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GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Date and Time

Estates Meeting

November 1, 2003 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

November 2, 2003 – announced at the Saturday Meeting.

Location

The November meeting of the Imperial Estates will be held within the borders of the Kingdom of York.

Estates Meeting

West Palm Beach Crowne Plaza

1601 Belvedere Rd.

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Hotel Information

- West Palm Beach Crowne Plaza
- Phone number is 1-800-2-CROWNE.
- Reservations must be made by no later than October 10, 2003
- Hotel rates are \$89 per room per night, no occupancy requirements stated. (ie: single, double, etc.)
- This is a SPECIAL rate for The Adrian Empire, Inc. and all rooms have been upgraded to suites. This is a special upgrade just for us. Please mention Adrian Empire when calling for reservations. *[Ed. note: We're also listed as "Imperial Estates Meeting."]*
- Rates are available (3) days before and (3) days after October 31, 2003. Rates subject to applicable state/local taxes (currently 10% per room per night) that are in effect at time of check in.
- Check in 4:00 PM
- Check out 12:00 PM

Airport Information

Airport transportation is available from the airport to the hotel (approximately 1 mile away) between the hours of 4:00 AM and 1:00 AM. All arriving guests are to call the hotel via the courtesy phone located in the baggage claim area. Return shuttles to airport from the hotel leave every hour.

Coronation

The coronation of the Heirs Apparent will take place at 6:30 PM on Saturday, November 1, 2003.

- FOP Hall #50 (885 62nd Dr N, West Palm Beach, 33413)
- The feast hall is located 10 minutes west of the host hotel
- Cost: \$17.00 per person (registration cutoff October 15), Children under 12 free
- All feast gear is provided

Reservation Information

- Please make checks payable to: **The Adrian Empire**
- Mail checks and registration forms to: The Kingdom of York, c/o Josephine Rudd, 4602 Meadow Green Trail, Lake Worth, FL 33463
- The cutoff date for feast reservations is October 15, 2003. After this we cannot guarantee a seat.
- The autocrat for this event is Her Royal Majesty Josephine of York hawkslure3@yahoo.com
- All banners will be picked up at the hotel the morning of November 1st prior to the Estates mtg.

Voting Lists

Crowns and Chancellors please notify the Imperial Chancery at dreye@cox.net of your list of eligible voters from your subdivision, qualified as of 60 days before the meeting (September 2, 2003).

Note: As of the publication date of this agenda, we are still waiting for voting lists from most of the subdivisions - it is the responsibility of the Crown/ Chancery to notify the Imperial Chancery of those eligible to vote (include our e-address). We require this information to produce accurate voting rosters and to insure your right to representation.

Meeting Date, November

The Imperial Estates General shall meet on the first weekend of November of every year (that being the first Saturday and the day following), at which time they shall conduct appropriate business including but not limited to:

- Imperial budget
- Evaluation of the success or failure of the current Imperial Crown's reign as well as any prior reigns not yet evaluated, irrespective of the length of such reigns. (The Imperial Estates General shall have the right to table consideration of any Imperial reign.)
- Review associate memberships ([Article III.B.4](#)).

Disqualification (Article VI.E.4)

Members entitled to a seat by virtue of rank or office whose dues are not current, are under judicial ban, or have not attended at least (2) two official events in any subdivision within the previous (6) six months will be denied seat. The membership entitled to a vote at a meeting of a given body is fixed as of the SUMMONING of the meeting and may not be subsequently altered by any means, including expiration of dues, nonparticipation, formation of new Estates, or change in Estates held by a given member, until the meeting is concluded. The only exceptions are resignation of a given member, judicial ban, or creation of a greater estate that does not reduce another greater estate below minimum membership. A meeting is deemed summoned at the point of minimum notice. The point of minimum notice is defined as thirty days for the Estates General of the chartered subdivision or sixty days for any body of Imperial Estates, unless a waiver of such notice is granted by the summoned body, in which case the point of minimum notice shall be the date of actual notice. The Crown, if available will convene the summoned Estates at the appointed time and place, and the meeting will be presided over by the Chancellor, if available. *Note: Past practice has permitted these estates, created after the notice period, to be seated (notice waived) when no objection is made. Examples: Count or Countess Royal, new March, Third Level Knighthood.*

Proposals (Article VI.F.1.E.I)

Any two members (of the Imperial Estates): may put a proposal on the agenda before the Imperial Estates General. *Note: Where only one sponsor's name appears, Their Imperial Majesties have directed Their Chancellor to serve as co-sponsor to satisfy the procedural requirement.*

Parliamentary Immunity (Article VI.K)

Parliamentary immunity is intended to protect political speech, and the free exchange of ideas necessary for the body to do its work. This includes the right of a member to ask pointed questions about business. Protected language is limited to comments on legislative, judicial or executive proceedings. Parliamentary immunity does not apply to excessive profanity, malicious character defamation, or deliberate misstatements of fact. Protected political speech has to do with issues and statements of opinion. Unprotected speech is pointed accusations of wrongdoing directed at a person, group, or Adrian body that cannot be substantiated by fact.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

- Seating of qualified members
- Petitions to waive as per Article VI. E. 4. Disqualification
Note: This office has received several inquiries regarding seating disqualified members and new greater estates; addressing them here will reduce confusion

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the July 2003 Imperial Estates Meeting ([2002July_Minutes.pdf](#)).

V. REPORTS

Unless otherwise noted, the Ministers' reports will be included in [2003Nov_Reports.pdf](#).

- President and Board of Directors
- Chancery ([2003Nov_Chancellor.pdf](#))
- Rolls
- Steward
- Sovereign of Arms
- Joust and War
- Arts and Sciences
- Physicks
- Office of Publishing (Imperial Webmaster, Chronicler, etc.)
- Other Officers

VI. CROWN BUSINESS

CRB1. Charters

Place shires on inactive list

Requires no action

The following shires have zero membership and have been suspended:

- None

Reactivate inactive shire

Requires no action

The following shires have membership and their charters have been reactivated:

- Mirkwood (North Carolina)

Border change, and elevate to Duchy

Requires majority

The Shire of Dunvegan wishes to increase its borders to include the western side of route 95 to the borders of West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee. The reason for this request is that we have people joining from within this new area that are forming Cantons under the Shire of Dunvegan umbrella. One of the Cantons will be located on the western side of Richmond Virginia, the second will be located in the City of Fairfax. Inaugural events are in the planning stages and scheduled for October and November. The crown event will continue to occur on the third Saturday of each month, with the Richmond Canton event the second Saturday and the Fairfax Canton the fourth Saturday. The Canton in Fairfax will have primarily college students for members. Most of whom are from Northern and Western Virginia.

Additionally, the shire requests elevation to duchy status.

Commentary: *When asked about the shire, and its progress since March 2002, these answers were provided by Her Excellency, Dame Isabel MacAskill (Vicereine of Dunvegan).*

How many events have you had? *We have had 9 events. Additionally we have had more than half dozen demos and have more scheduled.*

How many ministry positions are filled? *The following Ministry positions are filled by the following persons:*

Physiker: Danielle Blevins

Archery: Travis Blevins

War and Joust: Donald Carter

Arts and Sciences: Shelia Carver

Hospitaler: Nicole and Dave Ordway

Herald: William Carver

Marshal: Roy MacDaniel

Chancellor: Robert Warner

Do you have a newsletter? *Not at present. We are developing the format we would like to follow and will be releasing the first issue in October.*

Any problems? How were they overcome? *Finding members was difficult at first. I live in a community that had not been exposed to the ideals of the Adrian Empire. They were more used to the hack and slash of the LOCAL SCA group. I have a wonderful core group of people that I know I can depend on. It took a long time to gather them together. We did many demos and had the fortune to be written up in the local paper. We now have a recognizable name in a large part of the public eye.*

How many members do you have? For how long? *Our count is 28, some of those are new memberships that have not been recorded by the Imperial Stewards office as of this date. We were at 8 members until last January, then we blossomed. First three, then six, then a few more. They trickle in and we have been averaging between one and three new members per month.*

Anything else you can think of that the Estates might want to know about why you want the change in status? *Dunvegan was granted Shire status march 2002. Most of the other Shires at that time have since become Duchies. I have observed though that by "jumping" to Duchy so quickly, they did themselves a disservice. I, as the Vicereine, wanted to ensure consistent participating members. Having the experience (though brief by some gauges) I do in Adria, I was savvy enough not to jump to the "let's elevate to Duchy" call once we hit 20 members. It is important to me that the members be consistent. They may not make it to all of the events that we have, but they are at the majority. Now that I know my people are serious about Adria, I feel*

that it is time for the Shire to take the next step available to us. I am eager to for us to show the Empire what kind of members we have. I have members of all disciplines. Combat, Archery, Arts and Ministry.

