



**The Adrian Empire
Imperial Estates Meeting
March 25, 2017
Minutes**

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Legend:

Agenda:

~~[Deleted or replaced text]~~

Added or new text

(Requirements for actions and approval)

Chancery notes, comments, and explanations.

Author's commentary

Minutes:

Outcome (Yeas-Nays)

Meeting details

AGENDA

I. SIGN IN

II. CALL TO ORDER

9:33 AM, 3/25/17

III. ROLL CALL

QUORUM MET WITH 99

A. Seating of qualified members and written proxies

Present: 30 Proxy: 69 Total: 99

B. Petitions to waive as per Article VI.E.6.

(Requires 2/3 to approve.)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVED BY VOICE

A. Approval of the minutes of the November 2016 IEM

(Requires majority to approve.)

V. REPORTS

A. Executive

1. Crown(s)

- Biggest Challenge
 - Smaller Chapters needing more support to get them on track
- Crown Reports – Still not receiving them

2. President and Board of Directors

- Board of Directors will meet Sunday morning, March 26.

B. Ministers

1. Archery

- None

2. Arts and Sciences

- Dame Kendra has stepped up to this position.

3. Chancery

- All updates were completed on time and published
 - Working to bring all documents into alignment
 - Working to incorporate all civil court rulings into alignment
4. Hospitaler
 - Since Coronation, deputy teams have been established and assigned by levels of chapters
 - Great improvements communication, more than just reports – getting two directional contact though some chapters are still not communicating
 - Imperial Challenge is doing well for those participating, more participants this year for the challenge though there is some discouragement in some chapters from participating
 - Plans for the future:
 - Banner War
 - Imperial War
 - National Steel Tournament (NST)
 - Demos, Comic-Cons, Fairs, etc. are good exposure and potential audiences and support can be found there
 5. Joust and War
 - Sir Eric has stepped up to fill this position.
 - All Chapters were called on to check all rapier blades and report the findings to the Minister of Joust and War, however there has not been enough feedback to determine if there is a need to look at weight requirements for the blades.
 - All Chapters were called on to send notice to the Minister of Joust and War that there was a Marshall's kit in the Chapter and the names of those in the Chapter that were qualified as Marshall's, however many chapters still have not responded
 - Imperial Sanctioned events will require armor & weapon testing moving forward to get set back on track
 6. Physicker
 - The Manual is being updated. The manual has not been updated since 2008 and is not aligned with medical law and practices
 7. Publishing (includes Imperial Webmaster, Chronicler, etc.)
 - None at this time
 8. Rolls and Lists
 - Report has been submitted and will be made available online.
 - Currently flooded with rolls, but working with chapters to clarify points and updating
 - All records submitted caught up within two months
 - Working to bring up to current, issues have been with getting the paperwork

- The Crowns of the Chapter are responsible for the issuance of deeds, once signed any discrepancies found by the Imperial Rolls Minister will be discussed with the Crowns of the Chapter. Communication between the Crowns and Imperial Rolls is important.
 - Pending Local Approval means local Crown Approval, Pending Imperial means Imperial Approval
9. Sovereign of Arms
- SoA Report is posted online
 - Not getting support from experienced heralds
10. Steward
- All chapters are reporting in
 - Insurance renewal is coming up
 - New Steward Form
11. Other Officers

VI. CROWN BUSINESS

CRB1. Charter Amendments

Chancery Note: The listing in A. and B. below is based on the Membership Summary as of the date of publication.

A. Consider reducing the following Chapters in status due to insufficient numbers:

Kingdoms:

(Requires 2/3rds to approve.)

None below numbers.

Archduchies:

(Requires majority to approve.)

None below numbers.

Duchies:

(Requires majority to approve.)

None below numbers.

B. The following Shires are being dissolved per Lex Adria Imperium, Article VIII.D.3.b.xi:

(Notification Only; While no action is required, appeals may be made to the Estates which would require 2/3rds to pass.)

Shire of Raven's Fjord

Shire of Raven's Fjord dissolved; no appeal was made.

C. Elevate the following Chapters in status:

(Requires majority to approve.)

None received.

D. Other Amendments

APPROVED BY VOICE

(Requires majority to approve.)

