

the society for creative anachronism, inc.

Chirurgion's Handbook



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Change Log

Date	Change
March 2007	Added new paragraphs in section III.9 to handle removal of a Chirurgeon from an event in emergency situations and details the process that must be followed. Added new paragraphs in section III.13 to handle cessation of Chirurgeon services at an event and the process that must be followed.
October 2006	Changed "Chirurgeon General" to "Society Chirurgeon" Changed "Deputy Corporate Chirurgeons" to "Deputy Society Chirurgeons" for consistency in titles
July 2006	Changed "Master Chirurgeon" to "Mentor Chirurgeon" Changed "Journeyman Chirurgeon" to "Chirurgeon" Changed "Apprentice Chirurgeon" to "Chirurgeon-in-Training" Minor grammar changes to accommodate new titles

Preface

This is the Handbook for first-aid volunteers (Chirurgeons) of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). Between these pages you will find the corporate policies and administrative guidelines, as well as instructions for newcomers on how to become a Chirurgeon. For Chirurgeons who already hold warrants, this Handbook is your reference to the administrvia of the Chirurgeonate at all levels of the SCA. The Handbook may look like something entirely new – but it isn't. Most of the information herein is from the 1992 edition of the Handbook, only rearranged and reorganized.

In the mid eighties, the Board of Directors of the SCA directed the Society's first-aid coordinator (the Chirurgeon General) to restructure the Chirurgeonate as it then existed. The 1986 Handbook was one of the products of that restructuring. The organization of the Chirurgeonate as described in the 1986 Handbook is the one we still use today.

The 1986 Handbook described the hierarchy of the Chirurgeonate from the top down, starting with the job description of the Chirurgeon General. The 1992 edition of the Handbook, however, described the Chirurgeonate from the bottom up, so the information most germane to front-line Chirurgeons was moved from the back of the 1986 Handbook to near the front of the 1992 Handbook. The purpose behind this was to make the information for new Chirurgeons easier to find and use.

This revision incorporates policy changes made since the 1992 Handbook was issued. It is also reorganized by topic, a departure from the warrant level/job description framework of the 1992 and 1986 Handbooks. As much as possible, the dry legalistic style of the old Handbooks has been replaced by less straightjacketed language. For the sake of making each Section a coherent whole, some information appears more than once in the text. It is our hope that this revision of the Handbook is an easier and friendlier guide to the administration of the Chirurgeonate.

We hope that the people who read and use this Handbook will apply it with the spirit of its intent in mind.

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Introduction

I.1. Who We Are

The Chirurgeonate is the volunteer first-aid organization of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., a non-profit educational organization devoted to the study of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. It is part of the "living history" movement, where members try to reproduce various aspects of the culture and technology of their period, as well as pursuing more traditional historical research. The SCA sponsors events such as medieval tournaments and feasts, where members dress in Medieval and Renaissance styles, and participate in activities based on the civil and martial arts of the Middle Ages.

We use the medieval term "Chirurgeon" [most commonly pronounced *kī-er-jūn*] instead of "first aider," "first responder," or "medic" in our efforts to maintain a medieval atmosphere at SCA events. We also use the Medieval blood-letting device, the fleam, as the symbol of the Chirurgeonate instead of the modern red short-armed cross whose use is restricted by international treaty to organizations affiliated with the International Red Cross and the military.

The members of the Chirurgeonate include Red Cross-trained first aiders, medical doctors, military medical corpsmen, nurses, paramedics, St. John's and St. Andrew's ambulance volunteers, and many other medical volunteers and professionals. We come from all walks of life and from many countries around the globe. We are united as members of the Chirurgeonate for one purpose: to provide first aid at SCA events.

I.2. What We Do

The members of the Chirurgeonate provide first aid on a volunteer basis at SCA events. First aid performed in the SCA is Good Samaritan in nature (*see Appendix C*), and is provided to anyone who asks at no cost to the recipient (*see Section III.9*). This has been our tradition ever since Bjo of Griffin, arguably the first-known Chirurgeon, started bringing her first-aid kit to SCA events, back in the days when there was but a single Kingdom.

I.3. Why the SCA has an Organized Chirurgeonate

Anyone can pack a first-aid kit and render care regardless of whether the Chirurgeonate exists as part of the SCA. So why bother having an organized Chirurgeonate? Why not rely on individual or self-organized first aiders, or outside emergency services, instead of an SCA-sponsored group?

There are several overlapping reasons for the SCA to maintain its own first-aid organization. Cost is one issue. Certain legal jurisdictions, like Pennsylvania, require some form of on-site first aid and/or emergency care at large events with attendance in the thousands. At events where we have a statutory "duty-of-care" imposed on the SCA due to large attendance, like the Pennsic War in Pennsylvania, we do not need a Chirurgeonate per se, but we do need to provide first aid. The costs of satisfying these "duty-of-care" obligations with services hired from outside the SCA can be prohibitive, whereas SCA Chirurgeonate volunteers donate their time.

Managerial control is another reason. Without an SCA Chirurgeonate whatsoever, first aiders could not be disciplined or suspended for misbehavior or lack of cooperation with the Marshallate (*see Section II.13*). The grievance procedure would be meaningless. There would

be no uniform guidelines on how combat injuries were handled (*see Section III.10*). There would be no event and injury reports that the SCA could use to compile injury statistics and to evaluate the management of first aid at events. In comparison, by having its own first aiders, the SCA can exert control over both the quality of those first aiders, as well as the standard of care they provide (*see Section III.3*). Though the SCA can not prevent other individuals from performing first aid at an SCA event, a warranted Chirurgeon has the advantage of being a known quantity.

Another reason to maintain the Chirurgeonate is that warranted Chirurgeons are familiar with the quirks of SCA-specific first aid (*see Section II.6*). A Chirurgeon will never treat an injured SCA member like some weirdo in funny clothes and will have a clue on how to extricate someone from armor or an Elizabethan hoop skirt with minimal damage to equipment or clothes.

We could list many more similar examples, though the ones presented here should show that an SCA-sponsored Chirurgeonate is in the best interests of the Society in terms of care, cost, and managerial control.

I.4. Why be a Chirurgeon?

Though there are reasons why the SCA has an organized Chirurgeonate, the question remains why anyone would want to join. It is not easy to explain what motivates one person to come to the aid of another, nor should we attempt to address this issue. Care giving and generosity are not things which require rules. Regardless, there are three clear and tangible advantages to joining the Chirurgeonate versus providing first aid on your own. The first is recognition by the populace and other SCA officers that, as a warranted Chirurgeon (*see Section II.2*), you have met a certain minimum of training and are familiar with the oddities of performing first aid within the cultural context of the SCA – you’re a known quantity.

The second reason to be a warranted Chirurgeon has to do with the principal of “many hands make light work.” As a member of the Chirurgeonate, you accrue the benefits of belonging to an international group of first-aid volunteers. These benefits include the exchange of information on SCA-specific first aid, a shared set of policies which allow people who have never met before to work together effectively, and the organizational means to delegate and share the workload at an event.

The third reason to become warranted is that as a warranted officer of the SCA, you may be covered by the SCA’s liability insurance. Such coverage depends on the nature of the incident that engendered litigation, whether the country you live in is included in the SCA’s policies, and what your role was in the incident in question, etc. (*see Appendix D*). For example, if you performed an emergency tracheotomy on the list field when the only thing wrong was a sprained ankle, it is extremely doubtful that you’ll be covered under the SCA’s liability insurance. The extent of coverage is also variable, since the SCA occasionally changes insurance carriers, and every insurer and policy is different.

Because the coverage extended under the SCA’s liability policies depends on several variables, an absolute guarantee of coverage can not be promised. The SCA, however, has been involved in a small number of civil suits, and overall, SCA officers have been protected by the insurance and their legal expenses reimbursed where applicable.

I.5. What This Handbook is About

This handbook contains policies and procedures for the administration, organization, and performance of first aid by Chirurgeons at events held by the SCA, Inc. These policies are promulgated by the Society Chirurgeon (*see Section II.19*). The contents of this Handbook

represent the minimum standards of conduct and service expected of any Chirurgeon. Although each individual Kingdom may require more procedurally than what is set forth here, no Kingdom may require a minimum standard of care greater than the minimum presented in this handbook (*see Sections III.1, III.2*).

I.6. What This Handbook Is Not About

This handbook is not a first aid manual. First-aid literature is best obtained through organizations like the American Red Cross or St. John's Priory in Australia, England or Canada. This handbook is also not concerned with the historic practice of medicine during the Middle Ages and Renaissance. While individual Chirurgeons may wish to pursue academic research into historical practices, the Chirurgeonate as a whole has no desire whatsoever to recreate the dark ages of medicine. We practice modern first aid as a volunteer service at SCA events; the study of medieval medicine is encouraged, but not practiced by the Chirurgeonate.

