

PAGEANTRY SECTION OPERATING GUIDELINES

SECTION I - THE COURT

1. **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION:** It has been said that among gay organizations, the Court System "is the most controversial, the most misunderstood." This brief history is designed to answer questions commonly asked about the Court and will hopefully clear up some of the misunderstandings.
2. **WHERE DID THE COURT SYSTEM BEGIN?** In San Francisco, which has been known for its outrageous personalities and colorful figures? So it was in that city that Empress I, Jose declared himself the Dowager Widow of the Emperor Norton - Empress of San Francisco and the Protectress of Mexico. Emperor Norton is an actual historical figure of the 1800's, a product of the first wave of gold miners to the Barbary Coast. An eccentric, he made a fortune in gold, lost a fortune in rice, and finally declared himself the Emperor of San Francisco. Jose Sarria was notorious in 1965. He was perhaps the first openly gay political candidate, when he ran for city supervisor in 1961. At the same time he was doing this, a group of gay bar owners were organizing the "Tavern Guild". This organization was designed to provide support in coping with an anti-gay political machine operating in San Francisco at that time. The Tavern Guild sought out a hostess for its functions; Jose was the logical choice.

The standard of fun, glamour and irreverence attracted many. The Court system was growing up and down the West Coast. In Seattle the Queen City Business Guild, a group of gay bar owners had established a Court Ball, with Scotty as Empress I. In 1998 the Court filed for and received from the IRS its 501.c3 status and became known as The Court of Seattle Organization. The purpose of the Court is to maintain pageantry and heraldry for the Monarchy by means of electing titles and other such positions; to create goodwill; to organize charitable social events; to hold fundraising activities; and to provide for the enjoyment and benefit of its members and for the social community in which it exists.

3. **WHAT DO THE MONARCHS DO?** The Monarchs, known in this Realm as Rainier (aka The Emperor) and Olympia (aka The Empress) serve as titular Heads of State of the Imperial Court of Seattle and its Imperial Family (made up of all Titleholders, both elected and appointed). Much like real Constitutional Monarchies (as in the United Kingdom), the Monarchs have no real control over their Realm but have many responsibilities that impact the daily life of the Court and Community. They set the tone of their Reign, and the Court year is largely seen as a reflection of their talents and abilities. They are responsible for guiding and mentoring their Imperial Family and Court. The Monarchs have a hand in ensuring that all the activities and events of the Court and its titleholders are successful. As Heads of State, the Monarchs are also expected to represent the Court of Seattle at multiple functions throughout their year, both within Seattle and across the State and other Realms comprising the International Court System. More specific information about the Duties and

responsibilities of the Monarchy can be found in Section III, Part D of the Pageantry Section of the Operating Guidelines.

SECTION II - BOUNDARIES

For the purpose of board of director offices, voting and running for titles, the following boundaries consist of King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Kitsap, Grays Harbor, and Island counties, Hat Island and the national parks in which Mount Rainier and Mount Olympus are located, including the site of the former Olympia Brewery in Tumwater, WA.

SECTION III – TITLES

The following are the titleholders of the Court of Seattle.:

Rainier

Olympia

Imperial Prince

Imperial Princess

Mr. Gay Washington

Miss Gay Washington

Ms. Gay Washington

Mx. Gay Washington

Mr. Gay Seattle

Miss Gay Seattle

Ms. Gay Seattle

Mx. Gay Seattle

King of the Seas

Queen of the Seas

Supreme of the Seas

King of Hearts

Queen of Hearts

Supreme of Hearts

Duke of Puget Sound

Duchess of Puget Sound

Czar of Capital Hill

Czarina of Capital Hill

Marquis of Magnolia Bluff

Marquisa of Magnolia Bluff

Count of Queen Anne

Countess of Queen Anne

Closet Queen

Closet King

Closet Supreme

THE IMPERIAL FAMILY

The Court is a democratic organization. A figurehead monarchy and the imperial family represent it. This monarchy serves primarily in a public relations capacity throughout our court, community, city, county, empire, and state. The Imperial Family shall be the elected reigning titleholders of the court. They shall be defined as: Rainier and Olympia (official heads of state, who may use, in their moniker, the titles of Emperor or Empress, respectively, or Emprex and shall be referred to as "The Monarchs"); The Imperial Prince and Princess; Mr., Mx., Ms., and Miss. Gay Washington; Mr., Mx., Ms. and Miss. Gay Seattle; King, Queen, and Supreme of the Seas; King, Queen, and Supreme of Hearts; Duke and Duchess of Puget Sound; Czar and Czarina of Capital Hill; Marquis and Marquesa of Magnolia Bluff; Count and Countess of Queen Anne; and Closet Queen, King, and Supreme. All titles report directly to the Board of Directors. The Monarchs will hold monthly Imperial Family meetings and are responsible for giving the Board an update on all of the title reigns.

A. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Anyone wishing to run for any of the elected positions within the Organization must meet the qualifications defined in the application and as set forth below.

1. Titles are individual.
2. Only one (1) person can hold any elected title--precluding such situations as "Co-Emperor," "Co-Queen," etc.
3. Other qualifications for individual titles are listed in the Business Section of the Operating Guidelines (Section 6)

B. RESIGNATION FROM TITLE:

Any and all elected or appointed titleholders may resign their position. Should such a situation occur, resignations shall be handled utilizing the following procedure:

1. Any titleholder who chooses to resign must submit a letter of resignation.
2. It must be presented to the President of the
3. The letter of resignation shall include the title being resigned and the reason for the resignation by the individual.
4. At the meeting it is presented, the letter shall be read during new business and entered into the minutes. The resignation will become effective immediately unless other action is taken.
5. The Board may question any letter of resignation and call for discussion with the titleholder.

