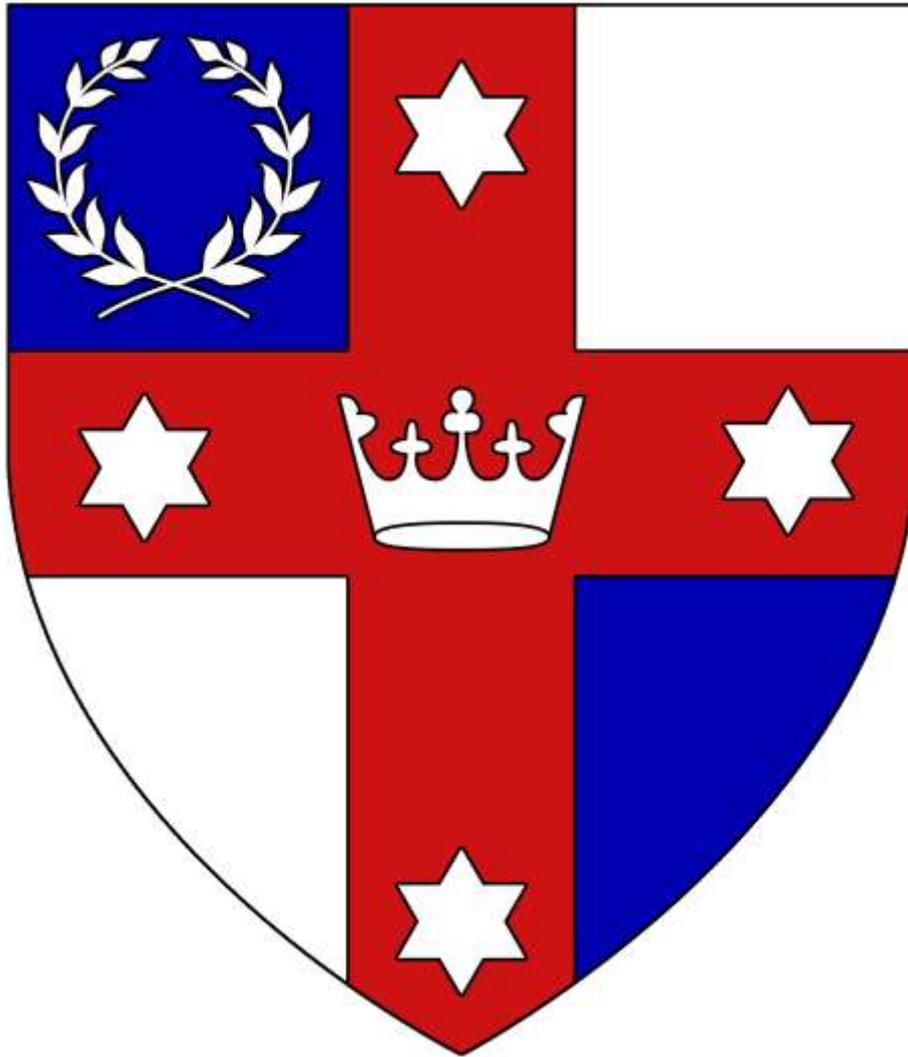


# Lochac Laws



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Updated November, 2015

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## **I Definitions**

### ***I.1 SCA***

SCA US means the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., incorporated in California. SCA Ltd means the Society for Creative Anachronism Ltd, the company representing the SCA in Australia. SCANZ means the Society for Creative Anachronism New Zealand Inc. SCA means the collection of affiliated organisations which includes SCA US, SCA Ltd and SCANZ.

### ***I.2 Lochac***

Lochac means the Kingdom of Lochac: a branch of the SCA which encompasses all SCA activities and groups within Australia and New Zealand. In this document "Kingdom" or "the Kingdom" shall be understood to mean Lochac.

### ***I.3 Laws***

Law or Laws used without qualifiers means the Law or Laws of the Kingdom of Lochac; i.e. this document.

### ***I.4 Corpora***

Corpora means the Corpora of the SCA US, one of the Governing Documents of the SCA US.

### ***I.5 Member***

A Member is a subscribing member of the SCA Ltd or SCANZ or a formally affiliated organisation.

### ***I.6 Seneschal***

Unless specifically stated otherwise Seneschal means the Lochac Kingdom Seneschal.

### ***I.7 Registrar***

Registrar means the registrar of SCA Ltd or of SCANZ as applicable.

### ***I.8 Pegasus***

PEGASUS is the official newsletter of Lochac, the SCA Ltd and SCANZ.

### ***I.9 Kingdom Website***

The Kingdom Website is <http://lochac.sca.org/>

### ***I.10 Mail***

Unless specifically stated otherwise the term mail includes email and postal mail.

### ***I.11 Official Event***

An official event means an SCA event as defined in the Corpora of the SCA US.

### ***I.12 Steward***

Steward means the member of the SCA who is the person responsible for an official event.

### ***I.13 Sovereign***

Sovereign means the contestant of Crown tournament who fought and won, and was subsequently crowned as King or Queen.

### ***I.14 Consort***

Consort means the person who entered Crown tournament with the person who won Crown Tournament and was subsequently crowned as King or Queen.

### ***I.15 The Crown***

The Crown means the Sovereign and Consort of Lochac, acting together.

### ***I.16 Royal Titles***

#### ***I.16.i The King***

The title 'King' is reserved for the Sovereign and/or Consort whose gender identifies as male.

#### ***I.16.ii The Queen***

The title 'Queen' is reserved for the Sovereign and/or Consort whose gender identifies as female.

### ***I.17 Regent***

Regent means the person who administers the affairs of the Kingdom if the Crown is unable to reign.

### ***I.18 Royal Heirs***

Royal Heirs means the winner of the most recent Crown Tournament and their consort, who have been granted the title of Crown Prince or Crown Princess (as befits their gender) but who have not yet been crowned King or Queen.

### ***I.19 Governing documents of the SCA***

The governing documents of the SCA in Lochac shall be, by order of precedence:

1. Real-world law.
2. The Constitution of the SCA Ltd and/or the Rules of SCANZ, as applicable.
3. The SCA Ltd-SCANZ, SCA Ltd-SCA US and SCANZ-SCA US operating agreements.
4. SCA Ltd and/or SCANZ corporate policies, as applicable.
5. The Corpora of the SCA US

6. SCA US Officers' policies, as approved by the Board of SCA US, except those specifically excluded by the operating agreements between SCA Ltd and/or SCANZ and SCA US.
7. The Laws of the Kingdom of Lochac (this document)
8. Governing documents or written policies of Kingdom Officers, approved by the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal
9. The Word of the Crown

## **II The Law**

### ***II.1 Precedence of the Law***

The order of Precedence of the Law shall be as defined in the governing documents of the SCA.

