



**The Adrian Empire
Imperial Estates Meeting
March 23, 2024
Agenda – Minutes**

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Prepared and submitted by:
Mourngrym – Arawn de Mordington, Imperial Chancellor

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GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Location: Remote Meeting via Zoom.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A REMOTE ONLY MEETING. Those who cannot attend in person are encouraged to send their proxy with an attendee of their choice or to submit a directed proxy to the Chancellor.

Date and Time*:

Sat, 23 March:	7:00 – 8:00 PDT	Sign In
	8:15 – 4:00 PDT	Imperial Estates Meeting

Airport:

N/A

Reservations and Rates:

N/A.

* - All times are local time (PDT)

Legend:

~~Deleted or replaced text~~

Added or new text

(Requirements for actions and approval)

Chancery notes, comments, and explanations.

Author's commentary

Imperial Crown commentary

Requirement for Written Proxies (Lex Adria Imperium, Article VI.H.)

It is the right of any member entitled to a vote to give a written proxy to any other Adrian member attending the meeting.

1. All proxies, including carried proxies must be emailed to the Chancellor no less than 72 hours before the meeting. Proxies submitted after this time will not be accepted.

AGENDA

II. SIGN IN

47 Present, 29 Proxy

III. CALL TO ORDER

IV. ROLL CALL

A. Seating of qualified members and written proxies

B. Petitions to waive as per Article VI.E.6. **PASSED: 71 FOR, 3 AGAINST, 2 ABSTAIN**
(Requires 2/3 to approve.)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the minutes of the November 2023 IEM **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**
(Requires majority to approve.)

VI. REPORTS

A. Executive

1. Crown(s) - *Hope to have RFP for database rebuild by July. Successful International Combat Tournament. 8 members attended, 5 combatants – We have been asked back. Partnered with Buhurt for the event. Need recommendations for Imperial Award Recipients. Having trouble booking war venues due to sites being booked a year in advance by other entities. Crowns have been travelling to different regions as much as possible.*
2. President and Board of Directors - *The board reviewed OBI and fully supports it. Went over the various nominations for leadership positions.*

B. Ministers

1. Archery – *Reduced activity due to winter weather. Looking for ideas for different shoots.*
2. Arts and Sciences – *E-mail issues have been corrected. Trying to grow non-judged project options. Need to improve war site coverage.*
3. Chancery – *Roster submissions were terrible. May have to consider judicial ban if rosters are ignored in the future. Only 7 total rosters received. Only requiring reports in the form*

- of minutes after local estates meetings or if something happens that needs to be brought up.*
4. Hospitaller – *Reporting is improving. Kingdoms have fallen off on reporting. Working to increase media presence.*
 5. Joust and War – *Combat is continuing. No reported complaints. Verifying standards.*
 6. Publishing (includes Imperial Webmaster, Chronicler, etc.) *Verifying Imperial e-mails*
 7. Rolls and Lists *Up to date on events. Conversion requests coming in. Working on Imperial Ministry points. Less than half of regions reporting. Notifications need to be stepped up.*
 8. Sovereign of Arms *-November LORR pending. LORRs through January 2024 soon.*
 9. Steward – *Membership renewals slow. \$50,6xx in chapter accounts. \$94,811 Empire funds*
 10. Other Officers

VII. EMERGENCY BUSINESS

- EB1. Waiver of 45 Day Agenda Requirement. SEE NOTE BY ROLL CALL**
(Requires 2/3 majority to approve.)

Chancery Note: Due to a combination of emergency travel for a family emergency and technical problems while travelling, the initial agenda failed to be produced at the 45 day mark. Per the Lex Adria, Section VI.G.3, the initial draft of the Agenda must be published 45 days prior to the date of meeting. Since this did not occur, all items on the agenda, aside from any dealing with Charters, Charter Amendments, or Retirement Titles will be tabled until the next scheduled meeting, unless a vote of 2/3 of the Estates approves waiving notice.

VIII. CROWN BUSINESS

- CRB1. Charter Amendments**

Chancery Note: These listings are based on the Membership Summary as of the date of publication.

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

1. Duchy of Constantinople *(Requires majority to reduce)*
 Current membership: 11/20 **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Chancery Note: The Lord Protector of Constantinope, (Saul a Ciuian) has made a formal request that the Duchy be reduced in status to Shire due to lack of support and participation in the chapter.

B. Crown announcements regarding Shires

None received

C. Requests for change in chartered territory

(Requires majority to approve.)

