



# BYLAWS of the ADRIAN EMPIRE, INC.



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## PREFACE

The bylaws of the Adrian Empire, 2006 shall supersede all previous bylaws. The previous bylaws are, but are not limited to, the following:

- Bylaws and Governing Policy for the Kingdom of Adria in the 1350 to 1450 Period of Medieval History, 1987
- Bylaws and Governing Policy for the Kingdom of Adria, 1988
- Bylaws and Governing Policy for the Kingdom of Adria and Umbria, 1989
- Bylaws and Governing Policy for the Kingdom of Navarre, 1990
- Bylaws of the Adrian Empire, Inc., 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005

In any situation where the Adrian Bylaws are in direct conflict or violation of mundane law, the Adrian Bylaws will be subservient to existing mundane Law. Mundane Law shall always trump Adrian Bylaws.

## OPERATING PRINCIPLES

- Always serve the best interests of our communities.
- Measure actions by what is in the best interests of the Organization.
- Communicate openly, honestly and directly.
- Be visionary: Encourage innovation and learn from our mistakes.
- Be positive: Seek solutions, and be open to the views of others.
- Support each other in balancing work, family and community.
- Support and reward excellence, teamwork, productivity, and growth.
- Be accountable and honor commitments.
- Promote research, education, and publication relevant to those cultures falling within the influence of Western Civilization within our period of history.

## VISION STATEMENT

In the Beginning, the "Ideal" for Adria, as conceived and set forth by the Founders, was that in the chaotic world of our mundane lives, much like the chaotic times in medieval history, we could create and uphold a society where individuals from all walks of life, no matter what rank or title, all have the same opportunities and were all expected to uphold the same chivalric ideals. "The Ideal" was simply exemplifying the best qualities of medieval history and applying them, not only within Adria but within each of ourselves and in thus, making our mundane lives a better place to exist. Self-indulgence and oppressiveness were to be prohibited. Fellowship, compassion, and a need to keep matters simple and to the point were to be embodied by the populace. As founders, our future "Dream" for Adria was that each member would hold a true and honest love for Adria so as to nurture and help her grow into a shining example of what a Noble Society could have been in the past and perhaps should be today and also in the future.

## ARTICLE I: GENERAL

### A. SCOPE

The period of history that is encompassed by the game shall be defined as the years from 1066 to and including 1603. The scope of the Adrian Empire shall include the Medieval and Renaissance cultures of Europe and those cultures that had a significant presence in Europe during our defined period of history. The scope of our arts and sciences include arts, crafts and sciences that had an identifiable presence and influence in Europe.

### B. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We endeavor to enlighten our communities by providing a mechanism to explore the lifestyles and societies of the period of history commonly referred to as The Age of Chivalry.

### C. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

- Integrity (to adhere to a code of values, to be incorruptible)
- Fairness (to be impartial, honest, free from self-interest, prejudice or favoritism)
- Loyalty (to be unswerving in allegiance, to one's lawful Crown or government; faithful to a person to whom fidelity is due; or, to a cause, ideal, custom, or institution)
- Respect (to be polite, considerate, and demonstrate admiration for people's good qualities and achievements)

## ARTICLE II: OFFICES

The Principal Office of the Adrian Empire shall be located in the State of Arizona. The Adrian Empire may have other offices as the governing body may determine or as the affairs of the Adrian Empire may require from time to time.

## ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

### A. MEMBERSHIP

#### 1. **Open Membership**

The Adrian Empire shall not unlawfully discriminate against any persons protected by Federal, State, or local statute. Where appropriate, chartered subdivision codicils may cite the specific legal requirements of the jurisdiction. Membership can be terminated by a thirty (30) day lapse following nonpayment of dues or revocation of membership by the Board of Directors.

#### 2. **Membership Revocation**

Membership in the Adrian Empire may be revoked as provided above only for one of the following reasons:

- a. Conviction of violation of state or federal penal code in connection with or relevant to an Adrian Empire activity, or
- b. Recommendation of a duly constituted judicial court following conviction under the law and within sentencing guidelines.
- c. Behavior identified as threatening the safety and welfare of other members or creating a hostile environment after a duly convened Adrian Court.
- d. By the Board of Directors if expressly authorized by the Imperial Estates General, or on the recommendation of a panel convened under the procedure outlined in Article III.A.4.

### 3. **Membership Denial**

Membership in the Adrian Empire may be denied for the same reasons as revocation. Membership may also be denied if the reasons for a previous revocation of membership are still valid.

### 4. **Membership Suspension**

Membership in the Adrian Empire and all rights therein may be suspended as provided below.

- a. If a member is charged with a violation of state or federal penal code in connection with or relevant to an Adrian Empire activity, or evidence is provided that a member has harassed, threatened, or otherwise jeopardized the safety and welfare of other members of the Adrian Empire.
- b. Upon notification of the above (a.), the President shall convene a special panel composed of the Board of Directors, the Crowns of the member's chartered subdivision, and two Royal Crowns chosen from a rotational list.
- c. The rotational list of Kingdoms shall include Aragon, Esperance, Terre Neuve, Umbria, York, and any new Kingdoms to be added here in order of recognition.
- d. If a member of the panel is the member in question, that member shall be excused.
- e. If less than eight (8) members are on the panel, additional Crowns from the rotational list shall be added.
- f. The panel shall require a quorum of at least five (5) members and the decision to suspend shall require a 2/3rds vote (a minimum of at least four (4)).
- g. Suspension may last no longer than the duration of the pending case against the member, if the case is Adrian and not a mundane criminal case, the trial date shall be set within 60 days of notification of suspension.

## B. **CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

### 1. **Participating Single Membership**

The basic membership, conveying the right to earn knightly rank, receive precedence bearing awards, have arms registered, convey the right to hold office in the Adrian Empire and a subscription to the appropriate chartered subdivision newsletter. Serves as the primary point of contact for the purposes of notification and publications.

### 2. **Participating Family Membership**

Includes all legal dependents of the participant's immediate mundane family. The rights of participating membership extend to family members. (Note: This membership category shall be consistent with current IRS policy, which also includes a cohabitating couple.)

### 3. **Participating Single Life Membership**

A member who pays ten (10) times the current participating single membership fee, holds a participating single membership for life.

### 4. **Associate Membership**

A member of any Imperially approved organization (or a Chartered Subdivision or equivalent thereof) with activities and goals parallel to the Adrian Empire, may qualify for associate membership. The rights of participating membership extend to associate members.

The dues for said membership per member are set by the Imperial Crown in consideration of the number of memberships requested and shall be reviewed by the Imperial Estates General at their regular meeting in November, at which time the level of dues may be approved or modified. (Note: *The current pre-approved organizations are the ECS, RMS, and SCA. The Imperial Crown may consider other organizations.*)

## C. PARTICIPATION

While all attendees of Adrian Empire-sanctioned activities are encouraged to become members, attendance does not require membership. Dues-paying membership is a requirement for:

- Receiving knightly rank
- Receiving precedence-bearing awards
- Having heraldic devices registered
- Holding office
- Participating in tournament or war except as provided below

Non-members are welcome to receive instruction and, if all safety requirements are met, participate in any Adrian Empire activity. Non-members will be considered for participation on a case-by-case basis. Experience will be taken into consideration and, if the appropriate minister and Ruling Noble are in agreement, the non-members may participate at the appropriate level.

## D. MEMBERSHIP TERMS

Memberships are not refundable, but are transferable or assignable.

For membership accounting, annual memberships cover the period July 1 to June 30. Annual memberships are due on July 1 of each year. The Imperial Steward shall determine a schedule for prorating dues.

Members who have not renewed their memberships by July 1 are considered to be under an administrative judicial ban; they will not be able to hold office or exercise any voting privilege or carry proxies. This judicial ban will be automatically lifted upon renewal.

## E. MEMBERSHIP ASSIGNMENT TO CHARTERED SUBDIVISION

Members may join or change their chartered subdivision when they pay or renew their membership. Renewals are effective on July 1, and lifetime members can change their chartered subdivision on July 1. Members can only form estates or be estate holders in the subdivision they have joined. If no choice is made, members will be subjects of the chartered subdivision in which they reside (where the members physically live). Subdivision re-assignment is also allowed for a change of physical residence. If members do not physically live within 200 miles of the requested subdivision, they must apply directly to that subdivision's Crown for approval. If the members' change of subdivision takes their former subdivision below numbers, the members must provide a written reason why they are requesting the change, and appeal directly to Imperial Crown for permission.

In the case where members may have multiple residences or special circumstances, the Imperial Crown shall decide which chartered subdivision the members join.

# ARTICLE IV: DUES

## A. GENERAL

Membership dues are set by the Imperial Estates General. Lifetime or annual dues may be paid to the Imperial Steward; or to the Steward of a chartered subdivision, but must be sent as presented to the Imperial Steward. Cash shall be the exception to this: Cash must be converted to money order and may not be deposited in any bank account.

## B. EXPENSE APPROVAL

The Imperial Crown may expend the treasury funds on items as approved by the Imperial Estates General.

## C. MODIFICATION OF DUES

Membership dues may be changed at the request of the Imperial Crown with the approval of the Imperial Estates General.

## D. SCHEDULE

Membership dues are set at the following:

### 1. **Single**

- Annual: \$30.00
- Life: Ten (10) times annual rate

### 2. **Family**

X = per each additional member over the initial member. Cap on family memberships set at \$90.00 annually

- Annual: +(\$15.00 \* X)
- Life: N/A

## E. DISCOUNTS

There are currently four (4) discounts offered by the Adrian Empire. Only one may be applied toward membership.

A 10% discount off an annual participating membership is offered for:

- Military (with valid military ID)
- Students (with valid student ID)
- Senior citizens (55 years or older, with valid proof of age)

A \$10.00 discount off an annual participating membership is offered for:

- Electronic newsletter delivery

# ARTICLE V: MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

## A. NOTICE

Official meetings of the Adrian Empire shall be announced to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the event and shall include the date, time, and place. The announcement shall be in the official newsletter, estates meeting, or in a Crown or Ruling Noble's court at an official event. Notice may be waived by the Crown for just and stated cause, or by the Estates General as provided in law. Notice pertaining to Civil or Crown War is defined in Article XV and Article XVI.

## B. DEFINITION

An official event is any meeting of the membership that is held in an appropriate context, setting and style for the purpose of education, recreation, competition, or service, as long as the event is:

- Sanctioned by the Crown
- Sponsored by a subdivision
- Announced thirty (30) days in advance to the membership through official channels
- Presided over by the Crown or a Ruling Noble
- Attended by the ministry officials or their designated deputies responsible for the type of activity undertaken

Demonstrations and classes require Crown approval, and must be attended by ten (10) or more people. Crowns may waive the thirty (30) day notice for just and stated cause.

## C. UNOFFICIAL EVENTS

Any event that does not conform to the specifications above is not official. Such events are not points bearing, nor do announcements made at such an event satisfy the notice requirement above.

**D. MAKE-UP EVENTS**

Tournaments can be made up if they were canceled or interrupted due to:

1. Lack of facilities
2. Acts of God, such as:
  - Rain, hail, or snow
  - Excessive heat, cold, or winds
  - Flooding
3. Darkness
4. Safety
5. Any other conditions that in the opinion of the Crown warrants invoking this law

**E. SPONSORSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

All Royal and Ducal Crowns are required to sponsor one (1) Crown tournament per month, in each discipline (arts, archery, and combat), and at least one (1) war event per year. The Imperial Crown is required to sponsor the Imperial Crown War. Crown tournaments may be held together, or at separate events within the same month.