### ***II.2 Source of the Law***

#### ***II.2.i Word of the Crown***

The word of the Crown is Law, subject to the governing documents of the SCA and the modern laws of jurisdictions in which the kingdom is situated.

#### ***II.2.ii Proclamations***

Proclamations of the Crown come into effect from the moment they are spoken, and are binding on all subjects of the Kingdom with knowledge of the terms of the proclamation to the extent of that knowledge, during the reign of the Crown who made the proclamation. However, they do not change or rescind existing laws unless proclaimed and published as provided below.

### ***II.3 Changes to the Law***

#### ***II.3.i Proposed Laws***

Proposed laws are any changes or additions proposed for these Laws. The Crown must present all proposed laws to the Seneschal. The Seneschal is required to provide advice to the Crown within 60 days of receiving the proposed law. Once the Seneschal has provided advice to the Crown on the proposed law or the 60 days has expired, the Crown may act to proclaim and publish the law change.

#### ***II.3.ii Proclamation and Publication of Law Changes***

Changes to these Laws shall be announced by the Crown at an official event and shall take effect immediately. In order for the changes to have permanent effect, the Kingdom Seneschal shall publish them as follows within the specified periods from the date of the official announcement:

- within one month, as a distinct document on the Kingdom website which contains only the changes, and also by incorporation into the current Laws document

- within one month, via a notification to the announcement email list of the Kingdom which references the above-mentioned changes document on the Kingdom website
- within three months, a copy of the changes in Pegasus

Pending publication as described above, a Law change officially announced by the Crown may be presumed to continue in effect for up to three months of Their Successor's Reign, unless altered by a new Law change.

Laws changes not correctly published within the timeframes described above are automatically rescinded.

In written announcements, all changes must be presented as changes, additions or deletions to specific articles or sections. When announced in Court, only the fact of the changes need be announced, provided the changes themselves have been published on the announcement email list prior to the event, or are available at the event for attendees to read.

## ***II.4 Publication***

The current Laws shall be maintained on the Kingdom website by the Kingdom Seneschal and their location shall be published on the home page of the Kingdom website and in each issue of Pegasus.

Documents describing announced changes to Laws shall be maintained and accessible on the Kingdom website for at least ten years after their original publication.

Any member of the SCA Ltd or SCANZ may request a printed copy of the current Laws from the Kingdom Seneschal, which shall be provided to them at no cost not more than once per year.

## ***II.5 Combat***

The rules and conventions concerning the martial activities of the Kingdom of Lochac are maintained and published by the office of the Earl Marshal.

# **III The Crown**

## ***III.1 Eligibility for the Crown Tournament***

Each combatant entering the Crown Tournament, and his or her consort, must:

1. Be acceptable to the Crown.
2. Be at least 18 years of age on the day of the Crown Tournament.
3. Be current subscribing members of SCA Ltd or SCANZ at the time of the Crown Tournament. Membership must be maintained by the winner and his or her consort throughout their tenure as Crown Prince and Princess and Crown. Positive confirmation of membership consists of: a valid membership card, listing as a current member in the Registry Database, or receipt of online membership (as downloaded from the renewal website) plus proof that payment has been made in the form of a receipt for an electronic payment.

4. Have actively participated in the Kingdom of Lochac for a satisfactory period of time as judged by the Crown of Lochac. \*\* GUIDELINE: For example, the Crown may choose to ask entrants to share what Lochac events they have attended/participated in the 3 to 6 months prior to the tournament.
5. Be able and willing to swear that should they win, they will attend their Coronation, the following Crown Tournament and the Coronation of their successors, and that they are willing and able to swear fealty to Lochac for the duration of their reign.
6. Not be the current Sovereign or Consort of Lochac.
7. Be able and willing, should they win, to obtain and maintain throughout their reign passports and any other necessary travel documents to ensure that they are free to travel to all parts of the kingdom.
8. A person may only be fought for by one combatant in a Crown Tournament.  
Examples:
  - Person A may fight for Person B and Person B may also fight for Person A.
  - Person A may fight for Person B and Person B may fight for Person C.
  - Person A and Person B may NOT both fight for Person C.

## **III.2 Succession**

### **III.2.i Failure to Attend Coronation**

Should the Crown Prince and/or Princess, through no fault of their own, be unable to attend their Coronation, such steps as are necessary and acceptable to them and to the Crown shall be taken, that they may be Crowned.

### **III.2.ii Sovereign or Consort Unable to Reign by Cause of Illness or Death**

If the Crown Prince or Princess become seriously ill or die between the time of the Crown Tournament and their investiture as Crown, the remaining Crown Prince or Princess may reign alone, vested with the full powers of the Crown.

### **III.2.iii Crown Prince and/or Princess Unwilling to Reign**

If the provisions of the previous subsection do not apply and the Crown Prince and/or Princess are unable or unwilling to start their reign, the Council of the Purse shall make preparations for a Crown Tournament which shall be held at the beginning of the Coronation event or, if this date shall have passed, at the earliest date practicable. Entry into this Tournament shall be restricted to those fighters and consorts who met the eligibility requirements listed in III.1 to enter the previous Crown Tournament and who remain eligible, except for the victor of the previous Crown Tournament, and their consort who shall both be barred.

The Crown retain the right to make their acceptance of eligibility conditional on any further requirements.

The winner and consort of this Tournament shall be Crowned immediately.

### **III.2.iv Inability to Complete Reign**

Should either the Sovereign or Consort become unable or unwilling to complete their reign, the other may continue to reign alone and shall contain all the power of the Crown.

### **III.2.v The Regent**

Should the Crown become unable or unwilling to complete their reign, the Champion and Lord or Lady of Lochac shall be Regent, and shall have all the powers of the Crown with the exception that the Regents may not change the Laws or give out awards. The Regents may not fight or be fought for in the Crown Lists.

### **III.2.vi Duties of the Regent**

If the Crown has abdicated without heirs, the Regent shall crown the winner and consort of the next Crown Tournament as King and Queen immediately. If the Crown fails to complete their reign after Their heirs have been chosen, the Regent shall crown the Crown Prince and Princess at the next scheduled Coronation event.

## **III.3 Selecting The Crown**

### **III.3.i Conduct of Combat**

The conduct of combat, Rules of the Lists, requirements of arms and armour, and rules concerning the use of horses shall be governed by the Conventions of Combat of the Kingdom of Lochac.

### **III.3.ii Tournament Form**

The Crown shall choose the tournament form by which their successors shall be chosen.

### **III.3.iii Standard List**

The standard list for Lochac Crown tournaments is a double elimination list conducted in accordance with the guidelines given in the Kingdom Conventions of Combat.

### **III.3.iv Entry in Crown lists**

Candidates for the Crown must be eligible as defined in Article III Section 1.

### **III.3.v Opponents**

Each fighter by entering in the Crown Lists, declares willingness to fight all opponents in the Lists.

