

# Adrian Empire Imperial Estates Meeting March 28-29, 2015 Minutes

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Prepared and submitted by:

Sir Terrin Greyphis, Imperial Chancellor of Estates Meetings

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# RESULTS SUMMARY IN AGENDA ORDER

Call to Order	<b>9:37 AM</b>	4
Reports		4
Roll Call	132 represented votes	4
Approval of Minutes	Tabled	5
CRB1A. Reduction in Status	No estates were reduced	5
CRB1B. Elevation in Status	Varheim elevated to Archduchy	5
CRB2. Amend Membership Form/Waiver	Tabled	5
CRB3. Disposition of the 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Books	Passed as amended	5
CRB4. Reduce Lifetime Banishment Requirement	Failed 77/45	5
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BOD4. Recommendation to Purchase Go-To-Meeting	More research recommended	6
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OB6. Amend IEW 17 to remove the nominal blade width		
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OB8. Re Any Actions vs Past Crown arising from the Recovered		
	Failed	
Adjournment		14

#### INTRODUCTION

Unto the Imperial Estates of the Adrian Empire, Greetings.

In this document, you will notice a change in the layout of the minutes as compared to recent versions. I wish to focus more on what actually happened while still presenting a quick summary for those that just want to see the voting results. To that end, there is a new section (above) entitled, "Results Summary in Agenda Order," that will both show the voting results and the page number on which the details of that item appear. The items themselves will be in the order addressed so as to be more the minutes of the meeting. Thus the Table of Contents is in the order addressed while the Results Summary in Agenda Order is in the same order as presented on the agenda.

Also note that some vote counts will be shown like, "33-35/87-90". This indicates the actual counts of the two counters varied, but not by enough to affect the outcome of the vote. Rather than choosing a method to sum up the two values, I am indicating the actual counts. In this example, the counts of ayes were 33 and 35 whereas the counts of nays were 87 and 90.

Please feel free to provide feedback at my e-mail address listed on the Imperial Website, <a href="http://adrianempire.org/ministers/ministers.php">http://adrianempire.org/ministers/ministers.php</a>.

Sir Terrin Greyphis Imperial Chancellor of Estates Meetings

# **MINUTES**

Call to Order, 9:37 AM

The call to Order took place at 9:37 AM, Saturday, March 28th.

Quorum was established and His Imperial Majesty asked the Estates if Imperial trials could be conducted. The estates voiced no objections.

Recessed to the call of the Chair.

The meeting resumed at 10:34 AM, Sunday, March 29th.

A request for a quorum count was made and denied per our standard procedures.

# Roll Call, 132 represented votes

This item was inadvertently addressed early.

Two additional qualified estates were seated. No petitions for an exception to Article VI.E.6 were made.

The total Estate Holders present was 24

The total proxy count was 108

For a total voting count of 132

# Reports

The Imperial Crowns, the Board of Directors, and various Imperial Ministers presented their reports. Those submitted in writing will be made available on the Imperial website.

Note: a request was made to include the approval of last reign's budget actuals on the next agenda.

# Approval of Minutes, Tabled

The approval of the minutes of the November 2014 Imperial Estates Meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

#### Crown Business

CRB1. Charter Amendments

CRB1A. Reduction in Status, No estates were reduced

As of Thursday night (3/26), the three duchies, Alhambra, Lancaster, and Wolfendorf had all met the membership requirement of 20 members. As of Sunday (3/29), the Kingdom of Esperance had met the requirement of 100 members.

The vote to reduce Glynmore failed by voice vote.

Motion to **not** reduce Altland and Malta passed without objection.

CRB1B. Elevation in Status, Varheim was elevated to Archduchy

A request was made for the Estates to approve the elevation of Varheim from a Duchy to an Archduchy. This was added to the agenda by a 2/3rds voice vote and then passed without objection.

CRB2. Amend Membership Form/Waiver, Tabled

The changing of the membership form and waivers was tabled to the Imperial Estates Meeting after when Adria's lawyer provides the recommended wording.

CRB3. Disposition of the 25th Anniversary Books, Passed as amended

Two 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Books will be sent to each chapter to be used as recruitment aids. Additional books may be purchased by chapters or individuals for the price of \$10 each plus shipping and may be used as desired. Any books not sold by the end of the November 2015 Imperial Estates Meeting weekend are approved for destruction.