**F. MEMBER PARTICIPATION**

1. A member may record no more than one (1) point and one win, for participation in one (1) official Non-Imperial event per month, in each area of advancement that the member participates, regardless of the number of events actually attended. If the member attends multiple events, the member shall determine which participation or win from which event shall be recorded.  
 Therefore, if a member participates in and wins in combat at one event, arts at another, archery at another, and ministers at yet another; the member may properly receive the most advantageous credit in each area of advancement. Likewise, if a member participates in a make-up event for a previous month and does better or more in that event, the member may have that participation or win recorded instead of one already recorded, provided it is for the same month.
2. In addition, a member may record a second participation point and a second win, for participation or wins earned in one (1) official Imperial event in the same month that the member records points for participating as above. If the member participates in multiple official Imperial events in one (1) month, the same limit and the same privilege of deciding which participation or win shall be recorded applies as above. This is not an exception to the law; it is the opportunity to record an additional point.
3. Both points and wins apply to advancement; the number of months alone shall not limit advancement.

**ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY****A. IMPERIAL GOVERNING BODIES; SUMMONING MEETINGS**

The governing body of the Adrian Empire is the Imperial Estates General (composed of the Imperial Estate, the Estates Royal, the Estates Major, and the two senior members of the Estates Minor from each chartered subdivision).

Imperial Estates Meetings shall be held:

- The first Saturday (and the day after) of November
- The third Saturday (and the day after) of July
- During the month of March

Additional Imperial Estates Meetings may be called:

- At the pleasure of the Imperial Crown
- By any three (3) members of the body who must reside in different chartered subdivisions (the meeting must be for a location in a chartered subdivision in which none of the summoning members resides.)

## B. QUORUM REQUIREMENTS

The quorum requirements for the Imperial Estates General shall be more than half of the members entitled to vote within the body (less members who were entitled to a vote but were absent last meeting). Note: Absence from the previous meeting affects quorum requirements only, and in no way affects the member's right to vote at the current meeting if they are qualified to do so.

## C. PUBLICATION OF CHANGES

All changes to the Imperial bylaws or Imperial Estate writs shall be published as soon as possible to the Ruling Crown of each Chartered Subdivision before becoming law. Until such a publication has taken place, the former Law shall remain in force. Previously approved changes that are missed and corrected later, should merely require notice, not ratification. Once per year, the Imperial bylaws and Imperial Estate writs shall be updated and published. All changes or additions to existing law, and Crown or Estate writs should be published as soon as possible (preferably within thirty (30) days), and becomes enforceable thirty (30) after publication unless for cause and specifically stated in the addition, change, or writ.

Note: The current policy on official means of publication: a copy provided (either mailed or sent electronically) to the Crowns of each Chartered Subdivision for distribution.

## D. CHARTERED SUBDIVISION GOVERNING BODY; SUMMONING MEETINGS

The governing body of a chartered subdivision is the Estates General. This body shall be composed of:  
**Estates Royal** (King/Queen, Prince/Princess, Archduke/Archduchess, Duke/Duchess, Viceroy/Vicerine\*)  
**Estates Major** (Lord/Lady Protector, Count/Countess Royal, Marquis/Marquessa, Founder, and Third-Level Knight)

**Estates Minor** (Count/Countess, Baron/Baroness, Second-Level Knight, Household Lord/Lady)

*(Note: Viceroy/Vicerine are not members of the Estates Royal, but they represent the Imperial Crown.)*

Meetings of the Estates General may be called at the pleasure of the Crown, but not less than twice per calendar year. If, within six (6) months of the last meeting there has not been a meeting of the Estates General, the Chancellor shall cause to be published the date, time and place of a meeting that shall occur not later than thirty (30) days at a place accessible to all members entitled to a seat.

A Meeting of the Estates General may also be summoned by three members of that body. The meeting must be summoned by unanimous agreement of the three summoning members for a time and location within the Chartered Subdivision. (Note: This meeting must meet all other requirements for an official event. See Article V: Meetings of the Membership)

Meetings of the Estates General of a chartered subdivision may enact local codicils, which shall have force of law only within their own borders, so long as they do not conflict with the Imperial bylaws. All such local codicils and writs shall be submitted in writing to the Imperial Chancellor for conflict review within thirty (30) days of enactment.

## E. OFFICIAL MEETINGS; IMPERIAL ESTATES CALENDAR

### 1. Quorum

A meeting of a given body of Estates General is officially convened when a quorum is established. Once a quorum is established, a meeting may continue until adjourned, even if the attendance drops below quorum. In tallying a vote, a measure passes if it garners a sufficient proportion of the votes cast (abstentions are not counted).

### 2. Weapons

The presiding member shall appoint a sergeant-at-arms, who shall ensure that all members are disarmed. Members shall remove their weapons, and may return to the meeting when they are unarmed, or they may leave their weapons with the sergeant-at-arms. With the exception of the sergeant-at-arms, no one may bring weapons to any meeting of Estates General.

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### 3. Meeting Date, November

The Imperial Estates General shall meet on the first Saturday of November (and the day following), at which time they shall conduct appropriate business including but not limited to:

- a. Imperial budget
- b. Review associate memberships (Article III.B.4).

### 4. Meeting Date, March

The Imperial Estates General shall meet in March of every year, at which time they shall conduct appropriate business including but not limited to:

- Evaluation of the success or failure of the previous Imperial Crown's term of office as well as any prior terms of office not yet evaluated, irrespective of the length of such terms of office. (The Imperial Estates General shall have the right to table consideration of any Imperial term of office.)

### 5. Meeting Date, July

The Imperial Estates General meet on the third Saturday of July (and the day following), at which time they shall conduct appropriate business, including but not limited to:

- a. Qualify and determine acceptability of Imperial candidates.
- b. To finalize enough data to prepare the corporation's tax returns (if necessary)
- c. Each chartered subdivision's Crown shall present a copy of his or her chartered subdivision's financial records at this meeting. Attendance at this meeting shall be mandatory for at least one ruling Crown or representative from each chartered subdivision.
- d. Review (at its discretion) any systems of conversion for analogous activities developed by the Imperial Crown. (Article IX.E)

### 6. Disqualification

Members entitled to a seat by virtue of rank or office whose dues are not current, are under judicial ban, or have not attended at least (2) official events in any subdivision within the previous six (6) months will be denied a seat.

The membership entitled to vote at a meeting of a given body is fixed as of the summoning of the meeting. It may not be subsequently altered by any means (including non-participation, formation of new Estates General, or change in Estate held by a given member) until the meeting is concluded, with these exceptions:

- Resignation of a given member
- Judicial ban
- Creation of a greater estate that does not reduce another greater estate below minimum membership (subject to 2/3 approval of the Estates General to waive notice and seat the estate)
- Expiration of dues

The Crown, if available, will convene the summoned Estates General at the appointed time and place, and the meeting will be presided over by the Chancellor, if available.

## F. RIGHTS OF THE ESTATES GENERAL

### 1. The Imperial Estates General

The Imperial Estates General have the right to:

- a. Elect from its body a Board of Directors:
  - i. The number of Directors on the Board, the term of office of each Director, and powers of the Board of Directors shall be as set forth by the Imperial Estates General by Imperial Estates Writ (requiring a majority vote).
  - ii. Said Imperial Estates Writs shall not be modifiable by the Board of Directors under any circumstances.
- b. By a unanimous vote:
  - Extend banishment of a member beyond three (3) years (See Article XI.B.9.e.).
- c. By a 2/3rd's majority:
  - i. Remove the Imperial Crown from office.
  - ii. Call for an Imperial bylaw convention (an Imperial bylaw convention may not be summoned by the Imperial Crown).
  - iii. Amend, alter, or otherwise amplify the Bylaws without restriction.
  - iv. Change dues.
  - v. Void a challenge for the Crown.
- d. By a simple majority (more than half):
  - i. Determine a successful completion of term of office regardless of the length of said term of office.
  - ii. Appoint a new member to the Order of the Fleur-de-lis.
  - iii. Enact, modify, or cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with the Bylaws.
  - iv. Approve writs and charters issued by the Imperial Crown, approve annual expenditures when the budget is presented in November and all additional expenditures of treasury funds.
- e. Any two members:
  - i. May put a proposal on the agenda before the Imperial Estates General. Proposals may be submitted once per Regnal Year (from the Imperial Coronation, the first Saturday of November not including the Imperial Estates General Meeting, through the first Saturday of the following November including the Imperial Estates General Meeting).

### 2. The Estates General Of A Chartered Subdivision

The Estates General of a given chartered subdivision have the right to:

- a. By a 2/3rd's majority vote:
  - i. Call for a general meeting at any time and void a challenge for the Crown
  - ii. The Estates General may amend, alter, or otherwise amplify the local codicils
  - iii. Remove the Crown from office.
- b. By a simple majority vote (more than half):
  - i. Approve writs and charters issued by the Crown annual budgets and expenditure of treasury funds.
  - ii. Enact, modify, or cancel Estates Writs not in conflict with the Bylaws or local Codicils.

### 3. The Crown

The Crown has the right to:

- a. Imperial Crown
  - i. The Imperial Crown has specific rights unto itself as well as the rights of a Royal Crown.
  - ii. Be the sole representative of the Adrian Empire to other organizations. Any subdivision of the Adrian Empire desiring to attend the events of other organizations or hold joint events with them shall obtain the prior written consent of the Imperial Crown.
  - iii. Render an opinion concerning any disputed interpretation of Imperial law or writ. Within thirty (30) days of a written request for interpretation the Imperial Crown shall consult with the Crown and Chancellor of the chartered subdivision from which the request (appeal) has come, as well as the Imperial Chancellor and review the disputed Imperial law or writ and the arguments. The decision of the Imperial Crown is final and binding.
  - iv. Resolve submitted disputes between chartered subdivisions in the event that the chartered subdivisions are unable to resolve the dispute. The Crown or Ruling Noble of either chartered subdivision may ask the Imperial Crown to arbitrate. Within thirty (30) days of the written request for arbitration the Imperial Crown shall convene an Imperial Crown Court and review the dispute and evidence. The decision of an Imperial Crown Court is final and binding.
  - v. Warrant Viceroy, to grant Charters in order to establish new Chartered Subdivisions, and promote existing Chartered Subdivisions to higher degrees of sovereignty as defined in Article VIII.D. (Chartered Subdivision).
  - vi. Hear appeals from local justice where a member has been found guilty by a judicial court in a subdivision and the finding resulted in the loss of any right, award, or status the member may appeal to the Imperial Crown.
  - vii. Award the non-voting titles of Baron, Baroness, Lord, and Lady of the Empire.
  - viii. Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.
- b. Royal Crown
  - i. Render an opinion concerning any disputed interpretation of local codicil or writ. Within thirty (30) days of a written request for interpretation the Crown shall consult with the Chancellor and review the disputed local codicil or writ and the arguments. The decision of the Imperial Crown is final and binding.
  - ii. Resolve submitted disputes between subdivisions in the event that the subdivisions are unable to resolve the dispute. The Ruling Noble of either subdivision may ask the Crown to arbitrate. Within thirty (30) days of the written request for arbitration the Crown shall convene a Crown Court and review the dispute and evidence. The decision of an Imperial Crown Court is final and binding.
  - iii. Make new law that does not alter the Imperial bylaws or local codicils until the next meeting of the Estates General. (These laws must be submitted to the Imperial Chancery within 30 days of enactment, as described in Article VI.D.)
  - iv. Hold crown and ceremonial courts.
  - v. Give orders, awards and to authorize elevation in rank of any member as advised by their ministers.
  - vi. Award the non-voting titles of Baron, Baroness, Lord, and Lady of the Court.

- vii. Advance a member to knighthood where that member has made an extraordinary contribution to the Adrian Empire meriting special attention and reward. Only one (1) member of the non-chivalry per term of office may be elevated to knighthood without meeting the requirements for knighthood. This advancement is in title only and does not give the member the requirements associated with the title. Only a Knight can make a Knight.
  - viii. The Royal Crown shall hold a minimum of one (1) court a month.
  - ix. Make war on other sovereign chartered subdivisions.
  - x. Charter Guilds (not subject to approval of the Estates General)
  - xi. Draft and submit an annual budget to the estates general no less than 30 days prior to the published meeting date.
  - xii. Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.
  - xiii. Other and further rights and obligations as may be set forth in Article VIII.D.3.b.
- c. Other Crowns
- The rights and obligations of a Crown (other than a Royal Crown or an Imperial Crown) are the same as those of a Royal Crown, except that they are subject to applicable limitations set forth in Article VIII.D. and herein:
- i. Archducal Crowns may award the titles of Baron, Baroness, Lord or Lady of the Court
  - ii. Ducal Crowns may award the titles of Baron, Baroness, Lord or Lady of the Court with approval of the Imperial Crown.
  - iii. Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.
  - iv. Imperial Viceroys may make recommendations, but awards are subject to the prior approval of the Imperial Crown (see Article VIII.D.1.b.viii).