6. All symbols of office will be turned over to the Board. If the symbols of office are not turned over, the resigning party will be monetarily responsible for replacing the symbols.
7. Once effective, the resignation is complete and irrevocable.

C. LINE OF SUCCESSION

In the event that an elected title becomes open and unfilled due to death, disability, illness, resignation, termination, and/or any other reason, the provisions of this Section shall apply. There will be no other means, method, or provisions for title succession except as specifically and explicitly stated below:

MONARCHS: The College of Monarchs shall retain the right to modify or change the following action(s), with the Board of Directors approval.

1. If vacancy happens at any time during a reign, the Board, in consultation with the remaining monarch, if any, and the College of Monarchs may take one of the following actions:
2. The surviving titleholder will meet with the College of Monarchs within 30 days of the position becoming vacant to discuss the possibility of regency for that position. If the college and surviving titleholder agree not to fill the position, it will remain vacant till the next election.
3. If the College and surviving titleholder agree to a regency, then the process for selection of regent shall be as follows:
 - i. Skip the Monarchs that just stepped down.
 - ii. The offer goes in descending order of those Monarchs who have held the vacant position according to Olympia or Rainier, and who are in attendance at that meeting.
 - iii. No regency shall be afforded a number.
 - iv. This would not preclude the college from awarding a number at the end of their regency.
4. If no College member accepts a regency offer, then the surviving titleholder and the College may discuss additional options or leave the title vacant till the next official election for this title takes place.
5. If vacancy happens in the last six months, the surviving titleholder may or may not request a meeting with the college to discuss regency.

1. In this event that the reigning monarch wishes to reign alone or that a

succession in this manner is not possible, the position will remain vacant until the next official election for this title takes place.

2. In case of no candidacy or a candidate not being elected to the position of Rainier or Olympia, the above positions for vacancy will apply.

IMPERIAL PRINCE AND/OR PRINCESS:

In the event that either of these positions becomes vacant, they will not be filled.

ALL OTHER TITLES:

In the event that any other elected title (Seattles, Seas, Hearts) becomes vacant within the first 6 months of the election, the first runner-up will be offered the position. In the event that this is not possible, the Board may choose to authorize an election or leave the title vacant. The granting of another higher number for that position will be dependent upon the circumstances under which the office was vacated.

TITLE RESPONSIBILITIES

THE MONARCHS:

It shall be the duties and responsibilities of the Monarchs (addressed as "Their Most Imperial Sovereign Majesties") to:

- a. Represent the Board and Membership at all official Court-sponsored, Court-sanctioned, and Court-endorsed functions, insofar, as is practical.
- b. The Monarchs will attend, if possible All Imperial Coronations within WA, OR & B.C as well as, The Court of Seattle's sister cities of Denver, Salt Lake City, Alaska and Las Vegas, The Washington State Mr./ Ms. Leather Contest, and Seattle Men in Leather's Daddy, and Daddy Boy's Contest.
- c. Attend and preside at all Court meetings, conduct Monthly Imperial Family Meetings, and maintain good standing in the court.
- d. The Monarchs may not bind the Board or the Court with any financial obligations without the prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- e. The Monarchs shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of all Court functions. They must also host and plan at least two fundraisers during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors.
- f. The Monarchs maintain the right to issue titles of office within the Empire, with the Exception of those titles which are elected and those titles that have been retired or restricted.

- g. Proclamations issued by Monarchs shall become an official temporary part of the Court records which expire at the end of their reign, provided that a written and duly-executed copy of such documents are placed in the hands of the Court/Board Secretary. Such Proclamations shall not affect the operation or financial position of the Corporation or the Court.
- h. Each monarch is allowed one (1) Declaration with Board of Directors approval presented at Coronation. Declarations have become a permanent part of Court records. On the tenth anniversary of each declaration, it may be reviewed for further inclusion or exclusion by the board. Upon the death of the signatories, all declarations and proclamations will immediately be transferred to the board for review. The exception to the above shall be that declarations of title shall remain in perpetuity.
- i. When elected to a title, the winners cannot apply for another title in any other Empire, organization or judged contest for the duration of their reign/year.

THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS:

It shall be the duties and responsibilities of the Imperial Prince and Princess " (hereinafter "Their Most Imperial Sovereign Highnesses,") to:

- a. Represent the Board and Membership at all official Court-sponsored, Court-sanctioned, and Court-endorsed functions.
- b. The Imperial Prince and Princess will attend, if possible, IPP Balls in WA, OR & B.C.
- c. Attend all Court meetings; and in the absence of the Monarchs, preside at Court meetings, and maintain good standing in the court.
- d. The Prince and Princess cannot bind the Court with any financial obligations without the prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- e. The Prince and Princess shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as directed by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least two fundraisers during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors.
- f. The Imperial Prince and Princess cannot apply for another title in any other Empire, organization or judged contest for the duration of the reign/year.

