

## Sergeantry Program



### **Forward:**

#### Sergeantry

The position of Sergeant-at-Arms of the Barony of Terra Pomaria and the specialized equivalent ranks of Yeoman, Gallant, and Lancer (hereafter referred to as “Sergeantry”) were developed to allow individuals the opportunity to demonstrate military and chivalric skills with the goal of becoming qualified military leaders of the Barony. With the passage of time, the Sergeantry has also come to be respected as role models for all who interact with the Barony, and they are valued as vital contributors to the social aspects of the group as well as the military. The Sergeantry is responsible for the security and safety of the Barony and its members form the Guard of Honor for the Baron and Baroness.

Additionally, many ceremonial and service obligations are the sole domain of the Sergeantry. Those individuals who successfully complete the trials will be required to swear fealty to the Barony of Terra Pomaria through the entities of the Baron and Baroness and will have the right to wear the buckle of this rank and any other tokens that the Baron and Baroness may decide. The Sergeantry are in primary service to the Baroness of Terra Pomaria.

#### Courtiers

The position of Courtier shall be equal in rank and privilege to that of the Sergeantry of the Barony of Terra Pomaria. As with the members of the Sergeantry, Courtiers will come to be respected as role models for all who interact with the Barony, and they will be valued as vital contributors to the social aspects of the group as well as to the “Gentler Arts.” The Courtiers are responsible for the nurturing and development of the Arts & Sciences within the Barony and its members are granted places of honor within the Courts of the Baron and Baroness.

Additionally, many ceremonial and service obligations are the sole domain of the Courtiers, along with the members of the Sergeantry. Those individuals who successfully complete the trials will be asked to swear fealty to the Barony of Terra Pomaria in the form of the entities of the Baron and Baroness and will have the right to wear the regalia of this rank and any other tokens as the Baron and Baroness may decide. The Courtiers are in primary service to the Baron of Terra Pomaria.

### **Membership Requirements:**

The Trials will last over a minimum of six months including classes, special activities, assignments, etc. and will conclude with a Final Trials Event. Throughout the Trials candidates for this rank (Both Sergeant and Courtier) will be tested and assessed for their growth in the required skills. The currently active Sergeantry/Courtiers of the Barony will be charged with the responsibility of judging the candidates’ fulfillment of the requirements of the rank. If no Sergeantry/Courtiers are available at the time of the tournament/trials, a group comprised of the Baronial Marshal and Baron and Baroness (or their representatives) and any other person they deem needful will assemble to adjudicate the requirements. The Baron and Baroness or their representatives are responsible for the assembly and verification of the results of the Sergeantry/Courtier Trials.

Candidates shall receive a score ranging for 0-10 from the judges in each of the following areas of skill. Candidates must receive a score of 7 in all areas with one score of 5-6 permitted, at the discretion of the Baron and Baroness, to be considered as having met the membership requirements. They must score a minimum of 7 in their area of emphasis.

**Both Sergeantry & Courtier candidates will be tested in the following areas:**

- 1) **Scribal (Calligraphy/Illumination Skills)**
- 2) **Persona Development**
- 3) **Marshallate Knowledge and Ability**
- 4) **Heraldry: Field and Book**
- 5) **Chivalric Behavior and Court Etiquette**
- 6) **The Court of Love**
- 7) **Games**
- 8) **Dance**
- 9) **Bardic Skills**
- 10) **Cultural History of the Middle Ages**
- 11) **Practical and Domestic Sciences**
- 12) **Geography**
- 13) **Arts & Sciences**
- 14) **The Question of the Baron and Baroness**
- 15) **Specific Area**
  - a) **Marshal Skill and Ability (Sergeants)**
  - b) **Service (Courtiers)**

### **Letter of Intent:**

Any individual wishing to compete in the Sergeantry/Courtier Trials must submit a Letter of Intent expressing their desire to attempt the trials at the event decided upon by the Baron and Baroness prior to the preparation program beginning and Trials taking place. Late candidates may be accepted at the discretion of the Baron and Baroness.