### **III.3.vi Crown Prince and Princess**

The winner of the Crown Tournament, and his or her consort, shall bear the titles of Crown Prince and Princess of Lochac. Until their Coronation they shall have only such rights and duties as the Crown assigns to them.

### **III.3.vii Champion and Lord or Lady of Lochac**

The fighter who is runner up in the Crown Tournament shall bear the title of Champion of Lochac and their consort shall be called Lord or Lady of Lochac, for the duration of the reign of the winner of this Tournament.

### **III.4 Coronation**

#### **III.4.i King and Queen**

At their Coronation, the Crown Prince and Princess of Lochac shall assume the titles of King and Queen as appropriate to their gender and shall be vested with the full powers of the Crown.

#### **III.5 Crown Travel Fund**

The Crown Travel Fund will reimburse the Crown's travel expenses up to an amount to be specified from time to time by the Council of the Purse. Such reimbursement will be made upon presentation of receipts to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Details of the current policy can be found on the Exchequer's website.

## **IV Officers**

### **IV.1 Kingdom Officers**

#### **IV.1.i Greater Officers**

There shall be eight Great Officers in Lochac. They shall be the Seneschal, the Crux Australis Herald, the Earl Marshal, the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chronicler, the Chirurgeon and the Constable.

#### **IV.1.ii Lesser Officers**

There shall be ten Lesser Officers in Lochac. They shall be the Keeper of the Lists, the Hospitaller, the Provost of the College of Scribes, the Archery Marshal, the Rapier Marshal, the Heavy Marshal, the Equestrian Marshal, the Keeper of Regalia, the Historian, and the Web Minister.

#### **IV.1.iii Term of Office**

The normal term of office for a Kingdom officer shall be two years. This term shall only be extended in exceptional circumstances. No Officer may serve for more than four years consecutively.

### **IV.2 Responsibilities**

#### **IV.2.i To the Crown**

The Greater and Lesser Officers are responsible to the Crown for carrying out the Laws and administering the affairs of Lochac. They owe allegiance to the Crown in the performance of their offices. In addition to the specific duties defined hereunder, each Officer shall carry out such other duties as are appropriate to the Office, or as are directed by the Crown.

#### **IV.2.ii Documentation of the Office**

As part of their responsibility to the administration of the Kingdom, the Greater and Lesser Officers shall produce and/or maintain governing documents or written policies of their office (which shall include an office Statement of Responsibilities) and seek

approval of both the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal for any changes to the governing documents or written policies of their office.

#### ***IV.2.iii Communication***

It shall be the responsibility and duty of each Great and Lesser Officer of the Kingdom to maintain regular contact with, provide support to and collect reports from the local officers below them.

#### ***IV.2.iv Deputies***

It shall be the duty of each Great and Lesser officer, within six months of assuming office, to obtain a deputy capable of assuming their office in case of emergency.

### **IV.3 Reporting**

#### ***IV.3.i Written Reports***

The reporting schedule of all officers throughout the Kingdom shall be as follows:

1. The Kingdom Seneschal shall report quarterly, by the 15th of March, June, September, and December.
2. The Kingdom Exchequer shall report quarterly as required by SCA Ltd and SCANZ requirements, also taking into account the annual reporting dates specified in Article VII of these laws.
3. Other Kingdom officers shall report quarterly, by the last day of February, May, August, and November.
4. Reeves shall send a report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer quarterly, by the 15th of January, April, July, and October.
5. Seneschals of Baronies and Shires shall report quarterly, by the last day of February, May, August, and November.
6. Other officers of Baronies and Shires shall report quarterly, by the 15th of February, May, August, and November.
7. Seneschals of Incipient Groups, Colleges and Cantons shall report quarterly, by the last day of January, April, July and October.
8. Other officers of Colleges and Cantons shall report quarterly, by the 15th of January, April, July and October.

Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is grounds for the Crown or relevant Kingdom Officer to suspend that Officer, or to remove that Officer from office.

#### ***IV.3.ii Rosters***

Each Great and Lesser Officer shall submit a roster of local officers and their deputies to the Crown upon request. Failure to so submit within four weeks without appropriate explanation is grounds for the Crown to suspend that Officer for that reign, or to remove that officer from Office.

### ***IV.3.iii Financial Reports***

Each Great and Lesser Officer in Australia shall, by the 31st of January each year, provide a financial report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Deputy for Australia, for the previous Australian financial year. Each Great and Lesser Officer in New Zealand shall, by the 30th of April each year, provide a financial report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Deputy for New Zealand, for the previous New Zealand financial year. Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is grounds for the Crown to suspend that Officer for that reign, or to remove that officer from Office. At the time a new Kingdom Officer is appointed, the outgoing Officer shall prepare a financial report for that Office. Both the outgoing and incoming Officers are to sign that report and a copy is to be sent to the Exchequer.

## ***IV.4 Appointment of Officers***

### ***IV.4.i Warrants***

Appointment to and removal from all Offices at all levels shall be according to the procedures established for warrants or for official rosters, as provided by the governing documents of the SCA.

### ***IV.4.ii Removal of an Officer***

With sufficient evidence that an Officer is not fulfilling the duties of that Office, the Crown and the Seneschal may remove and replace that officer.

### ***IV.4.iii Suspension of an Officer***

An officer may be suspended by the Crown for failing to comply with the Laws referring to their office, as detailed under Article IV Sections 2, 3, 5 and 6. The duties of a suspended officer shall be performed by that officer's deputy for the duration of the reign. If there is no rostered deputy then the duties of a suspended officer shall be performed by the Seneschal.

## ***IV.5 Duties of Officers***

### ***IV.5.i The Seneschal***

The Seneschal is the chief administrative officer of the Kingdom and shall:

1. Serve as the principal mundane legal representative of the SCA within Lochac.
2. Receive reports from all other Great and Lesser Officers on the status of their office.
3. Make such reports as may be required by the Crown.
4. Sit on the Council of the Purse.
5. Sit on the Council of the Regalia.
6. Provide details of Crown events, attendance at which is required for the winners of the following Crown Tourney (as defined in Corpora IV.C.2), to the Chronicler for publication in April and October Pegasus.

The Seneschal is ineligible to enter or be fought for in Crown Tournaments for any reign that would coincide with their term of office.

#### ***IV.5.ii The Crux Australis Herald***

Crux Australis Herald is the principal heraldic officer of the Crown, and the Head of the College of Heralds in Lochac, and shall be responsible for:

1. Providing the Crown's voice at events.
2. The registration of names and armoury.
3. The maintenance of the Order of Precedence of Lochac.
4. The providing of new ceremony.
5. The devising of new protocol for Lochac subject to the Crown's approval.

