Appendix H

Your Imperial Majesties:

I have just recently gotten off the phone with Sir William Bane. As I indicated in my missive some weeks ago, the folks of Desert Rose (now requesting the name of "Aragon", may it please Your Imperial Majesties), are somewhat anxious to begin conversion of their accomplishments into the Adrian system. They estimate that on presentation of a conversion system, we can expect about 40 more members in the Vegas area as well as dozens of members in the Oregon (Terre-Norte), Texas (Drakenmoore), and Indiana areas, not to mention the folks who would come over in Wesgard/Tierra del Fuego (estimated at 70 members). On the presumption that "growth is good," Sir William and I spent about four hours on the phone negotiating a conversion system which closely parallels the original system of 1992 (with modifications for changes which have occurred since then in rules, politics, and demographics). The proposal I set forth in the following paragraphs should be acceptable to both sides. I set forth our reasoning step by step. It is a labor of about 16 hours.

By the way, in addition to the system and analysis set forth below, there are some other things which will help facilitate the crossover and ultimate merger. Aragon is desirous of setting up an Adrian bank account but needs the Articles of Incorporation and a tax letter. I will take care of that, but some effort needs to be made to put them in touch with the Imperial Stewards's Office. To be honest, I don't have that information. I had hoped that the info would be incorporated in the minutes of the last meeting and that said minutes would be published in the near term. It now seems that the minutes are still some time away. I hope that this will receive some attention. Another point which would sell Adria in a big way is if we could distribute our membership cards again this year. The ECS has been notoriously bad on this issue (as have we), but Sir Caliban's distribution last year was a real P.R. coup. The Vegans were suitably impressed at the Faire in October when they found out I actually had a membership card.

Ok. Here is the system and analysis.

The ECS system, like the former Adrian/Blue Rose system, is point- based and primarily rewards qualitative activity. The more qualitative the participation, the more points. The current Adrian system is participation-based and primarily rewards quantitative activity. In the following analysis, I will make reference to "crossovers". A "crossover" is an Adrian who currently or formerly belongs to the ECS and wishes credit for ECS accomplishments (ranks, titles, etc.)

We start with some basic premises:

1) It would be unreasonable for us to ask crossovers to calculate the conversion of their ECS accomplishments to the Adrian system using anything other than their current records. In other words, it would be unfair to ask each crossover to document occurrences of which the ECS never kept track. Thus, while the ECS kept track of points, it never kept track of "participation" or "demo initiations", although ECS members certainly did these things. While, in many cases, it might be possible to review ECS raw records and recapitulate Adrian-equivalent "participation", in many cases it would not be possible. Even where possible, it would be unreasonably tedious. Also, an inequity arises in the fact that ECS members emphasized different goals in their advancement toward knighthood.

2) On the other hand, it is important to assure that the result of a crossover's conversion to the Adrian system is at least equivalent to what an Adrian could accomplish under similar circumstances. A crossover should have neither an advantage nor a disadvantage for having started in the ECS.

3) We agreed that once a member (ECS, Adrian, or crossover) is sworn into the chivalry in a discipline, that member is a knight. Thus, at least for first level knights, conversion may be taken to be directly equivalent. This premise is further bolstered by the historical fact that the current Adrian system was deliberately engineered to create equivalence between first-level knights in the old and new Adrian systems.

4) On the other hand, we agree, that equivalence need not be direct with regard to second and third level knighthood.

5) Because of the restriction on participation in the Adrian system (once per month except for crown wars), we agree that crossovers should not be able to attain higher level knighthoods in a shorter time than would be possible for Adrians. On the other hand, a method should be devised to give crossovers credit for every point earned in the ECS.

6) Because of the reasoning above, we agreed to try to create an artificial equivalence between points and participation (war, event, and demo). We agreed to also try to create an artificial equivalence between "milestones" (e.g. tourney wins, demo initiations, masterworks, etc.) necessary to achieve a level of knighthood over and above points/participation.

The ECS has recently added a requirement to the attaining of knightly rank in any discipline. The candidate must autocrat a class or an equivalent approved by the peer-circle. A candidate for second level must autocrat two more classes. A candidate for third level; two more. "Equivalent" may be something as simple as taking on squires. That being the case, and considering the recent nature of this requirement, it is not considered in the conversion analysis which follows below. It is treated as the analog of Sir Mathghamhain's recent Writ encouraging knights to give collegia or otherwise comply with their oath to teach.

WHAT IS THE SYSTEM IS AND IS NOT

The Knighthoods in the two Empires are similar. They are not the same. While we reward members who enter every arts tourney, the ECS rewards folks who might skip a few months while preparing something truly outstanding. Because the systems

are different, it is important to stress equivalence over equality, so long as it is perceived that a crossover does not gain any significant advantage nor suffer any unfair detriment for working under the ECS system.

It is not only important to convert ranks (as well as titles, etc.), but it is equally important to convert points/participations, etc. Although the conversion is artificial (and deliberately so), the Rolls Minister needs some method of keeping track of where the crossovers are in the Rolls system. Thus, the system which follows converts ranks, etc., but also the points and milestones themselves into arbitrary Adrian equivalents for use by the Rolls Minister.