#### 4. **Ruling Nobles of Estates Major**

The Ruling Nobles of the Estates Major have the right to:

- a. Hold civil and ceremonial courts.
- b. Appoint ministers to local offices after consulting with the ministry affected and with approval of the Crown.
- c. Make war on other Estates Major, with the consent of the Crown.
- d. Advise the Crown.
- e. Give Noble Orders and the awards of their subdivision.
- f. Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.

## 5. Ruling Nobles of Estates Minor

The Ruling Nobles of the Estates Minor have the right to:

- a. Hold ceremonial courts.
- b. Appoint ministers for marshaling, heraldry, and rolls after consulting with the ministry affected and with approval of the Crown.
- c. Make war on other Estates Minor with the consent of the Crown.
- d. Give the awards of their subdivision.
- e. Co-rulers must either agree on decisions, or delegate to one another the authority to make decisions without agreement. A co-ruler may exercise that authority without delegation only when the other co-ruler is actually unavailable and unreachable by reasonable means. When the unavailable co-ruler returns, or can be reached, both should review those decisions and possibly change them.

## G. NOTICE

The Crowns of all chartered subdivisions must be provided with sixty (60) days written notice of Imperial Estates meeting. The Crowns must notify all members entitled to a seat in their respective chartered subdivisions.

The Crown must provide at least thirty (30) days written notice of any meeting of the estates of that chartered subdivision to all members who are entitled to a seat in their subdivision.

Two-thirds of the members present at an estates meeting may waive notice pursuant to this section. Actions taken at a meeting at which notice was waived must be reconsidered at the next fully-noticed meeting, but shall be effective pending said reconsideration.

Any member may attend, regardless of notification.

## H. PROXIES

It is the right of any member entitled to a vote to give a written proxy to any other Adrian member attending the meeting. A proxy may be verbal unless otherwise prohibited by the corresponding body.

## I. LIMITATION OF VOTES

A member shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) vote granted by any and all non-landed titles and/or ranks. In addition, a member shall be limited to one (1) vote granted by landed representation. There shall be no limit to the number of votes that are granted by proxy. For purposes of this section, second- and third-level knighthood shall be considered non-landed voting ranks.

## J. PROTECTION OF STATUS AGAINST LEGISLATIVE CHANGE

No member shall be deprived of any titles, office, lands, rights or courtesy by virtue of change in these Imperial bylaws without the consent of the member. This section shall not be cited to restrict the rights of a duly constituted Civil or Judicial court. This section shall not be cited to protect a title existent by virtue of landed estate where the estate no longer exists or the member no longer holds the estate.

## K. PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY

Parliamentary immunity is intended to protect political speech, and the free exchange of ideas necessary for the body to do its work. This includes the right of a member to ask pointed questions about business. Protected language is limited to comments on legislative, judicial or executive proceedings. Parliamentary immunity does not apply to excessive profanity, malicious character defamation, or deliberate misstatements of fact. Protected political speech has to do with issues and statements of opinion. Unprotected speech is pointed accusations of wrongdoing directed at a person, group, or Adrian body that cannot be substantiated by fact.

## ARTICLE VII: MINISTRIES

### A. CREATION OF MINISTRIES

The Crown may create other ministries, either temporarily or permanently, subject to the approval of the Estates General or the Imperial Estates General for the Imperial Crown.

### B. MINISTERIAL SERVICE

All ministers serve at the pleasure of the Crown and are responsible directly to the Crown for the execution of their duties. All ministers shall submit regular reports to their senior counterparts and carry out the duties and responsibilities of the ministries, which they head. To this end they are authorized to appoint deputies within their ministries, subject to the approval of the Crown.

### C. REQUIREMENTS TO HOLD MINISTERIAL OFFICE

All ministers and their deputies shall hold a participating or family membership and shall maintain such membership for the duration of their appointment. Those holding statutory offices must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

### D. RESTRICTIONS

The holder of a ministry shall hold no other ministry appointment, unless there is no member of suitable qualifications then interested in holding the vacant ministry.

### E. WAIVERS

Rank and experience requirements for any ministry may be waived only if there is no member of suitable qualifications then interested in holding said ministry.

### F. DEFINITIONS

The ministries of the Adrian Empire are as listed in Estates Writ 20.

### G. OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

The Imperial Crown shall be the President of the Corporation. If there is a Co-ruler (not consort), the Co-ruler shall be the Vice-President of the Corporation, otherwise, the Chancellor shall be the Vice-President. The Steward shall be the Secretary and Treasurer of the Corporation.

## ARTICLE VIII: SUBDIVISION OF THE EMPIRE

### A. ORGANIZATION

The Adrian Empire shall be organized as a feudal hierarchical society with the Imperial Estates General at the top, and authority flowing down to the populace. The Adrian Empire shall be divided to allow for local participation and contribution. All subdivisions of the Adrian Empire must have a name and arms.

### B. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CROWNS/RULING NOBLES

1. The Imperial Crown must have:
  - a. Attained the second level of Knightly Rank
  - b. Held a Royal Crown with a successful completion of reign (or completed the pax regium if a first-time Crown and the Estates General vote that the reign has been successful) or served as a Duke for six (6) months or longer with a successful completion of reign.
2. A Royal Crown must have:
  - Attained knightly rank
3. A Duke, Duchess, Archduke or Archduchess must have:
  - Achieved the rank of knight unless no qualified member who wishes to hold the position can be found within the duchy.

4. Meets the following membership criteria as applicable and determined by the Imperial Steward:
  - Imperial and Royal Crowns (including Ducal Crowns and Viceroys) must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
  - Imperial and Royal Crowns must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained continuously for at least one year.
  - Ducal Crowns and Ruling Nobles must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained continuously for at least six (6) months.
  - Household Lords and Ladies, and Imperial Viceroys must hold a current membership.
5. Is personally capable and willing to assume the responsibilities of the Crown or estate (and is willing to sign financial disclosure statement for Imperial Crown only.)
6. Is acceptable to the Estates General of the subdivision (or the Imperial Estates General for the Imperial Crown)
7. Has not been barred from the Crown or estate by specific judicial ban.
8. Their term of office is limited to two (2) consecutive years, removing the Royal Crown Pax Regium in the second year. (Note: Pax Regium limitation does not apply to the Imperial Crown since date of Civil War is set in law).

## C. EMPIRE

The Empire is the highest sovereign entity within the Adrian Empire, which has the right to choose a ruling Imperial Crown and have an Imperial Estates General. The Empire must have well-developed ministries capable of handling all aspects of the Empire's activities and shall consist of all subdivisions. The Imperial Crown is responsible for the administration of the lands that comprise the Empire.

## D. CHARTERED SUBDIVISIONS

Chartered subdivisions of the Adrian Empire are Kingdoms, Archduchies, Duchies and Shires.

### 1. Kingdoms

#### a. Definition

- i. A chartered subdivision must be chartered as a Duchy for at least 6 months before it can become a Kingdom. This requirement may be waived by a 2/3 vote of the Imperial Estates General.
- ii. A Kingdom is a chartered subdivision with at least 100 members.
- iii. A Kingdom is styled as a sovereign entity. This shall not imply independent, as a Kingdom remains an integral part of the Adrian Empire.
- iv. A Kingdom must have well-developed ministries capable of handling all aspects of the Kingdom's activities.
- v. A Kingdom must have a well-defined territory of geographic jurisdiction.

#### b. Rights and Responsibilities

- i. A Kingdom possesses all the rights and responsibilities accruing to its status as a sovereign entity.
- ii. A Kingdom shall be entitled to seats on the Imperial Estates General as provided in Article VI.A.
- iii. The Royal Crown shall be responsible for the administration of the Kingdom.
- iv. The Royal Crown shall advise and consult with the Imperial Crown as necessary for the careful administration, good governance and welfare of the Kingdom and Empire.
- v. The Kingdom's ministers shall report routinely to their corresponding Imperial counterparts on the Kingdom's activities in their respective areas of ministry.

- vi. A Kingdom shall have the right to enact Royal Writs and Codicils that do not conflict with the Bylaws or Imperial Law, which must be submitted within thirty (30) days of enactment to the Imperial Chancery.
- vii. A Kingdom must continue to meet all the requirements of this Article and its charter or may have its charter revoked by a 2/3rds vote of the Imperial Estates General.

## 2. Archduchies and Duchies

### a. Definition

- i. A chartered subdivision must be in continuous existence for at least 6 months in order to become a Duchy.
- ii. A Duchy must have at least 20 members. An archduchy has over 50 members.
- iii. A Duchy must have well developed ministries capable of handling all aspects of its activities.
- iv. A Duchy must have a well-defined territory of geographic jurisdiction.

### b. Rights and Responsibilities

- i. A Duchy has the right to choose a Ducal Crown
- ii. A Duchy shall be entitled to seats on the Imperial Estates General as provided in these Bylaws, Article VI.A. Imperial Governing Bodies; Summoning Meetings.
- iii. The Ducal Crown shall have all rights of the Estates Royal to sit on the Imperial Estates General.
- iv. The Ducal Crown from a Duchy consisting of 20-49 members shall be styled Duke or Duchess.
- v. The Ducal Crown from a Duchy consisting of 50 or more members shall be styled Archduke or Archduchess.
- vi. The Ducal Crown shall be responsible for the administration of the Duchy.
- vii. The Ducal Crown shall report routinely to the Imperial Crown on the Duchy's activities.
- viii. The Duchy's ministers shall report routinely to their corresponding Imperial counterparts on the Duchy's activities in their respective areas of ministry.
- ix. Ducal Codicils and Writs must be approved by the Imperial Crown.
- x. The Ducal Crown may not create Knights by prerogative.
- xi. A Duchy must continue to meet all the requirements of this Article and of its charter or may have its charter revoked by the Imperial Crown upon notification to the Imperial Estates General.
- xii. A Duchy that has existed for at least one (1) year and demonstrated an ability to govern its affairs well may be granted increased sovereignty in local matters.

## 3. Shires

### a. Definition

- i. A Shire is considered the entry-level subdivision to the Empire.
- ii. A Shire shall consist of at least five members.
- iii. A Shire shall be governed by a Viceroy appointed by the Imperial Crown.
- iv. A Shire must have a generally defined territory of geographical jurisdiction which does not overlap with the borders of any other Chartered Subdivision or region.

**b. Rights and Responsibilities**

- i. A Shire shall have as its goal the development of a fully functioning government with well-developed ministries. Until such time as these ministries are developed, the Imperial Crown, with the approval of the Imperial Estates General, may waive strict compliance with the corresponding sections of the Bylaws.
- ii. A Shire shall have the right to form Estates Minor. A shire of five (5) to nine (9) members may have one vote on the Imperial Estates General. A shire of ten (10) or more members may have two votes on the Imperial Estates General if they form at least two Estates Minor.
- iii. The Imperial Viceroy of a Shire shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the Imperial Estates General and hold the Shire's vote on that body if no Estate Minor is formed.
- iv. The Imperial Viceroy serves at the pleasure of the Imperial Crown in consultation with the populace of the region and is responsible for the administration of the Shire.
- v. The Imperial Viceroy shall report routinely to the Imperial Crown on the Shire's activities.
- vi. Any ministers appointed in the Shire shall report routinely to their Imperial counterparts on the Shire's activities in their respective areas of ministry.
- vii. The decisions of the Imperial Viceroy and the Estates General of the Shire shall be subject to the approval of the Imperial Crown.
- viii. The Imperial Viceroy may not distribute awards, honors, or titles without the prior approval of the Imperial Crown.
- ix. The Imperial Viceroy may not create Knights by prerogative.
- x. During the first year following the chartering of a Shire, the Imperial Crown may, at its own discretion, place up to three members who have shown outstanding medieval accomplishments within the Combatant, Robe, or Ministerial Orders up to the beginning of the Sergeant, Master, or Chamberlain rank, with no more than one per knightly discipline. This advancement waives the normal requirements for advancement to that rank. (Note: In order to advance to the next rank, the normal requirements must be met, including those requirements previously waived.)
- xi. A Shire must continue to meet all requirements of this Article and its charter or may have the charter revoked by the Imperial Crown upon notification to the Imperial Estates General.