THE GAY WASHINGTONS:

It shall be the duties and responsibilities of Mr., Mx., Miss & Ms. Gay Washington

(hereinafter referred to as "The Washingtons" and addressed as "Their Highnesses") to promote community cooperation and cohesiveness throughout the Empire. Actively enroll new members into the Court, and to serve as the official Hosts of The Empire.

- a. Represent the Court and Membership at all official Court-sponsored, Court-sanctioned, and Court-endorsed functions.
- b. The Gay Washingtons, will attend, if possible, State and City title pageants in WA, OR & B.C.
- c. Attend all Court meetings and maintain good standing in the court.
- d. The Washingtons may not bind the Board or Court with any financial obligations without prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- e. The Washingtons shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as specified by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least three fundraisers during their year with a minimum of \$1000 raised, of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors. In addition, one of the two fundraisers must take place in Eastern Washington.
- f. The Gay Washingtons are to assist in planning, and for Hosting and execution of the Out of Town show during Seattle Coronation Week
- g. The Washingtons do not maintain the right to issue titles of office.
- h. When elected to a title, the winners cannot apply for another title in any other Empire, organization or judged contest for the duration of their reign/year.
- i. The Washingtons may not issue Proclamations and Declarations.
- j. The Washingtons shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as directed by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least two fundraisers during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors.
- k. The Washingtons cannot apply for another title in any other Empire, organization or judged contest for the duration of the reign/year.

THE GAY SEATTLES:

It shall be the duties and responsibilities of Mr., Miss, Ms., and Mx. Gay Seattle (hereinafter referred to as "The Seattles" and addressed as "Their Highnesses") to promote community cooperation and cohesiveness throughout the Empire. Actively enroll new members into the Court, and to serve as the official Hosts of The Empire.

- a. Represent the Court and Membership at all official Court-sponsored, Court-sanctioned, and Court-endorsed functions.
- b. The Gay Seattles, will attend, if possible, city title pageants in WA, OR & B.C.
- c. Attend all Court meetings and maintain good standing in the court.
- d. The Seattles may not bind the Board or Court with any financial obligations without prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- e. The Seattles shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as specified by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least two fundraisers during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors
- f. The Gay Seattles are responsible to assist in planning, and for Hosting and execution of Hospitality during Coronation Week
- g. The Seattles do not maintain the right to issue titles of office.
- h. When elected to a title, the winners cannot apply for another title in any other Empire, organization or judged contest for the duration of their reign/year.
- i. The Seattles may not issue Proclamations and Declarations.

KING, QUEEN, AND SUPREME OF THE SEAS:

The King, Queen, and Supreme of the Seas will be named at a fundraiser to be held during the month of July close in time to Seafair. The successful contestants will be voted for by the attendees at the particular fundraising event.

- a. Attend all Court meetings and maintain good standing in the court.
- b. The King, Queen, and Supreme of the Seas may not bind the Board or Court with any financial obligations without prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- c. The King, Queen, and Supreme of the Seas shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as specified by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least one fundraiser during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors.

KING, QUEEN, AND SUPREME OF HEARTS:

The King, Queen, and Supreme of Hearts will be named at a fundraiser to be held during the month of September.

- a. Attend all Court meetings and maintain good standing in the court.
- b. The King, Queen, and Supreme of Hearts may not bind the Board or Court with any financial obligations without prior expressed and written approval of the Board.
- c. The King, Queen, and Supreme of the Hearts shall be responsible for the planning, execution, and success of those Court functions as specified by the Monarchs. They must also host and plan at least one fundraiser during their year of which the proceeds are disbursed as agreed by the Board of Directors.

CLOSET BALL QUEEN, KING, AND SUPREME:

The Closet Queen and King pageant shall be a judged community contest, with no commitment to join the Court unless the successful candidates choose too. The only requirement is that they show up one (1) year later to pass on the title. The planning and execution of the Closet Ball, sets, and advertising will be the responsibility of the Reigning Monarchs. The winners will receive a prize to be determined by the Board.

SECTION IV - THE COLLEGE OF MONARCHS

The Imperial Sovereign College of Monarchs of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire (hereinafter referred to as "The College"), shall act as an advisory unit to the Board, the Court, and the Imperial Family concerning matters of Pageantry, and Crowning Ceremonies at Coronation.

The College shall also assist in the planning, promotion and the proper execution of Investiture each year. The College will also define crowning ceremonies for all titles in the Court and will ensure that the appropriate crowning ceremony is used for investing new titles.

A. PURPOSE:

The College of Monarchs is an established College of past Rainiers and Olympias of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and includes the Emperor and Empress Emeritus and Honorary Members of the College as determined by the College of Monarchs. The College was created in 1975 by Declaration of Her Imperial Sovereign Majesty, Olympia IV Dominique St. Laurent. The College is comprised of Rainiers and Olympias who have successfully fulfilled their reign and who are inducted into the College at Coronation. The College is headed by a Dean who is assisted by an Associate Dean. The Associate Dean is elected by the College membership. After serving as Associate Dean for a period of one year, he/she assumes the position of Dean at Coronation and officiates at the Crowning ceremony of the new Monarchs. It is the duty and responsibility of the College to assist, guide and mentor the reigning Monarchs and the Court membership. The College is also responsible for maintaining the history, standards, traditions of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire. The College will host at least one (1) annual fundraising event to benefit the J.C./ Graytop Scholarship Fund. The College will

preside at the Crowning ceremony of the new Monarchs at Coronation. The College is responsible to assist at the polls on voting day for the elections of the new Monarchs.

