

Commencement of Crown Lists

At the appointed time, the Herald shall assemble all participating fighters and their consorts before the Throne, armed and ready for combat in the Lists. At the King's command, the Herald shall say:

HERALD

My lords and ladies, you know well that true gentles enter combat not for their own personal glory and honor, but rather to advance the honor of their consorts; and to prove, by their courtesy and valor on the field, their worthiness of that honor. Be mindful, as you fight, of your consort's honor as well as your own. For your consorts personify all honor and loyalty, beauty and truth. Their gallantry and steadfastness bear you up, as your prowess at arms is tested -- they embody the love that is worthy of great honor. Therefore, today you fight in the Lists not to gain power for yourself, not for your own glory and honor, as you may in other lists. You fight instead for the honor and glory of the one whose favor you bear upon the field, whom you would advance by your valor, skill and courtesy. And should victory be granted you this day, you will declare and crown your consort as Lady (or Lord) Caid, and heir to the Kingdom by your side for the days to come.

KING

You have heard the reason of Our Lists. Does each of you here affirm that you fulfill all the qualifications for participation in today's lists, as set forth for this Society and in Kingdom Law?

The fighters acknowledge.

Let the candidates swear their fealty to the realm.

HERALD

Do you, the fighters and consorts of this Crown Tournament of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that you will truly and faithfully adhere to the rules of the list, obeying their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm, and, mindful that your success or failure as a monarch relies on the confidence of the populace in your own honor and courtesy, that you will bear yourselves with the grace and dignity of that station to which you aspire, until the Crown depart Their Throne, death take you, or the world end?

FIGHTERS/CONSORTS

I so swear.

KING

This do We hear. And We, for our part, swear fealty and service to these, Our subjects who seek to be Our Heirs, to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from the throne, or death take Us, or the world end. So swear We, etc.

The King returns the sword of state.

Fighters, bear your favors bravely into battle, and prove the worth and virtue of your consorts, whether in victory or honorable defeat.