

# **Bylaws of the Emerald Hills Circle of Knights**

*Originally drafted at the Midreign of Sir McFadden in 2001.*

*Changes proposed by Sir Forest Evergreen Dec. 17th, 2006.*

*Sir Morgan Ironwolf June 30th, 2007*

*Revised by Circle Vote, 2012-2014*

*Sir Axident, GMK - Revised by Circle Vote,*

*June 27, 2020*

- 1.) The Guildmaster of Knights must give a minimum of two weeks notice of a Knights meeting to all active knights.
- 2.) The agenda, location, and time for the meeting must be made available at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- 3.) A Knights' meeting must be opened by the Guildmaster of Knights, or a duly appointed representative thereof. If the Guildmaster is absent and has not appointed a representative, the meeting may be opened by a 75% vote of the active Knights present.
- 4.) A Knights meeting must be closed by the Guildmaster of Knights, or a duly appointed representative thereof. If the Guildmaster is absent and has not appointed a representative, the meeting may be closed by a 75% vote of the active Knights present.
- 5.) An active Knight is any Knight:
  - a.) Currently residing in the Emerald Hills, or a Knight Errant thereof, who does not claim any other Kingdom or one of its subgroups
  - b.) That has signed in at a minimum of 8 times within the last 6 months
  - c.) That is currently dues paid to the Kingdom of the Emerald Hills or one of its subgroups.
- 6.) Only active Knights may vote on agenda items.
- 7.) Absentee votes must be given in person up to the end of the meeting, or by e-mail that must be in by Noon on the Saturday the week before the meeting. Proxy voting is not allowed.
- 8.) A Knight may not propose themselves for vote for further Knighthoods.
- 9.) Candidates for Knighthood must have a 75% approval rate to be officially approved by the Circle.
- 10.) A candidate may not appear on the agenda more than 2 times in any one year (12 month) period for each belt they are currently qualified for. (i.e. If a candidate is brought up at Spring Midreign, and then Summer Coronation, that person may not be brought up again until the following Spring Midreign.)

- 11.) If a candidate voted on and approved by the Knights Circle has not been Knighted within two years, they must be approved by the Knights Circle again before being recommended to a future Monarch for Knighting.
- 12.) If a candidate is approved by the Circle then the Guildmaster of Knights, the Monarch, and the candidate's Knight (if applicable) should agree upon when the Knighting ceremony will take place.
- 13.) The Circle of Knights may propose the suspension or removal of a knighthood for cases of serious misconduct such as assault, battery, theft, crimes involving minors, disciplinary problems, or behavior problems within an Amtgard group. Should the behavior or conduct of an EH Knight come into question, any 3 active Knights that meet the criteria listed below may petition the GMoK to have that Knight's belt placed on the CoK agenda for the next meeting. A vote to suspend or remove a belt requires a 75% majority of active Knights (including absentee votes) to pass.
  - a) The three petitioning Knights must be comprised of at least two Orders of Knighthood AND at least two fighting companies or be of unaffiliated status (ie two different fighting companies, or one fighting company and a Knight who is not in a fighting company)
  - b) A Knight may not be brought up for a vote more than once in any 6 month period. After a vote, the Knight in question may not have another vote called upon his/her belt in the following 6 months unless a separate incident occurs during that time, and with the approval of the GMoK.
  - c) Suspension will be taken as a disciplinary action before Expulsion except in extreme cases.
  - d) Suspension of the status, privileges, and rights of Knighthood shall be handled entirely within the CoK and shall not be for a period to exceed 6 months duration. Any restitution or penalty the CoK feels necessary will be decided at the time of the vote of Suspension. The assignment of penalties concurrent with a suspension are the sole purview of the CoK.
  - e) If a vote proposing Expulsion from the CoK passes, the name of the impugned Knight shall be submitted to the Monarch and Prime Minister for review. If the Monarch and Prime Minister agree that the criteria for removal have been met, the Expulsion goes into effect.
  - f) Anyone wishing to challenge a suspension or expulsion should file a petition with the Monarch, PM, and GMoK. Said petition must be signed by at least 20% of the populace, and pass a 2/3 majority vote of an Althing to reverse the suspension or expulsion.
- 14.) The Guildmaster of Knights is responsible for representing the Circle of Knights for the Kingdom. Examples:
  - a) When at an out of Kingdom event the GMK should attend the Knights meeting as representative of the EH.
  - b) If an official situation dealing with Knights arises at an event the GMK should be on hand as counsel to the authorities of the situation.

The Guildmaster of Knights is responsible for...

1. Running Knights Guild meetings at a minimum of two meetings a term, one at Midreign, and one at Coronation.
2. Maintaining a Knights contact list with the most accurate information available, for purposes of meeting notifications and Guild business.
3. The upkeep and moderation of the "eh-knights" e-list as a forum for communication of the Knights of the Emerald Hills.

4. Tallying the votes of the guild and making the vote ratio of candidates available for Emerald Hills Knights Guild review.

*(As stated in the Corpora of the Emerald Hills, a candidate may be knighted by the Monarch without the approval of the Circle, but it is recommended that the Monarch work with the Circle to identify candidates that are ready for Knighthood.)*