

Kingdom Houndmistress/master, and Regulations for Hound Conduct

I The Kingdom Houndmistress/master

A. Definition of Office and Administrative Responsibilities

1. The Kingdom Houndmistress/master is a kingdom-level deputy of the Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences, and holds office according to the Society's Governing Documents, the Laws & Policies of Æthelmearc, and the policies of the KMoAS.
2. The Kingdom Houndmistress/master promotes all canine-related activities in the Kingdom of Æthelmearc. Some examples of canine activities include, but are not limited to coursing, earthwork, tracking and carting. The Kingdom Houndmistress/master shall report to the Kingdom Minister of Arts & Sciences according to KMoAS policies, and shall keep event reports on record for the term of his or her office.
 - a. Event reports shall include the following information: Name, place, and date of event; name (SCA and modern) of officer reporting, name(s) (Society and modern) of any Regional Hound Masters or other Canine Officers participating, number of canines and owner/handlers participating, and any accidents/injuries that may have occurred. Event reports must be filed with the KMoAS and the Kingdom Houndmistress/master within 30 days of the event.
 - b. A canine activity waiver must be signed by all participants in canine activities.

B. Specific Duties of the Kingdom Houndmistress/master

1. Above all, to promote the various canine activities for the Kingdom of Æthelmearc, and to provide safety guidelines for such activities.
2. To provide education to the populace at large in all aspects of the art of canine activities, and to encourage members of the canine arts community to provide education through classes and activities.
3. To appoint, warrant, and oversee the training of all canine officers, and to ensure their proper conduct according to the Society's Governing Documents, the Laws & Policies of Æthelmearc, the policies of the KMoAS, and the policies of the Kingdom Houndmistress/master.

II Regional Houndmistresses/masters

A. When possible, there shall be a Regional Houndmistress/master for each region of Æthelmearc. Regional Hound Mistresses/Masters are appointed and warranted by the Kingdom Houndmistress/master and hold office according to the Society's Governing Documents, the Laws & Policies of Æthelmearc, the policies of the KMoAS, and the policies of the Kingdom Houndmistress/master.

B. Each Regional Houndmistress/master is responsible for and supervises all canine activities in her/his region.

C. All Hound Mistresses/Masters must ensure that the health, wellbeing, and safety of all participants in any canine-related activity are their first priority at all times.

D. Each Regional Houndmistress/master shall report to the Kingdom Houndmistress/master quarterly and following each event in her/his region according to the policies of the Kingdom Houndmistress/master.

E. Once officially appointed and warranted, Regional Hound Mistresses/Masters may train other canine officers (such as Luremasters, Quarrymasters and Houndmistress/masters

at Large) at their discretion. Group Houndmistress/masters can be created at the request of the groups Seneschal.

F. All Luremasters, Quarrymasters, Local and at Large Houndmistress/masters shall report quarterly to their Regional Houndmistress/ master.

III Regulations for Hound Conduct

A. Any owner or handler entering a hound in an event does so at his or her own risk and agrees to assume responsibility for any damage to facilities caused by his hound(s) or injuries caused by his hounds(s) to any other hound or person. Any owner or handler also realizes that accidents do happen from time to time in canine activities, and assumes responsibility and will not hold any part of the SCA Inc. liable for injury to his own hound(s) as well.

B. Each owner or handler must complete a canine activity waiver, listing each hound participating.

C. At no time may a minor course a hound unless (a) his or her parent or guardian is present and watching the minor(s) and the parent/guardian has spoken with the acting Lure Master to understand the hazards and risks involved in this activity.

D. Handlers are responsible for keeping their hounds under control at all times. Loose hounds constitute a danger and distraction, and are grounds for the handler and his or her hound(s) being barred from participation in the activity for the rest of the event.

E. Handlers shall be responsible for collecting their hounds at the end of each activity. All hounds must be retrieved and under control before any further canine activity will commence.

F. The Houndmistress/master in charge is the primary officer responsible for the safety and wellbeing of the hounds and participants in any canine-related event. Failing to heed the instructions of the Houndmistress/master is grounds for being barred from participation in the activity for the rest of the event.

G. If a Houndmistress/master is not present, then the Luremaster or Quarrymaster present is responsible for safety and waivers.

H. The Houndmistress/master or officer in charge is responsible for finding a Veterinarian that holds hours at the time of the activity no further than 30 minutes away from the activity site in case of emergency.

I. Each canine participating in an event MUST show proof of current rabies vaccine in the form of a rabies certificate in order to participate. Rabies tags are not an acceptable form of proof.

J. Hound owners and handlers are expected to follow local state, county, and city laws regarding their hound(s). All hounds will be properly cleaned up after and the waste properly disposed of.

K. When applicable, dew claws and stopper pads shall be wrapped with vet wrap prior to activity to ensure safety and prevent injury.

L. It will be left to the in charge Houndmistress/master's discretion as to whether or not a hound is safe to participate in canine activities. Safe is defined as physically able to participate as well as the hounds demeanor and attitude toward other hounds and humans.