

The Laws of the Kingdom of Meridies

ARTICLE I	5
The Rights, Duties and Privileges of the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies, Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Meridies, and Territorial Prince and Princess.....	5
I-101 Definition of the Crown.....	5
I-102 Laws of Meridies	5
I-103 Publication.....	5
I-104 Sovereign's Presence	5
I-105 Consort's Presence	5
I-106 Crown Prince's Presence.....	5
I-107 Crown Princess' Presence	5
I-108 Awards.....	5
I-109 Sovereign and Consort	6
I-110 Crown Prince and Crown Princess	6
I-111 Prince and Princess of Principalities within Meridies.....	6
I-112 Royal Arms of Meridies	6
ARTICLE II.....	7
Awards and Titles/Orders.....	7
II-100 Scrolls of Arms.....	7
II-101 Royal Peerage.....	7
II-102 Landed Baron/Baroness	7
II-103 Court Baron/Baroness	8
II-104 Grants of Arms	8
II-105 Awards of Arms	8
II-106 Augmentation of Arms.....	8
Orders	8
II-200 General	8
II-201 Preface.....	8
II-202 The Order of the Rose	9
II-203 Patent of Arms.....	9
II-204 The Order of the Bough Meridies	10
II-205 The Order of the Velvet Owl	10
II-206 The Order of the Scarlet Star	11
II-207 The Order of the Sable Sword.....	12
II-208 The Order of the Legio Ursi.....	12
II-209 The Order of the Split Arrow	13
II-210 The Order of Meridian Blade.....	14
II-211 The Order of the Argent Comet	14
II-212 The Order of the Rising Swan.....	14
II-213 The Order of Meridian Majesty	15
II-214 The Order of the Sovereign's Pleasure	15
II-215 The Order of the Meridian Cross	15
II-216 The Order of the Argent Lily	15
II-217 The Order of the Argent Shield.....	15
II-218 The Order of the Meridian Broken Bow	15
II-219 The Order of the Weapons Master	16
II-220 The Order of the Argent Lance	16

II-221 The Order of the Cygnet	16
II-222 The Order of the Guiding Hand, Meridies	16
II-223 The Order of the Chalice.....	16
II-224 The Order of the Athanor	16
II-225 The Order of Compostella.....	17
II-226 The Order of the Broken Brank	17
II-227 The Order of the Burning Trumpet	17
II-228 The Companionate of the Meridian King's Champion	17
II-229 The Companionate of the Meridian Queen's Champion	18
II-230 The Companionate of the Bard	18
II-231 The Companionate of the Poet Laureate	18
II-232 The Companionate of the Queen's Yeoman.....	18
II-233 The Companionate of the King's Lancer.....	19
II-234 The Order of the Sable Quill.....	19
II-235 The Award of the Crown's Favor	19
II-236 The Order of the Guidon, Meridies (closed).....	19
II-237 The Order of the Cygnet's Nest.....	20
II-238 The Order of the Argent Rapier	20
II-239 The Order of the Argent Slipper	20
II-240 The Companionate of the Meridian Queen's Rapier Champion	20
II-241 The Order of the Duvant Cross	21
II-242 Principals of the Orders.....	21
II-243 The Consulting Orders	21
Baronial Service Orders	21
II-301 Baronial Service Orders	21
II-302 The Order of the Red Raven	21
II-303 The Order of the Sable Gryphon.....	21
II-304 The Order of the Sanguine Mountain.....	21
II-305 The Order of the Dreamstone.....	21
II-306 The Order of the Doubloon del Mar (Closed).....	22
II-307 The Order of the Osprey's Jess.....	22
II-308 The Order of the Golden Iris (Closed)	22
Order of Precedence	22
II-400 Order of Precedence.....	22
ARTICLE III.....	22
Officers	22
III-100 Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers.....	22
III-101 Definition of the Great Officers of State	23
III-102 Definition of the Lesser Officers of State.....	23
III-103 Privy Council	23
III-104 Officers	23
III-105 Legal Authority.....	24
III-106 Responsibilities.....	24
III-107 Warrant of Appointment or Removal	24
ARTICLE IV	24
Officer Responsibilities	24
IV-101 Seneschal of the Kingdom.....	24
IV-102 Local Seneschals.....	26

IV-103 Earl Marshal	26
IV-105 Minister of Arts and Sciences.....	28
IV-106 Chronicler	28
IV-107 Chancellor of the Exchequer	28
IV-108 Kingdom Chirurgeon.....	29
IV-201 Kingdom High Sheriff (Repealed).....	29
IV-202 Minister of Children	29
IV-203 Kingdom Regalia Coordinator.....	30
IV-204 Kingdom Chatelaine	30
IV-205 Kingdom Waterbearer (Repealed).....	30
V-206 Kingdom Historian.....	30
VI-207 Kingdom Webminister.....	31
VII-208 Chancellor of the Royal University of Meridies (RUM)	31
Article V	31
Courts	31
V-101 Courts of Meridies	31
V-102 Curia.....	33
ARTICLE VI	33
Code of Conduct.....	33
VI-101 Code of Conduct.....	33
ARTICLE VII	34
Rights and Duties of the Populace.....	34
VII-101 Membership Benefits	34
VII-102 Badge of Meridies	34
VII-103 Meridies Flag.....	34
VII-104 Communications.....	35
VII-105 Weapons	35
VII-106 Costume.....	35
VII-107 Children.....	35
VII-108 Animals	36
ARTICLE VIII.....	36
Succession of the Crown	36
VIII-101 Rules of the List.....	36
VIII-102 Requirements for Entering a Crown List.....	36
VIII-103 Passing on of the Crown	37
VIII-104 Succession/Abdication/Failure of Monarchs	37
Article IX	38
Subsidiary Groups	38
IX-101 Colleges/Ports/Strongholds	38
IX-102 Cantons	38
IX-103 Shires	38
IX-104 Baronies	38
IX-105 Provinces	39
IX-106 Principalities	39
IX-107 Advancement of Principality to Kingdom Status.....	39
IX-108 Establishment and Advancement of Subsidiary Groups	40
IX-109 Reduction of Group Status	40
ARTICLE X.....	41

Kingdom events	41
X-101 Kingdom Events.....	41
X-102 Coronation.....	41
X-103 Crown List.....	41
X-104 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire.....	41
X-105 Fighters Collegium.....	42
X-106 Kingdom Collegium (Royal University of Meridies).....	42
X-107 Meridian Grand Tourney	42
X-108 Inter-Kingdom Events.....	42
X-109 Cash and Funds	42
X-110 Events.....	42
The Sumptuary Laws of Meridies.....	42
Crowns/Coronets.....	43
Collars of Estate	43
Badges	43
Chains and Spurs.....	44
Belts and Baldrics	44
Batons.....	44
Supporters	44
Substitution	44
Standards	44

ARTICLE I

The Rights, Duties and Privileges of the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies, Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Meridies, and Territorial Prince and Princess

I-101 Definition of the Crown

The Crown shall consist of the Sovereign and the Consort of Meridies. All rights, duties, and powers rest with both, equally and separately, unless otherwise specified by the Corpora, the written Directives of the Board of Directors, or Kingdom Law.

I-102 Laws of Meridies

The Laws of Meridies shall be the Word of the Crown, publicly proclaimed and printed in the Kingdom Newsletter, subject to the authority of the Board of Directors, Corpora, and the By-laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the Laws of the United States of America. No new laws or amendments shall be in effect, nor shall the subjects of Meridies be held in account for the new law or amendment until both proclamations by the Crown and publication in the Kingdom Newsletter takes place.

I-103 Publication

All amendments, deletions, additions, and proclamations shall be published in the Kingdom Newsletter within 90 days of issuance, and shall bear the signatures of the Sovereign, the Consort, and the Kingdom Seneschal.

I-104 Sovereign's Presence

The Sovereign's Presence shall be defined as the ten-foot area around Their body, and no person, including the Consort, shall enter this Presence without rendering proper courtesy to the Crown. No persons save armigers may bear arms in the Sovereign's Presence.

I-105 Consort's Presence

The Consort's Presence shall be defined as the ten-foot area around Their body, and no person, including the Sovereign, shall enter this Presence without rendering proper courtesy to the Crown. No persons save armigers may bear arms in the Consort's Presence.

I-106 Crown Prince's Presence

The Crown Prince's Presence shall be defined as the ten foot area around His body, and no person, excluding the Sovereign and Consort, including the Crown Princess, shall enter this Presence without rendering proper courtesy to the Coronet. No persons save armigers may bear arms in the Prince's Presence.

I-107 Crown Princess' Presence

The Crown Princess' Presence shall be defined as the ten-foot area around Her body, and no person, excluding the Sovereign and Consort, including the Crown Prince, shall enter this Presence without rendering proper courtesy to the Coronet. No persons save armigers may bear arms in the Princess' Presence.

I-108 Awards

The Sovereign and Consort shall have the right to give titles, ennoblements, awards, grants, etc., as They see fit and as outlined by Corpora and Kingdom Law. The Crown shall consult the Beacon Herald prior to the creation of a new order regarding the name and regalia of the proposed order.

I-109 Sovereign and Consort

- (A) The Sovereign and Consort are the Protectors of all Orders within the Kingdom and, as such, shall enjoy all rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the Companions of the Orders.
- (B) The rights and honors accorded to Orders (e.g., march and precedence, election, associates, display and maintenance of arms and insignia, bearing arms in the Royal Presence, etc.) stem from the Crown and, as such, are subject to regulation by the Crown, and may be delegated by the Crown to the Orders for their internal maintenance.
- (C) The Crown shall, should circumstances warrant and the Corpora being otherwise complied with, delegate the Authority to award Knighthood and/or bestow the Orders of the Laurel, Pelican, and any other awards, to a special representative. This delegation will be in writing for each award.
- (D) No Sovereign or Consort shall, during the time of His or Her Reign, hold any other office within the Kingdom, but shall provide for a suitable successor for any vacancy of office He or She may leave. This shall not include such custodial care of territorial baronages, as the Crown may deem necessary.
- (E) The Sovereign and Consort shall have the right to designate sites and hosting groups for Kingdom level events. If bids are not previously accepted, the Crown should consult the Heirs on events to be held during Their reign and any Kingdom Officer on events relating to their office.
- (F) The Sovereign and Consort should supply the Heirs with any Kingdom law changes.
- (G) The Sovereign and Consort are responsible for all Royal regalia used during Their reign. They are liable for any damages done while in Their possession due to gross negligence. Said Kingdom property shall be accounted for at the end of each reign. They are to work with Kingdom Regalia Coordinator or representative to transfer said regalia at Coronation and Crown List.

I-110 Crown Prince and Crown Princess

- (A) The Crown Prince and Crown Princess shall act as regents of the Crown whenever the Sovereign and Consort are both absent, subject to the provisions in Item I-110, to wit.
- (B) No Crown Prince or Crown Princess shall hold any other office within the Kingdom, but shall provide for a suitable successor for any vacancy of office He or She may leave for the period during which He or She is Crown Prince/Princess. This shall not include such custodial care of territorial baronages, as the Crown may deem necessary.
- (C) It is Their duty to complete arrangements for the Crown List that will be held during Their reign.
- (D) The Crown Prince and Crown Princess are responsible for all Royal regalia used during their tenure. They are liable for any damages done while in Their possession due to gross negligence. Said Kingdom property shall be accounted for at the end of their tenure. They are to work with the Kingdom Regalia Coordinator or representative to transfer said regalia at Crown List.

I-111 Prince and Princess of Principalities within Meridies

- (A) The Prince and the Princess of Principalities within Meridies shall be honored appropriately to the station and in a manner similar to the Sovereign and Consort and shall swear fealty to the Crown of Meridies.
- (B) This subsection as it relates to Gleann Abhann was *Repealed 04/06*.

I-112 Royal Arms of Meridies

- (A) The Royal Arms of the Sovereign shall be: Argent, on a pale sable a crown of three points; above each point a mullet argent, overall a laurel wreath counterchanged.
- (B) The Royal Arms of the Consort shall be: Argent, on a pale sable a crown of three points, above each point a mullet argent, overall a chaplet of roses counterchanged.
- (C) The Royal Arms of Meridies shall not be displayed save in the Presence of the Sovereign or the Consort, or the symbols of Their Presence.

ARTICLE II

Awards and Titles/Orders

II-100 Scrolls of Arms

- (A) When a Scroll of Arms is presented the Sovereign and the Consort shall sign it. In the case of a Principality, the reigning Prince and Princess shall sign it when it is an Award of Arms, if such were the pleasure of the reigning Crown.
- (B) All official Scrolls of Arms must be sealed or signed by the Beacon Herald.

II-101 Royal Peerage

A Royal Peer is defined as one who has, at least once, successfully concluded a reign as Territorial Prince, Princess, King or Queen and therefore has been awarded the title of Vi-count, Vi-countess, Count, Countess, Duke, Duchess or Similar Titles as consistent with SCA Heraldry for those who have reigned over a Principality or Kingdom in the SCA. These Royal Peers shall march in Precedence ahead of all other armigers.

