



*Middle Kingdom Herald
field Handbook*

Middle Kingdom Heraldic Field Handbook

written by Estelle de la Mer

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*Thanks to Simcha bat Yonah and Katerinka Lvovicha
for their contributions.*

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Notes:

This manual was designed to be printed on half letter or A5 paper. It's possible to print it on US Letter and then cut the pages in half, by using the version found at <http://bit.ly/MKFieldBookDuplex>

The Mad Lib Court Report is meant to be written on. Please print as many copies as you need, one for each court. You can do this by printing pages 5 and 6 alone. The Elevation Ceremony Checklist is on page 13 and 14.

I suggest that you get a set of index tabs and put them at the beginning of each main section. This will help you flip quickly if needed in court. The pages are not numbered so that you can rearrange the sections to suit your taste.

Throughout this book, the Monarchs are referred to as "Sovereign" and "Consort". This choice has been made to distinguish between the Victor of Crown Tourney, and their Chosen Inspiration. All generic pronouns have been modified to a non-gendered form, so that the Herald shall not presume on the gender of any individual. These modifications have been made by the author in the spirit of inclusion of all good gentles of the SCA. You are encouraged to substitute whichever title and pronouns each gentle prefers.

Mad Lib Court Report

Date: Anno Societatis:

Place: Host Group:

Seneschal:

Pronunciation of Monarchs' Names:

Opening Cry:

Also on the dais:

Announcements:

Awards:

Keep list from Crown, note changes here.

Additional Heralds:

Mad Lib Court Report

Date: Anno Societatis:

Place: Host Group:

Seneschal:

Pronunciation of Monarchs' Names:

Opening Cry:

Also on the dais:

Announcements:

Awards:

Keep list from Crown, note changes here.

Additional Heralds:

Pre=Court

Pre Court Meeting Checklist

Check with the Crown as early in the day as you can, to let them know you're here, and to set a time for the Pre-Court meeting. Carry a notebook and pen with you all day, so that as people come to talk to you about presentations, you can note their name and topic.

- Who are your heralds for court? Invite them to join you in the court meeting, if there's room.
- Confirm the layout of the stage. Send someone right away to rearrange if it's not right!
- Will there be any Oaths of Fealty?
- Get a list of the business and awards. Note the order!
- Who will receive scrolls if the recipient is not there?
- Will there be a Baronial Court?
- Will there be any vigils or elevations? Who are the heralds for the elevations?
- Are there any tourney results to announce?
- Double check the pronunciation of the Crown, and all Guests that will be sitting.
- Check the wording of your boasts.
- Meet with the Signet and make sure that you can read all the scroll glosses. Write one out if there is not one on the back of the scroll.
- Practice the names of the awardees.
- Get a list of the scribes.
- Note your Seneschal, the date, and location.

Court at a Glance

Before you open court, check the setting from the front and back. Chairs, flags, kneeling cushion, rugs, tables, goblets, water. Double check your appearance and regalia.

Open Court on the Crown's signal. Use a boast if the Crown approves.

Announce Royalty. INVITE any guests into Court.

Follow the Order that the Crown gives for items. Confirm each item with the Crown before announcing it loudly to the audience.

Allow the Crown some last words before you close court.

"Here (ends/suspends) the court of Their (Hosts)."

Don't forget to report as soon as possible, within a week!

Boasting

Oyez! Oyez! All rise and make way
for Their Most Royal Majesties
of the Middle Kingdom,
(Name), (King) by right of arms,
and (Name), Our (Queen).

And if the Heirs are present:

And make way for Their Royal Highnesses,
(Name) and (Name),
Heirs to the Dragon Throne.

If you have only one Royal at the event, be sure to mention the other in the boast. For example, “(King) (Name), who is inspired by (Queen) (Name),” or “(Queen) by the prowess of (King) (Name).”

Making up your own boast is fine, as long as you check with the Crown ahead of time

Alternate titles:

Rex and Regina

Sultan and Sultana

Czar and Czarina

Rulers

Monarchs

Alternate beginnings:

All hail

All rise and bow your heads with respect

Rise to your feet, good gentles

Look with awe, people of the Midrealm

Below are some examples of opening boasts.

All rise for Their Royal Majesties, (Names), Strong and Sublime, Sovereigns of the glorious Middle Kingdom. (He) who is valiant, brave and just, and (She) who is an inspiration not only to our (King), but to the whole Known World.

All rise for (Name) and (Name), Crown over Constellation, Monarchs of the Midlands, Overlords of Oaken, Potentates of Pentamere, Amir and Amira of Aethon, Sovereigns of the glorious and far-reaching Middle Kingdom.

Oyez! Oyez! All rise for Their Majesties, (Name) and (Name), Mighty Sovereigns of the Middle Kingdom

All shall show respect to Their Majesties' invited guests, (Names), Crown of the Far Kingdom, and to Their Highnesses, (Names), Heirs to the Dragon Throne. Make way for the Just and Noble (Baron) and (Baroness) of (Place).

Dais format



This is the general layout of a dais. The Host couple sits in the center, and then other couples alternate side by precedence. If the Host desires otherwise, do it that way.



The Royal family may instead want the figure on the left. The right figure is for Crown and Baronage.



As visiting Crowns are added, the Heirs will keep changing sides as Their relative position of honor is superseded by higher royalty.

The Consort may want a herald of their own, and if so, leave a space for the herald next to them as well.

Precedence Orders can be found in this handbook.

Elevation Ceremony Checklist

First, read through the applicable ceremony. The vigilant may have their own script. If they have modified the traditional script, the Crown needs to approve it.

Herald for the Ceremony:

Pronunciation of Vigilant's name and current title:

Who will the Crown call to start the ceremony?

Does Vigilant need to be released from fealty?

Who are their speakers?

Will there be any regalia?

Will there be a dubbing (sword or scepter?) or a buffet?

Is there a scroll, and will it be read?

Elevation Ceremony Checklist

First, read through the applicable ceremony. The vigilant may have their own script. If they have modified the traditional script, the Crown needs to approve it.

Herald for the Ceremony:

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Who will the Crown call to start the ceremony?

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Who are their speakers?

Will there be any regalia?

Will there be a dubbing (sword or scepter?) or a buffet?

Is there a scroll, and will it be read?

Oaths

Great Officers of State

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To well and loyally administer my Office
And give wise counsel to the Crown,
According to my knowledge and ability.
Thus swear I, (Title and Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Royal Peers

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm
As befits one of my station.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Territorial Baron/Baroness

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To hold the Barony of (Name)
in fief from the Crown,
To loyally uphold and enforce
Your laws in those lands,
And give wise counsel to the Crown,
According to my knowledge and ability.
Thus swear I, Lord/Lady (Name),
Baron/Baroness (Place Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice)
(And Our thanks for keeping Our lands so well).**

Chivalry

I here swear fealty and do homage
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.
To ever be a good knight and true,
Reverent and generous,
Shield of the weak,
Obedient to my liege-lord,
Foremost in battle,
Courteous at all times,
Champion of the right and the good.
Thus swear I, Sir (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget:
To be your liege-lord,
Rewarding fealty with love,
Valor with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Laurels

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever enrich the Crown
With my talents and abilities,
To promote the diverse arts and sciences,
To continue the instruction of my dependents,
To increase the glory of the Middle Kingdom,
And to be worthy of the wreath I wear.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Pelicans

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.
To serve the Crown in all things,
To remember courtesy and kindness,
To prize justice above personal gain,
To labor for the common good,
To enrich the Kingdom and the Society
So they may flourish and grow,
And to be worthy of the title of Pelican.
Here by my honor, my hand
And my heart swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Defence

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever stand in its defense,
Facing my foes with courage and honor,
Protecting the Innocent, / Mindful of mercy,
Obedient to my Liege Lord,
Guardian of the just and right,
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Populace

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To uphold the laws and customs of the Midrealm,
And to serve where serve I might,
According to my knowledge and ability.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Royal Prince/Princess

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To loyally serve this Kingdom and its Crown,
Giving wise counsel
according to my knowledge and abilities.
Thus swear I,
(Title) (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

King's Champion

I, (Name)

Here do swear

That if any person

Of any degree so ever high or low

Shall deny or gainsay

(His) Majesty's right as (King)

To be the (King) by Right of Arms

That I stand as (His) Champion,

Ready to defend (His) right and these lands

In combat with any who would deny it.

Queen's Champion

I (Name)

Here do swear

That if any person

Of any degree so ever high or low

Shall deny or gainsay our Sovereign (Lady)

To be the (Queen) of the Middle Kingdom

Or that (She) ought not enjoy the same

That here I stand as (Her) Champion,

Ready to defend (Her) right

In combat with any who would deny it.

Kingdom Archery Champion

I, (Name)

Here do swear

That if any person

Of any degree so ever high or low

Shall deny or gainsay

Their Majesties' rights as Sovereigns

To rule the Middle Kingdom

That I stand as Their Archery Champion

Ready to defend Their rights and these lands,

My arrows flying true against any who would deny it.

Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion

Kingdom Bardic Champion

I here do swear
To do honor to my Sovereigns
With my words in story and song;
To lead the voices of the Dragon people
In praise of You, Your deeds, and Your subjects;
To support the bardic arts and encourage all
to sing of Your greatness
and the might of the Midrealm.

Kingdom Rapier Champion

I, (Name)
Here do swear
That if any person
Of any degree so ever high or low
Shall deny or gainsay
Their Majesties' rights as Sovereigns
To rule the Middle Kingdom
That I stand as Their Rapier Champion
Ready to defend Their rights and these lands,
To beat aside with my blade any who would deny it.

Lesser Officers and Deputies

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:
To well and loyally administer
the Office of (Office Name)
And give wise counsel to the Crown,
and my Superior,
According to my knowledge and ability.
Thus swear I, (Name).

Red Company

We here pledge service
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom
To show leadership upon the field of battle,
To train others in the skills of combat,
And to support our Liege.
Thus we pledge our swords and service.

Greenwood Company

We here pledge service
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom
To show leadership
upon the archery and thrown fields,
To train others in the skills of the range,
And to support our Liege Lord.
Thus we pledge our bows and blades.

Bronze Ring

I hear swear service to protect the Dragon Throne,
And all Her diverse lands and holdings,
To be the steel before her foes,
To defend those in rightful need,
Generous in my knowledge,
Courteous in my doings,
Honest in my tongue,
And first into the fray,
In service to Kingdom and Crown.

Response for Oaths of Loyalty

**This do We hear and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Loyalty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Elevation
Ceremonies

Chivalry

Placing a Chivalric Candidate On Vigil

Herald: Their Majesties call forth Sir (Name).

Knight: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Knight: I ask that Your Majesty bestow the accolade of Knighthood upon Lord/Lady (Name).

Crown: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**

Herald: Their Majesties call the Knights and Masters-at-Arms of the Society.

Crown: **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that (Name) is worthy to be numbered among Our chivalry in prowess, loyalty and courtesy?**

Chiv: Aye.

Chivalry Ceremony Continued -->

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

**Herald: (Title and Name), stand forth and kneel
before your Sovereign!**

**Crown: As it is the judgment of these, your peers,
that you have shown the tenets of prowess,
honor, and courtesy that betoke a member
of Our Order of Chivalry that we now
charge you to stand your vigil.**

**Think well on your deeds and heart, and
listen to the words of Our Peers. Then
present yourself before Our Court at (an
event to be determined), where you will be
offered the accolade of Knighthood or the
baldric of Master of Arms.**

**You have Our leave to go. Please escort the
candidate to their vigil.**

Dubbing of a Knight

NOTE: If the Monarch is not a Knight themselves, They may wish to allow the accolade to be given through a Knight, clasping the hand of the Monarch about the sword.

The herald shall call forth a knight or master previously chosen.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Sir/Master) (Name).

Knight: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Knight: I ask that Your Majesty bestow the accolade of knighthood upon (Name).

Then the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**

Herald: Their Majesties call forth the Knights and Masters-at-Arms of the Society.

All members of the Chivalry shall approach the Throne and kneel before the Crown, and they shall say:

Crown: **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that (Name) is worthy to be numbered among Our Chivalry in prowess, loyalty, and courtesy?**

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

After the assembled Chivalry answer "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Name).

After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to (Name)'s nobility?

The chosen Royal Peer should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to (Name)'s skill in the arts and sciences?

The chosen Laurel should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to (Name)'s service?

The chosen Pelican should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to (Name)'s courage and honor?

The chosen Master of Defence should answer in their own words.

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: (Name), right mindful of your prowess on the field, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to make you knight. Know that to wear the belt and chain of a knight is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of knighthood will demand your efforts every moment of your life.

A knight of the Society must be respectful of all religions, never offending the faith of another. A knight must respect all those who are weak or defenseless, whether because of age, infirmity, poverty, or vow, and be steadfast in defending them.

A knight must love their Kingdom and their province, and fulfill most faithfully their feudal duties to their baron and their King.

Their word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. They must never flee from the face of their foes. They must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, they must be the champion of the right and the good.

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

Crown: The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a knight be proud, as you have demonstrated you are upon the field; that a knight be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these Nobles attest; and that a knight be loyal to their Kingdom and the Society.

Do you then desire to accept the burden of knighthood and swear fealty to the Crown?

Vigilant: I do.

Crown: Then swear fealty and pay homage to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.

Knights Ceremony Continued -->

The herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom;
To ever be a good knight and true,
Reverent and generous,
Shield of the weak,
Obedient to my liege-lord,
Foremost in battle,
Courteous at all times,
Champion of the right and the good.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget:
To be your liege-lord,
rewarding fealty with love,
Valor with honor,
and oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

The Crown shall then receive the belt and shall give it into the hands of the candidate's consort, saying as it is buckled about them:

Crown: Wear this belt in token of your prowess.

(If the chain has a lineage, the knight passing it on may recite it here.) Then the Sovereign shall receive the chain, saying as they place it about the candidate's neck:

Crown: Wear this chain in token of your fealty.

If spurs are available, they may be buckled on as the Sovereign. says:

Crown: Wear these spurs in outward token of your new station.

The Crown may either give a sword to the new knight and say, or simply say:

Crown: Bear your sword with strength, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and the right.

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

The Crown may, at their own choice, use these words to accompany the blows:

If there is to be no other buffet, the herald shall say this before the dubbing:

Crown: Bear these blows and no others.

Otherwise, continue here:

Option A

Crown: In remembrance of oaths given and received.

(Strikes right shoulder.)

In remembrance of your lineage and obligations.

(Strikes left shoulder.)

Be thou a good knight.

(Strikes head.)

Option B

Or the Crown may, at their choice, use these words to accompany the blows:

Crown: We dub thee once, twice, thrice.

Knight Ceremony Continued -->

If there will be a buffet, the Vigilant should then rise, and face their Monarch. They will administer a blow after saying:

Crown: Let this be the last blow that you receive unanswered.

Rise, (Sir/Dame) (Name).

The new knight shall rise, be greeted by the Chivalry as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, then all shall retire in good order.

Dubbing of a Master of Arms

NOTE: : If the Monarch is not a Master themselves, They may wish to allow the accolade to be given through a Master, clasping the hand of the Sovereign about the sword.

The herald shall call forth a knight or master previously chosen.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Sir/Master) (Name).

Chevalier: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Chiv: I ask that Your Majesty elevate (Name) to the Order of Chivalry.

Then the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: **Summon the members of Our most noble Order of the Chivalry.**

Herald: Their Majesties call forth the Knights and Masters of Arms of the Society.

All members of the Chivalry shall approach the Throne and kneel before the Crown, and they shall say:

Crown: **Noble Sirs, is it your judgment that (Name) is worthy to be numbered among Our Chivalry in prowess, loyalty, and courtesy?**

Master of Arms Ceremony Continued -->

After the assembled Chivalry answer "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

Herald: (Title and Name), stand forth and kneel before your Sovereign!

After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to (Name)'s nobility?

The chosen Royal Peer should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will attest to (Name)'s skill in the arts and sciences?

The chosen Laurel should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to (Name)'s service?

The chosen Pelican should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to (Name)'s courage and honor?

The chosen Master of Defence should answer in their own words.

Master of Arms Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: (Name) do you wish the accolade of knighthood or the baldric of a Master of Arms?

Vigilant: I choose the baldric.

Crown: (Name), right mindful of your prowess on the field, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to make you Master of Arms. Know that to wear the baldric of a Master of Arms is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of the Order of Chivalry will demand your efforts every moment of your life.

A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must be respectful of all religions, never offending the faith of another. A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must respect all those who are weak or defenseless, whether because of age, infirmity, poverty, or vow, and be steadfast in defending them.

A Companion of the Order of Chivalry must love their Kingdom and their province. Their word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. They must never flee from the face of their foes. They must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, they must be the champion of the right and the good.

Crown: The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a Companion of the Order of Chivalry be proud, as you have demonstrated you are upon the field; that they be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these Nobles attest; and that a Companion of the Order of Chivalry be loyal to their Kingdom and the Society.

Do you then desire to accept the burden of the Order of Chivalry?

Vigilant: I do.

Crown: Then according to the Laws of the Society and the traditions of this Kingdom, We offer you the title and position of Master of Arms. To be a Master is like unto being a knight, its honor neither greater nor lesser, and its responsibilities being likewise, save for that of swearing fealty to the Crown.

Do you then desire to accept the burden of Masterhood?

Vigilant: I do.

Master of Arms Ceremony Continued -->

If the candidate is swearing fealty, go to next page.

If the candidate cannot or does not wish to swear fealty then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Then We ask of you your promise to uphold the ideals of Chivalry.