In essence, Adrian EPs, DPs, WPs, MWs, DIs, and TWs are for sale, and the coin is ECS points and other milestones. Crossovers, using the system below, will literally buy Adrian rank with their ECS achievements. The translation will sometimes be inexact, but an effort is made to make the "price" fair to buyer AND seller. It may be that the market will change by the time we review the issue in July, but it is important that the store open immediately.

After conversion, a crossover's rolls should like what one would expect a similarly-active Adrian would achieve in a similar span of time. The result should pass an intuitive test. It should "look" right to an experienced Adrian. At the same time, it should not so offend the crossovers as to make them feel unwelcome or cheated. It should seem fair to them too.

This system is not perfect. It is probably more than adequate, however, to take us to the July Senate Meeting. Something must be put in place right away. Aragon (and possibly Tierra del Fuego) is paralyzed in that the Duchy joined in October, and yet has not been able to proceed due to the delay in conversion. I propose that this system be adopted immediately (this weekend!) subject to future adjustment. Aragon, and any other crossover territories, can be trusted to implement the conversion system themselves. We have been looking at this issue for some time.

This system is NOT a system of conversion of Adrian ranks and rolls into the ECS system, although it may be consided as a possible model for that. A test of its fairness may be that Adria gets no advantages converting the other way. Just as it is possible for an ECS rank to fall slightly short of the Adrian requirements (see below) after conversion, THE CONVERSE IS ALSO TRUE (except perhaps at third level knighthood, where Adrian requirements are quite exacting). Your Imperial Majesties are encouraged to try out some reverse scenarios to satisfy yourselves that this is the fact.

The following is an analysis of COMBAT RANKS (some of which will be applicable to ranks in the other disciplines).

POINT CONVERSION ANALYSIS

In the ECS, they keep records of total points including war points, shinai points, rapier points, and steel points. Points are earned for tourneys, demos, command (war) and winning. They also keep track of knightly lists (tourney wins) but not for the Sergeant's List, and no distinction is made between rapier wins and steel wins. Finally, they keep track of length of membership but not event participation or demo participation. In the ECS, a war is any tourney which was announced in advance as a war and which has 25 or more participants (ten or more if at least 70% of the Chartered Subdivision attends). The average Vegan participates in three wars per year. In general, although a tourney may be a war, an ECS war is equivalent to an Adrian War. In Adria, we only keep track of EPs, DPs, War Participation ("WPs"), and tourney wins. Adria distinguishes among, shinai, light renn and armored combat/heavy renn with regard to participation and tourney wins.

In the ECS, one cannot earn more than 50 points per month. A given Chartered Subdivision may not hold more than two combat tourneys, two arts tourneys, and two feast per month (although these may be combined into any number of events from 1 to 6). In a year, a Chartered Subdivision may hold no more than one Crown War, one Civil War, and five other wars. On the other hand, ECS members may travel to other regions to earn more points (up to 50 maximum per month). There is no limit on the number of "milestones" earnable in a month (e.g. tourney wins or masterworks). Adria does not limit the number of "milestones" earnable in a month either (e.g. tourney wins or DPs), but does limit the number of EPs.

A Knight Bachelor in the ECS needs 350 points, 100 of which must be war points. The average active ECS player earns about 15 points per event/demo and earns the necessary points in about 23 events/demos. In Adria, a Knight Bachelor requires 18 EPs, 5 DPs, and one WP (which is usually a Crown War and is usually included among the EPs). This adds up to a total of 23 events/demos! This situation allows for easy conversion.

In the ECS, members of rank Sergeant and above may still compete in shinai and gain shinai points, although they may not garner tourney wins that way. In Adria, the only way a member of rank Sergeant or higher may gain EPs in shinai is at a War. On the other hand, an Adrian may gain a DP in shinai regardless of rank. In both Empires, combatants tend to prefer steel and renn if they are qualified for it (although that is not necessarily true). No conversion system can deal with every aberration, thus, in the point conversion system below, no distinction is made with regard to whether or not points come from shinai tourneys.

In general, an Adrian combatant needs about three or four times as many EPs as DPs. Sergeant: 8:2, Bachelor: 18:5, Bannerette: 36:10, Champion: 72:25. Thus, about 75% (give or take) of all Adrian participation necessary for advancement would be EPs while 25% would be DPs.

CONVERSION OF POINTS WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS: 25% of the points are allocated to DPs. Those allocated points are divided by 15 (rounding down) to yield the number of DPs. 75% of the points are allocated to EPs. Those allocated points are divided by 15 (rounding up) to yield the number of EPs; however, the number of EPs may not exceed the number of months the crossover has been a member of the ECS. Any excess EPs simply become DPs, and no points are wasted. Exception: For every

20 war points, the crossover is considered to have an additional month of membership for the purpose of this conversion. This "bonus month" is the equivalent of the rule allowing Adrians to get more than one EP in a month with a Crown War; however, the crossover is limited to one "bonus month" per three actual months in the ECS (round down). This is to simulate a participation of a combatant in four Crown Wars per year (active, but not unusual), and participation in an additional event every month (again, active, but not unusual). Also, for every 20 war points, the crossover is considered to have 1 WP (without limitation as to months of membership, which simulates Adrian participation in wars which are not Crown Wars). Simply divide the number of war points by 20 and round down to yield WPs.