II-102 Landed Baron/Baroness

- (A) The Crown shall, with the advice and petition of the Baronial populace, appoint a Landed Baron and/or Baroness.
- (B) Landed Barons and Baronesses shall have the privilege of bearing the Baronial Arms in canton upon their own.
- (C) When a Barony within the Kingdom of Meridies has no Baron or Baroness, the rights, duties and titles granted to the Baron/Baroness shall revert to the Crown of Meridies.
- (D) The Crown may appoint or remove a Baron/Baroness for cause after receiving written opinion from the populace of the Barony, or if the ruling Baron/Baroness shall be unable to fulfill the duties of the Office for an extended time, the Crown may, at the request of the Baron/Baroness, appoint a Vicar who will have all powers, privileges, rights and duties of the Baron/Baroness, save that he/she shall not assume the title, nor will he/she have the right to bear the arms in canton.
- (E) All Territorial Barons/Baronesses shall swear fealty to the Crown of Meridies. Should they not be able to attend the Crown in person, they shall submit a written Oath of Fealty.
- (F) All Territorial Barons/Baronesses not swearing fealty shall be considered inactive by the Crown and section (c) of II-102 shall be activated until such time as fealty is sworn to the Crown.
- (G) The Territorial Baron/Baroness shall have the right to preside over Baronial events and may hold Baronial Courts.
- (H) The Territorial Baron/Baroness may establish non-armigerous awards, which shall be specific to his/her barony.
- (I) The Baron/Baroness, as representative of the Crown, shall have the right to bestow the Baronial Service Order specific to his/her barony and, at his/her discretion and with the Crown's permission, this Baronial Service Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms.
- (J) The title of Territorial Baron/Baroness may be accompanied by a Grant of Arms, subject to the pleasure of the Crown.
- (K) A Territorial Baron/Baroness is the representative of the Crown within the boundaries of his/her Territory, shall be responsible to the Crown for the establishment and maintenance of such procedures and customs as are necessary for the internal peace and orderly continuance of that Barony, and shall be

afforded such courtesies as are his/her rights as representative of the Crown.

- (L) The Crown may appoint a Vicar and/or Vicaress to oversee the Barony should the need arise.
- (M) Territorial Baron/Baronesses shall process ahead of the Bestowed Peerages in a March of Precedence.

II-103 Court Baron/Baroness

- (A) The Crown may give the title of Court Baron/Baroness to whomever They wish.
- (B) The title Court Baron/Baroness shall bear an award of arms but shall not otherwise affect the precedence of the recipient.

II-104 Grants of Arms

Grants of Arms are given at the pleasure of the Crown to those persons of outstanding achievement to the kingdom. This is an award of special dignity and is not bestowed lightly.

II-105 Awards of Arms

Awards of Arms are given at the pleasure of the Crown or, in the case of a Principality and with the permission of the reigning Crown, by the reigning Prince and Princess.

II-106 Augmentation of Arms

- (A) An augmentation of Arms may be bestowed by the Crown upon the arms of any individual or group for exceptional service to the Kingdom of a nature not normally recognized through Society Awards; e.g., actions of a particularly honorable or charitable nature.
- (B) The augmentation shall be of the form: three mullets argent, 1 and 2 may be placed upon said arms where appropriate.
- (C) Those Augmentations bestowed prior to AS XXXVI (May 2001) may be formed: three mullets argent, fesswise. However all future Augmentations may adopt the current form.

II-107 Armigers

All individuals receiving awards in the Kingdom of Meridies which carry with them armigerous status (award, grant or patent), or any individual to be invested with the Coronet of a territory (Landed Baron/Baroness) shall be required to be paid members of the Society in good standing.

Orders

II-200 General

- (A) All orders that entail a polling process must have a copy of their voting procedures present to take a vote on a candidate.
- (B) It is required that a Crown receive permission to bestow any armigerous award from the recipient's home Crown, and further it is courteous to inform the home Crown, and further it is courteous to inform the home Crown of any award bestowed on their populace.
- (C) Anyone may recommend any citizen of the Kingdom of Meridies for any award.

II-201 Preface

In days of old, awards, and particularly Grants-of-Arms, were sparingly awarded, which made them of great value. In these later days, orders and awards proliferate, though few orders rest solely on their own merit and the repute of their numbers, but all must have their lesser award, greater award, or even grant, and strings of initials. Recognition of skill and service in any area is valuable, but all monarchs are urged to exercise restraint; perhaps that all-important but neglected area of endeavor that must be rewarded is simply a monarch's own special interest. Particularly in this matter of Grants is restraint urged; the existing orders

(Bough, Velvet Owl, Scarlet Star, Sable Sword, Legio Ursi, Split Arrow, and Meridian Blade) are sufficient for all areas of the arts, sciences, and service; such fair coinage should not be debased.

II-202 The Order of the Rose

- (A) This Order shall consist of past Consorts of the Kingdom and shall be presented at the Pleasure of the Crown.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.R. and shall be styled and announced in processional as Companions of the Order of the Rose.
- (C) The Order shall carry no arms or otherwise affect the precedence of the individual who receives this award.

II-203 Patent of Arms

- (A) General minimum requirements for candidates for the Peerage shall include:
 - 1. They shall have been obedient to the Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society, and the Laws of Meridies.
 - 2. They shall have consistently shown respect for and support of the Crown of Meridies.
 - 3. They shall have set an example of courteous and noble behavior suitable to a Peer of the Realm.
 - 4. They shall have demonstrated support for the ideals of the Society by being as authentic in dress, equipment and behavior as is within their power.
 - 5. They shall have shown willingness to share their knowledge and impart unto others their skills.
 - 6. They shall have practiced hospitality according to their means and as appropriate to circumstances.
 - 7. They shall have made every effort to learn and practice those skills worthy of a civilized Court such as literature, dancing, heraldry, chess, and be familiar with fighting as practiced in the Society.
 - 8. They shall have attained at least the standard of accomplishment achieved by existing Peers of the Order for which they are candidates, as determined in consultation with the members of the Order.
 - 9. They shall maintain an active membership within the Society and they shall maintain all the above standards of accomplishment and behavior.
- (B) The orders of the Peerage are held to be of equal precedence and shall be considered as 1 group.
- (C) Members of the Peerage are bound by specifics as defined by Corpora. Further:
 - 1. It is the duty of a Peer to advise the Crown upon the admission of worthy candidates to their Order.
 - 2. It is the duty of a Peer to make available his/her knowledge and skills to the greater weal of the Kingdom and Society.
 - 3. It is the right of the Peers present to be invited to participate in the elevation process.
 - 4. As is tradition, Peers of Meridies are expected to swear or affirm their support of the Crown of Meridies.
- (D) Resignation/Degradation from the Peerage
 - 1. Any member of an Order conferring a Patent of Arms has the right to resign as a member of that Order by sending a written resignation to the Crown, the Principal of the Order, and the Board of Directors.
 - 2. Peers for whom mundane obligations and necessities pose insurmountable obstacles to the requirements of their rank, as listed above, may elect to petition the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal for emeritus status. With the granting of this status, a Peer shall be exempted from those responsibilities and duties within the primogeniture of the Crown until such time as the Peer Emeritus shall state the resumption of his/her duties. Among these responsibilities shall be included voting within the Peerage circle: the taking of further associates, and attendance at any and all meetings of their respective circles. The Peer Emeritus may reassume these responsibilities

by simple re-notification of the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, and the Secretary of their Order no less than 30 days prior to said resumption. The provisions of this law shall be binding only on the Peerage of the Kingdom of Meridies.

3. The Board of Directors reserves the right to degrade a person from the Peerage. A recommendation to the Board for degradation may be made when a member of an Order consistently fails to show those Peerly qualities that caused their elevation. This is to be determined by a consensus of the Order and the Crown as specified in Corpora.

II-204 The Order of the Bough Meridies

- (A) There shall exist in the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an Order to which the Sovereign and Consort may elect those persons who have served Meridies well and faithfully, above and beyond normal expectation from the subjects of Meridies, and who have consistently displayed courtesy and chivalry in an exemplary manner. This Order shall be called the Order of the Bough, Meridies hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.B.M. and shall be styled and announced in procession as Companions of the Order of the Bough, Meridies.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms, and shall process ahead of the baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies, although the Companions of the Order have the right of consultation and recommendation directly to the Crown. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Sovereign and Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order.
- (E) Members:
 1. The number of members shall not be limited.
 2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.
- (F) The Principal of the Order shall be the active Companion of the Order who first received the Order.
- (G) The Order shall adopt such guidelines for internal governance as the secretary and the Companions of the Order find needful, to be reviewed every 2 years. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to, these rules:
 1. The Order shall select a secretary to record its business.
 2. The secretary shall maintain a mailing list of the members of the Order.
 3. The Order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Crown. The Crown should be informed of and invited to attend all such meetings.
 4. The Order should make written recommendation to the Crown after each of its meetings.
- (H) The Companions of the Order shall wear an oval of cypress wood, bearing a silver-colored letter M (uncial alphabet) pendant from a silver-colored chain or cord.
- (I) Companions of the Order may also bear the badge: "Sable, in pale the Lombardic uppercase letter M argent and a tree branch coupé fesswise reversed to sinister Or."

II-205 The Order of the Velvet Owl

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an Order unto which the Consort of Meridies may elect those persons who have shown outstanding skill and accomplishment in the Arts and Sciences, who have imparted those skills to the populace of Meridies by regular teaching and sharing of ability in their particular specialty, and who have consistently displayed courtesy and chivalry in an exemplary manner above and beyond those efforts normally required of the subjects of Meridies. This Order shall be called the Order of the Velvet Owl, hereinafter referred to as the Order.

- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.V.O. and shall be styled in procession as Companions of the Order of the Velvet Owl.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Consort of Meridies, who may consult with the existing Companions of the Order. Companions of the Order, as well as other citizens of Meridies, may recommend unto the Consort such persons as they feel merit election unto the Order. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order
- (E) Members:
 1. The number of members shall not be limited.
 2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.
- (F) The Principal of the Order shall be the active Companion of the Order who first received the Order.
- (G) The Order shall adopt such guidelines as the secretary and Companions of the Order find needful, to be reviewed every 2 years. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to, these rules:
 1. The Order shall select a secretary to record its business.
 2. The secretary shall maintain a mailing list of the members of the Order.
 3. The Order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Consort. The Consort shall be informed of and invited to attend all such meetings.
 4. The Order should make written recommendation to the Consort after each meeting.
- (H) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless An owl's head cabossed within and conjoined to an annulet argent."

II-206 The Order of the Scarlet Star

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an order into which the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies may elect those persons who have served Meridies well and faithfully, above and beyond that normally required of the subjects of Meridies. This service shall have taken the form of consistent and successful administration of a number of Society events, traditionally referred to as autocratting, and/or the consistent and successful administration and preparation of a number of Society feasts, traditionally referred to as feastcratting. This order shall be called the Order of the Scarlet Star, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.S.R. and shall be styled and announced in procession of the Companions of the Order of the Scarlet Star.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the Baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies, who may consult with the existing Companions of the Order. Companions of the Order, as well as other citizens of Meridies, may recommend unto the Sovereign and Consort such persons as they feel merit election unto the Order. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Sovereign and Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order.
- (E) Members:
 1. The number of members shall not be limited.
 2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.
- (F) The Order's badge shall be "Sable, a mullet gules, fimbriated, between two pallets argent."

II-207 The Order of the Sable Sword

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an order to which the Sovereign and Consort may elect those persons who have served Meridies with longtime excellence, quality, and chivalry in the fulfillment of duties of a martial nature. These individuals will have shown outstanding skill and accomplishment in the Martial Arts and will have imparted those skills to the populace of Meridies by regular teaching and sharing of ability and will have distinguished themselves through courtesy and prowess on the tournament field. Furthermore, they shall have and maintain armour which is of a period nature. This Order shall be called the Order of the Sable Sword, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.S.S. and shall be styled and announced in procession as Companions of the Order of the Sable Sword.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the Baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort, although the Companions of the Order have the right of consultation and recommendation directly to the Crown. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Sovereign and Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order.
- (E) Members:
 - 1. The number of members shall not be limited.
 - 2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.
- (F) The Principal of the Order shall be the active Companion of the Order who first received the Order.
- (G) The Order shall adopt such rules for internal governance as the Principal and Companions of the Order find needful.
 - 1. The Order shall select a secretary to record its business.
 - 2. The secretary shall maintain a mailing list of the members of the Order so that all members may be consulted by mail.
 - 3. The Order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Crown. The Crown shall be informed of and invited to attend all such meetings.
 - 4. The Order shall make written recommendation to the Crown after each of its meetings, even should no new members be elected.
- (H) The Companions of the Order shall be entitled to wear a white garter bearing the words Corona Vult and/or a cloak bearing the badge of the Order.
- (I) The Order's badge shall be "Sable, on a pale between two escutcheons argent, a sword sable."

II-208 The Order of the Legio Ursi

- (A) There shall exist in the Kingdom of Meridies and Order to which the Sovereign and Consort may elect those persons who have exemplified and furthered the art of soldiering, who have shown outstanding skill upon the field of war, who have imparted those skills to others by teaching and training, and who consistently display leadership, courtesy, and chivalry in an exemplary manner, above and beyond that normally expected of the subjects of Meridies. This Order shall be known as the Order of the Legio Ursi or Legion of the Bear, herein referred to as the Order.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials M.L.U. and shall be styled in procession as Praetorians of the Legio Ursi, or Members of the Legion of the Bear.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the Baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) Election/Election Proclaimed
 - 1. The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort of Meridies,

although the Companions of the Order have the right of consultation and recommendation directly to the Crown.

2. The election into the Order shall require an Oath signed by the Sovereign, Consort, and recipient. The recipient should sign this Oath when the Oath is taken. The Oath shall read: "I shall and for as long as I remain a soldier of Meridies, defend the Crown and Kingdom and serve within the Legion of the Bear, pledging the safety of the Crown and Heirs with this my sworn Oath."
3. The election of Companions shall be publicly proclaimed in the Presence of the Crown or Their representative and shall be announced in the pertinent publications of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

(E) Members:

1. Members of the Order will be styled as honorary members and be released from their oath upon their residence changing to places outside Meridies.
2. Members of the Order who are elevated to Chivalric Patent shall be styled as honorary members and shall no longer participate in the consulting of the Order.
3. Membership within the Order may be withdrawn if a Member fails to display continuous dedication to the ideals and mission of the Order.