I.7. The Authority of This Handbook

This Handbook is the recognized and approved standard procedural manual for the organization and administration of first aid at SCA events. It was approved by the Board of Directors of the SCA January 2004. The procedures in this handbook apply to all Chirurgeons and to all other recognized officers of the SCA where applicable.

If a policy or procedure from this handbook is in contravention with any law of any governmental jurisdiction, then that law takes precedence over this Handbook.

Who We Are (Personnel)

II.1. <DELETED>

II.2. Prerequisites to be a warranted Chirurgeon

In order to become a fully warranted Chirurgeon (see Sections II.9 through II.13), you must meet the following conditions:

- You must serve an observation period as a Chirurgeon-in-Training for evaluation of attitude, demeanor, and training in SCA-specific knowledge such as the rules for armored combat and the contents of this Handbook.
- You must be as old or older than the legal age of majority in the state, province, territory, and/or country where you live.
- You must possess a current first-aid certification or acceptable alternative (see III.1 and III.3).
- You must possess a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification (see III.2 and III.3).
- You must be a member of the SCA. The type of membership must provide immediate access to your Kingdom newsletter.
- You must provide the following to your Kingdom Chirurgeon (see Section III.15):
 - Proof of age of majority (a copy of your driver's license should suffice)
 - A copy of your first-aid or medical credentials
 - A copy of your CPR certification
 - Proof of SCA membership (a blue membership card is sufficient; a mailing label or a non-blue membership card is sufficient only if accompanied by properly-executed waiver).

II.3. Chirurgeon-in-Training

Chirurgeons-in-Training have provided their Kingdom Chirurgeon with all the documents listed in Section II.5 and have been accepted by their Kingdom Chirurgeon as a Chirurgeon-in-Training.

II.4. The Purpose of Serving as a Chirurgeon-in-Training

The purpose of serving as a Chirurgeon-in-Training is to evaluate the first-aid skills of Chirurgeons-in-Training in the SCA setting and to teach them the administrative policies and procedures of the Chirurgeonate.

The Chirurgeon-in-Training period is first and foremost a time for evaluation on the application of first-aid treatment within the structure of the SCA. The SCA Chirurgeonate does not teach first aid, nor should an Chirurgeon-in-Training expect the SCA to provide any first-aid training. Obtaining first-aid training is the responsibility of the Chirurgeon-in-Training.

II.5. How to Become a Chirurgeon-in-Training

In order to be accepted as a Chirurgeon, a candidate must apply to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in writing. The application must include: a statement of desire from the candidate to become a Chirurgeon-in-Training; proof of current first-aid certification or acceptable equivalent; proof of CPR certification; proof of age of majority; the candidate's SCA name, legal name, address, and telephone number; and proof of membership in the SCA. See Appendix E for a sample application form.

Only a Kingdom Chirurgeon may accept a candidate as a Chirurgeon-in-Training.

II.6. Duties and Responsibilities of Chirurgeons-in-Training

A Chirurgeon-in-Training will gather all the necessary certifications and information required for warranting, and will forward these items to the Kingdom Chirurgeon prior to being accepted as a Chirurgeon-in-Training.

A Chirurgeon-in-Training must serve an observation period for as many SCA events as deemed sufficient and necessary by the Kingdom Chirurgeon. Any and all service performed by a Chirurgeon-in-Training at an SCA event will be under the direct observation of a warranted Chirurgeon (*see Section III.5*).

The observation period is an evaluation time. Chirurgeons-in-Training are evaluated for: first-aid skill; common sense; an appropriate attitude (i.e. calm, confident, helpful, etc.); and knowledge of the limits, responsibilities, and liabilities of performing Good Samaritan first aid (*see Appendices C and D*).

The observation period is a training period during which Chirurgeons-in-Training are expected to learn and become knowledgeable regarding the SCA in general; SCA combat (to the extent possible by observation and by discussion of combat rules and conditions if the candidate is not a combatant); armor and armor standards; the roles of other officers and their interactions with the Chirurgeonate; organizational responsibilities of a Chirurgeon-in-Charge; the policies and procedures contained in this Handbook; the local Kingdom Chirurgeonate's policies and practices; and local, county, state, province, and national laws governing first aid in the Chirurgeon-in-Training's Kingdom.

While on duty during the observation period, a Chirurgeon-in-Training may wear a badge, favor or token bearing the badge of the Chirurgeonate with no border.

No Chirurgeon-in-Training will perform any first aid as a representative of the Chirurgeonate. Any unsupervised first aid performed by a Chirurgeon-in-Training is considered the action of a private individual (*see Section III.5*).

II.7 Chirurgeons-in-Training in Geographically Isolated Areas

Some candidates for the Chirurgeonate live in isolated areas where there are no warranted Chirurgeons within a reasonable traveling distance. For these candidates, the period of training may be conducted by correspondence as outlined below.

All paperwork necessary for warranting must be sent to the Kingdom Chirurgeon prior to being accepted as a Chirurgeon-in-Training.

The Chirurgeon-in-Training may then perform first aid on a trial basis in the presence of the Seneschal or Marshal of his or her local group at events held by the local group only.

First aid performed at fighter practices may qualify as first aid at a group event for the purposes of this Handbook and at the discretion of the Kingdom Chirurgeon.

Completion of the evaluation period may occur upon receipt by the Kingdom Chirurgeon of affidavits from at least three people verifying to the best of their ability that the Chirurgeon-in-Training has fulfilled the training requirements of this Handbook outlined above. These three people must include the Seneschal and the Marshal of the local group (if the group has one).

II.8. Advancing Beyond Chirurgeon-in-Training status

The Chirurgeon-in-Training period ends by either receiving a warrant as a Chirurgeon or by being dismissed by the Kingdom Chirurgeon.

II.9 Chirurgeon

Chirurgeons are both volunteer first aiders and warranted at-large officers of the SCA. A Chirurgeon is fully warranted and sanctioned to provide volunteer first aid at SCA events and serve in Chirurgeon-specific offices.

II.10. Duties and Responsibilities of Chirurgeons

- You must work a minimum of one event per year. Proof of serving at an event can only be established by reporting in writing to your Kingdom Chirurgeon (see *Sections IV.5 through IV.7*).
- You must report in writing to your Kingdom Chirurgeon at least once a year (see *Section IV.7*), or as required by this handbook or by your Kingdom Chirurgeon (see *Section IV.6*).
- All service in the Chirurgeonate is on a volunteer basis. No one can place you on duty as a first-aid provider for any portion of an event if you are unwilling to work as a first aider at that time (see *Section III.9*).
- The Chirurgeon may display the Chirurgeon badge on a baldric or tabard with a white border (see *Appendix B*).
- If you are available, willing, and designated to give first aid at an event, you must provide that first aid to any and all who request it (see *Section III.9*).
- When you are available and willing to provide first aid at an SCA event, you may be identified by wearing a baldric, tabard, or favor charged with the badge of the Chirurgeonate. A Chirurgeon who is not on-duty and does not want to be approached to provide care should not wear the badge of the Chirurgeonate.
- You must possess or have access to a first aid kit while on duty.
- You will only provide first aid as defined and/or authorized in this handbook while performing as a Chirurgeon (see *Sections III.1 through III.9*).
- If you are Chirurgeon-in-Charge for an event you must fulfill the additional duties and responsibilities of a Chirurgeon-in-Charge as described in *Sections III.11 through III.13*.
- You may, at the discretion of your Kingdom Chirurgeon, observe and evaluate the performance of Chirurgeons-in-Training at SCA events. The items for evaluation are listed in *Section II.6*. In addition, you should endeavor to train Chirurgeons-in-Training in those subjects which are listed in *Sections II.4 and II.6*. After observing a Chirurgeon-in-Training at an event, you must report that person's performance to

their Kingdom Chirurgeon (see *Section IV.4* and *Appendix E* for a sample report form.)

II.11. Requirements to Maintain Active Status as a Chirurgeon

In order to stay on the roster of warranted Chirurgeons, you need to maintain your SCA membership, keep your CPR and first-aid certifications or medical credentials current (see *Sections III.14* and *III.15*), work at least one event a year (see *Section II.10*), and report in writing to your Kingdom Chirurgeon at least annually (see *Section IV.7*). Your Kingdom Chirurgeon may require reports more frequently (see *Section IV.6*).

II.12. Re-warranting Inactive Chirurgeons

During the time that your warrant is valid, if your membership and/or certifications expire, you can not provide any first aid as an active SCA Chirurgeon until you have renewed your membership and certificates (see *Section III.14*). So long as your warrant is still valid, you may return to active status as a Chirurgeon as soon your paperwork is renewed. Whenever your warrant itself expires, you must submit proof of valid SCA membership and certifications to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in order to receive a new warrant.

