

**Avacal Arts and Sciences Championship**  
**POLICY GUIDE and COMPETITION RULES Revised August 15, A.S. 44 (2009)**

The Avacal Champion of Arts & Sciences represents the Principality through leadership and example. The Champion should have a public presence in promoting the arts and sciences within the Principality, show a breadth of skills and be ready and able to judge, teach and guide the populace of Avacal.

The Champion will be expected to serve as an inspiration and role model to others, especially through setting up displays, contests and forums at local and Principality events in cooperation with the Minister of Arts & Sciences (both Principality and Local, as required). The Champion will work closely with the Principality Minister of Arts & Sciences in putting on the competition to choose his/her successor. This includes promotion, recruiting contestants, and judging.

**The Champion**

The Avacal Arts & Sciences Champion will serve a term of one year. No person may serve as two Principality Champions at the same time. No person may enter more than one Principality Champion's Tournament at one time. Holding a Principality Championship and Local Championship is permitted solely at the discretion of Their Highnesses and the Baron/Baroness (where applicable).

The Avacal Arts & Sciences Champion, assisted by the Principality Minister of Arts & Sciences, must oversee the tournament to choose their successor at the February Investiture following their victory. The Champion is responsible for the regalia of their office and must pass it on to their successor. If the Arts & Sciences Champion is unable to serve for the entire year, the Principality Minister of Arts & Sciences or other designate, agreed upon by The Coronets, The Tanist & Tanista, and the Principality Minister of Arts & Sciences, will organize and oversee the next tournament.

The Champion may not enter the competition to choose their successor. If no successor is found, it is the right of The Coronets to ask the current Champion to remain for an additional year.

**Avacal Arts and Sciences Championship Entry Requirements**

To enter competition for the Avacal Arts & Sciences Championship, entrants must have a current membership in the SCA, Inc., and must maintain it during their tenure as Champion. Proof of membership will be required at the time of competition.

Entrants to the Championship must have been a resident of Avacal for at least 6 months, and reasonably expect to remain a resident for the duration of their term.

All entrants to the Championship must declare in writing their intent to enter items into the Arts and Sciences tournament. This letter of intent must be sent to the current Arts & Sciences Champion, The Coronet, and the Principality Minister of Arts & Sciences on or before JANUARY 15th of the competition year. Single entrants need only notify the A&S Champion and Minister of A&S in writing by the deadline. Artisans entering the single entry or in-depth feedback category should clearly indicate this on their entry notification. Any research paper entries must be complete, and four hard copies and/or an electronic copy mailed to the Arts & Sciences Champion or Minister of Arts & Sciences, no later than February 1st of the year of the intended competition.

All those competing to become the Arts & Sciences Champion of Avacal must attend the event where the competition is being held. This requirement may only be waived with prior consent by the express and written permission of The Coronet, in the case of emergency or similar extenuating circumstances. Single entry participants may submit entries in absentia, with prior permission from the Coronets, via an identified representative who will take sole responsibility for the item(s). However, entrants are strongly encouraged to attend.

All entrants will be expected to identify themselves and their entries, and must be available during their scheduled judging periods to answer questions regarding their entries. All entries will be numbered for organizational purposes, and judging periods will be scheduled and announced prior to the event.

There are no longer specific categories. Entrants are expected to describe their entries with enough information to determine suitable judges, and thoroughly document the focus of their entry for the competition.

### **Avacal Arts and Sciences Championship Competition Rules**

All entries must be within the time period 500-1600 CE, and be of a European culture, or from a culture that had contact with Europe at that time.

Champion competitors must have at least three (3), but no more than five (5) separate entries in order to be eligible to become the overall winner and Avacal Champion of the Arts and Sciences.

Individual objects may count toward no more than two entries (i.e.: a 16th c. embroidered chemise may be entered for the chemise construction and for 16th C. embroidery. Bear in mind that for such cross-entry, each entry should be adequate to stand up as a full entry on its own and have individual supporting documentation.

Only the contestant's top three (3) scores will be totalled to determine the Champion.

You may not enter the same object in more than two Avacal A&S Competitions.

Pieces previously entered in a Kingdom Championship are not eligible for competition.

Performance and literature categories may be subject to time/length restrictions, and research papers will be due at a time prior to the actual event (see Entry Requirements, above).

Avacal Arts and Sciences Championship entrants may not be judges.

### **Single Entry Rules**

All entries must be within the time period 500-1600 CE, and be of a European culture, or from a culture that had contact with Europe at that time.

Individuals may not present more than two (2) single entries for judging.

Individual objects may count toward no more than two entries (i.e.: a 16th c. embroidered chemise may be entered for the chemise construction and for 16th C. embroidery. Bear in mind that for such cross-entry, each entry should be adequate to stand up as a full entry on its own and have individual supporting documentation.

You may not enter the same object in more than two Avacal A&S Competitions.

Pieces previously entered in a Kingdom Championship are not eligible for competition

Performance and literature categories may be subject to time/length restrictions, and research papers will be due at a time prior to the actual event (see above under Entry Requirements)

Single entrants may be asked to judge if necessary.

### **Judging & Prizes**

Judges may not judge a category where there may be personal bias (i.e.: Peers judging own apprentice/squire's work, patrons judging a commissioned work, judging the work of a spouse/SO, etc.) and must indicate such bias to the judging organizer and decline the judging of that entry.

Each entry will be given a base point score out of twenty-five (25) possible points for objects/performance, and twenty (20) points for research papers.

Judging is based on:

Objects/Performance

\*Initial Impression/Display

\*Documentation

\*Authenticity and Design

\*Technical Ability

\*Complexity of Piece

Research papers

\*Initial Impression/Presentation

\*Research Ability

\*Technical Ability

\*Complexity of Subject

Each judging category will be weighted according to importance with a final score of 100 possible points. A maximum of five (5) bonus points per judge, per entry may be awarded at the judge's discretion if they feel that the entrant has gone above and beyond the criteria listed above. Bonus points are in addition to the weighted base point tally, and are weighted and added separately from the base point total for a maximum of fifteen (15) bonus points per entry..

The Principality of Avacal does not allow joint Arts & Sciences Champions. In the case of identical scoring for two or more contenders, the current Champion and Minister of Arts & Sciences shall meet with Their Highnesses to determine a method of breaking the tie. Under no circumstances will this method be construed as any form of precedent or tradition.

Prizes will be awarded in the following areas:

\*Avacal Champion of Arts & Sciences

\*Novice Triathlon Winner

\*Highest Overall Scoring Entry (including Triathlon and Single entries)

\*Coronets Choice

\*Champions Choice

\*Judges Choice

\*Populace Choice

We hereby attest to the suitability of these policies and competition guidelines for the determination of the Avacal Arts and Sciences Champion. Done this August 15, 2009, A.S. 40.

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Hjalti, Prince Avacal

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Eirika, Princess Avacal

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Gemma Delaroche,  
Avacal Arts & Sciences Champion

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Sadb ingen Thuathail, Avacal Minister of Arts & Sciences