



Kingdom of Atenveldt

Estrella War Policy Document

Estrella War Principal Kingdom Benefits and Responsibilities

Last Revised 8/13/08

Purpose of This Policy

Each year, the Kingdom of Atenveldt hosts and runs Estrella War, an official SCA event to recreate a medieval war between two sets of allied SCA Kingdoms (called Allied Realms). Recognizing that Estrella War is a combined effort of many kingdoms that requires significant coordination on many levels it has become necessary to codify in writing some of the procedures and traditions for conducting Estrella War.

This document will clarify the benefits and responsibilities carried by the “**SCA Principal Kingdoms for Estrella War**” that comprise the two the Allied Realms at that Estrella War.

Definition of “SCA Principal Kingdoms for Estrella War”

Over the years, the specific SCA Kingdoms participating as Principal Kingdoms at Estrella War have varied, based on annual invitations sent by the Crown of Atenveldt – invitations that may be accepted or declined by the SCA Kingdoms receiving the invitations. This tradition was established in response to the valid and reasonable reticence that all SCA Kingdoms have in making long-term commitments for their future Crowns/Heirs and Kingdom Officers. This becomes more important in light of the increasing cost for travel, and the ongoing struggle all SCA Kingdoms have in establishing budgets and setting priorities for their Kingdom resources.

In the first 24 years of the event, the [Estrella War Chronology](#) shows that three SCA Kingdoms have joined the Kingdom of Atenveldt as Principal Kingdoms working to support, maintain and improve Estrella War:

- The Kingdom of Caid has been a Principal Kingdom at Estrella War 22 times
- The Kingdom of the Outlands has been a Principal Kingdom at Estrella War 14 times
- The Kingdom of Artemisia has been a Principal Kingdom at Estrella War 11 times

These Principal Kingdoms have made substantial contributions to the success of the event, and to the Glory of Combat and Competition at Estrella War, and have thus been invited to continue as Principals for many years.

Going forward, the Kingdom of Atenveldt believes it remains important to deliver an annual invitation to SCA Kingdoms to serve as a Principal Kingdom. This allows each SCA Kingdoms receiving an invitation to evaluate the resources they believe are required to serve as a Principal Kingdom based on the resources and desires of their populace. Each invited Kingdom may then

accept or decline the invitation without issue or rancor based on their Kingdom priorities. Here's how it's done:

1. In May/June of the year preceding an Estrella War, the Crown of Atenveldt selects the SCA Kingdoms they wish to invite to be Principal Kingdoms for the next Estrella War. The Crown then instructs the *Estrella War Treaty Coordinator* to send invitations to the Crown/Heirs, Kingdom Seneschal, Kingdom Earl Marshal, and Kingdom Exchequer of those SCA Kingdoms. The invitation includes a statement that the SCA Kingdom must agree to meet the responsibilities outlined in this "*Estrella War Principal Kingdom Benefit and Responsibilities*" document for a specific Estrella War, and provides a date deadline for a response to the invitation.
2. To participate as a Principal Kingdom, an SCA Kingdom will:
 - a. Have the invitation to participate as a Principal Kingdom signed by their Crown/Heirs and Kingdom Seneschal.
 - b. Return the signed invitation to participate as a Principal Kingdom to the Kingdom of Atenveldt Crown and Kingdom Seneschal by the stated date deadline.

A "*Template for Invitation to an SCA Kingdom to participate as a Principal Kingdom for Estrella War*" is included as Appendix A.

Benefits for "SCA Principal Kingdoms for Estrella War"

SCA Kingdoms accepting an invitation to participate as a Principal Kingdom for an Estrella War receive a number of benefits. This includes (but is not limited to):

1. The Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms jointly define an annual Estrella War Treaty that outlines the medieval activities conducted between the Allied Realms at the Estrella War. Traditionally, this includes creating and approving:
 - Combat scenarios for armored combat
 - Rapier Scenarios
 - Target Archery shoots
 - Arts & Sciences Competition categories and rules

Since the annual Treaty defines the theme, special rules, and scheduling of medieval activities at the event, it is the primary instrument that governs the way the medieval war is conducted each year. Those who define the activities in this Treaty, define the content of what happens at Estrella War each year.