This petition to enter the order must be in the candidate's own hand although no grade will be given for this entry, attempts at period illumination and calligraphy are appreciated. This letter is meant to be a means by which potential candidates may be recognized and there by avail themselves of assistance (if desired) from the Baron and Baroness, Courtiers and Sergeantry, and populous of the Barony in preparing for the trials. The Letter of Intent must include an introduction of the candidate and stating why they are pursuing entrance into the Sergeantry/Courtiers of Terra Pomaria. The Baron and Baroness may add additional optional requirements.

## The Trials:

### 1) Scribal

During the course of the trials candidates will be required to create a scribal entry in the candidate's own hand and must be in a recognized period hand, specific to their persona. This scribal entry will be judged for its calligraphy and illuminations done in a style appropriate to the candidate's persona by the Baronial scribe and/or judges as chosen by the Baron and Baroness.

### 2) Persona Development

During the course of the trials, the candidates will be questioned at length upon their persona portrayed within the SCA. Most areas of knowledge are fair game for the questioner, and the candidate is expected to answer to the best of their persona's knowledge. This questioning is meant to examine the candidate's historical knowledge and research as it applies directly to their own self-identity.

### 3) Marshallate Knowledge & Ability

To demonstrate breadth, candidates are required to:

- To be qualified to participate in one Marshallate, or
- To be a junior marshal in one Marshallate.
- Demonstrate knowledge of military strategy, tools, and resources

### 4) Heraldry: Field & Book

To demonstrate a working knowledge of Heraldry within the SCA, the candidate's device must be submitted to the College of Heralds for registration. Submissions must be in the hands of the Black Lion Herald before Sergeantry/Courtier Trials.

The candidate must be able to blazon/emblazon: their own device; the personal devices of the Baron and Baroness; and the device of the Barony of Terra Pomaria.

The candidate must be able to recognize the arms of prominent individuals and locations of An Tir, to include: the Principalities of An Tir; the Baronies of An Tir; all branches within the Summits; the King and Queen of An Tir; etc. The candidates must be able to identify the arms of the Kingdoms of the Known World in addition to the Greater Officers. The candidate should be able to answer questions demonstrating a broad knowledge of Heraldry, to include: the basic tinctures, metals, furs, and basic field divisions, and charges based upon those divisions, etc. The candidate must court herald a Baronial Court, at which at least one member of the Sergeantry/Courtiers is present and observing.

### 5) Chivalric Behavior and Court Etiquette

To judge the candidate's courtesy and courtly behavior, the name of the candidate will be given to the populous of the Barony and to anyone else invited by the Baron and Baroness who will watch the candidate and then gather with the Baron and Baroness to comment on the candidate's actions and behavior in light of the following guidelines:

- The courteous individual knows his/her own worth. They have no false modesty, but will not thrust themselves forward continually as the first among equals. They will be quick to praise others, but will not praise themselves overmuch.
- The courteous individual speaks greatly and with respect to all others.
- The courteous individual on their honor never breaks their word and therefore never gives it lightly or in jest. They speak the truth or remain silent.
- The courteous individual is always ready to offer a hand or word in assistance.
- The courteous individual is always ready to offer hospitality. Be it ever so meager, and to receive with grace the hospitality of others.
- To further demonstrate courtly manners, the candidate will define the titles and know the proper forms of address for the following: King and Queen, Dowager Princess; Crown Prince and Princess; Prince and Princess, Duke and Duchess, Count and Countess, Viscount and Viscountess, Baron and Baroness, Order of Chivalry, Order of Laurel and Pelican; Master- or Mistress-at-Arms, Master of the Order of Defense, Grant of Arms, AOA, etc.
- A knowledge of the members of the Peerage of the Kingdom of An Tir is required.
- A knowledge of the history of the Kingdom, Principality, and Barony is required.

## **6) Court of Love**

During the Final Trials event, the Baroness will ask the candidate questions pertaining to the concepts of honor, chivalry, and/or courtly love. The question must be answered in public during a Court of Love which will occur during the event.

The questions may be derived from the questions asked during the Court of Love of Eleanor of Aquitaine, from conversations related in Castiglione's *Book of the Courtier*, *Capellanus' The Art of Courty Love*, or from situations in these Middle Ages.

