

Baronial Charter

Barony of Fenix - Baronial Charter
Version 4.0 1/9/2012

PREAMBLE:

WE THE POPULACE of the Barony of the Fenix do establish this charter for the better governance of these lands, held in fief by the Baron/Baroness of the Fenix, in fealty to the Crown of the Middle Kingdom, and in accordance with the Crown's laws, the policies of the Crown's Officers, and the by-laws, ordinances, and policies of the Society for Creative Anachronisms, Inc

ARTICLE I: AMENDMENTS AND TERMS

Amendments to the Baronial Charter shall be accomplished by two-thirds majority vote/consensus of paid members as described herein. Proposed amendments must be published via the newsletter and announced in a business meeting at least one month prior to the vote on the amendment. Excepted are the Charters for Baronial Honors, which are the sole province of the Baron/Baroness as the duly appointed representatives of the Crown.

2.A. The application of the phrase "extenuating circumstances" where used in this document shall be determined by the Baronial Seneschal.

ARTICLE II: BARON/BARONESS

1. Every 5 years there shall be a secret ballot polling for the office of Baron/Baroness, in accordance with Kingdom Law. If Kingdom law should change such that periodic polling is no longer mandatory, the Barony will continue polling to better advise the Crown of the will of the populace.

2.A. No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms as Baron/Baroness, except in extenuating circumstances.

3. Any ceremonial actions taken in the name of the "Barony of Fenix" and the use of the Baronial Arms and Regalia must be approved by the Baron/Baroness. Traditionally, the Baronial Arms are only borne by the Baron/Baroness and their herald.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS

1. In keeping with Kingdom Law and Corpora, the Baronial Officers report to and are answerable to their Regional and Kingdom superiors but are expected to work with and show due respect for the Baron/Baroness as duly appointed representatives of the Crown. The Baron/Baroness may advise Regional/Kingdom Officers regarding the performance and selection of the Baronial Officers.

2. Baronial Officers shall report at every business meeting. Reports can be in person, in writing, or by phone. The Baron/Baroness may recommend to the appropriate Regional/Kingdom superior that a Baronial Officer be suspended or removed for failure to report for 2 consecutive months.

3.A. Baronial Officers will serve a two year term, and this term may be extended for one year. The total term of office shall not exceed three years, except in extenuating circumstances.

4. Nomination of Officers must be announced a minimum of one month in advance of the selection of the Officer.

5. Officers will be selected by a simple majority vote of the paid membership of the Barony present at the meeting the selection takes place.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING/CONSENSUS

1. Paid members who are active in the Barony are permitted to participate in votes/consensus except as proscribed by Kingdom Law or other extenuating circumstances.

2. The format (show of hand, ballot, etc.) for votes/consensus shall be determined by the Baronial Seneschal except where otherwise indicated.

3. Proxy votes are permitted and shall be in writing or sent by email and tabulated by the Baronial Seneschal or designee.

4. Officer selections and discussions regarding candidates shall take place while the candidate is absent.

ARTICLE V: FINANCIAL

1.A. There shall exist within the Barony a Financial Committee. The Financial Committee will consist of the Baron/Baroness, Baronial Exchequer, and Baronial Seneschal. The Baron/Baroness shall have one combined vote on this committee.

2. The Financial Committee shall review bid(s) for events and approve or return bids to sender based on the financial merits of the bid. Bids returned to the sender will include explanation of reasons for return and alternative suggestions.

3.B The Financial Committee will review all bids for capital expenditures over \$40 for the Barony prior to the bid being presented to the Baronial members.

4. There shall exist an event-specific staff position called the "Controller." The Controller is responsible for reviewing all expenditures for the event. The Controller will ensure expenditures are within the approved monetary limits and categories. The Controller is answerable to the Autocrat and Seneschal. The Controller will not be an Exchequer.

5. Monies collected at any Baronial activity will be collected by the person in charge of the activity and then given to the Baronial Exchequer at the earliest available opportunity. The person in charge of the activity will independently report to the Seneschal the amount of funds and date the funds were given to the Exchequer.

ARTICLE VI: EVENTS

1. Events are approved by simple majority of the paid membership of the group present at the meeting or by proxy.
2. Event bids approved by the Financial Committee will be presented one month in advance of the business meeting where the event is voted upon by the membership of the Barony, except in extenuating circumstances.