II.13. Suspension and Removal of a Chirurgeon

Any suspension or removal from office must follow the guidelines outlined in Corpora. A Chirurgeon may be suspended or removed from office for (but not limited to) the following reasons:

- Violation of reasonable first-aid practices judged against the medical or first-aid qualifications of the Chirurgeon
- Inability or refusal to cooperate with other Chirurgeons, with Marshals, or with other SCA officers or members ("attitude problems.")
- Failure to fulfill the duties and procedures outlined in this Handbook
- Violation of privacy
- Treatment without proper consent

II.14. Mentor Chirurgeon

Each Kingdom may designate certain individuals as Mentor Chirurgeons. These are individuals who have exceptional abilities and have given exceptional service to the Chirurgeonate and the Society. The designation of Mentor Chirurgeon is not rewarded on the basis of advanced certifications or on precedence within the SCA, but on ability and service within the Chirurgeonate alone.

The designation of Mentor Chirurgeon is bestowed at the discretion of the Kingdom Chirurgeon or the Society Chirurgeon.

The duties, responsibilities, and warranting requirements of a Mentor Chirurgeon are the same as those of a Chirurgeon. The Mentor Chirurgeon designation does not imply that a Mentor Chirurgeon supersedes any other Chirurgeon in a first-aid situation. The designation is honorary and does not indicate a superior position in any first-aid, medical or administrative hierarchy within the Chirurgeonate.

Mentor Chirurgeons may display the Chirurgeon emblem with a gold or yellow bordure on the baldric, tabard, or favor.

II.15. Chirurgeon Emeritus

There are individuals who have exceptional abilities and knowledge about the Chirurgeonate, but due to circumstances outside of the SCA, these people are not able to be active in the Chirurgeonate. Many of these people have been Mentor Chirurgeons, or would have become Mentor Chirurgeons if they had been able to continue participation in the Chirurgeonate. Some of these individuals have never been able to join the Chirurgeon because they cannot perform first aid at SCA events due to legal or employment considerations. Others have been active Chirurgeons in the past but have left the Chirurgeonate because of a permanent or temporary inability to maintain their certifications, often due to health concerns.

Rather than lose the resource and experience these individuals represent, they may remain or be placed on the Kingdom's Chirurgeonate roster as Chirurgeon Emeritus. Issuing a warrant for a Chirurgeon Emeritus is at the discretion of the Kingdom Chirurgeon.

The duties and responsibilities of a Chirurgeon Emeritus are to mentor and advise other Chirurgeons and other interested SCA officers on Chirurgeonate matters. Chirurgeons Emeriti do not provide any first aid at SCA events. The Chirurgeon Emeritus may serve in administrative roles including Chirurgeon-in-Charge of an event as long as they are not involved in direct patient care. SCA membership is not required to be elected to Chirurgeon Emeritus status, but is required if the Chirurgeon Emeritus is to work in an official role such as Chirurgeon-in-Charge. The designation of Chirurgeon Emeritus is strictly honorary.

The circumstances which prevent a Chirurgeon from maintaining current certifications may not be permanent. If a Chirurgeon Emeritus who was a warranted Chirurgeon can renew old certifications or obtain new certifications sufficient for the practice of first aid in the SCA, then that person will be welcomed back into the ranks of active Chirurgeons in their former status, and their status as a Chirurgeon Emeritus will be rescinded.

Chirurgeon Emeriti may display a badge as registered by the Society Chirurgeon with the College of Heraldry.

II.16. Chirurgeon-in-Charge (CiC)

There will be a Chirurgeon-in-Charge at all SCA events where the Chirurgeonate is functioning to coordinate and organize the Chirurgeons volunteering at the event. Only a Chirurgeon in good standing as a Chirurgeon or Mentor Chirurgeon (*see Section III.14*) or Chirurgeon Emeritus (*see Section II.15*) can function as a Chirurgeon-in-Charge. If a Chirurgeon is the only Chirurgeon functioning at an SCA event, then he or she is the Chirurgeon-in-Charge by default. Policies concerning Chirurgeons-in-Charge are listed in detail in Sections III.11 through III.13.

II.17. Kingdom Chirurgeon

A Kingdom Chirurgeon must fulfill the requirements to be a Chirurgeon described in Section II.2.

A Kingdom Chirurgeon is a great officer of state of his or her Kingdom and is warranted and removed by the Crown and Society Chirurgeon. The required paperwork for warranting a Kingdom Chirurgeon is the same as the paperwork described in Section II.2. The Kingdom

Chirurgeon's SCA name, legal name, address, phone number, and email address are also required. All these materials must be forwarded to the Society Chirurgeon at the time of warranting.

A Kingdom Chirurgeon will maintain the Kingdom records of all the reports described in this Handbook (*see Sections IV.1 through IV.7*). He or she will also maintain a current directory of all Chirurgeons in the Kingdom including copies of certifications (*see Sections II.2, III.13 and III.14*). The Kingdom Chirurgeon will submit quarterly reports and other reports as required by the Crown and/or Society Chirurgeon.

The Kingdom Chirurgeon may exercise any of the prerogatives as described elsewhere in this Handbook, e.g., making Mentor Chirurgeons (*see Sections II.5, II.7, II.8, II.10 through II.15, II.18, III.11, III.14 through III.17, and IV.5 through IV.7*).

A Kingdom Chirurgeon is the person who issues warrants to Chirurgeons in concert with the Crown (*see Sections III.13 and III.14*). He or she will also develop, update, and administer Corporate and Kingdom Chirurgeonate policy with the aid of the appropriate Corporate and Kingdom officers.

II.18. Deputy Kingdom Chirurgeons

A Deputy Kingdom Chirurgeon need not fulfill the requirements of a warranted Chirurgeon as described in Section II.2.

A deputy Kingdom Chirurgeon will be warranted and removed by the Kingdom Chirurgeon and Crown. He or she will perform any duties as directed by the Kingdom Chirurgeon, though those duties will not include first aid unless a separate warrant is held as a Chirurgeon in good standing as described in Sections II.2, II.10 and II.11.

The Kingdom Chirurgeon may delegate duties to a deputy which benefit the Kingdom at large. The Kingdom Chirurgeon may also appoint a deputy who will serve a specific Principality or Region of a Kingdom. Such deputies are commonly known as Principality and Regional Chirurgeons.

If a Kingdom Chirurgeon does not desire a deputy or deputies, this office will not exist in that Kingdom at that time.

II.19. Society Chirurgeon

The Society Chirurgeon must fulfill all the requirements to be a Chirurgeon described in Section II.2.

The Society Chirurgeon:

- Is a corporate officer of the SCA.
- Is appointed and removed by the Board of Directors of the SCA.
- Maintains records of serious injuries and works with the Marshal of the SCA to develop policies and standards to minimize the occurrence of serious fighting injuries.
- Warrants and removes Kingdom Chirurgeons in conjunction with the Crowns of the Kingdoms.
- Develops, updates, and administers corporate Chirurgeonate policy with the aid of appropriate SCA, first-aid, medical, and legal resources.
- Submits quarterly reports to the President and Board of Directors of the SCA, and carries out any further duties as directed by the Board of Directors.

II.20. Deputy Society Chirurgeons

A Deputy Society Chirurgeon need not fulfill the requirements of a warranted Chirurgeon as described in Section II.2 . Any Deputy Society Chirurgeon will be warranted or removed by the Society Chirurgeon and the Board of Directors.

A Deputy Society Chirurgeon will perform any duties as directed by the Society Chirurgeon. These duties will not include first aid unless a separate warrant is held as a Chirurgeon in good standing as described in Section II.2.

If the Society Chirurgeon does not desire a deputy or deputies, this office will not exist at that time.

What We Do and How We Do It (Procedures)

Primum non nocere – First do no harm

III.1. First-aid Certification and Acceptable Alternatives

In the Chirurgeonate, the minimum acceptable first-aid certification is one earned in a basic first-aid course designed for adult students which tests both knowledge and performance of first-aid skills (i.e., it cannot be a demonstration-only course). This excludes youth-oriented courses such as babysitting or junior lifesaving courses. It is **strongly** recommended that Chirurgeons obtain training in child and infant first aid. Agencies that provide acceptable courses include the affiliate organizations of the International Red Cross, the Wilderness Medical Associates in the USA and Canada, and St. John's Priory of Australia to name a few. Certification earned in a course teaching more advanced first-aid techniques is also acceptable. The acceptability of a specific first-aid course will be determined by the Kingdom Chirurgeon in consultation with the Society Chirurgeon.

Some acceptable alternatives to first-aid certification include licensure as a physician or nurse, or certification as an emergency medical technician. Holders of advanced certificates need to be familiar with the practice of first aid in a remote environment with minimal to no adjunctive equipment.

No Kingdom Chirurgeon may require a higher minimum standard of training than described above. The Society Chirurgeon is the final arbiter of what constitutes acceptable first-aid training.

III.2. CPR Certification

The minimum acceptable cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification is Adult CPR based on the standards published by the Emergency Cardiac Care Committee of the American Heart Association. Courses taught by the American Red Cross and American Heart Association will meet the current standards. Other certifying agencies who follow this standard are also acceptable. The course must test both knowledge and performance (i.e., it cannot be a demonstration-only course). It is **strongly** recommended that Chirurgeons also be trained in child and infant CPR.