The herald shall say, phrase, by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:

I here do promise
To ever be a noble Master of Arms,
Reverent and generous,
Shield of the weak,
Obedient to my liege-lord,
Foremost in battle,
Courteous at all times,
Champion of the right and the good.
Thus I promise, (Name).

Master of Arms Ceremony Continued -->

Or, if the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty:

Vigilant: It is my wish to swear fealty and pay homage
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom.

The herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the candidate shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom;
To ever be a noble Master of Arms,
Reverent and generous,
Shield of the weak,
Obedient to my liege-lord,
Foremost in battle,
Courteous at all times,
Champion of the right and the good.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget:
To be your liege-lord,
rewarding fealty with love,
Valor with honor,
and oath-breaking with vengeance (justice).**

Master of Arms Ceremony Continued -->

The Crown takes the baldric and gives it to the candidate's partner, saying as it is placed on them:

Crown: Wear this baldric in token of your prowess.

The Crown may either give a sword to the new Master of Arms and say, or may simply say:

Crown: Bear your sword with strength, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and right.

The Crown may, at their own choice, use these words to accompany the blows, of their own:

If there is to be no other buffet, the herald shall say this before the dubbing:

Crown: Bear these blows and no others.

Otherwise, continue here:

Option A

Crown: In remembrance of oaths given and received.

(Strikes right shoulder.)

In remembrance of your lineage and obligations.

(Strikes left shoulder.)

Be thou a good knight.

(Strikes head.)

Option B

Or the Monarch may, at their choice, use these words to accompany the blows:

Crown: We dub thee once, twice, thrice.

If there will be a buffet, the Vigilant should then rise, and face their Monarch. They will administer a blow after saying:

Crown: Let this be the last blow that you receive unanswered.

And then they say:

Crown: Rise, Master (Name).

The new Master shall rise, be greeted by the Chivalry as the herald reads the proclamation of elevation, then all shall retire in good order.

Laurel

Placing a Laurel Candidate On Vigil

Herald: Their Majesties invite forth (Title and Name) to present themselves in Their Court.

Laurel: Your Majesties, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Laurel: I ask that Your Majesties create (Title and Name) a Master/Mistress of the noble Order of the Laurel.

Crown: **Summon forth the members of Our most noble Order of the Laurel.**

Herald: Their Majesties call forth the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Laurel.

Consort: **Masters and Mistresses, is it your judgment that (Title and Name) is worthy to be numbered among the Order of the Laurel?**

Laurels: Aye.

Cons: Herald, call forth the candidate.

Herald: (Title and Name), please present yourself before Their Majesties.

Cons: (Name), it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of courtesy, noblesse, and service to the arts/sciences that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of the Laurel.

Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart and present yourself before Our Court at (an event to be determined), where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of the Laurel. You have Our leave to go.

Creation of a Laurel

The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of the Laurel previously chosen.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Title and Name),
Master/Mistress of the Laurel.

Laurel: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Laurel: That, for their skill in (accomplishment), you enter (Name) into the most noble Order of the Laurel.

Crown: **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of the Laurel.**

Herald: Masters and Mistresses of the Laurel, present yourselves before Their Majesties.

Crown: **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that (Name), for their skill in (accomplishment), is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Laurel?**

And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: **Call forth the candidate.**

Herald: (Title and Name), present yourself before Their Majesties.

After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to (Name)'s nobility?

The chosen Royal Peer should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a member of the Chivalry who will attest to (Name)'s courtesy and chivalry?

The chosen Chivalry should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will attest to (Name)'s service?

The chosen Pelican should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: Is there a Master of Defence who will attest to (Name)'s courage and honor?

The chosen Master of Defence should answer in their own words.

Laurel Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: (Name) right mindful of your service to the Society and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Mistress/Master of the Laurel. As the Laurel wreath has ever stood for excellence, so do We give it to you as the symbol of the mastery of your art. Therefore, will you, (Name), give us your word to continue to fulfill the requirements set forth for the governance of this Order, as you must surely have till now?

Vigilant: I will.

Crown: Will you increase your labors nobly, increase your talents as befits one of your rank, and seek to disseminate your talents and abilities throughout the Society?

Vigilant: I will.

Crown: Do you promise to train any dependents you may have to do likewise?

Vigilant: I will.

Laurel Ceremony Continued -->

The Crown shall then take the ribbon with the medallion of the Order depending from it and place it about the candidate's neck, saying:

Crown: Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your skills and your service as We have acknowledged it this day.

If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:

Crown: Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.

If a wreath is available, it may be placed upon the candidate's head as the Crown says:

Crown: Wear this wreath as a symbol of your excellence.

Laurel Ceremony Continued -->

If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Laurel shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever enrich the Crown
With my talents and abilities,
To promote the diverse arts and sciences,
To continue the instruction of my
dependents,
To increase the glory
of the Middle Kingdom,
And to be worthy of the wreath I wear.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).**

**Crown: Rise, (Title and Name), Companion of the
Laurel.**

*Then shall the new Laurel make thanks to the Crown,
be greeted by the other Laurels as the herald reads
the proclamation of elevation, and all shall retire in
good order.*

Pelican

Placing a Pelican Candidate On Vigil

Herald: Their Majesties invite forth (Title and Name) to present themselves in Their Court.

Pelican: Your Majesties, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Pelican: I ask that your Majesties create (Title and Name) a Master/Mistress of the noble Order of the Pelican.

Crown: **Summon forth the members of Our most noble Order of the Pelican.**

Herald: Their Majesties call for the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Pelican.

Crown: **Masters and Mistress, is it your judgment that (Title and Name) is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Pelican.**

Pelicans: Aye.

Crown: Herald, call forth the candidate.

Herald: (Title and Name), please present yourself before Their Majesties.

Crown: (Name), it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of courtesy, noblesse, and service to this, Our Kingdom, that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of the Pelican.

Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart and present yourself before Our Court at (an event to be determined), where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of the Pelican.

You have Our leave to go.

Creation of a Pelican

The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of the Pelican previously chosen.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Title and Name),
Master/Mistress of the Pelican.

Pelican: Your Majesty, I crave a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

Pelican: That, for their service (as accomplishment),
you enter (Name) into the most noble
Order of the Pelican.

Crown: **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of the Pelican.**

Herald: Masters and Mistresses of the Pelican,
present yourselves before Their Majesties.

Crown: **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that (Name) is worthy of elevation into the Order of the Pelican?**

Pelican Ceremony Continued -->

And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

**Herald: (Title and Name), present yourself before
Their Majesties.**

After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to
(Name)'s nobility?**

The chosen Royal Peer should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a member of the Chivalry who will
attest to (Name)'s courtesy and chivalry?**

The chosen Chivalry should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will
attest to (Name)'s skill in the arts and
sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in their own words.
Then the Crown shall say:*

**Crown: Is there a Master of Defence who will attest
to (Name)'s courage and honor?**

Pelican Ceremony Continued -->

The chosen Master of Defence should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: (Name), right mindful of your service to the Society and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Master/Mistress of the Pelican; which creature will nourish her young, when necessary, with the blood from her own breast, and therefore has been chosen as the most appropriate symbol of service to our Society. Therefore, will you, (Name), give us your word to continue to fulfill the requirements set forth for the governance of this Order, as you must surely have till now?

Vigilant: I will.

Crown: Will you increase your labors nobly, increase your talents as befits one of your rank, and seek to disseminate your talents and abilities throughout the Society?

Vigilant: I will.

Crown: Do you promise to train any dependents you may have to serve as you have served?

Vigilant: I will.

Pelican Ceremony Continued -->

The Crown shall then take the ribbon with the medallion of the Order depending from it and place it about the candidate's, saying:

Crown: Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your service as We have acknowledged it this day.

If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:

Crown: Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.

If a cap of maintenance is available, it may be placed upon the candidate's head as the Crown says:

Crown: Wear this cap of maintenance as a symbol of your service.

Pelican Ceremony Continued -->

If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Pelican shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To serve the Crown in all things,
To remember courtesy and kindness,
To prize justice above personal gain,
To labor for the common good,
To enrich the Kingdom and the Society
So they may flourish and grow
And to be worthy of the title of Pelican.
Here by my honor, my hand
and my heart swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).**

**Crown: Rise, (Title and Name), Companion of the
Pelican.**

*Then shall the new Pelican make thanks to the Crown,
be greeted by the other Pelicans as the herald reads
the proclamation of elevation, and then all shall retire
in good order.*

Defence

Placing a Defence Candidate On Vigil

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Title and Name),
to present themselves in Their Court.

MOD: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it be a right and proper thing,
it shall be yours.**

MOD: I ask that Your Majesty create (Title and
Name) a Master/Mistress of the noble
Order of Defence.

Crown: **Summon the members of Our most noble
Order of Defence.**

Herald: Their Majesties call the Masters and
Mistresses of the Order of Defence.

