

KINGDOM OF ESPERANCE



DESCRIPTIONS AND DUTIES FOR: ESTATE HOLDERS

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THE ESTATES

Estates General

- ❖ Estates Royal
 - ❖ Estates Major
 - ❖ Estates Minor
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Estates Minor

- ❖ **Count/Countess** (a county is a subdivision of at least 35 members)
 - ❖ **Viceroy** of a Canton (a canton is a chartered subdivision within a chartered subdivision)
 - ❖ **Baron/Baroness** (a barony is a subdivision of at least 15 members)
 - ❖ **Second-Level Knight**
 - ❖ **Sire** (a house is a subdivision of at least 5 members)
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Estates Major

- ❖ **Lord/Lady Protector**
 - ❖ **Earl/Comtessa**
 - ❖ **Marquis/Marquessa** (a march is a subdivision of at least 50 members)
 - ❖ **Viscount/Viscountess**
 - ❖ **Third-Level Knight**
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Estates Royal

- ❖ **King/Queen** of a Kingdom (a chartered subdivision of at least 100 members)
 - ❖ **Prince/Princess**
 - ❖ **Duke/Duchess** of an Arch-Duchy (a chartered subdivision of at least 50 members)
 - ❖ **Duke/Duchess** of a Duchy (a chartered subdivision of at least 20 members)
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Imperial Estates

- ❖ Estates Major
 - ❖ Two senior members of the Estates Minor
 - ❖ **King/Queen** of a Kingdom (a chartered subdivision of at least 100 members)
 - ❖ **Duke/Duchess** of an Arch-Duchy (a chartered subdivision of at least 50 members)
 - ❖ **Duke/Duchess** of a Duchy (a chartered subdivision of at least 20 members)
 - ❖ **Viceroy** of a Shire (a chartered subdivision of at least 1 member)
 - ❖ **Emperor/Empress** of the Empire
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Subdivisions

One big difference between a chartered subdivision and a subdivision **are geographical boundaries**. A chartered subdivision is a group of people who have staked out a territory that doesn't interfere with another chartered subdivision. Within that chartered subdivision, the members group together by choice and form subdivisions.

- ❖ Chartered Subdivision: Kingdom, Arch-Duchy, Duchy, Shire, Canton
 - ❖ Subdivision: March, County, Barony, House
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SIRE

What is it?

The head of a house. A house is a subdivision consisting of at least 5 members (bylaws article VIII.E), and is part of the Estates Minor (bylaws article IX.D.16). A house is based on the free association of its members (bylaws article VIII.E).

- ❖ A Sire represents the members of their house
- ❖ A Sire reports to the next level higher in authority within the subdivision (usually, but not always, their baron)

Responsibilities

- ❖ Talk to and work with your house on all issues, problems, and concerns.
- ❖ Have a seat on the Estates General of your chartered subdivision (bylaws article VIII.E)
- ❖ Represent your house in kingdom estates meetings. If you can't attend the estates meeting, provide a proxy.
- ❖ Report to your baron (if any) the wishes of your house on any issues, problems.
- ❖ File a monthly report on the activity of your house (events attended, participation, titles, awards, etc.) *This report is sent to the Rolls Minister & copied to the Deputy Rolls Minister*
- ❖ Provide notification on any changes in house memberships. *This notification is sent to: Baron (if any), Chancellor, Rolls Minister, Crown, & copied to the Deputy Chancellor & Deputy Rolls Minister*
- ❖ Must hold a current membership (bylaws article VIII.B.1.c.iii.)