The Baroness will designate in which manner/context the candidate is to answer the question-i.e., a poem, a song, etc.

## **7) Games**

The candidate must be able to set up a (modern) chess board, identify the pieces, describe their moves, and show an understanding of the game by playing at least 10 moves against the Gamesmaster or a judge appointed by them.

The candidate is required to be able to play one of the following: Nine Man Morris, Fox and Geese, Alquerque, Glaukhaus, skittles, or Tables.

The candidate is further required to name, describe, and demonstrate the play of two other games that are period to their persona. These may be in-door or out-door games.

## **8) Dance**

The candidate is required to show proficiency in the area of dance, to include two (2) of the following examples of period dance:

- A court dance: Pavane, basse dance, coronto, aleman, galliard, todion, or other.
- A Basic Bransle: Double, simple, gal, burgundy, etc.
- Mimed Bransle: Charlotte, war, scota, montard, etc.
- Mimed Bransle: Washerwoman, pease, horse, hermits, etc.
- Authentic period dance of the candidate's choice that is specific to their persona. The dance must be documentable if undertaken. Documentation must be present at the trials, to be delivered upon the request of the Minister of Dance or other judges.

In addition, the candidate is required to teach one (1) of the above types of period dance. The dancing presentations will be judged by the Minister of Dance and/or other individuals the Baron and Baroness indicate.

### **9) Bardic Skills**

The candidate must perform a bardic presentation during the trials in the following categories:

- One (1) song or musical piece. (Songs sung may be accompanied by music played by no more than 2 others.)
- One (1) poem, story, etc.

The individual pieces must fall within one of the following criteria: An original piece, written by the candidate or a period piece

Regardless, the piece must be documentable. Documentation must be present at the trials, to be delivered upon the request of the Minister of Arts & Sciences or other judges.

The language of all presentations should approximate courtly speech and manners and be appropriate to the persona of the candidate. No slang or filk-songs; avoid coarse humor.

The bardic presentation will be judged by the Bardic Champion and/or other individuals the Baron and Baroness indicate.

### **10) Cultural History of the Middle Ages**

The candidate is expected to demonstrate knowledge of cultural history in the following areas:

- Government & Society
- Religion
- Education
- Science
- Arts

The Baronial Minister of Arts & Sciences, Peerage, Sergeants and the Courtiers will judge and appraise the candidate's knowledge in these areas.

### **11) Practical and Domestic Sciences**

The candidates must demonstrate, within the scope of their persona when possible, knowledge of the practical and domestic sciences, to include at least 7 of the following:

- Put an edge on a cutting tool
- Set a rivet
- Start a fire
- Sew leather
- Find directions at day or night
- Food preparation
- Husbandry
- Agriculture
- Hunting
- Herbology: common plants and their uses
- Folk medicine: diagnosis's, treatments, and cures

When completing a task in this area, please notify the Baron and Baroness, as they will send a current member of the Sergeantry and/or Courtier and/or any one else as chosen by them, Baron and Baroness, to act as the judge for completion of the task.

Candidates should be reminded that this section is designed to show that they possess an understanding of the items used daily in the period in which they live.

## **12) Geography**

The candidate should be able to recognize and identify localities from their personal homeland, Europe of the Middle Ages, as well as the Known World of the SCA today: Kingdoms, Principalities of An Tir, Regions of An Tir, Baronies of An Tir, branches within the Principality of the Summits, etc.

## **13) Arts & Sciences**

The candidate is required to submit two Arts & Science projects, all of different categories and must meet the requirements of entrance into a Arts & Science Championship of the Barony of Terra Pomaria—i.e., documentation, presentation, etc.

Candidates will also be required to teach one class/workshop on a subject within the Gentler Arts (non marshallate) at the Baronial level or higher.

## **14) The Question of the Baron and Baroness**

Each candidate will be asked, in Private Chambers with the Baron and Baroness, a question of their choosing.