**4. Implementation**

Removed March 2004.

**5. Charters**

A Kingdom Charter is equivalent to an Imperial Estates Writ. Under Article VIII.D.3.b.vii, the Imperial Estates General may amend or revoke a Kingdom's Charter by a 2/3 vote. In addition, if a Kingdom, under the provisions of its charter and local codicils, requests a change to its charter, the revised charter shall follow the normal procedures for charter approval (refer to Article VIII.F).

Once an amended charter has been approved, the Imperial government shall issue a new version of that charter. The most recent written form (including minutes of the Imperial Estates meetings) shall be considered in force.

## E. SUBDIVISIONS

Subdivisions (usually called landed estates) of the Adrian Empire are Marches, Counties, Baronies and Households. A subdivision is an entity within a chartered subdivision, which has the right to choose a ruling Noble or Nobles in a manner of their own choosing and have a seat on the Estates General. A subdivision is based on the free association of their members within a chartered subdivision. The ruling Noble is responsible for the administration of the Estate. Subdivisions must continue to meet all the requirements for subdivision status. A March is an estate entity consisting of at least 50 members, A County is an estate entity consisting of at least 35 members, a Barony is an estate entity consisting of at least 15 members and a Household is an estate entity consisting of at least 5 members.

## F. ESTABLISHMENT, ADVANCEMENT, AND CONTINUATION OF SUBDIVISIONS

### 1. Chartered Subdivisions

From time to time chartered subdivisions within the Adrian Empire may desire advancement. This is to be encouraged and permitted as long as the following standards and procedures are met:

- Prerequisite membership is achieved without reducing any other chartered subdivision below minimum standard
- The land the new subdivision to be chartered is claiming does not cross over or diminish the land of any other chartered subdivision not in the new subdivision. (*Note: An exception to law was approved Nov. 2003 to allow a second subdivision to be chartered within the same geographic boundaries in Nevada.*)
- In the case of an existing chartered subdivision, the estates general of the existing chartered subdivision must approve the change to their lands by a 2/3 majority, and presented to the Imperial Estates General for approval (by a simple majority). Upon such approval, there shall be new charters created for all subdivisions involved. (*Note: The alternative method is approval at the subdivision level with a simple majority, and by the Imperial Estates General with a 2/3 majority.*)

### 2. Unchartered Subdivisions

Members of any unchartered subdivision (March, County, Barony or House) have the right to remove themselves from said subdivision at any time, even if taking this action reduces the estate below minimum numbers. The ruling noble or nobles must be made aware of this decision so that they may effectively manage their estate. The following general procedures shall be followed for the initial establishment, and for the subsequent advancement, of subdivisions within the Adrian Empire.

- a. A petition shall be prepared and presented to the Crown by the members of the prospective chartered subdivision, setting forth the manner in which the requirements for said establishment or advancement have been met.
- b. A name and arms shall have been selected for the prospective subdivision (if none exists) which is acceptable to majority of the members, and are submitted to the College of Arms for approval.
- c. The Crown may for a just and stated cause deny the petition for establishment or advancement of a prospective subdivision.
- d. Should any subdivision fail to meet or fail to continue to meet the requirements set forth in Article VIII.D. or Article VIII.E., the Crown may at its option and discretion, for just and stated cause, change the status of the subdivision to reflect its current qualifications, or declare the subdivision extinct altogether, thereby canceling all warrants of office for that subdivision and revoking its existence.

## ARTICLE IX: AWARDS, ORDERS, RANKS, TITLES

### A. AWARDS

Awards shall be defined and a listing maintained by the College of Arms which shall be available to the populace. See Imperial Estates Writ #18.

### B. ORDERS

Orders shall be defined and a listing maintained by the College of Arms which shall be available to the populace. See Imperial Estates Writ #18.

### C. RANKS

It is the policy of the Adrian Empire to award rank and station to members based on merit, and effort, and not on opinion. To that end, there are finite requirements for advancement in each discipline. Rolls Ministers are required to maintain accurate records for all members; no written notification by the member is required.

The records of the Imperial ministry shall be the final consideration for advancement. Any member may become a knight, regardless of age (particularly in the arts, archery, and ministry), if that member has met the requirements. Members of all age may participate. If a candidate for any rank of knighthood has been found guilty in a judicial court, elevation may be refused by the Imperial Crown, Royal Crown, or judicial court sentence.

The Imperial Crown may formally recognize participation at official events of other organizations, which shall be recognized as participation at Adrian events when such participation is analogous. It is the policy of the Adrian Empire to encourage the participation of members of other organizations at Adrian events, including, but not limited to, official verification on request.

No member of the Adrian Empire may gain more than one tourney win per month for the purpose of gaining rank in the Knightly Orders. For archery and combat, a tournament list shall consist of at least 4 participants in order to award a list win; participants in smaller lists may receive a participation point. The only exception to this rule shall be in the case of attending an Imperial Tournament in the same month as a Crown Tournament. Therefore, a member participating in an Imperial tournament shall be awarded an extra point in addition to the regular local Crown event point in the same month.

Participation and advancement is detailed in the Rolls Guidelines, especially with regard to satisfying requirements, moving from one list to another, and breveting.

#### 1. **Combatant Roll**

Cut-and-Thrust will now count as Rapier in Knightly progression (reference Imperial Estates Writ #13).

- a. Yeoman
  - i. Be authorized to enter the Sergeant's List as outlined in the Combat Manual and Marshal's Guidelines
  - ii. A member in good standing.
- b. Guardsman
  - i. Participation in three (3) Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
- c. Sergeant
  - i. Participation in five (5) additional Sergeants' Lists at Crown events.
  - ii. One (1) win in a Sergeants' List at a Crown event.
  - iii. Participation in two (2) demonstrations.
  - iv. Be authorized to enter the Knight's List as outlined in the Combat Manual and Marshal's Guidelines

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- d. Knight Bachelor
    - i. Participation in ten (10) Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - ii. One (1) win in the Knights' Lists at a Crown event.
    - iii. Participation in one (1) war.
    - iv. Participation in three (3) additional demonstrations.
  - e. Knight Banneret
    - i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional Knights' Lists (8 must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
    - ii. Five (5) additional wins in the Knights' Lists (3 must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
    - iii. Participation in five (5) additional wars.
    - iv. Participation in five (5) additional demonstrations.
  - f. Knight Champion
    - i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional Knights' Lists (16 must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
    - ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the Knights' Lists (6 must be in the armored Knights' Lists), at Crown events.
    - iii. Participation in ten (10) additional wars.
    - iv. Participation in fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.
- 2. Arts Roll**
- a. Apprentice
    - i. A member in good standing.
  - b. Journeyman
    - i. Participation in three (3) Journeyman's Lists at Crown events.
  - c. Master
    - i. Participation in five (5) additional Journeyman's Lists at Crown events.
    - ii. One (1) win in a Journeyman's Lists at a Crown event.
    - iii. Participation in two (2) demonstrations.
  - d. Knight Robe
    - i. Participation in ten (10) Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - ii. One (1) win in the Knights' Lists at a Crown event.
    - iii. One (1) masterwork.
    - iv. Participation in three (3) additional demonstrations.
    - v. Participation in one (1) war at a Crown event.

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- e. Knight Master
    - i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - ii. Five (5) additional wins in the Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - iii. Two (2) additional masterworks.
    - iv. Participation in five (5) additional demonstrations.
    - v. Participation in three (3) additional wars at Crown events.
  - f. Knight Doctor
    - i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the Knights' Lists at Crown events.
    - iii. Four (4) additional masterworks.
    - iv. Participation in fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.
    - v. Participation in five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
- 3. Minister Roll**
- a. Clarke
    - i. A member in good standing.
  - b. Rector
    - i. Participate in ministry service during each of three (3) months.
    - ii. Participation in one (1) demonstration.
  - c. Chamberlain
    - i. Participate in ministry service during each of an additional five (5) months.
    - ii. Participation in one (1) additional demonstration.
    - iii. Earn one (1) demonstration initiation for ministry service
  - d. Knight Minister
    - i. Participate in ministry service during each of an additional ten (10) months.
    - ii. Participation in one (1) war at a Crown event.
    - iii. Earn three (3) additional demonstration initiations for ministry service
  - e. Knight Civil
    - i. Participate in ministry service during each of an additional eighteen (18) months.
    - ii. Participation in five (5) additional wars at Crown events.
    - iii. Earn five (5) additional demonstration initiations for ministry service.
  - f. Knight Premier
    - i. Participate in ministry service during each of an additional thirty-six (36) months.
    - ii. Participation in ten (10) additional wars at Crown events.
    - iii. Earn fifteen (15) additional demonstration initiations for ministry service.

*Note: See Estates' Writs #6 Demonstration Initiations and #8 Classes for explanations of demonstration initiations.*

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#### 4. **Archery Roll**

- a. Yeoman Archer
  - i. Be authorized to enter the Bowman's List as outlined in the Archery Manual (and Combat Manual and Marshal's Guidelines, if applicable)
  - ii. A member in good standing.
- b. Bowman
  - i. Participation in three (3) Bowman's Lists at Crown events.
- c. Marksman
  - i. Participation in five (5) additional Bowman's Lists at Crown events.
  - ii. One (1) win in a Bowman's List at a Crown event.
  - iii. Participation in two (2) demonstrations.
  - iv. Be authorized to enter the Huntsman's List as outlined in the Archery Manual (and Combat Manual and Marshal's Guidelines, if applicable)
- d. Knight Archer
  - i. Participation in ten (10) Huntsman's Lists at Crown events.
  - ii. One (1) win in the Huntsman's Lists at a Crown event.
  - iii. Participation in one (1) war.
  - iv. Participation in three (3) additional demonstrations.
- e. Knight Forester
  - i. Participation in eighteen (18) additional Huntsman's Lists
  - ii. Five (5) additional wins in the Huntsman's Lists
  - iii. Participation in five (5) additional wars
  - iv. Participation in five (5) additional demonstrations.
- f. Knight Warden
  - i. Participation in thirty-six (36) additional Huntsman's Lists
  - ii. Ten (10) additional wins in the Huntsman's Lists
  - iii. Participation in ten (10) additional wars
  - iv. Participation in fifteen (15) additional demonstrations.

