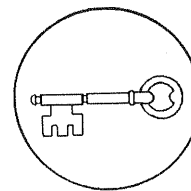


OFFICER'S FORUM



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Greetings Meridians!

Welcome to TRMs Boru and Dierdre--may They reign in happiness and prosperity! It's also time to start begging for bids for Spring 2006 (Coronation, Crown, RUM/A&S)...if you have questions about the bid process, sites, what's expected in general, please contact Dame Fianna...

Please notice in the attached law changes (read in Court, rapidly, at RUM July 16, 2005), that Royal University and A&S have combined for 2006--the first weekend in June will be A&S/RUM (or RUM/A&S)--everyone with questions about classes, etc. please contact Mistress Winalee and Mistress Sigy Ingadottir (elevated to the Pelican at RUM--congratulations!!).

And speakaing of Meridian Law: you should all, well those of you with valid memberships, receive a new copy (including the RUM changes) of MKL in the mail soon (if not already).

In September, I will see many of you at Grand Tourney, Meridian Coronation, and...who knows where else (I'm sneaky like that sometimes).

For Meridies,
Gwen

WAS:

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 in their particular specialty, and will have distinguished themselves, on the tournament field, and in the training of new fighters. 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 Order's badge shall be "Sable, on a pale between two escutcheons argent, a sword sable."

IS NOW: 071605**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.
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 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."

Change FROM:**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(e) and Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences.

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-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 for the Royal University of Meridies a Collegium on the third weekend of July.

IS NOW:**X-104 Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire and Collegium (Royal University of Meridies)**

In order to foster the Arts and Sciences within the Realm, promote the education of the populace, and to allow artisans adequate preparation, the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Faire and Collegium (Royal University of Meridies) will be held on the first weekend of June each year, unless exception is made by the Crown after consultation with the Kingdom Seneschal(e), Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences, and Chancellor of RUM.

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.

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

Delete X-106

CHANGE # IN ACCORDANCE, X-107, BECOMES X-106, ETC...

Greetings Stalwart Warriors
From Earl Marshal etcetera, etcetera,

Earl Marshal



Right then, lots of business this month, the real deal, the big thing. Changes in the wind and all that. Hold onto your caps and bonnets this is earth-shattering news. Are you ready for this?

Meridies is now in line with the rest of the Society in regards to the age for participation in Armored Combat. Specifically, 16 and 17 year old fighters may participate with adults at fighter practice (or pickups at events) and may go on to authorize as an "adult" fighter. In case you're wondering how and when this came about let me remind you that the Meridian experiment for 16 and 17 year olds started during Sir Griffin's memorable tenure, and has been ongoing for almost two years now. Some of you have probably already fought minors on the field whether you know it or not. So this shouldn't come as a major surprise for anyone (I hope, well not really, but I'm assuming the best anyhow).

So, if you're an attentive group knight marshal you're probably asking yourself right now, what about waivers? Good question! New waivers that apply only towards 16 and 17 year olds fighting with adults are available on the kingdom website. Go get a copy now. That being said, the same waiver applies towards the same age group participating in rapier combat.

Also take out your copy of the Meridian Marshal's Handbook and make the following change under Section IV Authorizations, subsection A Armored Combat Authorization, item 1, line 1 strike through the words "eighteen (18)" and replace with "sixteen (16)".

Lastly, if you're still the attentive group knight marshal I expect you all are (and I keep my fingers crossed) you should make note that there is one *crucial* difference in armor standards between adult and minor combatants. Minor age combatants of 16 and 17 years of age must still have sternum protection incorporated in their armor, just as participants in the Dragon class youth combat program. So how does an inspecting marshal know to check? We are currently working out a system to mark the authorization cards of minors to designate them as such, and that should clue you in to inspect for sternum protection when they show their card. Start checking cards and fighters closely!!!

If you're sixteen or seventeen and you want to swing rattan with the big dogs (yo) now's your chance. However, if you're not interested in the big leagues and want to play in the minors a couple more years to garner experience or such, you can still take part in the Youth combat program through the Dragon class. Or, if you're really industrious (full of vim and vinegar and all that) you can take part in both programs by authorizing in each. To which I say, are you out of your Mesopotamian mind? But then I'm not sixteen or seventeen anymore. Not in the least. Way not. Way, way not.

Crikey, I'm old.

In Service to Crown and Kingdom,
Sir Artos Ancilus