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# BARONY OF VULCANFELDT – MINOR CARTA

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Customary for the Barony of Vulcanfeldt



DATE: APRIL 14, 2025  
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## I) GUIDELINES:

- A) These customaries are guidelines for the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.
- B) Any part of this Minor Carta will be immediately and automatically void if found to conflict with the Laws of the Kingdom of An Tir, the Corpora of SCA, Inc., or any local, state, or federal laws.
- C) The Minor Carta shall be amended by a Major Vote. Amendments shall not be deemed retroactive. The Minor Carta should be reviewed annually by the Seneschal, the Baronage, and by any other active member at the discretion of the Seneschal to see if it needs to be updated. Their recommendations will be made available to all members and a vote will be taken at the next Baronial Council meeting.
- D) *The Signal* will be the official newsletter of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.

## II) BARONIAL OFFICERS

- A) Major Officers shall be defined as those holding the offices required to function as a Barony: The Seneschal, Exchequer, Herald, Chronicler, Minister of Arts and Sciences, Master of Stables, Web Minister, and Chatelaine. While not a required position, Chief Scribe is also considered a Major Officer.
- B) Minor Officers can be designated as Deputies to a Major Officer. Other deputies assist the Major Officer with fulfilling their job duties. Deputies may include but are not limited to: Social Media Deputy, Family Activities Coordinator, Dean of Pages, Event Stewards, Chamberlain, Librarian, Grete Book, Armored Combat, Rapier Marshal, Archery and Thrown Weapons Marshal, Minister of Lists, Youth Armored Combat Marshal, Youth Rapier Marshal, Gold Key and Warlord. Duties and privileges are as follows:
  - 1) All Officers of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt must be members of the SCA, Inc. This requirement also applies to the Baronage. This may be an associate or family membership, which gives them immediate access to the Kingdom newsletter. A membership lapse will be considered cause for petitioning the Crown and appropriate Kingdom Officer to remove that person from office.
  - 2) All Officers of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt must have immediate access to *The Signal*.
  - 3) Officers must attend Baronial Council meetings or contact the Seneschal with a verbal or written report prior to the meeting. Failure to attend or report for three consecutive months may be considered cause to petition the Crown or their Kingdom superior officer for removal of that Officer. Officers with event business [i.e., Lists, Herald, etc.] must attend Baronial Events or arrange for a responsible party to perform their duties at that

- event. An officer who must arrange for a “Stand-in” must contact the Event Steward and Seneschal prior to the event with that information.
- 4) The Seneschal and Exchequer may not live in the same household.
  - 5) Maximum of two Major Offices may be held by an individual. Seneschal and Exchequer may hold only one Major Office.
  - 6) No matter how many Major Offices a person holds, they will be considered one Major Officer and will hold only one vote.
- C) The Chronicler will publish *The Signal* quarterly, and such that the following requirements are met:
- 1) *The Signal* must include any information given regarding Baronial events, meetings, or results of meetings in the newsletter. The Chronicler may edit at their discretion.
  - 2) *The Signal* must publish changes in officers or policy, vacancies of an office, service awards given, Orders established, or votes carried.
  - 3) *The Signal* must publish minutes of the Baronial Council meetings.
- D) Reporting
- 1) The calendar year is divided into the following reporting quarters:
    - a) First Quarter = January, February, March. Reports are due May 1st.
    - b) Second Quarter = April, May, June. Reports are due August 1st.
    - c) Third Quarter = July, August, September. Reports are due November 1st.
    - d) Fourth Quarter = October, November, December. February 1st.
  - 2) Each Officer must report quarterly to their Kingdom Superior.
    - a) A copy of each report shall be provided to the branch Seneschal and the Baronage.

### III) CHANGES IN OFFICERS

- A) A resigning Officer may recommend a replacement to the Seneschal.
- B) Any Officer may appoint or remove their own Deputy/Assistant, but they must inform the Seneschal.
- C) Vacant Major or Minor Offices shall be published in *The Signal*.
- D) When a new Officer is voted into an Office, the New Officer will notify their Kingdom Superior of their appointment, by submitting a completed Change of Office form.
- E) Conflicts between Officers must follow the Kingdom Grievance Procedures.
- F) An Officer will be removed if:
  - 1) The Officer’s SCA membership lapses.
  - 2) The Officer has failed to make either a verbal or written report for three consecutive Baronial Council meetings.
  - 3) The Officer fails to submit quarterly reports to their Kingdom superior.