Crown: **Noble Masters and Mistresses, is it your
judgment that (Name) is worthy to be
numbered among Our Order of Defence
in prowess, noblesse, service, and
courtesy?**

Order: Aye.

Defence Ceremony Continued -->

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

Herald: (Title and Name), please present yourself before Their Majesties.

Crown: (Name), it is the opinion of these, your peers, that you have shown the greater qualities of prowess, noblesse, service, and courtesy that betoken a member of Our most noble Order of Defence.

Therefore, We here charge you to stand your vigil. Think well on your deeds and heart, and present yourself before Our Court at (an event to be determined) where you will be offered elevation into Our Order of Defence.

You have Our leave to go.

Creation of a Master of Defence

The herald shall call forth a member of the Order of Defence previously chosen.

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Title and Name),
Master/Mistress of Defence.

MOD: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power and a proper thing, it shall be yours.**

MOD: That, for their prowess with rapier, you enter (Name) into the most noble Order of Defence.

Crown: **Summon Our most loyal Companions of the Order of Defence.**

Herald: Masters and Mistresses of Defence, present yourselves before Their Majesties.

Crown: **Noble Lords and Ladies, is it your opinion that (Name), for their prowess, loyalty, and courtesy is worthy of elevation into the Order of Defence?**

Defence Ceremony Continued -->

And when those members present have answered "aye," the Crown shall say to the herald:

Crown: Call forth the candidate.

**Herald: (Title and Name), present yourself before
Their Majesties.**

After the candidate comes forward and kneels, the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a Royal Peer who will attest to
(Name)'s nobility?**

The chosen Royal Peer should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a member of the Chivalry who will
attest to (Name)'s courtesy and chivalry?**

The chosen Chivalry should answer in their own words. Then the Crown shall say:

**Crown: Is there a Companion of the Laurel who will
attest to (Name)'s skill in the arts and
sciences?**

*The chosen Laurel should answer in their own words.
Then the Crown shall say:*

**Crown: Is there a Companion of the Pelican who will
attest to (Name)'s service?**

The chosen Pelican should answer in their own words.

Defence Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Crown shall say:

Crown: (Name), right mindful of your prowess in the art of defence and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are resolved to create you Mistress/Master of Defence.

Know that to wear the Collar of a Master of Defence is to hold a sacred trust; that the obligations of Peerage will demand your efforts every moment of your life.

A Master of Defence must be honorable in all things, bearing with courage all trials and tribulations. A Master of Defence must love virtue above their self, being willing to sacrifice themselves in its defense.

A Master of Defence must ever be mindful of the power of their weapon, tempering its use with mercy and forbearing unwarranted violence. A Master of Defence must love their Kingdom and their province, and fulfill most faithfully their feudal duties to their Baron and their Crown.

Their word must be dependable beyond doubt or question. They must never flee from the face of their foes. They must be generous to all. And, always and everywhere, they must be the guardian of the just and the right.

Defence Ceremony Continued -->

Crown: The Laws of the Society and the customs of the Kingdom require that a Master possess exceptional prowess, as you have demonstrated upon the field; that a Master be courteous, as you have shown yourself to be and as these gentle Nobles attest; and that a Master be loyal to their Kingdom and the Society.

Do you then desire to accept the burden of Peerage?

Vigilant: I do.

The Crown shall then take the white livery collar or the medallion of the Order and place it about the candidate's neck so that it rests upon the breast, saying:

Crown: Then take from Our hands this symbol of nobility and token of Our esteem. Wear it proudly that all may recognize your skills and your service as We have acknowledged it this day.

The Crown may either give a sword to the new Master of Defence and say, or simply say:

Crown: Bear your sword with skill, so disposing your heart to goodness that you never use it to injure anyone unjustly, but always use it to defend the just and the right.

Defence Ceremony Continued -->

If a cloak is available, it may be placed about the candidate as the Crown says:

Crown: Wear this cloak in outward token of your new station.

If the candidate wishes to swear an Oath of Fealty, the herald shall say, and the Vigilant shall repeat:

**I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever stand in its defense,
Facing my foes with courage and honor,
Protecting the Innocent,
Mindful of mercy,
Obedient to my Liege Lord,
Guardian of the just and right,
Thus swear I, (Name).**

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).**

Crown: Rise, Mistress/Master (Name), Master of Defence

Investitures

Investiture of the New Sovereign and Consort

Herald: Be there any others with business before the Crown?

At this, the Tanist shall come forward with entourage.

Sovereign: **Who comes armed into our presence?**

Tanist: (Name), Tanist of the Middle Kingdom.

Sov: **What is it you seek at Our hand? If it is yours by right, by the Laws of the Society and the customs of Our Kingdom, then it is yours.**

Tanist: I have come to claim that which is mine by right, Your Crown and Your Throne.

Sov: **Who will take oath and bear witness that this is, indeed, the Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, victor in Our Crown Tournament, in accordance with the Laws of the Society and the customs of the Middle Kingdom?**

Three Great Officers, or those who have been chosen by the Tanist shall step forward and say:

I, (Title and Name), affirm that this is indeed (Name), Champion of the Crown Tournament and rightful Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, and thereto do I pledge my word.

S/C Ceremony Continued -->

The Sovereign then turns to the Tanist and says:

Sov: Kneel and learn the duties of a (King). This is what it means to be a (King): a (King) is not an all-powerful Sovereign; a (King) is given the duty to govern.

A (King) must bear the heaviest burdens and strike the mightiest blows, ever to be foremost in the boldest battle and last in the most desperate retreat.

A (King) has no right to the common joys of living, no freedom to indulge personal interests, tastes, and biases. A (King) is a sacrifice to the common people, one who lives to serve by ruling, protecting the Kingdom by disciplining all private inclinations and sentiments, submitting Theirself to absolute objectivity and justice.

And, in the time of famine or leanness, as must come from time to time in every land, They must wear the finest raiment and laugh the heartiest at the lightest board of any in all the Kingdom.

A (King) must place the people's needs before all else. To be (King) is to respect all manner of things that any people hold dear, even though the King may not.

Do you still desire the Crown of the Middle Kingdom?

Tanist: I do.

Sov: Then take the oath of (Kingship).

The Tanist shall rise, and the Sovereign shall say the oath, phrase by phrase, the Tanist repeating it.

Tanist: I, (Name), Promise
to rule over the Middle Kingdom
In accordance with the Laws
of the Society for Creative Anachronism
And the customs of the Kingdom,
To the best of My ability,
as (King) and Liege Lord,
Dealing justly with great and small
To the benefit of the Kingdom
and the Society,
In good times and in bad,
Until My heir
rightfully succeeds to the throne,
'Til Death takes Me,
Or 'til the world ends.

Sov: **Swear it.**

Tanist: I swear it to the King of the Middle Kingdom.

Sov: **Swear it to the Great (Lords and Ladies) of the Realm.**

Tanist: I swear it.

Sov: **Swear it to the people!**

Tanist: I swear it!

S/C Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Sovereign shall rise and take the Crown from their head, and the Tanist shall kneel, and they shall place the Crown upon their head. As the new Sovereign rises, the former shall say:

Ex Sov: People of the Middle Kingdom, behold your (King)!

Herald: All hail the (King)!

Consort: Has Your Majesty a chosen one to reign over us as (Queen) of Love and Beauty?

New Sov: We have. Call forth (Her) Royal Highness.

Herald: (Their) Royal Majesty calls forth (Name), Crown (Princess) of the Middle Kingdom.

The Consort shall approach the throne with attendants.

N.Sov: My (Lady), will you accept the Crown of the Middle Kingdom?

Consort: I will.

S/C Ceremony Continued -->

Cons.: Then kneel and learn the duties of the Crown. This is what it means to be a (Queen): the (Queen) bears also the Crown of the Middle Kingdom, and is given the duties of the Crown. A (Queen) must ever stand with dignity and grace beneath the burden of the Crown.

They must lay aside the privileges of personal choice and bias, and place the good of the Kingdom above all else; be a sacrifice to the common people, and live to serve the Kingdom. They must join their hand to the King's, and, with a sure touch, rule the Kingdom with him.

And in times of famine or leanness, as must come from time to time in every land, They must stand fair for all to see, and sit the Throne with grace, for the inspiration of all who stand before Them. The burdens of the Crown cannot be given away or shared, but must be borne by the (King and Queen).

Do you still desire the Crown and the Throne of the Middle Kingdom?

N.Cons.: I do.

N.King: Then take the oath of the (Queen).

S/C Ceremony Continued -->

The new Sovereign or the Consort, at the choice of the Consort's Heir, shall administer the oath, phrase by phrase, the Consort's Heir repeating it:

I, (Name), promise to rule
over the Middle Kingdom
In accordance with the Laws
of the Society for Creative Anachronism
And the customs of the Kingdom,
To the best of My ability,
as Queen of Love and Beauty,
Dealing justly with great and small
To the benefit of the Kingdom
and the Society,
In good times and in bad,
Until My heir
rightfully succeeds to the throne,
'Til Death takes Me,
Or 'til the world ends.