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**D. TITLES****1. Emperor/Empress**

The ruler or rulers of the Adrian Empire. The Imperial Estate. (Voting) (July 2004)

**2. King/Queen**

The ruler or rulers of a Kingdom. Part of the Estates Royal. (Voting) (July 2004)

**3. Prince/Princess**

- a. Title granted to a retired ruler of the Adrian Empire after a successful term of office, regardless of length of term. An Estate Royal. (Voting)
- b. An Heir Apparent to the Adrian Empire. (Non-voting)
- c. An Heir Apparent to a Kingdom. (Non-voting)
- d. A member of the Order of the Fleur-de-lis (Non-voting)

**4. Duke/Duchess**

- a. Archduke/Archduchess

The ruler(s) of a Duchy with fifty or more members. Part of the Estates Royal. (Voting)

- b. Duke/Duchess

The rulers of a Duchy with between 20 and 49 members. Part of the Estates Royal. (Voting)

**5. Lord/Lady Protector**

The regent of the Empire or chartered subdivision if an appropriate Crown is incapacitated or otherwise unavailable. Part of the Estates Major (a Lord/Lady Protector has the same rights to vote at a meeting of Estates General, as would the appropriate Crown in whose place the Lord/ Lady Protector reigns). (Voting)

**6. Count/Countess Royal**

The retired ruler or rulers of a Kingdom. Part of the Estates Major. (Voting)

**7. Marquis/Marquessa**

The ruler or rulers of a March. Part of the Estates Major. (Voting)

**8. Founder**

Title held by the Founding Members of the Adrian Empire. An Estate Major. (Voting)

**9. Knight Champion, Knight Master, Knight Premier, Knight Warden**

A Third-level knight. Part of the Estates Major. (Voting)

**10. Count/Countess**

The ruler(s) of a County. Part of the Estates Minor. (Voting)

**11. Viceroy**

- a. The holder of an Imperial warrant of appointment to a Shire and serves as its appointed ministerial governor. (Voting if shire has at least 5 members)
- b. The holder of a Royal or Ducal warrant of appointment to a Canton within the Chartered Subdivision and is the appointed ministerial governor of a Canton. (Non-voting)

**12. Baron/Baroness**

The ruler(s) of a Barony. Part of the Estates Minor. (Voting)

**13. Viscount/Viscountess**

Title granted to a retired ruler of an Archduchy for a successful term of office. (Non-voting)

14. **Baron/Baroness of the Court/Empire**
  - a. Court title awarded by the Crown, as per Article VI.F.3 and VIII.D. (Non-voting)
  - b. Title granted to a retired ruler of a Duchy for a successful term of office. (Non-voting)
15. **Knight Banneret, Knight Doctor, Knight Civil, Knight Forester**  
A second-level knight. Part of the Estates Minor. (Voting)
16. **Lord/Lady**  
The ruler of a Household. Part of the Estates Minor. (Voting)
17. **Knight Bachelor, Knight Robe, Knight Minister, Knight Archer**  
A first-level knight. (Non-voting)
18. **Lord/Lady of the Court/Empire**  
Court title awarded by the Crown, as per Article VI.F.3 and VIII.D. (Non-voting)
19. **Ladies-in-waiting, Gentlemen-of-the-chamber**  
Those who exchange pledges of fealty with nobles, knights for special training. (Non-voting)
20. **Squires**  
Those who exchange pledges of fealty with knights for special training. (Non-voting)
21. **Men-at-arms**  
Those who exchange pledges of fealty with nobles, knights, or non-knights for special training. (Non-voting)
22. **Pages**  
Those who exchange pledges of fealty with nobles, knights, or non-knights for special training. Usually a young person. (Non-voting)

#### E. SYSTEMS OF CONVERSION

The Imperial Crown has the authority and discretion to develop systems of conversion for participation, ranks or titles for members who have participated in activities analogous to activities in the Adrian Empire. The voting privilege of Knighthoods and titles gained through conversion shall not vest for one calendar year from the date of membership; all other rights and privileges vest immediately upon conversion. In developing such systems, the Imperial Crown shall be equitable and just, taking into consideration such factors as whether the member should be obligated to pay dues for the period for which that member may be given credit toward advancement. These systems shall be reviewed by the Imperial Estates General (at its discretion) at its regular meeting in July. Members may record points as outlined in Article V.F. Member Participation.

## ARTICLE X: ARMIGEROUS RIGHTS, REGALIA, MODES OF ADDRESS, AND SUMPTUARIES

The Imperial Estates General shall by Imperial Estates Writ #18 present for registration armigerous rights, sumptuaries, modes of address and regalia to the College of Arms.

## ARTICLE XI: JUDICIAL COURTS

There are two types of judicial courts in the Adrian Empire: Civil Courts and Courts of Justice. These courts and their conduct are described in Imperial Estates Writs 2 and 12, Codex Adjudicata.

## ARTICLE XII: WARRANTS OF OFFICE

Warrants of appointment for:

- All ministry offices shall be signed by the Crown
- Lord/Lady Protectors shall be signed by the Chancellor

## ARTICLE XIII: POLICY ON RELIGION

Religion and spiritual life were very important to the people of the middle ages. The current resurgence in devotion requires a policy on religious activity in the Adrian Empire, which is a non-religious entity.

### A. CEREMONIAL PERFORMANCE

Any ceremony performed in a court (or in any setting that creates a captive audience) shall be sufficiently secular in nature that the majority of those present shall not be offended or have their own religious views belittled or disclaimed.

The exception of this rule is a ceremony of Knighthood. It is the right of the knight candidate to determine his own ceremony and dedicate himself accordingly, except that the accolade shall be bestowed by a knight. The knight holding a ceremony involving a particular religious belief must have announced that fact, allowing the populace to attend or not.

### B. PARTICIPATION

No ceremony shall force any unwilling person to participate.

### C. RESTRICTION OF EFFECTS

No ceremony shall be conducted intended to cause magical or psychic affects to anyone who has not knowingly agreed to it.

### D. CLERICAL PERSONAE, TITLES, AND CONSENT

Any member shall have the right to have a religious or clerical persona, however no member shall assume a title that implies nobility without consent of the Imperial Crown regardless of their rank or station in a religious society, group or body.

### E. THE CHURCH OF ADRIA

The Church of Adria shall be a non-religious way to acknowledge the historical role of the Church, and to bring pomp and circumstance into our ceremonies. It shall function as a guild, and have no powers with regard to estates or Crowns.

## ARTICLE XIV: TERM OF OFFICE

The Imperial Crown may be removed from office pursuant to Article VI.F.1.c. Any other Crown may be removed from office pursuant to Article VI.F.2.a.iii.

### A. EMPEROR/EMPRESS

The Emperor/Empress of the Empire shall rule from coronation (the first weekend of November of the year of ascent to the Throne) until the coronation of the Imperial Heirs Apparent (the first weekend of November in the following year), unless removed in an Interim Civil War as described below. The Emperor/Empress may succeed themselves pursuant to Article VIII.B.8.

### B. KING/QUEEN

Each term of office of the King/Queen shall not be more than one (1) year (measured from the date of coronation, or from the latest date coronation should have occurred pursuant to Article XIV.E: Coronations, whichever is earlier). The King/Queen may succeed themselves pursuant to Article VIII.B.8. (Note: The term of office may only be altered by mutual agreement of the Crown and the Estates General.)

## C. LORD/LADY PROTECTOR

The Lord/Lady Protector shall serve as regent of the Empire or chartered subdivision for not more than one (1) year as Lord/Lady Protector. Service as Lord/Lady Protector shall not make them ineligible to serve (or seek to serve) as Crown. Lord/Lady Protectors shall be appointed whenever the Crown is incapacitated or unavailable for an extended period of time. If the appropriate Estates General are not in session, and the incapacity is due to Judicial Ban or act of a Court of Justice, said Court shall have the power to appoint a Lord/Lady Protector. Otherwise, appointment may be by act of the Chancellor of the region. If no Chancellor is available, the Senior Peer of the region may make the appointment. The Lord/Lady Protector shall reign until removed by the Estates General, or until replaced due to the availability of the Crown. The first act of the Lord/Lady Protector is to call an Estates meeting (at whose pleasure the Lord/Lady Protector reigns). The meeting shall be held as soon as possible.

## D. DUCAL CROWNS

Crowns of Archduchies and Duchies shall rule until they resign or are removed. Their reign shall be reviewed by the Estates General of the chartered subdivision once per year. They may be removed by:

- A method approved by the Estates General of the chartered subdivision; if no other method is adopted, then by Annual Crown War, held in accordance with Article XVI. Crown War; or,
- 2/3rds majority vote of the Estates General of the chartered subdivisions.

## E. ALL OTHER RULING NOBLES

All other Ruling Nobles shall rule until they resign or are removed. They may be removed:

- Through war; or,
- By a majority vote of the composite Estates of the respective non-chartered subdivisions which they rule.

## F. CORONATIONS

### 1. Timetable

The Imperial Estates General, Kingdoms, and (with advice and consent of the Imperial Crown) other chartered subdivisions, have the right to establish by law their own timetables for coronation of the Heirs Apparent following a Crown War. These timetables shall be made known throughout the chartered subdivision and the Empire.

### 2. Default Timetable

In the event that the Estates General do not establish and publish their own timetable for coronation following a Crown War, said coronation shall take place within thirty days from the date of determination of the Heirs Apparent. (Note: the date of determination can be for be the scheduled war date, date of resignation of the seated Crown when there is only one set of contenders, or date of Imperial appointment).

### 3. Failure to Follow Timetable

If the Heirs Apparent, Crown, or other officers, fail to follow timetable (without reasonable cause), a Lord/Lady Protector shall be appointed by the chancellor until the coronation takes place.

### 4. Labor Day Weekend

With regard to Imperial Heirs Apparent determined at regular Imperial War on Labor Day Weekend, coronation shall occur on the first weekend in November.

### 5. Memorial Day Weekend

With regard to Imperial Heirs Apparent determined at an Interim Civil War on Memorial Day Weekend, coronation shall occur that same weekend at a War site where the Heirs Apparent are present.

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# ARTICLE XV: PAX REGIUM AND INTERIM CIVIL WAR

## A. PAX REGIUM

### 1. Imperial Crown

Notice of Imperial Civil War may only be declared as described in Article XV.B.4.

### 2. Royal and Ducal Crowns

For a period of six (6) months from the date of coronation, the Royal and Ducal Crowns shall enjoy a Pax Regium. During this period of time, no one may challenge the Crown for the throne. Anytime after that, an Interim Civil War may be called.

### 3. All Other Ruling Nobles

There is no Pax Regium for any Crowns or Ruling Nobles, except as specifically described above.

## B. INTERIM CIVIL WAR

### 1. Declaration of Interim Civil War

An Interim Civil War may be called by any member who meets the qualifications for Crown (or Ruling Noble) of the chartered subdivision (or subdivision, respectively).

#### a. Royal Crowns

In the event that a challenge is presented by a qualified member, the Chancellor shall direct the Minister of War and Joust to plan, execute, and autocrat a Civil War (of either one or two day duration). If the Royal Crown wins, they shall enjoy a new Pax Regium for the duration of their term of office. If the Royal Crown loses, the winning Contender shall rule the Kingdom for a full year, and enjoy a six-month Pax Regium as the new Crown.

#### b. Lord/Lady Protectors, and Viceroys

No Interim Civil War may be called against a Lord/Lady Protector or Viceroy.

### 2. Distribution of Visiting Members

Only the membership of the Estate in Civil War (Empire, chartered subdivision, or subdivision) may choose for whom they will fight.

The distribution of all visiting members shall be in proportion to the size of the army as set by the choice of the membership of the Estate.

### 3. Location of the War

#### a. Imperial Civil Wars

In the case of an Imperial Civil War, the war must take place in chartered subdivisions other than those in which the Imperial Crown resides. (Note: Featherly and Prado Parks in Esperance are approved exceptions.)

#### b. All Other Civil Wars

The Crown shall select the time and place so long as it is within the chartered subdivision and within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the challenge.

**4. Notice****a. Imperial Civil Wars**

Challenge for the Imperial Crown may only be issued and done at the Imperial War scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend with no less than thirty (30) days advance notice. If no notice is given to the Imperial Crown by thirty days before Memorial Day Weekend, that weekend shall be used for a war fought for the amusement of the populace (e.g. a Banner War).

In any event, the Imperial Minister of War shall advise the Imperial Chancellor, the Imperial Crown, and the Imperial Chronicler of the site or sites of the Memorial Day Imperial War no later than March 1 preceding the War. The Imperial Chronicler shall cause this information to be published well in advance of the war.

**b. All Other Civil Wars**

Upon qualification, the contender will give the Crown thirty (30) days notice.

**5. Void Challenge**

A two-thirds vote of the appropriate Estates General may void the challenge.

**6. Multiple Challengers****a. Imperial Civil Wars**

Imperial Civil War shall be governed in all respects (other than those specifically set out in this Article) pursuant to Article XVI.B. Imperial Crown War.

