

# *Constitution for the Barony of Knights*

## *Crossing*



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Baron

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Seneschal

Marcus von Stormarn

The purpose of this document is to delineate a comprehensive set of laws for the barony of Knights Crossing within the constraints of Corpora and Kingdom Law. The barony of Knights Crossing will maintain all documents in English and German version with equal content. In case of a conflict between the two documents the English Version shall be considered with higher precedence.

## **1. Knights Crossing**

1. Knights Crossing is a branch of the Kingdom of Drachenwald, in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. ("SCA"), which encompasses the modern postal codes a of Germany as listed in Annex 1 to this document.

## **2. Order of Precedence for laws**

1. The By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc or if applicable the appropriate affiliated organization as stated in any affiliation contracts with the S.C.A.Inc.
2. The Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.
3. Governing and Policy Decisions of the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.
4. Kingdom of Drachenwald Law
5. Decisions and edicts of the Crown of Drachenwald
6. Drachenwald officer policies
7. Constitution of the barony of Knights Crossing

## **3. Definitions**

1. Coronet: Territorial Baron and Baroness
2. Baronial Officers: Those officers required by Corpora or Kingdom Law in order to meet the requirements for a Barony and all other officers appointed to Curia
3. Local branch / Canton Officer: Appointed by a recognized canton within the barony of Knights Crossing and reporting to the equivalent greater officer of the barony.
4. Citizen: A citizen is defined as an individual who resides in the Barony of Knights Crossing, and is also a paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism or the "Gesellschaft für lebendige Geschichte e.V." (Affiliate).
5. Resident: A resident is defined as an individual who resides in the Barony of Knights Crossing, who is not a paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism.

#### **4. Coronet**

1. The title of territorial Baron or Baroness shall be awarded by the Crown upon petition by the members of the Barony of Knights Crossing.
2. Territorial Barons and Baronesses have the right to give non-armigerous awards and positions of honor.
3. Territorial Barons and Baronesses hold their Baronies in Fealty to the Crown. This fealty must be presented at Coronation. If unable to attend, the Territorial Baron and/or Baroness will provide fealty to the Crowns prior to the day scheduled for Coronation.
4. The length of a single term for Territorial Barons and Baronesses is a maximum of two years. After consulting with the members of the Barony (see §5 Baronial Polling and Investiture), the Crown may, at their discretion, ask the Territorial Baron and/or Baroness to serve another term.
5. The Baron and/or Baroness of a Territorial Barony of Drachenwald must step down from office when no longer residing in the Barony.
6. Baron and Baroness may not hold the office of Seneschal and / or Exchequer in the Barony or the Kingdom.
7. When a Barony is left without either a Baron or Baroness the procedures as described in Kingdom Law are in effect.
8. If the members of the Barony in question wish to remove a territorial Baron and/or Baroness, they must first seek arbitration through the grievance procedure outlined in Kingdom Law.

#### **5. Baronial Polling and Investiture**

1. At Drachenwald 12<sup>th</sup> Night Coronation in the year the baronial term ends a call shall be issued by the Baron and Baroness to the citizens (as defined in §3 Definitions) to consider sending in a letter of intent should they wish to be recognized as candidates. All letters of intent must be sent within 30 days after the call was issued to be considered as applicants.
2. The candidates must be over 18 years old. The title of a Baron is given to a male member of the populace and the title of the Baroness to a female member. Applicants can apply as couple or as single applicant.

3. Once all applicants are known the Seneschal has to request the addresses of all SCA members living within the Barony to start the polling process. The Seneschal informs the "Gesellschaft für lebendige Geschichte e.V." (Affiliate) about the polling. The Affiliate informs its members in a suitable way so they can participate. For this the Barony should allow a window of 2 weeks, after which the actual polling will start. The polling will remain open for 20 days. During this time all citizens (as outlined under § 3 Definitions) can give their opinion on which candidate is best suited as successor.
4. The polling result is presented to the King and Queen and the crown will make the decision for succession.
5. The new Baron and Baroness will take over from the outgoing Baron and Baroness at the baronial Investiture event.
6. A baronial term begins and ends with the Investiture Event. The event should typically be held between the end of May and the end of July.