## IV) CHANGES IN THE BARONAGE

Refer to the official An Tir Kingdom Polling process.

## V) BARONIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

- A) Baronial Council meetings are open to all interested persons.
- B) Baronial Councils will be scheduled and announced under the direction of the Seneschal and may be held in person or on-line at the discretion of the Seneschal.
- C) The date, time, and location of Baronial Council meetings must be published in advance in *The Signal*. If a last-minute change occurs, a best effort must be made to notify all the populace, via email or social media.
- D) For any votes to be taken, a quorum must exist that includes at least four of the Major Officers and/or the Baronage. Each person holding a Major Office may cast one vote. The Baronage together count as one vote.
- E) The Chronicler, or a designee, shall take minutes of all Baronial Council meetings, including a record of votes taken, money appropriated, and names of those attending. The minutes shall be published prior to the next meeting.
- F) Voting members shall be defined as follows:
  - 1) They must hold some form of membership in the SCA, Inc.
  - 2) They must reside within the territorial boundaries of Vulcanfeldt, be an active member of an Order of Sergeantry or be an Honorary Citizen.
  - 3) They must be at least fifteen years of age.
  - 4) They must have a record of active participation attending two activities within the prior six months. Activities may include SCA events, workshops, demos, and Baronial Council meetings.
- G) A Simple Vote will be carried by a simple majority of Voting Members present.
- H) A Major Vote requires a two-thirds majority of Voting Members present to pass. A Major Vote must be announced at the prior Baronial Council meeting and published in *The Signal* at least one week prior to the meeting in which it is cast. The announcement, the publishing of this notice, and presiding at the meeting will be the duty of the Seneschal, unless there is a conflict of interest involving the Seneschal. If the Seneschal is not available, the Baronage may either lead or delegate this duty to another.
- I) Amendments to the Minor Carta require a Major Vote.
- J) Expenditures from the Baronial Treasury shall be approved by the Financial Committee. All expenditures of money shall be according to the Baronial Financial Policy.
- K) Baronial Council meetings will be chaired by the Seneschal or their designee. In their absences, it will be chaired by the Baronage.

## VI) BARONIAL EVENTS

- A) Commitments to sponsor or participate in Baronial events, public demonstrations, or wars shall be approved in advance at a Baronial Council meeting.
- B) For a Baronial event to be a sanctioned SCA, Inc. event, it must be approved by the Seneschal, and published as required by An Tir Kingdom Law. The Seneschal must ensure the event is registered with the Kingdom Calendar Officer and Kingdom Chronicler.
- C) An Event Steward should be appointed as coordinator and contact point for the event. The Event Steward is considered a deputy of the Seneschal and must be a registered member of the SCA, Inc. If there is no Event Steward in place 90 days prior to the scheduled date of the event, the event will be cancelled for that year. Event Stewards shall:
  - 1) Prepare a preliminary budget plan for the event, the plan must be submitted to the Baronial Financial Committee, for approval, at least 90 days prior to the event.
  - 2) Prepare and provide event copy for publication. The proposed schedule must be sent to the Baronage for approval before the site copy is published.
  - 3) Present a written report for two Baronial Council meetings prior to the event. This report should keep the Baronial Council informed of the progress of the event.
  - 4) Report on the event within 30 days following the event. This report must include reporting all event income and expenses on an Event Steward's Expense Form. (See also Section VI, Letter E.) The Seneschal or Exchequer shall provide all necessary forms to the Event Stewards.
  - 5) Report all serious incidents to the Seneschal, or in their absence, the Baronage immediately.
- D) All those attending the event must comply with current Kingdom waiver requirements.
- E) When monies of any kind are collected or spent at an event, it shall be in accordance with the Baronial Financial Policy.

## VII) CONDUCT

- A) All subjects of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt shall abide by the code of Conduct and Behavior listed in the SCA Governing Documents.

## VIII) GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

- A) All subjects of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt shall abide by the Grievance Procedure listed in SCA Governing Documents.
  - 1) The Grievance procedure is intended to address personal disputes between individuals and not disputes on official matters. For further guidance, please refer to the SCA Organizational Handbook and The Laws of An Tir.

## IX) BARONIAL AWARDS AND ORDERS

**A)** The Baronage holds the exclusive right to bestow the following Baronial Awards and Orders. Members of the populace are encouraged to give their recommendations for these Awards and Orders to the Baronage.