The CPR requirement can also be satisfied when CPR is included as part of the first-aid course. The course must include rescue breathing, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and removal of foreign body airway obstruction. Senior First Aid (St. John's Priory of South Australia) is an example of a first-aid course which also satisfies the CPR requirement.

No Kingdom Chirurgeon may require a higher minimum standard of training than described above. The Society Chirurgeon is the final arbiter of what constitutes acceptable CPR training.

III.3. Standard of Care

The minimum standard of care for first aid for Chirurgeons is based on the content of the American Red Cross adult basic first-aid course. More advanced first aid is also acceptable, so long as the Chirurgeon does not administer first aid at a level which exceeds his or her current certification, current CPR certification, and/or current medical certification or license (*see Section III.4*). Advanced first aid as taught in courses such as Wilderness First

Aid (Wilderness Medical Society), Senior First Aid (St. John's Priory of South Australia), or Secourisme Avancé (Croix Rouge de Belgique) or their equivalents does not exceed the standard of first aid sanctioned by the SCA.

This being said, it is not the intent of the Chirurgeonate to provide a full-fledged pre-hospital trauma life-support unit. The Chirurgeonate serves as a bridge between the injured person and the local emergency medical response system. Any incident which calls for skills beyond basic first aid should be referred to the local medical facility. The typical event site does not lend itself to sanitary care. The discriminating factor should be if the incident requires more than a bandage, ice, or splint, then the patient should be referred to the local medical facility.

III.4. Medical Aid

Medical aid is any aid which requires a certification or license issued by any governmental agency. **Medical aid exceeds the standard of first aid sanctioned by the SCA.** Any medical aid is rendered under the administering person's medical certification or license, and is **not** sanctioned by the SCA. Before any medical aid is given, the person being treated must be informed that this aid is done without sanction of the SCA, the Chirurgeonate, or the Kingdom, and is strictly a private arrangement between the individuals involved, governed by the laws of the state, province, territory and/or country in which such aid is given.

III.5. Sanctioned vs. Unsanctioned First Aid

Only Chirurgeons warranted in good standing can administer first aid at SCA events with the sanction of the SCA. Any first aid administered by a Chirurgeon whose warrant is lapsed or suspended is not sanctioned by the SCA. Any person rendering first aid at an SCA event who is not a member of the Chirurgeonate does so without the sanction of the SCA. If a Chirurgeon can dispense medication under his or her medical certification or license, such an action does not have the sanction of the SCA and Section III.4 wholly applies.

III.6. Consent

Any first aid rendered by a Chirurgeon at an SCA event is subject to the laws of consent of the state, territory, province and/or country in which aid is given. No conscious person will be forced to accept treatment without his or her consent. Treating a patient without proper consent is grounds for revocation of the Chirurgeon's warrant.

Treatment of minors is subject to the appropriate laws of the state, territory, province and/or country where any SCA event is held. It is the individual Chirurgeon's responsibility to know and comply with these laws. For example: in some states in the United States, no minor may receive treatment other than that required to sustain life in an emergency unless a *Medical Authorization For Minors* form is executed and consent is obtained from a parent, legally designated responsible adult, or legal guardian who is present at the event. A minor who is legally emancipated may be treated as an adult. In countries other than the United States, the laws concerning consent for first aid and medical treatment for minors vary greatly. Chirurgeons in those countries should be familiar with specific laws that govern the treatment of minors where aid is rendered.

III.7. Privacy

It is recognized that a Chirurgeon is not a "health care provider" or "medical care provider" under the definition in most states. Therefore, the state and federal laws concerning privacy

of information gained during the treatment of a patient do not apply to the Chirurgeonate. The exception would be someone who is a licensed medical care or health care provider and who is acting within the terms of said license, who therefore would be bound by such laws. It is the sole responsibility of such persons to know the requirements and act accordingly with their license regardless of any policy set herein.

However, treatment information may be of a highly personal and sensitive nature, and wherever possible should be treated as confidential and privileged. In light of this:

- Privileged information may be shared with other Chirurgeons and medical personnel directly involved in the person's treatment.
- Privileged information may be shared on a need-to-know basis with:
 - The Marshallate if it is deemed that sharing details of the accident, illness, or injury could prevent similar incidents and/or injuries, or to prevent possible further injury to the person who has been treated.
 - SCA officers who would be involved if legal action would be brought (e.g., Autocrat, local and Kingdom Seneschals).
 - Officers of the Chirurgeonate (Chirurgeons-in-Charge, regional, Kingdom, and Society Chirurgeons).

Information shared on a need-to-know basis should be kept to the minimum necessary for the purpose. For example, the Marshallate may be told "we have seen three head injuries to persons with this type of helm, you might want to check on those" or "we think that the fighter there has a badly sprained or otherwise injured ankle, but he insists it is OK and he wants to go back into the War." The Seneschal would get a report of the patient's name and general statement of what happened "Sir Helmhide (legal name: John Jones) was knocked out on the list field and was transported to Regional Hospital by Lowland EMS."

- Privileged information may not be shared for any other purpose or outside the SCA (except to emergency care providers who accept responsibility for the person's care and/or treatment) without the express prior written consent of the person (or person's legal representative - guardian, parent, or attorney-in-fact).

This policy does not cover information that is considered public knowledge (e.g. "the patient, Lady Calamity Jane, tripped in court and appears to have hurt herself" or "Sir Joe was fighting with Sir Rhino at Fall Tournament and Sir Joe was injured and needed to go to the hospital by ambulance"). This information was witnessed by the population at large, not gained from a privileged first-responder/ treated person relationship.

III.8. Medications

No medications of any kind will be administered by any Chirurgeon. If anyone requests an over-the-counter medication from a Chirurgeon, the Chirurgeon may provide the container of that medication to the requester and advise the requester to follow the label directions for taking that medication. The requester should dispense the medication themselves. Under no circumstances will a Chirurgeon recommend or dispense a medication or recommend a dosage. If a Chirurgeon can dispense medication under his or her medical certification or license, such an action does not have the sanction of the SCA and Section III.4 wholly applies.

This policy is based on first aid performed in the United States, the country with the largest number of SCA members. In some countries, however, there are a limited number of circumstances where it is legal for a first aider to administer certain specific medications in an emergency (e.g., epinephrine in Mexico). In some places, there may even be a legal obligation to do so (e.g., France). Chirurgeons in these countries should be familiar with laws governing the emergency administration of medicines by first aiders. Whether such aid is considered first aid sanctioned by the SCA can only be determined on a case by case basis.

III.9. General Policies

There is no requirement for the Chirurgeonate to function at any SCA event. A Chirurgeon who is at an event but not on duty, and does not wish to be on duty, is not required to provide first aid unless required otherwise by law.

Any Chirurgeon who is available and willing to provide first aid at an event cannot be prohibited from doing so by anyone other than the Society Chirurgeon, the Kingdom Chirurgeon, or a duly-delegated administrative superior in the Chirurgeonate (e.g., a Chirurgeon-in-Charge at an Interkingdom event).

Should the Event Steward be unable to contact the duly-delegated administrative superior in the Chirurgeonate, the Kingdom Chirurgeon and/or the Society Chirurgeon, the Event Steward may prohibit a Chirurgeon from acting as a Chirurgeon (Corporate Officer) at an event for adequate cause. This action must be reported to the Kingdom Chirurgeon and Society Chirurgeon within 24 hours of the end of the event for review. If either the Kingdom or Society Chirurgeon disagrees with the action taken, they may refer it to the Kingdom Seneschal of the sponsoring kingdom, the Society Seneschal, and then the Board of Directors for review and possible follow-up actions.

Should the Event Steward wish to remove the Chirurgeon-in-Charge at a large or inter-kingdom event, as well as reporting this action as described in paragraphs 2 and 3, the duties of the Chirurgeon-in-Charge will be assumed by their designated emergency deputy. Should an emergency deputy not have been appointed, the same process that selected the Chirurgeon-in-Charge should immediately select the replacement officer.

First aid in the SCA is Good Samaritan in nature (*see Appendix C*), and therefore is provided free of charge. No one will be charged for a Chirurgeon's care, including first aid supplies. Kingdom and local custom governs who pays for the maintenance of Chirurgeons' first-aid kit. Since first-aid supplies benefit the populace and SCA groups as a whole, receiving contributions of supplies or money for supplies is permitted both from individuals and groups. Any donations should be documented and also reported to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in a Chirurgeon's yearly doomsday report (*Section IV.7*). Raffles and other activities to raise money for the Chirurgeonate are acceptable as long as they conform to local laws governing such activities.

No conscious person will be forced to accept treatment without his or her consent. A Chirurgeon needs to document when consent is denied (*Section IV.3*). When a person is not conscious, standard medical practice considers this person to have given implied consent. When treatment is given by implied consent, the Chirurgeon giving the care must document this (*Sections IV.1 and IV.2*).