(F) The Principal of the Order shall be an active Member of the Order who first received the Order and shall be styled as Primus Pilus.

(G) The Order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Crown.

II-209 The Order of the Split Arrow

(A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an Order to which the Sovereign and Consort may elect those persons who have served Meridies with longtime excellence, quality, and chivalry in the pursuit of Archery. These gentles will have imparted those skills to the populace of Meridies by regular teaching and sharing of ability in their particular specialty, and will have distinguished themselves either on the field of battle or at the target, or both. This Order shall be called the Order of the Split Arrow, hereinafter referred to as the Order.

(B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.S.A. and shall be styled and announced in procession as Companions of the Order of the Split Arrow.

(C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the Baronial Awards of Arms.

(D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort, although the Companions of the Order have the right of consultation and recommendation directly to the Crown. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Sovereign and Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order.

(E) Members:

1. The number of members shall not be limited.
2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.

(F) The Order shall adopt such rules for internal governance as Companions of the Order find needful.

1. The Order shall select a secretary to record its business.
2. The secretary shall maintain a mailing list of the members of the Order so that all members may be consulted.

(H) The order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Crown. The Crown shall be informed of and invited to attend all such meetings. The Order shall make written recommendation to the Crown after each of its meetings.

(I) The Order's badge shall be "Argent, on a pale sable between a pair of arrows inverted and in chief two mullets sable, an arrow inverted and in chief a mullet argent."

II-210 The Order of Meridian Blade.

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an order to which the Sovereign and Consort may elect those persons who have served Meridies with longtime excellence, quality, leadership, courtesy, and chivalry in the pursuit of the art of rapier. These individuals will have shown outstanding skill and accomplishment with the rapier and will have imparted those skills to the populace of Meridies by regular teaching and sharing of ability in their particular specialty, and will have distinguished themselves either in war, on the tournament field, or both, and in the training of new fighters. This Order shall be called the Order of the Meridian Blade, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials M.O.B and shall be styled and announced in procession as Companions of the Order of the Meridian Blade.
- (C) The Order shall carry with it an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of the Baronial Awards of Arms.
- (D) The power of election into the Order shall rest solely with the Sovereign and Consort, although the Companions of the Order have the right of consultation and recommendation directly to the Crown. The populace of Meridies also have the right of recommendation directly to the Sovereign and Consort those individuals they feel merit election unto the Order.
- (E) Members:
 - 1. The number of members shall not be limited.
 - 2. Members in the Order shall remain within the Order despite any subsequent change in residence outside Meridies.
- (G) The Principal of the Order shall be the active Companion of the Order who first received the Order.
- (H) The Order shall adopt such rules for internal governance as the Principal and Companions of the Order find needful. The Order shall select a secretary to record its business.
 - 1. The secretary shall maintain a mailing list of the members of the Order so that all members may be consulted by mail. The Order shall hold meetings of its members upon any occasion not limited to the whim of the Crown. The Crown shall be informed of and invited to attend all such meetings.
 - 2. The Order shall make written recommendation to the Crown after each of its meetings, even should no new members be elected. The Order shall be charged with consulting with Heralds for a suitable device and name.

II-211 The Order of the Argent Comet

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an order to honor and recognize those members of the Populace who have demonstrated outstanding service to a Shire, College, or other group not directly administered by a Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.A.C.M. after their names.
- (C) The Order shall, at the pleasure-of the Crown, bear an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of simple Awards of Arms and behind members of Baronial Service orders.
- (D) The badge shall be “Fieldless, a comet fesswise argent.”

II-212 The Order of the Rising Swan

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an Order which shall recognize outstanding service and achievement by the minors (age 17 and under) of Meridies above and beyond that of the Order of the Cygnet. This Order shall be called the Order of the Rising Swan, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Election into this Order shall rest with the Crown.
- (C) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.M.R.S. after their names.
- (D) The Order’s badge shall be “Fieldless, a swan roussant within and conjoined to an annulet argent.”

II-213 The Order of Meridian Majesty

- (A) There shall exist in the kingdom of Meridies an Order unto which the Consort of Meridies may elect those Persons who have personally served Their Majesty well, truly, and faithfully.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.M.M.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) This Award shall be given solely by the Consort and shall not require the Sovereign's signature to become official.

II-214 The Order of the Sovereign's Pleasure

- (A) There shall exist in the kingdom of Meridies an Order unto which the Sovereign of Meridies may elect those persons who have personally served Their Majesty well, truly, and faithfully.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.K.P.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) This Award shall be given solely by the Sovereign and shall not require the Consort's signature to become official.

II-215 The Order of the Meridian Cross

- (A) There shall exist in the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to individuals showing promise and skill in the Arts and Sciences.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.M.C.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless, a moline cross quarterly argent and sable."

II-216 The Order of the Argent Lily

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order devised to recognize those exemplifying courtliness (refinement and elegance).
- (B) No more than 1 male and 1 female may be elected during any reign. The Crown need not elect anyone if no suitable candidates are found.
- (C) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.A.L.
- (D) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (E) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless, a lily blossom argent."

II-217 The Order of the Argent Shield

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to fighters who have distinguished themselves in war, on the tournament field, and in the training of new fighters.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.A.S.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) Election to this order shall rest with the Crown.
- (E) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless, an escutcheon within and conjoined to an annulet argent."

II-218 The Order of the Meridian Broken Bow

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to archers who have displayed courteous and chivalrous conduct and have distinguished themselves in the field of archery.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.M.B
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) The Order's badge shall be "Sable on a pale between two bows argent a crossbow sable."

II-219 The Order of the Weapons Master

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to individuals who show great skill in the use of real weaponry, primarily throwing axe, knife, spear, and bow.
- (B) The Order is granted the right to govern itself and to define the standard of its various rankings even unto the rank of Weapons Master. Also is granted the right to its chosen insignia.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.W. after their names.
- (D) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-220 The Order of the Argent Lance

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to equestrians who have displayed courteous and chivalrous conduct and have distinguished themselves in the field of equestrian sciences.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials A.L.M.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to bear a small sable pennon bordered in argent, bearing an uncial M above an argent tilting lance, upon one's tournament lance, whenever engaged in equestrian activities.
- (D) The Order's badge shall be "Sable, in pale an uncial M and a tilting lance argent".
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-221 The Order of the Cygnet

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given, which shall recognize courtly behavior and honorable service rendered by the children of Meridies.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.C. after their names.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous, and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) The badge shall be Per bend sable and argent two swans naiant and a bordure counterchanged.

II-222 The Order of the Guiding Hand, Meridies

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order unto which the Crown may elect those persons who have served the Kingdom well and faithfully by giving encouragement and assistance to newcomers and any who have need.
- (B) The members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.G.H.M. after their names.
- (C) The Order shall carry no rank and the Companions of the Order shall take no precedence but shall be recognized in procession after the Order of the Cygnet.
- (D) The badge shall be "Argent on an egg sable the Lombardic upper case letter M, Argent."

II-223 The Order of the Chalice

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall be called the Order of the Chalice.
- (B) The members of the Order shall be elected by virtue of their valor, grace, and service to the Kingdom.
- (C) Election unto the Order shall be by unanimous vote of the Companions of the Order.
- (D) Any member failing to strive for the improvement of the Order's high standards may be asked by any one member of the order, or required by the majority of the members of the Order, to remove himself from the Order.
- (E) As it is an order of humility, the Order carries no title or precedence.
- (F) All members of the Order shall be equal, with no recognized principal.

II-224 The Order of the Athanor

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall be called the Order of the

Athanor, hereinafter referred to as the Order.

- (B) Members of the Order shall be elected unto it by virtue of their contributions to historical study in the Society.
- (C) Election of members unto the Order shall rest with the Crown.
- (D) The Order shall carry no title or precedence, only the regard which the learning and repute of the scholars themselves naturally deserve.
- (E) Members of the Order are granted the right to bear the devices of Jerome.
- (F) Members of the Order are granted the right to style themselves free scholars and to wear academic dress.
- (G) Each member of the Order shall be required to either publish 1scholarly paper per year in any publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., whether official or unofficial, or submit at least 1 scholarly paper per year to be filed in the archives of the Royal University of Meridies.
- (H) The Order's Badge shall be “Fieldless, a retort atop an athanor argent.”

II-225 The Order of Compostella

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize the efforts of those who travel greatly in the service of the Crown and the Kingdom. This Order shall be known as the Pilgrim's Order or the Order of Compostella, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Election of members unto the order shall rest with the Crown. The Order is granted the right to recommend candidates to the Crown.
- (C) The insignia shall be the shell of St. James of Compostella, a common pilgrim's emblem.
- (D) The Order is granted the initials C.P.O. after the member's name.
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-226 The Order of the Broken Brank

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies, an order devised to recognize those gentles who have enriched Meridies greatly through their service to the Chirurgeon's Office. This Order shall be called the Order of the Broken Brank, hereinafter referred to as the Order.
- (B) Election into this Order shall rest with the Crown, although the Kingdom Chirurgeon should be consulted and shall recommend directly to the Crown.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.B.B after their names.
- (D) The order's badge shall be “Per bend sinister azure and goutte de sang, a fleam counterchanged.”
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-227 The Order of the Burning Trumpet

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies, hereinafter referred to as Meridies an Order devised to recognize those gentles who have enriched Meridies greatly through their service in the Herald's Office.
- (B) Election into this Order rests with the Crown, although the Beacon Principal herald should be consulted and shall recommend directly to the Crown.
- (C) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.B.T. after their names.
- (D) The Order's badge shall be “Fieldless, a trumpet Or issuing flames gules.”
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-228 The Companiate of the Meridian King's Champion

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of King's Champion.
- (B) Election into this Order shall be given solely by His Majesty to an individual who has shown great skill in winning the King's Champion Tournament. Each Companion shall be elected only once to this

- Order, though he or she may serve the Kingdom as King's Champion upon more than one occasion.
- (C) At the King's discretion, the King's Champion may be appointed by the King in lieu of a tournament being fought.
 - (D) Members of the order shall be entitled to place the initials C.M.K.C. after their names.
 - (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
 - (F) The Companion's badge shall be "Sable, two swords in saltire proper, in chief three mullets in chevron argent."

II-229 The Companiate of the Meridian Queen's Champion

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of Queen's Champion.
- (B) Election into this Order shall be given solely by Her Majesty to an individual who has shown great skill in winning the Queen's Champion Tournament. Each Companion shall be elected only once to this Order, though he or she may serve the Kingdom as Queen's Champion upon more than one occasion.
- (C) At the Queen's discretion, the Queen's Champion may be appointed by the Queen in lieu of a tournament being fought.
- (D) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.M.Q.C. after their names.
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (F) The Companion's badge shall be "Argent two swords in saltire, overall a rose gules."

II-230 The Companiate of the Bard

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of Kingdom Bard.
- (B) Election into this Order rests solely with the Crown. Each companion shall be elected only once to this Order, though he or she may serve as Bard upon more than one occasion.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.C.B. after their names.
- (D) The Companion's badge shall be "Vair, a harp Or."
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-231 The Companiate of the Poet Laureate

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom and Crown as Poet Laureate.
- (B) Election into this Order rests solely with the Crown. Each companion shall be elected only once to this Order, though she or he may serve the Kingdom as Poet Laureate upon more than one occasion.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.P.L.M. after their names.
- (D) The Companion's badge shall be "Vair ancient, a lion's head cabossed Or, orbéd and langued gules."
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-232 The Companiate of the Queen's Yeoman

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of Queen's Yeoman.
- (B) Election into this Order rests solely with Her Majesty and shall be given to an individual who has shown outstanding archery skill in winning the Queen's Yeoman Archery Competition. Each Companion shall be elected only once to the Order, though they may serve the Kingdom as Queen's Yeoman upon more than one occasion.
- (C) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.Q.Y. after their names.
- (D) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (E) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless, a sheaf of three arrows inverted, overall a rose argent."

II-233 The Companiate of the King's Lancer

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of King's Lancer.
- (B) The King's Lancer will lead and organize the Royal Horse Guard.
- (C) Election into this Order rests Solely with His Majesty and shall be given to an individual who has shown outstanding horsemanship in winning the King's Lancer Equestrian Tournament. Each Companion shall be elected only once to the Order, though they may serve the Kingdom as King's Lancer upon more than one occasion.
- (D) At the King's discretion, the King's Lancer may be appointed by the King in lieu of a tournament being ridden.
- (E) Members of the order shall be entitled to place the initials C.K.L. after their names.
- (F) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (G) The Companion's badge shall be "Checky sable and argent, a knight armed cap-a-pie mounted upon a horse courant to sinister within a bordure embattled Or."

II-234 The Order of the Sable Quill

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order to honor and recognize those members of the populace who have shown exemplary merit and skill in the authorship, publication, and dissemination of articles of scholarly interest to the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Kingdom of Meridies and its members.
- (B) The order shall be called the Order of the Sable Quill, hereinafter referred to as the Order, whose badge shall be "Fieldless, upon a quill pen bendwise sinister sable, a mullet argent."
- (C) Members of the order shall be allowed to display and use the badge of the Order and place the initials C.S.Q. after their name in recognition as a Companion of the Sable Quill
- (D) Members are encouraged to continue to write, publish, disseminate, and contribute to Seasons, R.U.M. archives, and Tournaments Illuminated.
- (E) The Crown may call upon recipients to aid in the continuing education of the Kingdom by requesting, as a patron, specific articles and/or research in the areas of expertise of the recipients.
- (F) The award shall be given only once per reign.