We are now growing outward. We have a great deal of interest to the West and areas in the Northwest. We are still working with our friends to the south do get them going. We have big things coming up for us. We have already been invited to do two demos for 2004 and that will probably grow to about a dozen (these are all public forum demos!)

VII. CHANCERY BUSINESS

CH1. Amend Bylaws to incorporate modifications

Requires 2/3rds to approve

As per the proposal adopted in July 2003, all modifications to the Bylaws, Codex etc. (word changes, cleaning up the language, etc., except minor spelling and grammar errors, and updates and omissions from previous updates) must be posted for review and ratified at the next Imperial Estates meeting. Appendix A ([2003Nov_appendixA.pdf](#)) contains a number of such changes.

Authors/Sponsors: the Chancery

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

OB1. Add Article IX.C.5. to create Renaissance Combatant Roll

Requires majority to take from the table. (Was OB2, item failed in March 2003, notice of reconsideration was given at that time to allow for counter-proposals. Resolution adopted to endorse general concept, agenda item itself tabled in July 2003)

Requires 2/3rds to approve.

*Sir Wright recommended a two part vote: first, (requires 2/3rds) yes or no on any renn-knighthood; secondly, (by majority) elect which method from the proposals offered. **Chancellor's Note:** This is acceptable if the body approves amending the bylaw in this manner by 2/3rds.*

Create a new knighthood based on the Renaissance style of combat.

Proposal 1, Add Renaissance Combatant Roll

***Note from Chancery:** In March 2003, the author stated he would resubmit the proposal without the grandfather clause, and to correctly reflect his intent. The resubmission has not been received as of October 2003, so the proposal appears without change, though the Rolls Office strongly objects to being able to implement the Grandfather Clause as outlined, and it was withdrawn from the proposal in March.*

Heavy Renn and Light Renn will both count towards this roll in Knightly progression.

- a. Student
 - i. Be authorized by a Knight Combatant or two Sergeants and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the Renaissance Sergeants' List.
- b. Scholar
 - i. Participation in three (3) Renaissance Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
- c. Free Scholar
 - i. Participation in five (5) additional Renaissance Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
 - ii. One (1) win in a Renaissance Sergeants' List at a Crown event.
 - iii. Participation in two (2) demonstrations.

- iv. Be authorized by a Knight Combatant and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the Renaissance Knights' List.
- d. Knight Provost
 - i. Participation in ten (10) Renaissance Knights' Lists at Crown events.
 - ii. One (1) win in the Renaissance Knights' Lists at a Crown event.
 - iii. Participation in one (1) war at a Crown event.
 - iv. Participation in three (3) additional demonstrations.
- e. Knight Master of the Fence
 - i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional Renaissance Knights' Lists.
 - ii. Five (5) additional wins in the Renaissance Knights' Lists.
 - iii. Participation in five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
 - iv. Participation in five (5) additional demonstrations.
- f. Knight Ancient Master of the Fence
 - i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional Renaissance Knights' Lists.
 - ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the Renaissance Knights' Lists.
 - iii. Participation in ten (10) additional wars at Crown events.
 - iv. Participation in fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.

Option 1 to Proposal 1

Leave the current combat knighthood intact. Include this “grandfather” clause: Combatants may choose to apply their current Renaissance participations and list wins over and above their current combat rank toward this new knighthood. However they cannot transfer any lists that would reduce their current combat rank. Thereafter, those entering the Renaissance Combatant Roll may earn separate participations and list wins in both combatant rolls each month, and in Imperial Tournaments as well.

Note: This will amend Estates Writ II.

Commentary: There has been much time and energy spent on trying to figure out how a Renaissance fighter may advance in rank. This allows Renaissance fighters to progress while keeping the current Steel system and belief fairly in tact. Since there is little to no relation to these fighting styles we are actively encouraging those forms that were prevalent during the time period. The titles used are from Corporation of the London Masters of Defence - the guild of English instructors of fighting and fence chartered in 1540 by Henry VIII.

Author: Sir Cirus (Baron les Marchante des Ombres dû Morte, Knight Premier)

Co-Sponsor: the Chancery

Option 2 to Proposal 1

Modify current the current combat knighthood to encompass armored combat only. Include this “grandfather” clause: Combatants may choose to apply their current Renaissance participations and list wins over and above their current combat rank toward this new knighthood. However they cannot transfer any lists that would reduce their current combat rank. . Thereafter, those entering the Renaissance Combatant Roll may earn separate participations and list wins in both combatant rolls each month, and in Imperial Tournaments as well. Any further Renaissance lists would automatically be applied to this knighthood.

Note: This will amend Estates Writ II.

Amend to read: 1.COMBATANT ROLL

- a. Yeoman
 - i. Be authorized by a Knight Combatant or two Sergeants and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the **Shinai** Sergeants' List.
 - ii. A member in good standing.
- b. Guardsman
 - i. Participation in three (3) **Shinai** Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
- c. Sergeant
 - i. Participation in five (5) additional **Shinai** Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
 - ii. One (1) win in a **Shinai** Sergeants' List at a Crown event.
 - iii. Participation in two (2) demonstrations.
 - iv. Be authorized by a Knight Combatant and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the **armored** Knights' List.
- d. Knight Bachelor
 - i. Participation in ten (10) **armored** Knights' Lists at Crown events.
 - ii. One (1) win in the **armored** Knights' Lists at a Crown event.
 - iii. Participation in one (1) war at a Crown event.
 - iv. Participation in three (3) additional demonstrations.
- e. Knight Banneret
 - i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional **armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which eight (8) must be in the armored Knights' Lists, at Crown events.~~
 - ii. Five (5) additional wins in the **armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which three (3) must be in the armored Knights' Lists, at Crown events.~~
 - iii. Participation in five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
 - iv. Participation in five (5) additional demonstrations.
- f. Knight Champion
 - i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional **armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which sixteen (16) must be in the armored Knights' Lists, at Crown events.~~
 - ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the **armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which six (6) must be in the armored Knights' Lists, at Crown events.~~
 - iii. Participation in ten (10) additional wars at Crown events.
 - iv. Participation in fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.

Additional Commentary: *By separating these knighthoods we are also separating the fighting styles. This will encourage proper comprehension of the training style and less confusion of what maneuvers a combatant is allowed to do with which style.*

Author: *Sir Cirus (Baron les Marchante des Ombres dû Morte, Knight Premier)*

Co-Sponsors: *Dame Aleigha Fyredrake (former Queen of Aragon), Sir Eduardo Peruzzi (former King of Aragon)*

Proposal 2

Modify the current combat roll to include Cut-and-Thrust as an armored combat. Wherever the bylaws say "Armored", amend to read "Cut-and-Thrust or Armored."

Commentary: *I do not believe it is necessary to rewrite the entire combat roll in order to accomodate the desire for a renaissance knighthood (through to third level). Cut-and-Thrust is considered to be a "heavy renn" style of combat. By recognizing it as an armored style, it allows for the strictly-renn combatants to proceed up the roll through to 3rd level, without ever having to engage in steel combat. Neither of the below options will have any grandfathering, backwards tracking, or reapplying of points already awarded.*

Option 1 to Proposal 2

Do not make any changes other than adding Cut-and-Thrust to the Armored requirements.

Commentary: *This option allows the combatant to engage in both styles of combat without creating a completely separate combat. This would still be subject to the once-per-month rule, so that if a combatant engages in both styles, only one would be counted (no change to current rules).*

Option 2 to Proposal 2

Add a separate track for third-level knighthood only so that there are two paths: one for Knight Champion (using armored combat) and one for Knight Ancient Master of the Fence (using cut-and-thrust combat). Combatants would have to choose which of the 2 paths they want their participations to be counted in for 3rd level, and once recorded, could not be transferred to the other path.

Commentary: There is vehement objection to using the title Knight Champion for someone who does not engage in armored combat. This option allows for Knight Champion to be the traditional combat track (armored), and creates a title for 3rd level only for those combatants who choose the cut-and-thrust style, rather than armored. This option also keeps the rolls-keeping fairly easy-to-maintain, as the rolls office would not have to track the differences in shinai or schlager types of combat. While suggesting the use of the titles in proposal 1, friendly amendments may be offered for the titles only.

Author: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Imperial Princess, Knight Premiere, Countess Royal)

Co-Sponsor: The Chancery

Proposal 3

Modify the current combat roll to eliminate armored requirements for knighthood.

Commentary: Recommend using the fencing-style titles of proposal 1. Combatants would have the option of resuming standard combat rank/title--if wins are subsequently earned in armored combat.

