

Kingdom of Atenveldt
Youth Activities Coordinator Guidelines
November 2008

The Society for Creative Anachronism and Kingdom of Atenveldt encourage Youth participation in the reconstruction of the historical arts as they were known in the courts of the European Middle Ages and Renaissance. Youth Activities Coordinators are necessary Officers giving of their time to ensure age related activities to enrich the experience of Youth as they participate, learn and grow in the idealisms of the culture, life, pastimes and chivalric mannerisms embodied in the SCA.

For the context of this document these terms are defined:

- *Youth: Any individual who is under the legal age of 18 years, (child, minor, teen, etc.)
- *Youth Officer: Any warranted Youth Activities coordinator who organizes activities for SCA events primarily for Youth participation: Youth Arts, Youth Officers, Youth Ministers, Youth Combat Officers.

Requirements to become a Youth Officer/Youth Combat Officer in the Kingdom of Atenveldt:

- *The individual must be an Adult over the age of 18 years.
- *The individual must be a paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism and must remain a paid member in good standing (current membership) for the duration of their Office warrant.
- *The individual must meet the approval of the Baron/Baroness (where applicable), Local Group Seneschal, and Kingdom Youth (Youth Combat) Officer.
- *As per a BOD decision implemented in February 2008: ALL warranted Youth Officers, primary coordinators of Youth Activities, Arts and Sciences and/or martial, must undergo and pass a background check by a properly licensed vendor chosen by the Corporate Office in Milpitas. http://www.sca.org/BOD/announcements/background_checks.pdf

Process for the mandatory Youth Officer background check:

- *Potential Youth Officer contacts Kingdom Youth Officer/Kingdom Youth Combat Officer (as applicable) with interest to become a warranted Youth Officer.
- *The Kingdom Youth Officer contacts the Kingdom Seneschal with the potential Youth Officer's contact information.
- *The Kingdom Seneschal places the name of the potential Youth Officer on a list, which is included in a monthly Kingdom Report to Milpitas (status of background check report).
- *The Kingdom Seneschal contacts the potential Youth Officer to send the potential Officer the necessary forms to be faxed to the Corporate Office in Milpitas.
- *The Kingdom Seneschal will receive a monthly "status" report updating the process of the potential Youth Officer. (Name has been received, forms have been received, background check is completed).
- *The Kingdom Seneschal will receive ONLY the information regarding "pass" or "fail" status regarding the potential Youth Officer application. No further information will be disclosed to the Kingdom Seneschal and ALL application information is kept confidential at the Corporate Office in Milpitas.

*Once the potential Youth Officer's background check is successfully completed, the Corporate Office in Milpitas will send a NEW membership card with the approved background check information listed on the card, to the Youth Officer. The background check approval information has the duration of two (2) years.

What are the responsibilities of the warranted Youth Activities Officer?

- *Organize and oversee age appropriate historical arts activities for Youth participation.
- *Be knowledgeable in the Kingdom of Atenveldt Youth Guidelines.
- *Be responsible to always apply the "Two Adult Deep Leadership" rule. Two unrelated adults (IE not spouses, children of, parent of, sibling to the other supervisory adult) must be present at ALL times while organized Youth activities take place at SCA sanctioned events. If two unrelated adults are not available, CANCEL the organized Youth activity.
- *Whenever possible, keep all organized activities in eyesight of the main event activities.
- *Always be mindful to ensure the safety and well being of all participants in the organized Youth activity.

What are the responsibilities of the warranted Youth Combat Officer?

- *Organize and oversee age appropriate martial arts activities for Youth participants.
- *Be knowledgeable in the Kingdom of Atenveldt Youth Combat Martial guidelines as they apply to safety equipment, Youth Combat weapons, and age categories for participants.
- *The parent/appointed guardian of the Youth Combatant must always be in range for the Youth to engage in martial activities. This affords the "Two Adult Deep Leadership" rule (as long as the Youth Combat Officer and parent are NOT related). If the parent/designated guardian (with Medical Authorization waiver) is not available, the youth may NOT engage in combat activity.
- *Conduct safety equipment and Youth combat weapons check prior to Youth participation and during the tournament/use as necessary to ensure safety of participants.
- *Always be mindful to ensure the safety and well being of all participants, and those in proximity to the combat field, during the martial activity.

What the Youth Officer is NOT:

- *The warranted Youth Officer in the Kingdom of Atenveldt is NOT a babysitting service.
- *The warranted Youth Officer in the Kingdom of Atenveldt does NOT take the place of the parent/guardian, nor the responsibility to discipline youth.
- *The warranted Youth Officer in the Kingdom of Atenveldt may NOT restrain or detain a Youth and therefore is NOT responsible for the whereabouts of Youth at a sanctioned SCA event.

Youth Officers are Volunteers. They give of their time, resources, patience, knowledge and submit to background checks to ensure the safety of our children while offering a positive experience for the Youth within the SCA. Whenever possible, as a parent or "other" adult, please consider offering to volunteer of your time to assist in whatever capacity the Youth Officer may request. In this, the activities and events are more joyful for all.