N.King: **Swear it.**

N.Cons.: I swear it to the King.

N.King: **Swear it to the Great Lords and Ladies of the Realm.**

N.Cons.: I swear it.

N.King: **Swear it to the people!**

Cons.: I swear it!

S/C Ceremony Continued -->

Then the Consort shall take the Crown from their own head and give it to the new Sovereign, who shall speak words from Their heart, and then place the Crown upon the head of the new Consort.

N.Sov: People of the Middle Kingdom, behold your (Queen).

Herald: All hail the (Queen)!

When the populace has quieted, the Sovereign shall address the former monarchs, who wait to one side of the Thrones.

N.Sov: My (Lord and Lady), you have Our thanks, and Our leave to retire.

The former Sovereigns shall discreetly retire. The new Sovereigns shall be seated upon the Thrones. Their Majesties' first court shall begin.

Investiture of a Duke

Herald: Count (Name) is called before this court of
Their Royal Majesties.

*Their Grace the Duke approaches with their retinue.
When all stand before the Throne, then shall the
herald say:*

Herald: From time immemorial, it has been known in
this Realm that a man-at-arms fights upon
the field, defeating all others in tournament,
in order that they might crown their chosen
one our (Queen) of Love and Beauty.

It is therefore fitting that those who have
twice been so inspired and have twice
borne the Crown, who twice reigned as
(King), shall be acknowledged Dukes. Then
may the (King) ask their right valuable
opinions and advice as concerns diverse
matters, as they have proved themselves
most knowledgeable in such things.

And these Dukes shall bear as their emblem
a Ducal coronet, garnished with strawberry
leaves and ornamented as they might see
fit. And by token of this coronet will they be
known as persons of great merit and
consequence.

Ducal Ceremony Continued -->

Herald: They shall be addressed as "Your Grace," and great respect shall be given them. And in the (King)'s absence, if occasion should arise, these same Dukes are granted the privilege of bestowing knighthood, should they also be knights: for no one may make a knight who is not a knight.

Then shall the sword-bearer say:

Bearer: May it please Your Majesty, Your loyal subject, the most noble (Name), having by their valor, skill, and strength at arms, twice won the Crown of this Kingdom, and thus by their own ability having earned the title and estate of a Duke of this Realm, makes bold to approach you, that they may receive the royal accolade and be invested with the other dignities of this high office. And in token of their loyalty to the Crown and Throne of this Kingdom, (Their) Grace, (Name), here yields this sword into Your Majesty's keeping.

The sword-bearer shall step forth and give the sword into the Sovereign's hands, and they shall place it across the arms of the Throne, whereupon the Sovereign shall say:

Sovereign: **Noble Sirs, that the people of this, Our Realm, may know the worth of the most noble, (Their) Grace, Duke (Name), let the herald read forth the proclamation of investiture.**

Here shall the herald read out the scroll.

Sov: Most Noble Duke, approach the Throne.

After the Duke comes forth, the Sovereign says:

Sov: Let My (Lord) Duke be crowned with the coronet symbolizing their new estate.

Here, the coronet-bearer, if they be a Duke, shall place the coronet upon the head of the Duke. If the bearer be not a Duke, the Sovereign shall perform that office. Then the Sovereign shall rise, holding the sword hilt upward, and say:

Sov: I return this sword into your keep, My (Lord) Duke, charging you to use it henceforth as you have heretofore, in a noble, knightly, and honorable manner.

And the Duke, taking the sword and girding themselves with it, shall say:

Duke: My Liege, upon mine honor, I pledge to do so.

Ducal Ceremony Continued -->

If the Duke wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Duke shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm
As befits one of my station.
Thus swear I, (Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking
with vengeance (justice).**

Then shall the coronet-bearer, if they be a Duke, extend their right hand and take the hand of the Duke. And the remaining Dukes who are present shall perform the same office. Then, ere the person who served as their Consort approaches, the Duke and those with them shall move to the left hand of the Consort.

Investiture of a Duchess

The herald shall call forth the new Duchess, using the title by which they have been known in the past:

Herald: Countess (Name) is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.

At the time appointed, Their Grace shall present themselves before the Throne, with their retinue. When all stand before the Throne, then shall the herald say:

Herald: From time immemorial, it has been known in this Realm that a man-at-arms fights upon the field defeating all others in tournament, in order to have the privilege of crowning their chosen one Our (Queen) of Love and Beauty.

It is therefore fitting that a Noble whose grace has twice inspired their champion(s) to win them the Crown of this Kingdom, who has twice borne the Crown, shall be acknowledged Duchess in their own right.

And these Duchesses shall bear as their emblem a Ducal coronet, garnished with strawberry leaves and ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence. They shall be addressed as "Your Grace," and great respect shall be given them.

Consort: Let the herald read forth the proclamation of investiture.

Here shall the herald read out the scroll.

Cons: Most noble Duchess, approach the Throne.

After the Duchess comes forth, then shall the Consort say:

Cons: Let My (Lady) Duchess be crowned with the coronet symbolizing their new estate.

The Consort shall here take the coronet from the hands of the coronet-bearer and either:

Option A

Place it upon the head of Their Grace, saying:

Consort: As it was Our honor twice to see you wear the Crown of this Realm, so it is Our joy today to proclaim you a Duchess.

Option B

Hand it to the Noble who made them Consort, who shall place it upon their head, saying:

Noble: As it was my delight to win the Crown of this Realm for thee, so it is my joy to have created thee a Duchess.

Ducal Ceremony Continued -->

If the Duchess wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Duchess shall repeat:

**I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm
As befits one of my station.
Thus swear I, <Name>.**

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking
with vengeance (justice).**

Then shall the Consort, or another Duchess embrace the new Duchess. And the remaining Duchesses shall also. After this has been done, the attendants of Their Grace and their partner shall bow low before the Crown and, reforming their procession, exit.

Investiture of a Count

The herald shall call forth the new Count, using the title by which they have been known in the past:

Herald: (Title and Name) is called before this court
of Their Royal Majesties.

Their Excellency shall present themselves to the Throne with a procession and then shall the herald say:

Herald: From the first days of the Midrealm unto this day, it has been known in this Kingdom that a man-at-arms fights upon the field, defeating all others in tournament, in order that they might crown their chosen one our (Queen) of Love and Beauty.

It is therefore fitting that one who has been so inspired and has borne the weight of the Crown, who has ruled these lands as (King), shall be acknowledged Count. And these Counts shall bear as their emblem a coronet, embattled of gold, ornamented as they might see fit.

And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence. They shall be addressed as "Your Excellency," and great respect shall be given them.

**Sovereign: Good Gentles, that the people of this,
Our Realm, may know the worth of the most
noble, Their Excellency, Count (Name), let
the herald read forth the proclamation of
their new estate.**

Here shall the herald read out the scroll.

**Sov: Most noble Count, approach the Throne.
Let my (Lord) Count be crowned with the
coronet symbolizing their new estate.**

*And the Sovereign shall here take the coronet from
the hands of the coronet-bearer and place it upon
the head of Their Excellency, saying:*

**Sov: As it was Our honor to see you wear the
Crown of this Realm, so it is Our privilege
today to acknowledge you Count. Bear this
coronet, (Lord) Count, as you have borne
the Crown of the Midrealm, with nobility
and honor.**

**Count: Your Majesty, upon mine honor, I pledge to
do so.**

County Ceremony Continued -->

If the Count wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Count shall repeat:

**I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm
As befits one of my station.
Thus swear I, (Name).**

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking
with vengeance (justice).**

*And the Count shall move to the left of the Consort,
and their escort shall move to the far left and right, to
admit the procession of their consort and their
attendants.*

Investiture of a Countess

The herald shall call forth the new Countess, using the title by which they have been known in the past:

Herald: (Title and Name) is called before this court of Their Royal Majesties.

Their Excellency shall present themselves before the Throne, with attendants bearing the Countess's banner and the scroll of honor, and a Countess bearing the County coronet. At a respectful distance from the Throne, the procession shall halt, bow before Their Majesties, and then shall the herald say:

Herald: From the first days of the Midrealm unto this day, it has been known in this Kingdom that a man-at-arms fights upon the field, defeating all others in tournament, in order to have the privilege of crowning their chosen one our (Queen) of Love and Beauty.

It is therefore fitting that one who has inspired such valor and has borne the Crown with such grace and courtesy shall be acknowledged a Countess.

And these Countesses shall bear as their emblem a coronet embattled of gold, ornamented as they might see fit. And by token of this coronet will they be known as persons of great merit and consequence.

They shall be addressed as "Your Excellency," and great respect shall be given them.

Consort: Good Gentles, that the people of this, Our Realm, may know the worth of the most noble, Their Excellency, Countess (Name), let the herald read forth the proclamation of their new estate.