Only the Crown, the Corporate Marshal, Kingdom Marshals, or Marshals-in-Charge may bar a fighter from combat. In certain situations, a Chirurgeon may consult with the appropriate parties regarding the safety of beginning or continuing combat involving an

injured fighter. Such situations could include an injury or illness that would endanger the fighter's own health or safety, or an injury or illness that would endanger the opponent beyond the normal and acceptable risks of combat.

A Chirurgeon will not consume alcohol for a period of at least 8 hours prior to being on duty as a Chirurgeon. If a Chirurgeon is taking medication which affects alertness (e.g., narcotics, sedating antihistamines), they should not be on duty as a Chirurgeon.

III.10. Combat Injuries

This section on Combat Injuries is the joint policy statement on the procedures and protocol for treating injuries which occur in combat areas. This policy is promulgated by the Society Chirurgeon and the Society Earl Marshal and is included in both organizations' Handbooks. The use of "Chirurgeon" in this policy can represent warranted members of the Chirurgeon Guild, or other designated medical responders.

The primary concern in responding to an emergency situation is the safety of the rescuers, the bystanders, and the injured parties. Tunnel vision centered on an injured person can lead to missing other hazards such as fighters standing around in armor in the sun succumbing to heat problems. The Marshals and Chirurgeons shall work together to assist the injured and promote the safety and well-being of all parties on the field.

In the event of a suspected injury on the field, the Marshal shall halt fighting in the area and determine the proper course of action. The hold may be a *local hold* as long as the safety of the injured person may be maintained. The overall situation should be assessed, the area cleared of would-be spectators, and every effort made to release as much of the field as possible so that combat may proceed.

If the injured person is conscious, he or she will be asked if they would like assistance. No conscious person will be forced to accept treatment without his or her consent. No non-combatant shall enter the combat area until summoned by a Marshal.

A Marshal shall call for a Chirurgeon if he or she suspects that a participant is experiencing more than momentary distress.

Once called to the field, the Chirurgeon is responsible for the care of the injured party. After receiving consent from the patient, the Chirurgeon will determine if the injury can be tended to "in place" or if the injured party can be removed from the field before treatment. If it is necessary to transport the injured person from the field, the Chirurgeon is responsible for determining and implementing the most appropriate manner (i.e. supported by others, carried on a shield or backboard, ambulance, etc.).

Fighting cannot resume until the injured participant can continue, is removed from the field, or a local hold can safely be maintained around the injured party.

No one may bar a fighter from continuing to fight following an injury without the consent of the event Marshal-in-Charge or an appointed deputy.

Any problems associated with an injury on the field shall be immediately reported to the Kingdom Earl Marshal.

The Chirurgeon must survey the overall situation as well as attending to the injured party, and make every effort to release as much of the field as possible so that combat may proceed.

Chirurgeons and Marshals must work together, first to ensure the safety of all parties and second to allow combat to proceed once safety has been ensured. Clear thinking, common sense, and courtesy must be exercised to ensure this. Chirurgeons or Marshals who demonstrate a lack of ability to follow these basic guidelines may be removed from the field and/or have their ability to continue to serve in these positions restricted or eliminated.

III.11. The Organization of Chirurgeons at SCA Events

There will be a Chirurgeon-in-Charge at all SCA events where the Chirurgeonate is functioning to coordinate and organize the activities of the Chirurgeonate. Only a Chirurgeon in good standing can function as a Chirurgeon-in-Charge. If a Chirurgeon is the only Chirurgeon functioning at an SCA event, then he or she is the Chirurgeon-in-Charge by default.

There is no requirement that the Chirurgeonate be functioning at any SCA event. If the Chirurgeonate is not functioning, the autocrat should know how to reach emergency medical services quickly in the event of an injury or illness.

If members of the Chirurgeonate are present at an event, are warranted in good-standing, are willing to volunteer, and no Chirurgeon-in-Charge has been previously designated for that event, then those Chirurgeons may chose a Chirurgeon-in-Charge from amongst themselves. If members of the Chirurgeonate wish to organize themselves in this manner, then no one other than the Kingdom Chirurgeon may bar them from volunteering.

A Chirurgeon who is active in a local group is neither required nor obligated to be the Chirurgeon-in-Charge of that group's events, even if the group has included that Chirurgeon on its roster of group officers (*see Sections II.1 and III.17* on Chirurgeons as local officers). The autocrat of an event may ask any Chirurgeon in good standing to be the Chirurgeon-in-Charge with the exception of inter-kingdom events (*see Section III.13*). The Kingdom Chirurgeon is the final arbiter of the choice of Chirurgeon-in-Charge at events.

III.12. Duties and Responsibilities of the Chirurgeon-In-Charge

The Chirurgeon-in-Charge will identify himself to the appropriate event officers (Autocrat, Marshal, Herald, site security) and ensure the populace is aware the Chirurgeonate is functioning and is easy to locate. This is usually best done by having the Heralds make an announcement and setting up a Chirurgeon's Point with an appropriate banner in an easily accessible place.

The Chirurgeon-in-Charge will organize and coordinate the Chirurgeons who want to work at the event. They will verify the certifications and membership of any Chirurgeons who wish to volunteer to ensure that only Chirurgeons in good standing are working. In addition, the Chirurgeon-in-Charge will coordinate with the Water Bearers' Guild if that guild is functioning.

The Chirurgeon-in-Charge should know how to contact emergency medical services quickly should the need arise. The Chirurgeon-in-Charge should also ensure that there are adequate first-aid supplies available at the event. The Chirurgeon-in-Charge is not responsible for providing these supplies out of his or her own pocket (*see Section III.9*).

The Chirurgeon-in-Charge is responsible for collecting all injury reports, refusal of care reports, and all other pertinent paperwork for inclusion in the event report. The Chirurgeon-in-Charge is responsible for sending the event report to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in a timely manner.

III.13. Duties and Responsibilities of the Chirurgeon-in-Charge at Interkingdom Events

The duties and responsibilities of a Chirurgeon-in-Charge at an interkingdom event are the same as those in Section III.12 with the following exceptions:

The event report for an inter-kingdom event will be sent to the Society Chirurgeon and the Kingdom Chirurgeons of the Kingdoms directly involved in the event. The event report will at a minimum contain the same information as the *Event Report* found in Appendix E.

It is often a matter of kingdom custom and tradition as to who appoints the Chirurgeon-in-Charge of an interkingdom event. Regardless of whether the Chirurgeon-in-Charge is appointed by the Kingdom Chirurgeon of the hosting Kingdom, the event autocrat, or a committee, the appointment should meet the approval of the Kingdom Chirurgeons of the sponsoring Kingdoms and the event Autocrat. If there is a disagreement about the choice of Chirurgeon-in-Charge, then the Society Chirurgeon will be the final arbitrator.

If the Event Steward disagrees with the action taken, they may refer it to the Kingdom Seneschal of the sponsoring kingdom, the Society Seneschal, and then the Board of Directors for review and possible follow-up actions.

Should the Chirurgeonate be functioning as a previously organized group under an approved Chirurgeon-in-Charge as part of the event staff of an inter-kingdom event, the Event Steward may not remove them as an organized group except under the following circumstances.

1. The removal process for individual chirurgeons outlined in Section III. 9., paragraphs 2 and 3 has been considered and followed and the problem still exists.
2. The removal process for the Chirurgeon-in-Charge outlined in Section III. 9., paragraph 4 has been considered and followed, and the problem still exists.

Please refer to the Uniform Sanction Procedure as outlined in the Society Seneschal's Handbook for process details.

III.14. Chirurgeons' Warrants

A warrant is a document which affirms your status as an SCA officer for a length of time specified by the Kingdom Chirurgeon who issued your warrant. The term "warrant" here is somewhat of a misnomer. In the past, every local officer received an actual piece of paper called a warrant, signed by their superior in office and by the King and Queen of their Kingdom. As the SCA got larger, however, issuing individual warrants became a paperwork nightmare. To address this problem, the Board of Directors of the SCA introduced the roster system to replace individual warrants for officers below the Kingdom level. Kingdom and Corporate officers still receive individual warrants.

For the purposes of this Handbook, "warrant" is synonymous with "roster" or "term of office." The roster is essentially a group warrant for all the Chirurgeons in a Kingdom. The Kingdom Chirurgeon must maintain the roster, update it, and have it confirmed by signature of the Crown. Your "warrant," i.e., your term as an officer, expires on the date which is listed in the roster. Your term of office as a Chirurgeon can be as long as the Kingdom Chirurgeon wishes to make it, though more than three years is not recommended.

The roster lists names, addresses and phone numbers, and these types of information can not be released publicly in many countries. If you plan on volunteering as a Chirurgeon in

another Kingdom, you therefore can't take the roster or even a copy of the roster as proof that you are an officer. When you were first warranted, the Kingdom Chirurgeon may have sent you confirmation of your officer status in the form of a letter or Chirurgeon authorization card. Either of these should be sufficient proof that you are a warranted Chirurgeon. If you didn't receive either of these, you can request that your Kingdom Chirurgeon send you a letter or Chirurgeon authorization card which states that you are indeed a warranted Chirurgeon.