Example 1: A crossover has 350 points, 150 of which are war points. The crossover has been a member of the ECS for 12 months. The crossover would be considered to have 16 months of membership (12 months + 4 "bonus months"). Although the crossover has 150 war points and might otherwise be entitled to 7 "bonus months" (150/20 rounded down = 7), the crossover may only get one bonus month per every three actual months of membership (12/3 = 4). The crossover could convert 25% of the points (87.5) to DPs.

87.5/15 = 5.83, rounded down = 5 DPs

75% (262.5) of the points would be allocated to EPs

262.5/15 = 17.5 rounded up = 18 EPs.

BUT, since the crossover only has 16 months of membership, the crossover only gets 16 EPs, with the excess 2 becoming DPs. Thus, after conversion, this crossover has 16 EPs and 7 DPs (5+2). The crossover has 7 WPs (150/20 rounded down = 7).

Example 2: The crossover has 350 points, 75 of which are war points. The crossover has been a member of the ECS for 12 months. The crossover would be considered to have 15 months of membership (12 months + 3 "bonus months"). The three "bonus months" come from the war points (75/20 rounded down = 3). The crossover could convert 25% of the points (87.5) to DPs.

87.5/15 = 5.83, rounded down = 5 DPs

75% (262.5) of the points would be allocated to EPs

262.5/15 = 17.5 rounded up = 18 EPs.

BUT, since the crossover only has 15 months of membership, the crossover only gets 15 EPs, with the excess 3 becoming DPs. Thus, after conversion, this crossover has 15 EPs and 8 DPs (5+3). The crossover has 3 WPs (75/20 rounded down = 3).

RANK CONVERSION (COMBATANT)

Bearing the above point conversion in mind, what follows is a conversion of ECS ranks to Adrian ranks. Rank conversion does not necessarily follow point conversion exactly.

Yeoman:

In the ECS, a Yeoman is a beginning fighter who is not qualified to enter any list. The Yeoman may enter shinai practices under supervision of a Sergeant or a Knight. Adria has no such beginning rank. An ECS Yeoman would have no rank at all in Adria until qualified for the Sergeant's list.

Man at Arms:

In the ECS, a Man at Arms is one who is qualified for the shinai list and who has under 50 points in combat. This is the equivalent of a shinai-qualified Yeoman in Adria. Such a Yeoman would have the option to also qualify for light renn under our rules.

Guardsman:

In the ECS, a Guardsman is qualified in shinai and rapier combat (light renn) and has 50 to 124 points. In Adria, a Guardsman must participate in at least 3 lists and may be qualified in shinai, light renn, or both. Regardless of point conversion, a Guardsman in the ECS is a Guardsman in Adria.

Sergeant:

In the ECS, a Sergeant is qualified to fight with steel (armored combat). The Sergeant has a minimum of 125 points. An Adrian Sergeant requires participation in 8 total Lists, one win (Sergeant's List, normally), two DPs, and steel-qualification. With regard to the requirement for a Sergeant's List tourney win, it is simply waived. It would be inappropriate to tell steel- qualified ECS members that they need to go back to fighting shinai. We must simply assume that the ECS has adequately trained them for the Knight's List. We cannot require a Sergeant's win, because the ECS does not keep track of such things, and it would be impossible to verify. An ECS Sergeant might have 0 wins or 100; we just don't know. The recently passed Writ of Dorothea IIand Nikolai II might seem to require that a crossover

member still have two wins (albeit both on the Knight's List) to advance to Knight Bachelor. That Writ does not apply. That Writ is specifically meant to deal with YEOMEN who are specially qualified to fight on the Knight's List based on training outside of Adria, NOT Sergeants crossing over from the ECS to Adria. The conclusion is that a Sergeant in the ECS can convert to a Sergeant in Adria without adjustment. Warning: There is a possibility after point conversion that an ECS Sergeant may fall slightly short of the 8 EPs required in Adria. That's ok. That issue is addressed in the paragraph on the Knight Bannerrette. In this special case, the crossover Sergeant is considered a Sergeant for all purposes except that the crossover has no more Eps than would be warranted by the point conversion. This would be noted by the Rolls Minister as "Sgt - X", "X" referring to the number of EPs lacking. This is similar to the situation created by a prerogative knight, who has the rank but not the points. Please note that it is impossible for an ECS Sergeant to have insufficient DPs after point conversion.

Master at Arms:

In the ECS, a Master at Arms has a minimum of 300 points. Adria has no equivalent. An ECS Master at Arms is simply an Adrian Sergeant.