II-235 The Award of the Crown's Favor

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an award presented to groups within the Kingdom, be they Barony, Shire, Canton, or Household, for service to the Kingdom, either directly or by way of serving as worthy examples of the type of behavior most favorable in these Current Middle Ages. The Award shall be called (upon approval of the Laurel Sovereign of Arms) the Award of the Crown's Favor.
- (B) This award is given at the pleasure of the Crown, and may be given more than once.
- (C) Those receiving the award shall be entitled to attach to their group insignia/device/arms, a small pennon bearing a sable pale on an argent field, and carrying a single argent mullet. Upon receiving additional recognition through this award, additional mullets may be added (to a maximum of five), after which, having received the award 6 times, the first mullet shall change to Or, and so on in a like manner to a maximum of all 5 mullets.
- (D) This award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (E) This award is reserved only for groups (as defined in II-235 (A)) and shall not be given to individuals.

II-236 The Order of the Guidon, Meridies (closed)

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order with which the Crown may recognize those

persons who have served the Kingdom with quality and chivalry in the fulfillment of duties of a martial nature. These individuals must have served the cause of combat with continued dedication to the art of war, archery, or the tournament, to the improvement of the Kingdom in these areas. The Order shall be called the Order of the Guidon, Meridies.

- (B) Companions of the Order shall hereafter be entitled to display a guidon at the hoist of the Kingdom flag, followed by the bearer's badge, and having a sable schwenkel with an argent mullet at the fly.
- (C) Companions of the Order shall be further entitled to place after their names the initials C.G.M.
- (D) Elevation to the Order rests solely with the Crown, who may consult with others of the Order.

II-237 The Order of the Cygnet's Nest

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize those gentles who work tirelessly on behalf of the children. This award shall be known as the Order of the Cygnet's Nest.
- (B) Members of this Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.C.N. after their names.
- (C) This award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) The Order's badge shall be "Fieldless, a swan argent sitting in a nest proper within and issuant from an annulet argent."

II-238 The Order of the Argent Rapier

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to fighters who have distinguished themselves with the rapier in war, on the tournament field, and in the training of new rapier fighters.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.A.R.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.
- (D) Election to the order shall rest with the Crown.

II-239 The Order of the Argent Slipper

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order to honor and recognize those members of the populace who have greatly enriched our kingdom by the instruction of its populace in the art of European or Middle Eastern dance.
- (B) Election of members unto the order shall rest with the Crown. The Order is granted the right to recommend candidates to the Crown.
- (C) The Order's badge shall be "Sable, a slipper within a bordure argent." The slipper will be in European or Middle Eastern style, dependent on the recipient.
- (D) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.O.A. S. after the member's name.
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-240 The Companionate of the Meridian Queen's Rapier Champion

- (A) There shall exist in the Kingdom of Meridies an Order, which shall recognize all those gentles who have served the Kingdom in the capacity of Queen's Champion.
- (B) Election into this Order shall be given solely by Her Majesty to an individual who has shown great skill in winning the Queen's Rapier Champion Tournament. Each Companion shall be elected only once to this Order, though he or she may serve the Kingdom as Queen's Rapier Champion upon more than one occasion.
- (C) At the Queen's discretion, the Queen's Rapier Champion may be appointed by the Queen in lieu of a tournament being fought.
- (D) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.M.Q.R.C. after their names.
- (E) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence.

II-241 The Order of the Duvant Cross

- (A) There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies an Order given by the Crown to young gentles who have exhibited exceptional skill, courtesy and honor on the field of Youth Combat. This order is called the Duvant Cross in honor of Count Sir Francois Duvant, First Prince and Fourth King of Meridies, whose shining example of honor, chivalry, and courtesy has been the model for all who have come after.
- (B) Holders of the Order shall be entitled to place after their names the initials C.D.C.
- (C) The Award is non-armigerous and shall carry no precedence,
- (D) Election to this order shall rest with the Crown.
- (E) The Order's badge shall be "Sable, a cross formy Argent, between in bend, two mullets of five points Argent."

II-242 Principals of the Orders

- (A) The Principals of all Kingdom Orders as defined within Kingdom Law shall be the advisors to the Crown regarding their specific Orders.
- (B) Should the Principal of an Order not be available, the Crown shall seek the advice of the senior member of the Order present.

II-243 The Consulting Orders

Though all Orders may advise the Crown regarding the election of their members, the Orders of the Bough, The Velvet Owl, the Sable Sword, Legio Ursi, Split Arrow and Meridian Blade have the right to consult their members and make recommendations as a group to the Crown.

- (A) To aid the Crown, the Secretary of the Polling Orders shall submit to the Crown, in writing, the minutes of official meetings of the Order along with the recommendations of the Order.

Notice: Section amended as the Order of the Scarlet Star is no longer a consulting order 04/06.

Baronial Service Orders

II-301 Baronial Service Orders

There shall exist within the Kingdom of Meridies Orders distinct to each Barony which, at the pleasure of the Crown, shall bear an Award of Arms and shall process ahead of simple Awards of Arms.

II-302 The Order of the Red Raven

- (A) The Order of the Red Raven shall be given by the Baron/Baroness South Downs for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.R.R. after their names.

II-303 The Order of the Sable Gryphon

- (A) The Order of the Sable Gryphon shall be given by the Baron/Baroness Thor's Mountain for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.S.G. after their names.

II-304 The Order of the Sanguine Mountain

- (A) The Order of the Sanguine Mountain shall be given by the Baron/Baroness Iron Mountain for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.S.M. after their names.

II-305 The Order of the Dreamstone

- (A) The Order of the Dreamstone shall be given by the Baron/Baroness Bryn Madoc for outstanding service

to the Barony.

- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.D. after their names.

II-306 The Order of the Doubloon del Mar (Closed)

- (A) The Order of the Doubloon del Mar shall be given by the Baron/Baroness of Arenal for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.D.M. after their names.

II-307 The Order of the Osprey's Jess

- (A) The Order of the Osprey s Jess shall be given by the Baron/Baroness of the Osprey for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.O.J. after their names.

II-308 The Order of the Golden Iris (Closed)

- (A) The Order of the Golden Iris shall be given by the Baron/Baroness of the Glaedenfeld for outstanding service to the Barony.
- (B) Members of the Order shall be entitled to place the initials C.G.I. after their names.

Notice: Orders of Denial, Axe, Diamond Bear, Tempered Steel, Dragon's Eye , Golden Sea Lion, Garnet Chalice and Onyx Chalice transferred to the Kingdom of Glenn Abhann 04/06.

Order of Precedence

II-400 Order of Precedence

The Order of Precedence will be published every 5 years with yearly supplements corrected and updated once per reign. Notice of all awards given in the Kingdom shall publish monthly in the Kingdom Newsletter.

- (A) Sovereign and Consort
- (B) Crown Prince and Crown Princess
- (C) Royal Peerage
- (D) Territorial Barons and Baronesses
- (E) Members of the Orders of the Chivalry, Laurel and Pelican
- (F) Holders of a Grants of Arms
- (G) Barons and Baronesses of the Court
- (H) Members of the Orders of the Bough, Velvet Owl, Sable Sword, Legio Ursi, Split Arrow, Meridian Blade, and Scarlet Star.
- (I) Members of the Baronial Service Orders: Red Raven, Sable Gryphon, Sanguine Mountain, Dreamstone, Doubloon del Mar, Osprey's Jess, and Golden Iris.
- (J) Members of Order of the Argent Comet
- (K) Holders of an Award of Arms

ARTICLE III

Officers

III-100 Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers

- (A) All officers at all levels of the Kingdom must be paid members and must receive the Meridian Kingdom newsletter at their residence.
- (B) All deputies designated as successors or assigned independent administrative duties must also meet the

membership requirement of III-100.A. 

- (C) All officers at all levels of the Kingdom are subject to the By-Laws of the Society, the Corporate Policies of the Society, The Corpora of the Society, Society Officers' Policies approved by the Board, Meridian Kingdom Law, and the Decision of the Crown (within the Kingdom and for the duration of the reign).

III-101 Definition of the Great Officers of State

- (A) The Great Officers of State shall be the warranted holders of the following Kingdom-level offices: Seneschal, Earl Marshal, Beacon Herald, Minister of Arts and Sciences, Chronicler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Chirurgeon.
- (B) The Great Officers of State shall, in addition to their specific duties, serve in the Crown's cabinet of advisors.

III-102 Definition of the Lesser Officers of State

- (A) The Lesser Officers of State shall be the warranted holders of the following Kingdom-level offices: Historian, Chatelaine, Chancellor of the Royal University of Meridies, Minister of Children, Kingdom Regalia Coordinator and the Kingdom Webminister.
- (B) The Lesser Officers of State shall, in addition to their specific duties, serve in the Crown's cabinet of advisors.

III-103 Privy Council

- (A) The head of the Privy Council of the Crown and Heirs, respectively, shall be the Royal Chancellor and the High Chancellor.
 1. These individuals are appointed solely by the Crown and Heirs for the duration of Their respective reigns.
 2. The Royal Chancellor and the High Chancellors duties shall include but not be limited to working with the Crown and/or Royal Regalia Coordinator to inventory the Royal Regalia at Coronations and Crown Lists.

III-104 Officers

- (A) Great Officers of State on the Kingdom level shall be appointed and removed at the pleasure of the Crown within the directives of the Corpora and the advice of the corresponding Corporate Officer.
- (B) Officers below the Kingdom level shall be appointed and removed by the Kingdom Officer at the pleasure of the Crown and with the advice of the Kingdom Seneschal. Removal of a local officer requires the written advice of the Kingdom Seneschal.
- (C) The Officers of State shall enforce and conform to the Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society, the Rules of the Lists, the written directives of the Board of Directors and its Corporate Officers, and Kingdom Law.
- (D) Each of the Officers of State shall send the Crown, Its Heirs, and the Kingdom Seneschal regular written reports, giving the state of his/her particular office. These written reports shall be due 2 weeks prior to each Crown List and on July 1 and January 1.
- (E) The Crown reserves the right to create new officers of state for Their Reign.
- (F) The Great Officers of State shall meet, at the pleasure of the Crown, given notice, and at Crown List to discuss Kingdom matters.
- (G) All Kingdom level officers shall have a telephone at their residence to facilitate Kingdom business.
- (H) All Kingdom level Officers shall maintain an active Kingdom-wide profile. This includes regular travels to assist groups as needed within their area of expertise.
- (I) All Kingdom Officers shall make no decision affecting a group that has asked for Kingdom intervention in solving a problem, without first consulting with the Crown and obtaining the written advice of the

Kingdom Seneschal.

- (J) No Kingdom officer may hold the corresponding local position at any time, and holding other major local offices is discouraged unless minimal group membership creates a need.

III-105 Legal Authority

- (A) The chain of mundane legal authority and responsibility is:
 1. Kingdom Seneschal,
 2. Earl Marshal.
- (B) All other Kingdom Officers shall have the same mundane legal power: that is, none; save the authority of the Chirurgeon in medical situations and the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding Kingdom funds.

III-106 Responsibilities

All Kingdom Officers shall be dually responsible to the Crown and to their corresponding Corporate Officers.

III-107 Warrant of Appointment or Removal

- (A) A Warrant of Appointment to or Removal from an office shall be signed by the Sovereign and the Consort for it to become effective. In the case of a Principality, authority is delegated by the Crown to the reigning Prince and Princess to sign those warrants for all officers within the Principality.
- (B) All Warrants of Appointment for Kingdom and Principality-level Officers shall expire at the end of 2 years and are renewable at the end of this period at the pleasure of the Crown or Principality Coronet respectively, with ultimate authority residing in the Crown.
- (C) Warrants which are to be submitted for renewal must be submitted in writing to the Crown, and Its Heirs if applicable, or Principality Coronet, respectively, a minimum of 90 days prior to the expiration of said warrant.
- (D) Within 60 days of assuming office, each State Officer shall select and warrant at least 1 deputy who shall be trained to take his Office in case of emergency.
- (E) After 9 months in office, each officer shall begin the process to select a deputy. They shall, by the time they have been in office one year, have selected a deputy and begun the training process for their replacement officer.

ARTICLE IV

Officer Responsibilities

IV-101 Seneschal of the Kingdom

- (A) The Seneschal of the Kingdom, as the chief representative of the Board of Directors, shall be the supreme legal authority within the Kingdom in all matters relating to the Society's responsibility and relationships with the designated legal community of local, county or parish, state, and federal governments.
- (B) The Seneschal of the Kingdom shall have the power to withdraw the Society's sanction from an event when the activities of the group or individuals conflict with Directors; or the civil or criminal laws of any county or parish, city, state, or nation in which the event is held. The Kingdom Seneschal shall pull sanction only as a last resort.
- (C) The Kingdom Seneschal shall coordinate the activities of other Kingdom Officers for the correct functioning of the Kingdom.
- (D) The Kingdom Seneschal shall advise the Crown on Corporate and Kingdom Law.
- (E) The Kingdom Seneschal shall supply the Crown with a Kingdom membership roster 2 weeks before Coronation and again in the middle of Their reign (January and June).

