weapon for simulating the use of a poleaxe in unarmored combat.

## Participant Commentary:

This last Saturday (10/13/12) i participated in the play test of the new shinai replacement swords.

Thrusting: they seem to work very well to bring the thrusting aspect to the field without any problems.

Flat hit: the hit hard and left a pretty good welt and bruise on my right arm. On edge hit: i believe it hits too hard i took quite a few hits from it most hurt i bit nothing too bad but one to the knuckles caused me to have switch hands because i lost feeling in my hand and it still throbs today. A shot that landed on my left arm left a pretty good welt and limited the use of the arm for a while and those with a body shot caused me to pretty much say i was done with the fight even though i had energy to fight on i just did not want to get hit again. Now its possible the person i was fighting Was a little too powered up but I can’t remember taking a shinai hit that ever hurt like those did. Now as far as using them in the future I can see with knights and people not so new being deal able but for new people or 13 year olds I can see this being a problem and people getting hurt or not letting their kids fight or just not doing shinai. If the armor requirements went up a little it may be possible but without softening the slashing blows landing force somehow ( like the foam versions ) i don't see these being safe especially for the youth. Equipment worn: Motorcycle gloves with reinforced leather and elbow pads gorget and helm with hood and fencing jacket (it should be noted that the fencing jacket has no sleeves and only protected the torso, the sleeves of his shirt was the only protection against strikes to the arms). Sir Logan

It was much better this time though a little overpowering and it has the potential to hurt a lot  
Sir Logan (after testing them a second time at a different event)

Sir Connor,

I want to thank you again for the opportunity to test out your new weapon. I enjoyed it tremendously. One of the things I liked most about using this weapon was that it allowed me to feel more in control of the weapon, I was able to move easier and better than with a Shanai. As I mentioned I am very new to this sport, so I cannot make a lot of comparison one vs the other. The one thing I didn't like about this weapon was that the hit was harder than with the Shanai. As it is light weight it will take some getting used to so as not to over power the hit. I apologize if that seems a bit contradictory I was able to handle the weapon better, able to block and go on the attack easier, but it was a bit more difficult to control the power behind some of the hits for me.

I look forward to trying this weapon again when I become a more experienced fighter.

Let me know if you require more input or information. I would be happy to answer questions about my experience using this weapon.

Sincerely,

YIS

Brigid Guildeforge

After fighting with the new shinai alternatives, I am impressed. They handle better, look better, and promote better technique. I did fracture my finger upon receiving a blow from them, but that was more the physics than anything unsafe. I also received a thrust to the throat, but this has happened to me in rapier and could very well be an armor issue on my part. Overall. I very much like these weapons and feel that Adria would benefit from their approval.

Ritter Dietrich Von Holstien

Imperial Minister of Joust & War

Knight Champion

## **Appendix E. The combat card case and rulings**

### **The Request for a ruling and the Chancellor's Ruling:**

Ruling of Law re authority of Imperial Minister of Joust & War to revoke the combat card of a fighter for unsafe behavior.

Greetings YE Ritter Dietrich, IMoJ&W,

#### QUESTION OF LAW

The Imperial Chancellor received your request for a ruling of law on August 21st:

I am requesting an official ruling on if an Imperial Minister of Joust & War can revoke the combat card of a fighter for unsafe behavior. This has been a practice at least since I began participating in Adria. In Section I.E. 10b. It states that a combatant may be barred from fighting after being ejected from two consecutive events. It does not say that that is the only circumstance in which a combat card can be revoked and appears to be an example.

We need a ruling on this.

#### APPLICABLE LAW

IEW#19 Marshal's Manual I.B. addresses the authority of marshals to qualify combatants.

IEW#17 Combat Manual E. 1 addresses the authority of Ministers to dismiss combatants from the field.

IEW#17 Combat Manual E. 9 addresses the "Chain of command" for purposes of appeal.

The request cites IEW#17 Combat Manual I.E. 10b. of the Manual which states that a combatant may be barred from fighting after being ejected from two consecutive events.

Ordinary contract law applies to our membership agreement that states that our members agree to follow our internal dispute resolution procedures; and, our combat liability waiver which states that our participants have read and agree to follow our rules.

The 1st Amendment, freedom of association, generally protects our right to play with those who follow our rules and deny fellowship to those who don't.

I conferred with HE Sir Arion, the author of the Manual, who stated:

"I did not include wording that mentioned removing someone's authorization when I wrote the manual because it did not occur to me that someone would be so out of control as to warrant that action. Apparently, it needs to be added."

"In my opinion, the section of the Marshals manual IV.E.5. stating "Marshals have the authority to dismiss fighters from the field (war, tournament or demo) for losing their temper or using vulgar or offensive language at any time." can be interpreted as saying until further notice since there is no time limit imposed on the restriction.

The Imperial Minister of Joust and War (being THE primary safety officer for the club; and I would argue that any local Crown Marshal and up), needs to have the authority to remove someone's authorization if they have proven to be unsafe on more than one occasion. At the very least, the

offender, assuming that that person is a Knight, could be charged with oath breaking as he/she would have taken the Sword Oath prior to fighting."

I conferred with HE Dame Juliana, the IMoJ who believes that this a mundane liability issue. Someone must have the authority to interpret and enforce the rules, and to protect the organization.

Since for some 16 years as a member and Knight Combatant, I am personally aware that the Crown and Ministers have held and exercised this authority, we may take "judicial notice" of the practice within the AE, Inc.