Author: Sir Michael Sinestro (Knight Premiere)

Co-Sponsor: The Chancery

Proposal 4

Leave the combat roll unchanged. Adopt authorized deviation from the law to permit second- and third-level advancement based on renaissance combat (to be titled Knight Master of the Fence (K2) and Knight Ancient Master of the Fence (K3)). Should the member subsequently earn sufficient armored participation and wins, the title may be converted to Knight Banneret (K2) and Knight Champion (K3).

Commentary: As an authorized deviation from the law, this proposal allows for second- and third-level advancement without requiring armored combat, while preserving the current system. This does not add an additional order to the Chivalry.

I recommend using the fencing-style titles of Proposal 1, but titles may be amended. Combatants would have the option of returning to the standard combat rank/title -- if participations and wins are subsequently earned in armored combat.

Author: Sir William Baine (Knight Premiere, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)

Co-Sponsor: The Chancery

Proposal 5

Amend the combatant roll to be an armored roll (containing only shinai and armored styles), and create a renaissance roll (containing only schlager and cut-and-thrust styles).

Amend to read: 1. **ARMORED COMBATANT ROLL**

a. Yeoman

- i. Be authorized by a **Armored** Knight Combatant or two Sergeants and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the Sergeants' List.
- ii. A member in good standing. (July 2002)

b. Guardsman

- i. Participation in three (3) Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.

c. Sergeant

- i. Participation in five (5) additional Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
- ii. One (1) win in a Sergeants' List at a Crown event.
- iii. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** two (2) demonstrations.
- iv. Be authorized by **an Armored** Knight Combatant and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the **Armored** Knights' List.

d. Knight Bachelor

- i. Participation in ten (10) **Armored** Knights' Lists at Crown events.
- ii. One (1) win in the **Armored** Knights' Lists at a Crown event.
- iii. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** one (1) war at a Crown event.
- iv. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** three (3) additional demonstrations.

e. Knight Banneret

- i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional **Armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which eight (8) must be in the armored Knights' Lists,~~ at Crown events.
- ii. Five (5) additional wins in the *Armored* Knights' Lists, ~~of which three (3) must be in the armored Knights' Lists,~~ at Crown events.
- iii. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
- iv. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** five (5) additional demonstrations.

f. Knight Champion

- i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional **Armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which sixteen (16) must be in the armored Knights' Lists,~~ at Crown events.
- ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the **Armored** Knights' Lists, ~~of which six (6) must be in the armored Knights' Lists,~~ at Crown events.
- iii. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** ten (10) additional wars at Crown events.
- iv. Participation in **shinai or armored combat at** fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.

Add: 2. **RENAISSANCE COMBATANT ROLL**

a. Student

- i. **Be authorized by a Renaissance Knight Combatant or two Free Scholars and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the Free Scholars' List (schlager).**
- ii. **A member in good standing. (July 2002)**

b. Scholar

- i. **Participation in three (3) Free Scholars' Lists (schlager)* at Crown events** (*Note: previously referred to Sergeants' Light Renaissance lists but listed here as Free Scholars' lists for consistency in terminology).

c. Free Scholar

- i. **Participation in five (5) additional Free Scholars' Lists (schlager) at Crown events.**
- ii. **One (1) win in a Free Scholars' List (schlager) at a Crown event.**
- iii. **Participation in renaissance combat at two (2) demonstrations.**
- iv. **Be authorized by a Renaissance Knight Combatant and the Minister of Joust and War to enter the Renaissance Knights' List.**

d. Knight Provost

- i. **Participation in ten (10) Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at Crown events.**
- ii. **One (1) win in the Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at a Crown event.**
- iii. **Participation in renaissance combat at one (1) war at a Crown event.**
- iv. **Participation in renaissance combat at three (3) additional demonstrations.**

e. Knight Master of the Fence

- i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at Crown events.
- ii. Five (5) additional wins in the Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at Crown events.
- iii. Participation in renaissance combat at five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
- iv. Participation in renaissance combat at five (5) additional demonstrations.

f. Knight Champion of the Fence

- i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at Crown events.
- ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the Renaissance Knights' Lists (Cut and Thrust) at Crown events.
- iii. Participation in renaissance combat at ten (10) additional wars at Crown events.
- iv. Participation in renaissance combat fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.

Explanation: *In regards to existing points that have been tracked and knighthoods that have been awarded there shall be no change in the existing ranks or awards as they stand. From the point that this is adopted as law, any further ranks must be awarded based on meeting the above requirements. Demonstrations that have already been used to achieve a rank that has been awarded cannot be reassigned to the new renaissance combatant rank. Demonstrations that have not yet been used to obtain a particular rank can be assigned as is appropriate for the participation type if known. Additional participation points in wars or demonstrations can be awarded if the participation merits it by following the procedures outlined in the bylaws and the rolls manual.*

For example: If someone has participated in combat and earned 25 EP's, 1 sergeants WIN, 3 knights WINS, 5 WP's, and 7 DP's and been made a Knight Bachelor, they remain a Knight Bachelor. If they earned all of the requirements in renaissance combat, they can ask to be knighted as a Knight Provost. If they earned half in armor and half in renaissance, they will have to earn the rest of the requirements for Knight Provost before they can be dubbed that rank and they must earn all off the requirements for Knight Banneret (all armored fighting) before they can achieve that rank.

A second example: Sir Fredrick was knighted in February of 1998 Knight Champion. All points not used towards that rank (and since earned) in renaissance combat would now qualify towards ranks in the Renaissance Combatant Roll. If you haven't used it towards a rank, you can apply it now to the appropriate rank.

If someone has earned an EP in both Renaissance and Armor in one month, they can have both of those counted if they aren't already, IF THEY CAN PROVIDE THE MINISTER OF ROLLS THE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MONTH AND YEAR (and hopefully event) TO BE RESEARCHED. Many rolls offices keep track of this information already due to the current requirements for armored wins vs. renaissance wins.

Notes: This counter proposal is to be voted on to replace in its entirety Article IX, Section C, Part 1. Combatant Roll. If adopted, the numbering of the subsequent parts will need to be adjusted to reflect correct sequencing.

This proposal is similar in intent to the other proposal/counter proposals before the assembly. In particular I would like to thank Sir Cirus for the titles used for the Renaissance Ranks of which were copied with the exception of third level.

This proposal would create a separate knighthood for the renaissance and armored combatants with the following unique properties:

- 1. Only combatants of the same style of combat can authorize entry onto a combat list.*
- 2. Participation at wars and demonstrations are tracked separately for each style.*
- 3. A knightly weapon (per the combat manual, a cut and thrust blade) shall be used on renaissance knights' lists.*
- 4. A suggested name change of "Free Scholars' List" to replace "Sergeants' List" for light renaissance (schlager).*

Commentary: *Much has already been said of the need for a separate knighthood that allows our renaissance style fighters to gain additional ranks in the Order without the need for an additional style of fighting to be mastered. The disparity of allowing only armored combatants to achieve our most prestigious third rank is based on a Victorian ideal of the knight in shining armor. As we have recently embraced the idea of granting knighthoods to archers (definitely NOT historically accurate) in order to recognize their achievements, should we not do the same for our renaissance combatants that also display skill in arms? Of course!*

The inclusion of the Cut and Thrust blade as a knightly weapon recognizes that additional skill and commitment to training that is expected of our knights. The schlager is comparable to the shinai in that it is a training weapon requiring less strength and skill to use. It is understood that it will always be the combatant not the blade he or she is wielding that is truly the threat on the lists. Yet the additional control and finesse that is required of a heavier blade, makes the steel sword or cut and thrust blade a knightly weapon.

Speaking to many of our experienced combatants, all agree that the training and skills required for the two styles are completely different and that the requirements for safe and controlled fighting is unique for both. By separating the lists and the ranks, we recognize individuality in style and excellence and grant recognition and honor to both.

Authors: *Dame Delia von Burg (Countess Royal), Sir Frederick von Burg (Knight Champion)*

OB2. Amend Article VII.F.3 and Estates Writ to redefine Steward's description

Requires 2/3rds to amend bylaws, majority to amend writ (Was OB6)

Amend to require steward to request an audit every year

(Was proposal 2, referred to the Board of Directors, Chancery, authors for clarification of language)

Original proposal, add:

d. The Imperial Steward shall request a full and complete audit done on the Adrian Empire, Inc. by a Third Party (non-involved) Licensed and Bonded Accounting Firm. This audit will include all accounting books, computer program accounting software, all tax returns, bank accounts, etc. (For all Subdivisions and the Imperial) Audits should be done at least once a fiscal year.

Suggested clarification will be provided.