#### ***IV.5.iii The Earl Marshal***

The Earl Marshal is the principal martial officer of the Crown, and the Head of the Marshallate in Lochac, and shall be responsible for:

1. Development of the new combat standards of the Kingdom as required.
2. Encouraging the development of chivalry on the field.
3. Maintenance, publication and enforcement of the Kingdom standards for construction and use of weapons and armour.

The Earl Marshal, in consultation with the Crown, shall appoint deputies in the areas of Rapier, Archery, Equestrian and Heavy to perform duties in respect of the Marshallate. Further deputies with specific duties may be appointed by the Earl Marshal, in consultation with the Crown. The Earl Marshal may subsume one or more of these roles into their own office should they so desire. The Earl Marshal shall be a warranted marshal in the Kingdom. In regards to all matters martial if a grievance procedure is conducted the Earl Marshal may suggest to the Crown that a Quarter Court be held.

#### ***IV.5.iv The Minister of Arts and Sciences***

The Minister of Arts and Sciences shall be responsible for:

1. The encouragement of Period Arts and Sciences in Lochac.
2. Conducting the Annual Lochac Arts and Sciences Competition.

#### ***IV.5.v The Chancellor of the Exchequer***

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is the chief financial officer of the Kingdom, and shall be responsible for:

1. Collecting, safeguarding and disbursing the monies of the Kingdom.
2. Maintaining the records of the assets of Lochac.
3. Receiving financial reports from the local groups of Lochac and from the Kingdom Officers of Lochac.

4. Sitting on the Council of the Purse.

#### ***IV.5.vi The Chronicler***

The Chronicler is responsible for:

1. The monthly publication and distribution of the official newsletter PEGASUS for receipt by members before the first full weekend of the month.
2. For the accounting of the Corporate Stipend and other Kingdom newsletter income, reporting such income and expenditures to the SCA Treasurers.

#### ***IV.5.vii The Chirurgeon***

The Chirurgeon is the chief first aid officer of the Kingdom, and shall be responsible for:

1. Advising the Earl Marshal on health related issues.
2. Supervising those Chirurgeons-At-Large and water bearers who provide first aid at any event within Lochac, excepting mundane authorities.

#### ***IV.5.viii The Constable***

The Constable is the chief security officer of the Kingdom, and shall be responsible for:

1. The maintenance of order and security amongst the people at events.
2. Administering lost property.
3. Providing Constabulary related documents as are required by the SCA and filing these, as required by the SCA.

#### ***IV.5.ix The Keeper of the Lists***

The Keeper of the Lists shall serve under the Earl Marshal and shall be responsible for:

1. The organization and co-ordination of Tournaments as directed by the Crown and in cooperation with the College of Heraldry and the Marshallate.
2. Maintaining the records and results of combats in the whole of Lochac including target archery.
3. Maintaining the list and documentation pertaining to Lochac's authorised participants in armoured fighting, combat archery (and other projectile weapons), rapier combat and Equestrian activities.

#### ***IV.5.x The Hospitaller***

The Hospitaller shall serve under the Seneschal and shall be responsible for:

1. Welcoming newcomers at events and answering their questions.
2. Coordinating public and media relations and encouraging the growth and integration of the Kingdom.

#### ***IV.5.xi The Provost of Scribes***

The Provost of the College of Scribes shall co-ordinate the production of such scrolls as may be directed by the Crown, and as may pertain to the Lochac Kingdom awards; and shall provide such other documents as the Crown may require.

#### ***IV.5.xii The Archery Marshal***

The Archery Marshal shall serve under the Earl Marshal and be responsible for:

1. Encouraging the development of combat standards and chivalry on the field in all actions in Lochac involving archery and other projectile weapons, in co-operation with the Marshallate.
2. The maintenance and enforcement of the Kingdom Standards for construction and use of projectile weapons and armour for plumed combatants.

#### ***IV.5.xiii The Rapier Marshal***

The Rapier Marshal shall serve under the Earl Marshal and be responsible for:

1. Encouraging the development of combat standards and chivalry on the field in all actions in Lochac involving rapier combat or its derivatives, in co-operation with the Marshallate the maintenance and enforcement of the Kingdom of Lochac's Standards for construction and use of rapier combat weapons and armour.

#### ***IV.5.xiv The Equestrian Marshal***

The Equestrian Marshal shall serve under the Earl Marshal and be responsible for:

1. Encouraging the development of combat standards and chivalry on the field in all actions involving Equestrian martial arts or it's derivatives, in co-operation with the Marshallate.
2. The maintenance and enforcement of the Kingdom Standards for Construction and use of Equestrian Martial Equipment.

#### ***IV.5.xv The Heavy Combat Marshal***

The Heavy Combat Marshal shall serve under the Earl Marshal and be responsible for:

1. Encouraging the development of combat standards and chivalry on the field in all actions in Lochac involving heavy combat or its derivatives, in co-operation with the Marshallate.
2. The maintenance and enforcement of the Kingdom standards for construction and use of heavy infantry weapons and heavy infantry armour.

#### ***IV.5.xvi The Keeper of Regalia***

The Keeper of Regalia shall serve directly under the Crown and have, through the Council for Regalia, authority regarding the purchase, maintenance, storage and transport of the Kingdom Regalia as described in the Keeper of Regalia Handbook. The Keeper of Regalia is charged with ensuring that the Council for Regalia meets at least once each reign.

#### ***IV.5.xvii The Historian***

The Historian shall collect and compile materials relating to the history of Lochac, and shall compose a chronicle of this history to be available to the people of Lochac.

#### ***IV.5.xviii The Web Minister***

The Web Minister shall serve under the Seneschal and shall be responsible for the maintenance and updating of the Kingdom Website.

### ***IV.6 Requirements for Holding Office***

#### ***IV.6.i Conflict of Interest***

No person may hold more than one Kingdom Office excepting as noted under the Earl Marshal's office.

No corporate officer of the SCA may hold any Greater Kingdom Office. The Crown shall hold no other office in Lochac, or its subsidiary groups, during their reign. Offices normally held by them shall be filled by their Deputies, or such other persons as they may appoint for the duration of their reign.

#### ***IV.6.ii Kingdom Officers may not be Local Seneschals***

No person may hold simultaneously a Kingdom Office and the office of Seneschal in a local branch of the Kingdom.

#### ***IV.6.iii Membership***

All Officers - including Greater and Lesser Kingdom Officers and all local officers - must be members of the SCA. Officers shall maintain their membership throughout their tenure.

#### ***IV.6.iv Residence***

All kingdom officers shall reside in Lochac, and shall have resided in Lochac for at least the six months prior to taking office.

### ***IV.7 Territorial Baronages***

#### ***IV.7.i Appointment***

The Crown shall appoint as Baronage those individual(s) deemed most fit to represent the Royal presence in the Barony. The Crown shall give consideration to the wishes of the populace of the barony and the advice of the reigning Baronage before making such an appointment.