Rights

- ❖ Per the College of Arms (Jan00), you may:
 - be addressed as "Your Lordship"
 - wear a black chain of state (base metal)
 - wear a circlet (with no points)
 - fly the heraldry of your house
 - while Sire, you should not use your personal arms unless doing something personal, such as knighting or squiring
- ❖ As part of the Estates General, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.4):
 - Approve Crown Writs, Crown Charters and financial expenditures (with a simple majority)
 - Call for a general meeting and void a challenge to the Royal Crown (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Amend, alter or amplify local law (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Remove the Crown from office (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Enact, modify or cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with bylaws or local law (simple majority)
- ❖ As a ruling noble of the Estates Minor, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.7):
 - Hold ceremonial courts
 - Appoint ministers for marshaling, heraldry, and rolls (after consulting with the ministry affected, and with the approval of the Crown)
 - Make war on other Estates Minor (with the consent of the Minister of War/Joust & Crown)
 - Give the awards of your subdivision

SIRE, CONTINUED

Getting the Position

This is how a sire is recognized:

- ❖ The members of your house choose one of their members to be their sire.
 - ❖ The outgoing sire provides notification of the change in sires (see [Responsibilities](#))
 - ❖ If this is a new house, it is presented to the populace in court at an Esperance event and the sire swears a fealty oath to the crown.
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Relinquishing the Position

The sire shall rule until they resign or are removed by their populace. They may be removed by their populace through war or by 2/3 majority vote of the Estates (bylaws article XIV.D).

Forming a House

- ❖ In forming a house, you must consider the following:
 - Do you want to be part of a march, county, barony? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - Do you want to include any existing members? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - How will your members get into the house? Out of it?
- ❖ To form a house, the following is required (bylaws article VIII.F):
 - File a petition with the Crown, saying how you qualify for the house (list the members, etc.)
 - Pick a name and a sire
 - Register arms and submit them to the College of Arms
 - Work with your Crown if any conditions are unacceptable
- ❖ Once the Crown has accepted your petition, you must also:
 - Swear fealty to any that you have aligned yourself with, up to and including the Crown
 - Be presented (preferably all members) to the populace
 - Provide your first report as outlined in responsibilities



BARON (OR BARONESS)

What is it?

The head of a barony A barony is a subdivision consisting of at least 15 members (bylaws article VIII.E), and is part of the Estates Minor (bylaws article IX.D.12). A barony is based on the free association of its members (bylaws article VIII.E).

- ❖ A Baron represents the members of their barony (usually through their sires)
- ❖ A Baron reports to the next level higher in authority within the subdivision (usually, but not always, their count)

Responsibilities

- ❖ Talk to and work with your barony on all issues, problems, and concerns.
- ❖ Have a seat on the Estates General of your chartered subdivision (bylaws article VIII.E)
- ❖ Represent your barony in kingdom estates meetings. If you can't attend the estates meeting, provide a proxy.
- ❖ Report to your count (if any) the wishes of your barony on any issues, problems.
- ❖ If you have members of your barony who are not members of a house:
 - File a monthly report on the activity of your barony (events attended, participation, titles, awards, etc.) *This report is sent to the Rolls Minister & copied to Deputy Rolls Minister*
 - Provide notification on any changes in memberships in your barony. *This notification is sent to: Count (if any), Chancellor, Rolls Minister, Crown, and copied to the Deputy Chancellor and Deputy Rolls Minister*
- ❖ Must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained for at least 6 months (bylaws article VIII.B.1.c.ii.)

Rights

- ❖ Per the College of Arms (Jan00), you may:
 - be addressed as "Your Excellency"
 - wear a black chain of state (base metal)
 - wear a coronet (with points)
 - fly the heraldry of your barony
 - wear a tabard with the heraldry of your barony
 - while Baron, you should not use your personal arms unless doing something personal, such as knighting or squiring
- ❖ As part of the Estates General, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.4):
 - Approve Crown Writs, Crown Charters, financial expenditures (with a simple majority)
 - Call for a general meeting and void a challenge to the Royal Crown (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Amend, alter or amplify local law (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Remove the Crown from office (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Enact, modify or cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with bylaws or local law (simple majority)
- ❖ As a ruling noble of the Estates Minor, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.7):
 - Hold ceremonial courts
 - Appoint ministers for marshaling, heraldry, and rolls (after consulting with the ministry affected, and with the approval of the Crown)
 - Make war on other Estates Minor (with consent of the Minister of War/Joust & Crown)
 - Give the awards of your subdivision

BARON, CONTINUED

Getting the Position

This is how a baron is recognized:

- ❖ The members of your barony choose one of their members to be their baron.
 - ❖ The outgoing baron provides notification of the change in barons (see [Responsibilities](#))
 - ❖ If this is a new barony, it is presented to the populace in court at an Esperance event and the baron swears a fealty oath to the crown.
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Relinquishing the Position

The baron shall rule until they resign or are removed by their populace. They may be removed by their populace through war or by 2/3 majority vote of the Estates (bylaws article XIV.D).

