

Book Heraldry 100 Introduction

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Introduction

- What do SCA Heralds do?
 - Book Heraldry
 - Names
 - Armory
 - Voice Heraldry
 - Court
 - Tournament
 - Silent
 - Other
 - Order of Precedence
 - Regalia

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Introduction

- EK Herald University classes:
 - Book Heraldry 100 – this class
 - Book Heraldry 101 – paperwork
 - Court 100 – Court chancery for the baronial herald

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Introduction

- EK Herald University classes:
 - Armory 101 – Intro to armory
 - Armory 102 – Charge group theory and style rules
 - Armory 103 – Conflict rules and basic conflict checking
 - Armory 201 – Advanced conflict checking using the complex search form
 - Armory 201 – Individually Attested Patterns

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Introduction

- EK Herald University classes:
 - Names 101 – Intro to name

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Organization of the College

- Society Level (“Laurel” level)
 - Known as the “College of Arms” (CoA)
 - Laurel Sovereign of Arms
 - Chief heraldic officer of the SCA
 - Currently (Sep 2013) Meistari Gabriel Kjotvason

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Organization of the College

- Society Level (“Laurel” level)
 - Pelican Sovereign of Arms
 - Handles names submissions
 - Currently (Sep 2013) Dame Juliana de Luna
 - Wreath Sovereign of Arms
 - Handles armory submissions
 - Currently (Sep 2013) Magistra Emma de Fetherstan

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Organization of the College

- Society Level (“Laurel” level)
 - Several other officers:
 - <http://heraldry.sca.org/jobs.html>
 - Clarion – education
 - Palimpsest – rules
 - Morsulus – O & A
 - Ragged Staff – file clerk
 - Codex – web minister

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Organization of the College

- Kingdom Level
- Known as College of Heraldry (CoH)
 - Kingdom Principal Herald
 - Head herald for Kingdom
 - Brigantia Principal Herald in the East
 - Internal and/or External Submissions Herald
 - Handle name and armory submissions
 - Other staff heralds vary by Kingdom
- Local branch heralds and Herald-at-large

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Organization of the College

- Herald Ranks
 - Pursuivant
 - Herald
 - Herald Extraordinary
 - Sovereign-of-Arms
 - Other
 - Macer
 - Cornet
 - Pursuivant Extraordinary

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Organization of the College

- Herald Ranks
 - Usage varies by Kingdom
 - In some Kingdoms, ranks are awarded to individuals as they advance
 - Atlantia
 - In other Kingdoms, ranks are linked to specific offices
 - East

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Organization of the College

- Herald Ranks
 - Sovereign-of-Arms
 - Reserved for Laurel and two deputies – Wreath and Pelican
 - Herald Extraordinary
 - Awarded by Laurel or by a Kingdom Principal Herald
 - Awarded for significant service to the College of Arms
 - Allows the registration and use of a Personal Heraldic Title

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Organization of the College

- Heraldic Titles
 - Titles must be registered with the College of Arms as a Non-Personal Name
 - Personal titles are registered by the individual
 - Titles associated with offices are registered by the branch

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Organization of the College

- Forms of Address
 - It is appropriate to address a heraldic title holder by given name + title
 - Examples:
 - Meistari Gabriel Kjotvason can be called "Gabriel Laurel"
 - Master Ryan MacWhyte can be called "Ryan Brigantia"
 - I can be addressed as "Yehuda Elmet"
 - Generally not combined with other honorifics

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Organization of the College

- Forms of Address
 - Informally, can address by title alone
 - Often used in commentary and herald-oriented email
 - Examples
 - Laurel
 - Brigantia
 - Elmet

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Becoming a Herald

- Many kingdoms warrant heralds
 - Usually connected to handling money
 - Not required in the East
- Periodic reports
 - Kingdom-dependent
- Group Herald vs. Herald-at-Large
- OSCAR access
 - Must be authorized by Kingdom Principal Herald