CRB4. Reduce Lifetime Banishment Requirement, Failed 77/45

(Requires 2/3rds to approve)

Amend Lex Adria Article F.1 as follows

- b. By a unanimous vote:
  - i. [Extend banishment of a member beyond three years (see Article XI.B.9.e.).]
    Removed
- c. By a 2/3rd's majority:

. . .

vii. Extend banishment of a member beyond three years (see Article XI.B.9.e.).

#### **Board of Directors Business**

Note that it was clarified that all BOD items were recommendations.

BOD1. Recommendation to Put the Pledge on all [Official] Electronic Sites, Tabled

Motion to table for rewrite passed by voice vote.

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BOD2. Recommendation to Change the Imperial and Local Stewards' Responsibilities, **Partial Withdrawn, Partial Pass** 

#### (Requires majority to approve)

Recommend moving the responsibility from the Imperial Steward to the Local Stewards:

- A. Entering information at a local level Imperial Steward verifying information accuracy. Locked out 30 days before a meeting.
- B. Taking payments and depositing directly to the Imperial fund. Local Steward report must include what memberships were entered. With the eventual goal of having a system through the website to pay with PayPal.

As a recommendation, this issue only required a majority to pass.

A motion to split was updated to a motion to approve just the following portion (the last sentence) and was passed, 70-73/15-20:

With the eventual goal of having a system through the website to pay with PayPal.

The remainder was withdrawn by the author (BoD).

BOD3. Recommendation to Modify the New Crown Handbook, **Withdrawn by Author** This issue was withdrawn by the author (BoD).

BOD4. Recommendation to Purchase Go-To-Meeting, More research recommended

The BOD would like approval to incur the cost of the electronic meetings.

- A. Go-To-Meeting Research up to 25 callers at a time:
- B. So the packages available on their website are \$39/month... but that is for a full year so it would be: \$468 for the year. OR
- C. We can do a month/month billing of \$49/month... which would equate into: \$245 for the year if we use it 5 times. 3x IEM plus the 2 extra meetings in between the IEMs we were discussing.
- D. The bonus is, we have it for the entire month each time... so if there is something that comes up and we need to get together again within the month... it is already paid for... or if HIM needed to do a conference with say his ministers... they could use it as well. Imperial Ministers can hold online meetings. Classes could be held.

Motion to recommend that the Imperial Crowns ask their mundane body to do the research for an electronic meeting format. Passed by voice vote.

#### Chancery Business, Mostly postponed

There was a motion to move Chancery Business, with the exception of CH4, until after Old Business. It was noted that CH1 required no approval:

CH1. Changes to Bylaws and Writs, No action required

(Notice only, no approval required)

A. Correct the typographic error in Bylaws Article V.A, paragraph 3

Modify Bylaws Article V.A as follows:

- ... candidates for the [three] two 1-year-term at-large Director positions ...
- B. Change all references in the Arts and Sciences Manual, IEWs #1 and #37, to the Bylaws to refer to the Lex Adria.
- C. Change the label of the Manual of Arts and Sciences as follows: IMPERIAL ESTATES WRITS #1 AND #37
- D. Change the word "form" to "recognize" Lex Adria Article VIII.D.3b as follows:
- b. Rights and Responsibilities
  - A Shire shall have as its goal the development of a fully functioning government with well developed ministries. Until such time as these ministries are developed, the Imperial Crown, with the approval of the Imperial Estates, may waive strict compliance with the corresponding sections of the Bylaws.
  - ii. A Shire shall have the right to [form]recognize Estates Minor. A shire of five to nine members may have one vote on the Imperial Estates. A shire of 10 or more members may have two votes on the Imperial Estates, if they [form]recognize at least two Estates Minor.
  - iii. The Imperial Viceroy of a Shire shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Imperial Estates and hold the Shire's vote on that body if no Estate Minor is [formed]recognized.

The motion to move Chancery Business except for CH4 passed by voice vote.

CH4. Consideration of the Success of the Reign of TIMs Wright Bentwood and Mary Elizabeth, **Passed** 

(Requires majority to approve)

A motion to table failed, 48-48/78-79.

A motion was made to split the issue. HIM Wright asked that the issue not be split. The issue was split with a vote of 58-61/56-56.

Taken in the order listed, the vote for HIM Wright passed by voice and the vote for HIH Mary Elizabeth passed 71-71/x (nays not counted).

#### **Old Business**

A motion to address OB8 now was passed by voice vote.