III.15. Warranting/Rostering Policies

Only a Kingdom Chirurgeon in concert with the Crown can warrant a person as a Chirurgeon. Appointment as a Chirurgeon is effective when the Kingdom Chirurgeon places that person on the valid kingdom roster of Chirurgeons and that appointment is confirmed when the Crown signs the roster. The roster does not need to be signed by the Crown every time an addition or change is made; though the Kingdom roster must be updated and confirmed by the Crown regularly, in accordance to the customs and traditions of each individual Kingdom. A warrant or roster is valid only if it conforms with the policies set forth in Corpora and the directives of the Board of Directors of the SCA. A Chirurgeon's warrant issued in one Kingdom is valid in all other Kingdoms. A Chirurgeon may volunteer at any event in any Kingdom with the consent of the Chirurgeon-in-Charge. If there is no Chirurgeon-in-Charge, then the policies in Section III.11 apply.

A Chirurgeon is warranted "in good standing" for the duration specified on the Kingdom roster of Chirurgeons, so long as the following items have not expired: medical certification, CPR certification, and membership in the SCA (*see Sections II.2, II.5, II.6, III.1 and III.2*).

If a Chirurgeon's medical certification, CPR certification, and/or SCA membership have expired, then that Chirurgeon's warrant has "lapsed" and is inactive until all out-of-date paperwork is renewed. The Chirurgeon with the lapsed warrant will not perform any Chirurgeonate duties at events until all paperwork deficiencies are remedied. Reinstatement to good standing is automatic as long as the Chirurgeon's warrant has not expired, and all other paperwork has been renewed (*see Section II.12*).

Proof of a valid warrant along with proof of membership, certifications and/or licenses must be presented to the Chirurgeon-in-Charge at an event where a Chirurgeon wishes to volunteer as proof of a warrant in good standing.

If a Chirurgeon's warrant itself has expired, then the Chirurgeon must send proof of current SCA membership, and certification and/or licenses to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in order to be issued a new warrant. Sending copies of renewed membership, certifications and/or licenses to the Kingdom Chirurgeon is not necessary if a warrant has only lapsed, though it is encouraged and may be requested by the Kingdom Chirurgeon as a Doomsday or other reporting requirement. (*See Sections IV.6 and IV.7*).

Since a warrant issued in any Kingdom is valid in all other Kingdoms, a Chirurgeon may be warranted in only one Kingdom at any one time. When a warranted Chirurgeon moves to a new kingdom, his or her warrant is still valid. The Kingdom Chirurgeon of the new Kingdom may require a letter of recommendation from the Kingdom Chirurgeon of the former Kingdom of residence in order to transfer the warrant. An orientation to the procedures and customs of the new Kingdom may be required.

III.16. Chirurgeon Authorization Cards

The Chirurgeon's authorization card may be used as a compact form of proof that the holder is a rostered Chirurgeon, especially when volunteering as a Chirurgeon in a Kingdom other than their home.

When a roster and a Chirurgeon's Authorization Card are used together, then the expiration date on the Chirurgeon's authorization card must be the same as the warrant expiration date specified on the Kingdom roster of Chirurgeons. A Chirurgeon's term of office and their Chirurgeons' authorization card are only valid for the same length of time specified by the Kingdom Chirurgeon, and both expire on the same date. When a card and warrant have expired, the Kingdom Chirurgeon may renew the Chirurgeon's term of office by rerostering and issuing a new card (*see Sections II.12 and III.14, and Appendix A*). A Chirurgeon's warrant and authorization card may be issued for a time period greater than the recurrence interval between confirmation of a roster by the Crown; for example, a warrant and authorization card may be issued for a two year period, though the Crown may wish to confirm the roster once a reign.

If a Chirurgeon is suspended or removed from office, the Chirurgeon authorization card must be returned to the Kingdom Chirurgeon.

III.17. Chirurgeons as Local Officers

All Chirurgeons are warranted as officers-at-large. If a branch below the level of Kingdom wishes to appoint a Chirurgeon to its council of officers, nothing in this Handbook will prevent them from doing so. The Chirurgeon's warrant will be independent of such an appointment.

A Kingdom Chirurgeon may develop a policy on appointing Chirurgeons to territorial branches, so long as that policy does not conflict with the at-large nature of Chirurgeons' warrants nor the policies for appointing a Chirurgeon-in-Charge at an event (*see Sections II.1 and III.11*).

IV.1. Event Reports

Reports are required for each and every event at which the Chirurgeonate functions, even if there have been no injuries. Reports should include, at a minimum, the event name, date, Chirurgeons volunteering, injury reports, refusal of consent forms, and any other pertinent paperwork. Filing an event report is the responsibility of the Chirurgeon-in-Charge. See also Section III.13 for event report requirements for interkingdom events and Appendix E for a sample event report form.

IV.2. Injury Reports

All treatment should be documented. Injuries and illnesses should be reported by level.

A **minimal** injury or illness is one that may be treated on-site using basic first-aid techniques and is not likely to need medical follow-up. Examples include small bandage requests, OTC medication requests, minor contusions and abrasions, heat exhaustion, mild sprains, minimal burns, and splinters.

A **moderate** injury or illness is one that is treated on-site, but would commonly require medical follow-up. Examples include fractures, dislocations, lacerations requiring sutures, burns, environmental injuries, medical problems, and substance abuse problems such as alcohol poisoning.

Serious injuries are those that require immediate treatment and transport and/or treatment of minors. These should be reported individually on a separate sheet from the event summary and should include:

- Event name
- Date
- Legal and SCA name of the person(s) treated
- If the treated person is a minor, that person's age and the name of the adult giving consent for treatment
- Description of the illness or injury
- Action taken (including where patient was taken and how they were transported)
- Legal and SCA names of the treating Chirurgeon(s)

IV.3. Reports When Consent is Refused

If a person refuses first-aid treatment or advice to seek medical treatment for a significant injury or illness, then the attending Chirurgeon must document the matter fully in writing for submission with the event report. Refusal of consent and/or refusal of care forms, appropriately witnessed, should be used whenever possible.

IV.4. Chirurgeon-in-Training Reports

When a warranted Chirurgeon has observed a Chirurgeon-in-Training at an SCA event, that Chirurgeon will report on the progress of the Chirurgeon-in-Training and on their suitability for warranting.

IV.5. Filing Reports

The reports described in Sections IV.1 through IV.4 will be sent to the Kingdom Chirurgeon in a timely manner. All Chirurgeonate reports and records shall be kept by the Kingdom Chirurgeon for a minimum of ten years, or until the 28th birthday of the patient, which ever is later.

IV.6. Other Reports

Periodic reports from Chirurgeons other than event reports may be required at the discretion of the Kingdom Chirurgeon.

IV.7. Doomsday Reports

An annual "Doomsday" report must be made by each Chirurgeon to their Kingdom Chirurgeon. This report, at a minimum, should recap the activities for the year of each Chirurgeon.

Appendix A: Text for Chirurgeon Authorization Cards

<Legal Name>, called in these current middle ages by the name, <SCA Name>, is rostered in <Kingdom> to perform first aid at SCA events upon presentation to the appropriate authorities of a valid first-aid or medical certification, a valid CPR card, proof of SCA membership, and proof of age of majority. This card expires on <date>

Signed <Kingdom Chirurgeon>, <Kingdom>

Appendix B: Heraldry

Gules, on a goutte argent a fleam gules.



Badge of the Chirurgeon Emeritus: (Fieldless) On an owl argent a fleam gules.



Appendix C: Good Samaritan Laws

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, a traveler on the road to Jericho was robbed and beaten and left for dead on the side of the road. Both a priest and a Levite, i.e. two professional religious people, spotted the distressed traveler but couldn't be bothered to stop. Subsequently, a man from Samaria (a people despised by the Jews at the time) spotted the distressed traveler, bandaged him up, transported him to a facility where he would get some long-term care, and paid the long-term caregivers in advance for the costs of the traveler's recuperation. The Samaritan didn't have to stop and help the distressed traveler. His aid was voluntary and given with no expectation of recompense or reward.

Good Samaritan laws are intended to protect people who, like the biblical Good Samaritan, stop and give aid voluntarily. These laws protect the aid-giver from liability claims filed either by the person he or she helped or by someone representing that person, such as the family, the estate or heirs, or some other third party. In general, Good Samaritan laws provide immunity from liability to anyone who offers help at an accident or emergency. In order to benefit from a Good Samaritan Law, the following conditions should be met:

- The aid rendered must be in good faith, i.e., without ulterior motive
- There is no expectation of reward and no recompense is demanded
- Any aid given does not exceed the rescuer's first-aid or medical training
- Any aid given does not exceed the rescuer's first-aid or medical credentials

Many Good Samaritan laws have limitations and exclusions, e.g. if the rescuer's actions were unreasonable and aggravated the plight of the victim, then the rescuer can be held liable. Other Good Samaritan laws exclude certain classes of people, like Physicians' Assistants in California.

