

## Ealdormere Youth Combat Rules\*\* Draft \*\*

### **Policies and Procedures for Youth Combat in the Kingdom of Ealdormere**

( Revision 4, Draft June 2016, Seonag nic Thomais Bangtheagn-Kingdom of Ealdormere Youth Combat Marshal in consultation with Duke Edward the Red, Duchess Rylyn Buchanen and Earl Marshal Rattanicus)

The Kingdom of Ealdormere adheres to Society standards for Youth Combat.

**These rules are intended as addenda to the Society youth combat rules, to provide the required kingdom specific additions, and to clarify any Ealdormere specific differences from the SCA rules.**

For all areas not addressed in this handbook, please refer to the most current version of the Society Youth Combat handbook.

### Overview

While reading this handbook, please remember that kids will be kids. **The intent of this program is not to replace play in the Kingdom**, but to give the children something to participate in that is structured on Society means and ideals. The purpose is to help them learn about the Society, the way competition in the Society works, and respect for the processes that are undertaken to keep everyone safe. Whether or not your child ever becomes a Heavy Weapon's Fighter, if they finish this program with a better understanding of how the SCA works, then it has done its job.

Please note that playing with foam swords, whether or not they meet the standards in this book, is NOT a restricted activity and it is at the sole discretion of the parents involved as to if they wish their children to play.

Robert of Glendon Auk, Society Marshal in January 2005, summed it up best:

*"Somehow, there has been some confusion generated over the subject of boffers and Youth Combat. Let me dispel the confusion.*

*Boffers: An unregulated children's activity, open to anyone in the SCA. Not administered by the marshallate. Kids (or adults) at play. May be administered by MOCs. (Ministers of Children)*

*Youth Combat: A formalized system of combat which may or may not include boffer style weapons. Directly under Kingdom marshallate supervision. Characterized by a rule set, age divisions, usually skill level provisions, the mandatory use of armor, closely mirroring adult heavy combat. Used primarily as a system to engage SCA young people in SCA activities and train them for participation in adult heavy combat. Very closely monitored by the marshallate of a kingdom with significant parental participation."*

## Parent Section-II Participation

1. Parents are to understand this is a contact sport and that, despite the best attempts of these policies and rules, as in everyday play between children, injuries may occur. Parents should make sure they have read and understand the impact of all waivers and “consent to participate” forms prior to signing those forms.
2. Parents are urged to become authorised Youth Combat Marshals so that they can work closely with their child in this activity.
3. Parents are responsible for their child's safety, with the Youth Combat Marshals guiding the armouring/safety process.
4. Parents are required to read and understand these rules and standards and are to make sure that their child follows them.
5. Anyone may train youths with their Parent's permission.

## Participants Section VI Authorization Requirements:

1. At least one senior youth combat marshal, and a second marshal must be present to oversee any authorization
2. No youth combat marshal may be the parent of the child being authorized.
3. A Parent should be in attendance for authorization bouts
4. There will be 3 separate authorization categories:
  - a. **Weapon and Shield** – including all 1 handed weapons – sword, mace, axe, etc.
  - b. **Great Weapon** – including polearms, great swords, spears, etc.
  - c. **Two Weapon** – using 2 weapons at once – one in each hand.
5. Each weapons form allows both slashing and thrusting, including face thrusts for division 2 and division 3 fighters.
6. The standard first authorization for all age groups shall be weapon and shield; however, exceptions can be made with approval of the deputy for youth combat.
7. The authorisation bout will consist of:
  - a) An unauthorised minor sparing with an authorised minor opponent appropriate to that age group. \*\* If another authorised minor is not available

the opponent may be another minor vying for authorisation or any opponent acceptable to both the designated adult and marshal.