Commentary: *We suggest that this include authorization from the Estates to approve a budget item to pay for this. Since the Empire has grown in numbers, our Board of Directors is in place, it is now necessary to run portions of the Empire like a business. If this is not done now, then future problems can and will become compounded.*

Author: *Sir Eduardo di Peruzzi (former King of Aragon)*

Co-Sponsor: *Dame Serina Isobella de Torsiello (Knight Premier)*

OB3. Amend Estates Writ 3, Steward's Manual, procedure for receipt of dues

Requires majority to approve (Was OB8)

Add language to Section III.D. Procedures for receipt of dues when checks are returned from the bank.

Current language: The amount of dues for each type and length of membership is set by the Imperial Estates General; you MAY NOT change this. You will receive dues from new members and for members who are renewing their dues. You need to have everyone fill out a membership application; this will help you keep your register current. Give each member a receipt for their dues and note on the receipt the type of membership, length of membership, new membership or renewal, amount, cash or check and date paid. Checks must be made out to the "Adrian Empire, Inc.". [Refer to the Bylaws for a current dues table and types of memberships.]

Add:

1. **If a member's check bounces, the member shall be notified they are not in good standing with the Adrian Empire, notified of the restitution amount necessary to rectify the matter, and given a time limit in which to resolve the matter. The amount of restitution shall include covering the original amount of the check plus bank service fees and a \$25.00 penalty. This shall be paid in cash or by money order. Failure to pay restitution will result in the matter being turned over to the Board of Directors.**
2. **Any individual who bounces a check to the Adrian Empire, Inc. shall have their check-writing privileges permanently revoked, requiring all financial matters to be handled in either cash or money order format.**

Commentary: *Suggested time limit for resolving a bad check - 2 weeks; Consult Imperial Steward's Office on acceptable time limit as needed. Check writing is a privilege, and those who abuse this privilege should be made to face the consequence.*

Chancellor's Note: *Amend proposal, delete 'bounces' insert 'returned by the bank for any reason', delete 'who bounces a check' insert 'whose check is returned'.*

Author: *Dame Circe-Skye O'Malley*

Co-sponsors: *HRM Aislynn (Queen of Umbria), Sir James the Red (Earl of Northumberland) and Dame Draconia E. DeVona (Countess of Black Dragon)*

OB4. Amend Arts and Sciences Manual, Article I.E.2. to require judges re-qualification

Requires majority to approve (Was OB10)

Add requirement that members requalify as a judge if they have not participated in the arts in the last 12 months.

Current Manual: 2. Requirements: All shall participate and be qualified at a judging collegium for the current version of the Arts and Sciences Manual.

Add: 2. Requirements: All shall participate and be qualified at a judging collegium for the current version of the Arts and Sciences Manual. **When a member has not entered an art or judged an art for one full year, the member will re-qualify themselves with the Minister of Arts and Sciences or his/her Deputy before judging at tourney or war.**

Commentary: *As the Arts and Sciences manual/judging guidelines is a dynamic document, we feel it is necessary for those who have been inactive in the Arts to show they have kept up with any changes made to the manual/guidelines before they be allowed to judge. At all Imperial Estate meetings the by-laws and manuals get changed. Some changes are immediate and some are for playtest.*

Requalification could be as simple as a conversation with the local A & S Minister or a Deputy, but it would save an artisan from the burden of an uninformed judge. I do not feel it will prove a hardship for the Minister of Arts and Sciences/Deputy to re-qualify the member.

Author: *Lady Cimindri Delafort, Minister of Arts and Sciences*

Sponsors: *HRM Aislynne De Chartier (Queen of Umbria), Sir James the Red (Earl of Northumberland)*

OB5. Amend recognition of points/title from other organizations

Proposal 1: Do not recognize retirement titles from other organizations

Requires 2/3rds (Was OB11)

Retiring titles for holding the position of sovereign in other similar organizations shall not be recognized and no voting privileges will be awarded for this function.

Commentary: *Whether it was the original intention or not this has been happening. Letting a newcomer, that has no idea how we play, have an immediate vote on our Imperial Estates is not a good thing. No matter the similarities between the groups there are vast differences in our laws and views.*

Chancellor's Note: *This issue was extensively debated when the law was originally adopted. It was both the similarities and the differences that were cited in support of the legislation. The different experiences and points of view were recognized as benefits to the Adrian Empire.*

Additional Chancellor's Note: *This is wholly inconsistent with our six-year philosophy that a Knight is a Knight, and that these organizations share so much that we treat them as equals. We have also said that we value these members' different experiences. In other words: resistance is futile; they will be assimilated; their uniqueness will be added to our own.*

Author: *Sir Cirus (Baron les Marchante des Ombres dû Morte, Knight Premier)*

Co-Sponsor: *Dame Serina Isobella de Torsiello (Knight Premier)*

Proposal 2: Limit transfer of points, titles from other organizations

Requires 2/3rds to approve

Points and service in other groups should only be allowed to transfer up to a first-level knighthood and no further and that said transfer can only occur after a person has been active in the Adrian Empire for at least one year. Points earned in other groups while actively an Adrian Member should no longer transfer. Titles earned in other groups should not transfer, as they were not earned within Adria.

Commentary: *The basic Idea is not to get rid of initial conversion but to limit such. It is the intention of this Proposal to limit any transfer of points only upon initially joining Adria as well as to place a ceiling for such advancement. At this time there is no other group who recognizes our Knighthoods, Peerage, awards, nor our Titles of nobility. While there are several groups that are similar to the Adrian Empire there are also many differences. Therefore why should we recognize those outside our group? Theoretically as it now stands a person could transfer from another group and achieve a status of a Third level Knight in all disciplines of knighthood.*

The problem with this is that Third level Knights are granted the privilege to influence the way we play the game due to the fact that 3rd level knights have a vote on the Imperial Estates. Also many of our leadership positions require knighthood to rule. It is in my experience that people will when given an opportunity take the easy route. Wow, think of that you could enter our group, transfer points and automatically be a leader in our organization while knowing virtually nothing on who we are or how we do things.

While we recognize that individuals from other groups do bring experience and can add to the knowledge of the Group as a whole The Adrian Empire is a unique entity which differs often greatly from other groups especially as to how we choose our leaders as well as to how we govern ourselves. It should be noted that we do not transfer experience from other groups non related to Medieval Re-enactment and yet these individuals bring along experience that helps us just as much as those who do come from Medieval Re-enactment groups. Should we, do we award knighthoods to individuals who are Eagle scouts in the BSA? Or to people who have a PHD in History? What about Masons? Or Shriners? What about those individuals who have served in Companies in the Capacity as Treasurer, president or on the Board of Directors of Major corporations? Surely their experience and knowledge is worthy of acknowledgement is it not? They do have valuable experience and we as a group do benefit from their knowledge and experience yet they do not gain any transfer points or recognition.

It is not logical to give credit to experience to an individual just because he or she was a member of another medieval re-enactment group while essentially snubbing those who chose Adria as their first medieval re-enactment group. Maybe they looked at the other groups first and decided we were the best why should they start anywhere else. Adria is unique and our culture and rules are unique to us regardless of similarities. Adria is Adria and everything else is simply that something else.

Author: Lord Auberon de la Reve (Viceroy, Andorra)

Co-Sponsor: the Chancery

Proposal 3: Recognize ranks and titles from other organizations, limit voting privileges

Requires 2/3rds to approve

Continue to recognize ranks, titles from other similar organizations (as outlined in the bylaws, and rolls manual handbook) by courtesy and conversion. No voting privilege shall attach to any such rank or title until the person has been a member of Adria for one year.

Commentary: *There is much concern over new members having permanent voting rights without first getting to know how Adria works.*

Option

Ranks and titles normally holding a vote on the estates, either local or Imperial, shall hold a seat (but not a vote) on those estates until the one-year membership requirement is satisfied.

Commentary: *While we value the input and unique perspective of our new members with experience in other organizations, the voting privilege should not vest until the member is adequately familiar with Adria.*

Author: *the Chancery upon numerous requests*

OB6. Amend Article III.A.3. add to reasons for membership denial

Requires 2/3rds to approve (Was OB13)

Current Law: Membership in the Adrian Empire may be denied for the same reasons as revocation. Membership may also be denied if the reasons for a previous revocation of membership are still valid.

Add: Membership in the Adrian Empire may be denied for the same reasons as revocation. Membership may also be denied if the reasons for a previous revocation of membership are still valid.

Members that are not in good standing from similar organizations shall have their dues refused until such issues have been dealt with in that organization. If the member is already a member of Adria, then the membership should be placed on probation until the judicial action has been satisfied.