**b. All Other Civil Wars**

In all other civil wars, if there is more than one qualified challenger, the Minister of War shall plan the event as a two-day war. On the first day of the war, the armies of the challengers shall vie to determine a single contender to face the Crown or Ruling Noble of the Estate in Civil War on the second day.

**7. Fealty**

Fealty is described in Article XVI.A.4.

**ARTICLE XVI: CROWN WAR****A. CONDUCT OF THE WAR**

A Crown War shall be conducted as follows:

**1. Notice**

At least sixty (60) days prior to the actual date of the war:

- The Minister of War shall devise the scenarios for the war
- The Crown shall advise the Chancellor of the date, time and place set for the war
- The Chancellor shall notify the populace to submit letters of intent to contend for the Crown.

Letters of intent shall be submitted in writing to the Chancellor no less than 45 days prior to the actual date of the war to allow for qualification and to convene the estates to consider the candidates. The letters must indicate the prospective Crown, and co-ruler or consort.

## 2. Eligibility

### a. Eligibility

The Chancellor shall consult with the Minister of Rolls and the Steward to determine eligibility. Both Crown and co-ruler must both meet all eligibility requirements. The consort has no sovereign power and need only be a member in good standing with at least 6 months membership. A member who fails to meet the qualifications for Crown shall be notified in writing as to the reasons. In the case of any discrepancy in the Steward's office, the Imperial Steward's records are binding. The Imperial Steward will entertain evidence from all sources available before making a determination.

### b. Acceptability

The chancellor shall then convene the Estates General who shall determine the acceptability of each contender to hold the Crown. If a member is judged as unacceptable by the Estates General, they shall be notified in writing as to the reason.

## 3. Recruiting

a. Once the slate of contenders is set, the participants shall meet at the appointed date and site. During Opening Court, the Chancellor (or his representative) shall read the list of contenders. In order of ascending precedence, the contenders (or their representatives) may address the populace. At the end of the addresses, the membership of the chartered subdivision may choose for whom they will fight. The Minister of War shall then count the armies.

b. If there are more than four (4) armies, only the four (4) largest shall be permitted to contend for the Crown and the remaining members of the chartered subdivision shall re-divide themselves among the four (4) contending armies.

At this time, visiting members are distributed according as provided in Article XV.B.2.

c. If there are less than four (4) viable armies\*, the Minister of War and the Chancellor shall confer on limiting the field to two (2) armies to insure that at least two (2) contenders have working armies. This authority does not extend to coercing members to support a different contender or to dividing visiting members in violation of Article XV.B.2.

d. Where there is clear advantage to a single contender, and the others agree, that contender shall be declared Heir Apparent. The members may re-divide and the war will be fought for the entertainment of the populace.

e. Unless a clear winner is declared as a result of this selection process, the armies shall be set as per the final distribution. These members shall be bound to their contender until that army is eliminated. If their contender is eliminated they may drop out of the fighting or ally with another contender.

\* See *Imperial Estates Writ 22* for definition of a viable army.

## 4. Fealty

Usually only personal fealty will be binding in a Civil or Crown War. Those in fealty by dint of Estate shall be free to choose whichever side they wish in:

- Crown Wars
- Crown Civil Wars

Members who are not bound to a principal in the war shall be free to choose their own side unless having accepted payment for fealty.

## 5. War

The Minister of War will provide a copy of the first day's battles to each contender no later than 24 hours before the scheduled war. (Note: The information should be made available to all contenders at approximately the same time.) On the following morning, after Opening Court, the battles will begin.

There shall be twenty-one (21) war points consisting of:

a. Nine (9) Combat Points

- Three (3) light weapons battles
- Two (2) renaissance weapons battles
- One (1) renaissance champions battle
- Two (2) armored battles
- One (1) armored champions battle

b. Eight (8) Arts Points

One (1) point in each list (Journeyman and Knight) will be awarded for each of the following categories:

i. Highest total

The army with the highest total points on each of the lists.

This is the same system that has been in place, minus the categories.

ii. Highest average

The army with the highest average points on each of the lists. All scores will be tallied for these points. This is not to be a percentage of the whole, but determined for each army (total points per army/number of entries per army).

iii. Most total wins

The army with the most total wins awarded on each of the lists.

iv. Most total masterworks

The army with the most total masterworks awarded on each of the lists.

c. Four (4) Archery Points

- One (1) Bowman's List (combined score of all Bowmen)
- One (1) Huntsman's List (combined score of all Huntsmen)
- One (1) Open List (combined score of all supporters for each contender regardless of rank, in a separate shoot)
- One (1) Champion's battle (highest score of any member). This will be determined by the highest score by any member from the list of supporters of any given candidate; the candidate need not select a champion.

*Note: These are separate matches, and must be competed in separately.*

At least four (4) group battles, one (1) champion's battle, and three (3) arts points shall be decided on the first day. At the end of the first day, the top two (2) armies shall be allowed to continue the following day. The members of the eliminated armies must, prior to closing court, bind to a new army in order to participate the next day.

## 6. Victory

Victory shall go to the army with the most points. The victor shall be proclaimed Heir Apparent and the balance of the battles shall be fought for the amusement of the populace. The Heir Apparent must proclaim the date and location of the coronation. (Note: This does not mean that the Heir Apparent shall be the sole dictator of the date and location, only that they shall proclaim it. It must meet all other requirements for an officially sanctioned event including any local codicils, and cannot force a shortened term of office of the current Crown unless the current Crown consents.)

## B. CONDUCT OF IMPERIAL CROWN WAR

The Imperial Crown War shall be conducted as described in Crown War, above, with the following exceptions:

### 1. Notice

#### a. Date and Site

- i. The Imperial Crown War shall be held every year on the Labor Day Weekend.
- ii. The Imperial Crown shall advise the Imperial Chancellor of the sites of the Imperial Crown War no later than June 1 preceding the War. The Chancellor shall publish this information prior to the meeting of the Imperial Estates General in July preceding the war.
- iii. The sites of the Imperial Crown War shall be in Chartered Subdivisions other than that in which the Imperial Crown resides. (Featherly Park and Prado Park in Yorba Linda, California shall be exceptions to this requirement.)

#### b. Candidacy

The chancellor shall notify the populace to submit letters of intent to contend for the Imperial Crown, which shall:

- Be submitted to the Chancellor in writing
- Be received at, or before, closing court of Memorial Weekend War (Interim Imperial Civil War)

Indicate the prospective Crown, and co-ruler or consort

### 2. Eligibility

#### a. Eligibility

The Imperial Chancellor shall consult with the Imperial Minister of Rolls and the Imperial Steward to determine eligibility. Records of these two Imperial Ministers shall be considered for this determination. A member who fails to meet the qualifications for Crown shall be notified in writing as to the reasons.

#### b. Acceptability

The Imperial Chancellor shall convene the Imperial Estates General at the regularly scheduled meeting in July, who shall determine the acceptability of each contender to hold the Imperial Crown. If the consort is to be a co-ruler, then their acceptability shall be also examined. If a member is judged as unacceptable by the Imperial Estates General, they shall be notified in writing as to the reason.

### 3. Recruiting

- a. Once contenders have announced their candidacy for the Imperial throne, they may begin recruiting their armies. During Opening Court at Imperial Crown War, the Imperial Chancellor (or his representative) shall read the list of contenders. In order of ascending precedence, the contenders (or their representatives) may address the general populace, as determined by the Chancellor or his representative. At the end of the addresses, the members of the Adrian Empire shall choose the contender whom they wish to support (in arts, archery, or combat).
- b. Where there is clear advantage to a single contender, and the other contenders agree, that contender shall be declared Heir Apparent. The members may redivide and the war shall be fought for the entertainment of the populace.
- c. Unless a clear winner is declared as a result of this selection process, the armies shall be set per the final distribution. These members shall be bound to their contender until that army is eliminated. If their contender is eliminated they may drop out of the fighting or ally themselves to another contender.

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**4. Fealty**

Fealty shall be as stated under Article XVI.A.4.

**5. War**

At Opening Court, the Imperial Minister of War (or his representative) shall announce the schedule of the War. The war shall be scheduled and conducted as provided in Article XVI.B.

**6. Victory****a. Determining Point Proportions**

Victory shall be determined by computation of points won at all war sites. Relative weight of the points from each war site shall be in proportion to attendance of paid members at the given War sites. The war points shall be proportioned by attendance at the war sites as follows:

- i. Determine total attendance for both sites and add them together.
- ii. Divide attendance at each site by the total number in attendance at both sites.
- iii. Determine the relative percentage to be assigned to each site.

As soon as possible after the conclusion of the War at each site, the Imperial Chancellor's representative at that site shall communicate to the Imperial Chancellor the results of the War. Results at each war site shall be communicated to the Imperial Chancellor or designated representative for tabulation no later than 7:00 a.m. Pacific Time on Labor Day (or Memorial Day if an Imperial Civil War). Upon receiving all the points, the Imperial Chancellor shall tabulate the results and announce the winner of the Imperial Crown War.

**b. Victory**

Victory shall go to the army that wins the most points. The victor shall be proclaimed Heirs Apparent and the balance of the battles shall be fought for the amusement of the populace.

The Heirs Apparent shall proclaim the date and location of the coronation, which shall be in conjunction with the November meeting of the Imperial Estates General.

**c. Ties**

In the event of a tie, the number of supporters of each contender's army shall be evaluated. Only those members of the warring subdivision who signed in and registered their support for a contender shall be counted. The contender with the largest number of supporters shall be declared the victor.

## ARTICLE XVII: EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL

Moved to Resolution, July 2003.

## ARTICLE XVIII: CONDUCT OF TARGET ARCHERY

Realizing that facilities for archery are somewhat limited in some subdivisions the following will apply:

### A. SCHEDULING

Archery does not need to be held on the same day or place as other event activities, and may be scheduled as a separate event. Archery activities that cannot be held due to lack of facilities, or acts of God (i.e. weather), may be rescheduled and made up. This applies to all official events (where archery is a scheduled activity) as described in Articles V.A. and B.

### B. WARS

The Crown shall lay out in Writ the time, place, and conditions of the Target Archery. The Minister of Archery shall lay out the course, bearing in mind the facilities available to different subdivisions in the case of Imperial Wars (i.e. set ranges and course that may be conducted under even the most limited conditions). The tallying must be completed prior to the start of the onsite War. If it is necessary, war target archery lists may be held offsite, or on a different day from the rest of the war.

### C. EVERY EFFORT

Crowns will make every reasonable effort to provide Archery events on a monthly basis. If necessary, the Crowns will empower the local Minister of Archery to arrange alternative shoots. The goal is to facilitate the widest possible participation without interfering with other activities.

## WRITS

These writs are to be considered in force unless found to be in direct conflict with these bylaws, or with mundane law.

### A. CONTINUING CROWN WRITS

#### 1. **Manual of Combat**

Converted to Estates' Writ (November 2000)

#### 2. **Missile Weapons Guidelines**

As adopted November, 1999 (available online at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-archery.pdf>)

#### 3. **Duels**

Repealed November 2003

#### 4. **Manual of Rolls and Lists**

As adopted December 2002 (available online at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-rolls.pdf>)

### B. ESTATES WRITS

#### 1. **Manual of Arts and Sciences**

available online at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-arts.pdf>

#### 2. **Codex Adjudicata**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-codex.pdf>

#### 3. **Steward's Manual**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-steward.pdf>

#### 4. **The Judging Manual**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-artsjudge.pdf>

#### 5. **The Herald's Handbook of the Adrian Empire**

Revoked.

## 6. **Demonstration Initiations**

Ministry service, including but not limited to demonstrations, fundraisers, community service related to Adria, classes, collegia, feasts, tournaments, and wars may be awarded in addition to regular monthly participation points for demo initiations in the Ministry path to Knighthood.

A demo initiation may be granted for each two (2) months of service as Imperial Crown, Minister, or Deputy Minister, for at least three (3) months of service as a local Crown, Minister or Deputy Minister, and to any member for each service as autocrat of feasts, tournaments, war, or collegia, or equivalents.