- 7.1 The bouts will be structured in much the same way as armoured combat authorization bout:
- a) Sparring; calling all blows, first with the opponent fighting gently
  - b) More sparring, with the opponent pressing harder.
  - c) Candidate on their knees fighting a standing opponent.
  - d) Candidate with single sword off handed, fighting a fully armed opponent.
  - e) Primary authorization should end with a full tournament-style bout as if for Crown, including salutes and acted blows.
  - f) During and after each section the Marshals may instruct the candidate on any form or style that needs addressing.
  - g) During the course of the bouts, the Marshals will look for the following criteria:
    - Safety in use of weapon and shield (if appropriate)
    - Targeting legal target areas only
    - Control in use of force and temperament
    - Willingness to listen to instruction
8. The Youth Combat Marshal in Charge will consult with the other Marshals present before making a ruling on the success or failure of the authorisation. If it is felt that the child has displayed the above mentioned criteria, the youth combatant will be deemed as having passed the authorisation.
9. Once completed, if the child has passed the authorisation bout, the Youth Combat Marshal will complete the proper paperwork, and provide the designated adult with a copy to be sent to the Youth Combat Minister of the List. The proper paperwork shall consist of the “Youth Combat Authorization Information / Waiver” form – which includes both the youths contact information, signed by the authorizing marshal, and a copy of the “Minor’s Waiver and Informed Consent to Participate in SCA Combat-Related Activities”.
10. The Minister of the List, upon receiving the completed paperwork, will issue an authorisation card according to the minor’s correct age bracket.
11. The authorisation card will be valid until the expiration date: the day on which the minor enters the next age bracket. The authorisation card will be honoured for 3 months past the expiration date. (Any minor may begin to practise for the next age bracket 3 months prior to the expiration of their current authorisation card, but may not participate in that bracket prior to re-authorisation).

12. Upon entering a new age bracket, the minor must re-authorise. The Designated adult must provide the new authorisation paperwork to the Minister of the List to obtain a new authorisation card.

### **Participants Section: VII Rules of the List and Conventions of Combat-**

No changes from Society Rules

### **Armour and Weapons standards:**

No changes from Society Rules

### **Marshals Section:**

1. The following Marshalling definitions apply to Youth Combat:

- a) Earl Marshal - A Heavy Combat Marshal, warranted by the Society Earl Marshal, responsible for all martial activities in the Kingdom.
- b) Deputy of Youth Combat – A Youth Combat Marshal warranted by the Earl Marshal to supervise and monitor Youth Combat in the Kingdom. The Deputy of Youth Combat must approve all Marshals. Approval is designated as placing that individual's name upon the recommended Warrant Roster submitted to the Earl Marshal for approval.
- c) Youth Minister of the List – a deputy designated by the Kingdom Deputy for Youth Combat (or possibly the deputy themselves) who is responsible for keeping completed waivers and maintaining the registration of authorized youth combatants. This office shall provide the Earl Marshal or Deputy for youth combat a list of all current youth combat authorization cards upon request.
- d) Youth Combat Marshal – Any individual who meets the requirements as listed below, approved by the Deputy of Youth Combat, and warranted by the Earl Marshal.
- e) Senior Youth Combat Marshal – A warranted youth combat marshal who is deemed by the Deputy for youth combat to have extensive experience in marshalling. This may include armoured combat marshalling or youth combat marshalling. Approved by the Deputy of Youth Combat, and warranted by the Earl Marshal.
- f) Marshal in Training – designates a person who is training to be a marshal, but not yet warranted. May include MITs under the age of 18.
- g) Line marshals – anyone may volunteer act as a second set of eyes to assist youth combat marshals, during tournaments or melees, as requested by the marshal.

2. Before being warranted, Youth combat marshals in training must:

- a) Demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of the Rules of the List and Standard Combat Conventions.
- b) Demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of the Youth Combat Rules and Regulations.
- c) Have trained for at least 3 events with a warranted Youth Combat Marshal. Such training is to include inspecting weapons and armour, supervision of youth combatants

in the lists and at least 1 event involving melee style (2 or more combatants engaged with a like number of combatants) combat.