Knight Bachelor:

In the ECS, a Knight Bachelor has a minimum of 350 points, 50 of which must be shinai, 50 rapier, 50 steel, and 100 war (shinai, rapier, or steel). The ECS Knight Bachelor also needs one knightly list (tourney win). The Adrian Knight Bachelor also needs one tourney win. As indicated in the section on Point Conversion, the point/participation requirements are about equivalent. Besides, as indicated in our initial discussion, once a knight swears the oaths, that knight should remain bound by them. Therefore, an ECS Knight Bachelor converts to an Adrian Knight Bachelor straight across, regardless of the results of point conversion. Warning: There is a possibility after point conversion that an ECS Knight Bachelor may fall slightly short of the 18 EPs required in Adria. That's ok. That issue is addressed in the paragraph on the Knight Bannerrette. In this special case, the crossover Knight Bachelor is considered a Knight Bachelor for all purposes except that the crossover has no more EPs than would be warranted by the point conversion. This would be noted by the Rolls Minister as "KB - X", "X" referring to the number of EPs lacking. This is similar to the situation created by a prerogative knight, who has the rank but not the points. Please note that it is impossible for an ECS Knight Bachelor to have insufficient DPs or WPs after point conversion.

Knight Bannerette:

To convert to this rank in Adria, the crossover must have a minimum of 120 points in steel (the equivalent of the 8 EPs in steel required in Adria). After point conversion, the crossover must have 10 DPs, 36 EPs (of which at least 8 must be designated as steel EPs), and 6WPs. It is at this rank that any point deficiencies in the lower ranks (Sergeant/KB) are made up. The crossover must also have 6 knightly lists (tourney wins). Normally, there is a requirement in Adria that 3 of those be in armored combat. As the ECS makes no distinction in its records, that requirement must be waived. For comparison, in the ECS, a Knight Bannerette must have at least 850 points, 200 of which must be war points and 200 of which must be steel or rapier. In the ECS, the KBn need only have 5 knightly lists. Although not exactly equal, the KBn of ECS and that of Adria compare well. Most Bannerrettes will probably convert straight across. Only those who rose in rank extraordinarily quickly, or who are short just one tourney win, will have any difficulty.

Knight Champion:

To convert to this rank in Adria, the crossover must have a minimum of 360 points in steel (the equivalent of the 24 EPs in steel required in Adria). After point conversion, the crossover must have 25 DPs, 72 EPs (of which at least 24 must be designated as steel EPs), and 16WPs. The crossover must also have 16 knightly lists (tourney wins). Normally, there is a requirement in Adria that 9 of those be in armored combat. As the ECS makes no distinction in its records, that requirement must be waived, although in practice, we know that the one ECS Knight Champion considering conversion has won a great number of steel tourneys. For comparison, in the ECS, a Knight Champion must have at least 1350 points, 300 of which must be war points and 300 of which must be steel or rapier. In the ECS, the Kch need only have 10 knightly lists. The Kch of the ECS and that of Adria do not compare that well, the requirements of Adria being somewhat stricter at this level (as designed by Terrance in order to make reaching this rank harder once he had attained it under the old rules). Sir Winter, the only candidate currently affected, may nevertheless qualify.

The following is an analysis of the ROBE RANKS:

POINT CONVERSION ANALYSIS

In the ECS, they keep records of total points including war points. Points are earned for event participation, demos, and works (functional/original works at the lower ranks, masterworks at the higher ranks). They also keep track of length of membership but not event participation or demo participation. There are no tourney wins! In the ECS, a war is determined by the number of COMBATANTS in attendance (as described above). In Adria, we only keep track of EPs, DPs, WPs (since July 1997), and tourney wins. Adria requires tourney wins for advancement. The equivalent of Adrian tourney wins may be inherent in the ECS point system which awards more points to entries of better quality (but which does not pick a winner). We can probably assume, based on shear probability, that consistently high-scoring artisans (who can garner sufficient points to earn rank) are from time to time "winners" (i.e. the best at a given tournament). Therefore, since the concept of "winning" is so inextricably woven into the ECS point system, it is probably appropriate to equate the Adrian tourney win to a certain number of points. The result creates a somewhat favorable conversion in favor of ECS crossovers as the ECS has slightly more stringent Masterwork requirements.

That being said, the point conversion for the Robe discipline would be performed identically to the conversion for the Combatant discipline with regard to EPs, DPs, and WPs (which would derive from war points). Masterworks would convert straight across without adjustment. In the analysis below, no distinction is made between tournament masterworks, and masterwork projects. In the ECS, all masterworks are essentially projects.

Tourney wins would be calculated as follows: The total number of points would be divided by 125 (rounding down). The result is the number of tourney wins. The reason I picked 125 is that it yields the appropriate result. An Adrian Master (the equivalent of an ECS Craftsman-- 125 points) needs one tourney win. A Knight Robe (equivalent to an ECS Knight Artisan-- 350 points) needs an additional win on the Knight's list (350/125 = 2.8, rounded down is 2). A Knight Doctor (equivalent to an ECS Knight Master-- 850-1349 points) needs 6 total wins (850/125 = 6.8, rounded down is 6). The analysis breaks down at third level, but then we do not expect the third levels of the two Empires to compare well because in Adria, third level is designed to have 2.67 times the milestones required for second level while in the ECS, third level is supposed to only have 1.75 times the milestones. [The ratio is 2.67/1.75 = 1.53. Bearing this in mind, the analysis works out perfectly for third level: 1350/125 = 10.8, multiplied by 1.53 is 16.52, rounded down is 16 (which is the number of tourney wins required for third level in Adria). From this last analysis, we glean that in the ECS, to achieve third level, one only needs the equivalent of 10 tourney wins while in Adria, one needs 16. This is analagous to what we saw in the Combatant Rolls (above). That being the case, we can be confident in our conversion numbers.]

