

Essential Elements of Ceremony - Order of Chivalry

Awarded for: supreme prowess in the art and skills of armoured combat, with teaching, service and peer-like qualities deemed worthy by the Order and the Crown

Token: if in fealty (knighthood) - a white belt, an unadorned open-linked chain of fealty, and spurs.
If not in fealty (master/mistress of arms) – a white Baldrick.

Armigerous: Patent

Scroll: Yes – check if one has been prepared.

Crown litany: **Yes**

If writing a customised ceremony, the following must be done in some form or other:

- ❖ The Crown must publicly confirm the Order of Chivalry has been consulted
- ❖ The Crown must invite the Candidate to join, with some word as to what responsibility that entails
- ❖ The Candidate must accept the invitation
- ❖ The Candidate is bestowed with the appropriate regalia of the Order. If **not** swearing fealty (Mastery of Arms), this is a white leather baldric.
- ❖ Once it is done, the Herald announces the Candidate has been granted a Patent of Arms; if the Candidate has registered heraldry, the blazon is included in the announcement.

The following is considered essential if, and only if, the Candidate is swearing fealty (i.e. Knighthood):

- ❖ The Crown and Candidate swear an Oath of Fealty in some form.
- ❖ The Candidate is given the regalia of a Knight, being a white belt, an unadorned open-linked chain (chain of fealty) and spurs (historically gilded, not necessarily in the SCA.)
- ❖ The Candidate is dubbed with a sword (may include the declaration that this should be the last touch of a blade they leave unanswered.)

The following are not essential to the ceremony, but it would be controversial to leave them out:

- ❖ If the Candidate is a Squire/etc, their Peer formally releases them from Fealty
- ❖ A member of the Order of Chivalry addresses the Crown and Populace, to say why the Candidate has been recognised as their peer.
- ❖ At the end, the Candidate is invited to greet their Peers/the Order is invited to welcome them.

Please note – a buffet is **not essential** for the Order of Chivalry, but may be requested by the candidate. **It is the Candidate's choice, not the Crown's.**

The following are not essential to the ceremony, but are usually included:

- ❖ The Candidate formally processes in with their household and supporters
- ❖ A representative of each of the other Orders addresses the Crown and Populace, to say why the Candidate has been recognised as their peer.
- ❖ A sword may be given (by a teacher, family member or close friend.) This should be a dress weapon, i.e. metal blade, and able to be belted, preferably in a sheath.
- ❖ The Crown formally permits the Candidate to be armed in the Royal Presence.
- ❖ The Order of Chivalry, including the new member, draw their swords to salute the Crown.

The Candidate may wish to, and is at liberty to, include other elements as they desire into their ceremony. It is strongly recommended that Bombarde Herald, being Crux's deputy Herald for Ceremony, and/or Crux Australis Herald, being the Kingdom Herald, be included in the creation of original customised ceremonies for Peerage.