OB8. Re Any Actions vs Past Crown arising from the Recovered CD, Failed

(Requires 2/3 to approve)

I, Sir Tailan Bran McNeil, formally request that these Estates find that not only their Graces Sir Hawthorn and Dame Cocah are innocent of any wrong doing in the issue of the missing 10,000 that I recovered; but they also do so for all Imperial Crowns who followed and also did not find the money was missing.

Author: Sir Tailan Bran McNeil Earl Royal, Knight Premier.

**Sponsor**: Dame Anne Bryce of Kincraig Countess Roy*al* 

A motion to discuss passed by voice vote.

OB8 failed by a vote of 63-63/70-74.

OB1. Change the renewal date, Option 3 passed as amended

(Requires 2/3 to approve)

**Option 1**: Change the date to June 1

Amend ByLaws Articlee III.D as follows:

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

Author: HIM Etaine Llwelyn

Sponsors: HRG William Baine KPr

**Option 2**: Change the date to August 1

Amend ByLaws Articlee 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.

Author: HRT Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau, CR, HG Sir Robert La Croix, KPr

**Option 3**: Change the date to April 1

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

Author: from the floor

**Sponsors**: multiple

First a vote was taken to determine preference with the following result:

20-20 for option 1

24-31 for option 2

64-66 for option 3

A motion was made to approve option 3 with the addition, "The Imperial Steward shall implement a one-time proration for existing membership." Option 3 passed as amended with a 2/3rds majority by a vote of 94-97/x (nays not counted).

OB2. Amend War Judging in IEW-1, Original proposal passed

(Requires majority to approve)

#### D. WAR JUDGING

- 1. [The War] Entries shall be judged by a panel of at least three qualified judges [per entry]. Four judges are recommended,[with three primary and an alternate judge designated.]
- 2. [Judging panels will have four qualified judges; three main and one alternate judge.] The panels should be representative of the armies in the war, and will

not favor any army or faction and be chosen for subject matter knowledge and expertise according to each type of entry.

- 3. The pool of judges should be decided prior to the war based on qualified judges who have notified the MA&S of their willingness to judge.
- 4. The contenders, the contender's family, and any direct vassals (have sworn personal fealty to the contender) shall not judge.
- 5. An artisan who has also entered the lists at a war may not judge more than 50% of the entries unless there are too few judges willing to serve.
- 6. An artisan cannot judge their own work. A judge should not be a family member or close affiliate, if possible.
- 7. All judging shall be performed as in a standard arts tournament.
- 8. A tournament win shall be awarded to artisans who have qualifying scores.
- 9. Masterworks can be awarded.
- 10. [The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall discuss any scores where one score is five or more pointsfrom the next closest score with the judging panel prior to it being recorded by the List Mistress. All judges on the panel must initial each change to a score. A notation discussing the reason for the score change must be made.] The three closest scores will be used for the average and the fourth score will not be used. The MA&S shall discuss any score that differs by more than five from any other score used with the judge, who shall have the opportunity to adjust the score to be more in line with the other scores or that judge will be replaced by two new judges and the same criteria shall be applied. If the [Minister of Arts and Sciences] MA&S and the Crown feel that one of the judges is biased or unreasonable, two additional judges may be selected to judge the piece. [If an alternate judge participated in the judging, their score may be substituted for the out of range score.] Neither the [Minister of Arts and Sciences] MA&S nor the Crown may change or "adjust" arts scores.
- 11. Any change to a score must be initialed by the judge and a notation of the reason for the change shall be made.

Author: Dame Etaine Llywelyn, KDr

Sponsors: HG Sir William Baine, CR

Counterproposal or friendly amendment: Change the three closest scores to the three highest scores. We believe this lessens abuse during "down scoring" at wars and errors (if at all) in the favor of the artisan.

**Author**: The Crown

This was not accepted as a friendly amendment and so became a counterproposal.