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Websites

- SCA College of Arms
 - <http://heraldry.sca.org/>
 - Rules
 - Articles
 - Letters of Acceptance and Return archive
 - Contact information

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Websites

- Kingdom College of Herald's websites
- Kingdom submission websites
 - Forms and instructions for submitting names and armory
 - Each kingdom has one:
 - <http://ech.eastkingdom.org/> - East
 - <http://www.aeheralds.net/> - Æthelmearc
 - <http://www.midrealm.org/heraldry/escutcheon/> - Middle

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Websites

- Academy of Saint Gabriel
 - <http://www.s-gabriel.org/>
 - Not an official SCA website
 - Medieval Name Archive – articles on medieval names
 - Medieval Heraldry Archive – articles on medieval armory and links to period armorials
 - Academy Reports – answers to specific questions
 - Not accepting new questions at this time

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Mailing Lists

- <https://lists.andrew.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/sca-hrlds> - SCA-HRLDS mailing list
- Kingdom Lists
 - Many are listed at <http://heraldry.sca.org/kingdoms.html>
 - ekheralds-subscribe@eastkingdom.org – East Kingdom heraldry mailing list, send blank email to subscribe

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Mailing Lists

- Kingdom Education Lists
 - East Kingdom: EKHerEd-subscribe@yahogroups.com – East Kingdom heraldry education mailing list, send blank email to subscribe
- Facebook group: SCA Heraldry Chat
- Google+ community: SCA Heraldry

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Rules

- SENA
 - Standards for Evaluation of Names and Armory
 - Found at: <http://heraldry.sca.org/laurel/sena.html>
 - Current rules for all submissions
 - Broken into 4 main sections:
 - General Principles
 - Personal Names
 - Non-Personal Names
 - Armory
 - Also includes 13 appendices

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Rules

- GP1A: "Laurel shall define standards suitable to the type of item to be registered, and apply them uniformly to all such submissions. These standards shall be designed to support the historical re-creations of the Society and to provide sufficient difference from names and armory registered within the Society to avoid undue confusion, to avoid the appearance of unearned honors or false claims, and to provide sufficient difference from historical or fictional personages to prevent offense due to obvious usurpation of identity or armory. Members are encouraged to develop unique, historically valid names and armory."

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Rules

- GP1B1: Submissions should be reasonably period
 - Period elements
 - Period combinations of the elements
 - "Core style" defines most common elements and combinations
 - Individually attested patterns allow submissions outside core style

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Rules

- GP1B2: Submissions should be free of conflict, presumption, or offense
 - Conflict prohibits submissions that are too close to another SCA registration
 - Permission can be given to resolve a conflict
 - Presumption prohibits submissions that are too close to an important non-SCA person, or which claim special powers or position
 - Permission cannot resolve a presumption problem
 - Offense prohibits submissions that are offensive to the populace or general public.

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Rules

- GP3A: Definition of Period - Time
 - Generally before 1600
 - The period 1600-1650 is known as the “grey period”
 - Elements will usually be allowed
 - No official beginning time, but must be from cultures known to Medieval and Renaissance Europe
 - Classical Greek and Roman elements are acceptable
 - Elements from Pharaonic Egypt are not acceptable

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Rules

- GP3B: Definition of Period – Place
 - Any part of Europe is always allowed
 - Names
 - Names from other cultures that had contact with period Europe are allowed for people and households
 - Not allowed for SCA Branches
 - Armory
 - Non-European heraldic elements and patterns are allowed
 - Rules are stricter than for European

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Rules

- GP4 – Definitions
 - Attested
 - Constructed
 - Precedent
 - Documentation
 - Step from Period Practice
 - “Weirdness”
 - No longer used for names

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Rules

- Administrative Handbook (AH)
 - <http://heraldry.sca.org/laurel/admin.html>
 - Covers submission procedures
 - Includes non-submission actions
 - Reconsiderations
 - Appeals
 - Heraldic Wills
 - Duties of senior Heralds
 - Appendices