1. Amend the charters of Esperance and Auroch's Fjord to reflect the transfer of the lands within the boundary of the I-10 from the CA/AZ border to CA-62, to CA-247, to the I-15 to the NV border, along the NV border, and along the CA/AZ border connect with the I-10 from Esperance to Auroch's Fjord as agreed to by the Estates of both Chapters.
2. Amend the charter of Constantinople to include the entirety of Orange, Seminole, and Indian River Counties of the mundane state of Florida, and to release the lands of St. John's, Clay, and Putnam Counties of the mundane state of Florida to the Empire, as agreed to by the Estates of Constantinople.

E. Delinquent Reporting

1. The following Chapters are delinquent for 2 months of Steward's reports. If reports are not received within thirty days of this publication, the Crowns and Stewards shall have a complaint and be placed on Judicial ban:

(Notification only.)

All chapters previously listed have been brought current.

2. The following Chapters are delinquent three months or more in the Stewards office. The Imperial Crown has filed complaint against the Crowns and Steward of these Chapters. Effective February 8, the Crowns and Steward shall be placed on Judicial Ban, and they have 30 days to bring reporting current before the complaint becomes a set of charges. Upon receipt of all delinquent steward records, the ban shall be lifted and the complaint withdrawn.

(Notification only.)

a. ~~Duchy of Wolfendorf~~ – last report: ~~September 2016~~

b. Shire of Chesapeake – last report: August 2016

e. ~~Shire of Glasgow~~ – last report: ~~July 2016~~

d. Shire of Murrisk – last report: July 2016

The Shire of Glasgow and Duchy of Wolfendorf have supplied the necessary reports. Shire of Chesapeake and Shire of Murrisk: Notification to the Estates

that if efforts to correct the reporting issue fail and no attempt to correct the issue has been made by the publication of the July IEM, it is the intent of the Crowns to dissolve these shires.

- 3. We are continuing to require monthly Primary Reporting (i.e., Crown Reports, Steward Reports, and Rolls Reports) by ALL Chapters. Henceforth, any Chapter that falls delinquent by two months or more on ANY of its Primary Reporting shall be subject to Judicial Ban of the delinquent Chapter Crowns and relevant Ministers until such a time as reporting is brought current. The Imperial Crown will file complaints against Chapter Crowns and relevant Ministers once Primary Reporting is delinquent by three months.
(Notification only.)

VII. CHANCERY BUSINESS

CHB1. Court Reports

None.

CHB2. Consideration of Success of Reign of TIMs L’Bete de Acmd and Gabriele Silverhand

APPROVED BY VOICE

(Requires majority.)

CHB3. Election of Special Panel (Bylaws III.A.4.b.)

APPROVED BY VOICE

(Requires majority.)

Panel Members:

Bradley Sawyer

Leslie Burgess

Ann Cox

Laura Stalker

Alternates:

Angela Sawyer

Sara Grider

CHB4. Updates and Corrections to Manuals and Documents

(Notification only; no action required.)

List published as separate document.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

NB1. Add a rapier path to knighthood DISCUSSION *(Discussion automatic. Requires 2/3 to consider. Requires 2/3 to approve.)*

Option A, in which rapier combat points earned past Knight Bachelor can be applied to *either* the Banneret/Champion Path *or* the Fencer/Defense Path, at the option of the combatant.

A. Replace Article IX.D.1.e. Knight Banneret and f. Knight Champion of the Lex Adria Imperium with the following:

IX. Awards, Orders, Ranks, Titles

D. Ranks

1. Combatant Roll

e. Banneret/Champion Path

Points toward advancement in Combat beyond Knight Bachelor may be applied to either Path, at the discretion of the Combatant. Once an STK has been audited and approved, the points credited are “frozen” and cannot be applied to another Path.

i. Knight Banneret

- Participation in 18 additional Knights’ Lists (eight must be in the armored Knights’ Lists), at Crown events.
- Five additional wins in the Knights’ Lists (three must be in the armored Knights’ Lists), at Crown events.
- Participation in five additional wars.
- Participation in five additional demonstrations.

ii. Knight Champion

- Participation in 36 additional Knights’ Lists (16 must be in the armored Knights’ Lists), at Crown events.
- Ten additional wins in the Knights’ Lists (six must be in the armored Knights’ Lists), at Crown events.
- Participation in 10 additional wars.
- Participation in 15 additional demonstrations.

f. Fencer/Defense Path

Points toward advancement in Combat beyond Knight Bachelor may be applied to either Path, at the discretion of the Combatant. Once an STK has been audited and approved, the points credited are “frozen” and cannot be applied to another Path.

i. Knight Fencer

- Participation in 18 additional rapier Knights’ Lists at Crown events.
- Five additional wins in the rapier Knights’ Lists at Crown events.
- Participation in rapier scenarios in five additional wars.
- Participation in five additional demonstrations involving rapier combat.

ii. Knights of Defense

- Participation in 36 additional rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Ten additional wins in the rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Participation in rapier scenarios in 10 additional wars.
- Participation in 15 additional demonstrations involving rapier combat.