## **15a) Martial Skills (*Sergeantry*)**

It is the martial aspect of their nature that differentiates whether a candidate undergoes the Sergeantry Trials to become a Sergeant, Yeoman, Gallant, or Lancer. Regardless of their area of emphasis, all candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Each candidate must own their An Tir legal armor and weapons for his/her marshallate. At least one item must be of his/her own making using period materials.
- The candidate will be tested on the rules of the lists for all areas of combat, armor and weapons standards of An Tir by the Baronial Marshal or their appointed representative(s).
- All candidates must be authorized junior marshals, or the equivalent, in their area of emphasis.
- Each candidate must be prepared to fight in whatever melees, challenges, and/or endeavors that are deemed necessary to display their ability.
- Each candidate must be list qualified in a minimum of three weapon forms in their chosen area of combat. Or alternatively, two weapons in their chosen area and one weapon form from another area of combat. (i.e., two heavy weapon forms and target archery; two fencing forms and war archery; two light combat forms and rapier combat.)
- If target archery is used as a weapon form, the candidate must score at least a 50 if primary weapon, 40 if secondary or tertiary weapon.
- Each candidate must be a challenge to fight in at least one weapon form in their chosen area of combat. (The Standard: *dangerous in one, proficient in one, and knowledgeable in one.*)

**The separate martial skills for each area are explained as follows:**

**Sergeant**

- Using any of their weapon forms, the candidate must defend against: sword and shield, mace or axe and shield, double weapon, great sword, and pole-arms; single and multiple opponents.
- The candidate must be able to lead a group of fighters in assaulting and/or defending positions of various strengths and weaknesses. The candidate's group must variously contain an inferior or superior number of fighters.

**Yeoman**

- Using any of their weapon forms (except target archery,) the candidate must demonstrate their skills against stationary and moving targets, and while in open-field and covered situations.
- The candidate must show leadership skills as applicable to Yeoman as indicated in the Sergeant's requirement above.

**Gallant**

- Using any of their weapon forms, the candidate must defend against: single blade, single blade and dagger, case, single blade and parrying device; single opponent and multiple opponents.
- The candidate must show leadership skills as applicable to Gallant as indicated in the Sergeant's requirement above.

**Lancer**

- The candidate will be tested in marshallate and non-marshallate equestrian activities, including: ground work, Beheading the Enemy, Ring Tilt, and basic horsemanship.
- The candidate must show leadership skills as applicable to Lancer as indicated in the Sergeant's requirement above.

The candidate may be called upon throughout the tournament to offer a critique on the other candidates. The Order of Chivalry, Laurel, and Pelican; the Sergeantry of Terra Pomaria; and any other people invited by the Baron and Baroness will also assist in the judging of this requirement.

**15b) Service (Courtiers)**

Courtier candidates should be an example of service to others in the Barony, Principality and Kingdom. Candidates must hold a minimum of one Baronial office or deputy office by the completion of the trials. They must have performed at least three hours of service at a Baronial, Principality or other local branch event. Each candidate will develop, plan, and execute a service project that will benefit the Barony. Service projects are to be approved by the Baron and Baroness in advance. Each candidate should use the project to demonstrate their ability to plan, organize, and lead people to accomplish their set goals in an efficient manner. The project will be evaluated by the Baron along with the individuals that worked on the project.

**The Oath of Fealty**

Should they succeed in their personal trial for Sergeantry (Sergeants, Yeomen, Gallants, and Lancers) and/or Courtier will be asked to vow an oath of fealty to the Barony of Terra Pomaria in the form of the entities of the Baron and Baroness.

**Multiple Qualifications**

A given individual may compete in a Sergeant Trial for only a single rank. Should an individual wish to compete for a dual, or even triple rank, they are required at minimum to retest in: the new area of emphasis, Marshalling, Court of Love, Bardic, and Arts & Sciences areas. On the advice of the Sergeantry, additional re-testing may be asked of the individual by the Baron and Baroness.

An individual wishing to compete for the rank of Courtier after obtaining a rank within the Sergeantry may do so. They will be required at minimum to (re)test in the areas of: Letter of Intent, Persona Development, Heraldry, The Court of Love, Cultural History of the Middle Ages, Arts & Sciences, The Question of the Coronets. On the advice of the Sergeantry, additional retesting may be asked of the individual by the Baron and Baroness.

