

Barony of Highland Foorde Charter

(Last Updated: March 3, 2011)

Being the desire of the Populace of the Barony of Highland Foorde to codify our traditions, our territorial boundaries and requirements of office, we do hereby ordain and establish this charter, subject to the approval of the Seneschal of the Kingdom of Atlantia and at the Pleasure of Their Majesties.

1. THE POPULACE

The Populace of Highland Foorde shall be defined as those who participate in the activities of the Barony of Highland Foorde. Any member of the Populace may bear the badge of the Barony on a shield, banner and garment or in other appropriate fashion. The Barony shall default to Kingdom Law, Kingdom Policy and Corpora's definition of Populace in specific cases in cases of conflict.

2. TERRITORY

The territory of Highland Foorde shall be defined approximately as those lands within the boundaries of four counties belonging to the modern state known as Maryland. These four counties are Frederick, Washington, Garret and Allegheny. A list of the specific postal zip codes, which are included in the Barony, may be found in Appendix B

3. THE BARONIAL CORONET

The Baronial Coronet shall be defined as the territorial Baron and / or Baroness appointed by the Crown of Atlantia. The Barony shall comply with all Kingdom Law, Kingdom Policy and Corpora in regards to requirements and regulations regarding the Baronial Coronet.

The Baronial Coronet is the ceremonial head of the Barony, and may at their pleasure, reward members of the Populace with any of the Baronial Awards, select Baronial Champions and Notables. They will make every reasonable attempt to attend Baronial Meetings, Curia, Unevent, and Coronation to swear fealty to the Crown. Finally they are entrusted by the Barony with the ability to entreaty with other groups to form alliances during times of war.

4. MEETINGS OF THE POPULACE

The Seneschal or duly appointed representative shall make all reasonable attempts to convene a meeting of the Baronial Populace at least once a month. The purpose of this meeting is to conduct routine business, and to monitor progress of key projects and activities. The site shall be determined in advance, and announced in the newsletter and via email. The Populace is welcome, and encouraged to attend all Baronial Meetings. They may enter freely into all discussions of any matters brought before the meeting.

5. VOTING PROCEDURES

This policy applies to the voting process conducted within the Barony of Highland Foorde in order to make internal governing decisions.

All votes will be conducted at Baronial Business meetings. No proxy votes will be taken. All motions must be made by one member, and seconded by another member. Motions must comply with Mundane, Society, Baronial, and Kingdom law and policy.

The Seneschal will not sponsor any motions except those that apply directly to Seneschal's office.

Votes will be conducted by hand vote, unless the issue is of a sensitive nature in which case, votes will be conducted by ballot.

Any member of the Populace of the Barony, regardless of SCA membership status, can participate in a vote at the Business meetings.

Reasonable attempts shall be made to publish the agenda for the Business Meeting in advance so that members may comment or add to it, and make the best attempt to attend the meeting.

All motions that affect long term Baronial policy or Baronial resources may be tabled, upon request, until the following Baronial Business meeting to allow for discussion among Barony members. Otherwise, motions will be voted upon when they are presented in regular business meetings. Positions such as event autocrats and officer positions will allow for a one-month period to ask for candidates before a vote is cast at the following Baronial Business meeting. Issues involving large expenditures of Baronial Funds should be well discussed, and may wish to be tabled until a subsequent meeting to allow for adequate feedback from the Barony.

If emergency meetings are needed to decide issues, they can be called by the Seneschal by informing as many members of the Populace as possible. Meetings of this type will be announced via e-mail. Votes may be conducted under these circumstances.

It will be the responsibility of the Seneschal and the other Baronial Officers to indicate any motions that are in violation of Mundane, SCA, Kingdom or existing Baronial law or policy. It will be the Herald's responsibility to count and report the results of the vote to the group. It will be the Chronicler's responsibility to document in the Baronial newsletter all proposed votes in a one-month review state and the voting results. It will be the responsibility of the Web Minister to keep an accurate Baronial e-mail distribution list for the agenda distribution and meeting notifications.

If a vote is later found to be against Mundane, SCA or Kingdom law or policy, it will be recalled immediately. A vote once made can only be recalled by another Baronial vote. Waivers to Baronial policy or law can only be granted by Baronial vote.

6. BARONIAL OFFICERS

The Barony shall maintain a complete slate of Baronial Officers as required by Corpora, Kingdom Law and Kingdom Policy. The Seneschal or Baronial Coronet may also create any number of other official Baronial offices as are desirable.

All Officers with a Kingdom superior are responsible to their superior for all functions of their office as directed by Corpora, Kingdom Law and Kingdom Policy. This includes obtaining and maintaining their Warrant of Office if required, and training, maintaining and warranting suitable deputies.

Officers within the Barony are elected via a vote from the Populace, following the procedures outlined earlier in this document.

7. AWARDS

The Barony of Highland Foorde has devised several awards to recognize the efforts of the Populace. These awards may be given at the pleasure of the Baron and / or Baroness.

All members of the Populace are encouraged to recommend to the Coronets those worthy individuals who are deserving of such recognition.

The awards for the Barony of Highland Foorde are listed in Appendix C.

8. AMENDING THE CHARTER

Any member of the Populace at any Baronial Meeting may propose amendments to this Charter. The proposed amendment will be published in the Baronial newsletter and via email. The amendment shall be considered to have passed if 2/3 majority of those present vote in favor. Amendments will then be listed in the next issue of the newsletter and via propagated via email.

APPENDIX A: OFFICERS SIGNED AGREEMENT

This charter is hereby accepted by the undersigned Officers of the Barony of Highland Foorde, this 19th day of June, Anno Societatis XXXV, being the year 1999 of the Gregorian calendar.

(Followed by Signatures of the Queen of Atlantia, Baron & Baroness, and all Baronial Officers)

APPENDIX B: BARONIAL ZIP CODE LIST

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APPENDIX C: BARONIAL AWARDS

Order of the Hart - Given to recognize outstanding service and dedication by residents of the Barony of Highland Foorde over a long period of time and with the promise of continuing service in the future.

Order of the Lark - Given to those residents within the Barony of Highland Foorde who have distinguished themselves by their long-term efforts in Arts & Sciences. This includes the teaching of that art in the Barony and / or its use on the Barony's behalf.

Order of the Golden Hawk - Given to recognize superior performance and dedication in the Arts of War by residents of the Barony of Highland Foorde. The Arts of War include heavy weapons, rapier or archery as well as any new forms, which may be approved by the Kingdom of Atlantia.

The Baronial Award of Excellence - Recognizes outstanding achievement in any particular area of endeavor by the Populace. The award is given at the pleasure of the Coronets and may be received more than once.