#### ***IV.7.ii Vicars***

In the case of an extended, but temporary, absence of the Baronage, he/she may request that the Crown appoint a Vicar to fulfil the duties of Baronage until their return.

#### ***IV.7.iii Membership***

Landed Baronages must maintain sustaining or family membership for the duration of their tenure.

#### ***IV.7.iv Reporting***

The baronial reporting schedule will be annual as follows:

- May Crown; Innilgard, Ynys Fawr, Mordenvale, Krae Glas.
- Midwinter Coronation; Stormhold, Saint-Florian-de-la-rivière, Southron Gaard,

Rowany, River Haven.

- November Crown; Politarchopolis, Aneala, Ildhafn.

The verbal reports given in Court should be brief and informative.

## **V Branches**

### ***V.1 Creation of Branches***

The creation, advancement and management of branches within the Kingdom shall be governed by the regulations laid down in the governing documents of the SCA.

## **VI Awards**

### ***VI.1 Awards***

#### ***VI.1.i Source of Awards***

The Crown is the font of all awards. The sole power to bestow Patents, Grants and Awards of Arms rests with the Crown. The Crown hereby grants to the Coronet of each Principality the right to offer Awards of Arms to subjects of the Principality, and to offer a Patent of Arms with the title of Viscount or Viscountess to those who have served the Principality in the capacity of Sovereign or Consort for a full reign. The Crown specifically reserves the right to grant Patents and create Peers for any other reason unto Themselves.

#### ***VI.1.ii Publication of Awards***

All bestowals of Awards shall be proclaimed in Court, or in some other public place at an event published in advance in Pegasus, to the Kingdom of Lochac at large.

It is the responsibility of the Crown giving Arms or other awards, to notify both the Crux Australis Herald and the Chronicler of the award, the date given, and the full name of the recipient within three months.

The Officers will then ensure the information is added to the Order of Precedence and published in Pegasus.

#### ***VI.1.iii Signatures***

The signatures of the Crown shall not be forged on any scroll or other document without express permission of the Crown.

Signatures of previous Crowns may be forged on award scrolls after the end of Their Reign, provided the signatures used are based on that used by that Crown during their Reign. For this purpose, a copy of the Crown's Reign signature must be sent to the Provost of the College of Scribes during each Reign, or supplied on request if Their Reign has already ended.

Any former Kingdom or Principality Royalty who are not readily contactable or who do not supply a reign-signature on request may have their name written at the bottom of an award scroll by the Provost of Scribes or the Provost's delegate.

## **VI.2 Order of Precedence**

The Order of Precedence within Lochac is as follows:

1. The Crown of Lochac
2. The Royal Heirs of Lochac
3. Current Territorial Baronages, according to date of creation of the Barony:  
Rowany / Innilgard / River Haven / Aneala / Stormhold / Ynys Fawr /  
Politarchopolis / Southron Gaard / Saint-Florian-de-la-rivière / Ildhafn /  
Mordenvale / Krae Glas
4. Current Greater Officers of State: Seneschal / Crux Australis Herald / Earl  
Marshal / Minister of Arts and Sciences / Chancellor of the Exchequer /  
Chronicler / Chirurgeon / Constable
5. Dukes and Duchesses
6. Counts and Countesses
7. Viscounts and Viscountesses
8. Peers of the Realm
9. Companions of the Order of the White Scarf and the Lochac Company of  
Archers
10. Companions of the Orders of Distinction, conferring a Grant of Arms, and those  
bearers of a Grant of Arms without membership in an Order of Distinction
11. Court Barons and Baronesses
12. Members of the armigerous Orders of Achievement
13. Those members of the populace holding an Award of Arms

Rank within the Orders is determined solely by the date the award was given. For the territorial rulers, precedence is determined by the date of inauguration of the Territory to its current Group level.

As per Section VI.12 [Immigrant Arms], precedence-bearing awards from other Kingdoms carry an identical position of Precedence to the corresponding Lochac award. Awards granted to a branch, guild or other organised group that carry precedence do not convey that precedence onto the individual members of that group.

## **VI.3 Royal Peerages**

The Royal Peers, as defined in Corpora, are the Dukes and Duchesses, Counts and Countesses and Viscounts and Viscountesses. Royal Peerages earned in the Kingdom of Lochac are accompanied by Patents of Arms.

People receiving such Patents shall be assumed to fulfil the basic requirements for the elevation to the Peerage.

## **VI.4 Patents of Arms**

Bestowed peerages are the Order of Chivalry, the Order of the Laurel, the Order of the Pelican, and the Order of Defense, as defined in Corpora.

Elevation to these Right Noble Orders shall convey a Patent of Arms.

Membership in each of the bestowed Peerage Orders confers the same level of precedence.

All members of the respective Orders have the right to advise the Crown regarding selection of members for their Orders, and no member may be excluded from a conclave convened for that purpose unless under sanctions by the Crown as described in Corpora X.A.2.

## **VI.5 The Polling Orders of Distinction**

### **VI.5.i Overview**

Polling Orders of Distinction in Lochac have the following characteristics:

1. The selection of members of these Orders will be at the pleasure of the Crown after consultation with the existing members of the respective Orders.
2. Elevation to these Orders shall confer upon the holders a Grant of Arms, if that person is not already a holder of a Grant of Arms

These Orders are equal in precedence, and shall rank below the Peerage and above the Grant-level Orders of Distinction

### **VI.5.ii Lochac Company of Archers**

Membership of the Lochac Company of Archers shall be bestowed by the Crown to those who have demonstrated high achievement, chivalry and service to the Kingdom in the field of archery.

#### **VI.5.ii.a Duties**

The duties of the members of this Company shall be to promote and encourage their art within the Kingdom of Lochac. They are to advise the Earl Marshal and the Archery Marshal on, and do research into, aspects of the art of missile weapons including, but not limited to: combat standards, tactics, marshalling, training, period research, qualification and competition.

### **VI.5.iii Order of the White Scarf**

Membership of the Order of the White Scarf of Lochac has been bestowed by the Crown upon those who have demonstrated high achievement, chivalry and service to the Kingdom in unarmoured (rapier) combat.

With the Order of Defense opened as the pinnacle order of rapier combat, the Order of the White Scarf is closed to new members and will no longer be polled by the Crown. It shall be a recognised tradition in Lochac to address members of the Order as “Don” or “Doña”.

#### **VI.5.iii.a Duties**

The duties of the members of this Order are to promote and encourage their art within the Kingdom of Lochac. They are to advise the Earl Marshal and the Rapier Marshal on,

and do research into, all aspects of the art of rapier combat including, but not limited to: combat standards, tactics, marshalling, training, period research, qualification and competition.