The colors of the College of Monarchs are Purple and Silver.

B. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEAN:

- a. It is the responsibility of the Dean to chair all College meetings.
- b. To be seated on the Board of Directors of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle for the term of office of one year. If the Dean chooses not to sit on the Board, a replacement from the College may be elected..
- c. To attend monthly Board meetings and assist the Board in their endeavors to successfully accomplish their goals.
- d. To Host and help produce the at least one (1) College fundraising event(s).
- e. To assist in the monitoring of the voting station on election day for the Monarch titles during the hours voting is open.
- f. To give out the JC/Graytop Memorial Award during Coronation week. The Dean will assist in preparing the College for Crowning ceremonies. The new Dean, assisted by the College of Monarchs and President of the Board of Directors, performs the crowning ceremony and then presents the newly elected Monarchs to their people.

C. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSOCIATE DEAN:

It is the responsibility of the Associate Dean to assist the current Dean with whatever is required. The Associate Dean takes on learning the duties and responsibilities of the Dean in upholding the history, standards and traditions of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire.

D. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COLLEGE:

It is the responsibility of the College Membership to uphold the history, standards, and traditions of the College and the Court, and to assist the reigning Monarchs during their reign.

E. COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in the College of Monarchs is automatic upon completion of the reign of a Monarch pending the approval of the College of Monarchs. The induction ceremony at the end of Coronation, just prior to the Crowning of the new Monarchs formalizes this membership.

G. THE STATE CROWN:

Donated to the Court by Olympia IV Dominique St. Laurent and affectionately known as "The Lamp Shade", this original crown was retired at the conclusion of Coronation in 2007. The Ric A. Chayka Official State Crown received a blessing of Jose, The Widow Norton at Coronation 2007 and was used to crown Olympia 36. This crown will be used by the reigning Olympia during their reign. It is the responsibility of the reigning Olympia to safeguard this State Crown and return it to the Court in good condition at the conclusion of their reign.

Repairs for any damage to the State Crown are the responsibility of the reigning Olympia and must not be done without consultation with the College and Board of Directors and only through an approved vendor.

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors and the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle to insure these articles for their full appraised value against loss or theft.

The state crown must be worn with a floor length formal gown. A 2nd crown, referred to as "The Mountain" is provided at Coronation. Considered the personal property of the Olympia to which it is provided. If the mountain is damaged, lost or stolen, it is the responsibility of the Olympia to which it is provided to repair or replace as needed.

H. RAINIER MEDALLION AND SWORD

The perpetual Rainier's medallion is worn by the reigning Rainier at all official functions. The medallion must be worn with a minimum of business casual.

The sword is a symbol of the Office of the Reigning Rainier and is used in Crowning Ceremonies of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and can be carried by the reigning Rainier at other times at his discretion.

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors and the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle to insure these articles for their full appraised value against loss or theft.

I. THE IMPERIAL STATE ROBES:

These robes are used and worn for the Crowning ceremony of the new Monarchs. The Robes are done in the colors of Purple and Silver. They are full length robes that are housed and protected by the Dean of the College. After crowning the robes will be taken and kept in the safe keeping of the Dean. The robes may be worn during the reign of the Monarchs with prior arrangement with the Dean of the College.

SECTION V - COUNCIL OF IMPERIAL PRINCES AND PRINCESSES

The council was suspended upon the change from elected Imperial Prince and Princess to appointed Imperial Prince and Princess as approved by the Board of Directors.

The Council of Imperial Princes and Princess of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire (hereinafter "The Council") shall act as an advisory unit to the Board, the Court, and the Imperial Family concerning matters of Pageantry and Heraldry pertaining to the Imperial Princes and Princess. The Council will be responsible for assisting in the planning, promotion and proper execution of the Imperial Prince and Princess Ball each year.

The appointed Imperial Prince and Princess shall not be inducted into the IPP Council.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION IS LEFT IN REFERENCE FOR THE EXISTING MEMEBERS OF THE COUNCIL OTHER THAN SECTION F & H

A. PURPOSE:

The Imperial Prince and Princess Council is an established Council of past Imperial Princes and Princesses. This Council was created in 1990 by their Most Imperial Sovereign Majesties, Rainier XVI Jack O. and Olympia XX Nasty Weather. The Council is made up of past Heirs Apparent, who have successfully fulfilled their reigns and upon a vote have been inducted into the Council the evening of their step-downs. The Council is headed by a Chancellor, who is assisted by a Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor is elected by the Council membership. Upon Completion as Vice Chancellor for a period of one year. The following year he/she is automatically elevated to Chancellor. It is the duties and responsibilities of the Council to be teachers, guides and mentors to the reigning Imperial Prince and Princess as well as the Court membership. They are also responsible for upholding the history, standards, traditions and Integrity of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire. The Council is responsible for hosting an annual show to help raise funds for the Imperial Prince and Princess Promotional Fund.

They also assist in the Crowning ceremonies at the Imperial Prince and Princess Ball. It is also their responsibility to assist at the polls on voting day for the elections of the new Imperial Prince and Princess. The colors of the Imperial Council are Blue and White.

B. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHANCELLOR:

- a. It is the responsibility of the Chancellor to chair all Imperial Prince and Princess Council meetings.
- b. To be seated on the Board of Directors of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle for the term of office of one year
- c. To assist the Board in the endeavors to successfully complete their goals.
- d. To Host and help produce an annual Council Show or fundraiser.
- e. The Chancellor will assist in preparing the Council for Crowning ceremonies and the presentation of them. The Chancellor performs the crowning ceremony and

then presents the new Imperial Prince and Princess to the reigning Monarchs.

- f. The Chancellor is responsible for co-producing the Imperial Prince and Princess Ball.

C. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR:

It is the responsibility of the Vice Chancellor to assist the current Chancellor with anything he may need. He takes on the learning of the duties and responsibilities of the Chancellor as he upholds the history, standards, traditions and integrity of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and the Olympic and Rainier Empire.

D. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNCIL:

It is the responsibility of the Council Membership to uphold the History, standards, traditions and integrity of the Council and the Court, and to assist the reigning Imperial Prince and Princess during their reigns.

E. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in the Council is automatic upon completion of the reign of an Imperial Prince or Princess. At this time the Council will elect a new Vice Chancellor.

F. THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS STATE ROBES:

These robes are used and worn for the Crowning ceremonies for the Imperial Prince and Princess Ball. The Robes are done in the Council colors of Blue and White. They are knee length capes that are housed and protected by the Imperial Prince and Princess Council.

After crowning the robes will be taken and kept in the safe keeping of the Board. They now represent and are part of the crowning ceremonies only.

H. IMPERIAL PRINCE MEDALLION

The perpetual Imperial Prince medallion is worn by the Imperial Prince at all official functions. It is the duty and responsibility of the reigning Imperial Prince to insure the medallion for its full appraised value against loss or theft. Proof of such insurance must be

provided to the Board of Directors within 30 days of ascension to the title by the Imperial Prince.

I. IMPERIAL PRINCESS CROWN

A crown is provided to the Imperial Princess and is considered the personal property of the Imperial Princess. If damaged, lost or stolen, it is the responsibility of the Imperial Princess to repair or replace the crown.

SECTION VI - ELECTION OF TITLEHOLDERS

A. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Anyone wishing to run for any of the following elected positions within the organization must meet the qualifications, as set forth below. Titles are individual, and only one (1) person can hold any elected title--precluding such situations as "Co-Emperor," "Co-Queen," etc.

1. THE MONARCHS:

- a. Complete an application and submit a Letter of Inten for the Board review at the January Board Meeting
- b. Submit a photograph of themselves appropriately attired in the fashion applicable to the office sought - with the full knowledge that such photograph will be published in the media prior to election; submit an electronically with Picture and Letter of Intent; in addition proof of income and / or proof of sponsorship if applicable and proof of residency in the Empire as evidenced by a utility bill in the applicant's name or valid driver's license or Washington State ID.
- c. Interview with and receive approval from the Board of Directors and the College of Monarchs.
- d. Pay a non-refundable filing fee, as determined by the Board of Directors.
- e. Has been a resident of the Empire for at least two (2) full years prior to tendering such an application.
- f. Has been an active member in Good Standing of the Court for one (1) entire year prior to tendering such application (has not fallen out of good standing during the year); active membership shall be defined as participation, attendance or working on committees for at least 50% of the Court activities during the most recent year and must have organized or participated in at least one community service event during the year.
- g. Not be a reigning titleholder in this or any other Empire.
- h. Be willing to grant the Board of Directors the right to verify their financial credibility.
- i. Provide documentation as necessary to substantiate eligibility and qualifications as set forth in this section.

2. THE GAY SEATTLES/ SEAS/HEARTS:

- a. Complete an application for the position of the Gay Seattles.
- b. Pay a non-refundable filing fee, as determined by the Board of Directors.
- c. Be eligible for membership in the Court.
- d. Not be a reigning titleholder in this or any other Empire.
- e. Provide such documentation as necessary to substantiate eligibility and qualifications as set forth in this section.
- f. Must join the Court within 30 days of ascension to the title and must remain a member in good standing during the reign.
- g. Must be available during Coronation Weekend to assist with hosting hospitality.

3. CLOSET QUEEN AND KING:

- a. Pay a non-refundable filing fee. The Board of Directors will determine this amount.
- b. Not have executed drag before, with the exception of Halloween or turnabout.
- c. Candidates for Closet Queen and King must have one sponsor who will prepare the contestant.

B. CAMPAIGNING:

Campaigning prior to the official campaign period is grounds for immediate disqualification. Committee formation, planning, preparations, discussions, verbal announcement of candidacy and requests for support shall not be construed to be “campaigning” for the purposes of this section. However, any verbal solicitation of a vote will be construed as campaigning. No buttons, pins, pens, keychains, T-shirts, hats, posters, flyers, or any other advertising gimmick or media shall be permitted until the beginning of the official campaign period, as determined by the Board and specified on the application form. Evidence of proper authorization of use of business or company logos and or written endorsements will be required if used in campaign materials. Said authorization(s) will be given to the Marketing/Advertising Chair. Any advertising material, business card size or larger and / or anything having or requiring the Court Logo and / or Court identification requires Advertising Committee approval. Any candidate due to conflict of interest cannot use official court sponsors. In a contested race, Board Members and members of the Imperial Family as defined by the Reigning Monarchs must remain neutral. The official campaign periods shall be as follows:

1. MONARCHS:

Campaigning shall be at least two (2) weeks, but no longer than four (4) weeks in length, prior to Coronation. The exact dates for the beginning and ending dates will be set by the Board of Directors.