Commentary: *After accepting a membership, it was brought to the Empire's attention that the individual was on a ministerial ban from another organization. With this in place we can in the future prevent any possible harm to the Empire or its members.*

Chancellor's Note: *This Bylaw amendment will require amending the Conversion writ. Further, it eliminates from our law our ability to make our own evaluation of the member's situation. It is analogous to adopting a 'Full Faith and Credit Clause' without the mundane world exception for violations of our own public policy.*

Additional Chancellor's Note: *There is currently no provision for probationary membership in Adrian law. The adoption of such a provision would require creation of a new class of member (such as the ECS prospective membership).*

Author: *Sir Eduardo di Peruzzi (former King of Aragon)*

Co-Sponsor: *Dame Serina Isobella de Torsiello (Knight Premier)*

OB7. Amend Article III.F. to allow members to choose subdivision

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NBI)

Current Law: A participant shall be considered to be a member of the subdivision in which they reside (where a participant physically lives)

Amend to read: A participant may declare their citizenship to a chartered subdivision annually when they pay their membership, members can only form estates, or be estates holders in the subdivision they choose to be a member of, this may be changed when the member renews their membership on July 1st. Lifetime memberships could also be changed at the July 1st renewal date. If no choice is made, the participant will be considered to be a member of the chartered subdivision in which they reside (where a participant physically lives). Subdivision re-assignment is also allowed for a change of physical residence.

Addition 1 (to be voted on only as an addition to the original proposal): If the participant does not physically live within 200 miles of the requested subdivision, they must apply for citizenship directly to that subdivision's Crown for approval.

Addition 2 (to be voted on only as an addition to the original proposal): If the participant's change of subdivision takes the subdivision they physically reside in below numbers the member must provide a written reason why they are requesting the change, and appeal directly to Imperial Crown for permission.

Commentary: *For our organization to grow, we need to allow memberships to not be so rigidly defined. We need to allow our members to have a voice in where they want to play, and not where they are allowed to play.*

There is a cultural community and honored traditions that vary from kingdom to duchy to shire. Many people feel a better fit and acceptance in a subdivision where they are not assigned. Often these are people who wish to fully participate in the workings of that subdivision, yet they are unable to fully do so because of this restriction in the bylaws. With the dividing of some of the larger subdivisions, and the close proximity of many subdivisions, this issue has become more prominent as many subdivisions are within an easy distance for the member to reach; if a participant has friends and people who want to be together, how are we serving our membership by keeping these members from fully participating in their local governance by geography?

Authors: Tailan Bran McNeil & Claire of Eagles Roost, Count Angus McLean of Terre Amata and TRM Kendra and Madoc of Terre Neuve

Counterproposal: Create second chartered subdivision within Aragon

Requires 2/3rds to approve

Because Aragon (Nevada) is unique in the Empire, an exception to law is requested that will allow a second subdivision to be chartered within the same geographic boundaries.

Commentary: Because of the geographic isolation of the region, there are limited opportunities for members to participate in other regions. Clark County (the main population center) is a large metropolitan area that is virtually impossible to divide into meaningful geographic subdivisions.

Mundane history is rich with examples of independent city-states (the Vatican, Florence, Genoa, Venice), chartered towns (Holy Roman Empire), principalities (Republic of San Marino, Andorra, Monte Carlo), all existing within larger nations.

Historically, in Adria, it has proven difficult to manage populations exceeding 150 members. Aragon's numbers have consistently exceeded 250, and reaching over 300, with huge potential for growth. This exception to law will provide an opportunity for Adria to exploit the region's growth potential.

Unfortunately, governing such a large population has proven unmanagable. Additionally, there are insurmountable personal and political conflicts within Aragon. With no reasonable opportunities to play elsewhere, Adrians are choosing not to play at all, and potential members are turning away.

Chancellor's Note: The charter for Aragon will not change in any way, therefore the procedure required for changing a charter does not apply to this proposal. This is a request to allow an exception the law in order to charter a new subdivision within the same boundaries.

Authors: Sir William Baine (Knight Premeire, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)

Co-Sponsor: the Chancery

OB8. Reinstate Sumptuary and Regalia Writ #18 (Chains of State)

Requires majority to approve (was NB2)

It is the wish of the Crowns and Chancery of Aragon to put forth an agenda item to reinstate the use of regalia and sumptuary laws. This writ was removed at the November 2001 meeting by a vote of the Estates.

Chancery note: The Imperial Estates Writ #18 on Armigerous Rights, Regalia and Modes of Address, Orders and Awards, and Ministry Badges reads as follows. Only those sections of the Writ which are relevant will be noted, for brevity's sake. Those sections in red boldface are the sections removed by the vote of the Imperial Estates in November 2001.

II. REGALIA AND MODES OF ADDRESS

A. THEORY.

1. Chains of State

- a. **A Chain of State goes with a vote on the Estates. Therefore, those ranks which do not carry a vote on the Estates are not permitted a Chain of State.**
- b. **The Chains of State are divided into three groups: Precious metal for Estates Royal, mixed precious and base metal for Estates Major, and base metal only for Estates Minor.**

(Current law: Chains of State are not regulated by Law.)

3. Restrictions.

- a. None of the regalia or styles listed below is mandatory, for example, no one is required to wear that to which one is entitled; however, others who are not so entitled may be restricted from using such regalia or styles.
- b. Addressing someone with a form different from that listed for that member's station is neither prohibited nor discouraged, since forms of address are merely a way of showing respect.
- c. The Estates of a Kingdom may choose to further restrict or augment the regalia listed below, **such as by adding a few links of contrasting metal to a Chain of State**, so long as such restriction or augmentation does not conflict with this list.

B. PRACTICE

What follows are the regalia and modes of address for each rank in the Order of Precedence which has been registered by the Imperial College of Arms. Titles are listed in descending order of precedence, with Landed Estates listed by the name of the Estate rather than its rulers.

1. Empire. Estate Imperial, ruled by an Emperor and/or Empress. Ruler may wear a Crown **and a gold Chain of State**. Ruler may be addressed as "Your Imperial Majesty", "Your Majesty", "Your Highness", or "Your Grace". Ruler may be styled "Emperor <name>" or "Empress <name>" according to gender, or may use a non-English translation.

Other entries mentioning Chains of State follow likewise, except this one:

22. Lord/Lady Protector. Temporary position, acting as the Crown of a Geographic Chartered Subdivision for a period of less than 1 year. Carries precedent with **and may wear the Chain of State appropriate to** the rank of their Subdivision, but should not wear the Subdivision's Crown. May be addressed as "Your Grace". Holders may append "Lord/Lady Protector of <subdivision name>" to their existing style while in office. (Example: "Earl XXX, Lord Protector of YYY".)

Commentary: *It is the feeling of these individuals that by not utilizing proper regalia and sumptuaries we do a disservice, not only to those who have worked hard to earn those positions, but also to newer members who are confused as to how to address the issues of respect, deference, and what types of adornment they themselves may wear. With a guideline, it is laid out, and will assist in avoiding unpleasant or uncomfortable circumstances surrounding these activities, and will enhance enjoyment of the gaming experience.*

Authors: *HRM Damon ap DuDrane (King of Aragon), Dame Caoimhe O'Raghallaigh (Queen of Aragon)*

OB9. Amend Article VI.E.2 to define budget, and include Kingdoms

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB3)

Budgets will be submitted by Imperial/Kingdom officers each regnal year, at which time they will be put before the Estates General for approval. Budgets may be approved or amended by a majority vote of the Estates General. Budgets will include proposed items and cost, and reflect a total expenditure. Budgets will be presented to the Estates General in the Agenda 30 days prior to the vote.

Amend Rights of the Estates:

Current Law (Imperial Estates General): VI.F.1.d.iv. Approve writs and charters issued by the Imperial Crown and approve expenditure of treasury funds.

Amend to read: Approve writs and charters issued by the Imperial Crown, ~~and approve~~ **annual budgets** and expenditure of treasury funds.

Current Law (Estates General of a Chartered Subdivision): VI.F.2.b.i. Approve writs and charters issued by the Crown and approve expenditure of treasury funds

Amend to read: Approve writs and charters issued by the Crown, ~~and approve~~ **annual budgets and** expenditure of treasury funds.

Amend Rights of Crowns:

Add: VI.F.3.b.xi. Draft and submit an annual budget to the estates general no less than 30 days prior to the published meeting date. (*note to chancery: renumber remaining item*)

Add to Glossary: Budget - Drafted and submitted annually by Imperial and Royal Crowns to their respective Estates General, budgets include proposed items, anticipated cost, and reflect total expenditures.