2. The Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms determine which SCA Principal Kingdoms shall ally to form the two Allied Realms at each Estrella War.
3. The Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms shall appoint a command structure, lead the armies of the two Allied Realms engaged in the medieval conflict at Estrella War, and lead the ceremonial activities at the event, including opening of battle, Grand Court, opening of the Target Archery Range, and more.

4. Principal Kingdom Crowns, or appointees designated by those Crowns, work together at an annual meeting (usually held in conjunction with Treaty Negotiations) to allocate a fair portion of land for their Kingdom's camping at the event. This may include negotiating land for the non-Principal SCA Kingdoms they ally with for the event. The placement and size of camping areas are based on each Kingdom's land use/attendance in previous years, and projected numbers for camping land in their Kingdom Lands for the next Estrella War. Principal Kingdoms are then also responsible for administering the distribution of those designated camping areas for their populace and their non-Principal Kingdom allies. Since Estrella War has limited "over-flow camping", the allocation of a reserved camping area is a major benefit of serving as a Principal Kingdom for the event.
5. The Earl Marshals of the Principal Kingdoms, or their Crown appointed designees, serve as the Senior Marshalling staff for Estrella War, and govern the quality, content and administration of medieval combat and Target Archery competitions conducted at the event as follows:
 - The Earl Marshals serve as the Senior Marshalling staff that administers and manages armored combat activities, and assure adherence to the Estrella War Treaty for that year.
 - The Kingdom Marshals of Rapier serve as the Senior Marshalling staff that administers and manages Rapier combat.
 - The Kingdom Archers serve as the Target Archery Senior Marshalling Team that administers and manages target archery activities.
 - The Kingdom Arts & Sciences Ministers recommend categories and judging rules for the Estrella War Arts & Sciences competition, and then administer and manage that competition.
6. The Kingdom Exchequers of the Principal Kingdoms serve on the Estrella War Financial Committee (see the [Estrella War Financial Policy](#)). This committee is responsible for approving and managing financial decisions about the Estrella War, including the amounts spent on amenities/services for the event, the site fees established for the event, and the amount paid to local SCA groups for the volunteer hours worked by the populace during the event.
7. Each Principal Kingdom receives a "Principal Kingdom Profit Split" after the event for which they served as a Principal (i.e, the Principal Kingdom is sent a check for a portion of the event profit). Under the guidelines in the [Estrella War Financial Policy](#), the actual dollar amount of this Profit Split is determined by the Estrella War Financial Committee each year.
8. The "**Ongoing Policy Publication Standards**" section of this Estrella War Policy document explains that for one year following their participation as a Principal Kingdom, the Crown/Heirs, Kingdom Seneschal and Earl Marshal of a Principal Kingdom will be asked for commentary by the Kingdom of Atenveldt if there are proposed changes to these "***Estrella War Principal Kingdom Benefits and Responsibilities***".

Responsibilities of an "SCA Principal Kingdoms for Estrella War"

SCA Kingdoms who accept the Kingdom of Atenveldt invitation to be a Principal Kingdom for an Estrella War also agree to bear some responsibilities related to Estrella War.

1. **The Crown/Heirs and Officers of a Principal Kingdom are asked to participate in the creation of a draft Estrella War Treaty** for review at Estrella War Treaty Negotiations as follows:
 - a. The Crown/Heirs and Earl Marshal of each Principal Kingdom are asked to submit suggestions for armored combat scenarios to the Crown of Atenveldt and the Estrella War Treaty Negotiator no later than August of the year preceding the War (the exact date to be determined by agreement of the Principal Kingdoms).
 - b. The Arts & Sciences Minister, Kingdom Marshal of Fence, and Kingdom Archery Officer of each Principal Kingdom (or the corresponding individuals designated by the Crown) are asked to work with their counterparts in the other Principal Kingdoms to create and submit a Treaty appendix for review by the Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms no later than August of the year preceding the War (the exact date to be determined by agreement of the Principal Kingdoms).

The suggested combat scenarios and Treaty Appendices submitted by the Principal Kingdoms are expected to be submitted by the deadlines outlined above, and must use the *Estrella War Treaty Template* and the *Estrella War Arts & Sciences, Rapier and Target Archery Addendum Guidelines* provided for that purpose on the www.estrellawar.org website.