2. THE GAY SEATTLES/THE SEAS/THE HEARTS:

Campaigning shall begin as authorized by the Board of Directors.

3. CLOSET KING, QUEEN AND SUPREME:

No campaigning shall be permitted.

SECTION VII – ELECTIONS

A. VOTING FOR MONARCHS

Voting for these positions will take place at a location between the hours designated by the Board. Voting for the positions of Rainier and Olympia of Seattle are conducted within the boundaries of the ISCSORE. Voters will need proper identification to establish residency in the Empire.

Monitoring will be the responsibility of the College of Monarchs, with assistance of the Board of Directors.

All residents of the Empire and those Honorary Citizens as designated by Imperial Declarations may cast ballots. Preprinted ballots will be used, and write-in candidates shall not be allowed at any time for any reason. Absentee ballots of members in good standing will be allowed provided that such ballots are voted and tendered to the Board President during their first meeting in February of each year. If a candidate for a particular position is running unopposed, then that candidate will be elected according to a "Yes-No" vote. "Yes" votes must exceed the "No" votes.

VOTE TABULATION:

1. An independent accounting and/or law firm as designated by the Board will tabulate ballots cast for the position of Rainier and Olympia.
2. Prior to election for Rainier and Olympia, the Board of Directors will cast a secret ballot which will be used as a tie breaker. This balloting will be the responsibility of the President of the Board of Directors and the Secretary.
3. All persons counting the ballots must maintain confidentiality and not disclose the results before they are publicly announced.

B. VOTING FOR THE GAY SEATTLES/ THE SEAS/ THE HEARTS

Voting for these positions will take place at the location of the appropriate function between the hours designated by the Board. Voting will be open to anyone in attendance. Tabulation of the ballots will be the responsibility of the Board President and the Board of Directors.

Anyone counting the ballots must maintain confidentiality and not disclose the results before they are publicly announced.

C. CLOSET KING, QUEEN, AND SUPREME

A five-member non-partisan panel shall judge The Closet Queen / King pageant. Selection of this panel shall be the responsibility of the reigning Monarchs and/or the Board. A ten-(10) point system shall be used in three (3) categories. They are:

1. BEFORE AND AFTER: Judges are looking for the most change, originality, and presentation. Both the sponsor and contestant must be present and on stage to be judged in this category or lose the points for this category.

2. POISE AND PRESENTATION: Judges are looking for a contestant who is relaxed, has agility in foot attire, and overall attention to detail.

3. QUESTION AND ANSWER: Judges are looking for confident, original answers. This is a person who may be representing our organization in the coming years. Judges can score each contestant 1 to 10 in each category. The contestant closest to the score of 30 shall be declared Closet Queen. In the case of a tie, the Board shall vote by ballot to determine the winner. Each contestant and sponsor will have one (1) hour to complete the transformation. For safety purposes, each contestant will be allowed to apply their own mascara and eyeliner.

SECTION VIII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

The following awards and titles belong to this organization:

A. THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD: To be determined by the President of the Board for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

B. THE ANTHONY J SCHMIDT CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD: To be voted upon by the general membership in good standing at their first meeting in January for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

C. THE EMPEROR'S AWARD: This is a perpetual award that is given out by the Reigning Rainier to a College Emperor from his own College, who has been of great service, help or guidance to the Reigning Rainier. To be determined by the reigning Rainier for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

D. RAINIER AND OLYMPIA AWARD: To be determined by the reigning Rainier and Olympia for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week. The award will bear the year of presentation rather than a sequential numbering.

E. CROWN PRINCE FOR LIFE TO RAINIER: To be determined by the reigning Rainier for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

F. CROWN PRINCESS FOR LIFE TO RAINIER: To be determined by the reigning Rainier for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

G. THE EMPRESS AWARD: To be determined by the reigning Olympia for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

H CROWN PRINCE FOR LIFE TO OLYMPIA: To be determined by the reigning Olympia for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

I. CROWN PRINCESS FOR LIFE TO OLYMPIA: To be determined by the reigning Olympia for presentation to the recipient during Coronation week.

J. THE PRINCE TO PRINCE AND PRINCE TO PRINCESS AWARD: To be determined by the reigning Imperial Prince for presentation to the recipient at IPP Ball.

K. THE ALEX GIBSON AWARD: To be determined by the reigning Imperial Prince for presentation to the recipient at IPP Ball. This award is named after and in the memory of H.I.S.H. Imperial Prince 10 Alex Gibson. This is a perpetual award that is given by the Imperial Prince to a Council Prince from his own Council that has been of great service, help or guidance to the Reigning Prince. This award is given out at The IPP Ball.

L. THE PRINCESS TO PRINCESS AND PRINCESS TO PRINCE AWARD: This is a perpetual award that is given out by the Imperial Princess to a Council Princess from her own Council that has been of great service, help or guidance to the Reigning Princess. This award is given out at The Imperial Ball.

M. THE HURRICAN LOW-RAIN AWARD: To be determined by the Imperial Princess for presentation to the recipient at IPP Ball. This award is named after and in the memory of H.I.S.H. Imperial Princess XII Hurricane Low-Rain. This is a perpetual award that is given by the Imperial Princess to a Council Princess from her own Council that has been of great service, help, or guidance to the Reigning Princess. This award is given out at her step down.