ARTICLE VII: BARONIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. The current Champion in each area is in charge of competitions for Baronial Championships in their respective areas. They may participate in the activity they are supervising, and may elicit any assistance they need to execute the competition, but are not eligible for the Championship title. Exceptions may be made in extreme situations, at the discretion of the Baron/Baroness.
2. The principle duties of Baronial Champions are to foster the practice of their activity in the Barony and to represent the Barony in their area of expertise. Baronial Champions serve at the pleasure of the Baron/Baroness and have the honor of attending them at ceremonial functions
3. The format of competitions for Baronial Championships and the selection of the Champions shall be at the discretion of the Baron/Baroness.

The following section is to be considered as advice to the Baron/Baroness for the establishment of ceremonial traditions. Creation of and details in the charters for Baronial Honors is the sole province of the Baron/Baroness as the duly appointed representatives of the Crown.

ARTICLE VIII: BARONIAL AWARDS

1. There shall exist in the Barony of Fenix an award which the Baron/Baroness may bestow as it sees fit. The order shall be referred to as the award of the Golden Feather. The award shall be given to individuals who, in the sight of the Baron/Baroness, have committed a noteworthy act of merit for the betterment of the Barony, Kingdom, or Society. The Award may be given more than once. The Baronial Herald shall maintain an historic record of recipients. Recipients of the Golden Feather may bear the badge emblazoned as registered with the College of Arms. Traditionally, the award of the Golden Feather is depicted by a golden feather token.
2. There shall exist in the Barony of Fenix an order into which the Baron/Baroness may elevate such persons as it sees fit. The order shall be referred to as the Company of Fenix. The order

shall be given to individuals who, in the sight of the Baron/Baroness, have displayed continuing martial skill and contributions to the Barony in those martial arts recognized by the Society. Those persons who were formerly members of the Fenix Fighting Force and the Baroness' Own Company of Archers are granted membership in this order.

There shall exist within the Company of Fenix the Cadre. The Cadre of the Company of Fenix are the senior members of the order recognized for their leadership and teaching in their respective martial arts.

The Baronial Herald shall maintain an historic record of recipients. Companions of the Company of Fenix may bear the badge emblazoned as registered with the College of Arms. Traditionally, membership in the Company of Fenix/Fenix Fighting Force/Baroness' Own Company of Archers is depicted by a green and gold braided cord.

3. There shall exist in the Barony of Fenix an award which the Baron/Baroness may bestow as it sees fit. The award shall be referred to as the award of the Risen Fenix. The award shall be given to individuals who, in the sight of the Baron/Baroness, have displayed continuing martial skill/contributions or service or art/science skill/contributions. The award may be given more than once but only once per area of achievement.

The Baronial Herald shall maintain an historic record of recipients. Recipients of the Risen Fenix may bear the badge emblazoned as registered with the College of Arms. Traditionally, the award of the Risen Fenix is depicted by a phoenix head with a red eye for martial skill/contributions, a purple eye for service, and a green eye for arts/science skill/contributions.

4. There shall exist in the Barony of Fenix an award which the Baroness may bestow as she sees fit. The award shall be referred to as the award of [Name of the Baroness'] Favor. The award shall be given to individuals or groups who, in the sight of the Baroness, have displayed outstanding chivalry or courtesy. The award may be given more than once by successive Baronesses.

The Baronial Herald shall maintain an historic record of recipients. Recipients of the Favor may bear the badge emblazoned as registered with the College of Arms. Traditionally, the award of the Favor is depicted by a favor bearing or a chord tied in a donnelly knot, in honor of the Founding Baroness of Fenix, Edana Donnelly.

5. There shall exist in the Barony of Fenix an order into which the Baron/Baroness may elevate such persons as it sees fit. The order shall be referred to as the Order of the Fenix Crest. The Fenix Crest shall be given to individuals who, in the sight of the Baron/Baroness, have rendered service far beyond that normally expected of subjects of the Barony and over an extended period of time. The Fenix Crest is traditionally given only once per year after consultation with existing members of the order.

The Baronial Herald shall maintain an historic record of recipients. Recipients of the Fenix Crest may bear the badge emblazoned as registered with the College of Arms. Traditionally, the membership in this order confers the privilege of sitting on the Council of Elders.