The first Good Samaritan law was passed in 1959 in California, and originally covered only MDs and RNs. Since then, most states and provinces in the United States and Canada have adopted Good Samaritan laws and have extended Good Samaritan immunity from liability to most medical professionals, first aiders and bystanders. Each Good Samaritan law is different, and it is up to each Surgeon to know what the law covers in his or her state or province.

Most countries with Roman Law systems (i.e., most of continental Europe) also provide liability immunity for anyone who gives aid at an accident or emergency because of their legal obligation to assist. These are not Good Samaritan laws *per se*, since aid rendered under a Duty to Assist is not voluntary, but they offer similar protection from liability. Surgeons who volunteer their first-aid skills in places with Roman law judiciaries should be familiar with the laws governing their Duty to Assist and their immunity from liability.

Appendix B: Liability Issues

Would the SCA be better off without the liability profile presented by organized first aiders, i.e. the Chirurgeonate? It's an old argument, and an issue most Chirurgeons have pondered. As the argument is usually stated, the best way to avoid liability due to the actions of an SCA Chirurgeon is not to have SCA-sponsored Chirurgeons in the first place. In reality, this stance is myopic and fails to consider that 1) not having a Chirurgeonate may expose the SCA to other kinds of liability, and 2) the SCA exists in places other than the United States, where laws concerning first-aid and emergency response are very different. Though the SCA was started in the United States, the SCA today is international and must consider more than one country's laws.

In the United States and other Common Law countries, a person is usually not obliged to help anyone at an accident or in an emergency unless a duty to assist already exists (e.g., a lifeguard and someone drowning). If a person with no prior duty to assist renders aid to a victim of an accident or injury, where that aid is voluntary and without expectation of reward, then the person giving that aid is usually immune to liability under the provisions of most state or province "Good Samaritan" laws. In certain places, however, like Minnesota and Wisconsin, relatively new legislation now imposes a duty on everyone to help the victims of accident or injury if they are able and can do so safely. In Roman Law countries, which include most of Europe, everyone is obligated to help the victims of accident or emergency; if you are able to help, then not doing so is a crime.

Having a Chirurgeonate may leave the SCA open for torts of malfeasance and misfeasance, but not having a Chirurgeonate can leave the SCA open for torts of nonfeasance and negligence. Arguing as to which is the lesser evil is irrelevant, since the attitude of a judiciary towards Good Samaritan first aid and the Duty to Assist is different in each state, province and country where the SCA holds events. There is no one magic formula that will shield the SCA and its officers from all liability in all the places where SCA events are held.

Appendix E: Sample Forms

These forms are available for download from www.sca.org in PDF format.



CHIRURGEON EVENT REPORT



EVENT

EVENT DATE(S) _____ HOST GROUP _____

LOCATION _____

MARSHALL-IN-CHARGE _____

CHIRURGEON-IN-CHARGE _____

WARRANTED CHIRURGEONS	
Name	Home group

CHIRURGEONS-IN-TRAINING OBSERVED*	
Name	Home Group

*Attach Chirurgeon-in-Training Evaluations

WEATHER AND CONDITIONS _____

Attendance at Event _____ Number of: Heavy Fighters _____ Rapier Fighters _____

☐ Really, nothing happened

MINIMAL INJURIES*

	Heavy	Rapier	Kitchen	Dancing	Camping	Bystander	Other
Band-Aids							
OTC meds							
Mild Heat injury							
Contusions/ abrasions							
Musculoskeletal							
Burns							
Splinters/FB							
Substance abuse							
Other							

*Treated on-site, unlikely to need medical follow-up

MODERATE INJURIES*

	Heavy	Rapier	Kitchen	Dancing	Camping	Bystander	Other
Fractures							
Dislocations							
Lacerations							
Unconsciousness							
Burns							
Environmental							
Medical							
Substance abuse							
Other							

* Treated on-site and requiring medical follow-up

SERIOUS INJURIES*:

***Injuries requiring immediate transport and treatment and/or treatment of minors**

☐ Reported on separate page(s)

☐ None

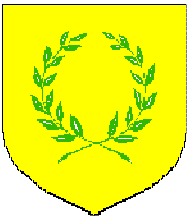
COMMENTS:

CHIRURGEON-IN-CHARGE

LEGAL NAME

LEGAL SIGNATURE

DATE



Application for Chirurgeon-in-Training



Date: _____

Legal Name: _____ Age: _____

SCA Name: _____

SCA Group: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Document	Type	Expiration Date
Proof of Age/Date of Birth		n/a
First-aid certificate		
CPR/BLS		
SCA Membership		

Please provide copies of the above documents.

Examples of acceptable documents include:

Age: Driver's license, state ID, birth certificate

First Aid: First-aid certificate, EMT, Paramedic, LVN/LPN certificate, RN or MD/DO license

CPR/BLS: American Heart Association or American Red Cross

SCA Experience

How long have you been in the SCA?

Fighting experience:

Marshalling experience:

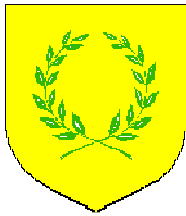
Medical Experience

Please summarize your background in providing first-aid level care

"I certify all the above information is complete and true to the best of my knowledge"

Legal Signature:

Please forward this form to the Kingdom Chirurgeon with copies of required documentation. Mailing address available in the Kingdom newsletter.



Chirurgion Chirurgion-in-Training Evaluation



Date:

Chirurgion-in-Training's Mundane Name:

Chirurgion-in-Training's SCA Name:

Event:

Location:

Chirurgion-in-Charge:

Number of events Chirurgion-in-Training has worked (including this one):

Summarize the Chirurgion-in-Training's responses (including "band-aid" requests):

Was this event's workload representative of a typical event?

What is your opinion of the Chirurgion-in-Training's:

(1 = poor, 5=excellent, N/O = not observed)

- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 1) Attentiveness/Responsiveness: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 2) Composure under stress: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 3) Knowledge of SCA combat: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 4) First-aid skills: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 5) Communication skills: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 6) Ability to inspire confidence in patients: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |
| 7) "Rabid" tendencies: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/O |

Judging by today's performance, would you recommend this Chirurgion-in-Training for a warrant now? Yes No

How many more events would you recommend this Chirurgion-in-Training work before warranting? 0 1 2 3 4 ≥ 5 Would not recommend warranting

Evaluating Chirurgion's SCA name:

Legal signature:



Chirurgeon Incident Report

Pt Legal Name:

Date:

Scene

Subjective

S

Symptoms

A

Allergies

M

Medications

P

Past History

L

Last Meal

E

Events

Objective

Exam:

Vital Signs

Time

Pulse

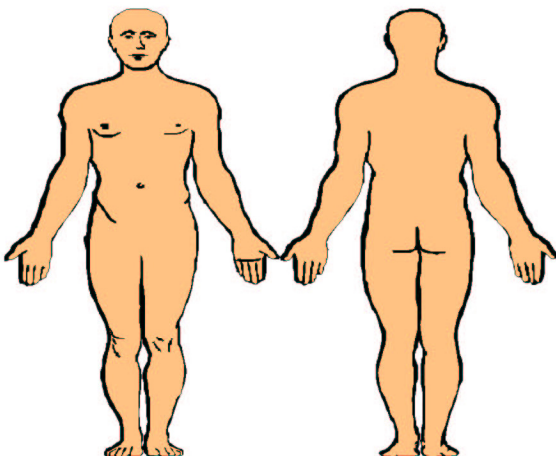
Resp

BP

Skin

Temp

AVPU



Assessment and Treatment Plan

A = Assessment
(Problem List)

A' = Anticipated Problems

P = Treatment Plan

Additional Notes

Injury type: Heavy Rapier Bystander Kitchen Dancing Camping Other	
Legal name:	DOB:
Address	
Phone	
Attending Chirurgeon	
Legal Name Print and sign:	

References

The following sections of the SCA Corporate Governing documents directly affect the Chirurgeonate:

Corpora I.A: Precedence of Law
Corpora I.C: Role of the Board
Corpora I.C.3: Right of Appeal
Corpora I.D.1: Membership Requirements: General
Corpora I.D.2: Membership Requirements: Officers
Corpora II.A: Society Events Defined
Corpora IV.C.8: Royalty: Duties
Corpora IV.C.9: Royalty: Duties
Corpora IV.E.3: Royalty: Limitations
Corpora IV.H.4: Royalty: The Crown
Corpora IV.H.7: Royalty: The Crown
Corpora VI.A: Society Officers: General
Corpora VI.D: Society Officers: Marshal of the Society
Corpora VI.H: Society Officers: Society Chirurgeon
Corpora VII.A: Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: General
Corpora VII.H: Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: The Chirurgeon
Corpora VII.J : Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: Appointment to Office
Corpora VII.K: Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: Warranting/ Rosters
Corpora VII.L Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: Ending a Term of Office
Corpora VII.M: Kingdom, Principality, and Local Officers: Suspension of an Officer
Corpora IX.B.1: Society Combat: The Rules of the List
Corpora Appendix A: Suggested Channels for Complaint and Appeal
Corpora Appendix B: Standard Warrant Form

By-Laws III: Objectives and Purposes
By-Laws V.C.2.b: General Conditions and Privileges of Membership: Privileges of Members:
Eligibility for Office
By-Laws IX: Indemnification

Corporate Policies IV: Waivers - General
Corporate Policies V: Waivers - Combat
Corporate Policies VI: Waivers - Procedures
Corporate Policy IX: Policy on First Aid at Events

Glossary

Chirurgeon-in-Training versus Apprentice: An apprentice is a student who has been accepted by a Master or Mistress of the Laurel for training in medieval arts and sciences. Laurels' apprentices are NOT the same thing as Chirurgeons-in-Training. Laurels' apprentices traditionally may wear a green belt. Chirurgeons-in-Training may wear a favor or token bearing the badge of the Chirurgeonate. Chirurgeons-in-Training are not considered officers of the SCA, Inc.

