Achievements of Arms

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document is intended to provide rules and regulations for the use, display, and registration of achievements of arms within the Kingdom of Artemisia.

WHAT IS AN ACHIEVEMENT OF ARMS?

An achievement of arms is a full display of one’s arms, along with additional heraldic elements that may include a helm, crest, livery, motto, and supporter(s). Definitions of these items, and their rules for use, are included in the next section.

Anyone with registered armory is entitled to display an achievement, however nearly all of the elements are restricted to those with at least an AoA-level award or higher. The most common usage for achievements are on armigerous scrolls, banners and other displays.

NOTES ON ACHIEVEMENTS FOR SCRIBES

When designing and creating scrolls there are a few important things to remember:

- Scrolls which contain armory, whether the blazon, emblazon, or both may only contain armory registered to the recipient by Laurel and the Society College of Arms. Armory should be checked by the scribe either in the SCA Ordinary and Armorial, or by checking with Golden Wing Principal Herald. Until such time that all historical files are available electronically, Golden Wing has access to all original files and artwork for registered armory.
- Scrolls which contain armory also need to have the armory verified by Golden Wing for registration and accuracy. A signature line should be included for this purpose. See the Scribe’s Handbook for details. Golden Wing will be personally available or will make arrangements to sign the scroll at some point after verification of the armory.
- If a scroll recipient has a registered achievement, that is the achievement that should be used on scrolls in most circumstances. The major exception is a scroll elevating the recipient to rank which grants new elements that they were previously not entitled to.
- In the case that a scroll recipient does not have a registered achievement, or new elements are being added, Sable Plume or the assigned scribe should clear all elements with Golden Wing.
- Arms and achievements should only be used on scrolls for armigerous awards.
Rules for Achievement Display

SUMMARY

- Non-armigerous – registered arms and compartment
- Award of Arms – as above, with addition of helmet, livery, and crest
- Grant of Arms – as above, with addition of motto
- Patent of Arms (including the Granted and Royal Peerages) – as above, with addition of supporters
- Nobility (Royal Peers, Court and Territorial Baronage) – as armigerous rank, with special rules for supporters [see below], with addition of Coronet of Rank
- Gryphons of Artemisia – as rank, with special rules for supporters [see below]

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BRANCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Officially recognized branches (as defined in Copora) are entitled to register and have an official achievement as follows:

- **The Kingdom, any future Artemisian Principalities, the Baronies, and Province** – are entitled to the group arms with a pair of supporters, helm, livery, crest, motto, and appropriate coronet. For the landed groups the supporters should be those which are reserved to the group (see below). Provinces, as they have no Landed Nobility, are not entitled to a coronet, nor do they have a reserved supporter.
- **Other Branches** – are entitled to the group arms with a single dexter supporter appropriate to the group, helm, livery, crest and motto.
• **Incipient branches, guilds, households, and other unofficial groups** – are not entitled to an achievement of arms. They are entitled to display registered badges.

**SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT ELEMENTS**

**REGISTERED ARMS**

The arms, or “device”, are the foundation of any full achievement. Only armory registered with the SCA College of Arms may be used on scrolls and in achievements, and achievements will not be registered by Golden Wing Herald without the primary armory being registered first. Registered arms may be displayed on either a period-appropriate shield shape of the submitter’s choosing or a lozenge shape (traditionally used for the display of women’s arms).

Arms displayed on a shield shape may be set couché (tilted 45° to dexter). If this is done, the helm should rest on the upturned sinister corner.

**HELM**

The style of helm should be appropriate to time periods and cultures covered by the SCA. The orientation of the helm is not regulated.

**LIVERY**

For arms displayed on a shield, the livery consists of a torse and mantling. For arms displayed on a lozenge, the livery consists of a bow and cloak.

Tinctures in the livery are generally drawn from the main colors in the arms. They may consist of one color and one metal, one color and one metal based fur, or one color based fur and one metal. In addition, Peers (one row) and Royal Peers (two rows), will be allowed additional lining of any ermined fur that they wish, so long as contrast is maintained with the rest of the livery.

Members of the Order of the Rose may have their mantle (or cloak) strewn with roses (in a tincture that maintains contrast), and Ladies of the Papillion may have it strewn with butterflies. Ladies who are both may include both as strewn charges on the mantle.

**CREST**

For arms displayed on a shield shape, the crest is placed on the helm. For arms displayed on a lozenge, the crest is placed on the torse above the bow.

Crests may consist of one of the following:

- Registered armory of the submitter
- Registered badge of peerage orders (for Peers)
- A single heraldic beast, other than the restricted supporters, unless entitled to their use
- A plume of feathers
- Additional crests may be allowed by Golden Wing, however any crest that appears to be independent armory will be conflict checked. Crests which infringe upon currently registered armory will not be registered.

MOTTO

Mottos may be in any period language, or modern variant thereof. Mottos in any language other than English must be accompanied by an English translation for submission. Mottos must be appropriate, and not offensive.