None Received

D. Elevate the following Chapters in status:

(Requires majority to approve.)

None received.

CRB2. Term Limits for Ministers

(Requires 2/3 majority to approve.)

FAILED: 31 FOR, 45 AGAINST

Amend Lex Adria Imperium to add the following as Article VII.H.:

H. Imperial Terms of Service

Members serving in the following ministries shall be limited to four years of continuous service in that ministry:

- Steward
- Rolls and Lists
- Chancellor
- Imperial Sovereign of Arms

A one-year break in service shall reset the time served and allow the minister to serve for another set of years, as does changing Ministry position (Steward to Chancellor, for example.)

Comments: If this does not garner the required 2/3 majority vote to become law, We would like to present this to the Imperial Estates as Imperial Estates Writ, which only required a standard majority vote. This could be its own IEW, or added to IEW 20.

The aim of this proposal is to prevent ministerial burnout. They are hard enough to find, let's keep them around for a while longer.

Several members commented that this is a good policy, but not a good law. Recommendations to add this to the Crown Handbook as a recommendation.

IX. CHANCERY BUSINESS

CHB1. Court Reports

A. Judicial Courts

No notices or judgments received.

B. Civil Courts **UPHELD BY ESTATES: 65 FOR, 6 AGAINST, 5 ABSTAIN**
(Requires a simple majority to Accept the ruling)

1. Applicability of Lex Adria Imperium VI.E.6.
Civil court documentation and ruling is attached as Appendix A.

CHB2/EB2. Award of Successful Completion of Reign for HIM Gabrielle III and HIM Callon I. **TABLED TO JULY 2024 IEM**

(This item is listed as Emergency Business due to the Chancellor leaving it off the Final Agenda. As such, it requires a 2/3 majority to discuss, a 2/3 Majority to consider, and a simple majority to approve. Any vote will also need to be ratified at the July IEM)

CHB3. Notification of Clarification of Language re: Handling of Complaints

NO OBJECTIONS TO CLARIFICATION OF LANGUAGE

(No approval is typically required for a clarification of language unless there is an objection.)

Modify the language of the Codex Adjudicata Section IV.F to bring it in line with Section V as follows.

“A complaint must be filed with the Ministry of Justice within 45 days of discovery of the offense. Once a Magistrate has been assigned, the Magistrate shall have no more than 30 days to evaluate the complaint and determine if they have merit. If merit is found, the Magistrate shall notify the named defendants in writing via Hand Delivery, E-mail, or Mail. Mediation must be attempted within twenty days of the ~~complaint being filed~~ notification being delivered. If mediation fails, or is refused by either party, and if the Minister of Justice finds sufficient cause for charges to be filed, the complaint shall become a set of charges no later than 15 days after the mediation (or attempt at same).

Chancery Commentary: Questions have been raised regarding the timeline for determination of merit being mentioned in Section V, but not in section IV. This change in language is simply to clarify the timeline.

CHB4. Election of the Board of Directors President

Election of President of the Board of Directors for the next year.

The following Letters of Intent have been received and are attached as Appendix B.

- Krystal Norman

KRYSTAL NORMAN APPROVED AS BOD PRESIDENT 5 OBJECTIONS

WILLIAM EYTEL APPROVED AS BOD VICE PRESIDENT WITHOUT OBJECTION
TRACY HANWELL APPROVED AS BOD SECRETARY WITHOUT OBJECTION

X. OLD BUSINESS

OB1. Revision of the Bylaws with respect to the Board of Directors

(Requires 2/3 majority to approve.) **PASSED WITH 1 OBJECTION. OBJECTION CONCEDED**

Replace Article V(C) of the Bylaws with the following language:

The Board of Directors is responsible for the mundane aspects of the organization. For this purpose, the Imperial Estates grants the Board of Directors the power to take independent action on behalf of the corporation in the following areas:

1. Preparing tax forms and making tax payments;
2. Preparation and filing of corporate compliance paperwork;
3. Insurance;
4. Handling of financial matters and monitoring bank accounts;
5. Registration and hosting of website;
6. Website and database structure and security;
7. Website content with respect to mundane information;
8. Removal and denial of membership;
9. Questions arising in mundane law including, but not limited to, suits and complaints arising from game activities which involve mundane legal issues.

This grant of power and responsibility does not limit the authority of the Imperial Estates to review and overrule the actions of the Board of Directors with a 2/3 vote or modify the areas in which the Board of Directors has been granted power and responsibility with a 2/3 vote.

