

MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE CALL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC.

November 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Faulcon at 6:03 p.m. CT.

ATTENDANCE:

Directors Present: Mark Faulcon – Chair
K.T. “Shep” Sheppard – Vice-Chair
Pug Bainter
Krista Capps
Jonathan Foster
Megan O’Shea
Joan Steurer

Directors-Elect – Seat E: Open

Staff and Officers Present: Bao Pham – President
Stacy Hall – Society Seneschal
Lis Schraer – Society Seneschal – ER Dep
Louise Du Cray – Vice President of Corporate Operations
Melissa Midzor – Society Marshal
Eben Kurtzman – In-House Counsel
Leslie Luther-Fulton – Executive Assistant

I. OPENING MEETING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENDA

Motion by Krista Capps to open the November 18, 2024, meeting of the Board of Directors for the Society for Creative Anachronism. Second by Megan O’Shea. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Krista Capps to accept the agenda as presented and to take agenda items out of order as necessary. Second by K.T. Sheppard. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Variance Granted by Society Seneschal

1. Blanket Variance request: Kingdom DEIB and Kingdom Great Officers

By consensus this item was returned to the Society Seneschal for additional work.

2. West Kingdom, Step-Down of HH Hanna of the Mists

Motion by KT Shephard to approve a variance granted by the Society Seneschal to Princess Hanna

of the Mists and the West Kingdom on November 15, 2024, allowing her to abstain from her step-down court on November 16, 2024, and to further deem her reign complete, due to illness. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

B. Event Publication Procedures

The report of the Society Seneschal was accepted as presented.

C. Proposed Corpora Changes

By consensus this matter was remanded to the December 2024 conference call.

D. 2023 Annual Report

By consensus this matter was remanded to the December 2024 conference call.

E. Addition to Corporate Policies: Policy on Conduct

By consensus this matter was remanded to the December 2024 conference call.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Preliminary 2024 Budget Report and Draft 2025 Budget

The report of the Corporate Treasurer was accepted as presented.

B. Alternate Warrant Process for Society Level Marshals

The report of the Society Marshal was accepted as presented. This item was returned for additional work.

C. Review of Marshal Changes to Corpora

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to accept changes to the Rules of the List as presented by the Society Marshal. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The edited Rules of the List are attached hereto as Addendum A.

E. Warrant – Society Chronicler

This matter was handled under the purview of the Publications Manager.

F. Warrant Extension – Society Arts & Science

By consensus, this warrant extension will be extended to July 30, 2024.

G. Warrant – Society Chatelaine

By consensus, the warrant of Andrew Harness was accepted as presented.

H. 2025 Meeting Planning

By consensus, this item was remanded to the December 2025 conference call.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Vance VanDoren (Pieter Van Doorn)

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to deny the appeal of Vance VanDoren (Pieter Van Doorn). Second by Pug Bainter. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

B. Manasseh Garza aka Gilbert Garza (Holgar the Dane)

Motion by Krista Capps to uphold the Temporary Removal from Participation in the Society of Gilbert Garza (Holgar the Dane) as issued by Christoph and Adelhait Crown of the Kingdom of Atlantia and their Kingdom Seneschal on September 14, 2024, to extend the Temporary Removal from Participation, and to further direct the Society Seneschal to begin an investigation into possible sanctions up to and including revocation of membership and denial of participation effective immediately. Second by K.T. Sheppard. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

C. Society Seneschal Confidential Updates

The report of the Society Seneschal was accepted as presented.

D. Event Site Risk Management

The report of the Society Seneschal was accepted as presented.

E. Attorney-Client Privilege Training

The report of Director Krista Capps was accepted as presented

F. Society Exchequer Hiring Update

By consensus it was agreed that interviews would begin taking place the week of November 25, 2024.

G. Society Minister of Arts & Sciences Hiring Update

The report of the President was accepted as presented.

H. Tournaments Illuminated Editor Hiring Update

The report of the President was accepted as presented.

I. Deputy Warrant Policy

By consensus, this matter was tabled for additional work.

J. Director Appointment – Seat E

Motion by K.T. Sheppard to appoint Katherine Poore (Ekaterina Kirkovna Holopova) to Seat E of the Board of Directors for the Society for Creative Anachronism, for the standard three-year term, and subject to the standard probationary period, effective at the close of the April 2025 quarterly meeting. Second by Jonathan Foster. Opposed: None. Chairman Mark Faulcon exercised his option to vote and did so in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Megan O'Shea to adjourn the meeting. Second by Krista Capps. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:55 p.m. CT.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ Leslie Luther-Fulton
Executive Assistant

ADDENDUM A

RULES OF THE LIST

As Revised

Reason for Revision marked in red.

Rule #1

Each participant, recognizing the possibilities of physical injury to themselves in SCA martial activities, shall assume unto themselves all risk and liability for harm suffered by means of such martial activities. Other participants shall likewise recognize the risks involved in their presence on or near the field of combat or designated areas and shall assume unto themselves the liabilities thereof.

Functional change: To include all SCA martial disciplines, change “combatants” and “fighters” to “participants”, and “combat” to “martial activities”.