RANK CONVERSION (ROBE)

Bearing the above point conversion in mind, what follows is a conversion of ECS ranks to Adrian ranks. Rank conversion does not necessarily follow point conversion exactly.

Apprentice:

In the ECS, as in Adria, there are no minimum requirements to be an Apprentice. This rank converts without adjustment.

Journeyman:

In the ECS, a Journeyman has at least 50 points and has presented at least one acceptable original and functional work. In Adria, a Journeyman is a member who has participated in three tourneys. Regardless of point conversion, an ECS Journeyman is an Adrian Journeyman.

Craftsman/Master:

In the ECS, a Craftsman has at least 125 points, and has presented at least 3 more acceptable original and functional works. In Adria, there is no "Craftsman". The equivalent is Master, which requires 8 EPs, one win, and two DPs. The ECS Craftsman may convert to an Adrian Master without adjustment. Warning: There is a possibility after point conversion that an ECS Craftsman may fall slightly short of the 8 EPs required in Adria. That's ok. That issue is addressed in the paragraph on the Knight Doctor. In this special case, the crossover Craftsman is considered a Craftsman for all purposes except that the crossover has no more EPs than would be warranted by the point conversion. This would be noted by the Rolls Minister as "Mst - X", "X" referring to the number of EPs lacking. This is similar to the situation created by a prerogative knight, who has the rank but not the points. Please note that it is impossible for an ECS Craftsman to have insufficient DPs, or tourney wins after point conversion.

Master:

In the ECS, a Master has a minimum of 300 points and must present at least three more acceptable functional original works. Adria has no direct equivalent, although it does have a rank titled "Master" (see previous paragraph). A crossover ECS Master is simply a more advanced Adrian Master. There is no Adrian equivalent for the "acceptable original work," and it is not required in the ECS for any rank highter than Master. As the ranks of Master and below convert directly to Adrian ranks, and as ECS points adequately translate to EPs, DPs, WPs and wins, there is thankfully no need for conversion of the "acceptable original work," for the Adrian Rolls. When a system is devised for converting the other way, the converse may or may not be true.

Knight Robe:

In the ECS, a first level Knight in the Arts is called a Knight Artisan and has a minimum of 350 points, 100 of which must be war. The ECS Knight Artisan also needs one masterwork. The Adrian Knight Robe requires 18 EPs, 5 DPs, 1 win on the Knight's List, and 1 masterwork. As indicated in the section on Point Conversion, the point/participation requirements are about equivalent. Besides, as indicated in our initial discussion, once a knight swears the oaths, that knight should remain bound by them. Therefore, an ECS Knight Artisan converts to an Adrian Knight Robe straight across, regardless of the results of point conversion. Warning: There is a possibility after point conversion that an ECS Knight Artisan may fall slightly short of the 18 EPs required in Adria. That's ok. That issue is addressed in the paragraph on the Knight Doctor. In this special case, the crossover Knight Robe is considered a Knight Robe for all purposes except that the crossover has no more EPs than would be warranted by the point conversion. This would be noted by the Rolls Minister as "KR - X", "X" referring to the number of EPs lacking. This is similar to the situation created by a prerogative knight, who has the rank but not the points. Please note that it is impossible for an ECS Knight Artisan to have insufficient DPs, WPs, or tourney wins after point conversion.

Knight Doctor:

Interestingly enough, in the ECS, the second-level artisan is called a Knight Master (as was true in Adria before late 1989). To convert to this rank in Adria, after point conversion, the crossover must have 10 DPs, 36 EPs, 4WPs, and 3 masterworks. It is at this rank that any point deficiencies in the lower ranks (Master/KR) are made up. The crossover must also have 6 knightly lists (tourney wins). For comparison, in the ECS, a Knight Master must have at least 850 points, 200 of which must be war points, and four masterworks. Although not exactly equal, the KMs of ECS and that of Adria compare extremely well. Most second-level artisans will probably convert straight across. Only those who rose in rank extraordinarily quickly, or who are short just one tourney win (due to having 850-874 points), will have any difficulty. In fact, Adria currently has a less-stringent masterwork requirement.

Knight Master:

In the ECS, the third-level artisan is called a Knight Doctor (as was true in Adria before late 1989). To convert to this rank in Adria, after point conversion, the crossover must have 25 DPs, 72 EPs, and 9 WPs. The crossover must also have 16 knightly lists (tourney wins) and 7 masterworks. For comparison, in the ECS, a third-level artisan must have at least 7 masterworks, and 1350 points, 300 of which must be war points. The third-level artisans of the ECS and those of Adria compare well in terms of masterworks (since Dame Delia's recently-accepted revision from the original requirement of 13!), but otherwise, the requirements of Adria are somewhat stricter at this level (as designed by Terrance in order to make reaching this rank harder once Chienne had attained it under the old rules).