## ***VI.6 The Grant-level Orders of Distinction***

### ***VI.6.i Overview***

Alongside the Grant of Arms, there shall be three Orders of Distinction in Lochac, and they shall have the following common characteristics:

1. Elevation to these Orders shall confer upon the holders a Grant of Arms, if that person is not already a holder of a Grant of Arms.
2. All bearers of Grants of Arms are entitled to be addressed as “The Honourable Lord / Lady”
3. The Grant of Arms and these Orders are all equal in precedence, and shall rank below the Polling Orders of Distinction and above the Court Barons and Baronesses.

### ***VI.6.ii Grants of Arms***

The Crown may bestow a Grant of Arms to any individual whose substantial, unremitting, and excellent service or ability is of great value to the Kingdom.

\*\* GUIDELINE: For example, holding the position of a territorial baronage for a term of four years or longer, or holding a kingdom office for a full two-year term, and in either case performing its duties in an exemplary fashion.

### ***VI.6.iii The Order of the Silver Pegasus***

The Order of the Silver Pegasus may be given to those who have distinguished themselves over time by performing outstanding service. They shall also have demonstrated chivalry, courtesy and courtly behaviour.

### ***VI.6.iv The Order of the Cockatrice***

The Order of the Cockatrice may be given to those who have distinguished themselves over time by showing outstanding skill in the Arts & Sciences. They shall also have demonstrated chivalry, courtesy and courtly behaviour.

### ***VI.6.v The Order of the Red Wyvern***

The Order of the Red Wyvern may be given to those who have distinguished themselves over time by performing outstanding service and great prowess in the Martial Arts. They shall also have demonstrated chivalry, courtesy, and courtly behaviour both on and off the field of combat. Such prowess can include skills in Armoured Combat, Archery, Rapier, the Equestrian Arts, Siege Warfare, or Leadership on the warfield.

## ***VI.7 Court Baronies***

### ***VI.7.i Court Baronies***

The title of Court Baron or Court Baroness may be offered to those the Crown wishes to honour, for those whose contributions have enriched the Kingdom in unique ways. This

title carries with it an Award of Arms, and those entitled shall stand in precedence between holders of Grants of Arms and Orders of Achievement. The title of Court Baron/Baroness may be used by all who attain this title.

Court Barons and Baronesses are entitled to be addressed as “Your Excellency”.

\*\* GUIDELINE: Traditionally, this award is bestowed upon retiring territorial baronages. See also VI.6.ii above.

## ***VI.8 Orders of Achievement***

### ***VI.8.i Overview***

The Crown shall bestow membership to the armigerous Orders to those they deem deserving.

The Orders of Achievement in Lochac shall have the following common characteristics:

1. Elevation to these Orders shall confer upon the holders an Award of Arms, if those persons are not already armigerous.
2. Members in these Orders are entitled to be addressed as “Lord” or “Lady”.

These Orders are all equal in precedence, and shall rank below the Court Barons and Baronesses and above holders of an Award of Arms.

### ***VI.8.ii The Order of the Golden Tear***

The Order of the Golden Tear may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour for substantial and considerate service to the Kingdom.

### ***VI.8.iii The Order of the Star and Lily***

The Order of the Star and Lily may be bestowed upon to those the Crown finds deserving of honour, for achievement in the arts and sciences.

### ***VI.8.iv The Order of the Rapier***

The Order of the Rapier may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour, for achievement in the field of Rapier fighting.

### ***VI.8.v The Order of the Golden Sword***

The Order of the Golden Sword may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour, for achievement in the field of armoured combat.

### ***VI.8.vi The Order of the Nock***

The Order of the Nock may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour, for achievement in the fields of archery and/or missile combat.

### ***VI.8.vii The Miles Regni***

The Miles Regni (Soldier of the Kingdom) may be bestowed by the Crown to those who have supported the army of Lochac in any significant manner, including siege weapons and non contact participants.

### ***VI.8.viii The Order of Prometheus***

The Order of Prometheus may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour for excellence in teaching.

### ***VI.8.ix The Order of Hector***

The Order of Hector may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour for excellence in equestrian activities.

### ***VI.8.x The Lochac Order of Grace***

The Lochac Order of Grace may only be awarded once per reign to that person the Queen regards as having displayed exceptional courtesy.

### ***VI.8.xi The Order of the Golden Poyntel***

The Order of the Golden Poyntel may be bestowed upon those the Crown finds deserving of honour, for achievement in the Scribal Arts for the Lochac College of Scribes.

## ***VI.9 Award of Arms***

The Crown shall bestow an Award of Arms to those individuals who they deem deserving of recognition for their various achievements.

Gentles granted an Award of Arms are entitled to be addressed as “Lord” or “Lady”. They shall rank below the armigerous Orders of Achievement and above the non-armigerous Orders.

This award shall have the effect of converting devices, previously registered with the College of Heraldry, to Arms, and of directing those who have not yet registered armoury to design and register Arms.

## ***VI.10 Non-Armigerous Orders***

In addition to the armigerous Orders, the Crown may create Orders that do not in themselves convey the right to bear arms, nor do they convey any rank in the Order of Precedence.

The awards granted by the Coronets of the former Principality of Lochac were non-armigerous.

Those Orders are now closed and membership of these orders does not convey rank:

- Order of the Roman Lilies
- Order of the Silver Tear
- Order of the Silver Nock
- Order of the Silver Rapier
- Order of the Silver Sword

### ***VI.10.i The Order of the Rowan***

The Order of the Rowan is given to those who have displayed exceptional and consistent grace and courtesy to all.

### ***VI.10.ii The Order of the Silver Helm***

The Order of the Silver Helm is given to those combatants who consistently present a good looking and period appearance on the field.

### ***VI.10.iii The Order of the Cross of Lochac***

The Order of the Cross of Lochac may be given to those who have performed service to the Kingdom, but who are not citizens of Lochac.

### ***VI.10.iv The Order of Taillefer***

The Order of Taillefer may be bestowed on those who by way of performance consistently entertain the populace of the Kingdom.

### ***VI.10.v Royal Cyphers***

The Crown may create and award Royal Cyphers to those people who have been thoughtful and helpful to the Crown, or the King or Queen separately, during their reign. These may also be proclaimed as a King's Cypher or a Queen's Cypher.

### ***VI.10.vi The Mouse Guard***

The Mouse Guard is given in recognition of the contribution given to our Kingdom by children between the ages of 4 and 13 years.

### ***VI.10.vii The Company of the Pride of Lochac***

The Pride of Lochac is given by the Crown to groups, such as households, who have as a group made noteworthy contribution to the Kingdom.

### ***VI.10.viii The Order of the Rose***

The Order of the Rose comprises those who have served as Consort to the Sovereign, in the Kingdom of Lochac, or in the Principality of Lochac, as defined in Corpora. Members of this order are charged with supporting and assisting the Crown and Their Heirs, and encouraging chivalric and courteous behaviour among all members of the Society. The order shall be non-armigerous.

