



The Cataract

Summer 2022 Issue

The newsletter of the Barony of Rising Waters, The Kingdom of Ealdormere



September 2022, A.S. LVII (57)

Facebook: [Official SCA The Barony of Rising Waters](#)

Baronial Website: baronyofrisingwaters.org



THE BARONY OF RISING WATERS

The Cataract

The Cataract is the blog for the Barony of Rising Waters. This digest is a record of the posts published over the past 3 months by and for the members of the Barony of Rising Waters of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Cataract is not a corporate publication of the SCA Inc, nor does it delineate SCA policies. All rights remain with the original author, photographer or artist.

To submit content for this blog, or to be added to the mailing list for the digest please contact our Blog Content Manager Crespín Le Fae at cataract.risingwaters@gmail.com

To view past issues of our newsletter published before Jan 2022 please visit The Cataract Newsletter
<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/the-cataract/>

Articles Posted from Jul 1st 2022 to Sep 30th 2022

Fencing Authorization in the SCA

date: September 28, 2022 • by:

<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/fencing-authorization-in-the-sca/>

Greetings good Gentles,

If you have ever wondered what it means to become an “Authorized Fencer” in our fair Kingdom of Ealdormere, read on to find out!

When I attended my first fight practice in the Barony of Rising Waters I heard many new things that I did not yet understand. After going through the process myself, I bring you what I have learned about what Authorization is, how to become an Authorized Fencer, and the privileges that come with it.

What is an Authorized Fencer?

In short, an Authorized Fencer is someone that has demonstrated that they understand the rules of fencing and how to fence safely with others. In the Kingdom of Ealdormere, fencers are expected to follow the rules laid out in the Society-wide “Fencing Marshals’ Handbook” as well as those included in the “Ealdormere Fencing Handbook”. These documents also provide information on the minimum requirements for armour and what weapons may be used. Through practice, fencers also learn “calibration” so their hits will be hard enough to be considered valid but not so hard they risk injuring their opponents.

How do I become an Authorized Fencer?

After familiarizing yourself with the rules of fencing and attending fight practice to learn calibration, fencers can attempt to earn their Authorization. This can take place at a regular fight practice or an event, as long as there are two Fencing Marshals that you do not practice with regularly.

First the Marshals will ask the fencer some questions about fencing, allowing the fencer to demonstrate their understanding of safety and the rules. After, the fencer will be asked to fence with one of the Marshals or an experienced fencer to demonstrate their ability to fence safely and follow the rules while in combat. This also allows the Marshals to assess the fencer’s calibration by feeling their hits and observing which hits received the fencer calls “good”. Marshals will also ask the fencer to fight from the ground and against an opponent on the ground.

Initial authorization is done with a single weapon (usually a rapier) but fencers can also authorize secondarily with a parrying device, two weapons, or a spear.

A fencer that demonstrates verbal understanding and practical application of the rules to the Marshals will then become an Authorized Fencer.

What can Authorized Fencers do?

While Unauthorized Fencers can participate in practices and pick-up bouts, Authorized Fencers are also allowed to enter tournaments and participate in combat demonstrations

at events. Some fencers wish to Authorize as fast as possible so they can jump right in to providing demonstrations for the public and competing at events, but others may be happy to fence at practice and for fun. Authorization is not an indicator of skill, but safety. Not all Authorized Fencers are masters of the sport, and plenty of Unauthorized Fencers are quite good at it.

With all that said, I hope to see you on the list soon!

Crespin le Fae

Upcoming In Person Events

date: September 22, 2022 • by: Chronicler Bera Oddsdottir

<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/upcoming-in-person-events/>



Greetings Rising Waters, it's my pleasure to announce some in-person gatherings we are having in the Barony over the next few weeks!

Archery Practice

Wed Sep 28th – 5:30pm

Mega Practice

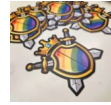
Sat Oct 15th – 1pm

Join us over on [Facebook](#), or visit our [Events Page](#) for more details

Shop Update 2!

date: September 7, 2022 • by: Chatelaine Rhys of Anglesey

<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/shop-update-2/>



Hello my dear Rising Waters friends! Today I bring you more news from our gorgeous official shop.

As you know, due to inflation, the cost for shipping was bumped up to \$15. During our last update we promised that we'd be bringing some fun stickers to the shop soon and did we deliver! Check out our new awesome merch and snag yourself some Rising Waters stickers as well as our Rainbow Pride Devices to show your support! There are discounts for purchasing in groups of 2!



Barony of Rising Waters
Heraldry in the form of a 3
inch sticker



Shnazzy rainbow Heraldry
stickers!

Both can be purchased [HERE in our shop!](#) Along with many fine articles of garb. Get ready for the cooler season with some new clothes!

Please check out our shop policies page if you have any questions about the blog, or you can email us, Bera, at webminister.risingwaters@gmail.com or our Chatelaine, Rhys, at chatelaine.risingwaters@gmail.com

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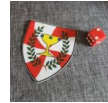
Rhys of Anglesey

Chatelaine, Barony of Rising Waters

Shop Update

date: August 24, 2022 • by: Webminister Bera Oddsdottir

<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/shop-update/>



Just a quick shop update from your friendly neighborhood Webminister! Our webstore has been online for just about 4 months now and we're pretty pleased with the results so far!

We have had a total of 5 transactions take place. This has both earned the Barony \$160 and also brought down the size of our stash of garb.

There are some updates to the shop happening as well:

1. the cost for shipping unfortunately was bumped up to \$15. Shipping packages in Canada unfortunately is pricey and CanadaPost is raising their prices again soon. We highly encourage you to make use of the community and get an SCA courier for your items if you're not able to pick up locally
2. The shop team (consisting of myself and our Chatelaine Rhys) have been working on getting some additional fun items to add to the shop.. so coming soon will be some Barony Heraldry stickers!



Barony of Rising Waters
Heraldry in the form of a 3
inch sticker – dice for scale

Please check out our shop policies page if you have any questions about the blog, or you can email myself, Bera, at webminister.risingwaters@gmail.com or our Chatelaine, Rhys, at chatelaine.risingwaters@gmail.com

YIS

Bera Oddsdottir

Webminister, Barony of Rising Waters