3. All Ealdormere youth combat marshals with combat experience may act as sparring marshals.
4. Once warranted, a Youth Combat Marshal may:
  - a) Inspect youth combat armour and weapons.
  - b) Train Youth Combatants.
  - c) Help run authorisations of Youth Combatants.
  - d) Run or marshal Youth Combat tournaments.
  - e) Serve as 'Marshal In Charge' for Youth Combat tournaments.
  - f) Sign 'Marshal in Training' papers
5. All 'Marshals – In – Charge' will:
  - a) Ensure all individuals in charge of the event are aware of the tourney, and that proper space has been arranged for in advance.
  - b) Ensure that the space provided is adequate, clearly marked and safe prior to beginning the tourney.
  - c) Ensure that this book and a copy of the Society hand book is available at the list table.
  - d) Ensure that the sufficient numbers of Marshals are available.
  - e) Instruct all participants of the tourney format and rules.
  - f) Ensure all participants provide the correct paperwork (This duty may be delegated to a 'List Minister', but ultimately remains the responsibility of the Marshal in Charge).
  - g) Sign all successful authorisation forms and waivers.
  - h) Provide all authorisation forms and Consent to Participate Waivers to designated adult who must send them to the Minister of the List.
  - i) Provide a complete Authorisation Summary report to the Deputy of Youth Combat within 30 days of the tourney, preferably via e-mail.
  - j) Ensure that the society "2 deep" rule is followed – i.e.: ensure that at least 2 un-related adults are present where youth combat is taking place.
6. Only the Deputy of Youth Combat may designate an individual as a "Youth Combat Marshal – In-Training". The Deputy of Youth Combat, or the Kingdom Earl Marshal, may refuse to approve or warrant any Marshal-In-Training who have met all requirements listed above. This right is reserved if they feel the individual has not demonstrated the proper attitude or understanding required of the responsibility incumbent upon someone entrusted with training minor children.

### **Melee Rules**

- 1) Ealdormere melee rules use "Recognition" not "Death from Behind". Recognition is defined as combatants making eye contact and acknowledgement of each other verbally or by taking a defensive stance with shield and/or weapon raised in preparation for engagement.

## **Reporting**

Youth combat marshal's report at Doomsday, Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, of each year to the Kingdom Youth Combat Marshal.

## **Age Divisions**

Ealdormere age divisions are:

Division 1: 6 to 9 years

Division 2: 10 to 13 years

Division 3: 14 to 16 years.

1. Youth may move up to the next age division earlier with the approval of their parent/guardian and the kingdom Youth Combat Marshal.
2. Youths may authorize and fight in adult armoured combat in Ealdormere at age 16, with informed parental consent.

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Youth Combat Authorization Information / Waiver</b> |  |  | Card Expiry:                                   |
| Age Group  | <input type="checkbox"/> Division 1 (6 to 9) | <input type="checkbox"/> Division 2 (10 to 13) | <input type="checkbox"/> Division 3 (14 to 17) |
| SCA Name:  |  |  |  |
| SCA Group:   |  |  |  |
| First Name:  |  | Last Name:                                     |  |
| Address:   |  |  |  |
| Telephone:   |  | Email:   |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Authorization Date:                    |  | Birth Date:                                    |  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Marshal:                               |  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Marshal:                       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Weapon &amp; Shield</b>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Two Weapon</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Great Weapon</b>   |  |

\_\_\_\_\_ (hereafter referred to as "the minor")  
(Print legal name)

does hereby state that the minor wishes to participate in activities sponsored by the international organization known as the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., a California not-for-profit corporation (hereafter "SCA"). The SCA has rules which govern and may restrict the activities in which the minor can participate. These rules include, but are not limited to: Corpora, the By-laws, the various kingdom laws and the Rules for combat related activities. The SCA makes no representations or claims as to the condition or safety of the land, structures or surroundings, whether or not owned, leased, operated or maintained by the SCA. The minor's parent(s) or guardian(s) understand that all activities are VOLUNTARY and that the minor does not have to participate. It is understood that these activities are potentially dangerous or harmful to the minor's person or property, and that by participating, the minor's parent(s) or guardian(s) voluntarily accepts and assumes the risk of injury to the minor or damage to the minor's property. It is understood that the SCA does NOT provide any insurance coverage for the minor's person or property; and minor's parent(s) or guardian(s) acknowledge that they are responsible for the minor's safety and the minor's own health care needs, and for the protection of the minor's property. In exchange for allowing the minor to participate in these SCA activities and events, the minor by and through the undersigned, agrees to release from liability, agrees to indemnify, and hold harmless the SCA, and any SCA agent, officer, or SCA employee acting within the scope of their duties, for any injury to the minor's person or damage to the minor's property. This Release shall be binding upon the minor, the parent(s) or guardian(s), any successors in interest, and/or any person(s) suing on the minor's behalf. The minor's parent(s) or guardian(s) understand that this document is complete unto itself and that any oral promises or representations made to them concerning this document and/or its terms are not binding upon the SCA, its officers, agents and/or employees.

**PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST SIGN BELOW:**

I, the undersigned, state that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor whose name appears above. I understand that the above terms and conditions apply to said minor and to myself. I further understand that said minor cannot participate under ANY circumstances in armored martial arts, any combat-related activities, combat-archery, or fencing without parental consent where such participation is allowed by kingdom law. The minor will not be able to participate in any SCA activities without entering into this agreement. This document is binding on myself, the said minor and any person suing on behalf of said minor.

Minor's Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate of minor: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Province of minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Legal Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.**  
**MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FOR MINORS**

**(required for all minors participating without their parent or guardian present)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent or legal guardian of  
\_\_\_\_\_, a minor, do hereby authorize any one or more of  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ as agents for myself  
in my absence or incapacitation to consent to any x-ray examination and anesthetic, medical or surgical  
diagnosis or treatment and medical care which is deemed advisable by and is to be rendered under the general  
or special supervision of any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on  
the medical staff of any hospital whether or not such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said  
physician or at said hospital.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment or hospital care  
being required but is given to provide authority and power on the part of the aforesaid agents to give specific  
consent to any and all such diagnosis, treatment or hospital care which aforementioned physician in the exercise  
of his or her best judgement may deem advisable.

I hereby authorize any hospital which has provided treatment to the above-named minor to surrender physical  
custody of such minor to the above-named agents upon the completion of treatment.

The authorizations shall remain effective until \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, unless sooner revoked in writing  
delivered to said agents;

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any specific health plan or insurance information such as membership or policy numbers on the  
back of this form.

Copies of this form, duly executed, should be in the possession of the named minor; at least one adult named in  
the document and present at the event; and the parent or guardian executing the Medical Authorization.

The SCA requires minor participants (i.e. those having to have waivers) whose parents or legal guardians are  
not present at the event to have a valid Medical Authorization form and to be accompanied at any event to be  
accompanied by one or more of the persons named on the form. The SCA recommends use of the Medical  
Authorization for all minor attendees whose parent or legal guardians are present.



# B

## Ealdormere Youth Combat Marshal 'In Training' Appointment

Be it known to all by these presents that the following is hereby appointed as a Youth Combat Marshal in Training – until fully warranted or removed.

Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SCA Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: (Field / Group: Name ) \_\_\_\_\_

The duties of a Youth Combat Marshal in Training are identical to those of any fully warranted Marshal except that they may **not**:

- authorise minors to participate in SCA Combat.
- act as Marshal in Charge of youth combat activities at an official event other than a local fighting practice.

MITs shall become fully warranted upon fulfilment of all requirements of the office as defined by the Deputy of Youth Combat, by authority of the Earl Marshal, under the Marshal of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., including the requirements described below.

This appointment takes effect on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and supersedes any existing or previous Appointment or Warrant for this Office.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### MARSHALLING LOG

**General Field Marshalling** (Two events are required for Marshal \ Three for Constable)

| EVENT | SUPERVISING MARSHAL | DATE |
|-------|---------------------|------|
|       |                     |      |
|       |                     |      |
|       |                     |      |

### Marshals Recommending Advancement

| Marshal's SCA Name | Legal Signature | Date |
|--------------------|-----------------|------|
|                    |                 |      |
|                    |                 |      |