### ***VI.10.ix The Order of the Coronaria***

The Order of the Coronaria comprises those who have served Lochac as Viscountess or Vicereine before Lochac became a Kingdom. Members of this order are charged with supporting and assisting the Crown and Their Heirs, and encouraging chivalric and courteous behaviour among all members of the Society. The order shall be non-armigerous. There is no official token for the award.

### ***VI.10.x Augmentation of Arms***

An Augmentation of Arms is a special and very rare honour. Given only a few times in the history of the Kingdom, it entitles the recipient to register an addition or alteration to their Arms in consultation with the awarding Crown.

An Augmentation of Arms may be granted to a group or individual at the discretion of the Crown. In the case of an individual, it would normally be for exceptional and/or prolonged service to the Kingdom of Lochac.

## **VI.11 Other Awards**

### **VI.11.i Baronial Awards**

The Landed Baronages of each Barony have the right to establish non-armigerous orders and awards to be recognized solely within the borders of their Barony.

### **VI.11.ii Local Recognition**

Groups that are not baronies may give local recognition without consultation with the Crown. These are not awards and carry no precedence.

## **VI.12 Immigrant Arms**

The Kingdom of Lochac recognizes the Arms and Orders awarded by other Kingdoms of our Society. Armigers moving to Lochac will be placed on the Lochac Order of Precedence as though they had received the equivalent Lochac awards.

## **VII Finances**

### **VII.1 Financial Policy**

The Financial Policy of the SCA shall apply to the Kingdom of Lochac and to all groups within the Kingdom.

### **VII.2 Financial Reporting**

#### **VII.2.i Groups reporting to the Lochac Exchequer**

##### **VII.2.i.a Australia**

Every Australian group shall report annually to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Deputy for Australia, by 31st January, on the monies and properties they held for their group or the SCA during the previous Australian financial year. Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is ground for the Chancellor to suspend the responsible officer in that group. Failure to so report within a further month without appropriate explanation is ground for the Chancellor to request the Crown to place the group in abeyance.

##### **VII.2.i.b New Zealand**

Every New Zealand group shall report annually to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Deputy for New Zealand, by 30th of April, on the monies and properties they held for their group or the SCA during the previous New Zealand financial year. Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is ground for the Chancellor to suspend the responsible officer in that group. Failure to so report within a further month without appropriate explanation is ground for the Chancellor to request the Crown to place the group in abeyance.

#### **VII.2.ii The Lochac Exchequer**

##### **VII.2.ii.a Australian Report**

The Lochac Exchequer must report to the SCA Australia Treasurer and the Crown every year by the 31st of August, on the monies and properties of Australian branches of the

Kingdom of Lochac. Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is grounds for the Crown to suspend the Exchequer, or remove the Exchequer from Office.

#### **VII.2.ii.b New Zealand Report**

The Lochac Exchequer must report to the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal every year by the 31st of May on the monies and properties of New Zealand branches of the Kingdom of Lochac. Failure to so report without appropriate explanation is grounds for the Crown to suspend the Exchequer, or remove the Exchequer from Office.

#### **VII.2.iii Failure to Report**

Should it become apparent that the Lochac Exchequer is unable or unwilling to produce a financial report for a given financial year, then the Crown will consult with the SCA Treasurer and the Seneschal, and immediately appoint a person who is capable and willing to report on the finances of the Kingdom. This person shall perform the duties of the office of Kingdom Exchequer until a permanent replacement is found. The requirements of Article IV Section 7 may be temporarily waived by the Crown for this purpose. Should it be apparent that a group within the Kingdom is unable or unwilling to report, then this should be communicated by the Lochac Exchequer to the SCA Treasurer. The provisions of the SCA financial policy will then apply, including placing the group in abeyance for up to 1 year.

### **VII.3 Council of the Purse**

There shall be a Council of the Purse, consisting of the Crown (or Regent), the Seneschal, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to determine matters of general finance and the distribution of funds during the reign. For the Council to make a decision, the members of the Council must be unanimously in agreement. The council of the purse is responsible for approving the budget for every Crown event.

The heirs shall be made party to discussions of the council but not have a vote.

### **VII.4 Levies On Events**

#### **VII.4.i Events Definition**

For the purposes Kingdom Levy and SCANZ Event Membership, the word "event" means any in-garb event meeting the requirements of Corpora II.A, and excludes regular activities such as monthly or weekly fighter practices, group business meetings, informal classes, etc, as per Corpora II.B.

For the purposes of SCA Ltd Event Membership, the word "event" means any SCA event or activity.

If there is doubt as to whether an activity is an "event" according to these definitions, then the decision shall be made by the Kingdom Seneschal.

#### **VII.4.ii Kingdom Event Levy**

Each group in the Kingdom of Lochac shall contribute to the kingdom funds.

For every event held, \$1 from every person 18 years or older attending the event shall be collected.

### ***VII.4.iii SCA Ltd Event Memberships***

The SCA Ltd requires that Australian-based groups collect and remit funds for event memberships for persons who are not full members of the SCA in any country.

For every event held, from every non-member, adult or minor, attending the event, a \$5 fee shall be collected.

Australian-based groups must report the number of, but not collect the fee from, any members of SCA Ltd affiliated organisations such as SCANZ or SCA Inc attending their events.

### ***VII.4.iv SCANZ Event Memberships***

The SCANZ requires that New Zealand-based groups collect and remit funds for event memberships for persons who are not full members of the SCA in any country.

For every event held, from every non-member 18 years or older attending the event, a \$2 fee shall be collected.

### ***VII.4.v Exceptions***

College groups are exempt from the requirement to collect or remit Kingdom Levy or SCANZ Event Memberships.

Incipient groups without bank accounts shall report through their supervising group.

Persons who pay no entry fee may be exempted from Kingdom Levy and SCANZ Event Membership.

### ***VII.4.vi Reporting***

At the end of every quarter (September, December, March, June), the funds collected by the group shall be remitted in accordance with the requirements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

### ***VII.4.vii Currency***

Groups in Australia are required to calculate their amounts and remit funds in Australian dollars.

Groups in New Zealand are required to calculate their amounts and remit funds in New Zealand dollars (on a dollar for dollar basis).

## **VIII Kingdom Events**

### ***VIII.1 Crown Events***

#### ***VIII.1.i Crown Events***

There shall be two official Crown Tournaments and two official Coronations per year in the Kingdom. These shall be held on the first or second full weekend of the following months:

- January - Twelfth Night Coronation
- May - May Crown Tournament
- July - Midwinter Coronation
- November - November Crown Tournament

In exceptional cases, the Council of the Purse has discretion to accept an event bid specifying a date which is up to 14 days before or after the weekends noted above. Events sited more than 800 km as the crow flies from the Crown Tournament or Coronation event site are granted automatic permission to conflict with the event. Other events shall not be scheduled on any date where a Crown Tournament or Coronation is to be held without express permission of the Crown.