Forming a Barony

- ❖ In forming a barony, you must consider the following:
 - Do you want to be part of a march, county? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - Do you want to include any existing houses, members? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - How will your members get into the barony? Out of it?
- ❖ To form a barony, the following is required (bylaws article VIII.F):
 - File a petition with the Crown, saying how you qualify for the barony (list the members, etc.)
 - Pick a name and a baron
 - Register arms and submit them to the College of Arms
 - Work with your Crown if any conditions are unacceptable
- ❖ Once the Crown has accepted your petition, you must also:
 - Swear fealty to any that you have aligned yourself with, up to and including the Crown
 - Be presented (preferably all members) to the populace
 - Provide your first report as outlined in responsibilities



COUNT (OR COUNTESS)

What is it?

The head of a county. A county is a subdivision consisting of at least 35 members (bylaws article VIII.E), and is part of the Estates Minor (bylaws article IX.D.10). A county is based on the free association of its members (bylaws article VIII.E).

- ❖ A Count represents the members of their county (usually through their barons and sires)
- ❖ A Count reports to the next level higher in authority within the subdivision (usually, but not always, their marquis)

Responsibilities

- ❖ Talk to and work with your county on all issues, problems, and concerns.
- ❖ Have a seat on the Estates General of your chartered subdivision (bylaws article VIII.E)
- ❖ Represent your county in kingdom estates meetings. If you can't attend the estates meeting, provide a proxy.
- ❖ Report to your marquis (if any) the wishes of your county on any issues, problems.
- ❖ If you have members of your county who are not members of a house or barony:
 - File a monthly report on the activity of your county (events attended, participation, titles, awards, etc.) *This report is sent to the Rolls Minister & copied to Deputy Rolls Minister*
 - Provide notification on any changes in memberships in your county. *This notification is sent to: Marquis (if any), Chancellor, Rolls Minister, Crown, and copied to the Deputy Chancellor and Deputy Rolls Minister*
- ❖ Must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained for at least 6 months (bylaws article VIII.B.1.c.ii.)

Rights

- ❖ Per the College of Arms (Jan00), you may:
 - be addressed as "Your Excellency"
 - wear a black chain of state (base metal)
 - wear a coronet (with points)
 - fly the heraldry of your county
 - wear a tabard with the heraldry of your county
 - while Count, you should not use your personal arms unless doing something personal, such as knighting or squiring)
- ❖ As part of the Estates General, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.4):
 - Approve Crown Writs, Crown Charters, financial expenditures (with a simple majority)
 - Call for a general meeting and void a challenge to the Royal Crown (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Amend, alter or amplify local law (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Remove the Crown from office (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Enact, modify or cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with bylaws or local law (simple majority)
- ❖ As a ruling noble of the Estates Minor, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.7):
 - Hold ceremonial courts
 - Appoint ministers for marshaling, heraldry, and rolls (after consulting with the ministry affected, and with the approval of the Crown)
 - Make war on other Estates Minor (with consent of the Minister of War/Joust & Crown)
 - Give the awards of your subdivision

COUNT, CONTINUED

Getting the Position

This is how a count is recognized:

- ❖ The members of your county choose one of their members to be their count.
 - ❖ The outgoing count provides notification of the change in counts (see [Responsibilities](#))
 - ❖ If this is a new county, it is presented to the populace in court at an Esperance event and the count swears a fealty oath to the crown.
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Relinquishing the Position

The count shall rule until they resign or are removed by their populace. They may be removed by their populace through war or by 2/3 majority vote of the Estates (bylaws article XIV.D).