- (F) The Kingdom Seneschal shall supply the Heirs with a Kingdom membership roster at Crown List and 2 weeks before Coronation.
- (G) The Kingdom Seneschal shall, as Supreme Autocrat, at the pleasure of the Crown, oversee the planning of Kingdom events, the scheduling of events and meetings, and the reports of other Kingdom Officers as shall be needed for the functioning of all such activities.
- (H) The Kingdom Seneschal shall be a signatory on all Kingdom money accounts.
- (I) The Kingdom Seneschal shall be responsible for and have authority over the seneschals in the various branches of the Kingdom.
- (J) The Kingdom Seneschal shall choose such assistants as are necessary to aid them with their duties. These deputies shall include, but not be limited to:
 1. The Kingdom Law Clerk shall maintain a record of all laws and proclamations of the Crown. The Kingdom Law Clerk will also be responsible for the following:
 - a. The Kingdom Law Clerk shall deposit a copy of updated law with the Kingdom Seneschal, the Crown, and the Heirs 2 weeks prior to Coronation.
 - b. The Kingdom Law Clerk shall provide a current copy of Kingdom Law to the Heirs to the Throne within 2 weeks after Crown List.
 - c. The Kingdom Law Clerk shall be responsible for arranging the printing of Kingdom Law.
 2. The Media Relations Deputy is responsible for ensuring Kingdom compliance to the Society's Media Policy (Society Seneschal Handbook Appendix D). The Media Relations Deputy will be responsible for:
 - a. The Media Deputy will distribute press-kit materials to local groups and individuals.
 - b. The Media Deputy will ensure all reportable events are communicated to the Kingdom Seneschal as well as the Deputy Society Seneschal for Media Relations.
 - c. The Media Deputy will ensure that events projecting either attendance in excess of 2,500 participants, or known attendance by major media organizations, are covered by the Kingdom-level Media Relations representative.
 3. The Kingdom Waiver Deputy will ensure that all Society required and approved waivers, rosters, and sign-in sheets are collected and safely stored within 30 days after each official Meridian event. The Waiver Deputy will also be responsible for the following:
 - a. Original waivers will be held by the Waiver Deputy's office for a minimum of 7 years for adults and 20 years for minors. The local branch will maintain copies of all waivers for the same duration.
 - b. Failure by local branches to comply with these reporting guidelines will bring sanctions against the group by the Kingdom Seneschal. In the absence or non-functioning of a local Constable, responsibility for reporting devolves upon the local Seneschal.
 - c. Further duties/responsibilities may be defined as required with approval of Crown and Kingdom Seneschal.
 4. The Calendar Deputy will be responsible for maintaining a current and frequently updated Calendar of events and the hosting groups scheduled throughout Meridies and may appoint such assistants as are necessary to aid him or her with these duties. The Calendar Deputy is responsible for the following:
 - a. The Kingdom Calendar will be scheduled for up to 5 years at a time, with the new calendar being opened on January 1 of each year (i.e., 2011 calendar will be opened on January 1, 2007).
 - b. The Calendar Deputy will be responsible for ensuring that only weekend reservations requested by the seneschals of hosting groups are considered for addition to the Calendar.
 - c. The Calendar Deputy will ensure that groups who request to host events on the same weekend are at least 200 highway miles apart.

- d. The Calendar Deputy will maintain an updated group-to-group distance chart that includes all Meridian groups.
- e. The Calendar Deputy should send an updated Calendar to the Crown, the Kingdom Seneschal, the Kingdom Chronicler, and the Kingdom Webminister no later than the first week of each month.

IV-102 Local Seneschals

- (A) The Seneschal of a branch of the Kingdom shall have duties similar to those of the Kingdom Seneschal, but shall be under the authority of the Kingdom Seneschal as well as the Crown.
- (B) The Seneschal of a canton/shire/barony shall, at the pleasure of the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal, act as the chief administrative officer and coordinator of the local group, subject to Kingdom Law, the By-Laws of the Society, the Rules of the List, the written directives of the Board of Directors, the Corpora, and the directives of the Kingdom Seneschal.
- (C) Local Seneschals shall, in addition, have the right to require such reports as shall be deemed necessary to secure the proper functioning of their groups.
- (D) The Local Seneschal shall, with the retiring Officer, have the right to recommend to the appropriate Kingdom Officer the replacement of any and all officers within the local group. Such replacement shall be ultimately decided by the Crown and Kingdom Officer involved with the advice of the Kingdom Seneschal.
- (E) The Local Seneschal may also register complaints if it is felt that the Officer candidate is not suitable to the local group.
- (F) Local seneschals shall have a telephone at their residence to facilitate group business. The number shall be published in the Kingdom newsletter.

IV-103 Earl Marshal

- (A) The Earl Marshal shall have the primary responsibility for combat upon the field, for promoting the safety of all Society combat within the Kingdom, and for the correct training of combatants. The Earl Marshal, or his appointed representative, shall oversee all fighting at Kingdom level events.
- (B) The Earl Marshal shall have the responsibility for the conduct of the various Knight Marshals of the Kingdom and any other duties as are appropriate to the Marshallate.
- (C) The Earl Marshal shall choose such assistants as are necessary to aid in his or her duties. These deputies shall include, but not be limited to, the following marshal whose duties shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Combat Archery and Siege Engines (DEM CASE), or Combat Archery Marshal, shall be responsible for combat archery and siege devices upon the field, and for ensuring the safety and correct training of all archers and siege engineers.
 - 2. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Authorizations (DEM A), or Authorization Marshal, shall be responsible for distribution of fighter authorization cards.
 - 3. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Rapier (DEM R), or Rapier Marshal, shall be responsible for rapier (light weapons) combat upon the field, and for ensuring the safety and correct training of all rapier fighters.
 - 4. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Live Weapons (DEM LW), or Live Weapons Marshal, shall be responsible for target archery and thrown weapons, and for ensuring the safety and correct training of all live weapons participants.
 - 5. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Youth Combat (DEM YC), or Youth Combat Marshal, shall be responsible for youth combat upon the field, and for ensuring the safety and correct training of all youth combat fighters.
 - 6. The Deputy Earl Marshal for Equestrian activities (DEM E), or Equestrian Marshal, shall be

responsible for equestrian activities, for ensuring the safety and correct training of all equestrian participants; and for developing regulations to govern the use of horses at Meridian events.

7. The Deputy Earl Marshal Meridian Grand Tournament (DEM MGT) or MGT-Coordinator, shall be responsible for the administration of the Kingdom event known as Meridian Grand Tournament.
- (D) The Earl Marshal or his Knight Marshals shall act as the Crown's Representative when on the field to ensure the adherence to the Rules of the Lists.
- (E) The Earl Marshal shall have the right to pull the sanction of any official combat for reasons of safety.

IV-104 Beacon Herald

- (A) The Beacon Herald shall be responsible for the conduct of the College of Heraldry, the Masters/Mistresses of the List, and for all the Heraldry and Pursuivants of the local branches of the Society under the Crown of Meridies.
- (B) The Meridian Heraldry shall be the representatives of the people of Meridies before the Crown.
- (C) All Meridian Heraldry shall encourage education in all aspects of heraldry.
- (D) Kingdom Heraldry should be capable and willing to perform any court duties at the Crown's behest.
- (E) The Beacon Herald shall choose such assistants as are necessary to aid the Beacon Herald and the College of Heraldry in Meridies. These deputies shall include, but not be limited to:
 1. The Pennon Herald, who shall be responsible for the preparation of arms and devices for the people of the Kingdom. The Pennon shall encourage education of the populace in matters of name and armory research and registration.
 - (a) The Cypher Pursuivant is Pennon's chief clerk whose main job is to accept, collate, filter, and process heraldic submissions and then create an Internal Letter of Intent.
 2. The Torch Herald, who shall be responsible for the conduct of all Kingdom courts, shall also be responsible for the compilation of the Order of Precedence, the Order of the March, and shall provide updated copies per reign of said Orders to the Crown within 2 weeks of Coronation; they shall also publish the Order of Precedence every 5 years with yearly supplements, corrected and updated once per reign, and shall publish monthly in the Kingdom Newsletter notice of all awards given in the Kingdom. The Torch Herald shall be responsible for arranging for printing of both the yearly supplements and the complete Order of Precedence. They shall encourage the education of the populace on matters of precedence and courtly manner.
 3. The Trumpet Herald, who shall be responsible for, the organization and implementation of all lists within Meridies, the activities of the Masters/Mistresses of the List, and shall encourage the education of the populace on the running of lists within Meridies.
 4. The Lantern Herald who shall jointly serve as Dean of Heraldic Arts in the Royal University of Meridies and shall be responsible for the education of the populace on matters of medieval heraldry.
 5. The Ember Heraldry, the title given to former Beacon Heraldry, are encouraged to continue to serve the Kingdom and the herald's office as advisors to the Beacon Herald.
 6. The Lambent Herald, who shall be responsible for researching conflicts and writing external commentary for the SCA College of Arms.
 7. The Bagatelle Pursuivant who shall be responsible for the preparation of the award regalia of the Orders and Honors in Meridies that is presented by the Crown.
 8. The Parchment Pursuivant who shall be responsible for producing and providing scrolls for all the Orders, Honors, and Ceremonies in Meridies.
- (F) The Beacon Herald, or a Herald, deemed suitable by the Crown and the Earl Marshal, shall serve at Courts of Inquiry or Courts of Chivalry as the neutral recording representative of the Court and shall make this transcript available to the Crown and the Earl Marshal within the time prescribed by the Laws

of Meridies.

IV-105 Minister of Arts and Sciences

- (A) The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall be responsible for fostering the Arts in Meridies and shall appoint such assistants as shall seem necessary for the education and organization of the Arts in Meridies.
- (B) The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall regularly sponsor classes, symposia, and other such educational seminars to acquaint the populace with the basic Arts vital to the continuing growth and life of the Kingdom's Arts and Sciences.
- (C) The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall encourage and advise Royal and other patronage.

IV-106 Chronicler

- (A) The Chronicler shall be responsible for the regular publication of the Kingdom Newsletter and of any other Kingdom Publications or documents that may, from time to time, become necessary, and shall appoint such assistants as shall seem necessary to aid her or him with these duties.
- (B) The Chronicler shall be responsible for reviewing event flyers and seeing that they meet Kingdom guidelines.
- (C) The Chronicler is responsible for the accounting of the finances of the newsletter and the Chronicler's Office, reporting to the Crown, the Kingdom Exchequer, the Kingdom Seneschal, and the Corporate Chronicler and Treasurer.

IV-107 Chancellor of the Exchequer

- (A) The Chancellor of the Exchequer shall be responsible for all withdrawals, collections, and usage of Kingdom monies, and shall appoint such assistants as shall seem necessary to aid them with these duties.
- (B) The Chancellor of the Exchequer shall keep records of all such above transactions of the Kingdom Account and shall require such records from individual people or groups responsible for the monies of Meridies due to hosting Kingdom events.
- (C) The Chancellor of the Exchequer shall publish financial policy every 3 years.
 - 1. All amendments, deletions and/or additions to Kingdom financial policy shall be published within 60 days of changes, and shall be signed by the Sovereign, Consort, Kingdom Seneschal, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.
 - 2. All expenditures of \$300.00 or more shall be published through a letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Kingdom newsletter within 60 days.
- (D) Assistants to the Kingdom Chancellor of the Exchequer in the branches shall be called Reeves.
- (E) The Chancellor of the Exchequer shall submit to the Kingdom Newsletter a summary of the Domsday Report, which will be printed in the Kingdom newsletter.
- (F) The dispersal of funds will be per policy established by the Chancellor of the Exchequer with the approval of the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal.
- (G) The Chancellor of the Exchequer shall be responsible for holding in trust monies of all Kingdom-level offices and guilds (save those of the Office of the Kingdom Chronicler).
 - 1. The dispersal of these funds will be per policy established by the Chancellor of the Exchequer with the approval of the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal.
- (H) The Chancellor of the Royal University of Meridies and Guild Stewards will be reimbursed all expenses up to a maximum amount of contributions received for the Royal University or guild. ,
 - 1. In no instance will the Royal University be loaned Kingdom funds for any activities. The Royal University is to be self-supporting.
 - 2. In no instance will a guild be loaned Kingdom funds for any activities. Guilds are to be self-supporting.

IV-108 Kingdom Chirurgeon

- (A) The Kingdom Chirurgeon shall oversee the Chirurgeon's Guild and shall appoint such assistants as shall seem necessary to aid him/her with these duties.
- (B) The Chirurgeon's Guild shall be responsible for the first aid training and certification of their members within Meridies and shall maintain such records as are necessary to their activities.
- (C) The Kingdom Chirurgeon shall be responsible for the functioning of the Guild and the actions of the Chirurgeons under his/her office.
- (D) The Chirurgeon's Guild shall be governed and regulated by the Charter of that Guild.
- (E) All records of the Chirurgeon's Guild shall remain confidential, save to the Crown, the Chirurgeons, the Kingdom Seneschal, and to others on a need-to-know basis. In the case of an injury occurring during a martial activity, a copy of the Chirurgeon's report will be provided to the Marshall-in-charge of the activity upon the request of that officer.
- (F) Should an injury or medical emergency occur upon the field, in a list or melee, no people shall enter the field save the Knight Marshal and the Chirurgeon and their specifically designated assistants.
- (G) The Chirurgeons may request an individual remove himself from combat for health reasons.
- (H) The Chirurgeons may request that an individual or sanction be removed from a list, melee, or any other combat situation for health reasons, requesting this of the Marshal, autocrat, local Seneschal, Earl Marshal, Kingdom Seneschal or Crown (in that order).
- (I) As medical supplies are provided at no cost to the patient, each SCA chapter will provide the necessary money or materials to maintain an approved first aid kit. It is the local Chirurgeon's responsibility to keep the supplies in the chapter's kit current.
- (J) Once invited to attend an injured individual by the Marshal, the Chirurgeon becomes the ultimate authority on the field until the situation is resolved. Only the Chirurgeon will possess the power to medically clear a patient, so that they may be transported from the field or resume their previous activities.
- (K) The Kingdom Chirurgeon shall choose such assistants as are necessary to aid the Chirurgeonate with waterbearing duties. These Deputies shall include, but not be limited to, Minister of Waterbearers.
 - 1. The Minister of Waterbearers is responsible for coordinating waterbearing efforts within the Kingdom.