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Rules

- Administrative Handbook (AH)
 - Appendices
 - Appendix D – standard form letters
 - Permission to conflict
 - Heraldic will
 - Transfers
 - Petitions
 - Releases
 - Appendix F – Name sources to avoid
 - Appendix H – Sources that don't require photocopies

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Rules

- Glossary of Terms (GT)
 - <http://heraldry.sca.org/coagloss.html>
 - Defines many terms
 - Includes several tables:
 - Regalia
 - Reserved and Restricted charges
 - Standard tinctures and postures
 - Lists oft-misused terms

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Submission Process

- Consultation
 - The process of a herald helping a client choose and document a name or device submission
 - Not required in all kingdoms
 - In some kingdoms, the consulting herald takes the forms and payment and forwards them to the Kingdom Submissions Herald
 - In other kingdoms (East) the client mails forms and payment themselves

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Submission Process

- Internal Letter of Intent (iLoI)
 - In some Kingdoms called Letter of Presentation (LoP)
 - Collects a number of submissions for in-kingdom commentary
 - Issued by a senior kingdom herald (Eastern Crown Herald in the East)
 - At least two Kingdoms don't use iLoIs.

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Submission Process

- Internal Commentary
 - A period during which heralds from within the Kingdom can comment on submissions
 - Excellent learning opportunity
 - Newer heralds are highly encouraged to comment and ask questions
 - Duration varies – usually one month in the East
 - Names and device emblazons can be updated if a problem is found
 - Not used in all Kingdoms

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Submission Process

- Decision Meetings
 - Only used in some Kingdoms
 - A senior kingdom herald (Eastern Crown Herald in the East) makes decisions as to which submissions have significant problems
 - In some kingdoms (Aethelmearc, Meridies) these are held over video conference and are open to the public – excellent learning opportunity

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Submission Process

- Kingdom Letter of Decision
 - A senior kingdom herald (Eastern Crown Herald in the East) publishes the results of the kingdom commentary and/or decision meetings
 - Those without problems are forwarded to Laurel
 - Those with problems are returned for further work

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Submission Process

- External Letter of Intent (xLoI)
 - Similar to the iLoI, this letter will include those submissions forwarded by Kingdom to Laurel
 - Issued by a senior kingdom herald (Blue Tyger Herald in the East)

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Submission Process

- External Commentary
 - A period during which heralds from the entire SCA can comment on submissions
 - Generally commentary is done by more senior heralds - new heralds are encouraged to read commentary, but probably should not comment unless they have special knowledge
 - Duration is two months
 - Names can be changed, but device emblazons cannot

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Submission Process

- Decision Meetings
 - Based on external commentary, Society-level senior heralds make final decisions as to the registration of each submission
 - Pelican Queen-of-Arms rules on names
 - Wreath Queen-of-Arms rules on armory
 - Generally done at a meeting where other senior heralds participate, in person and by text chat

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Submission Process

- Proofreading
 - Once the decisions are made and written up, they go out for two rounds of proofreading
 - Generally takes about one month
 - Proofreaders are sworn to secrecy – please don't ask them for previews...

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Submission Process

- Letter of Acceptances and Returns (LoAR)
 - Official publication of the registration decision
 - Sent out once per month by email and posted at <http://heraldry.sca.org/loar/>

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Submission Process

- Letter of Acceptances and Returns (LoAR)
 - Organized into
 - Acceptances
 - Returns
 - Pends (delays) – usually to allow more commentary
 - Further subdivided by kingdom of submission
 - Cover Letter
 - Organizational info
 - Important rulings and other information

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OSCAR

- Creating an account
 - Step 1: Click on “Create Account” and fill out the form
 - Step 2: Contact your kingdom’s principal herald to have your account activated for commenting
 - May require warranting in some kingdoms

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OSCAR

- Main Page

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OSCAR

- Navigation

Log Out NCA Dashboard Preferences My News Lols SENA AH Sub Status Comment Lols Contact Us Home Archives Kingdoms	<p>SENA – shortcut to SENA</p> <p>AH – shortcut to the Administrative Handbook</p> <p>Track – table of all recent xLols</p> <p>Sub Status – useful for tracking a submission</p> <p>Kingdom – link to the Kingdom Gardens</p>
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Precedent

- Not precedent:

• **Angela Fabricci**, Device. Per chevron counter-vair Or and azure and gules.