The local Crown will determine if the service was acceptable and useful, in the case of Rulers it will be determined by the Imperial Crown and in the case of Imperial Crowns by the Imperial Estates General. Imperial ministers will be reviewed by the Imperial Crowns.

Crowns are encouraged to set criteria for acceptable service. The manner and practice of granting these service credits is subject to the review of the Imperial Crown. The decision of the Crown is final except for review by the Imperial Crown.

More than one person may receive a demo initiation for the same demo so long as all are truly involved in the initiation of the demo.

## 7. **Protection of Minors and Members**

Mundane law establishes an age at which a person may use tobacco or alcohol. Adria's policy is that no under-age person may use tobacco or alcohol (or be under the influence thereof) at an Adrian event site. No person shall use non-prescribed controlled substances or be under the influence thereof at an Adrian event site. No person shall use alcohol or be under the influence thereof at a dry site. Any person who violates the above guidelines shall be asked to leave the event site. Those unable to leave on their own shall be taken off site to an appropriate location by another person as designated by the event autocrat or Crown or other member of appropriate authority. Inability to leave on one's own can be due to:

- a. Too drunk to drive or walk
- b. Dependent on another for a ride
- c. Other

Minors may not spend the night at an Adrian event site unless accompanied by a responsible adult who shall not be under the influence of any judgment-inhibiting substances. Minors shall be supervised at all times by an adult. Minors found unsupervised shall be asked to leave along with the adult responsible for them. Adria has a system whereby a person may confidentially report to the Crown any improper sexual or violent activity. If the Crown finds there to be a reasonable suspicion that the report is accurate, the Crown may suspend the accused person from spending the night at Adrian event sites. The Crown, if local, shall notify the Imperial Crown, who shall determine whether the suspension shall apply Empire-wide. Spending the night at an Adrian event is a privilege, not a right, and thus, the accused need not be proven guilty in an Adrian or mundane court. The accused may petition the appropriate Crown to revoke the suspension at any time. The accused retains all other rights under Adrian and mundane law. The entire process contained in this paragraph is confidential unless legal action is taken (either in Adrian or mundane court). Neither the reporting person nor the accused may discuss the matter with anyone but the appropriate Crown. The Crown may only discuss the matter with the Imperial Crown and the individual parties. If the overnight suspension is to be applied Empire-wide, the Imperial Crown shall notify all local Crowns, who shall make disclosure to autocrats on a need-to-know basis.

The purpose of the previous paragraph is to provide the utmost protection without sacrificing for everyone the fun of overnight events. As being barred from an overnight event can be embarrassing and discouraging, ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES WITH THE UTMOST CHIVALRY. It is best to conduct oneself in a manner such that there are no misunderstandings. Potential victims of sexual and violent attacks should protect themselves by avoiding vulnerable and private situations. Potential victims of vindictive false reports should take steps to protect themselves by doing the same. Be aware. Be careful.

The event autocrats and sanctioning crowns are responsible to implement these rules. If members fail to cooperate, call the mundane authorities immediately. Use common sense. Act responsibly. Failure of an autocrat or sanctioning crown to follow these rules exposes the empire to liability. The empire shall hold personally and legally responsible any crown or autocrat who causes this to happen. These rules shall be published periodically, and shall be announced prior to all overnight events.

## 8. **Classes**

- a. Notice must be published 30 days in advance.
- b. Whoever holds the class must provide the basic teaching material for the class.
- c. There must be at least 10 people attending the class. This can be cumulative.
- d. Each class a person gives within a twelve-month period must be on a different subject.
- e. A Crown must approve the documentation syllabus prior to the class.
- f. It is requested that all Knights hold one class per year. This according to the oath they themselves give on their Blue Belt.
- g. Those holding the class will garner a demo-initiation point. Those attending will garner demo participation points. After all, we are working for a non-profit educational status.

## 9. **Domains**

A Domain recognized by the Imperium may give and take enforceable oaths, and have its own distinctive heraldry. To be recognized as an Imperial Domain, an association must:

- a. Include members from more than one chartered subdivision;
- b. Have maintained a reasonable membership level for at least one year;
- c. Have registered heraldry;
- d. Have submitted rules on how a member joins, and,
- e. How a member quits.
- f. Members of an Imperial Domain may have armigerous and sumptuary rights as granted by the Imperial Crown, or by the College of Heraldry (subject to approval of the Imperial Crown).

## 10. **Shadowlands**

The Shadowlands (i.e. Internet and e-mail) shall constitute an official means of communication with the following strictures. The overriding consideration and policy of the Empire is that of "free and equal access."

### a. E-Mail

So long as all parties directly involved in a matter have e-mail, said e-mail may be used as the sole means of communication among the parties.

- i. When even one party directly involved in a matter does not possess e-mail, then this may no longer be used as the "sole" means of communication.
- ii. Other means must be employed so that ALL parties have equal access to information.
- iii. The pace of communication and decision-making must be such that the party with the slowest means of communication has a reasonable opportunity to participate in the process if that person so chooses.

b. **E-Groups and Websites**

It is recommended that all chartered subdivisions establish and maintain at least one e-group or website and post all official events. The group or site shall provide access to all Adrians who apply, except for cause, in writing, subject to appeal. The privilege to post is at the discretion of the Crown.

Additional e-groups or websites are encouraged and may restrict membership to members in good standing of the chartered subdivision, non-chartered subdivisions, guilds, or other interest groups, provided that access is also granted upon request to the Imperial Crown and Their designated representatives.

The Imperial Crown may restrict official notice to groups and sites in those that comply with these requirements.

11. **Tournament Wins**

Repealed as redundant March 2003

12. **Conduct of the Courts**

Incorporated into Codex Adjudicata (available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-codex.pdf>).

13. **Cut-and-Thrust**

- a. The Imperial Estates General direct the Imperial Crown and Their Ministers to modify the Combat Manual to adopt weapons requirements and armor standards for Cut-and-Thrust.
- b. Wins and participations in Cut-and-Thrust will count the same as Rapier.
- c. Lists in Cut-and-Thrust and Rapier may be held and counted at the same event pursuant to any other restrictions in the Bylaws or Writs.

14. **Board of Directors**

a. **Number of Directors**

The number of Directors shall be nine (9). The Emperor and the Empress shall always be President and Vice-President and serve a one-year term (may be extended in compliance with successive terms as Emperor and Empress). The Imperial Steward shall serve as Treasurer and may serve successive terms (as this is an appointed position by the Imperial Crown). The retiring President, and the Imperial Chancellor shall have non-voting, advisory memberships on the Board of Directors unless elected as follows. The Imperial Estates General will elect the remaining four (4) members of the Board of Directors from among the paid membership of the Adrian Empire by a simple majority vote. The Imperial Estates General shall elect 4 members-at-large, each to 2-year terms. Half the members-at-large shall be elected each year, thus staggering the election. Members-at-large that become President, Vice President, or Imperial Steward during the second year of their term vacate their seat as a member-at-large, and the remaining year of their term shall be filled by a one- year appointment, elected by the Imperial Estates General. Candidates may be self- nominated.

b. **Term of Office**

The term of office shall be for approximately one year between meetings of the Imperial Estates General (currently in November). At each such annual meeting, Directors will be elected for the next annual term. Directors may succeed themselves. A Director may be removed prematurely by action of the Imperial Estates General, the action of a duly convened Imperial Court of Justice, or by a unanimous vote of all other Directors (so long as the Board has more than two members). Directors may resign, or cease to serve through death or incapacity. The Imperial Crown must fill empty Director positions, pending a full election at the next annual meeting of the Imperial Estates General.

c. Powers of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall only have the power to approve budgets, expenditures, and to pass non-binding resolutions of corporate policy. Nothing in this Imperial Estates Writ shall be construed as depriving the Imperial Estates General of the authority to irrevocably overrule the actions of the Board of Directors; nor to abridge the right of the Imperial Estates General to withdraw or limit the powers of the Board of Directors.

d. Limits on Powers of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall have no powers (except as specifically granted by the Imperial Estates General) with regard to:

- i. Article VIII: Subdivision of the Empire
- ii. Article III: Members
- iii. Article XIV: Term of Office
- iv. Article XV: Pax Regium and Interim Civil War
- v. Article XVI: Crown War

e. Eligibility and Candidacy Requirements

- i. Each Candidate for a position on the Board of Directors shall submit a letter of intent and list of qualifications to the Chancery for inclusion in the November Agenda. Each Candidate must fill out the required mundane legal paperwork at the time they submit the letter. There shall be no nominations of Candidates from the floor of the Estates Meeting.
- ii. Candidates must hold a membership that is current and has been maintained continuously for not less than one year, and be least eighteen (18) years of age. Members of the Board of Directors may not be associate members. Candidates must have attained first-level knighthood.
- iii. Candidates may not be subjects of an announced or ongoing specific judicial ban, and have not been barred from holding an Estate by such a ban.
- iv. If Directors become the subject of a judicial proceeding or have sentence passed against them, their membership on the Board of Directors shall be subject to review by the Board of Directors, which shall then report to the Imperial Estates General on the outcome.

15. **Iglesia De Los Soldatos**

The sect of the Adrian Church known as Iglesia de los Soldatos are to be officially elevated from sect status to Church status. As such the Iglesia de los Soldatos will not be a part of the Church of Adria but will, in fact, be its own entity.

16. **Imperial Crown Travel Fund**

This writ authorizes the raising of funds through various means such as but not limited to auctions, raffles, benefits and donations for use of the Imperial Crown to help defray travel expenses. The fund may start raising monies immediately but no withdrawals shall be made until 1 November 2001. The Imperial Steward shall receive all monies for this fund, track in a separate category and disperse the funds to the Imperial Crowns for purposes of travel. Donations to this fund shall be purely voluntary. This shall be in addition to any funds authorized by the Imperial Estates General for this purpose.

17. **Manual of Combat**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-combat.pdf>

18. **Armigerous Rights, Regalia and Modes Of Address, Orders and Awards, and Ministry Badges**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-regalia.pdf>

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**19. Marshal's Manual**

available on-line at <http://adrianempire.org/manuals/ref-marshal.pdf>

**20. Ministry Descriptions**

Most ministry descriptions, including requirements and responsibilities, may be found in the appropriate manual. The officers described below must be at least 18 years of age. Deputies may be under 18, so long as they work under direct adult supervision. The only exception to this is when the Ministry deals with correcting safety issues, personal information, money, and contracting authority.

**a. The Chancellor**

The Chancellor shall be the chairperson of the Estates including the Estates General. The Chancellor shall be responsible for summoning and chairing all meetings and preparing the agenda and minutes, advising the Crown on all legislative matters, legislative drafting, satisfying notice requirements, determining eligibility (as per bylaws), maintaining the Bylaws, Writs, and Chancellor's Manual, and issuing Rulings of Law at the direction of the Crown. The Chancellor shall sign resolutions and scrolls on behalf of the Estates General. (amended March 2003)

- **Minister of Justice**

The Minister of Justice shall be responsible for judicial matters: evaluation of accusations to determine if they are legitimate charges and trial is warranted, fairly and impartially assist the parties in preparing their cases, advise the Crown on all judicial matters and serve as the Crown's advocate when called to do so, be responsible for publication of the decisions of Courts or results of mediations, process appeals, maintain the Codex Adjudicata, and issue Rulings of Law at the direction of the Crown (added March 2003)

**b. The Minister of Rolls**

The Minister of Rolls is responsible for recording each member's earned requirements, ranks, awards, titles and the date each was received.

**c. The Steward**

The Steward is responsible for the legal obligations and finances of the Adrian Empire or chartered subdivision.

**d. The Minister of Arms**

The Minister of Arms is responsible for supervising and coordinating the heraldic functions and activities of the College of Arms (Imperial), the heraldic functions of the chartered subdivision (local).

**e. The Chronicler**

The Imperial Chronicler is responsible for overseeing the publication and editing of all official Adrian Empire publications (Imperial), and official chartered subdivision publications (local).

**f. The Minister of Joust & War**

The Minister of Joust & War is responsible for weapon and armor standards, training requirements, rules of combat, and scenarios for Crown, Civil, Landed Wars.