Similar sections of the Lex Adria impose burdens upon the exercise of authority: reasonableness, written cause, and right of appeal.

#### ANALYSIS

The other Manual sections cited, clearly establish the authority of the Ministry to qualify and discipline participants.

Section I.E. 10b. of the Manual does not say that it is the only circumstance in which a combat card can be revoked and appears to be only an example.

Our mundane agreements are binding on the member. Adria encourages and offers members the opportunity to participate in our martial arts activities, but it is up to us who qualifies, and who does not. Each member who signs up for combat subjects himself to our evaluation, it is ongoing, as it is conferred it may be withdrawn.

Mundanely the law of most use to us is probably our freedom of association as guaranteed in the 1st Amendment. Simply put there is no right to bash on people who don't agree to be hit--you have a privilege that we provide and can revoke.

Ultimately, TIMs have broad discretion to safeguard the membership and Corporation. They operate through Their Ministers, and Their decisions are subject to review by the Imperial Estates.

#### RULING

Yes, the Crown or Minister of Joust and War have the authority to grant and revoke combat authorization. The decision is an administrative not judicial determination. It must be reasonable. In the event of revocation, cause must be provided in writing. Such determinations are subject to appeal. Appeal shall follow the normal "chain of command"--Chapter Minister to Chapter Crown, to Imperial Minister, to Imperial Crown, to Imperial Estates, to Arbitration.

YIS,  
Sir William Baine,  
Imperial Chancellor

#### **The Complaint:**

On behalf of Sir Hanzel von Brandenburg I do file an official complaint. I file this complaint with you as the named defendants can not process it.



On Wednesday 3Jul13, Sir Dietrich von Holstein, while acting in the capacity of his Office, Imperial Minister of Joust & War, sent notice that he was pulling Sir Hanzel's combat card. Because of an incident involving Sir Hanzel at the IBWNW2013.

In subsequent emails it was discussed that he "believed" he had the authority to do this following that with "it was always understood" however could not provide reference in Law.

The Law (Section I.E.1 of the Combat Manual 2012) states "All combatants shall conduct themselves in a safe and courteous manner at all times. Acting in a manner unsafe to themselves or others, loss of temper and use of vulgarity are causes for dismissal from the field by the Crown Marshal, marshal or Minister of Joust & War"

Sir Hanzel removed himself from the remainder of the War Scenarios (this was the last of the scenarios).

The Law (Section I.E.10.b of the Combat Manual) states "The marshal shall issue two (2) warnings for excessive force or unsafe behavior. On the third infraction, the marshal will dismiss the combatant. Any combatant committing a third infraction (at the same event) shall be ejected from the event. Any combatant being expelled from two (2) consecutive events for excessive force or unsafe behavior may be banned from combat within the Empire for three (3) months, and his combat card shall be taken away for that duration of time.

(See Marshal's Guide.) "

Sir Dietrich states that this is being done because "Sir Hanzel has a history of losing his temper on the field" & "the safety of others". The situation at IBW resulted in Sir Hanzel yelling very loud; I fail to see a safety concern. Furthermore, the removal of a member's combat card is clearly laid out. The parameters of that Law have not been met. There was not another incident at the event following the IBW.

I informed Sir Dietrich of these Laws & requested reinstatement. That request was denied.

These rules are listed within Imperial Estates Writ #17. The regulations listed above are very clear as to how to proceed.

We contend that as a result of this policy/ruling, Sir Hanzel was denied the possibility of continued Knightly advancement.

We ask that you consider the following & find merit with each

Sir Dietrich von Holstein, Misfeasance of office & violation of Article I.C (Conduct Unbecoming)

He knowingly & willfully issued a ruling that was in direct conflict with an IEW.

Sincerely,

Sir Dorn der Schwarzen Rose  
Advocate for Sir Hanzel of Brandenburg

## **The Rulings:**

The Ruling of Merit:

To the plaintiffs and the defendants in this affair, I greet you.

I have been given the honor and responsibility of judging the merits of the complaint filed by Sir Dorn on behalf of Sir Hanzel of Brandenburg. Below are my findings and conclusion.

1. While I.E.10.b gives a full procedure for handling conduct on the field, I do not view it as the one and only reason one may have their card revoked. Due to this I believe the definitive determination is defined under I.E.9.
2. I.E.9 makes it clear that interpretation is purely in the hands of Minister of Joust and War and therefore he does not need to cite the Law in which he is operating. The Minister of Joust and War made this action not out of the blue, nor without warning. The Minister of War and Joust and the Emperor was acting in reaction to a combatant with what they believed to be a pattern of violent behavior. No evidence provided in the complaint demonstrates otherwise.
3. Ministers in the area of combat (Marshals, Ministers of Joust and War) have an obligation to ensure the safety of members on the field. If, while working in the capacity of their position, they witness or receive evidence that a combatant is behaving in a manner that may cause harm to himself/herself or other combatants, the minister is obligated to take action--which may include pulling someone's combat card. To act otherwise could lead to the injury of a member or bystander and could open the organization up to the possibility of mundane legal action.
4. The complaint does not outline in anyway how Dame Juliana gave illegal advice. A knight is supposed to give council to their Crown when asked. The complainant has not even shown me the crooks of the conversation between Dame Juliana and the Emperor.

Conclusion: With these reasons I find no merit in Sir Dorn's charges against [His Imperial Majesty Thomas, Dame Juliana and] Sir Dietrich von Holstein.

Ich Dien

Johan II, King of Terre Neuve, Imperial Deputy Minister of Justice.