Notice: The language of Section IV-108 was amended to delete references to Master/Mistress per the SCA Board of Directors Order issued in 2006.

IV-201 Kingdom High Sheriff (Repealed)

Notice: The language of Section IV-201 was repealed during the reign of TRM Gunther and Kora as of April 14, 2007 by Royal Proclamation. The Kingdom High Sheriff is now entitled Waiver Deputy to the Kingdom Seneschal under Section IV-101 (J).3.

IV-202 Minister of Children

As a Lesser Officer of State warranted by the Kingdom Seneschal, the Minister of Children shall be responsible for the following:

- (A) Fostering the education of the children of Meridies between the ages of 5 to 16 on medieval activities and the Society.
- (B) Overseeing the children's activities at Kingdom-level events.
 - 1. The KMOC does not have to actually administer activities, but must see that they are done.
 - 2. The KMOC shall work to develop curriculum for, and administer, the Page's School or shall assign a Deputy to oversee this administration.

- (C) The KMOC shall maintain files on all activities, productions and personnel of the Minister of Children's Office.
- (D) The KMOC may make recommendations to the Crown for the Order of the Cygnet and Rising Swan.
- (E) The KMOC shall maintain a roster of local ministers of children (not to exceed 1 per branch) to carry out duties similar to those of the KMOC, and as defined by the policy of the KMOC's Office.
- (F) The KMOC shall report to the Consort and Kingdom Seneschal 4 times per year giving the state of the office. These written reports shall be due 2 weeks prior to Crown List and on July 1 and January 15.

IV-203 Kingdom Regalia Coordinator

As a Lesser Officer of State warranted by the Kingdom Exchequer, the Kingdom Regalia Coordinator shall be responsible for the following:

- (A) The Regalia Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring that the Crown and the Heirs complete and sign a Lease Agreement at Coronations (Crown) and at Crown Lists (Heirs).
- (B) The Regalia Coordinator will maintain an inventory of all regalia and property of the Kingdom. This inventory will be updated with each transfer of regalia to succeeding Crowns/Heirs.
- (C) A current inventory of all Royal regalia and property shall be provided to the Kingdom Seneschal and Chancellor of the Exchequer at the conclusion of each reign.
- (D) A current copy of the Heirs' regalia and property inventory will be presented to the Heirs at Crown List with a copy of the Crown's regalia and property inventory being sent to the Heirs 1 month after Crown List.
- (E) The Kingdom Regalia Coordinator should attend Coronations and Crown Lists to oversee the transfer of Kingdom Regalia and property.

IV-204 Kingdom Chatelaine

As a Lesser Officer of State, deputy to and warranted by the Kingdom Seneschal, the Chatelaine shall be responsible for the following:

- (A) Acting as a liaison to newcomers in the Kingdom and the Society and providing such services and information as necessary to acclimate newcomers to Kingdom and Society culture.
- (B) Overseeing the publication of Newcomer's Handbooks designed to introduce the Society to newcomers and to the public at large, subject to final approval by the Kingdom Seneschal.
- (C) Maintaining files on all activities, productions and personnel of the Chatelaine's Office.
- (D) The Chatelaine may make recommendations to the Crown for the Order of the Guiding Hand.
- (E) The Chatelaine shall maintain a roster of local Chatelaines or Hospitallers (not to exceed 1 per branch) to carry out duties similar to those of the Chatelaine, and as defined by the policy of the Chatelaine's Office.
- (F) The Chatelaine shall report to the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal 4 times per year giving the state of the office. These written reports shall be due 2 weeks prior to Crown List and on July 1 and January 15.

IV-205 Kingdom Waterbearer (Repealed)

Notice: The language of Section IV-205 was repealed during the reign of TRM Godwine and Francesca as of June 10th, 2006 by Royal Proclamation. The Kingdom Waterbearer is now a deputy to the Kingdom Chirurgeon under Section IV-108(K).

V-206 Kingdom Historian

As a Lesser Officer of State warranted by the Kingdom Seneschal, the Kingdom Historian is charged with the custody of the History of Meridies and shall be responsible for the following:

- (A) The Historian shall maintain records of all events of note, particularly including but not exclusive of Meridian Kingdom events, and any activities of historical importance with the Kingdom.

- (B) The Historian shall maintain the genealogy of the Royal House of Meridies.
- (C) The Historian shall maintain any retired regalia of historical significance.
- (D) The Historian is responsible for the coordination of local branch historians to maintain good record of the history of all branches within the Kingdom.

VI-207 Kingdom Webminister

As a Lesser Office of State warranted by the Kingdom Chronicler, the Kingdom Webminister is responsible for ensuring Kingdom compliance with the Society's Electronic Publication policies and for the following duties:

- (A) The Webminister will oversee all aspects of the administration of the Kingdom website.
- (B) The Webminister shall maintain a roster of warranted local ministers who carry out similar duties in the local branches.
- (C) The Webminister shall be responsible for reviewing online event flyers and seeing that they meet the Kingdom newsletter guidelines.

VII-208 Chancellor of the Royal University of Meridies (RUM)

As a Lesser Officer of State warranted by the Kingdom Seneschal, the RUM Chancellor shall be responsible for fostering the education of populace of the realm and for the following duties:

- (A) The RUM Chancellor will coordinate the annual Kingdom-level Collegium, Royal University of Meridies.
- (B) The RUM Chancellor shall choose such assistants as are necessary to aid in his or her duties. These deputies shall include, but not be limited to:
 1. The Vice-Chancellor of Academic Research shall be responsible for the Resource Center including all handouts and materials donated by the Populace.
 2. The Vice-Chancellor of Academic Studies shall be responsible for approving class accreditation, assigning course numbers and putting together a schedule for RUM.
 3. The Vice-Chancellor of Academic Registration shall be responsible for keeping a record of the classes taught in the kingdom and student transcripts using reports from the local provosts.
 4. The Provost at Large, shall act as a liaison to the local provost, helping to ensure that local classes are happening and being reported, and helping to find teachers when requested for local classes or events
- (C) The RUM Chancellor shall report (in addition to III-104 (D)) to the Kingdom Arts and Science Officer twice a year giving educational information for them to include in their report to the Society Arts and Science Officer. These written reports shall be due 2 weeks prior to Crown List.
- (D) The RUM Chancellor shall maintain a roster of provosts to carry out duties of scheduling classes at meetings and events at the local level.

Article V Courts

V-101 Courts of Meridies

The Courts of Meridies shall consist of:

- (A) The Crown's Personal Courts, which shall consist of the Crown's entourage.
- (B) A Royal Court, which is that Court presided over by the Crown for the purpose of award presentations, presentations by the populace, proclamations of the State, and/or processions.
- (C) A Coronet Court, which is that Court presided over by the Crown Prince and/or Princess or any Territorial Prince and/or Princess of the Kingdom for the purpose of presentations, proclamations,

and/or processionalists.

- (D) A Baronial Court, which is that Court presided over by the Territorial Baron and/or Baroness for the purpose of award presentations, presentations by the populace, proclamations of State, and/or processionalists.
- (E) A Court of Inquiry, which is appointed by the reigning Crown in suchwise as is appropriate to the subject in question, the areas involved, and the customs of the Kingdom, to determine if a substantial reason exists to convene a Court of Chivalry. The Court of Inquiry may be as informal as desired by the Crown, Courts of Inquiry may be appointed to recommend further action on such issues as the Crown may refer to the Court.
- (F) A Court of Chivalry, which is convened at the pleasure of the Crown upon the recommendation of a Court of Inquiry. A Court of Chivalry is called to hear evidence concerning the disposition of the case.
 - 1. Composition of the Court of Chivalry:
 - (a) The Earl Marshal or, with the approval of the Crown, his authorized representative, convenes the Court and presides at its sessions. Other members of the Court shall include: the Kingdom Seneschal, as legal advisor, and whoever the Crown and the Earl Marshal shall invite to sit upon the Court after consultation with the Kingdom Seneschal, with final approval resting with the Crown.
 - 2. Jury:
 - (a) The Earl Marshal may, and in capital cases (i.e., cases of such weight as might involve banishment from the Society) shall, appoint a jury made up of the peers of the accused. The number of the jury is within the discretion of the Earl Marshal, subject to tradition that a jury is comprised of 12 members.
 - (b) The accused may reject members of the jury except that his/her rejections may not total more than half of the jury as fixed by the Earl Marshal. Upon completion of the number of the jury, the jury shall select a foreman, who shall preside over their deliberative procedures.
 - 3. Procedures:
 - (a) Bringing of charges: A member of the Kingdom desiring to bring a matter to the attention of the Crown which may be considered grounds for a Court of Chivalry, shall proceed as follows:
 - (1) Charges shall be stipulated in writing to the Crown, together with a summary of the evidence to be presented and the name of the accusing parties, and shall be sent by certified mail or other verifiable method, and received by the Crown.
 - (2) If the Crown determines, upon the recommendation of a Court of Inquiry, that the evidence is insufficient, to convene a Court of Chivalry, They may at Their option either dismiss the allegation or deliver a reprimand. If the Crown determines that a Court of Chivalry shall be convened, They shall inform the Earl Marshal by certified mail.
 - (3) The Earl Marshal shall then inform the accused of the charges, of the identity of the accuser, and of the initial choice of the jury, by certified mail, or other verifiable method, within 5 days, and shall specify a date, place and time for the Court of Chivalry to be convened. The Earl Marshal shall make every reasonable attempt to find a date acceptable to the Court and to the accused, such date to be not less than 30, nor more than 60 days, from the date of their letter (postmark date).
 - (b) The accused shall reject any jurors by notifying the Earl Marshal in writing within 5 days of being notified of the charges.
 - (c) In order to protect the rights of all individuals involved, it shall be the duty of the Kingdom Seneschal as legal advisor to provide in writing a complete copy of the Kingdom Law pertaining to Courts of Chivalry to the accused, the members of the Court, the accuser, and the members of the jury.
 - (4) Prosecutor:

- (a) The Earl Marshal shall appoint a prosecutor not less than 21 days before the initially proposed date on which the Court is to convene. The prosecutor may appropriately be the person originating the charge. If a member of the Court is the accused or accuser, he shall immediately disqualify himself from the Court and shall be replaced by an individual designated by the Crown.
- (b) The accused may choose to be represented by any other member of the Kingdom at the Court and need not speak for himself/herself.
- (c) For the protection and privacy of all individuals involved, the decision as to the public or private nature of the proceeding shall be made by the Crown.
- (5) Conduct of the Court:
 - (a) Witnesses may be called by the Court where determined necessary.
 - (b) Evidence must be limited to information bearing directly on the charges as presented by the Earl Marshal.
 - (c) Witnesses called by the Court must be subject to cross-examination by both sides.
 - (d) The accused shall always be permitted to present his side of the case, either personally or through a representative.
- (6) Findings of the Court:
 - (a) If there is a jury, the Kingdom Seneschal shall instruct them in the pertinent laws and customs of the Kingdom and Society.
 - (b) If there is no jury, the Court shall determine the verdict under the direction of the Earl Marshal.
- (7). Recommendations to the Crown:
 - (a) Recommendations of a Court of Chivalry shall be presented to the Crown in writing within 7 days of the conclusion of the Court by means of certified mail or other verifiable method. The presentation shall be the responsibility of the Earl Marshal.
 - (b) A written copy of all recommendations shall be sent to the accused by means of certified mail or other verifiable method.
 - (c) The Crown, upon the recommendation of the Court, will determine the final disposition of the case.
- (8). Records:
 - (a) When the Crown calls a Court of Chivalry, the Court shall appoint an appropriate herald to record the progress of the proceedings and the substance of all testimony presented, together with the recommendations of the Court.
 - (b) This transcript shall be made accessible to the accused, the Earl Marshal, and the Crown, within 30 days of the conclusion of the Court.

V-102 Curia

The Curia is the gathering of the people of the Kingdom of Meridies. It is presided over by the Crown for the purpose of communication between the Crown and Its subjects. The Curia may be held at the pleasure of the Crown at any official event at which the Crown is in attendance, and it is open to all members of the populace.

ARTICLE VI

Code of Conduct

VI-101 Code of Conduct

The privacy and private property of all persons are to be considered inviolate and shall not be infringed upon by any other member without the prior express permission of that individual.

ARTICLE VII

Rights and Duties of the Populace

VII-101 Membership Benefits

Whereas, those members of the populace who contribute to the greater weal of the Society, and thus the Kingdom, through membership are favored in the eyes of the Crown, it is decreed that their participation should be further encouraged. To wit, the following deduction shall be offered to them:

- (A) Event pricing structures will be such that the non-member fee, as determined by the Society, will be collected from participants not providing proof of membership:
1. Events shall offer a non-feast price deduction.
 2. It is required that these non-member fees be included on pre-reservations and at the door.
 - a. Flyers/announcements must be worded in such a way as to state the full price for an event and further state that those individuals not providing proof-of-membership will pay an additional \$3.00.
 3. No family shall pay a site fee higher than 3 adult member prices for admission to an event as long as the children are 15 years of age or younger and they are all members. This may or may not include bed and/or feast spaces for more than those covered by the 3 paid adult member prices. This is to be decided at the hosting group's discretion. Proof of immediate family relations and age may be required.
 4. Proof-of membership is one of the following:
 - a. a copy of the regular membership card, or
 - b. a copy of the mailing label, or
 - c. a postcard, letter, or electronic message/online membership receipt from the Registry confirming that person's membership payment has been received. Membership is defined as Sustaining, Associate, or Family. All membership types are considered equal for the purposes of the non-member fee.
 5. Host groups may determine if this fee structure appears as a discount or surcharge in their flyers.
 6. Groups must remit the non-member fees collected to the Kingdom Exchequer within 30 days of an event. The Exchequer will remit the funds to the corporate officer with the quarterly report.
- (B) Heraldic Submissions: The Meridian College of Heraldry, through the Beacon Herald, is granted the right to structure the fees for submission for actions by the College in such a way that a \$5.00 deduction per action can be offered to those individuals providing proof of membership with requests for actions by the College.

