

# Opening and Closing Court

## Opening Court

There is no standard formula for opening a royal court, and actual practice will vary according to the preferences of the Crown, the customs of the region, and the habits of the herald. At minimum, the opening call from the herald usually includes an oyez, some sort of instruction to pay attention, and a statement of whose court is taking place. The following examples are generally applicable, and demonstrate some of the range:

Oyez, Oyez! Gather and pay heed to the court of Their Majesties, [Name] and [Name], [Title] and [Title] of Lochac!

Oyez, Oyez! All rise for the court of Their Majesties, [Name] and [Name]!

Oyez, Oyez, my lords, my ladies, good gentles all! Gather and attend for the court of Their Majesties, [Title] [Name] and [Title] [Name], undoubted Crown of Lochac!

*After the Crown is seated, quietly ask their permission for the populace to make themselves comfortable, then announce:*

You have Their Majesties' leave to make yourselves comfortable.

*If necessary, add an instruction for the populace to draw nigh.*

## Closing Court

The closing of a royal court is very consistent, with the exception of the final cheer. Its purpose is to acknowledge those not named in the ‘long live’ cheers, and it can be varied according to the customs of the area and the preference of the herald. One example is given below.

*After quietly checking with the Crown that there is no further business:*

There being no further business, all rise if able!

*Populace rises.*

Long live the [Sovereign Title]!\*

Long live the [Consort Title]!\*

*(If there are Heirs:)*

Long live the Heirs!

For the Baronages, Peers, and populace of Lochac,  
*(Hip hip, etc.)*

Court is ended!

Note: If the Sovereign and Consort use the same title, they may prefer for these cheers to be announced together (e.g. “Long live the Kings!”), as was the practice in the reign of Ariston and Jochen, or for them to be cheered with their title and first name (e.g. “Long live King [Name]!”), as was the practice in the reign of Thibault and Jayne.