- a. Service Awards
  - i. **Award of the Alerion** is a first level service award.
  - ii. **The Order of the Eagle's Ascension** is a second level service award.
  - iii. **Poisson d'Or Award** is an award given to children under the age of 16 for service to the Barony.
- b. Arts & Sciences Awards
  - i. **The Gilded Quill Award** is a first level Arts & Sciences award.
  - ii. **The Order of Vulcan's Flame** is a second level Arts & Sciences award.
  - iii. **The Ember of Vulcanfeldt** is an Arts & Sciences award given to children under the age of 16.
- c. Other Baronial Awards
  - i. **Order of the Argent Owl** is annual award given to an individual who embodies the spirit of the SCA.
  - ii. **Radiance of Vulcanfeldt** is granted by the Baronage for gracious and chivalric behavior.
  - iii. **The Gilded Dragon** is a persona development award.
  - iv. **Period Encampment Award.**
  - v. **The Baronage Favors** are tokens or favors given out by the Baronage for personal service.
  - vi. **Honorary Citizen** is given to those who live outside the Baronial boundaries but have become an active valued member of the Barony.

**B)** Champion Honors

- a. **Brotherhood of the Berserker** is an Order comprised of those who have served one or more terms as Heavy Champion of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.
- b. **Company of the Main Gauche** is an Order comprised of those who have served one or more terms as Rapier Champion of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.
- c. **Company of the Argent Bow** is an Order comprised of those who have served one or more terms as Baronial Protector (Archery Champion) of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.
- d. **Fellowship of the Wyvern's Grip** is an Order comprised of those who have served one or more terms as Arts and Science Champion of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.
- e. **Order of the Silver String** is an Order comprised of those that have served one or more terms as Bardic Champion of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt.

- f. Order of the TBD is an Order comprised of those that have served one or more terms as Equestrian Champion of Vulcanfeldt.
  
- C) **The Order of the Sergeantry:** The following Orders have been created within the Barony of Vulcanfeldt to show that these members have attained these titles by passing a series of tests designed to demonstrate proficiency in a variety of skills and subject matters. These tests are administered by the Sergeantry of Vulcanfeldt. Acceptance into this Order is ultimately at the discretion of the Baronage of Vulcanfeldt. Individuals that successfully complete the requirements will swear fealty to the Baronage of Vulcanfeldt and have the right to wear the regalia of their achievement. If the member of the Sergeantry is not a resident of the Barony of Vulcanfeldt (Candidates do not need to be residents to apply), they are entered as an Honorary Citizen of Vulcanfeldt giving them the right to vote at Baronial Council Meetings.
  - 1) The **Order of the Sergeantry** is divided into three categories:
    - a) **Sergeants-at-Arms** are tested in the Knightly arts and fighting skills focused on heavy weapons combat.
    - b) **Yeomen** are tested in Knightly arts and fighting skills focused on missile weapons.
    - c) **Gallants** are tested in Knightly arts and fighting skills focused on rapier combat.
  - 2) The **Order of Courtier** is divided into two categories:
    - a) **Artisans** are tested in the Courtly arts with a focus on excellence in Arts & Sciences.
    - b) **Stewards** are tested in the Courtly arts with a focus on excellence in service.
  
- D) **Champions of Vulcanfeldt** will be determined annually at the designated Champion's Tournament for the specific discipline. Each Champion will take an Oath of Fealty, swearing to defend the Barony of Vulcanfeldt, her lands, people, honor, and banner. During the term of service, each Champion will have the right to display the regalia presented to them. It is their duty to return this regalia the following year so that it may be presented to their successor. The Champion has the task of organizing the next Champion's Tournament the following year. All Champions must be current members of the SCA. A membership lapse may be grounds for dismissal by the Baronage and require the Champion to relinquish the title and regalia. The Champions of Vulcanfeldt include:
  - 1) **Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by a Heavy Weapons Champion's Tournament.
  - 2) **Rapier Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Rapier Champion's Tournament.
  - 3) **Baronial Protector/Archery Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Archery Champion's Tournament.
  - 4) **Equestrian Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Equestrian Champion's Tournament
  - 5) **Thrown Weapon's Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Thrown Weapon's Champion's Tournament.
  - 6) **Arts and Science's Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Arts and Science Champion's Tournament.



- 7) **Bardic Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Bardic Champion's Tournament.
- 8) **Youth Armored Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Youth Armored Champion's Tournament.
- 9) **Junior Archery Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Junior Archery Champion's Tournament.
- 10) **Youth Rapier Champion** of Vulcanfeldt: determined by the Youth Rapier Champion's Tournament.