B. Amend Article IX.E. of the Lex Adria Imperium as follows:

IX. Awards, Orders, Ranks, Titles

E. Titles

9. Knight Champion, Knights of Defense, Knight Master, Knight Premier, Knight Warden
15. Knight Banneret, Knights Fencer, Knight Doctor, Knight Civil, Knight Forester

C. Amend IEW#18 – Armigerous Rights as follows:

II. Regalia and Modes of Address

B. Practice

12. Knight Third Level

Imperial Peer, Landed Knight and Estate Major in own right. May wear a blue belt and gold spurs. May also fly a standard. May be styled "Sir <name>" or "Dame <name>" according to gender, or may use a non-English translation. Includes Knights Champion and Defense (combat), Master (arts), Premier (ministry), and Warden (archery). Knights of Defense may wear a blue scarf on their preferred sword arm between the elbow and the shoulder.

18. Knight Second Level

Landed Knight and Estate Minor in own right. May wear a blue belt and silver spurs with a gold rowel. May also fly a standard. May be styled "Sir" or "Dame" according to gender, or may use a non-English translation. Includes Knights Banneret and Fencer (combat), Doctor (arts), Civil (ministry), and Forester (archery). Knights Fencer may wear a blue scarf on their preferred sword arm between the elbow and the shoulder.

D. Amend IEW#13 – Cut-and-Thrust and Rawlings as follows:

- B. Wins and participations in Cut-and-Thrust and Rawlings will count the same ~~as Rapier~~.

E. Amend Applicable Sign-In Forms to Differentiate Rapier Combat

F. Amend Rolls Database to Differentiate Rapier Combat

G. Amend Combat Steps to Knighthood Form to Incorporate Second K2/K3 Path

Option B, in which Rapier points earned past Knight Bachelor can only be applied toward the Fencer/Defense Path.

A. Replace Article IX.D.1.e. Knight Banneret and f. Knight Champion of the Lex Adria Imperium with the following:

IX. Awards, Orders, Ranks, Titles

D. Ranks

1. Combatant Roll

e. Banneret/Champion Path

i. Knight Banneret

- Participation in 18 additional non-rapier Knights' Lists (eight must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
- Five additional wins in the non-rapier Knights' Lists (three must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
- Participation in five additional wars (excluding rapier scenarios).
- Participation in five additional demonstrations (excluding rapier combat).

ii. Knight Champion

- Participation in 36 additional non-rapier Knights' Lists (16 must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
- Ten additional wins in the non-rapier Knights' Lists (six must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
- Participation in 10 additional wars (excluding rapier scenarios).
- Participation in 15 additional demonstrations (excluding rapier combat).

f. Fencer/Defense Path

i. Knight Fencer

- Participation in 18 additional rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Five additional wins in the rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Participation in rapier scenarios in five additional wars.
- Participation in five additional demonstrations involving rapier combat.

ii. Knight of Defense

- Participation in 36 additional rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Ten additional wins in the rapier Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- Participation in rapier scenarios in 10 additional wars.
- Participation in 15 additional demonstrations involving rapier combat.

B. Parts B. through G. as described in Option A.

Authors: Baron Vanyev Mikhailovich Betzina, KPr; Dame Cryssida Blackwood of Clan McKlaine, KPr.

Authors' Commentary: *With a resurgence in private Western Martial Arts sword schools, the SCA's addition of a Society-level peerage for unarmored combat, and the continued issue of some combatants being unable to engage in medieval Armored combat (and thus unable to progress beyond Knight Bachelor), but very dedicated to the art of fencing, the time has come to (once again) consider adding an optional STK document to the Adrian combat discipline.*

This optional STK would include only points earned in Rapier combat, and would grant the same sumptuary and armorial rights as existing combat Knighthoods, but not the titles of Knight Banneret or Champion.