## **Privileges, Obligations, and Administration**

### **Sergeantry**

All members of the Sergeantry are considered equals whether they are Sergeant, Yeoman, Gallant, or Lancer. All codes of conduct and by-laws will be developed and enforced by the Sergeantry themselves.

There will be no more than one chance per year for a new Sergeantry to be inducted into the ranks. An unsuccessful applicant may re-enter another time, but must abide by the current testing standard and requirements. There will be no minimum or maximum number of Sergeantry.

With the rank of Sergeantry, there also comes privileges and obligations:

#### **Privileges of the Rank**

- ❖ To become qualified to fight in the Crown lists of An Tir, at the discretion of the Crown (provided membership obligations are current).
- ❖ To wear a special belt and buckle or other token of this rank as determined by the Baron and Baroness.
- ❖ To recommend to the Baron and Baroness changes to the requirements for this rank should they be needed.
- ❖ Such other privileges as are appropriate.

#### **Obligations of the Rank**

- ❖ To protect and defend the Barony and its Baron and Baroness, to whom the Sergeantry's fealty is sworn, and through it, the Crown of An Tir.
- ❖ To protect the populous of Terra Pomaria in any manner that is required by the Sergeantry's honor and the Code of Chivalry.
- ❖ To uphold the ideals of Chivalric behavior as embodied in the SCA.
- ❖ To maintain a level of competence in accordance with the requirements of this rank.
- ❖ To support and aid in the training of novice fighters, not only in skill at arms, but in all manner of thoughtful and courteous behavior; remembering at all times that the Sergeantry embodies an ideal as well as a rank.
- ❖ To be available for service and ceremonial functions as required by the Baron and Baroness.

### **Courtiers**

All members of the Courtiers are considered equal in rank and privilege to the members of Sergeantry. All other codes of conduct and by-laws will be developed and enforced by the Courtiers themselves.

There will be no more than one chance per year for a new Courtier to be inducted into the ranks. An unsuccessful applicant may re-enter another time, but must abide by the current testing standard and requirements. There will be no minimum or maximum number of Courtiers. With the rank of Courtier, there also comes privileges and obligations:

#### **Privileges of the Rank**

- ❖ To wear the special regalia as a token of this rank.
- ❖ To recommend to the Baron and Baroness changes to the requirements for this rank should they be needed.
- ❖ To have a place in the Baronial Courts of Terra Pomaria
- ❖ Such other privileges as are appropriate.

#### **Obligations of the Rank**

- ❖ To nurture and develop the "Gentler Arts" within the Barony and to act as council as required by the Baron and Baroness, to whom the Courtier's fealty is sworn, and through it, the Crown of An Tir.

- ❖ To be an example of Honor and the Courtly Graces
- ❖ To uphold the ideals of Chivalric behavior as embodied in the SCA.
- ❖ To maintain a level of competence in accordance with the requirements of this rank.
- ❖ To support and aid in the education of the populous of the barony, not only in the arts and sciences, but in all manner of thoughtful and courteous behavior; remembering at all times that the Courtier embodies an ideal as well as a rank.
- ❖ To be available for service and ceremonial functions to the Baron and Baroness.

## Administration of the Orders

Both the Sergeantry and Courtier Orders will be self-administrating and the members shall elect their own leader for administrative purposes that best epitomizes the ideals of the rank. The annual recognition of the Sergeant Major and the Grand Courtier shall be granted by the Baron and Baroness to the individual. All other codes of conduct and by-laws shall be developed and enforced by the Sergeantry/Courtiers themselves. No holder of this rank may be removed from this position save by a two-thirds majority vote of the active Sergeantry or Courtiers of the Barony AND by action of the current residing Baron and Baroness.

If a member of the Sergeantry/Courtiers is elevated into a Peerage, he/she may resign from their rank to the currently residing Baron and Baroness. They may be given the title *Emeritus*, and are allowed to sit in consultation with the other members of the Sergeantry. However, they cannot vote on any issues, but may be called upon to judge should a tie occur.