

Moot of Her Majesty Caitlin
Ealdormere War Practice
July 1999

Friends:

Just a short summary of what was discussed at the Moot at Ealdormere War Practice. This is just a general synopsis – not an attempt to report the statements made by the individuals who spoke.

The day was blistering hot – and I'd like to thank HRM Caitlin especially for making an extra trip into the furnace! Also to HRH Kildare and HRH Josephine, who were in attendance. There seemed to be no great pressing issues and all gathered spoke calmly and rationally. (Too much heat in the air already??) Note that I decided NOT to read a section of the Laws due to the weather.

Three main subjects were brought forward for discussion:

1) Media at SCA events – most especially television.

As you may know, there are widely divergent views as to the suitability of allowing the media access to SCA events. On one side is the potential for raising the profile of the SCA, both as a serious organization, and as a tool to recruit new members. On the other side is an important concern for personal privacy and for maintaining some control of recorded images. All sides were represented in the discussion. Questions were raised about just where legal responsibilities lie within the SCA organisation, and if there exist any kind of established guidelines. All seemed to agree that some kind of general policy should be created for future situations. Kingdom Seneschal Adrielle has taken on the job of collecting opinions for the purpose of writing such a guideline to working with media for Ealdormere. Please send any comments or advise you might have to her (especially those with direct media experience.) In any case all agreed that some control over the media needed to be maintained. Most importantly, it was generally felt that good communications to the membership, including advance warning of media attendance, was necessary.

2) Sharing dates – multiple event bookings

A question was raised about a possible booking of a major Ramshaven event against a large event out of Kingdom. This brought out a general discussion of the problem of event dates being shared by groups. It was noted that there is no 'distance' restriction for double bookings in Ealdormere (as there was in the Middle) with the only restriction being for Kingdom level events. Again – maintaining communications was seen as the primary solution to any potential problems in the future.

3) Ealdormere award names / badges

This was more a question as to the progress of selecting and approving names and badges as opposed to a general discussion of the individual names. HRM Caitlin explained that she "...Has had the Trillium Herald submit ALL the suggested names and devices now being discussed to the Laurel Queen of Arms & the College of Heralds for approval". Her logic here is to ensure that Ealdormere has a full list of solid possibilities for both the current requirements and also a reserve of possibilities into the future. (Remember that individual names and devices are awarded on a 'first come' basis!) It should be noted that at this time there have been no suggestions made for a name for the AOA arts level award.