VII-102 Badge of Meridies

All subjects of the Kingdom of Meridies are entitled to bear or display the badge of Meridies,

(A) "Sable, a mullet within a saltire voided argent."

(B) "Sable, the Lombardic uppercase letter M, and in base a comet fesswise argent."

VII-103 Meridies Flag

All branches of the Kingdom of Meridies are entitled to display, at any official event, the Flag of Meridies: "Argent, on a fess sable, a crown of three points between two mullets argent."

VII-104 Communications

Any communication to, from, or within the Kingdom of Meridies shall be in writing and signed by the appropriate person; otherwise, it shall be considered rumor and, therefore, unofficial. Electronic communication in the form of electronic mail may be held as an acceptable form of communication with proper authenticity by sender and recipient. Email must have sender and all recipients clearly identified. Pursuant to the provisions of this section, unofficial electronic forums, such as discussion groups and newsgroups are specifically excluded.

VII-105 Weapons

- (A) All subjects of the Crown of Meridies shall have the privilege to bear weapons at Court, in the hall, or at any function of the Society within Meridies, save in the Presence of the Crown or any of the Coronets, or unless deemed:
- (1) Unsafe by the ruling noble, Knight Marshals, or the Crown's representative; and/or
 - (2) Unlawful by mundane law, or
 - (3) Prohibited by event site regulations.

This privilege shall not otherwise be infringed upon.

- (B) Weapons shall not be drawn at a Society event, except for the purpose of ceremony or display; and the word "clear" must be spoken by the person drawing the weapon in such a manner that all surrounding them shall be appropriately cautioned.
- (C) No weapon will ever be drawn in an offensive manner or in a manner which could be interpreted as such. If such occurs, the individual doing so will be dealt with in an appropriately harsh manner.
- (D) A peace tie may be required on weapons by the ruling noble, Knight Marshals, or the event autocrat. Peace ties should be used at all demonstrations.
- (E) All weapons termed edged by their construction must be sheathed while being worn.
- (F) Those persons bearing weapons at events must take full responsibility for any injury inflicted by those weapons.
- (G) Weapons should be kept out of the reach of small children and animals at all times.

VII-106 Costume

All official events will be held and attended in costume, with the exception that dress for business meetings will be determined by the local group.

VII-107 Children

- (A) Children under the age of legal consent must attend any official Society function in the company of a parent or legal guardian or have both of the following waivers: "Designated Adult in Charge of a Minor" and "Medical Authorization". Both waiver forms are found on the Kingdom website or can be provided by the branch Seneschal.
- (B) Minor waivers must properly executed when presented to the autocrat and those at the registration area in charge of waivers and attendance records for their perusal before the child will be admitted to the site. A set of the waivers must be retained by the local branch and the Designated Adult. The "Medical Authorization" waiver must be notarized. Notarization of both waivers may be required by some States. Florida is one.
- (C) The adult named in the "Designated Adult in Charge of a Minor" waiver form is responsible for any and all acts of the child.
- (D) Children should not be left unattended at events. Children under the age of 12 must be within the sight or voice range of a designated responsible adult or teenager at all times. Children under the age of 5 can not be left unsupervised by the parent/legal guardian at events. Failure to comply with these rules may result in sanctions ranging from expulsion from site to notification of mundane authorities depending on

the circumstances.

- (E) For any SCA, Inc. sponsored children's activities ("goslings", Page School, Youth Combat, etc.), there must be 2 unrelated (non-married, non-dating, non-kin) adults in charge for the duration of the activity.

VII-108 Animals

- (A) All animals must be supervised at all times or appropriately restrained.
- (B) No animal may roam free at any official event within the Kingdom.
- (C) The presence of pets at an event is subject to the rules of the site, the type of activities taking place, and the appropriateness of their presence. This judgment shall be made by:
 1. The ruling noble
 2. The autocrat
 3. The Knight Marshal
 4. The Seneschal
- (D) The person in charge of the animal is responsible for any and all acts of that animal. The person in charge is defined as the individual who brought the animal onto the site.
- (E) The use of horses shall be governed by those regulations set forth by the Kingdom Equestrian Marshal, The Meridian Equestrian College will work with the Crown to organize the King's Lancer Tournament once per reign.
 1. The use of horses while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants is expressly forbidden.
 2. Horses may not be ridden or driven at a gait greater than a walk in areas of public concourse.

ARTICLE VIII

Succession of the Crown

VIII-101 Rules of the List

The Rules of the List, as defined by Corpora, the Meridian Rules and Armor Regulations, and the Rules and Conventions of Combat, shall be the governing rules for all tournaments held within the Kingdom of Meridies.

VIII-102 Requirements for Entering a Crown List

All participants must meet the requirements set forth by Corpora. In addition, unless otherwise stated by the Crown who will host the list (the Coronet), the following requirements must be met.

- (A) Each fighter competing must have one consort who has consented to serve as Consort of Meridies.
- (B) Each fighter and prospective consort must be 21 years of age or older by the date of the Crown List which they plan to enter, and both must attend Crown List unless a special dispensation is given by the Crown.
- (C) Each competitor and each prospective consort must be a current subscribing member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. One may be an Associate/Family member as long as there is a Kingdom newsletter delivered to their address.
- (D) Each competitor and prospective consort must be willing and able to fulfill the duties of the Crown.
- (E) Each competitor and consort must have resided within the Kingdom of Meridies and have been a paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. for the entire calendar year immediately preceding the Tournament in which they have expressed an intent to participate.
- (F) Each competitor and consort must have read Corpora and Meridies Kingdom Law.
- (G) Each competitor must use their own equipment during the List, except in the event the original equipment is damaged.

- (H) All participants must be acceptable to the Crown and must be willing to take the traditional Sword Oath prior to participation in the Crown List Tournament.
- (I) Each consort being championed in a Crown List must have only one champion.
- (J) Each competitor and consort must give assurances in their letter of intent that they both intend to remain within Meridies for the next 11 months.
- (K) Each competitor and consort must include in their letter of intent proof of membership.
- (L) Each competitor and consort must sign the letter of intent.
- (M) Each competitor and consort may state, if they wish, why they wish to enter the List.
- (N) Each competitor and consort must state in their letter of intent that they meet the requirements set forth in Kingdom Law for participation in the List.
- (O) All prospective participants in a Crown Tournament must file with the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal and Earl Marshal a letter of intent to participate in the Crown Tournament. This letter must be postmarked or given to those requiring such at least 4 weeks prior to the date set for the Tournament, unless otherwise stated by the Crown. All information pertaining to the prospective consort shall be kept confidential by the Crown, the Kingdom Seneschal, and the Earl Marshal.

VIII-103 Passing on of the Crown

- (A) In order to assure the orderly passing on of the Crown of Meridies through ensuing generations and to insure the timely knowledge of the populace of the fair Kingdom of Meridies concerning the dates of Crown Tournaments and Coronation, the following dates are set for these events and should be used except under extenuating circumstances:
 1. Spring Crown List: The first Saturday in May of each year, excluding those years in which this weekend is Mother's Day, in which case the event will occur on the second Saturday in May.
 2. Autumn Coronation: The second Saturday in September of each year.
 3. Autumn Crown List: The second Saturday in October of each year.
 4. Spring Coronation: The first Saturday in April of each year, excepting those years in which this weekend is Easter, in which case the event will occur on the second Saturday in April.
- (B) The various baronies, shires and cantons of this land are invited to apply to the Crown for the privilege of hosting these events.

VIII-104 Succession/Abdication/Failure of Monarchs

- (A) In the event a Consort of Meridies abdicates or fails, the Sovereign shall continue to rule, choosing, should the Sovereign desire, another Consort who will reign with the Sovereign until the next Coronation.
- (B) In the event a Sovereign of Meridies abdicates or fails, the Consort shall continue to rule as Regent for the remainder of the reign, ruling with all royal powers and prerogatives saving only that of choosing a new Consort.
- (C) In the event both the Sovereign and the Consort abdicate or fail, the Kingdom Seneschal shall call and hold a new Crown Tournament within 6 weeks. If there is already a Crown Prince/Princess, the Kingdom Seneschal shall call a Coronation to be held as soon as possible or the Crown Prince and Princess may serve as Regents until Their proper Coronation date as scheduled under Kingdom Law. The Crown Prince and Crown Princess shall crown Themselves Sovereign and Consort. If a Crown Tournament is called to determine the new Crown, the winner and his/her chosen consort shall be crowned immediately by the most recent past Sovereign available (excluding the immediate past Sovereign who abdicated/failed). The Kingdom Seneschal and Crown shall then consult to rectify changes in the calendar to satisfy Kingdom Law as regarding dates for future Crown Tournaments and Coronations.

Article IX

Subsidiary Groups

A subsidiary group is a group within a Kingdom which is administered by the Kingdom, either directly or indirectly, through a principality or barony.

IX-101 Colleges/Ports/Strongholds

- (A) A college/port/stronghold is a subsidiary group with fluctuating membership.
- (B) A college/port/stronghold shall have at least 5 paid members with sustaining membership in the S.C.A.
- (C) Colleges/Ports/Strongholds shall be required to meet the following requirements for officers: seneschal, herald, reeve, knight marshal, and minister of arts and sciences, who shall maintain a record of regular reports as required by the Great Officers of State.
 - 1. Since colleges are formed because of likely fluctuation in membership within the given area, the Kingdom realizes that there will be periods of time (especially in the cases of groups located on college/university campuses) when there is no activity from members of the group. For this reason, the Great Officers of State, when informed of periods of inactivity, will exercise leniency as regards reporting structures. Officers shall be paid members.
 - a. This requires the local officer to notify his Kingdom level superior of said period of inactivity, before the act.
- (D) As with any other group, if there is a vacancy in an office, it becomes the duty of the seneschal to report for the missing officer until a replacement is named.

IX-102 Cantons

- (A) A canton is a group within and administered by a barony.
- (B) A canton shall have at least 5 paid members with sustaining membership in the S.C.A.
- (C) A canton forms to receive assistance from an established barony or province. For that reason, it is not required that all canton offices be filled by members from the canton. When no officer in the canton exists for an office, the corresponding baronial or provincial office will take over the duties of the office for the canton, with the assistance of the canton seneschal. Officers shall be paid members.
- (D) A canton may be created within the existing territory of their host Barony. In addition, an area outside the territory of a host Barony can petition for Canton status, with the approval of the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal and Society Seneschal of the proposed territorial modification.

IX-103 Shires

- (A) A shire shall be a subsidiary group that is administered directly by the Kingdom or Principality.
- (B) A shire shall have at least 10 paid members sustaining memberships in the S.C.A.
- (C) A shire shall have and maintain paid members in the following offices: seneschal, herald, knight marshal, minister of arts and sciences, and reeve, who shall maintain a record of regular reports as required by the Great Officers of State.
- (D) A shire must be located sufficiently far from other established groups.

IX-104 Baronies

- (A) A barony is of sufficient size and influence within the Kingdom that the Crown may see fit to appoint a ruling noble to rule in Its stead when the Crown cannot be present. It is administered by a Kingdom or Principality.
- (B) A barony shall have at least 25 paid members with sustaining memberships in the S.C.A.
- (C) A barony shall have each office corresponding to each Great Office of State, with the exception of

Chirurgion, filled by a paid member. All officers shall maintain a record of regular reporting as required by the Great Officers of State.

- (D) A barony shall maintain a record of holding regular and frequent local meetings, including, but not limited to, business meetings, fighter practices, guild meetings, and the like. The times and locations of these meetings should be made known to all members.
- (E) A barony must hold at least 1 major, official S.C.A. event per calendar year.
- (F) Each Barony is required to submit a bid for a Kingdom level event at least once each calendar year.
- (G) A barony must maintain a level of excellence in the Arts, Sciences, and the Martial Arts.
- (H) A barony must have at least 1 person acceptable to the Crown to assume the title of Baron or Baroness.
- (I) The relationship between a barony and its cantons, including such issues as whether canton members may hold baronial offices, and whether canton members are eligible for baronial awards, is a matter to be decided between the barony and canton involved, but is subject to approval by the Crown or the Kingdom Seneschal .
- (J) Each prospective and current Barony shall have established written procedures for the succession of the Baronial Seat, as well as written guidelines for the responsibilities of the Baronial Seat and the Baronial Officers.

IX-105 Provinces

- (A) A province differs from a barony only in that, in a barony, the Crown has appointed a ruling noble to be the Baron or Baroness, and a province shall have no such ruling noble. The Crown may choose not to appoint such a noble, or the group may petition the Crown to remain or become a province.
- (B) All requirements listed above for baronies, save those which refer to ruling nobles, shall apply to provinces.
- (C) The canton of a province may style itself to be a march.

IX-106 Principalities

- (A) A principality is a group or collection of groups covering a contiguous region of land within a Kingdom. The collection of groups has reached such a state of advancement that it can be allowed to choose its ruling Prince and Princess by combat, as provided for in Corpora and elsewhere in Kingdom Law.
- (B) A group may petition the Board of Directors through the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal at any time it has met the basic requirements set forth in Corpora and Kingdom Law, for principality status.
- (C) The Crown and Kingdom Seneschal will report favorably to the Society Seneschal that the proposed principality be advanced to that status if he/she sees that the proposed principality meets the following additional requirements:
 1. A consistent record of reporting from all offices in the principality. Such reports shall be on time and complete as required by the Kingdom Officers.
 2. A record of fiscal responsibility.
 3. A record of significant activity in the Arts, Sciences, and Martial Pursuits.
 4. A sufficient number of fighters so as to maintain the dignity of a Coronet List.
 5. Sufficient numbers of members of the peerages, kingdom orders, and armigers.
 6. A record of hosting region-wide events and other official events in such number that the pace may be maintained after becoming a principality.