The grant of power and responsibility also creates a duty for the Board of Directors to address the needs of the organization in these areas. Failure to address the needs of the organization in these areas will be considered a breach of that duty. Said breach may serve as a basis for the imperial estates to remove and replace a board member by a 2/3 vote.

Author's commentary: This proposal provides a clear statement giving both responsibility and the authority to act on mundane issues to the Board of Directors.

The purpose of this modification is to allow the Board of Directors to take responsibility for mundane issues while the Imperial Estates focuses on issues related to the game.

The proposed language preserves the ability for the Imperial Estates to review and overrule actions taken by the Board of Directors while providing faster response to mundane issues through the Board of Directors. This also provides a basis for removal, by a 2/3 vote of board members (or the entire board) if the imperial estates determine that the board has breached its duties.

By including an enumerated list of areas of responsibility the Imperial Estates can, as necessary, amend the grant of powers to limit or expand the responsibilities of the Board of Directors. This enumerated list is based on a list prepared by the board of directors. Friendly suggestions on amendments to modify this list to best suit the needs of the organization are welcome.

Author: HE Cagar “Won Ton Lee” cu Mara, who would like as little credit as possible

Sponsors: HG Puck, HG Tailan Bran McNeil, HG Ann Arwenia Amidala, HG Coda von Ramnstein

OB2. Revision of Approval Requirements for Multi-Group Events

(Requires 2/3 majority to approve.) **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Revise Article VI.F.3.a.ii of the Lex Adria Imperium as follows:

[The Imperial Crown has the right to]

ii. Be the ~~sole~~ primary representative of the Adrian Empire to other organizations and governments. ~~Any Estate of the Adrian Empire desiring to attend the events of other organizations or hold joint events with them shall obtain the prior written consent of the Imperial Crown. This does not prevent Estates or individuals from being able to attend the events of other organizations or hold joint events with them as long as the portion of the event that will be an Adrian activity is conducted in accordance with Adrian laws. This right of the Imperial Crown does not supersede IEW 27 or other specific rulings to conduct of events.~~

Author’s commentary: We feel that this law is a detriment to our organization.

Author: HG Puck

Sponsors: HG Fafnir Hallgrim, HG Siegfried

XI. NEW BUSINESS

NB1. Creation of the Imperial Order of the Knight Esteemed

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

To become a member of the Order of the Knight Esteemed, one must have earned 1st, 2nd, and 3rd level knighthood in a discipline by qualifying using only the highest level of participation in that discipline. This requires a total of 89 Knight’s List tournament wins

or masterworks for Arts & Sciences (this includes the Sergeant’s List win requirement), 25 discipline related Dis, and 16 participations as a Range Master, Minister of Arts & Science, Minister of War & Joust or Crown Marshal, Autocrat, or other assistant (e.g. marshal, judge, etc.) as appropriate for the discipline, at wars. An individual can become a Knight Esteemed in each of the four disciplines. Acceptance into this Order bestows precedence equal to a Baron or Baroness of the Imperial Court.

Author: HG Gregor Pent Graf von Schongau, Knight Premier

Sponsors: HIH Sir William Bain

Author Commentary: It has been said that there is no “goal” for a knight once they have reached 3rd level. This order would give knights that goal and recognize those few who have “gone the extra mile” to “prove their worth”.

When I first proposed this in a discussion, complaints were made that the version of the war point requirement did not show proper prowess or was “too political” as being the Range Master, MoWJ, Arts Minister, or Autocrat for a war was a “political” appointment. I suggest that, by not requiring them to be the “politically appointed” person-in-charge, there should be a more than adequate opportunity for 3rd level knights to serve in these positions regardless of who is Crown. Or, if this body feels that being the “assistant” is not adequate and that the Crowns will be, as they should, fair enough to give any qualified knight the opportunity to serve in these positions, at “fun” wars especially, and given that each chapter is authorized to hold up to 4 wars per year and service can be rendered in other chapters and the Empire, I would welcome a friendly amendment to remove the “or other assistant” option.

Several suggestions were provided to possibly streamline the process of gaining entry to the order. Author will be submitting a rewrite of this item as New Business for discussion in July

XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

DI1. Discuss the allocated land given to chapters and its use by those chapters.

Author Commentary: Many chapters have lands chartered to them that are far larger than where they currently hold events. Looking through the charters for all chapters, eight chapters have lands that are considered to be most of a state or larger.

