

Order of Chivalry - Knighthood

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: a white belt, an unadorned open-linked chain of fealty, and spurs.

Prep: The **Herald** and the **Crown** must determine which is to speak the litany. The **Candidate** must state whether they wish to be Knighted, and will thus swear fealty, or if they do not wish to swear fealty and instead will be made Master/Mistress of Arms (see separate ceremony). They must also state if they are in a formal student relationship from which they need to be released.

The **Candidate** should provide the Herald with a list of people they wish to speak for them, and which Order or other group they represent. Establish who will be giving which items of regalia. Establish if the candidate will have a sword (**not** regalia of the order, but knights have the privilege to be armed in the presence of the Crown.) The sword should have a metal blade (i.e. a dress weapon) and be able to be belted, preferably in a sheath.

Armigerous: Patent

Scroll: Yes – check if one has been prepared.

Crown litany: Yes

Note: This is a basic ceremony; it is expected that peerage ceremonies will be personalised each time; personalised ceremonies do not need to be based on this. Refer to Bombarde for help if needed.

A buffet is **not** an essential part of the ceremony unless **specifically requested by the Candidate**.

Herald: The strength and stability of the Kingdom lie in these virtues of its people: creativity, service, chivalry and prowess. Like links in a chain, each must be strong, for if one fails, all will fail.

The fighters of the Kingdom defend it with their swords, with their prowess bring it strength and with their honour bring it glory on the field.

Let the Members of the Order of Chivalry attend upon their Majesties.

The Order comes forward

Crown: We feel that your Order is lacking, and upon consultation, We find that you are in agreement. We are minded therefore to increase your number.

Herald, call forth the Candidate.

The order and nature of the ceremony should have been discussed with the candidate, and is done by their wishes. They may include but are not restricted to the following:

- ❖ Calling upon members of the Peerages to speak to the fitness of the candidate,
- ❖ The Teacher of the candidate formally ending their student-teacher relationship,
- ❖ The candidate's Knight/ Master/Mistress formally releasing them from their fealty.

Herald/Crown:

[Name], mindful of your prowess upon the field, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to admit you to the Order of Chivalry. Will you accept from Us this honour?

Candidate: I will.

Herald/Crown:

Will you give Us your word that you will henceforth comport yourself as befits a Peer of Our Realm, as you most surely have until now, and that you will attempt in all your endeavours to be a noble example to Our people?

Candidate: I will.

Herald/Crown:

Will you promise further to treat all with Courtesy, and to uphold the Laws and traditions of Our Kingdom?

Candidate: I will.

Herald/Crown:

Will you swear fealty to Us, Our Crown, and the Throne and Kingdom of Lochac?

Candidate: I will.

Herald/Crown: On which sword do you wish to swear fealty?

Candidate states which sword.

Crown: Place your hands upon Our own.

Herald: To your Liege and before your peers, repeat after me:
Here do I swear,
by mouth and hand,
fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Lochac,
to speak and to be silent,
to come and to go,
to strike and to spare,
to do and to let be,
in such matters as concern the Kingdom,
on my honour,
and by the lawful commands of the Crown,
in need or in plenty,
in peace or in war,
in living or in dying,
from this hour henceforth,
until the Crown depart from Their Throne,
or death take me, or the world end,
so say I (*Name*).

Crown: This We do hear, nor shall we fail to remember,
and We for Our part do swear fealty to you, (*Name*) ,
to protect and defend you
and all your household,
with all Our power,
until We depart from Our Throne,
or death take Us, or the world end.
So say We, Lochac.

Crown: By which sword do you wish to be dubbed?

Candidate: [says which sword]

Crown: And by what name shall you be recognised?

Candidate: [Name]

Crown takes the sword and taps the candidate with it three times; once upon each shoulder and finally upon the head, saying the following:

Crown: I dub thee once

I dub thee twice,

I dub thee Knight.

From this day forward, let no blade touch you,

save that you reply with honour, courage and prowess.

We command you to succour the defenceless,

seek justice for those of every station,

and maintain the honour of your Order.

This next only if the Candidate has specifically requested the buffet.

Sovereign: Bow your head.

Let this blow remind you that Knighthood shall bring you pain as well as honour.

The Sovereign by Right of Arms delivers a symbolic blow to the cheek of the new Knight.

Crown: In our Society, is the right and privilege of the Knights alone to wear spurs, for gilded spurs are the ancient badge and symbol of knighthood.

A pair of spurs is brought forth and the history is given.

Crown/Herald: Wear these spurs, that all may know your rank. Honour them and keep them in good order, for you share these tokens of knighthood with all who have come before you, for as long as there have been Knights.

Two knights, OR a knight and the new Knight's consort, come forward and place the spurs on the new Knight's heels.

Crown: It is the right and privilege of the Knights alone to wear an unadorned chain of fealty.

A chain is brought forth and its history is given.

Crown/Herald: Wear this chain, that all may know you are in fealty to the Crown and the Kingdom. It is unadorned, for this is no jewel to be admired, but a representation of the binding oaths you have sworn this day.

The Crown places the chain around the candidate's neck.

Crown: It is the right and privilege of the Knights alone to wear a belt of white.

A belt is brought forth and its history is given.

Crown/Herald: Wear this belt, that all may know you are a Knight of the realm. It represents the Ideals of Chivalry, and it is white, to remind you that you must strive to keep those Ideals, for by carelessness and thoughtlessness you may dishonour them.

The Crown or a member of the Candidate's household girds the belt around the Candidate's waist.

Crown/Herald: [Name], We give you leave to be armed in Our presence, safe in the knowledge that you will defend Our person. Rise so that you may be girded and armed as befits you.

The candidate's partner, members of their household, or similar belts a sword onto the candidate.

Crown/Herald: Bring no dishonour to your sword, and carry it in defence of any and all who have need of it, in this, Our Realm, and all the lands of the Known World where ever you may travel.

Crown: Sir [Name], go forth and greet your Peers.

Herald: For Sir [Name], newest Knight of the Order of Chivalry, three cheers!

Be it known that their Majesties, (Name) and (Name), King and Queen of Lochac, do on this day elevate their subject, (Name), to the Peerage of this Kingdom, and do name him/her Knight, and do admit him/her to the Right Noble Order of Chivalry, and they do grant unto him/her by Letters Patent

❖ *these arms: [blazon of recipient's registered device]*

OR

❖ *such arms as you may properly register with our heralds, in the Kingdom of Lochac and throughout the Known World,*

to bear and to hold without let or hindrance throughout their Realm.

By Our word and hand this [number] day of [month], Anno Societatis [year].

(Name) Rex

(Name) Regina