IX-107 Advancement of Principality to Kingdom Status

- (A) When a Principality is approved for advancement to Kingdom status, the next scheduled Coronet List shall become the first Crown List of the Incipient Kingdom. This List shall be held under supervision of the Crown of Meridies. Participants shall conform to the following qualifications:
 1. The participant shall reside within the borders of the Incipient Kingdom.

2. The participant shall not be the King, Queen, Crown Prince or Crown Princess of Meridies, nor shall he or she be the reigning Coronet of the Principality.
 3. The participant shall meet all other standards as set down in Meridies Kingdom Law and the Laws of the Principality.
- (B) Elevation of the first Crown of the Incipient Kingdom shall be accomplished in the following manner:
1. The Coronet shall present their coronets to the Crown of Meridies and take their rightful places with the Viscounty.
 2. The Crown of Meridies shall crown the first monarchs of the new Kingdom.

IX-108 Establishment and Advancement of Subsidiary Groups

1. The establishment and status of shires, cantons and colleges is the sole responsibility of the Kingdom Seneschal.
2. New groups are incipient and thus not permitted full freedom within the Kingdom structure. They must have sponsorship of an established group in 2 areas.
 - (1) Incipient groups must have an established group sponsor any event so that the legal and insurance needs of the Society are covered. This does not mean that the sponsoring group must provide labor, but it does not preclude such.
 - (2) Incipient groups may not have a bank account and must make arrangement with a neighboring group for the banking and disbursement of group monies until such time as the new group advances to permanent status.
3. The establishment and status of baronies, provinces and principalities and the advancement of a principality to kingdom status is the responsibility of the Board of Directors, and any petition for the establishment of a barony, province or principality shall be transmitted to the Society Seneschal through the Kingdom Seneschal, who shall append the joint approval or disapproval of the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal, including reasons for this ruling.
4. A canton may petition to become a shire, or a shire may petition to become a canton, with the approval of the baronial/provincial Seneschal, the approval of the Society Seneschal and, if applicable, the approval of the Baron or Baroness.
5. No group may petition for or be granted a change in status unless it meets the requirements for the new status. Petitions shall include proof that all requirements have been met.

IX-109 Reduction of Group Status

- (A) If, in the opinion of the Kingdom Seneschal, a group is not meeting the minimum requirements of its status, the Kingdom Seneschal will meet with the Seneschal of the group, and discuss remedial procedures. A letter outlining these procedures will be sent to the local Seneschal following this meeting. If, after 6 months, the Kingdom Seneschal does not feel that the minimum requirements have been met, or that significant growth toward meeting these requirements has been made, the Kingdom Seneschal will communicate with the Crown and all Great Officers of State, requesting an evaluation of the group. If the evaluation shows that the group is not meeting minimum standards, then the Kingdom Seneschal may, with the concurrence of the Crown, require the local Seneschal to show cause why the group should not be reduced in status or abolished. In all cases where groups are deemed unable to sustain their current status, the Society Seneschal and the Board of Directors will be formally apprised of the situation, and recommendations as to the future status of said groups shall be submitted to the Society Seneschal and the Board from the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal in writing.
- (B) If a barony, shire, canton, or college does not submit a report to the Kingdom Seneschal's office for a period of 1 year, and has held no official S.C.A. events, then the Kingdom Seneschal and reigning Crown may petition the Society Seneschal to petition the Board of Directors to declare said group to be nonexistent.

ARTICLE X

Kingdom events

X-101 Kingdom Events

- (A) The Crown, Kingdom Seneschal and other officers (as applicable), shall accept bids from the groups within the Kingdom to host Kingdom Events. All bids must be accepted by the Crown and receive written approval of the Kingdom Seneschal before the bid is accepted. The appropriate Kingdom Officer shall receive a copy of the bid and shall be consulted prior to the awarding of a bid for a Kingdom Event, which would normally fall under the auspices of their Office. Once a bid for a Kingdom Event is awarded, the appropriate Kingdom Officer and Event Coordinator shall consult with the High Sheriff on Trolling and Security procedures.
1. Bid forms for Kingdom events, with the exception of Coronations, should be sent to the Crown, the Kingdom Seneschal, and any Kingdom officer relevant to the bid to arrive in their hands no later than 7 months prior to the scheduled event
 2. The Bid for all Kingdom events, with the exception of Coronations, shall be awarded by the Crown and all bidding groups notified of the outcome by written media (mail or email) no later than 6 months prior to the scheduled event. The Crown may notify the bidding groups; however, official notification shall be done in writing by the Kingdom Seneschal.
- (B) Events considered Kingdom Events shall include Coronations, Crown Lists, Border Raids, Gulf Wars, Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire, Royal University of Meridies Collegium, Meridian Grand Tournament, Fighters Collegium, and all Kingdom-level Collegia hosted in Meridies.
- (C) Other events considered Kingdom Events would include any Kingdom Anniversary Celebrations (events which must be bid on).
- (D) The profits of all these events shall be divided equally (50%/50%) between the hosting group and the Kingdom.
1. Any fundraisers held at these events advertised as Kingdom Fundraisers are exempt from the 50%/50% split, with all profits going to the Kingdom.
- (E) No event shall be scheduled opposite any Kingdom level event.

X-102 Coronation

The dates for Coronation (as defined in VIII-103 (a)) are as follows:

- (A) Autumn Coronation: The second Saturday in September of each year.
- (B) Spring Coronation: The first Saturday in April of each year, excepting those years in which this weekend is Easter, in which case the event will occur on the second Saturday in April.

X-103 Crown List

The dates for Crown List (as defined in VIII-103 (a)) are as follows:

- (A) Autumn Crown List: The second Saturday in October of each year.
- (B) Spring Crown List: The first Saturday in May of each year, excepting those years in which this weekend is Mother's Day, in which case the event will occur on the second Saturday in May.

X-104 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire

In order to foster the Arts and Sciences within the Realm and to allow artisans adequate preparation, the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire will be held on the first weekend of June each year, unless exception is made by the Crown after consultation with the Kingdom Seneschal and Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences.

- (A) While the administration of Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire is the responsibility of the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences, it is deemed beneficial that the Order of the Laurel be consulted in an effort to better the Faire through their knowledge and experience.

X-105 Fighters Collegium

To encourage martial skills and knowledge within the borders of Our Fair Land, the Kingdom Fighters Collegium will be held on the second weekend of November each year unless exception be made by the Crown, the Earl Marshal, and the Kingdom Seneschal.

- (A) While the administration of Kingdom Fighters Collegium is the responsibility of the Earl Marshal, it is deemed beneficial that the Order of the Chivalry be consulted in an effort to better the Collegium through their knowledge and experience.

X-106 Kingdom Collegium (Royal University of Meridies)

To encourage the general education of the populace of this realm, the Chancellor of the Royal University shall schedule the Royal University of Meridies Collegium on the third weekend of July.

- (A) To encourage the general education of the populace of this realm, the Chancellor of the Royal University shall schedule classes at said event.

X-107 Meridian Grand Tourney

To encourage Pageantry and Chivalric Tournaments within the Realm, Meridian Grand Tournament will be held the last weekend of September each year unless an exception is made by the Crown after consultation with the Kingdom Seneschal, Earl Marshal and Tournament Coordinator.

- (A) While the administration of Meridian Grand Tournament is the responsibility of the Tournament Coordinator, it is deemed beneficial that the Order the Chivalry and the College of Heraldry be consulted in effort to better the Tournament through their knowledge and experience.

X-108 Inter-Kingdom Events

To encourage martial skills, arts and sciences, and foster good will the Kingdom of Meridies will work with other Kingdoms to host inter-Kingdom events.

- (A) Border Raids will be sponsored every odd-numbered year by the Kingdom of Meridies.

X-109 Cash and Funds

- (A) A numbered cash receipt shall be provided to any individual paying Society-related fees in cash (event fees, etc.).
- (B) Numbered cash receipts will further be supplied to any individual making a donation in excess of \$5.00 (auctions/other fundraisers).
- (C) Said receipts should be at least two-part, with duplicates being retained by the hosting/sponsoring group for accounting/income reconciliation purposes.

X-110 Events

- (A) All events on the Kingdom Calendar shall have an autocrat whose name, address, and telephone number are published in the Kingdom Newsletter.

The Sumptuary Laws of Meridies

The following shall be reserved by Law, as Sumptuary items and shall serve to further enhance the dignity and appearance of the people of Meridies. All such items are subject to the approval of the Crown and the

restrictions of the College of Heralds.

Crowns/Coronets

The Sovereign and Consort may wear crowns of precious metal with points, ornamented as They see fit. The Crown Prince and Crown Princess may wear crowns of precious metal with points, ornamented as They see fit.

The Territorial Prince and Princess may wear coronets of silver appropriate to Their Principality, not to exceed five points.

The Territorial Heir and Heiress may wear coronets of silver appropriate to Their Principality, not to exceed 4 points.

Dukes and Duchesses may wear coronets of precious metal, embellished with strawberry leaves, ornamented as they see fit the overall height not to exceed 4 inches.

Counts and Countesses (and those with alternate titles of the same rank) may wear coronets of precious metal embattled, ornamented as they see fit the overall height not to exceed 3 inches.

Viscounts and Viscountesses may wear coronets of silver embattled, ornamented as they see fit the overall height not to exceed 3 inches.

Bestowed Peers (Chivalry, Laurels, and Pelicans) may wear a circlet of precious metal with no protrusions above or below the band, with simple ornamentation, the overall height not to exceed 1 inch. Laurels may wear a Laurel Wreath meeting these standards.

Territorial or Court Barons and Baronesses may wear Coronets of precious metal with 6 spheroids or precious stones, with simple ornamentation, the overall height not to exceed 2 inches.

Members of the Populace with Grants of Arms may wear a totally unornamented circlet of any metal with no protrusions above or below the band, the overall height of which shall not exceed 1/2 inch.

Members of the Populace with Awards of Arms may wear a totally unornamented circlet of any metal with no protrusions above or below the band, the overall height of which shall not exceed 1/4 inch.

These laws shall include the fashioning of any sort of Crown or Coronet of any material, such as leather or cloth. Fleur-des-Lis under 1 inch in height are not considered points on a Crown or a Coronet.

Members of the Order of the Pelican may wear Caps of maintenance of sable, lined with ermine, either singly or bearing the badge of the Order.

Collars of Estate

Dukes and Duchesses may wear a Collar of Estate composed of strawberry leaves and the Badge of Meridies, all in precious metal, and bearing the Badges of their respective Orders and Awards, the leaves and/or badges not to exceed 2 inches square.

Counts and Countesses may wear a Collar of Estate composed of embattlements and/or the Badge of Meridies, all in precious metal, and bearing the Badges of their respective Orders and Awards, the embattlements and badges not to exceed 2 inches square.

Viscounts and Viscountesses may wear a Collar of Estate composed of embattlements of silver and/or the Badge of Meridies, and bearing the Badges of their respective Orders and Awards, the embattlements and badges not to exceed 2 inches.

Bestowed Peers may wear a Collar of Estate composed of the Badge of Meridies and the Badges of their respective Orders and Awards, the Badges not to exceed 2 inches square.

Members of the Populace with Grants of Arms may wear a Collar of Estate composed of uncial letter M's all in silver and the Badge of Meridies, the letter and Badges not to exceed 1 square inch.

Badges

Citizens of Meridies may bear upon their person Badges of the various Orders and Awards they have received. These badges may be worn as pendants upon ribbons. Those Companions of the Order of the

Laurel and the Order of the Pelican may bear Badges of their orders upon a chain of gold only if they have sworn their fealty and done homage to the Crown; otherwise, they may wear the badges of their orders upon a ribbon of appropriate color. These badges may be of a size to please the Companion. Such Companions may also wear the badge of their order as a pin, or in such a fashion as they desire, in conforming with these directives.

Chains and Spurs

Unadorned chains of gold will be reserved for use by members of the Chivalry, only if they have sworn their fealty and done homage unto the Crown. Spurs of gold will be reserved for use by members of the Chivalry.

Belts and Baldrics

Simple white belts are reserved for use by the members of the Chivalry. Masters of Arms may wear a simple white belt as long as it is accompanied by a simple white baldric.

Batons

White batons of 1 yard in length may be carried by heralds, while they wear a tabard in the fulfillment of their proscribed duties, as was anciently done.

Supporters

Single supporters, as used in the display of Achievements of Arms, may be used by bestowed Peers, individuals having a Grant-of-Arms, and Groups.

Paired Supporters, as used in the display of Achievements of Arms, may be used by Royal Peers, and those groups and individuals having been granted an Augmentation of Arms.

Substitution

Due to the expense involved in the use of real gold and silver, the use of precious metal substitutes is allowed as long as the same basic colors are maintained.

Standards

There shall be reserved one type of heraldic flag for display that is fitting the prestige and honor for the order of the peerages known as the STANDARD. The standard shall be identified by the use of the Kingdom Badge (NOT the Kingdom Arms) at the hoist, "Argent, on a fess sable, a crown of three points between two mullets argent." of 1 yard in width followed by the appropriate charges, colors and regalia of peerage entitlement as appropriate. The length in addition to the yard of the kingdom badge is regulated as follows: King/Queen- 8 yards, Duchy-7 yards, County-6 yards, Peers-5 yards, and Territorial Baronage- 4 yards