We believe this reduces the chances for expansion of the Adrian Empire, as most chapters are unwilling to give up land for creating new chapters or other growth opportunities. We are looking to the Imperial Estates to see if there is appetite for a law (or merely action) to review these charters and size them appropriately to the areas in which they hold events.

Authors: HIH Gabriele IV, HIH Callon II

TIMs want chapters to review their land use and determine if they would be able and willing to potentially make land available for new chapters. Some discussion was had regarding adopting a “borderless” model.

XIII. NEXT MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL ESTATES

July 2024 – Dates and location TBD

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 3:56 PM

APPENDIX A

Civil Court Reports

Applicability of Lex Adria Imperium VI.E.6.

Petitioner: Prince William Baine

Question: Does the attendance requirement in Lex Adria Imperium VI.E.6. apply to vote-holders at the chapter level?

Presiding Justice: Dame Edelinne d'Orsay

Justices: King Timothy of Terre Neuve

Archduke Cagar of Esperance

Date: January 28, 2024

10:00 a.m. PST

Witnesses: Prince William

Sir Thomas Weimar

Dame Katelyn

Sir Tailan Bran McNeil

Sir Pavo

Dame Rose Tetreau

Gallery: Emperor Callon

Sir Trebor

Sir Gregor

Dame Sibylle

Dame Lenora

Ruling: The law as written does apply to voters at both the chapter and imperial levels.

Note: Based on the testimony heard, the court recommends the Imperial Estates consider

revisiting this portion of the law. Witnesses expressed interest in:

- 1) Adding flexibility for extenuating circumstances
- 2) Increasing the requirement from attendance to participation
- 3) Explicitly defining requirements for chapter and imperial voters (or clearly stating that chapters shall set their own requirements)

Synopsized Basis for Ruling:

- While testimony and written statements indicated that an Imperial Chancellor had ruled on this topic over 20 years ago, witnesses agreed that no Imperial Civil Court was previously held on the issue. Some witnesses testified that they were not aware of the prior ruling, and the Court was not aware of the prior ruling. No documentation of the prior ruling could be found. In October 2023, Dame Edelinne was asked to make a ruling on this topic, and she ruled that the requirements set forth in VI.E.6. did apply at the Chapter level. Notwithstanding, the ongoing confusion surrounding this topic necessitated an Imperial Civil Court decision, which would

supersede all prior rulings, pending ratification by the Imperial Estates.

- Lex Adria Imperium VI. “Official Meetings; Imperial Estates Calendar” contains references to all levels of Estates.

o Ex.: VI.E.1. “A meeting of a given body of the Estates is officially convened when a quorum is established.”

o Ex.: VI.E.2. “With the exception of the Sergeant-at-Arms, no one may bring weapons to any meeting of the Estates.”

- There are portions of Lex Adria Imperium VI. that explicitly refer to the Imperial Estates.

o Ex.: VI.E.3. “The Imperial Estates shall meet on the second Saturday of November...”

o Ex.: VI.E.4. “The Imperial Estates shall meet in March of every year...”

o Ex.: VI.E.5. “The Imperial Estates shall meet in July of every year...”

- The portion of Lex Adria Imperium VI.E.6. that outlines the attendance requirement is one clause in the following sentence:

“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 two official events in any Chapter within the previous six months will be denied a seat.”

If the attendance requirement was only applicable to the Imperial Estates, then the remainder of this sentence would also only be applicable to the Imperial Estates. Upon review of Adrian Law, no additional rules were found that explicitly bar members “whose dues are not current” (or, who are not in good standing) or members who are under judicial ban from voting at the Chapter level. The definition of judicial ban in the Codex Adjudicata simply indicates that a member under a judicial ban “may include” inability to vote in any Estates meeting. The court finds that it would not be reasonable for individual Chapters to allow former members and members under judicial ban to vote at their local Estates meetings. Thus, the sentence as a whole applies to all levels of Estates.

APPENDIX B

Letters of Intent for the President of the Board of Directors

To the Imperial Estates of the Adrian Empire,

I am submitting my letter of intent to run for the President of the Board of Directors. I have been the Secretary for the Board for the last year, helping to create the Agenda for the Board of Directors. I have also been a voting member of the Imperial Estates with the Kingdom of Auroch's Fjord for multiple years. In my mundane life I utilize Robert's Rule of Law to facilitate monthly Board of Director Meetings for Eight 501c(4) more commonly known as common Interest communities or HOA's. I work on a daily basis with Governing Documents such as Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to guide these organizations with their governing and fiduciary duties.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Krystal Norman