N. JACK O. AND NASTY WEATHER TASMANIAN AWARD: This award is to be determined by the Chancellor of the Council and given out at the IPP Ball. The Chancellor's Award: This award was named after and in the memory of the founders of the Council.

This award is known as the Jack O and Nasty Weather Tasmanian Chancellor’s Award. The Chancellor gives this award just before crowning to someone the Chancellor feels merits the award. The award is merited by a substantial contribution of help, to the Council, Court or community. The outgoing Chancellor chooses the recipient. This is a perpetual award.

O. THE GRAYTOP MEMORIAL AWARD: Voted upon by the members of the College of Monarchs at their first meeting in January for presentation to the recipient(s) during Coronation week.

P. THE GEORGE RAY AWARD: Presented by Emperor Rainier Emeritus George Ray during Coronation week each year, at his discretion.

Q. COURT MEMBER OF THE YEAR: Voted on by the general membership and presented during Coronation week each year by the outgoing Monarchs.

R. CITIZEN FOR LIFE: Designated by the reigning Monarchs as they see fit, for presentation during Coronation week. (Not to exceed one each and must have Board Approval).

S. The “Scott Rodriguez” Business Person Award: This award is nominated and elected by the court membership in good standing at the first general membership meeting in March for presentation to the recipient at The IPP Ball by the outgoing Prince and Princess

T. The “Alex Veltri” Business Award: This award is nominated and elected, in January, by the court membership in good standing and shall be presented to the recipient during Coronation by the outgoing Monarchs or their designees.

SECTION IX – PROTOCOL

The Minister of Protocol as designated by the reigning Monarchs shall follow Protocol as set forth by them and the following.

WHAT IS PROTOCOL? By Definition: *PROTOCOL n. The rules of diplomatic and state etiquette and ceremony. MINISTER n. One appointed to head an executive or administrative department of a government.*

For the purpose of The Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle and The Olympic and Rainier Empire, the Minister(s) of Protocol, as appointed by the Monarchs, shall, as their duties, be in charge of all things pertaining to Protocol. They shall at all times be aware of all titles bestowed by the reigning monarchs. At all times they should have current and complete lists of titles granted and/or bestowed in their proper order from the least or lowest ranking title, right up to and including the Monarchs, and the full name of the recipient (both given and drag/stage name). So, at no time are they in a quandary as to who is the holder of said title or titles.

They shall be in charge of making the line-up in proper order of any and all entrances by the court in or out of town. If the entrance is out of town, and they are unable to attend, they shall make available for one of the people attending the function, the necessary information so that the proper entrance can be made without any confusion. They shall see that the Master of Ceremonies for the event, or whoever will be making the entrance announcement, has in their possession the cards with all information contained there on for proper introduction of the court and that the cards are in proper order. They should have a duplicate set of cards so that the proper alignment of the court can be made and everyone in their proper places prior to the entrance.

Out of courtesy to the MC's, they should have the cards in their possession prior to the event so as to read through them and understand them so if any clarification is needed, it can be made then, not during the entrance. Standard procedure has been that they be on 4 X 6 cards for ease and convenience of the MC's. It might be wise for the Minister(s) of Protocol to have a master card file in their possession at all times. After determining who is present from the empire, that permanent card can be pulled out from the file and a copy made and placed in the proper order for the line of march.

Protocol is the manner of acting while in public, and for most instances, within the city. It also covers entrances and the proper line of march. One of the first things which should be remembered is, **“LET COMMON SENSE BE YOUR GUIDE”**.

One of the easiest methods of embarrassing the Monarchs is for someone to act in a manner, which would reflect adversely upon the entire city or Court. Obviously this is to be avoided at all costs. The simplest rule for everyone to follow is **“TAKE YOUR CUE FROM THE REIGNING MONARCHS”**. Does that sound a little strange? Well, let us cover a few little examples to let you know what we are talking about.

When a situation arises where a member of another court is, for any reason, in disfavor with our own Monarchs, obviously, there is a very subtle manner to show your displeasure with this individual. You simply do not stand when that person makes an entrance. It is certainly not up to you, as an individual, to pick a fight with that person nor to show disrespect for them by not standing just because you do not like them. If the Monarchs stand, so do you. You never remain seated at any time when your own Monarchs are standing.

Another equally important rule of thumb to remember is that you, as an individual, may honor any out-of-town Monarch, past or present. You do this by giving them the honor of standing at the time they make an entrance. These are the only people for whom you will stand, unless the reigning monarchs for the Olympic and Rainier Empire also stand.

We can break this down even more simply by listing some of the current titles. If your title is lower than that held by the person, you would always be right in preparing yourself to stand.

REIGNING MONARCHS- ALWAYS

PAST MONARCHS - take cue from our monarchs, or as you feel necessary.

PRINCE AND/OR PRINCESS CONSORTS - only if they accompany a reigning head of state.

IMPERIAL PRINCE AND/OR PRINCESS - our own equal part should recognize them, and others as they see fit, upon one exception. That exception is at the stepping down of these titles. During their entrance and final walk, it is traditional to pay them the honor of standing.

PRINCE AND/OR PRINCESS OF THE REALM - only if your title is lower than this one and then at your own option.

