

Crown Tourney: Event Overview

Compared to Coronation, Crown Tourney is ceremonially quite a simple event, but there are still multiple components to juggle. Here is the essential sequence:

Invocation of Crown Lists

This formally begins Crown Tourney itself. It may occur in a court of its own, or after some other items of court business. The herald will need the full Crown List in Order of Precedence; the Crown will need to be prepared to invite the entrants to join the Sovereign's side or Consort's side; and the entrants will need to be prepared to present themselves with ceremony.

Note that court does not end after the Invocation of the Lists: the tourney is considered to occur within the court.

Crown Tourney (Before Finals)

The tournament itself will be conducted by its marshals, lists, and heralds, according to the planned format, until the semifinals. If the format of the semifinals is not immediately obvious (e.g. if there are three remaining combatants), Lists will generally consult with the Crown and the remaining combatants to decide on something appropriate and fair.

Final Round of Crown Tourney

Before the finals of the tournament, there is some additional ceremony. The Crown takes the field, and the final pairs are summoned before them. The Crown Consort invites the consorts of both combatants to stand with them during the finals, and the Crown invites Martial Peers who are in attendance to gather and bear witness to the finals. The Crown may choose at this time for one or both of them to take the field as marshals for the finals.

Once again, court does not end after this ceremony: non-combatants retire from the field, but the finals are considered to occur within the court.

Investiture of Heirs

The Heirs may be invested on the field after the tournament, on the field after a short break to compose themselves, or later in the event when they have had a chance to change.

It has become customary to do a field Investiture with rosemary wreaths, and to also bestow the Principality coronets in a later court, as a compromise between these options. There are variations of both these ceremonies for circumstances where the winner's consort is not present.

Bestowal of Principality Coronets

While the Investiture itself is what makes the winning pair the Heirs, the Principality Coronets are an important piece of regalia with significant history, and a formal bestowal of them gives the Heirs an opportunity to be celebrated as the Heirs while looking their best. It should generally occur as the first item of business in the first proper court after the Heirs are invested.

The Crown should discuss with the Heirs before this ceremony whether they want to have both coronets bestowed by the Crown, or whether they prefer the Heir by Inspiration to receive their coronet from the Heir by Right of Arms.

There is a variation of this ceremony which can take place at a later event if the Heir by Inspiration is not present at Crown Tourney.

Wreaths of Chivalry and Valour

This ceremony can occur in any court after Crown Tourney.