Forming a County

- ❖ In forming a county, you must consider the following:
 - Do you want to be part of a march? Which one? Do they agree?
 - Do you want to include any existing baronies, houses, members? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - How will your members get into the county? Out of it?
- ❖ To form a county, the following is required (bylaws article VIII.F):
 - File a petition with the Crown, saying how you qualify for the county (list the members, etc.)
 - Pick a name and a count
 - Register arms and submit them to the College of Arms
 - Work with your Crown if any conditions are unacceptable
- ❖ Once the Crown has accepted your petition, you must also:
 - Swear fealty to any that you have aligned yourself with, up to and including the Crown
 - Be presented (preferably all members) to the populace
 - Provide your first report as outlined in responsibilities



MARQUIS (OR MARQUESSA)

What is it?

The head of a march. A march is a subdivision consisting of at least 50 members (bylaws article VIII.E), and is part of the Estates Major (bylaws article IX.D.7). A march is based on the free association of its members (bylaws article VIII.E).

- ❖ A Marquis represents the members of their march (usually through their counts, barons, sires)
- ❖ A Marquis reports to the next level higher in authority within the subdivision (their crown)

Responsibilities

- ❖ Talk to and work with your march on all issues, problems, and concerns.
- ❖ Have a seat on the Estates General of your chartered subdivision (bylaws article VIII.E)
- ❖ Represent your march in kingdom estates meetings. If you can't attend the estates meeting, provide a proxy.
- ❖ Report to your crown (if any) the wishes of your march on any issues, problems.
- ❖ If you have members of your march who are not members of a house, barony or county:
 - The Minister of Rolls will provide information on member's activity
 - File a monthly report on the activity of your march (events attended, participation, titles, awards, etc.) *This report is sent to the Rolls Minister, copied to the Deputy Rolls Minister*
 - Provide notification on any changes in memberships in your march. *This notification is sent to: Chancellor, Rolls, Crown & copied to the Deputy Chancellor & Deputy Rolls*
- ❖ Must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained for at least 6 months (bylaws article VIII.B.1.c.ii.)

Rights

- ❖ Per the College of Arms (Jan00), you may:
 - be addressed as "Your Excellency"
 - wear a gold and black chain of state (precious and base metal)
 - wear a coronet (with points)
 - fly the heraldry of your march
 - wear a tabard with the heraldry of your march
 - while Marquis, you should not use your personal arms unless doing something personal, such as knighting or squiring)
- ❖ As part of the Estates General, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.4):
 - Approve Crown Writs, Crown Charters, financial expenditures (with a simple majority)
 - Call for a general meeting and void a challenge to the Royal Crown (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Amend, alter or amplify local law (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Remove the Crown from office (with a 2/3 majority)
 - Enact, modify, cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with bylaws, local law (simple majority)
- ❖ As a ruling noble of the Estates Major, you have the following rights (bylaws article VI.F.6):
 - Hold civil and ceremonial courts
 - Appoint ministers to local offices (after consulting with the ministry affected & with the approval of the Crown)
 - Make war on other Estates Major
 - Advise the Crown
 - Give Noble Orders and the awards of your subdivision

MARQUIS, CONTINUED

Getting the Position

This is how a marquis is recognized:

- ❖ The members of your march choose one of their members to be their marquis.
 - ❖ The outgoing marquis provides notification of the change in marquis (see [Responsibilities](#))
 - ❖ If this is a new march, it is presented to the populace in court at an Esperance event and the marquis swears a fealty oath to the crown.
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Relinquishing the Position

The marquis shall rule until they resign or are removed by their populace. They may be removed by their populace through war or by 2/3 majority vote of the Estates (bylaws article XIV.D).

Forming a March

- ❖ In forming a march, you must consider the following:
 - Do you want to include any existing counties, baronies, houses, members? Which ones? Do they agree?
 - How will your members get into the march? Out of it?
- ❖ To form a march, the following is required (bylaws article VIII.F):
 - File a petition with the Crown, saying how you qualify for the march (list the members, etc.)
 - Pick a name and a marquis
 - Register arms and submit them to the College of Arms
 - Work with your Crown if any conditions are unacceptable
- ❖ Once the Crown has accepted your petition, you must also:
 - Swear fealty to any that you have aligned yourself with, up to and including the Crown
 - Be presented (preferably all members) to the populace
 - Provide your first report as outlined in responsibilities