## **6. Duties and privileges of Baron and Baroness**

1. Be present at their Investiture and the Investiture of their successors.
2. At least one of them shall attend Curia.
3. The Coronet of Knights Crossing shall fulfill their duties as contained in the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of Drachenwald, and according to the baronial constitution.
4. To enrich the atmosphere, they should attend as many events as possible within the Barony during their reign.
5. Maintain and keep regalia. Transfer all regalia to the successors and provide an updated inventory to the successors and Exchequer.
6. Encourage the arts and sciences, service, and martial activities throughout the Barony.
7. Encourage courteous behavior and chivalrous virtue by being the highest example of courtesy and chivalry in public.
8. The right to a clear direct line of sight between the Baron and/or Baroness and the principal activity of the event.

## **7. Baronial Officers**

1. The Barony of Knights Crossing shall have the following greater offices:
  - a. Seneschal, chief administrator, chairman for curia meetings and maintaining the latest copy of the law.
  - b. Exchequer, responsible for the treasury and financial policies
  - c. Herald, responsible for baronial awards, records of court business and member submissions of names and devices
  - d. Minister of Arts and Sciences, foster arts, sciences and crafts
  - e. Marshal, responsible for all fighting activities
  - f. Chronicler, edits and publishes the Knightingale newsletter and the event calendar
2. The Barony of Knights Crossing shall have the following lesser officers listed with the designated greater officer:
  - a. Chatelaine (– Seneschal), coordinate information for newcomers and guest
  - b. Signet Clerk (– Herald), coordinates scrolls and awards given by the barons
  - c. Historian (– Chronicler), keeps the history of the most ancient Barony
  - d. Web Minister (– Chronicler), maintains the website
3. Greater and Lesser officers must be citizens as defined in § 3 Definitions and must be at least 18 years old
4. An Officer term is two years long.
5. The terms of the officer begin and end at the following dates:
  - a. January (even years) – Seneschal, Exchequer, Chronicler and Chatelaine
  - b. July (even years) - Minister of Arts and Sciences and Historian
  - c. January (odd years) – Marshal and Heralds
  - d. July (odd years) – Signet Clerk and Web Minister
6. Baronial officers will report to their kingdom superiors on a schedule as set by the kingdom officer with a copy being sent to the Seneschal and to the Coronet for the files.
7. Baronial officers will oversee the activities of their deputies, lesser officers as well as the local branch officers, who will report to them.
8. All greater officers shall have a deputy that will take over when the he/she is unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances.

9. Baronial Officers are appointed by Baron and Baroness and warranted by the Kingdom.

## **8. Local branch / Canton Officers**

1. Local branches shall have at least three greater officers, a Seneschal, an Exchequer and either a Herald, a Marshal or Arts and Sciences officer.
2. The Seneschal of a local branch is the designated representative of the local group and ranks equal to a lesser baronial officer under the Baronial Seneschal.
3. Local officers are selected by the local branch. Their appointments are subject of confirmation by the Baronial and Kingdom officer and the Crown.
4. Local branch officers must send copies of their reports to their Baronial counterparts.
5. Local branch officers who miss two reports in a row within a twelve month period, as determined by their baronial superior officers, have resigned.

## **9. Baronial Curia**

1. Baronial Curia shall consist of:
  - a. Coronet
  - b. Greater Officers
  - c. Lesser Officers and Local Branch Seneschals
2. All officers should have an official deputy to assist in official duties or send a representative to a Curia Meeting.
3. All Canton officers are, because of their office, deputies of the Baronial counterparts.
4. Meetings shall be held once a Quarter, but a minimum of one meeting per year is required.
5. The Seneschal is the designated chair of the meeting and shall consolidate and distribute the meeting agenda before the meeting to everyone listed in 9.1
6. The Chronicler will write the meeting minutes publish them in the Knightingale newsletter edition following the meeting date.
7. For any Curia meeting to be considered official, the Seneschal or his or her official deputy, and at least three (3) Greater Officers or their officially recognized deputies must be in attendance.

8. If votes are taken at a baronial curia meeting each greater and each lesser officer has one vote. The coronets may vote, but their vote counts as one.
9. Changes to this document need approval from the baronial Curia.
10. All Baronial residents may attend Baronial Curia meetings and make presentations at the discretion of the Seneschal.

