

Standard Toasts And Who Should Give Them

At some point during a Feast, a toast to their Majesties at the very least should be made. Note: the term “a Toast” is most likely post-period; in period people would drink to someone’s health.

When should the Toasts be given?

They should be made during the Feast when most of the people are still present, and are seated. For that reason, it is usually best to make the toast during the first or second course, i.e. don’t leave it too late. The Herald should make an announcements a few minutes before, calling people to charge their goblets for the toasts.

Who should make the Toasts?

There is no official determination. Generally speaking, if the local Baron and Baroness are not willing to, or there is no Baron/ess, then the highest ranking Peers should be asked. The **Herald** should consult with the **Event Steward** as to who should give the toasts; those people should then be asked, and given appropriate words.

Generally, once the toasts to the King and Queen have been made, let them flow organically and don’t tie yourself up in knots if someone makes the “wrong” toast. What matters is that someone of high rank makes the first toasts, to their Majesties.

Who should be toasted?

The King and Queen, always. If they have been chosen, the Crown Prince and Princess, always. Visiting Royalty at the event, always (and preferably by the Lochac Crown). The local group, Baron and Baroness, the patron saint of the host College, visiting Barons and Baronesses, the Steward and the Cooks, an abstract ideal (e.g. “Love” at a St Valentine’s Day Feast) may all be appropriate.

Should I propose the toasts if it looks like they have been forgotten?

In a word, **NO!** Ask the Steward or the Baron and Baroness (if in a Barony) if the toasts have been arranged, by all means – a reminder may well be needed. But **DO NOT** simply assume nothing has been done and make it yourself, especially if not in your own group – you may well be pre-empting arrangements that have been made, and at best, you are insulting the steward and the local group by showing them up as having forgotten it.

Can the Crown propose a toast?

Of course, just not to themselves. If Royalty is at a feast, it is not unusual for them to toast the host group or Baron and Baroness, in reply to the toast to the King and Queen.

Some examples:

Baron: Friends, I call on you to drink a health to [Name], our worthy Sovereign – the King!
Populace: The King! *all drink*

Baroness: A health to our Queen, [Name], most gracious and noble – the Queen! *Etc.*

Most Senior Knight present:

For our gracious hosts, Baron [Name] and Baroness [Name] – [Name] and [Name]!

Most Senior Pelican present:

For [Name], steward of this event – the Steward! *Etc.*

Most Senior Laurel present:

The Cooks! *Etc.*