The following is an analysis of the MINISTRY RANKS:

POINT CONVERSION ANALYSIS

In the ECS, they keep records of total points including war/feast points. Points are earned for anything which assists in the administration of the Empire, from water-bearing to being a Sovereign, from participating in a demo to autocrating an event. They also keep track of length of membership but not demo initiations or demo participation. In the ECS, a war is determined by the number of COMBATANTS in attendance (as described above). A feast is any event which was announced in advance as a feast and which has 25 or more participants. War points and feast points are not necessarily distinguished, although they may be, depending on the region. In Adria, we only keep track of EPs, DPs, DIs, and WPs.

In the ECS, they have a special animal called a Ministry Projectwhich can be:

a) A war or feast
b) A complete office term (6 months minimum)
c) A Reign as Sovereign
d) Other approved projects

One Ministry Project is needed for first-level knighthood, 4 for second, 7 for third (like artisan masterworks). This does not correlate well at all with Adrian DIs (1 for Chamberlain, 4 for first level, 9 for second and 24 for third). What makes it more challenging is that what might earn a Ministry Project in the ECS could well merely earn EPs in Adria. Conversely, what might earn a DI in Adria could well only earn points in the ECS and not merit a Ministry Project (which I am advised is expected to be quite demanding). One of our original premises is that there is equivalence among the knighthoods of the two Empires, at least at the first level, and substantially at the second level as well. Therefore, I propose the following: that every Ministry Project convert as a DI, regardless of its actual origin (which would not be chronicled in ECS records anyway-- remember, although the Ministry Project may or may not be a demo initiation or equivalent, it should average out when you calculate points which would have been awarded for demo initiations or equivalents, e.g. collegia). In addition, the crossover's ministry points should be divided by 170 (rounding up) to yield additional DIs. I choose 170 because it yields appropriate numbers.

Officer/Chamberlain:

125/170 = .74 rounded up is 1 (which is what a Chamberlain should have).

KMn:

350/170 = 2.06 rounded up is 3 (which when added to the 1 Ministry Project yields the 4 DIs necessary to qualify)

KCv:

850/170 = 5 (which when added to the 4 Ministry Projects yields the 9 DIs necessary to qualify).

KP:

The analysis breaks down at third level, but then we do not expect the third levels of the two Empires to compare well. In Adria, third level is designed to have 2.67 times the milestones required for second level while in the ECS, third level is supposed to only have 1.75 times the milestones. [The ratio is 2.67/1.75 = 1.53. Bearing this in mind, the analysis works out almost perfectly for third level: 1350/170 = 7.94, added to 7 (the number of Ministry Projects required in the ECS) yields 14.94, multiplied by 1.53 is 22.86, rounded up is 23 (which is just one short of the number of DIs required for third level in Adria). The only reason that the match isn't perfect is because the point/milestone/rank ratio for second level in the ECS (43/9 = 4.78) is slightly HIGHER (and therefore marginally more rigorous) than the EP/DI/rank ratio in Adria (36/9 = 4). This is true for the Combatant and Robe Rolls as well, but the mathematical perturbation is avoided in the Robe Roll simply because the conversion factors and point pools are smaller, thus yielding a smaller error (which is lost in the rounding). From this last analysis, we glean that in the

ECS, to achieve third level, one only needs the equivalent of about 15 DIs while in Adria, one needs 24. This may be compared to what we saw in the Combatant and Robe Rolls (above). That being the case, we can be confident in our conversion numbers.]

Having dealt with DIs, we are now presented with the problem of DPs. In the Ministry Discipline, only 2 DPs are EVER required (1 for rector and 1 for Chamberlain). Therefore, I propose that if the crossover has at least 50 points, 1 DP be automatically granted (allowing rector status), and if the crossover has 125 points 2 DPs (total) be automatically granted (allowing Chamberlain status).

We can convert WPs win the same manner as we did with the Combatant and Robe Rolls.

Which leaves us to deal with EPs... In the Ministry, there are no "bonus months". One must hold an office for a given period of time. While it is true that Adria is liberal in interpreting the meaning of "holding office" for a given month (including bearing water at a war), Adria NEVER allows a member to earn two EPs in the same month, regardless of Crown Wars. Such is the state of the Bylaws. Perhaps it is to compensate for the lack of a tourney win requirement (which to some makes the Ministry Roll the easiest). Anyway, that being said, it seems that the point/EP conversion needs to be slightly different for the Ministry since the points are no longer being split between DPs and EPs, which means we no longer need to divide the points 75/25. Therefore, instead of converting 15 points into 1 EP, we should convert 20 points into 1 EP (15/.75 = 20). Since it takes 18 months to become a KMn in Adria, and since it takes 350 points to become a KMn in the ECS, perhaps it is appropriate to simply choose a point/EP conversion which yields the correct result. It seems that the appropriate round number to use is 20. 350/20 = 17.5 which rounded up yields 18, the number we want. Incidentally, I am advised that hard-working ministers earn more points than the folks in the other Rolls.