Commentary: *Although this is good practice, it is not law, which makes it confusing for incoming crowns and officers to know exactly what budgeting limitations are. This will eliminate confusion and argument over budget requirements.*

Author: Dame Ashlenn Tiernan (*former Chancellor of Aragon*)

Co-Sponsor: *the Chancery*

OB10. Amend Article VII.C. to require all estates-holders/ministers not be wards/minors

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB4)

Change to requirements to hold Office. Any person holding a vote on any Estates and/or all Ministers may not be a legal ward or under the guardianship of any other individual.

Current Law: C. Requirements To Hold Ministerial Office

All ministers and their deputies shall hold a participating or family membership and shall maintain such membership for the duration of their appointment. Those holding statutory offices must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Glossary: Statutory Officers - Those officers which have responsibilities within the mundane side of the organization. These officers include all Crowns, and the ministers outlined in Article VII.

Ministries. These officers must be at least 18 years of age (see Article VII.c. Requirements to Hold Office).

Article VII (referenced in above glossary definition) include Chancellor, Minister of Rolls, Steward, Minister of Arms, Chronicler, Minister of Joust/War, Crown Marshal, Minister of Arts/Sciences, Minister of Physicks, Hospitaler, Viceroys, Minister of Archery.

Commentary: Legally, no one who is under the legal guardianship of another may enter into a contract or hold logistical rights outside of the realm of what that guardian will allow. It is therefore improper for the Adrian Empire to extend rights to individuals that they may not enjoy outside the confines of Our organization. Also, there is a question of informed consent if that individual is unable to make binding decisions for themselves. This prospect damages the Integrity of the vote/office that they hold.

Author: Dame Ashlinn Tiernan (Chancellor of Aragon)

OB11.Add VI.F.1.d.v. and VI.F.2.b.iii. to adopt rules of procedure for the body

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB5)

Add: The Imperium tends to use a form of Robert's Rules of Order; however, the Chancellor may adopt Rules of Conduct, and Rules for Limiting Debate if deemed necessary for completing business within the confines of their limitations (i.e. time, location, etc.), as long as these rules do not patently conflict with Imperial Bylaw, Subdivision Codicil, or Mundane Laws. These Rules must be noticed to the Estates 30 days prior to their enactment, and may be amended by the Estates General by a Majority Vote. They may be disposed of by a 2/3rd's vote of the Estates General. In cases where no Rules have been presented the Chancellor will utilize the Imperium's revised Parliamentary Rules and/or Robert's Rules of Order.

Commentary: Following strict Robert's Rules of Order is very difficult, as it is complicated and hard to understand. Besides, who wants to memorize a 650 page book, just so they will be able to vote on an issue. It just does not fit the needs of the Estates. Unfortunately, in cases where time is very limited for doing business, there is no set limitation to Debate. The Chancellor needs to have the ability to set reasonable times, so that business may be dealt with in a prompt and concise manner.

Chancellor's Note: Previous rulings of law have held that the Estates control their own rules of procedure, but it does not clearly appear in the Bylaws.

Author: Dame Ashlinn Tiernan (Chancellor of Aragon)

Co-sponsor: The Chancery

OB12.Remove point-earning restrictions

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB6)

It is the intent of this proposal to both encourage and reward individuals who go the extra mile especially on the road to knighthood. In no way are we suggesting of getting rid of the Point system. What this proposal would do is the following:

1. Eliminate the Maximum points earned per month.
2. Place a two-year time on all levels of Knighthood where the person must remain active attending and participating at least once a Month during the two-year period. Thus it would take 6 years total time to achieve a Third level knighthood, Four years for a Second Level and Two for First level.
3. Establishing special Orders/Awards for those individuals who overachieve
 - A. One order for those who gain twice the required points
 - B. One for five times the required points
 - C. One for those who achieve over five times the required points

Members of these orders would be allowed to augment their arms with a symbol as worked out with the College of Arms.

Commentary: *As our organization is a chivalric organization it is implied that recognition should be awarded by the deeds of the individual. I feel that by limiting the points to be earned limits participation. We are a group by stature that recognizes and holds achievement in high regard. This being the case I feel it is in the best interest of all of Adria to be given the opportunity to earn as many points as they are willing to invest their time and effort in. If such a change has the effect of creating an abundance of over achievers (IE. Say 75% or higher then it would behoove us to broaden and expand the minimums). Another advantage of this proposal would be to eliminate the various laws contained within the by-laws that currently restrict point achievement. Knighthoods are about doing and doing deeds. This being the case then should we not encourage those who wish to put forth the extra effort?*

Author: Lord Auberon de la Reve (Viceroy, Andorra)

Co-sponsor: the Chancery

OB13.Amend Article IV.F. Discounts to remove military and student discounts

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB7)

Current law: Military with valid military ID, students with valid student body cards, and senior citizens (55 years +) with valid proof of age are allowed a 10% discount on annual participating memberships. Participating members may receive a discount of \$10 on annual dues with electronic newsletter delivery. These discounts are **not** cumulative.

Amend to read: Senior citizens (55 years +) with valid proof of age are allowed a 10% discount on annual participating memberships...

Commentary: *Military and students may receive a \$3.00 discount, or they may choose the e-herald discount of \$10.00. It makes more sense to eliminate the lesser discount offer, since it is rarely used anyway. I believe we are legally required to offer a senior citizen discount, or I would recommend removing that one, as well.*

Authors: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Imperial Princess, Knight Premiere, Countess Royal), Dame Lenora Greyphis (Imperial Steward, Knight Civil)

OB14.Amend Article III.A.1. to remove 30-day grace period

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB8)

Current law: Membership in the Adrian Empire is open to any interested individual, without restriction of gender, age, race, religion, or national origin. Membership can be terminated by a thirty (30) day lapse following nonpayment of dues or revocation of membership by the Board of Directors.

Amend to read: Membership in the Adrian Empire is open to any interested individual, without restriction of gender, age, race, religion, or national origin. Membership can be terminated by ~~a thirty (30) day lapse following~~ nonpayment of dues or revocation of membership by the Board of Directors.

Commentary: *July 1 is a very clear due date and **everyone's** membership expires at that time. By allowing a 30-day "grace" period, people assume they expire on August 1. This mistaken impression has led to countless lapses in membership that have prevented people from holding office, counting participations, attaining knighthoods, etc. With the due date so very clear for everyone, the need for a grace period has been eliminated. A magazine subscription doesn't give you an extra issue if you don't renew your subscription on time. Other organizations don't give you an extra month if you don't renew your dues. We need to eliminate grey areas, especially when they have historically caused so many problems.*

Authors: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Imperial Princess, Knight Premiere, Countess Royal), Dame Lenora Greyphis (Imperial Steward, Knight Civil)

OB15. Amend Article III.B.4. to be clear that Ass. Members may not hold office

Requires 2/3rds to approve (was NB9)

The bylaws state that a participating membership (either single, family, or life) is “the basic membership, conveying the right to earn knightly rank, receive precedence bearing awards, have arms registered, convey the right to hold office in the Adrian Empire and a subscription to the appropriate chartered subdivision newsletter.” This implies that Associate Membership does **not** convey those rights. Amend the bylaws to make that clear.

Current law: An entity which is an organization, or a Chartered Subdivision thereof (or equivalent), may purchase associate membership for its members. The dues for said membership per member are set by the Imperial Crown in consideration of the number of memberships requested, and the cost of providing them with Imperial Services. To induce discount, the entity could assume the burden of certain Imperial Services, for example, the entity could duplicate and deliver its own newsletters.

Add: The rights of participating membership do not extend to associate members.

Commentary: *Associate membership is an extremely discounted rate (\$10.00/year as opposed to \$30.00). I do not believe it is too much to ask for those members who are holding office, becoming knights, and otherwise having all the advantages of participating membership to actually have to be a participating member. Especially when, with the e-Herald discount, it is a difference of \$10.00 a year. This law is already there by implication and this proposal simply makes it crystal clear.*

Authors: *Dame Maedb Hawkins (Imperial Princess, Knight Premiere, Countess Royal), Dame Lenora Greyphis (Imperial Steward, Knight Civil)*

Counter Proposal 1

The above proposal extends to holding and estate, or ministry service only.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: *The Chancery*

Counter Proposal 2

Amend the law to specifically state that associate members have **all** the rights and privileges of a participating member.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: *The Chancery*

IX. NEW BUSINESS

NB1. Amend Imperial Estates Writ 14 on election, appointment of Board of Directors

Requires 2/3rds to consider, majority to approve

We elect the members at large each November to a one-year term. Two appointed members are chosen through the Imperial Crown War process, and the Imperial Steward and advisory member are appointed by the President and Vice President, all also serving a one-year term.