- **The Crown Marshal**

The Imperial Marshal (Imperial) and Crown Marshal (local) shall be the chief deputy to the Minister of Joust & War and shall arrange and supervise the field judging for War and Lists.

**g. The Minister of Arts & Sciences**

The Minister of Arts & Sciences is responsible for the judging of all arts/science tournaments, reporting the results to the Minister of Rolls, cultivating interest, and educating the populace in the field of Arts and Sciences.

- h. **The Minister of Physicks**  
The Minister of Physicks is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the first aid aspects of Adrian activities, and educating the populace in health and safety issues.
- i. **The Hospitaler**  
The Hospitaler shall be the conduit for new or prospective members to gain information on the Adrian Empire.
- j. **Viceroy**  
A Viceroy is appointed by the Crown to act in its stead for a remote region.
- k. **Minister of Archery**  
The Minister of Archery is responsible for standards, training requirements, rules of tourney and combat, for bows, arrows, and other missile weapons and ammunition.
21. **Rotation of Imperial Estates Meetings/Coronations**  
The location of Imperial Estates meetings shall rotate around the Adrian Empire.
- a. **Regions**  
**Region 1 (generally California):** Currently consisting of Terre Neuve, Esperance, Carolingia, Brandenburg, Sangrael  
**Region 2 (central Empire):** Currently consisting of Umbria, Aragon, Albion, Ekaterinegorod, Alhambra, Andorra  
**Region 3 (Eastern Empire):** Currently consisting of York, Castilles, Chesapeake, Kildare, Cambridge, Dunvegan, Somerset
- b. **Rotation**  
Each year shall have its own separate rotation schedule. Year 1 shall be regions 1, 2, then 3. Year 2 shall be regions 2, 3, then 1. Year 3 shall be regions 3, 1, then 2. (This allows each region an opportunity to host meetings and coronations.)
- c. **Participation**  
Kingdoms are required to bid during their rotation. Archduchies are requested to bid during their rotation. Any chartered subdivision is welcome to bid during their rotation.
- d. **Selection and Autocrat**  
For Imperial Events, the Imperial Crown is the sole determining decision-maker for locations, and autocrats. Sometimes, the Imperial Crown may accept bids from individuals. Subdivisions may not be an autocrat, although they may share in the planning and execution of the event. The autocrat is the individual responsible for the event. Only the Imperial Crowns may authorize any contracts.
22. **Viable Army**  
A viable army is defined as not outnumbered by any other single army by more than 5 to 1. Refer to Article XVI.A.3.
23. **Modifications to Bylaws**  
All changes made to Bylaw or Writ shall be published in the Chancery Report. The Estates may question any change except typographical corrections and layout changes. Changes questioned by the Estates shall be considered under CH1; changes not questioned shall stand.
24. **Original Paperwork**  
All original paperwork is the property of the Adrian Empire, Inc. Arts entries and documentation shall remain the intellectual property of the artist. All original material shall be sent to the appropriate Imperial Ministry on demand. Chartered subdivisions may retain copies at their own expense. Expenses over \$100 may be petitioned to the Imperial Crown for reimbursement.

**25. "Ownership" of Estates Armory**

The armorial device of an estate shall be considered the property of the estate, not the Chartered Subdivision and shall follow the majority of its members should they change their Chartered Subdivision membership, or as otherwise provided for in the Charter of the Estate, If a clear majority do not select the same Chartered Subdivision, it shall be decided by a majority vote of the members. If a vote is taken:

- Only members of the Estate at the time of change in membership are eligible to vote
- Effort must be made to notify all eligible members
- The Ruling Noble of the Estate at the time of change of membership shall conduct the vote and notify the respective subdivisions
- A majority of votes cast shall decide the question

**26. Insurance Review**

All items approved by the Imperial Estates General that may conflict with our insurance policies would be subject to review by our insurance companies before enactment. These approvals will be obtained by the President of the Adrian Empire, Inc., or his designee.

**27. Renaissance Faires and Mundane Contracts**

All Renaissance Faires involving more than one chartered subdivision of the Empire, regardless of where they are located, will be considered to be Imperial events and shall require Imperial sanction. Negotiations regarding them will be handled by the Imperial Crown or Their appointed autocrats.

All original copies of legal contracts shall be submitted to the Imperial Steward no later than five (5) business days after formation; additional copies may be retained by the subdivision. All contracts obligating the Adrian Empire require Imperial Crown permission, which, at Their discretion, may be delegated in advance or may require specific prior approval.

**28. Brevetting Policy**

The Bylaws and manuals specify requirements for advancement in the Knightly ranks of Combat, Arts, and Archery. Each provides for 8 participations at the lower level and at least one tournament win for promotion to a rank permitting participation on the Knightly list. The Empire allows exceptional participants to do so prior to satisfying all requirements. The determination shall be made jointly by the participant, appropriate Ministry, and Crown. The following criteria shall be met:

- Does the individual wish to participate in the Knightly list?
- Does the appropriate Minister concur?
- Does the Crown approve?

If the criteria are met, the determination shall be reported to Rolls & Lists by the Crown. The participant will no longer be able to participate on the lower list. All participations and wins not yet earned must be completed on the Knight's List. This policy shall not restrict the authority of the Ministry of Joust and War or the Ministry of Archery to suspend the privilege or order remedial training.

**29. Boffer Manual**

As adopted November 2005.

**30. Criteria to award War Points for Combatants**

Combatants who hold the rank of Sergeant or lower who participate in any war scenario receive a WP. Combatants who hold the rank of Knight Bachelor or higher must participate in either a Rapier or Armored war scenario in order to receive a WP.

**31. Deadline on Decisions of DIs and Ministry Points**

Any official request for approval of Ministerial Point's or DI's will be sent to the appropriate approving party. If that party does not respond within 30 days, an assumption will be made that those parties find the awarding of those Points and DI's acceptable and they will be granted as such. If you deny these requests, or give partial approval, you must send a written explanation as to any denial, as is required by Adrian Law.

## **ESTATES RESOLUTIONS**

### **1. Empire of Chivalry and Steel**

The Adrian Empire recognizes its common origins with the Empire of Chivalry and Steel (ECS) and maintains as its goal the encouragement of cross-participation between the two Empires, perhaps with a view toward ultimate reunification. It is the policy of the Adrian Empire to cooperate with the ECS with regard to recruitment, and to discourage competition between the Empires for membership.

### **2. Rapier-style Fighters**

To allow Rapier-style fighters to achieve second- and third-level knighthoods in some fashion without having to participate in armored combat.

### **3. Minimum Attendance**

In counting attendees, wherever a minimum is required (for example, classes, which require a minimum of ten attendees) to be counted as “official”, the number shall include all attendees (even instructors, autocrats, etc.).

## GLOSSARY

- Budget** - Drafted and submitted annually by Imperial and Royal Crowns to their respective Estates General, budgets include proposed items, anticipated cost, and reflect total expenditures.
- Canton** - A geographically-based region within a Chartered Subdivision created for administrative purposes (such as distance), and governed by a viceroy as an extension of the local Crown.
- Chartered Subdivision** - This refers to a Kingdom, Archduchy, Duchy, or Shire.
- Codicils** - The laws of each chartered subdivision.
- Crown** - This refers to the office of the Sovereign of the Imperium or a Kingdom, or the head of a Duchy or Archduchy.
- Crown Writs** - The written decisions made by the Crown.
- Dead Law** - Simply means we will not pursue it. It is a poor alternative to cleaning up the rules, and time has not been available for the load of administrative housecleaning.
- Discretion** - While flexibility is a virtue, lack of accountability and unfulfilled expectation are vices. While we believe in our own goodness, we reasonable suspect limitless authority for others. The Chancery shall submit proposals dealing with proxies, procedure, and agenda publication for your consideration. Until then, please trust us to be reasonable.
- Estates General** - This refers to the ruling body of a chartered subdivision and consists of the Estates Royal, Estates Major and Estates Minor.
- Estates Major** - That portion of the Estates General consisting of Lord/Lady Protector, Count/Countess Royal, Marquis/Marquessa, Founder, and Third-Level Knight.
- Estates Minor** - That portion of the Estates General consisting of Count/Countess, Baron/Baroness, Second- Level Knight, Household Lord/Lady.
- Estates Royal** - That portion of the Estates General consisting of King/Queen, Prince/Princess, and Duke/ Duchess.
- Estates Writs** - The written decisions made by the Estates General.
- Imperial Bylaws** - The basic framework of the game by which all members participate.
- Imperial Charter** - This refers to the document by which the Imperial Crown defines a chartered subdivision.
- Imperial Estates** – This refers to the Imperial Grand Assembly.
- Imperial Estates General** - This refers to the Imperial Grand Assembly.
- Imperial Grand Assembly** - The Imperial legislative body consisting of the Estates Major, the two senior members of the Estates Minor from each chartered subdivision, and any non-landed peer who chooses to sit on the Imperial Estates General for that term of office.
- Kingdom Sovereignty** – Royal Crowns are not subject to Imperial Crown approval to hold office. Their authority to appoint Kingdom Ministers is not subject to Imperial Crown approval. Kingdoms may enact Codicils and Crown and Estates Writs that are not in conflict with the Bylaws without Imperial approval. Royal Crowns have final local authority to interpret Imperial Law, subject to rulings of Civil Courts and appeals as per Imperial Law.
- Knightly Combat** - There is no definition of what this is, but it is NOT a fight to the yield.
- Landed Peer** - A Peer whose title comes by virtue of being a Crown or Ruling Noble.
- Offices** - The following are considered to be the offices of the Empire: Emperor/Empress, King/Queen, Duke/ Duchess, Marquis/Marquessa, Count/Countess, Baron/Baroness, Viceroy, Lord/Lady, Chancellor, Minister of Rolls, Steward, Minister of Arms, Chronicler, Minister of Joust & War, Minister of Arts & Sciences, Minister of Physicks, Minister of Archery and Hospitaler.
- Official Publication** - The current policy on official means of publication: a copy mailed to the Crowns of each Chartered Subdivision for distribution.

**Parliamentary Immunity** - Parliamentary immunity is intended to protect political speech, and the free exchange of ideas necessary for the body to do its work. This includes the right of a member to ask pointed questions about business. Protected language is limited to comments on legislative, judicial or executive proceedings. Parliamentary immunity does not apply to excessive profanity, malicious character defamation, or deliberate misstatements of fact. Protected political speech has to do with issues and statements of opinion. Unprotected speech is pointed accusations of wrongdoing directed at a person, group, or Adrian body that cannot be substantiated by fact.

**Peer** - Any member.

**Privacy** - Membership in the Adrian Empire, Inc. is a matter of public record. Membership of the chartered subdivisions is a matter of public record. Membership of the Estates General, because they exercise voting privileges, is a matter of public record. However, that public record is limited to mundane name (not persona name) and expiration date.

**Regnal Year** - From the Imperial Coronation, the first Saturday of November not including the Imperial Estates General Meeting, through the first Saturday of the following November including the Imperial Estates General Meeting.

**Royal Crown** - Ruler of a Kingdom.

**Ruling Noble** - Ruler of a Subdivision (unchartered)

**Statutory Officers** - Those officers which have responsibilities within the mundane side of the organization. These officers include all Crowns, and the ministers outlined in Article VII. Ministries and Imperial Estates Writ 20. These officers must be at least 18 years of age (see Article VII.c. Requirements to Hold Office).

**Subdivision** - This refers to a March, County, Barony or Household.

**Successful Completion of Reign** - After completing a term of office, the Estates General of the Chartered Subdivision (the Imperial Estates General for the Imperial Crown) shall vote to determine if the completed term of office was successful. If deemed to have been successful, an appropriate retirement title is awarded to the outgoing Crown (see Article IX.D. Titles).

**Term of Art** - This refers to a word or phrase that does not have a legal definition, but has a common and globally-understood definition. Examples of this would be the phrase "Banner War", or the word "Crown" to include Imperial Viceroy.