This is personal for me and I know some others. I have a unique feature of my skull called a Chiari I malformation that could cause serious issues if heavy shock is applied to the head, and thus cannot fight steel. I know of many others that don't fight Steel due to joint and muscle issues. Additionally, some people simply love the art of fencing; some have late period personas that are legally included in our time frame, for whom Fencing is a perfectly appropriate combat style. Like Steel combat, there is a great body of both period manuals and applied research that makes Renaissance Fencing a rich and engaging lifelong hobby, and in the author's opinion, not merely a stepping stone to Steel combat.

This proposal is not meant in any way to impinge upon or lessen the achievements of our Knights Banneret and Champion, who are rightly held in high regard. It is meant to meet a growing need and is submitted in the spirit of equality that Adria can demonstrate so well. I hope that if this passes, Knights Fencer and Defense will build a unique culture within the order, one that complements the joy of the fight that our steel fighters personify so well.

Key statements:

- Would want to see scholarship added
- Different names, more historically accurate
- Combat is combat, a knight is a knight, no extra sumptuary rights
- There isn't a need for another knighthood
- Learn from history, don't make so many knighthoods. Combat is Combat
- Maybe to K2 only, inability – for whatever reason – there are other avenues to pursue for a K3
- Needs something more to bring it to the level of steel
- Don't split the combat
- Concise Administrative process (logistically manageable)
- Perception is that it cheapens Knight Champions
- It can be seen as taking away from the foundation of the organization
- The draw of Adria is Steel, it's the carrot to get people interested in Adria
- No grandfathering and wouldn't go into effect until January 1st
- SCA tie is not liked, we are Adria

NB2. Remove physical signature requirement from Arms Registration Requests

DISCUSSION; WITHDRAWN

(Discussion automatic. Requires 2/3 to consider. Requires majority to approve.)

Direct the College of Arms to remove the requirement of applicant's physical signature from the Arms Registration Request form, and to amend the Heraldry Manual as follows:

Section 1: Registration

I. Registration Process

C. Forms Used

- b. Electronic presentations are acceptable ONLY if the proposal form ~~[was]~~ **is** completely filled out ~~[, signed and dated before being scanned into electronic format].~~

E. Complete Forms

- ~~[1. The field marked "Signature" must be filled in with the presenter's mundane signature.]~~

II. Ownership, Protection and Registration Limits

D. General Ownership

"Individual armory is owned by the person whose name ~~[and signature]~~ appears on the proposal form."

***Authors:** Sir Desmond, KPr; HRM Dame Edelinne.*

***Authors' commentary:** The process of submitting Arms Registration Requests is often unnecessarily delayed by the requirement of a physical signature on the hard-copy form.*

- 1) The requirement of a physical signature is outdated, when even our memberships can be paid online and the waiver acknowledged without a physical signature.*
- 2) The forms are primarily prepared using digital media. Requiring these to then be printed, signed, scanned, and emailed to the College of Arms is unnecessarily costly and time-consuming, and results in lower-resolution files being submitted to the College, by comparison to an all-digital procedure.*
- 3) There seems to be little value to the signature in this context. In the unlikely circumstance that arms would be registered to an individual without their consent, a simple request by the individual would be sufficient to release those arms.*

HIM L'Bete indicated he will instruct ISoA to allow email acknowledgment in lieu of a physical signature and to amend the heraldry manual to reflect this. Proposal was then withdrawn by authors.

NB3. Amend IEW-13 to include crossbows **DISCUSSION***(Discussion automatic. Requires 2/3 to consider. Requires majority to approve.)*

Amend IEW-13 as follows:

IEW-13. Cut-and-Thrust, ~~and~~ Rawlings, and Crossbows**A. Manual Modifications**

1. The Imperial Estates direct the Imperial Crown and Their Ministers to modify the Combat Manual to adopt weapons requirements and armor standards for Cut-and-Thrust and Rawlings.

2. The Imperial Estates request the Imperial Crown and their Ministers modify the Missile Weapons Guidelines to adopt standards for crossbow archery.

B. Wins and participations: ~~in~~

1. Cut-and-Thrust and Rawlings will count the same as Rapier.

2. Crossbow will be counted the same as Archery.

C. Lists ~~in~~

1. Cut-and-Thrust, Rapier and Rawlings

2. Bows and Crossbows

may be held and counted at the same event pursuant to any other restrictions in the Bylaws or Writs

Authors' commentary: Current research has shown that crossbows are legal in all 50 states but that there are restrictions on their use for hunting in most states.