IMPORTANT: a crossover may not get more EPs than the crossover has months of membership in the ECS. NO EXCEPTIONS. At first blush, it may seem that points are wasted and lost this way. Untrue. Recall that all points are considered when determining DIs.

RANK CONVERSION (MINISTRY)

Bearing the above point conversion in mind, what follows is a conversion of ECS ranks to Adrian ranks. Rank conversion does not necessarily follow point conversion exactly.

Clarke:

In the ECS, as in Adria, there are no minimum requirements to be a Clarke. This rank converts without adjustment.

Rector:

In the ECS, a Rector has at least 50 points. In Adria, a Rector is a member who has held office for three months and has 1 DP. An ECS Rector converts perfectly to an Adrian Rector using the points system described above. (50/20 = 2.5 rounded up gives us 3 EP). This is true so long as the crossover has been a member for at least 3 months. If not, the Rolls Minister deals with it like a prerogative knight as described in similar cases above.) The DP is automatic on attaining 50 points on the assumption that part of the 50 points was probably at least one DP or equivalent.

Officer/Chamberlain:

In the ECS, an Officer has at least 125 points. In Adria, there is no "Officer". The equivalent is Chamberlain, which requires 8 EPs, 1 DP and 1 DI. The ECS Officer converts to an Adrian Chamberlain without adjustment. Warning: An ECS Officer may fall just short of the EPs normally required by Adria for a Chamberlain (125/20 = 6.25, rounded up yields 7, which is one short). That is ok and is handled like a prerogative knight in the rolls as described in similar cases above. The DP and DI convert perfectly as set forth in the Point Conversion Analysis (above).

Chamberlain:

In the ECS, a Chamberlain has a minimum of 300 points. Adria has no direct equivalent, although it does have a rank titled "Chamberlain" (see previous paragraph). A crossover ECS Chamberlain a more-advanced Adrian Chamberlain.

Knight Minister:

In the ECS, the Knight Minister has a minimum of 350 points, 100 of which must be feast/war. The Adrian Knight Robe requires 18 EPs, 4 DIs, 1 WP. As indicated in the section on Point Conversion, the point/participation conversion should create an exact match with Adrian requirements. The only exception would be if the crossover has fewer than 18 months of membership. In that case, the ECS Knight Minister may fall slightly short of the 18 EPs required in Adria. That's ok. That issue is addressed in the paragraph on the Knight Civil. In this special case, the crossover Knight Minister is considered a Knight Minister for all purposes except that the crossover has no more EPs than would be warranted by the point conversion. This would be noted by the Rolls Minister as "KMn - X", "X" referring to the number of EPs lacking. This is similar to the situation created by a prerogative knight, who has the rank but not the points.

Knight Civil:

To convert to this rank in Adria, after point conversion, the crossover must have 36 EPs, 6WPs, and 9 DIs. It is at this rank that any point deficiencies in the lower ranks (Rector, Chamberlain, KMn) are made up. For comparison, in the ECS, a Knight Civil must have at least 850 points, 200 of which must be feast/war points, and four Ministry Projects.

Most second-level artisans will probably convert straight across. Only those who rose in rank extraordinarily quickly will have any difficulty.

Knight Premier:

To convert to this rank in Adria, after point conversion, the crossover must have 72 EPs, 16WPs, and 24 DIs. For comparison, in the ECS, a Knight Premier must have at least 7 Ministry Projects, and 1350 points, 300 of which must be feast/war points. The third-level ministers of the ECS and those of Adria do not compare well as the requirements of Adria are somewhat stricter at this level (as designed by Terrance in order to make reaching this rank harder once Phillipe had attained it under the old rules).

As a conversion example, we take Sir William Baine, who is a Knight Premier in the ECS. As of August, he had 1522 points (he has about 1600 now, but he doesn't have the current breakdown, so we use August numbers for this example). Of those points, 240 were War and 81 were Feast (for a total of 321 War/Feast points). Although Sir William happened to distinguish between War and Feast points, we do not penalize him for this and treat all the points as War points, remembering that we are creating equivalence, not equality. We will assume (as I am unsure) that Sir William had 54 months of membership as of August. He has 7 Ministry Projects. The result of the conversion is as follows:

EP: 1522/20 rounded up = 77 (which exceeds 54 months of membership). Therefore, Sir William has 54 EPs.

WP: 321/20 rounded down = 16

DP: Sir William has more than 125 points, so he has 2 DP. No more may be earned in Adria.

DI: 1522/170 rounded up = 9 + 7 Ministry Projects = 16 DIs. The irony of this analysis is that Sir William has done countless demos, and for him, the conversion system fails to reflect that. On the other hand, he has received more EPs than he has actually spent holding office. The hope is that these sorts of things balance out.

In Adria, Sir William is a Knight Civil. He needs 18 more EPs, and 8 DIs.

Sir William has participated at Adrian events, including wars, and may request credit for those, although under those conditions, he would probably have to backdate his dues. That would not be conversion issue. It would simply be an issue of receiving retroactive credit for Adrian participation. By the way, nothing in the above sections precludes a crossover from avoiding the conversion system and simply requesting Adrian credit for analogous achievements in the ECS (based on Article IX.C., recognition of participation of Adrians at analogous events). This would require backdating of dues and VERY good personal records. I doubt anyone would even try. On the other hand, it probably should not be allowed that a crossover double-dip by converting ECS points/milestones AND asking for Adrian recognition pursuant to IX.C.