Rule #2 (Formerly Rule 7)

No one may be required to participate in martial activities. Any participant may, without dishonor or penalty, reject any challenge without specifying a reason. A bout or round in a tournament list is not to be considered a challenge, and therefore may not be declined or rejected without forfeiting the bout.

Functional Change: Includes martial activities and tournaments that do not involve fighting.

Rule #3 (Formerly Rule 6)

Participants shall behave in a chivalrous and honorable manner and shall engage in martial activities according to the appropriate Society and Kingdom conventions and standards.

Functional Change: Includes all SCA martial disciplines.

Reason for change: Wording change aligns with SCA Core Values and is inclusive of all martial disciplines.

Rule #4

All participants in martial activities shall adhere to the appropriate armor, weapons, and equipment standards of the Society, and to any additional standards of the kingdom in which the event takes place or in the negotiated agreements for interkingdom events.

Functional Change: Changing “combatants” to “participants” will include all martial disciplines. Allows for agreed upon additional standards for interkingdom events rather than limiting it to only society or host kingdom.

Rule #5 (Formerly Rule 2)

No person shall participate in martial activities requiring authorization unless and until they have been properly authorized under Society and Kingdom procedures. Formal training sessions, including classes and SCA practices, do not require authorization. Experimental programs may further restrict participation.

Functional Change: None

Reason for change: There are multiple rules and/or clarifications regarding whether or not people need authorizations to participate in practices, classes or other similar training activities. Adding examples of typical activities not requiring authorizations will help alleviate that confusion, while ensuring new situations can be added as they evolve.

Rule #6 (Formerly Rule 3)

All participants in martial activities must be presented to, and be acceptable to, the Crown or their representative(s).

Functional Change: *To include all martial disciplines, changing “combatants” to “participants in martial activities”. Changing “Sovereign” to “Crown” to be consistent with language in Corpora.*

Reason for Change: *While originally intended and mostly used for armored combat and Crown tournaments, it has become a pervasive element of SCA culture in all martial disciplines.*

Rule #7 (Formerly Rule 4)

The Crown or the Marshallate may bar any weapon, armor, or equipment from use upon the field of combat or designated area for martial activities. Should a warranted marshal bar any weapon, armor, or equipment, an appeal may be made via the established marshallate chain of command to allow the weapon or armor.

Functional Change:

- *Adding “equipment” will include all martial disciplines and related activities, including those that may not always use armor or weapons (e.g. siege engines, equestrian).*
- *Keeps the tradition that the Crown may exclude any weapon/armor/equipment. Ensures evaluation and appeal of a barred item stays within the chain of warranted marshals of the appropriate martial discipline. Clarifies that the Crown cannot include items not allowed per Society Handbooks or established processes.*
- *Changing “Sovereign” to “Crown” to be consistent with language in Corpora.*

Reason for Change: *In the past, this was sometimes used by the Crown to override a kingdom specific rule, such as allowing a weapon banned in their kingdom (but approved by Society), or enabling new types or variations on armor and weapons as an activity grew. However, it now creates significant issues with modern SCA practices and procedures.*

- *We now have established processes for experimental weapons and kingdom law changes, faster communications and a larger and more structured marshallate to respond.*
- *There are 9 different martial disciplines, plus 2 youth programs, all of which have specific rules and required expertise. A marshal (or participant) in one discipline should not be deciding to accept the risk of a new or potentially unsafe item in a discipline for which they are not a warranted marshal.*
- *For our international affiliates, a Crown cannot override a kingdom rule.*
- *This rule has also occasionally been used incorrectly to infer that the Crown can allow any weapon/armor in any martial discipline, including those not approved by Society.*

This change keeps the tradition of Crown and Kingdom prerogative on which Society approved martial activities or items are allowed, while ensuring decisions on safety and rules are enacted by warranted marshals of the appropriate martial discipline.

Rule #8

Fighting with real weapons, whether fast or slow, is strictly forbidden at any Society event. This rule does not consider approved weaponry that meets the Society and kingdom standards *for martial activities*, used in the context of mutual sport, to be real weaponry.

Functional Change: *Applies to all martial disciplines.*

Rule #9 (Removed in its entirety)

~~No projectile weapons shall be allowed, and no weapons shall be thrown within the Lists of a tournament. The use of approved projectile weapons for melee, war, or Combat Archery shall conform~~

~~to the appropriate Society and Kingdom Conventions of Combat.~~

Functional Change: *No change to current practices, and removes inconsistencies with other martial disciplines. Exclusion of projectile weapons in a tournament can be covered by Rule #5, or with additions to the appropriate handbook if needed. Any use of SCA approved projectiles from other martial disciplines (ie. Thrown Weapons, Archery) must adhere to the safety zones appropriate to that martial activity.*

Reason for Change: *This was originally intended to prevent the use of approved projectile weapons in Crown tournaments or similar. However, there are many tournaments across all martial disciplines that use approved projectile weapons. Too many caveats are required if included as an overarching rule. Currently, it is inconsistent with the rules of the list being applicable to all martial disciplines.*