#### Counterproposal 2: Four judges instead of 3 and an alternate

#### D. WAR JUDGING

- 1. [The War] Entries shall be judged by a panel of at least [three] four qualified judges [per entry. Four judges are recommended, with three primary and an alternate judge designated.]
- 2. [Judging panels will have four qualified judges; three main and one alternate judge.] The panels should be representative of the armies in the war, and will not favor any army or faction and be chosen for subject matter knowledge and expertise according to each type of entry.
- 3. The pool of judges should be decided prior to the war based on qualified judges who have notified the MA&S of their willingness to judge.
- 4. The contenders, the contender's family, and any direct vassals (have sworn personal fealty to the contender) shall not judge.
- 5. An artisan who has also entered the lists at a war may not judge more than 50% of the entries unless there are too few judges willing to serve.
- 6. An artisan cannot judge their own work. A judge should not be a family member or close affiliate, if possible.
- 7. All judging shall be performed as in a standard arts tournament.
- 8. A tournament win shall be awarded to artisans who have qualifying scores.
- 9. Masterworks can be awarded.
- 10. [The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall discuss any scores where one score is five or more pointsfrom the next closest score with the judging panel prior to it being recorded by the List Mistress. All judges on the panel must initial each change to a score. A notation discussing the reason for the score change must be made.] The four three closest scores will be used for the average and the fourth score will not be used. The MA&S shall discuss any score that differs by more than five from any other score used with the judge, who shall have the opportunity to adjust the score to be more in line with the other scores or that judge will be replaced by two new judges and the same criteria shall be applied. If the [Minister of Arts and Sciences] MA&S and the Crown feel that one of the judges is biased or unreasonable, two additional judges may be selected to judge the piece. [If an alternate judge participated in the judging, their score may be substituted for the out-of-range score.] Neither the [Minister of Arts and Sciences] MA&S nor the Crown may change or "adjust" arts scores.

The word "four" above was corrected to "three".

11. Any change to a score must be initialed by the judge and a notation of the reason for the change shall be made.

A motion to discuss the proposal failed 3-5/x.

A motion was made to vote on the proposal overall. It passed 61-61/38-40. A vote was made to select the preference and it was:

48-48 original proposal

47-47 for the counterproposal not accepted as a friendly amendment

24-24 for the counterproposal listed as "counterproposal 2"

The original proposal passed.

OB3. Resolution and Writ for Legislation on Bullying, Failed

(Requires majority to approve)

#### Resolution:

The Adrian Empire is committed to providing a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all members and non-members at all sponsored activities including but not limited to events, demonstrations, and wars. Bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation have a harmful social, physical, psychological, and academic impact on victims, bystanders, and even the bullies themselves. The Adrian Empire will strive to consistently and vigorously address bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation so that there is no disruption to the sponsored events, and learning environments.

#### Proposed new Writ:

- A. Bullying and cyberbullying is strictly prohibited. Members of the Adrian Empire shall not engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or intimidation at any sanctioned Adrian Empire Event, or sponsored activity, including online forums like Yahoo Groups and Facebook.
- B. Members shall not use oral, written, or electronic communication to threaten, intimidate, alarm, distress, or interfere with sponsored activities.
- C. Members of the Adrian Empire may report violations in writing to local and/or Imperial Crowns. The Crown or their designee shall initiate an investigation into the reported violation within 24 hours. A written report of the outcome of the investigation shall be provided by/or to the Crown within 10 days. The Crown shall determine appropriate sanctions for members found to be in violation.
- D. No cause of action may be brought against a member who reports a violation unless the person who made the report acted with malice, intentional misconduct, or gross negligence.
- E. Records will be maintained on the number and types of reports made, and sanctions imposed for incidents found to be in violation of the Bullying Policy. An annual summary report shall be prepared and presented to the Board of Directors, which includes trends in bullying behavior and recommendations on how to further reduce bullying behavior. The annual report will be available to paid membership upon request.

#### Glossary:

**Bullying**: "Bullying" means a willful act which is written, verbal or physical, or a course of conduct on the part of one or more persons which is not authorized by law and which exposes a person repeatedly and over time to one or more negative actions which is highly offensive to a reasonable person; and, is intended to cause or actually causes the person to suffer harm or serious emotional distress; exploits an imbalance in power between the person

engaging in the act or conduct and the person who is the subject of the act or conduct; poses a threat of immediate harm or actually inflicts harm to another person or the property of another person; and, creates an environment which is hostile.

Bullying is a deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions intended to cause fear, intimidation, or harm. Bullying may be repeated behavior and involves harassment, and/or intimidation; and, the devastating emotional and educational consequences of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and/or intimidation.

**Cyberbullying**: "Cyberbullying" means bullying through the use of electronic communication. "Electronic Communication" means the communication of any written, verbal or pictorial information through the use of an electronic devise, including but not limited to a telephone, cell phone, computer or any other similar means of communication.

**Harassment**: A member is guilty of "harassment" if the member knowingly threatens to cause bodily injury in the future to the person threatened or any other person; or, to cause physical damage to the property of another person.