Current structure: 3 required members (President, Vice President, Imperial Steward)

4 elected members-at-large

1 advisory member, without voting rights (Imperial Chancellor)

Amend to: 3 required members (President, Vice President, Imperial Steward)

1 appointed member (Retiring President or Vice President)

4 members-at-large elected by the Imperial Estates

1 advisory member (Imperial Chancellor)

The following shall serve one-year terms on the Board of Directors: President, Vice President, Imperial Steward, and Retiring President. The terms of office of the President and Vice President may be extended in compliance with the successive reign by-law. The Steward is appointed by the Crown, and therefore may serve successive one-year terms. In the case that the retiring president cannot serve, the retiring vice-president shall be appointed to take his/her place.

The Imperial Estates shall elect 4 members-at-large, each to 2-year terms. Half the members-at-large shall be elected each year, thus staggering the election. Members-at-large that become President, Vice President, or Imperial Steward during the second year of their term vacate their seat as a member-at-large, and the remaining year of their term shall be filled by a one-year appointment, elected by the Imperial Estates.

The following member shall be appointed as a non-voting, advisory member: the Imperial Chancellor (as appointed by the Crown).

In the implementation year of this change to the election process, 2 members-at-large shall be elected to a two-year term, and 2 shall be elected to a one-year term.

Alternate proposal

Same as proposal one, only remove the voting rights of the Retiring Crown, and appointing him/her as an advisory member, along with the Chancellor.

Amend to: 3 required members (President, Vice President, Imperial Steward)
4 members-at-large elected by the Imperial Estates
2 advisory members (Imperial Chancellor & Retiring President)

The following serve one-year terms on the Board of Directors: President, Vice President, & Imperial Steward. The terms of office of the President and Vice President may be extended in compliance with the successive reign by-law. The Steward is appointed by the Crown, and therefore may serve successive one-year terms.

The Imperial Estates shall elect 4 members-at-large, each to 2-year terms. Half the members-at-large shall be elected each year, thus staggering the election. Members-at-large that become President, Vice President, or Imperial Steward during the second year of their term vacate their seat as a member-at-large, and the remaining year of their term shall be filled by a one-year appointment, elected by the Imperial Estates.

The following members shall be appointed as non-voting, advisory members: the Imperial Chancellor (as appointed by the Crown), and the Retiring President (for one year after stepping down as President). In the case that the Retiring President cannot serve, the Retiring Vice-President shall be appointed to take his/her place.

In the implementation year of this change to the election process, 2 members-at-large shall be elected to a two-year term, and 2 shall be elected to a one-year term.

Commentary: *The current structure of the BoD may result in a completely new roster of members every November. The proposal results in at least 3 members of the board during a given year to sit on the Board the following year. This ensures allows a continuity, "corporate memory," and experience that are necessary effectively run the Corporation, as well as completion of any remaining business from one year to the next, with out the necessity of "starting over". Staggering the election of the members at large will result in 2 members-at-large being elected to every year, each to two year terms.*

Author: *Dame Aislyne de Chartier (Imperial Princess)*

Co-sponsor: *the Chancery*

NB2. Amend Imperial Estates Writ 1 (Arts and Sciences Manual) and Estates Writ 4 (Judging Guidelines) definition of Masterworks, Masterpiece

Requires 2/3rds to consider, majority to approve

Delete Masterpieces, and set a higher standard for Masterworks.

Throughout manual, delete all references to Masterpiece.

Manual, Page 15, Current Description:

A Masterwork can be awarded at the judges' discretion for those pieces that score a 30 or higher.

A Masterpiece can be awarded at the judges' discretion for those pieces that score a 33 or higher.

Amend to read: A Masterwork is awarded for those pieces that score 30 or higher by three or more judges; said 30 points not to include any bonus points awarded in any area of scoring.

Manual, Appendix A. Tournament Procedures, 14c: Current Writ: Masterwork wins may be awarded for scores of thirty (30) with the recommendation of the judges.

Amend to read: A Masterwork is awarded for those pieces that score 30 or higher by three or more judges; said 30 points not to include any bonus points awarded in any area of scoring.

Guidelines, II.C. Masterworks/Masterpieces: Current Writ: Entries scoring at least 30 points (approx. 100% of 30) shall receive a Masterwork at the judges' discretion and unanimous agreement. Entries scoring at least 33 points (approx. 110% of 30), shall receive a Masterpiece at the judges' discretion and unanimous agreement.

Amend to read: Entries scoring at least 30 points (approx. 100% of 30), shall receive a Masterwork said 30 points not to include any bonus points awarded in any area of scoring.

Commentary: *This proposal does not eliminate any of the requirements needed for a Masterwork other than the unanimous opinion of the judges scoring said art. A unanimous agreement of the judges is already achieved if three or more of the judges score the piece with 30 for Masterwork. Bonus points from any area of scoring are not to be counted within the 30 required for Masterwork.*

When the new Arts and Sciences manual came out it came with a new scoring mechanism of adding 10 points specifically for Difficulty and Complexity. The difficulty and complexity was missing from the scoring in the old manual and it was left then for the judges to decide whether the art deserved a masterwork. We no longer have that problem. With the new scoring when I judge an art I am already scoring for everything required under the manual rules. Authenticity (5) is scored, Documentation(5) is scored, Execution, Craftsmanship & Functionality(10) is scored and Difficulty/Complexity(10) is scored; and/or bonus points. If I am already giving the artisan a score of 30 (without the bonus points) why do I need to discuss with another artisan whether it deserves a Masterwork? Especially at war it is very difficult to do this.

If I feel the artisan is missing something, did something incorrect, was not of a scope to qualify for a masterwork, it is my duty as a judge to tell them why they did not receive a masterwork and score points accordingly.

Having a Masterpiece as a scoring award is superfluous. The new A&S Manual has been in use long enough for those who wanted to make having a Masterpiece a requirement for knighthood in arts to do so. No one has requested the Imperial General Estates to put the Masterpiece as a requirement for arts knighthood under the law in the last two years. Steps to knighthood in the arts is hard enough without putting pressure on the artisans to achieve beyond what we already consider a Masterwork. No scoring mechanism is in place to record the Masterpiece anyway.

It would be better for the Imperial Crowns to Imperially award the artisan as they do for other outstanding work. This can be done by the A&S Minister of the sub-division. They can notify the Imperial Crowns of exceptional work and request an Imperial award for the artist.

Author: Dame Serene (Knight Master, Knight Civil)

Sponsors: Sir James the Red (Earl of Northumberland), the Chancery

NB3. Define minimum number of participants for archery, combat list wins

Proposal 1

Refer to Crown for consideration as Continuing Crown Writ.

Proposal 2

Adopt Estates Writ (requires majority).

Proposal 3

Amend Imperial Bylaws, Article IX.C. Ranks (requires 2/3rds).

Paragraph 3: ... No member of the Adrian Empire may gain more than one tourney win per month for the purpose of gaining rank in the Knightly Orders. ...

Add: For archery and combat, a tournament list shall consist of at least 4 participants in order to award a list win; participants in smaller lists may receive a participation point.

Commentary: While long held in tradition, practice, precedence, and outlined in the Rolls Manual, this criteria is nowhere in law. This is a critical piece of information for members and officers, and should not be simply "traditional" or subject to change without adequate safeguards.

Who, or how many whos, should have the authority to change this? Crown? 2/3 of the Imperial Estates? Majority of the Imperial Estates?

Note to Chancellor: Add to glossary where applicable (if approved).

Authors: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Princess, Countess Royal, Knight Premier), Sir William Baine (Knight Premier, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)

NB4. Amend Article IV.A. Dues, to delete outdated financial practices

Current Law: Membership dues are set by the Imperial Estates General. Dues may be paid in annual or installments to the Steward of the Empire. Dues may be paid to the Steward of a chartered subdivision, but must be sent as presented, to the Steward of the Empire. **The current practices of subdivisions of a chartered subdivision in handling dues shall not be altered. Any subdivision or chartered subdivision created after March 1st, 1992 shall comply.**

Amend to read: Membership dues are set by the Imperial Estates General. Dues may be paid in annual or installments to the Steward of the Empire. Dues may be paid to the Steward of a chartered subdivision, but must be sent as presented, to the Steward of the Empire.

Authors: Dame Lenora Gryphis (Imperial Steward), the Chancery

NB5. Amend Article VI.E. to add Imperial Estates Meetings in March

Make the Imperial Estates Meeting in March a mandatory meeting. Move the requirement to evaluate the Imperial reign from the November meeting to the March meeting to allow for completion of ministry turnovers and any reviews that may be in process.