2. Each Principal Kingdom agrees that:
 - a. **Some combination of Their Crown/Heirs shall attend the Estrella War Treaty Negotiations meeting** to negotiate and finalize an Estrella War Treaty that defines the medieval combat and competitions to be conducted at the Estrella War for which they are a Principal. The Estrella War Treaty Negotiation is held the third weekend of October in the year preceding the Estrella War, and is held in the Kingdom of Atenveldt.
 - b. **The Crowns/Heirs attending the Estrella War Treaty Negotiations meeting shall come to the negotiations with prior approval of their Kingdom Financial Committees** to authorize/reject proposed financial expenditures outlined in the draft Treaty sent for review before the meeting.
 - c. **During the Estrella War Treaty Negotiations meeting, only the Crowns/Heirs of Principal Kingdoms shall be appointed to speak for Their Kingdoms.** Advisors may attend, but are expected to limit their participation to privately advising their Crown or Heirs in shaping the negotiation points.
 - d. **Any Principal Kingdom may request that the sitting Crown/Heirs from a non-Principal SCA Kingdom attend the Estrella War Treaty Negotiations meeting in an advisory capacity.** When non-Principal allied Crown/Heirs attend, They may take a speaking role in discussions if a majority of the Principal Kingdoms agree, but final decisions remain the sole privilege of the Crowns/Heirs of the designated Principal Kingdoms.
3. **Each Principal Kingdom agrees to the following publication guidelines** at no cost to the Kingdom of Atenveldt or the Estrella War (all but the last of these are Corporate requirements for Principal Kingdoms):
 - Publication of short, informational Estrella War event articles/ in their Kingdom Newsletters in the two months preceding the event.
 - A notice of publication of the Estrella War Treaty on the www.estrellawar.org website in their Kingdom Newsletters.

- Publication of all financial reports related to the Estrella War in their Kingdom Newsletters as required in [Estrella War Financial Policy](#).
- Inclusion of the Estrella War on their published Kingdom Calendar.
- Links to the www.estrellawar.org website shall be included on their Kingdom websites for the six months before the event.

4. **Each Principal Kingdom is encouraged to make all reasonable efforts to maintain a participation level and volunteer hours that maintains and increases the success and enjoyment of Estrella War (statistics for Principal Kingdom participation levels at the most recent years can be requested from the Kingdom of Atenveldt).** This may be accomplished by creating alliances with non-Principal Kingdoms, or bringing forces from their own populace, but is intended to ensure that each Principal Kingdom leads a sufficient number of heavy combat/rapier combatants, target archery, and Arts & Sciences competitors to produce reasonably equal sides (balanced competition) between the Allied Realms.

The Kingdom of Atenveldt recognizes that some Principal Kingdoms are larger than others, and that travel distances may affect the number of attendees who can attend from a specific Principal Kingdom. However, that does not mean that the Kingdom of Atenveldt will withhold invitations for such Kingdoms to serve as Principals at Estrella War. Instead, the Kingdom of Atenveldt may invite such Kingdoms based on their ability to lead a Principal Kingdom force built from their own populace or formed through alliances with SCA Kingdoms who are not Principal Kingdoms.

5. **The Crowns of all Principal Kingdoms Reigning at the time of Estrella War are expected to attend the event,** and participate in the ceremonial activities negotiated and outlined for the Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms in the Estrella War Treaty for that year.
6. **Each Principal Kingdom agrees that their Crown and Officers shall abide by, and provide the officer services and equipment defined in the following Estrella War Policies:**
- [Estrella War Financial Policy](#)
 - *Estrella War Treaty* published for the year they are a Principal Kingdom
 - *Estrella War Arts & Sciences, Rapier and Target Archery Addendum Guidelines*
 - *Estrella War Armored Combat Scenario Bylaws*)
 - *Estrella War Marshallate Guidelines*
 - *Estrella War Armor/Weapons Standards and Fighting Conventions*

Ongoing Policy Publication Standards

To become an official Estrella War Policy,

- This document must be signed by the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, and Earl Marshal of the Kingdom of Atenveldt.
- A complete copy of the policy must be filed with the SCA Society Seneschal and the SCA Society Marshal.
- A complete copy of the policy must be posted on www.estrellawar.org
- Notification of adoption of this policy, or publication of an updated version of the policy, must be published in the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Atenveldt.