Here shall the herald read out the scroll.

Cons: Most noble Countess, approach the Throne. Let my (Lady) Countess be crowned with the coronet symbolizing their new estate.

The Consort shall here take the coronet from the hands of the coronet-bearer and either:

Option A

Place it upon the head of Her Excellency, saying:

Consort: As it was Our honor to see you wear the Crown of this Realm, so it is Our joy today to proclaim you a Countess.

Option B

Hand it to the Noble who made her Consort, who shall place it upon their head, saying:

Noble: As it was my delight to win the Crown of this Realm for thee, so it is my joy to have created thee a Countess.

County Ceremony Continued -->

If the Countess wishes to swear fealty, the herald shall say, phrase by phrase, and the Countess shall repeat:

I here swear fealty and service
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To ever give wise counsel to the Crown,
Supporting the aims and ideals of the Realm
As befits one of my station.
Thus swear I, <Name>.

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear and will (shall) never
forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).**

Creation of a Companions of the Rose

Herald: (Countess/Duchess) (Name) is called before this Court of Their Royal Majesties.

Honoree approaches accompanied by Companions of the Rose.

Consort: The Rose stands as a symbol of our (Queen) of Love and Beauty, one who has set an example of courteous and noble behavior; they have supported the aims and ideals of the Society, and has consistently shown respect for the Crown of the Middle Kingdom. They have willingly shared their knowledge and hospitality with others.

Receive this rose, My (Countess/Duchess) (Name), as a symbol of your graceful service to this Kingdom.

Investiture of a Territorial Baron/Baroness

Herald: Their Majesties summon Their Excellencies (Name), Baron/Baroness (Place Name).

Baronage: Your Majesty, I beg a boon.

Crown: **Ask, and if it is within Our power, and a proper thing, it is yours, my (Lord Baron/Lady Baroness).**

Bar: (My/Our) time as (Baron/Baroness) has come its end. And now, according to custom, (I/We) wish to relinquish (my/our) title as (Baron/Baroness) and ask that you bestow it upon (Name) as (my/our) successor(s).

Crown: **Call forth the candidate(s).**

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Name)

Crown: **Is it your desire to succeed (Name) as (Baron/Baroness) (Place Name)?**

Bar: It is.

Thereupon shall the former (Baron/Baroness) give the coronets to the Crown, who shall place them upon the candidates' heads, saying:

Crown: **Always bear this as nobly as (Baron/Baroness) (Name). Now, swear fealty to the Crown.**

Barony Ceremony Continued -->

The herald shall say, and the Baronage shall repeat:

Bar: I here swear fealty and do homage
To the Crown of the Middle Kingdom:
To hold the Barony of (Place Name
in fief from the Crown,
To loyally uphold
and enforce your laws in those lands,
And give wise counsel to the Crown,
According to my knowledge and ability.
Thus swear I, (Title and Name),
Baron/Baroness (Place Name).

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).
Rise, good (Baron/Baroness) (Name).**

Barony Ceremony Continued -->

The Baronage shall rise, and, should the Crown so desire, they may address the former Baronage, saying:

Crown: It is not right that one should relinquish such power and receive nothing in return. Please kneel, (Title and Name). It is Our pleasure that (Title and Name) be created a (Baron/Baroness) of Our Court for their most noble sacrifice.

Thereupon the Crown shall place a silver coronet, embellished with twelve pearls, upon the head of the (Baron/Baroness), saying:

Crown: Arise, (Baron/Baroness) (Name)

Creation of a Court Barony

The herald shall call forth the candidate, and when the candidate presents their self and kneels before the Throne, the herald shall say:

Herald: As has been known in this Realm from ancient times, it is the privilege of the Crown to create certain honors and to bestow these honors upon worthy subjects at its pleasure.

And foremost among these honors is that of Court (Baron/Baroness). For to be created Court (Baron/Baroness) is to be admitted to the rank of nobility and to be warranted a special position in the Order of Precedence; and while a Court (Baron/Baroness) shall have no power, by that title, over others, still shall that title bear suitable honor and great distinction for their self and their deeds.

For a Court (Baron/Baroness) may be known by the title "(Baron/Baroness)", and then their proper name, and may wear, to signify their nobility, a silver coronet ornamented with six pearls.

CB Ceremony Continued -->

Crown: Know you all, that by reason of their service to Ourselves and Our Realm, most specifically (here shall the Crown cite the specific instances of the honor), We are minded to create (Name) a (Baron/Baroness) of Our Court.

The Crown shall place a silver coronet ornamented with pearls upon the candidate's head and say:

Crown: Rise, (Baron/Baroness) (Name).

Crown Tourney

Invocation of the Lists for Crown Tournament

When all are assembled the Crown shall direct the Seneschal to begin.

Seneschal: Good Gentles, do you affirm that each of you and your prospective consorts have read and understood the Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism and the laws of the Middle Kingdom?

After everyone answers "aye," the Crown directs the Earl Marshal to continue.

EM: Good Gentles, have you all read and do you understand the Rules of the Lists and the conventions of combat of the Middle Kingdom? Do you understand and do you agree to assume the possible risk of injury arising directly or indirectly out of combat-related activities?

After everyone answers "aye," the Crown directs the herald to continue.

Herald: Good Gentles, you know well that the one for whom you fight is the personification of all Honor, Respect, and Truth, the living representation of that Love which is worthy of honor not only now, but in all times and in all seasons.

Therefore, today you fight in these lists not to gain power for yourself, nor for your own glory and honor, but for the honor and greater glory of the one whose favor you bear upon the field.

By your valor, skill, and courtesy will you advance that person's honor, and the one to whom victory is given this day shall declare the name of that person for all to know, and crown that person as Royal Consort, to reign alongside after ascending the Throne of the Middle Kingdom.

Sovereign: You have heard the reason of Our lists. Do each of you here today have a gentle whose favor you advance and whom you may crown as Royal Consort, should you prove victorious upon the field?

After everyone answers "aye," the Consort continues:

Consort: Then bear your favors bravely into the lists, either in victory or in honorable defeat.

Sov: Let the tournament commence.

Investiture of the Tanist and the Consort's Heir

Sovereign: Call forth the victor in today's Crown Lists.

Herald: (Title and Name), present yourselves before Their Majesties.

When the victor has approached and knelt before the Throne, the Sovereign shall say:

Sov: (Name), by your victory in today's Crown Lists, you have shown yourself to be of high mettle and worthy of the title of Tanist, which is borne by the Crown (Prince/Princess) of Our Kingdom.

Is it your desire to assume the title and responsibilities of Tanist, and, when the proper time should come, to rightfully succeed Us upon the Dragon Throne?

Victor: It is.

Whereupon the Sovereign shall place the Tanist's coronet upon the victor's head. Then the Sovereign shall say:

Sov: Rise, (Prince/Princess) (Name).

Herald: All hail the Tanist of the Middle Kingdom, (Prince/Princess) (Name)!

Crown Tourney Ceremony Continued -->

After the acclaim of the populace has subsided, the Consort shall address the Tanist.

Consort: As has been known in this Realm from ancient times, the victor in the Crown Lists fights neither for their personal glory nor for the Crown, but for the honor of their consort and inspiration. Bring forth your (lady/lord), (Prince/Princess) (Name), that they may be crowned as befits their rank.

Tanist: Call forth (Lady/Lord) (Name).

Herald: Their Majesties call forth (Lady/Lord) (Name).

When the gentle has approached and knelt before the Throne, the Tanist (may say something personal if they wish, and) shall place the coronet of the Consort upon their head, saying:

Tanist: Rise, Princess/Prince (Name).

Herald: All hail Their Royal Highness, (Princess/Prince) (Name)!

Crown Tourney Ceremony Continued -->

If Their Highnesses are swearing fealty, the herald shall say and the Heirs shall repeat:

**I here swear fealty and do homage
to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom,
To loyally serve this Kingdom and its Crown,
Giving wise counsel according to my
knowledge and abilities.**

Thus swear I, (Prince/Princess) (Name)

And the Crown shall reply:

**This do We hear
and will (shall) never forget,
Nor fail to reward that which is given:
Fealty with love, service with honor,
And oath-breaking with vengeance
(justice).**

*The Heirs shall arrange themselves upon the thrones
to the right and left of Their Majesties, and Their
Majesties' court shall continue.*

Other
Tournaments

Tourney Cries

Herald: Will Fighters A & B report to the (name) list.

Fighters C & D should be arming themselves.

Fighters E & F, prepare to arm.

Litany of Honors:

Herald: Do honor unto the Crown of the Middle Kingdom (or Their representative).

The Herald should indicate the direction of honor, to the Crown, or their representative. If neither are present, pick a direction.

Herald: Do honor unto the one who inspires you this day.

Each fighter will give what honor is their custom to the one they fight for.

Herald: Do honor unto your most worthy opponent.

