

BARONY OF SKRAELING ALTHING

BY-LAWS - Nov 2012

7.1 The Process The traditional term for a Baron and Baroness is five years, though shorter terms are permitted. This selection process is initiated at the discretion of the Baron and Baroness. In conjunction with the Baronial Seneschal, the Baron and Baroness will develop a time line of the process, a polling strategy, and a communications strategy, as well as assemble a Selection Committee. The selection process includes the following steps:

- Official announcement in Court
- Request for letters of Intent
- Review of applicants by Their Royal Majesties
- Official introduction of Candidates in Court
- Candidates' meetings
- Polling
- Counting of the ballots
- Advising Their Royal Majesties of outcome of poll
- Decision by Their Royal Majesties
- Notifying candidates of Their Magesties' decision
- Announcement of Heirs in Court

7.2 The Selection Committee shall be composed of the current Baron and Baroness (except in the case where they are running again), the Baronial Seneschal and the Kingdom Seneschal.

7.3 The Request for Letters of Intent shall be published on all email lists within the Barony, as well as on the website and in the Chronicle (if time permits). It shall include an explicit deadline for when letters are due to be submitted to the Selection Committee. This deadline may be no less than four weeks from the date the request for letters is published. Letters of Intent should include scans of the candidates' membership cards, as well as the candidates' SCA resumes.

7.4 Candidate Meetings shall be held in each Canton, to allow the members a chance to engage the candidates to aide the members in making their decision. Scheduling of candidate meetings will be at the discretion of the Cantons, not the candidates. All candidate meetings are open to everyone, and members may attend as many as they choose.

An explanation of how the polling will be conducted shall be handed out at each meeting.

7.5 Ballots shall list all candidates in alphabetical order by the SCA name. Each candidate will be listed in the following manner:

In cases where the candidate is two persons of opposite gender, the name of the male person shall be used to determine ballot order.

In the case where the candidate is two persons of same gender, the person whose name is alphabetically first shall be used to determine ballot order

In the case where the candidate is an individual instead of a couple, their name shall be used to determine alphabetical ballot order.

Next to each candidate on the ballot, there will appear underlined spaces for the membership to indicate their opinion.

An example of a ballot is attached.

7.6 Polling shall be conducted in each Canton within a specified period of time. The polling in each Canton shall be conducted by the local seneschal and a member of the Selection Committee. If the local seneschal is a candidate, a deputy shall be appointed by the Canton to take on this duty.

Members must show their membership card and sign into a polling station to ensure that each member is eligible and votes only once. One person, one ballot. Only one round of polling. All ballots are put into an envelope that is sealed at the close of the polls. The persons in charge of the polling station will sign the envelope once it is sealed.

Members must be at least 16 to be eligible to participate in polling.

An explanation of how the polling will be conducted/ instructions on how express one's opinions in this voting system shall be handed out to each member voting along with the ballot.

The voting system used shall be the system called "Range Voting". Please see <http://rangevoting.org/> for more information.

Members will write in the space provided a score for each candidate between 1 and 10, or X for "no opinion".

Members may register their ballot in advance. To do this members must request a ballot from the Selection Committee, then seal their completed ballot in an envelope with their name, canton and membership number written on the outside, which is then sealed in a blank envelope. The envelope is then given to their local seneschal. The selection committee is required to track who requested an advance ballot to ensure that all advanced ballots are included in the final count.