The implementation of changes to this document will be dependent on the time of year they are completed, as follows:

1. **If Principal Kingdoms have accepted invitations to serve as Principal Kingdoms for a specific Estrella War (the time between Principal Kingdoms accepting the terms of this document and the War where they are Principals),** changes or additions to this document may only be made if accompanied by the signatures of all of the Crowns of the Principal Kingdoms for that Estrella War.
2. **If Principal Kingdoms have not yet been established for a specific Estrella War,**
 - The Kingdom of Atenveldt must send draft changes to the Crown/Heirs, Seneschals and Earl Marshals of the Principal Kingdoms for the prior year's Estrella War, along with a request that they return their comments and recommendations to the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, and Earl Marshal of the Kingdom of Atenveldt within 30 days of receiving the draft changes.
 - Prior year Principal Kingdom commentary on the changes must be reviewed and considered by Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, and Earl Marshal of the Kingdom of Atenveldt prior to implementation and publication of changes.

Estrella War Traditions Review

On July 1, 2008, the first version of guidelines implemented for Estrella War in this document were reviewed and approved by the Crowns and Earl Marshals of the following SCA Kingdoms in recognition of the role those Kingdoms have played as Principal Kingdoms for more than ten Estrella Wars: Kingdom of Caid, Kingdom of the Outlands, and the Kingdom of Artemisia. With their approval, those Kingdoms acknowledged that the initial guidelines reflect traditional Estrella War standards for combat and activities conducted at that event.

Done by Our Hands, in the Kingdom of Atenveldt, on this, the 1st Day of July, Anno Societatis XLIII, Being the Year 2008 in the Common Reckoning..

Phelan

Rex Atenveldtus

Amirah

Regina Atenveldtus

Gwenllian

Atenveldt Kingdom Seneschal

Tighearnain

Atenveldt Earl Marshal

APPENDIX A: Template for Invitation to an SCA Kingdom to participate as a Principal Kingdom for Estrella War

[INSERT DATE]

TRM [INSERT ATEN CROWN], King and Queen of Atenveldt, send Warm Greetings Unto the Crown/Heirs, Kingdom Seneschal, Kingdom Earl Marshal, and Kingdom Exchequer of the Kingdom of [INSERT SCA KINGDOM]!

We wish to invite Your Kingdom to participate as a Principal Kingdom for the Estrella War [INSERT WAR] to be held [INSERT DATE OF NEXT ESTRELLA WAR]. As You consider this invitation, We ask that You review the attached copy of the “*Estrella War Principal Kingdom Benefits and Responsibilities*”, with the understanding that accepting this invitation means Your Kingdom agrees to take on the Principal Kingdom responsibilities outlined there.

To respond to this invitation,

1. Check one of the following and have Your Crown/Heirs and Kingdom Seneschal sign where indicated.

_____ The [INSERT SCA KINGDOM] accepts this invitation.

_____ The [INSERT SCA KINGDOM] declines this invitation.

King [INSERT KINGDOM]

Queen [INSERT KINGDOM]

Crown Prince [INSERT KINGDOM]

Crown Princess

Kingdom Seneschal [INSERT KINGDOM]

Date Signed

2. Email a scanned copy of this signed invitation, or mail a signed copy of this signed invitation, to the following TWO addresses by [INSERT DATE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPT/DECLINE]:

Crown of Atenveldt: [INSERT EMAIL & MAIL ADDRESS]

Aten Kingdom Seneschal: [INSERT EMAIL & MAIL ADDRESS]

Regardless of Your response to this invitation, the Kingdom of Atenveldt wishes to thank You, Your Populace and Your Kingdom for Your continued support of Estrella War.

Done by Our Hands, in the Kingdom of Atenveldt, on this, the ?? Day of ??, Anno Societatis [INSERT YEAR], Being the Year [INSERT YEAR] in the Common Reckoning.

Signature

Rex Atenveldtus

Signature

Regina Atenveldtus