The two combatants salute each other.

Herald: Pay heed to the marshals.

Award Certs

When reading in Court, you need not read the italicized section.

Award of Arms

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, are minded to make unto **(Honoree)** an Award of Arms in recognition of their service to the Middle Kingdom. We bestow upon them the right to bear arms without let or hindrance from any person, and the rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank from this day onward.

Done this (date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), sitting upon Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Acorn, see Silver Acorn

Augmentation, Kingdom

Proclaim to all throughout the land that we **(Name)** **(Sovereign)** by right of arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Name)**, our **(Consort)**, have witnessed the service with which **(Honoree)** hath exemplified the ideals which we strive to uphold, and therefore do we wish to acknowledge them in a fitting and seemly manner with some visible token of our esteem. We are minded to give unto them a Kingdom Augmentation of Arms in recognition of their deeds. It shall be the Kingdom Arms: “Argent, a pale gules surmounted by a dragon passant vert”, signifying our appreciation and commendation, to be incorporated into their arms as duly registered within the Society.

Done this (date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), sitting upon Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Augmentation, Royal

Proclaim to all throughout the land that We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, have witnessed the service with which **(Honoree)** hath exemplified the ideals which We strive to uphold, and therefore do We wish to acknowledge them in a fitting and seemly manner with some visible token of Our esteem. We are minded to give unto them a Royal Augmentation of Arms **(of.....)** in recognition of their deeds. It shall be a specific charge signifying our appreciation and commendation, to be incorporated into their arms in accordance with both their wishes and the Rules of the College of Arms of the Known World.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Barony, Court

We, **(Sovereign)**, being King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, are pleased to bestow upon **(Honoree)** the right to style themselves **(Baron/ess)** of Our Court **(for their Service of...)**. We confirm and acknowledge to them all rights, titles and badges accorded them by this rank without let or hindrance from any person from this day onward.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

Baton, Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send greetings. As We know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in its future leaders, so do We know that such a person is before Us in **(Honoree)** and in recognition of their accomplishments in the martial arts, it is fitting that we honor **(Honoree)** by naming them a Baton. As they have adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall they continue to do so in Our hearts.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Bronze Ring, Order of the

To all and singular unto whom these presents shall come, know that We, **(Sovereign)** and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Midrealm, right mindful of their superior skill, leadership, and exemplary service to the Rapier Legions of Our Kingdom, do herewith recognize **(Honoree)** as a Companion of Our Company of the Bronze Ring.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Cavendish Knot, Order of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, the strong and just, and **(Consort)**, the graceful and wise, Regnum Mediterranae/Rulers of the Middle Kingdom, have seen the skill, devotion and support that **(Honoree)** has displayed in the discipline of rapier combat. We are therefore minded to make them a member of Our Order of the Cavendish Knot and bestow upon them all duly pertaining rights and attendant responsibilities that they may discharge their new duties to the Crown. They may wear as a token of this new membership the badge, "Four Cavendish Knots in cross vert."

Done by Our hands the (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Doe's Grace, Award of the - For Service

We, **(Consort)**, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Sovereign)**, Our King, right mindful of the high esteem in which **(Honoree)** is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, and We are pleased to bestow upon them this sign of the Queen's favour, the Award of the Doe's Grace. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Azure, a sword proper enfiled of a wreath of flowers argent, slipped and leaved Or", without let or hindrance from any person.

Given by Our hand(s) this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand(s) and seal.

Doe's Grace, Award of the – For Grace and Courtesy

Unto all Gentles and Nobles to whom these presents come, know that We, **(Consort)**, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Sovereign)**, Our King, right mindful of the high esteem in which **(Honoree)** is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, and in acknowledgment of **(Specific Mention)**, are pleased to bestow upon them the Award of the Doe's Grace. We bestow upon them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, "Azure, a sword proper enfiled of a wreath of flowers argent, slipped and leaved Or".

Given by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Dragon's Barb, Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, would fain honor **(Honoree)** for their superior skill in archery and service to the Archer Corps of the Middle Kingdom. We are minded to create them a Companion of the Order of the Dragon's Barb, and thus to bestow upon them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "A dragon's tail palewise, barb to chief, within and issuant from an annulet vert scaly argent", without let or hindrance from any person.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), sitting upon Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Dragon's Flight (group award), Award of the

Proclaim unto all that We, **(Sovereign)**, and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, wish to commend the superior skill and service of **(Group Name)** to the Archer Corps of the Middle Kingdom. We are minded to bestow upon them the Award of the Dragon's Flight with all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Argent, a pale vert scaly argent between four pheons vert", without let or hindrance from any person.

Done by Our hands the (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Dragon's Heart, Order of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, give greetings. Know ye that **(Honoree)** hath given most freely unto the Middle Kingdom their time and labor and love by **(Labor)**, and We are minded to make them a Companion of Our noble Order of the Dragon's Heart. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Argent, a heart vert scaly argent", without let or hindrance from any person.

Given by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

Dragon's Tooth, Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, right mindful of the dramatic deeds and skills that **(Honoree)** hath displayed upon the field of battle, are minded to bestow upon them an Award of the Dragon's Tooth. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Vert, on a pale or, three fangs vert", without let or hindrance from any person.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), sitting upon Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Dragon's Teeth (group award), Award of the

May it be known to all that We ,(Sovereign), and (Consort), King and Queen of the Middle Kingdom, right mindful of the dramatic deeds and skills the (Group Name) hath displayed upon the field of battle, (especially specific deeds,) wish to bestow unto (Group Name) the Award of the Dragon's Teeth. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Argent, on a dance between two broken dragon's teeth vert another argent," without let or hindrance from any person.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Dragons Treasure, Award of the

We, (**Sovereign**), King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and (**Consort**), Our Queen, do know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in such gentles as (**Honoree**), its future. As one who shall someday lead and serve Our Kingdom, and as one who has shown their worth through their present service, so is it fitting that We honor (**Honoree**) by naming them a Dragon's Treasure. As they have adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall they continue to serve.

Done by Our hand this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting upon Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Evergreen, Order of the

Let it be known throughout the vastness of the realm that we, **(Consort)**, Royal Patroness/Patron of the Arts and Sciences, and **(Sovereign)**, our King, are well aware of the skills and teaching accomplished by **(Honoree)** in the **(art/science/research)** of **(skill)**. Therefore we wish for all to know of the high regard in which We hold them, and so We are minded to create them a Companion of the Order of the Evergreen. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge of this Order, "A pine tree per pale purple and Or".

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Gold Mace, Order of the

In all the armies in history there have been many warriors who have fought and led from within the ranks, rising to positions of great honor. A warrior has many virtues, such as skill at arms, leadership on the field, and teaching of the arts martial.

Therefore, We, **(Sovereign)**, and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize **(Honoree)** as a Member of the Order of Gold Mace. They may style themselves a Captain of the Red Company, and may bear its badge, "Gules, two maces in saltire Argent", in canton upon their shield.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Grant of Arms

We, **(Sovereign)**, by Right of Arms King of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, in consideration of the excellent service that **(Honoree)** has given the Middle Kingdom as **(Office)**, are minded to make unto them a Grant of Arms. We grant unto them the right to bear **(Blazon)** as Arms within the Society for Creative Anachronism, and We grant them as a crest a Dragon as token of their service to this Kingdom.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

Greenwood Company, Order of the

To all and singular unto whom these presents shall come, know that We, **(Sovereign)**, and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Midrealm, right mindful of their superior skill, leadership, and exemplary service to the Archer Corps of Our Kingdom, do herewith recognize **(Honoree)** as a Member of the Order of Greenwood Company. They may style theirselves a Forester of this noble Order, and may bear its badge, "On a hurst of pine trees vert, a pheon inverted Or".

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Grove (group award), Award of the

Be it known that Queen (**Queen's Name**), Patroness/Patron of the Arts and Sciences in the Middle Kingdom, and King (**Name**) are well aware of the endeavors and successes of the people of (**Group Name**) in the artistic and/or scientific area of (**Artistic/Scientific Area**). We wish for all to know that they are held in high regard by Ourselves, to which purpose We bestow upon them the Award of the Grove. (**Group Name**) may embellish their device with "Per pale or and argent, a hurst purpure", the badge of this Order, and shall be set in accordance to the standards of Precedence of the Midrealm.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

King's Chalice, Award of the

See, read, hear, and understand by these presents that We, **(Sovereign)**, King of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, right mindful of the high esteem in which **(Honoree)** is held by Our Kingdom and Ourselves, and in acknowledgement of their authenticity in **(accomplishment)**, are pleased to bestow upon them the Award of the King's Chalice. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge of the award without let or hindrance from any person.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Purple Fret, Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen, do recognize the exemplary service that **(Honoree)** hath rendered unto the Middle Kingdom, **(specifically for...)**. We do here publicly commend them and are pleased to bestow upon them the Award of the Purple Fret. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, “Or, a fret purpure”, without let or hindrance from any person.