## **10. Finances**

1. All profits and losses are the responsibility of the group, either Barony or Canton that incurred them. Cantons operate as independent financial groups, reporting their financial status to the baronial exchequer.
2. The Baronial financial committee consists of the baronial Seneschal, the Baronial Exchequer and the baronial Coronet. Baron and Baroness have one vote only.
3. Expenditures for all approved activities and operations at the Baronial level must first be approved by the Baronial Financial committee.
4. The Baronial Financial committee may decide to put expenditures regardless of the amount or reason before the baronial Curia to be confirmed by majority vote.

## **11. Events**

1. There shall be at least three Baronial events per year
2. Baronial Investiture event shall be held every two years
3. Other Baronial events may be held as decided by the financial committee or Baronial Curia.
4. Baronial court shall be held at all baronial events.
5. Baronial court may be held at other events at the discretion of the Coronets
6. Cantons may hold their own events but should notify the Baronial Chronicler and Seneschal of the dates of such events to avoid scheduling conflicts. In case of conflict, Traditional events that take place in the Barony on an annual basis, on or about the same date each year, shall take precedence over other events.

## **12. Awards**

1. Oder of the Wheel
  - a. Presented to those people who have distinguished themselves by long and extraordinary services to the Barony of Knights Crossing.

- b. The Badge of the Order is: Quarterly gules and Or, a Catherine Wheel counterchanged

### **13. Vicar Appointment and responsibilities**

1. Based on 4.7 and the details described in the Kingdom law a Vicar may be appointed under certain circumstances not allowing the baron and baroness to continue their duty.
2. The main duty of the Vicar is to assume the ceremonial functions of the Baron and Baroness until new barons are selected. For this the Vicar has a maximum of one year (or 90 days in case of Baron and Baroness become heirs to the throne of the Kingdom by winning a Crown tourney), in which the Vicar also has to organize and complete the polling process.
3. The Vicar may not hold any Office in the Barony.
4. The Vicar holds the lands in trust of their Majesties and may also:
  - a. Hold Court
  - b. Give out cyphers or gifts (anyone can give cyphers and gifts)
  - c. Present prizes
  - d. Recognise winners of tournaments and competitions
  - e. Uphold the traditions of the lands - such as appointing champions based on tournaments or competitions
  - f. Recognise stewards of events, and other worthy members of the Barony
  - g. Present new Baronial officers to the populace
  - h. Pass on awards given by the Crown
  - i. Make announcements to the populace
  - j. Be responsible for the safe keeping of the Baronial Regalia (Coronels)
  - k. Perform whatever administrative roles the Baron and Baroness would usually fulfill which includes running or participating in officer meetings, acting on the financial committee, and whatever else is local custom.
5. The Vicar may NOT wear the baronial coronets nor is he able to create or give out Baronial awards.



## ***Annex 1 – Baronial Borders***

### **1. ZIP codes assigned to Knights Crossing:**

#### **Germany**

- ❖ 01000 –79999.
- ❖ 88000 – 99999
- ❖ and all APO addresses falling into the area

### **2. Local branches**

1. Shire of the Two Seas, Canton in the Barony of Knights Crossing
  - a. Großraum Hamburg
2. Shire of Aventure, Canton in the Barony of Knights crossing
  - a. Lübeck, Schwerin, Ostholstein, Nordfriesland
3. Incipient Canton of Veer Förden
  - a. Kiel, Flensburg
4. Canton of Roterde
  - a. Ruhrgebiet
5. Shire of Drei Eichen, Canton in the Barony of Knights Crossing
  - a. Köln, Aachen, Euskirchen, Düsseldorf, Monchengladbach
6. Shire of Vielburgen, Canton in the Barony of Knights Crossing
  - a. Kaiserslautern, Pfalz, Saarland
7. Shire of Meadowmarsh, Canton of the Barony of Knights crossing
  - a. Frankfurt, Hanau, Fulda
8. Canton of Turmstadt
  - a. Würzburg, Nürnberg, Schweinfurth, Franken, bayrische Oberpfalz