EPILOGUE ON POINT CONVERSIONS

Although, this system requires some special conversions for dealing with the milestones of the two Empires (at least in Robe and Ministry), the point/EP conversion is fairly straightforward. In Combatant and Robe, the minimum conversions shake out as follows:

Level 1 ECS: (350 X .75)/15 rounded up = 18 EP (same as Adria).
Level 2 ECS: (850 X .75)/15 rounded up = 43 EP (7 MORE than Adria).
Level 3 ECS: (1350 X .75)/15 rounded up = 68 EP (only 4 less than Adria-- the real difference being in the milestones, an arbitrary difference when it comes to the Arts contrived to make the first levels equivalent)

In the Ministry Roll, we get the same results:

Level 1 ECS: 350/20 rounded up = 18 EP (same as Adria).
Level 2 ECS: 850/20 rounded up = 43 EP (7 MORE than Adria).
Level 3 ECS: 1350/20 rounded up = 68 EP (only 4 less than Adria - the real difference being in the milestones, an arbitrary difference created by the conversion factor contrived to make the first levels equivalent)

With regard to war points in all disciplines, an ECS crossover will always have more than enough for first or second level, but may fall one short for third.

DUES

The ECS crossovers are curious as to whether they will need to backdate their dues in order to receive credit for their accomplishments in the ECS. While that is a decision which is Yours to make, I have an opinion on that matter. I believe it would be better not to require the backdating of dues as it would be unfair. It would be requiring them to pay for services they never received. They have kept their own rolls, and we are just converting them. We have provided them no back-newsletters, no back-insurance. Thus, I believe that their paying current dues should be sufficient for complete conversion. After all, they DID pay dues to the organization which kept track of those accomplishments. Should we charge them twice?

The ECS crossovers are also curious about the cost of discounted Adrian dues. I suggest $5. It is what we charge additional family members. I propose that one member of each ECS crossover Chartered Subdivision pay a full $25 membership and receive one copy of our newsletter (for internal distribution). All the others should pay $5 in a setup analogous to an extended family. They are already paying $20 internally. By the way, in the long run (and even in the short run), we will make money on this deal. Few things are more profitable than the joint fund-raising ventures in which we and the crossovers have engaged. Also, we can expect significant and rapid growth. Conversely, Vega and Wesgard are able to discount our dues into the ECS at least $10 (but probably no more for now as the remaining $10 belongs to the ECS Imperium). Thus, even without Imperial sanction, the crossovers can reciprocate to a significant degree.

In Vega/Aragon, they are currently considering waiving their current $10 local dues (the $20 ECS dues are $10 local and $10 Imperial) so that their members can have money to pay our dues (thus facilitating dual membership). Once we have our 501(c)(3) status, they won't need to use the ungainly method of waiving local dues. They will be able to simply buy Adrian memberships with their ECS treasury. Coming soon...

TITLES

With regard to the landed titles, rulers of Subdivisions and Chartered Subdivisions, the conversion should be based on a simple application of our rules. It wouldn't be conversion at all, really.

With regard to unlanded titles, I have the following comments:

In the ECS, retirement titles are granted on merit.

Earl/Comtessa:

These titles may be granted to retiring Kings/Queens (of sovereign regions with 200 or more members), Princes/Princesses (which are equivalent to our Kings/Queens as they are sovereign and must have at least 100 members-- as was true in Adria until 1991), or Dukes/Duchesses (the equivalent of our Marquis/Marquessa). The conversion would be simple. If the title was granted to retiring Kings/Queens/Princes/Princesses, the title should transfer without adjustment. Otherwise, the title translates to a Lord/Lady Baronette. By the way, it should be noted that in the ECS, Kingdoms and Principalities charter Marches (the equivalent of our Duchies) as opposed to their being chartered directly by the Imperium. An example is that Vega has Marches in Oregon, Texas and Indiana. The members in those far-flung regions are counted in the membership of the Kingdom/Principality. Thus, every Kingdom/Principality is like a mini-Empire.

Viscount/Viscountess:

These titles may be granted to retiring Kings/Queens, Princes/Princesses, Dukes/Duchesses, or Counts/Countesses. The conversion would be simple. If the title was granted to retiring Kings/Queens/Princes/Princesses, the title should be converted to Earl/Comtessa. Otherwise, the title translates to a Lord/Lady Baronette.

Court Baron/Baroness:

These titles convert to Lord/Lady Baronette.

Court Lord/Lady:

These titles convert to Lord/Lady.

Squire:

This title converts directly.

HONORS AND ORDERS

These should not be converted at all. Crossovers should retain their unique ECS Honors and Orders as is. No translation is necessary.

CONCLUSION

The above analysis is lengthy, but hopefully complete. With your approval, I would like to let our crossover cousins know that they can start conversion right away. Does that meet with Your Imperial Majesties' approval? Please advise.