#### ***VIII.1.ii Event Hosting***

The hosting of the four official Crown Events shall be equitably distributed among the branches of Lochac as far as is possible.

#### ***VIII.1.iii Bids***

Bids from groups wishing to host a Crown Event shall be collected by the Seneschal. The Crown shall choose between the bids at least nine months before the Crown Event, and earlier if They think advisable; but in no case shall the decision be made more than eighteen months before the proposed Event.

#### ***VIII.1.iv Budget***

All bids for Crown Events must include a detailed budget. The Council of the Purse may reject a bid entirely based on the proposed budget, however it may seek modifications to that budget in preference to rejection. Any modification to the budget must be agreed to by the Council of the Purse and the bidding group. After the budget for a Crown Event has been approved by the Council of the Purse, no changes shall be made to the budget without the approval of the Kingdom Exchequer.

#### ***VIII.1.v Finances***

The steward of each Crown Event shall submit a final financial report to the Lochac Exchequer within two months of the holding of the Event. If the report is not received in this time, the group may not hold any official events until a satisfactory report is received by the Lochac Exchequer.

#### ***VIII.1.vi Profit***

The profit from each Crown Event shall be divided as 50% to the Kingdom and 50% to the hosting group. The steward of the event shall remit funds, as instructed by the Lochac Exchequer for the Kingdom share of the profits within two months of the Event being held.

Kingdom levy applies to Crown Events and is distinct from the Kingdom share of event profits.

### **VIII.1.vii Loss**

If the event makes a loss, 50% of the loss on approved budgeted items only shall be borne by the Kingdom with 50% borne by the hosting group. If the loss is as a result of expenditure outside of the approved budget, then the whole of the loss shall be borne by the hosting group.

### **VIII.1.viii Variations**

The provisions of subsections "Budget" and "Loss" above may be varied in exceptional circumstances by unanimous decision of the Council of the Purse.

## **IX Councils**

### **IX.1 Council of Regalia**

There shall be a Council of Regalia. Its duties will be to advise the Crown as to the artistic, historical, and practical merit of proposed regalia and equipment. Further, the Council will specifically advise the Crown as to the acceptability of such items. All offers of donation, and all proposals for acquisition of Crown regalia will be handled through this Council. Any article of regalia given to the Crown without having first been approved by the Council will be deemed a personal gift to the King and/or Queen to whom it is presented. All items of regalia are considered the property of the Kingdom of Lochac and may be disposed of only with the unanimous consent of the Council.

#### **IX.1.i Composition**

Voting members of the Council shall be the Sovereign and Consort, the Keeper of Regalia, the Kingdom Seneschal, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and a representative of the Laurel Council.

Non-voting members shall be the Royal Heirs, and such persons the Crown deems relevant to the subject matter.

#### **IX.1.ii Functions**

The Council for Regalia will conduct an inventory of the Royal Regalia immediately prior to its transfer from the outgoing to the incoming Crown. A representative of both sets of Crowns should be present. The Council shall determine if the outgoing Crown shall be held fiscally responsible for loss or damage to regalia entrusted into their care. The new Crown shall acknowledge in writing the receipt of those items of Regalia coming into their possession. Other items of Regalia shall remain in the possession of the Council's representative.

## **X Conduct of Persons**

### **X.1 Fealty**

#### **X.1.i Great Officers of State**

All Great Officers shall pledge fealty to the current Crown.

### **X.1.ii Lesser Officers of State**

All Lesser Officers may pledge fealty to the current Crown.

### **X.1.iii Territorial Baronages**

Each territorial Baronage shall pledge fealty to the current Crown.

### **X.1.iv Peers**

Knights shall swear fealty to the Crown.

All other members of bestowed peerages and Royal Peers have the right to offer fealty to the Crown. If any peer is unable to do so in person, they may, if they choose, offer their fealty to the current Crown through the Baronage of the territory in which they reside as the Crown's representative. This fealty shall then be passed to the Crown by the Landed Baron/Baroness.

### **X.1.v Other Cases**

No subject of Lochac shall be required to pledge fealty to any branch below the level of a Principality, nor to any individual save the Crown of Lochac.

### **X.1.vi Violation of Fealty**

No statement or action which suggests, advocates or enacts violation of fealty to the Kingdom shall be used, by any person, group or entity in Lochac.

- a. Fighters doing so shall at once be forbidden to participate in any Society combat.
- b. Officers doing so shall at once be suspended from office.
- c. If an entire branch does so, it shall be suspended.

The above suspensions and restrictions shall remain until they have been considered by the Crown or Its appointed representatives, at which point the suspensions shall be lifted or confirmed. At the same occasion, other penalties may be assessed, if such is the will of the Crown. Any such penalties and processes shall comply with the Sanctions Guide.

### **X.1.vii Fealty Variations**

Fealty shall be read as that sworn by the individual at court and as per the Lochac Book of Ceremonies. Alternatives may be used with the Agreement of the Crown and shall carry the same intent.

## **X.2 Clothing**

In accordance with the guidelines of the SCA, all people attending official SCA events shall be wearing an attempt at a style of pre 17th Century dress.

## **X.3 Dispute Resolution Procedure**

Anyone having a dispute with, or grievance against, another in Lochac, that is not a mundane legal matter or dealt with in SCA policy, shall first attempt to settle the matter as follows:

### **X.3.i First Stage**

The person shall hold a direct and private discussion with the other and attempt to come to a resolution. An impartial mediator may be present if either party desires it. Whilst an in-person discussion is often the quickest way to resolve a dispute, on occasions this can

be intimidating: a discussion by telephone or in writing also fulfils the requirement for direct communication.

### ***X.3.ii Second Stage***

If the matter cannot be resolved, the person shall bring the matter to the attention of the most appropriate local officer, or the Local Seneschal if there is no appropriate local officer. If the dispute is with someone outside the local area, the dispute will be brought to the Kingdom officer. If the grievance is against a landed Baronage, the dispute will be brought directly to the Crown. The relevant officer should then attempt to arbitrate a resolution.

### ***X.3.iii Third Stage***

If the dispute cannot be settled at a local level, it should be brought to the attention of the most appropriate Kingdom Officer. The relevant officer should then attempt to arbitrate a resolution.

### ***X.3.iv Serious Disputes***

If the dispute is of such magnitude that all steps above have failed and a formal complaint is necessary, details of such complaints shall be sent to the person being complained against, the local Seneschal, the Seneschal, and the Crown via the Seneschal. Complaints against any officer shall be directed to the officer's superior in addition to the above.

### ***X.3.v Equal Hearing***

At all stages of any grievance both parties must be given the opportunity to declare their views and be given equal hearing.