The submitter has permission to conflict with the device of Tanczos Istvan, *Per chevron potent and gules*.

- Simply a note on a registration

• **Nathaniel Lomas**, Device change. Chequy vert and argent, a grenade and a bocharie gules.

His previous device, *Per bend sinister argent and sable, a bend sinister rayony gules between a tree proper and a quarter argent*, is released.

Please advise the submitter to draw the grenade larger to take up the available space.

- Artists note

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Precedent

- Not precedent:

• **Brigit MacGregor**, Badge. (Fieldless) A battle slipped upon.

This badge is returned for review; for ruling SENNA.ASCT which states "Elements must be drawn to be identifiable." Without its terms but with a prominent stem, commenters had a difficult time identifying this charge. The submitter may be interested in a similar but more identifiable charge, the stem's root or scroll's base, as seen in the arms of the Woodright Company of Christchurch granted in 1130.

- Reason for return is unique to this submission

• **Brigit Larkin**, Device. Purpure, a pile cotized argent charged with a poringrinate slipped and leaved vert seeded gules.

This device is returned for conflict with the device of Willielm of Somerset, *Purpure, a pile cotized argent*. There is only one DC for the addition of the tertiary charge.

- Identifies a conflict

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Precedent

- Precedent:

• **Tamara of Dragon's End**, Device. Per pale embattled Or and azure, a ram and a goat combattant countercharged.

This device is returned for conflict with the device of Antonio Ungliferus, *Per pale abattailed Or and azure, a dragon and a ram combattant countercharged*. There is a DC between goats and rams, but not a substantial change, so this is not clear of conflict by SENNA.ASE as the type of every primary charge has not substantially changed. There is also no difference granted between the deviated and embattled complex lines of division. Therefore, there is only one DC for change in type of the primary charge group.

- Ruling establishes (or reiterates) specific rules

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Precedent

- “Standard” citation format:
 - [Angela Fabbricci, A-Ealdormere, Feb 2013 LoAR]
 - [Brigit Larkin, R-Ealdormere, Feb 2013 LoAR]
 - [Cover Letter, Feb 2013 LoAR]

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Precedent

- Collected Precedents
 - <http://heraldry.sca.org/laurel/precedents.html>
 - Organized by Laurel Tenure
 - Armor current through July 2008
 - Names current through May 2005
 - Compiled Name Precedents
 - Current through May 2004
 - Other ongoing or future projects

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Precedent

- Searching Precedents
 - <http://www.morsulus.org/>

Morsulus Herald's Web Site

The Wiki

[The wiki](#) for sharing status of Morsulus activities, discussing enhancements, reporting problems, etc.

Use Google to search the LAAR archive



Use Google to search the precedents (except Francois II)



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Final Thoughts

- Registerable vs. Authentic
 - A submission must be registerable, it need not be authentic
 - While we can encourage clients to design authentic names and devices, we cannot, and should not force the decision
 - If a client is set on a registerable but not very authentic submission, you should process it!

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Final Thoughts

- Customer Service
 - It is our job to help our clients
 - We are here to make registrations happen, not prevent them from happening
 - When consulting, help clients create registerable submissions **they** like
 - When commenting, look for reasons to allow registration, not prohibit it
 - Heralds want a reputation for being helpful, not obstructionist!

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About me

- Elmet Herald – I am the East Kingdom heraldic education deputy
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- This handout can be found at:
 - <http://www.yehudaheraldry.com/>

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