REMEMBER that you will never be wrong if you take your cue from the Monarchs. If they pull the boo-boo, that is their problem, not yours. Of course, to every rule, there is an exception. For information purposes, it has been decreed within the Olympic and Rainier Empire and most other empires, that if Jose' I and or Nicole the Great make an entrance, everyone will stand. You will notice that the reigning head of state will pay Jose' and or Nicole the Great the honor of walking more than halfway down the runway to meet Them.

It has become traditional within our own empire to use the following form of greeting:

Males bow slightly from the waist.

Females - curtsy.

In nearly all courts, the Minister(s) of Protocol prepares the line of entrance. It is their job to determine who is where from your own court and to ensure that the proper introduction is written on the entrance cards. Protocol also includes being nice to people you don't know or those whom you dislike. You are each a representative of this court, and as such should conduct yourself accordingly. You, from the Monarchs on down, should do nothing, which will cause undue talk among the other empires.

Surprisingly enough, one of the major items of protocol, which is never really talked about, nor does anyone stop to think about, is when out of town, the Monarchs and past monarchs are liable to arrive late. Since they are usually doing the public relations work for the city. It is important for them to talk to and greet as many of the individuals attending a function as they can. For this reason, the members of our own court forget that they are indeed the Heads of State and should be saved a seat at the table. In our mad scramble for good seating, we often forget to pay this simple courtesy.

Another area of proper protocol falls upon the shoulders of the All Members. One of their main jobs is the protection of the reigning monarchs. On many occasions, a good number of people both within and without the empire, attempt to get the ear of the monarchs. At those

times, if the individual has taken too much time, or sees that the monarchs are becoming bored, simply step in and inform the monarchs that there is someone across the room to which they should talk to.

Each person granted a title should fill out a 4 x 6 card with the following information:

(Example) PROPER NAME AND TITLE - ROGER DODGER, IMPERIAL DUKE

FULL INTRODUCTION TITLE - THE IMPERIAL DUKE, ADVISOR TO THE THRONE OF OLYMPIA AND RAINIER, KEEPER OF THE GARTER, ETC.
ROGER DODGER

Crowns won with title are the Crowns to be worn at all Court Walks during their reign. The exception will be at the Titleholders "Final Performance" they may choose to wear Their Personal Crown.

In most cases, it would behoove the Minister(s) of Protocol, early in the year, to assess the proper line of entrance and to assign each of the persons with a title a number. That way, each person would then know exactly where they will be in the lineup, no matter what the entrance and who is or is not there. The less confusion the better.

Order of entrance is important and should be followed to the letter. Various titles all have a degree of importance, and some are greater than others are. An example of a typical entrance follows:

VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS OF THE EMPIRE
IMPERIAL HONOR GUARD
IMPERIAL GUIDES
COURT JESTERS
GRANDFATHER OF THE COURT
MOTHER AND FATHER OF THE COURT
KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF THE REALM
GRAND ADVISORS TO THE MONARCHS
LORD HIGH CHAMBERLAIN
LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR
MINISTER (S) OF PROTOCOL
LADIES IN WAITING TO OLYMPIA
CROWN PRINCE AND CROWN PRINCESS
VARIOUS ELECTED TITLES OF THE COURT - ELECTED DURING THE REIGN OF THE MONARCHS. EXAMPLES ARE - CLOSETS, HEARTS, SEAS, SEATTLES
PAST IMPERIAL PRINCE/PRINCESS
PAST MONARCHS
IMPERIAL PRINCE/PRINCESS

REIGNING MONARCHS

Other titles can be inserted where they belong. The proceeding is based on the protocol of the British and French. Titles from other empires should be avoided as confusion results and there is a very fine line between some titles as to which is the greater and the lesser title. The following is a list of the English/French Protocol, and as a suggestion be studied by all incoming monarchs so as to familiarize themselves with the various titles and they're ranking. Corresponding female titles are also noted.

PAGE – male servant, young man training for knighthood

SQUIRE – young aspirant to knighthood serving as an attendant and armor bearer to a knight

KNIGHT (LADY) - holder of a nonhereditary title below the rank of baronet entitled to use Sir before given name.

BARONET (LADY) – inheritable title below a baron and not part of nobility, uses Sir before given name.

BARON (BARONESS) – lowest hereditary nobility

VISCOUNT (VISCOUNTESS) – nobility, ranking between Earl and Baron

COUNT (COUNTESS) – nobility, having rank corresponding to that of an Earl.

EARL (COUNTESS) – nobility, next in rank above a Viscount and below a Marquis

MARQUIS (MARQUISE) – nobility, next in rank below a Duke

DUKE (DUCHESS) - nobility, hereditary rank immediately below a Prince and above a Marquis

The job of Minister(s) of Protocol is an important position with the court system. If handled properly can be a fun and rewarding job, if not it can lead to some embarrassing situations for you, your empire, and to your Monarchs. So, stay on top of everything, know when Seattle is making an entrance at an official function and see that all your people are in their place so no confusion results.

C. EMPEROR & EMPRESS EMERITUS: The Titles of Rainier Emperor Emeritus and Olympia Empress Emeritus will be given out only once. Mr. George Ray and Charity will be the only persons to ever have these titles. The College of Monarchs, at their discretion may create Honorary Rainiers or Olympias.

RATIFICATION

The Pageantry Section of the Operating Guidelines of the Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle; the Olympic and Rainier Empire, Inc. were duly ratified by a majority vote of the General Membership meeting on January 9, 2019, at Pantages House in the city of Seattle County of King, State of Washington.