Sponsors: HIH William Baine; HG Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau, Count Royal; HRG Robert LaCroix.

Key statements:

- Would result in several conflicts
- Not equivalent to Archery, not equivalent in skill level
- Most chapters can't use crossbows in their local areas
- Doesn't need another path for archery
- Safety of learning/teaching; weapon is easily discharged
- Insurance company may not accept it
- Crossbow is historical weapons (war and hunting)
- "It has a coolness factor"
- Internal Conflict without being able to replace the manual at the same time with standards and rules for the discipline
- No changing war points

NB4. Explicitly allow combined lists **DISCUSSION**
(Discussion automatic. Requires 2/3 to consider. Requires majority to approve.)

Option A. Add the following section to IEW-13:

D. Where equal lists are allowed (e.g., Sergeants' Shinai and Rapier; Knights' Cut-and-Thrust, Rapier, and Rawlings) only one needs to be offered at an event. In interpreting Lex Adria V.E., Crowns should be encouraged to offer as many of the available tournaments as practical; however, as few as a single tournament in each discipline – arts, archery, and combat – open to both beginning and advanced participants (i.e., e.g., a single arts competition open to both Journeymen's and Knights' lists, an archery competition where Bowmen are invited to shoot on the Huntsmen's list, and a combat list such as rapier or Rawlings where Sergeants' list participants can be invited to participate on the Knights' list) will satisfy the law.

Option B. Create a new IEW with the verbiage stated above.

Authors' commentary: This is an explanation of the tournament requirement in Lex Adria V.E. The Lex requires the opportunity to participate in arts, archery, and combat each month, regardless of those opportunities are offered at one event or spread out over several. It is strongly implied that the opportunity will be provided to both beginning and advanced participants, but it is not clear. It is widely assumed that shinai, rapier, steel bowman's and huntsman's and arts lists should, or must, be held each month, and many would add sergeant's and knights rapier and Rawlings, and cut-and-thrust to that list (If crossbow is added, it would be added to that list), but that is NOT what the law says. Previous Imperial Crowns have allowed events which only offered rapier without offering the alternative lists (Rawlings and cut-and-thrust). It is simply not always practical (for reasons of time and endurance) to hold sergeants' shinai, rapier, and Rawlings; and knights' rapier, Rawlings, cut-and-thrust, and armored (steel) combat tournaments (7 separate combat tournaments) at the same event. If crossbow is adopted, it may not always be practical to offer 4 archery tournaments lists (bowman's bow and crossbow, and huntsman's bow and crossbow) either.

The authors request immediate implementation if this is passed.

Chancery note: If rules for crossbow are implemented as proposed in NB3 above, this paragraph would apply to bow and crossbow as well. Currently, the criteria for allowing early participation on a Knights' (or Huntsmen's) list are outlined in IEW-28: Brevetting Policy.

Sponsors: HIH William Baine; HG Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau, Count Royal; HRG Robert LaCroix.

Key statements:

- Concerned with protections against the lower lists being always rolled into the higher list
- It's going to crush the steel list, faster than NB1 could. Only need one list, then it would be rapier list and not steel for Knight Combat

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS**D1. Associate Memberships****DISCUSSION**

HIM Gabriele would like to discuss potential changes to the purpose and structure of associate memberships.

A. Redefining the meaning of Associate Membership to match more culturally accepted definitions.

1. Anyone wishing to support the Adrian Empire can pay \$20 and become an Associate Member. This would be a Tax Free membership as per our 501C.
2. No points can be gained, but participation is allowed and the dues would cover their portion of the insurance cost.
3. Once they understand the group better, they can choose to join as a full member and start to garner points at that time or for those uninterested in the point system and merely want to come out and play, they can continue as an associate member and still be covered and contributing to the insurance.
4. This would be good for people just wanting to check us out, or people that just want to support us but not participate. The goal being tot try and reduce the number of people that come out to events without memberships, but have not paid into the insurance pool.

B. Changing the SCA, EMS, HEMA memberships to being just a discounted membership the same as a Senior or Student, with \$5 off the regular price.

1. They have all of the benefits that a full member has, but get a courtesy discount for playing in similar groups.

Key statements:

- Just a discount
- Needs a carrot on a stick to join
- Cannot go back once full member
- Logistics

XI. NEXT MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL ESTATES

July 15-16, 2017

XII. ADJOURNMENT

5:29 PM, 3/25/17