CORONET OF RANK

For arms displayed on a shield, a rank appropriate coronet either replaces the torse or encircles the base of the helm. On a lozenge, the coronet replaces the torse. Coronets must follow the sumptuary laws of Artemisia or the kingdom in which the title was granted.

SUPPORTERS

Peers (Granted and Royal) are entitled to either one or a pair of supporters as they see fit. Nobility who are not entitled to supporters as a Peer are allowed a single supporter; for former Territorial Baronage who have been granted a Court Barony, special supporters are allowed (see below), for others with a Court Barony, any single non-restricted supporter is allowed. Gryphons of Artemisia who are not otherwise entitled to multiple supporters are also entitled to a single supporter (see below). Supporters are limited to animate creatures and are limited by the restrictions below; additionally, Golden Wing will not register famous historical supporters (such as the lion and unicorn of the United Kingdom).

The following restrictions apply to supporters:

- Royal Peers (of Viscounty, County, or Ducal rank granted by Artemisia) are entitled to a single gryphon of sable or Or. Royal Peers with rank granted solely from foreign Kingdoms or Principalities may have special supporters at the discretion of Golden Wing.
- Gryphons of Artemisia are entitled to a single gryphon erminois.
- Former and current Territorial Baronage are entitled to a single supporter as follows:
  - Barony of Loch Salann – Decapods (of all sorts, including shrimp, lobster, etc.), ideally in sable or argent
  - Barony of One Thousand Eyes – Peacocks, ideally in azure or Or
  - Barony of Arn Hold – Moose, ideally in Or or purpure
  - Barony of Sentinels’ Keep – Cranes, ideally in argent or azure
  - Barony of Gryphon’s Lair – Gryphon azure [or possibly per chevron azure and argent]
- Royal Peers who are also Gryphons of Artemisia may bear a single gryphon barry sable and erminois in place of the gryphon supporters listed above, or one of each.

All charges listed in the previous section are reserved solely to those entitled to them, regardless of tincture. Gryphons are allowed as supporters only as listed above. The above supporters should all be set as the dexter supporter; in the case where a person is entitled to more than one of the above, the
landed supporter (for Royal Peers and Former Territorial Baronage) should be placed to dexter; in the case of multiple landed supporters, the higher precedence land should be placed to dexter.

As supporters are busy holding up the device, they shall not be allowed to be maintaining any other objects, with the following exceptions:

- Founding Barons and Baronesses are entitled to have the baronial supporter (see above) maintaining a spear or banner pole with a banner containing the arms of the Barony.
- Current and former Great Officers (as defined by Kingdom Law) are entitled (but not required) to have one supporter maintaining a spear or banner pole with a banner consisting of the Kingdom Ensign (Or, a gryphon’s head erased sable.) and the badge(s) of the Office(s). With the exception of Golden Wing Herald, which also has a specific seal, the badges of the Great Offices are those registered to the Society. Note, this does not grant the right to a supporter to current or former Great Officers that are not otherwise entitled to one.
- The Crown may, at their discretion, grant specific exemptions to this rule by Royal Decree. These exemptions can be time limited or in perpetuity and shall be treated as any award or honor granted by the Crown, though it will not be tracked in the Order of Precedence, only in the listing of full achievements.

**ADDITIONAL ARTISTIC ELEMENTS**

The following artistic variants are allowed modifications to the significant achievement elements:

- Compartments are unregulated.
- Knights are entitled to have the arms surrounded by a white belt, or an unadorned orle of chain.
- Masters of Arms are entitled to have the arms surrounded by a white baldric.
- Members of the Order of the Pelican are entitled to replace the torse, or entire helm, with a cap of maintenance (traditionally a red hat trimmed in ermine) and/or have the arms encircled with a wreath of pelican feathers.
- Members of the Order of the Laurel are entitled to replace the torse with a laurel wreath and/or have the arms encircled with a laurel wreath.
- Members of the Order of the Rose are entitled to replace the torse with a wreath of roses and/or have the arms encircled with a wreath of roses.
- Members of the Order of Defense are entitled to place a white livery collar around the base of the helm and/or the base of the arms overlaying the compartment.
- Members of the Papillon Argenté d’Artemisie (Ladies of the Papillon) are entitled to have the arms surrounded by a wreath of butterflies in either sable or Or.

Interpersonal relationships (such as Squire, Protégé, Apprentice, Provost and Cadet) are not officially recognized and have no artistic elements associated with them, nor will any be registered.
VISUAL GUIDE TO ACHIEVEMENTS

- Crest
- Torse
- Mantling
- Dexter Supporter
- Sinister Supporter
- Helm
- Arms
- Compartment
- Motto
Registration of Achievements

Golden Wing is currently working on the specifics of the rules for registration, but they will likely include:

- Registration will be done by Golden Wing (or an assigned deputy)
- Registration will be free
- Registration of achievements will only be done for registered devices
- There will be a form to be sent in
- GW will keep a database of registered full achievements and have it readily available for Sable Plume and other scribes

Pictorial Reference Guide

In the near future a compilation of armorial elements will be compiled and made available on the Kingdom website. Until such time as elements can be gathered and published, there are a number of online resources available.