Meeting Date, March

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

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

Authors/Sponsors: The Chancery

NB6. Create Writ to set rotation for Imperial Estates Meetings/Coronation

The current rotation schedule is an Imperial policy, based off the rotation for composition of the membership suspension panel. What is needed is a schedule that alternates the meetings between the principle regions of the Empire, and within those regions, between the principal chartered subdivisions, while still subject to the bidding process. This rotation schedule can be easily amended to accomodate growth throughout the Empire.

Regions

Region 1 (generally California): Currently consisting of Terre Neuve, Esperance, Carolingia, Brandenburg, Sangrael

Region 2 (central Empire): Currently consisting of Umbria, Aragon, Ekaterinegorod, Alhambra

Region 3 (Eastern Empire): Currently consisting of York, Castilles, Chesapeake, Dragon's Mist, Andorra, Cambridge, Dunvegan, Somerset

Rotation

Each year shall have its own separate rotation schedule. Year 1 shall be regions 1, 2, then 3. Year 2 shall be regions 2, 3, then 1. Year 3 shall be regions 3, 1, then 2. (This allows each region an opportunity to host meetings and coronations.)

Participation

Kingdoms are required to bid during their rotation. Archduchies are requested to bid during their rotation. Any chartered subdivision is welcome to bid during their rotation.

Selection and Autocrat

For Imperial Events, the Imperial Crown is the sole determining decision-maker for locations, and autocrats. Sometimes, the Imperial Crown may accept bids from individuals.

Subdivisions may not be an autocrat, although they may share in the planning and execution of the event. The autocrat is the individual responsible for the event. The Imperial Crown are the only people authorized to sign any contracts.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: the Chancery

NB7. Amend Article VIII.D.4. to delete “grandfathered” duchies

Delete the privileged status of duchies that were in existence at the time palantine duchies were eliminated in order to create the current hierarchy of shires and duchies. This occurred in February 1998. (Note: Archduchies were created at a later time and do not apply to this privileged status of duchies.)

Current Law:

- a. Any Duchy chartered prior to 12:01 a.m. on 1 February 1998 may, at its own discretion, continue to be governed under the provisions of the Article which this Article replaces. Any Duchy chartered after 12:01 a.m. on 1 February 1998 shall conform to the provisions of this Article. (*Note: The only duchies affected by this clause are Chesapeake, Sangrael, and Carolingia.*)
- b. This Article authorizes such changes in the Bylaws as are necessary to bring any conflicting Articles into conformity with its provisions.

Delete current law in its entirety.

Commentary: This grandfathering clause allows specific duchies with as few as 1 member. It has been five (5) years since this law was created, giving ample time to these subdivisions to grow beyond these protections.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Princess, Countess Royal, Knight Premier), Sir William Baine (Knight Premier, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)

NB8. Amend Article IX.C.2. to change the name of the arts roll to be “Arts”

Current Law: Robe Roll

Amend to read: **Arts Roll**

Commentary: Historically, the word robe was associated with ministry, not arts. Additionally, our other rolls are Combat, Archery, and Ministry, accurately and simply describing them.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: the Chancery

NB9. Amend Article VI.F.3.a.vii., b.xii, c.iii., 4.f., 5.e. to limit authority of co-rulers

Current state of the law: In the case of co-rulers, it is practice that either can unilaterally exercise decision-making authority, regardless of whether the other co-ruler is available or agrees. There is no express grant or limit of this authority, except in proxy, or that situations may require the co-ruler available deal with an imminent issue. This can, and has, resulted in contradictory decisions.

Amend to read: Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.

Commentary: Some limits on unilateral decision-making authority are appropriate. Estates General have no such authority. Even an emergency meeting is limited by quorum, two-thirds waiver of notice, and automatic review.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: the Chancery

NB10. Conduct of wars - ties

There is a problem with the conduct of wars as currently written because some points may not be awarded, and because the number of points may produce ties.

In a two-day war, it may not be possible to eliminate armies so that only two will advance to the second day. In either a one- or a two-day war, it is possible to end up with a tie.

Proposal 1

Tied contenders will conduct one armored champion's battle, or a melee (shinai, renaissance, or armored) as a tie-breaker.

Note: This gives preference to combat, which already receives 9 of 21 possible points in a war, and altogether leaves out archery and arts.

Proposal 2

Hold a second set of three champion's battles, one each in archery, arts (probably a bardic), and combat (either renaissance or armored).

Note: This is unlikely to produce a tie, and represents all three areas.

Proposal 3

Tied contenders will draw lots, cut cards, play rock-paper-scissors, or other some such random choice decision-maker.

Note: This is a much less satisfying alternative.

Commentary: While none of these proposal are the perfect solution, we trust that needing them will be rare (hopefully never). We welcome other practical ideas.

Authors/Co-Sponsors: Dame Maedb Hawkins (Princess, Countess Royal, Knight Premier), Sir William Baine (Knight Premier, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)

NB11. Repeal Crown Writ A.3. Duels

Much of this writ is covered in the combat and marshalling manuals. Some of the information falls under the description "Conduct Unbecoming a Knight" (Standards of Conduct).

Current Writ: It has come to Our attention that knight Combatants have in the past, and continue in the present, to attempt to settle their disputes via armed Combat. While this in and of itself is not a great concern to the Imperial Crowns, the nature of this combat most certainly is. Some knights are using this form of conflict settlement to attempt to bully or intimidate their fellows. They do this by requesting that this combat is by 'Knightly Combat' and that it be to the Yield.

These knights have described this 'Knightly Combat' to mean, basically anything goes and everyone else butt out. This is a fallacy and We will not allow this to continue. First off, the description of 'Knightly Combat' is flawed. Knightly Combat is, and shall always remain, to be described as allowing grappling between the combatants. That is all. It does not give the combatants the right to hit as hard as they want, to punch, gouge, kick and otherwise maim themselves. Nor does it mean that they can ignore the commands of Marshals. Nowhere in the Bylaws or the Manual of Combat are knights given the right to simply put aside a marshal for a duel. Second, Nowhere is it written that knights have a right to settle their differences through a 'Fight to the Yield'.

This type of activity is not only extremely dangerous to the combatants, but opens the organization to possible litigation, both civil and criminal. Also, since these forms of combat are not allowed in the Manual of Combat, our insurance company would have every right to cancel our policy in the event that they were ever made aware of it. These very knights, who will no doubt complain that their rights are being taken away, forget that their first duty is to safeguard the well being of the Empire. We will not condone an activity that will likely promote

injuries to our members, and violates almost every rule of safety we have in place. This form of intimidation belongs in a back alley, and should remain there, not on the fields of honor in the Adrian Empire.

Therefore we do hereby ban any and all duels or challenges that attempt to make use of Knightly combat in any form other than what is expressly provided for in the Manual of Combat, and/or that attempts to be settled through a duel to the Yield. Any and all duels, defined as combat whose sole purpose is to resolve a dispute or question of honor, must be marshaled by at least three (3) Marshals, and will comply with the standard Adrian practice of best two (2) out of three (3) passes, with all shots being called by the marshals. Any Knights found violating this Writ shall be charged with Conduct Unbecoming a Knight, and We shall seek to have them expelled from the Chivalry.

Adria offers many means to resolve our differences. Mediation, Civil or Criminal Suit, and yes the duel. We should not, nor will we ever condone or support any mechanisms in which one may prevail through physical intimidation. And any Knight who chooses to try and settle his dispute through mediation or Court, should never be looked down upon. Every member of The Adrian Empire has the right to feel safe when settling a dispute. Adria shall live by the axiom of Might For Right, not Might Makes Right.

Delete in its entirety.

***Commentary:** Most of these rules are already covered by other law. Further, it has been argued that the writ overstated the problem it was written to address. Creating law that will affect hundreds of people for the life of the law, as a reaction to a limited situation already covered in other law is a practice that should be avoided. It is also our concern that the law is simply circumvented (convincing themselves it doesn't apply). Circumvention undermines abiding other law. Such a law also reduces personal accountability.*

I am concerned that outside new members, outsiders, and potential insurers or regulators might read statements like this and get a wrong impression of our level of behavior. The text makes it sound like the problem is current, worse, and more widespread than it really is, and probably ever was.

Two combatants wishing to symbolically resolve a conflict on the field according to Adrian combat standards, or any members availing themselves of any other contest according to Adrian law, should be allowed to do so in a medieval/renaissance recreationist society.

***Authors/Co-Sponsors:** Dame Maedb Hawkins (Princess, Countess Royal, Knight Premier), Sir William Baine (Knight Premier, Marquis di Morte e la Foresta)*

X. DISCUSSION

As time allows.

XI. NEXT MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL ESTATES

Details to be announced.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

END OF AGENDA