Given by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hands and seal.

Purple Fretty (group award), Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom and **(Consort)**, Our beloved Queen, have heard of the exemplary service that **(Group Name)** has provided to Our Kingdom. Therefore, We do publically commend them and wish to bestow upon them the Award of the Purple Fretty. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, “Or, fretty purpure”, without let or hindrance from any person.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year) while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony where of We have set Our hands and seal.

Red Company, Order of the

In all the armies in history there have been many warriors who have fought and led from within the ranks, rising to positions of great honor. A warrior has many virtues, such as skill at arms, leadership on the field, and teaching of the arts martial.

Therefore, We, **(Sovereign)**, and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize **(Honoree)** as a Member of the Order of the Red Company. They may style themselves a Serjeant of this noble Order, and may bear its badge as duly registered with the College of Arms, in canton upon their shield.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

Rose, Order of the

Proclaim to all Gentles and Nobles that We, **(Consort)**, Queen of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Sovereign)**, Our King, knowing full well the grace and dignity with which **(Honoree)** has served the Middle Kingdom as **(Queen/King)**, are minded to do them honor, We do, therefore, recognize them as a **(Lady/Lord)** of the Rose, with all of the rights, privileges, insignia, precedence and responsibilities thereto appertaining.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year) in Our (Place Name).

Royal Vanguard, Order of the

Proclaim throughout Our Realm that We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms of the Middle Kingdom, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send heartfelt greetings. Know that in consideration of their outstanding service as Our **(King's/Queen's Champion)** we hereby make **(Honoree)** a Companion of Our Order of the Royal Vanguard. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities associated with this Order and the right to bear the badge of the Order.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Sapphire, Award of the

In the Realm We, (**Sovereign**), and (**Consort**), King and Queen of the fair lands of the Middle Kingdom, have heard of the kind and courteous actions of a member of Our Populace. It has come to Our attention that (**Honoree**) has exhibited great courtesy, grace, and honor to people of all ranks, and exemplifies what it means to be the embodiment of The Dream. Therefore we are minded to bestow upon them the Award of the Sapphire, with all rights and responsibilities due upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, "Fieldless, a stepcut gemstone fesswise azure."

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Silver Acorn, Award of the

We, **(Sovereign)**, King by Right of Arms, and **(Consort)**, Our Queen of Love and Beauty, send greetings. As We know that the treasure of a Kingdom lies in its future leaders, so do We know that such a person is before Us in **(Honoree)** and in recognition of their accomplishments in the arts and sciences (specific art or science can be mentioned), it is fitting that we honor **(Honoree)** by naming them a Silver Acorn. As they have adorned the Crown of the Middle Kingdom until now, so shall they continue to do so in Our hearts.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Silver Oak, Order of the

May it be known by all that We, (**Consort**), Royal (**Patroness/Patron**) of the Sciences, and (**Sovereign**), our King, right mindful of the skills that (**Honoree**) hath displayed in the science of (**Specific Mentions**), wish to recognize them as a Companion of Our Order of the Silver Oak. We bestow upon them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank and the right to bear the badge, "Purpure, an oak tree blasted and eradicated argent, fructed Or", without let or hindrance from any person.

Done by Our hands this (Date) day of (Month), Anno Societatis (A.S.) (Year), in Our (Place Name).

White Chamfrom, Order of the

We, (**Sovereign**), the strong and just, and (**Consort**), the graceful and wise, Regnum Mediterranae, have seen the skill, devotion and support that (**Honoree**) has displayed in the discipline of horsemanship. We are therefore minded to make them a member of Our Order of the White Chamfron and bestow upon them all duly pertaining rights and attendant responsibilities that they may discharge their new duties to the Crown.

Done this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

White Lance, Order of the

Both in times of war and times of peace the undaunted Equestrians honed their battle skills in tournaments to prepare rider and steed for the defenses of Our glorious Kingdom. An equestrian has many virtues such as skill in riding, mounted precision at arms, and teaching of the arts equestrian. True leadership is displayed when all culminate in a symbiosis of horse and rider to carry them to victory. Therefore, We, **(Sovereign)**, and **(Consort)**, King and Queen of the Midrealm, do herewith recognize **(Honoree)** as a Companion of Our Company of the White Lance.

Done this <Date> day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand and seal.

Willow, Order of the

We, (**Consort**), Queen of the Middle Kingdom and (**Patroness/Patron**) of the Arts and Sciences, and (**Sovereign**), Our King, right mindful of the skills that (**Honoree**) hath displayed in the Art of (**Skill**), wish to recognize them as a Companion of Our Order of the Willow. We grant unto them all rights and responsibilities attendant upon this rank, and the right to bear the badge, "Purpure, a willow tree eradicated Or", without let or hindrance from any person.

Given by Our hand(s) this (Date) day of (Month), A.S. (Year), while sitting on Our thrones in Our (Place Name), in testimony whereof We have set Our hand(s) and seal.

Precedence

Order of Precedence of the Middle Kingdom

Royal Family	-Sovereign / Consort -Crown Heir / Heir Consort
Royal Peers	-Duchy -County -Viscounty
Territorial Barony	-Local Territorial first -Territorial Baronage not in their lands; in the order of Baronial March
Bestowed Peerages	-Chivalry, Laurel, Pelican, Defence; all by date of elevation
Court Barony	-Court Barony
Grant Level	-Dragon's Heart -Evergreen, Gold Mace, White Lance, Bronze Ring, Greenwood -Grant of Arms
AoA Level	-Silver Oak, Willow -King's Chalice, Doe's Grace, Queen's Favor, Purple Fret -Red Company, White Chamfron, Cavendish Knot, Dragon's Barb, Dragon's Tooth -Gaping Wound -Award of Arms

Order of Toasting

It is the privilege of the highest ranking non-royal gentry to offer toasts to the royalty. The first toast of a feast is made after the first course has been delivered to the tables.

The first toast of a feast is always made to the Sovereigns, whether or not They are in attendance, and then the Knights.

Once the Midrealm royal family has been toasted, any visiting royalty, or Their kingdom, shall be offered a toast. This will typically be done by any royalty in attendance.

After this, the Territorial Baronage, if applicable, should be toasted. A toast to absent friends may follow.

Near the end of a feast, the presiding royalty will most likely offer a toast to the cooks and servers.

Order of March of the Kingdoms and Titles of Address

West	<i>Oaken Throne, Their Occidental Majesties (rare)</i> <i>Oertha: Their Boreal Highnesses, Princess: Lady of the Snows.</i> <i>Cynagua: Lord and Lady of the Swan</i>
East	<i>Their Oriental Majesties (rare) Heirs: Prince and Princess of Tir Mara</i>
Middle	<i>Their Draconic Majesties, Baron and Baroness Under the Mountain, Protectors of the Inland Seas</i> <i>Heirs: Tanist and Tanista</i>
Atenveldt	<i>Their Solar Majesties, Their Aten Majesties</i>
Meridies	<i>Their Meridian Majesties</i>
Caid	<i>Their Crescent Majesties, Their Caidan Majesties upon the Crescent Throne, Their Lunar Majesties</i> <i>Heirs: al-Caid, Lord and Lady of Caid</i>
Ansteorra	<i>Their Stellar Majesties</i>
Atlantia	<i>No Specific Honorific</i>

An Tir	<i>The Sable Lion and Lioness</i> Summits: <i>Their Alpine Highnesses</i> Tir Righ: <i>Their Storm Highnesses</i>
Calontir	<i>The Falcon Throne/Crown/Heirs, Defenders of the Heartland, Their Calon Majesties (rare)</i>
Trimaris	<i>No Specific Honorific</i>
Outlands	Heirs: <i>Dread Lord and Lady of Argonia.</i>
Drachenwald	<i>The Black Dragon Throne</i> Insulae Draconis: <i>Their Celestial Highnesses</i>
Artemisia	<i>Their Artemisian Majesties, The Gryphon Throne/Crowns</i>
Æthelmearc	<i>Their Sylvan Majesties</i>
Ealdormere	<i>Their Lupine Majesties, Crown of the North</i>
Lochac	<i>Antipodean Majesties (at Pennsic only)</i>
Northshield	<i>Their Stellar Majesties</i>
Gleann Abhann	<i>The Sovereigns of the Aries Throne, Their Stormborn Majesties</i>
Avacal	<i>Their Gryphon Majesties</i>

Baronies of the Midrealm

1. The North Woods
2. Middle Marches
3. Andelcrag
4. Rivenstar
5. Cleftlands
6. Carraig Ban
7. Flaming Gryphon
8. Flame
9. Illiton
10. Sternfeld
11. Shattered Crystal
12. Red Spears
13. Fenix
14. Roaring Waste
15. White Waters
16. Cynnabar
17. Brendoken
18. Donnershafen
19. Ayreton
20. Shadowed Stars