Author: HE Dame Rose of Aberlone, KPr

**Sponsors**: HG Sir William Baine, KPr

Failed by a vote of 30-30/60-60.

OB4. Amend IEW 17, Articles III.G and H.1.c, Tabled

(Requires majority to approve)

Modify IEW 17 (the Combat Manual) Article III.G:

G. WEAPONS: RAPIER AND CUT-AND-THRUST COMBAT

All weapons must meet with the approval of the Imperial or Crown Marshal or Minister of Joust and War, and conform to the following guidelines and may not be used in armored combat:

Modify Article III.H.1.c as follows:

H. WEAPONS: ARMORED COMBAT

All weapons must meet with the approval of the Imperial or Crown Marshal or Minister of Joust and War, and conform to the following guidelines:

- 1. Swords and Daggers
  - a. Minimum 18 inches blade length for slashing weapons (measured from the ricasso).
  - b. Blades less than 18 inches in length are for thrusting only and require legal thrusting tips.
- c. Minimum one inch blade width measured two inches from the tip <u>unless</u> equipped with a thrusting tip.

**Author**: Sir Uther von Hopf, Earl Terre Neuve

**Sponsors**: HRH Ritter Deitrich (KCh)

Motion to table passed without objection.

OB5. Amend the ½ inch Rapier Blade width specification in IEW 17, Option Passed

#### (Requires majority to approve)

Modify IEW 17 (the Combat Manual) Article III.G.1.a as follows:

- 1. Rapier Blades
  - a. [Nominal 1/2 inch width]Removed

#### Option:

- 1. Rapier Blades
  - a. Nominal 1/2 to 1 inch width

**Author**: Sir Uther von Hopf, Earl Terre Neuve

**Sponsors**: HRH Ritter Deitrich (KCh)

A motion was made to approve the proposal overall and it passed by voice vote. A vote was made to approve the option, "Nominal 1/2 to 1 inch width", and it passed by voice vote.

OB6. Amend IEW 17 to remove the nominal blade width, Failed

(Requires majority to approve)

Modify IEW 17 (the Combat Manual) Article 3.G.2.a as follows:

- 2. Cut-and-Thrust Blades
  - a. [Nominal 3/4 to 1 inch in width (measured at the ricasso)] Removed

**Author**: Sir Uther von Hopf, Earl Terre Neuve

**Sponsors**: HRH Ritter Deitrich (KCh)

Failed by voice vote.

OB7. Amend Lex Adria, Article VI to delete the March IEM, Tabled

(Requires 2/3 to approve)

Modify Lex Adria, Article VI.A.1.c as follows:

A. 1. c [During the month of March.] Removed

Modify Lex Adria, Article VI.E as follows:

E.4 Removed [Meeting Date, March

The Imperial Estates shall meet in March of every year, at which time they shall conduct appropriate business including but not limited to:

a. Evaluation of the success or failure of the previous Imperial Crown's term of office as well as any prior terms of office not yet evaluated, irrespective of the length of such terms of office. (The Imperial Estates shall have the right to table consideration of any Imperial term of office.)

Modify Lex Adria, Article VI.E.5 (Meeting Date, July) as follows:

e. Evaluation of the success or failure of the previous Imperial Crown's term of office as well as any prior terms of office not yet evaluated, irrespective of the length of such terms of office. (The Imperial Estates shall have the right to table consideration of any Imperial term of office.)

Author: Sir Tailan Bran McNeil Earl Royal, Knight Premier.

**Sponsor**: Dame Anne Bryce of Kincraig Countess Royal.

A motion to table passed by voice.

# Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made. It was raised that CH3, the election of the Article III special panel, had not happened, but the motion was not withdrawn. This is an Imperial Estates writ directing the Imperial Estates to follow a procedure and it is within their power to follow it or not. The Imperial Crowns instructed the existing panel to continue to serve until a new panel was elected.

The next meeting date was announced and then corrected to July 18th and 19th, 2015.

Motion to adjourn passed by voice.

The remainder of Chancery Business (CH2, CH3, and CH5 through CH8) was not heard and New Business was not discussed. See the original agenda for the content of those proposals.

**PLEASE**, review the New Business from this meeting now if you haven't already. Discuss it with your people, ask questions of the authors, prepare and submit counter proposals. July will be a very long meeting if every one of these items is discussed before voting. Thank you.