Armor Standards: Rules governing the construction of armor used in SCA combat, promulgated by the Marshal of the SCA.

Autocrat: The individual in charge of organizing a specific SCA event. In some kingdoms, the term event steward is sometimes used instead of autocrat.

Badge: An armorial emblem used to mark one's belongings or to denote a household or other organization (e.g., the Chirurgeonate) within the SCA. The use of badges in the SCA is governed by the SCA College of Arms.

Baldric: This is a belt or sash, usually of leather or fabric, worn from one shoulder to the hip. Baldrics serve many purposes: they can be used to hold a sword (rather than hanging a sword from one's belt); they can be used to denote an officer (e.g., a Chirurgeon); or they can denote membership in a group (e.g. Queen's Guard in the West and Caid). An unbordured white sword baldric (with or without sword) is reserved specifically for members of the Order of Chivalry who are Masters of Arms. A red baldric with the badge of the Chirurgeonate is apparel reserved for warranted Chirurgeons.

Board of Directors: The Board of Directors is the governing board of the SCA, Inc., which deals with the policies and legal requirements for the society (e.g., Kingdom newsletters, liability insurance, membership registry, etc.), and also sets, determines, delegates and/or arbitrates matters concerning medieval culture of SCA events (Rules of the Lists, Orders of Peerage, titles of nobility, etc.).

By-Laws: The By-Laws of the SCA, Inc., which form part of the SCA's governing documents and are published by the SCA in its Organization Handbook.

Combat Area: Any area where SCA armored combat, rapier combat, or archery takes place under the supervision of the Marshallate.

Confidentiality: See *Violation of Privacy*

Consent: The explicit acceptance of first aid by a conscious patient.

Corpora: The policies governing historical re-creation within the SCA, which form part of the SCA's governing documents and are published by the SCA in its Organization Handbook.

Corporate Marshal: See *Marshal of the SCA*.

Corporate Policies of the SCA: Policies governing the administration of the SCA, as defined in the By-Laws XIII.C. These form part of the SCA's governing documents and are published by the SCA in its Organization Handbook.

Crown: The Sovereign and Consort of a Kingdom, acting together.

Duty of Care/Duty to Assist: In most Roman Law countries, a duty to assist a distressed person is an obligation that applies to everyone within certain reasonable limits. For example, a person at the scene of an accident has a duty to assist the victims of that accident, to the best of their ability, unless physically unable to do so. A person confined to a wheel chair would not be expected to provide CPR, though their duty to assist could include summoning help in a timely manner.

In most Common Law countries, a duty of care or a duty to assist is an obligation that one person or organization has towards another person or organization. For example, a lifeguard at a municipal pool can have a duty of care for keeping the swimmers at the pool safe. A bystander at the pool, however, usually doesn't have a legal duty of care towards someone else using the pool, even if the second person were drowning. Any aid by a bystander for the person drowning would be considered the act of a "Good Samaritan," i.e. voluntary, without expectation of reward or recompense.

The terms duty of care and duty to assist are generally equivalent, and their exact use and wording depends on where you are. The important thing here is that both describe a legal obligation of a person or group to help another person or group in both Common and Roman Law systems.

Event: An SCA gathering, usually with a special medieval theme. Events can be held indoors at a variety of sites or at campgrounds. Interkingdom events are events whose activities involve two or more kingdoms, e.g. the West-AnTir War.

Favor: A ribbon or other personal token given, usually to a fighter, as a mark of esteem. Favors may also indicate simple friendship or a commitment to serve as consort. Some favors are worn as indication of membership in an SCA group or household. In the Chirurgeonate, Chirurgeons-in-Training may wear a favor, usually in the form of a flat strip of cloth with the badge of the Chirurgeonate on it, typically hung off a belt or tied to a sleeve, while working with a warranted Chirurgeon during their observation period. See also *Token*.

Fleam: A fleam was a medieval bloodletting device, somewhat similar to the modern barber's razor, i.e. a blade set at a right angle to the handle. In medieval heraldry, the fleam was often drawn with a big curl at the bottom of the handle, and many have commented that this looks like a weird number seven or an upside-down number two. The curly-handled fleam is the thing that is displayed on the white drop on the Chirurgeonate's registered badge.

Governing Documents of the SCA: The Organizational Handbook, which contains The Introduction; Corpora; The Articles of Incorporation of the SCA, Inc.; the By-Laws of the SCA, Inc.; the Corporate Policies of the SCA, Inc.; and any amendments and appendices; and the Governing and Policy Decisions of the Board of Directors.

Gules, on a goutte argent a fleam gules: This is the blazon of the badge of the Chirurgeonate. In plain language, that's a white drop on a red field, where the drop has a red fleam on it. This is the third badge for the Chirurgeonate; the previous two badges were found to be in conflict with well-known organizations outside the SCA.

Kingdom: The largest geographic subdivision of the SCA. At the time of this writing, there are 17 Kingdoms in the SCA, one in Europe, one in Australia, and the rest in the United States and Canada. Some kingdoms have branches and members in other parts of the world, including Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and Africa, to mention a few. A Kingdom may have large regional subdivisions called Principalities, but these are not required. All other branches are sub-groups of a Kingdom (Shire, Barony, etc.) commonly referred to as "local groups."

Kingdom Marshal: The earl marshal of a kingdom, i.e., the administrator of all marshals in a kingdom.

Legal Age of Majority: In most countries, legal age of majority is the age at which a person can enter into a contract without the consent of a parent or legal guardian, i.e. it is the age at which a person is no longer considered a child. Age of majority varies depending on where you reside. For example, a 16 yr. old can be declared a legally emancipated adult in some states in the USA, while in Nova Scotia, the age of majority is 19.

Liability: When we speak of liability, we are usually talking about a specific form of liability called liability for damages. In general, there are three ways you can incur liability for damages: 1) failing to satisfy a duty under Common Law (a tort) or Roman Law, 2) failing to satisfy a duty imposed by statutory law or regulation, 3) failing to satisfy a contract or other legally-binding agreement.

Liability Insurance: Liability insurance in the United States and Canada will pay or partly pay certain claims for monetary damages, and sometimes legal expenses, if the holder of the insurance is found liable for damages, or if claims for damages are settled outside of court. The terms of liability insurance are variable and depend on the law where the insurance is issued, the size of the organization buying the insurance, the activities of the organization, and the type of liability covered. For example, a liability insurance policy for John Doe's Grocery in the small town of Blue Earth, Minnesota will be different from that of the National Association of Cat Herders, and the policy for general liability insurance for the Deteriorata County Fair will be different from Dr. Frankenstein's medical malpractice insurance.

Local Group: A local group is an official SCA branch smaller than a kingdom, principality, or region. It may be based on a city, a university or college, or larger area (e.g., New York City, the California State University at Sacramento, or the State of Rhode Island).

Malfeasance: Failure to satisfy a duty under Common Law through malicious action or inaction.

Marshal: A specially trained person who oversees combat activities, i.e., the SCA's version of a referee. The Kingdom office is usually called "Earl Marshal." The collective group of all marshals is referred to as the "Marshallate."

Marshal-in-Charge: A Marshal designated to oversee combat activities and organize other Marshals at an SCA event.

Marshal of the SCA: A Corporate officer of the SCA in charge of the organization and administration of all marshals, and in charge of all combat activities and the rules governing those activities in the SCA.

Minor: Someone who has not yet reached the legal age of majority

Misfeasance: Failure to satisfy a duty under Common Law by screwing-up.

Negligence: In general, negligent actions usually involve action or inaction which substantially vary from an expected norm of behavior or which involves a reckless disregard for the rights of others. Negligence is perhaps the most common kind of tort and involves a failure to meet a duty of care. Almost always, the wrongdoer has failed to exercise that degree of care in a situation which would be expected of a hypothetical reasonable person.

The failure to exercise the duty of care must be the proximate cause or legal cause of the injuries or harm sustained by the victim.

Nonfeasance: Failure to satisfy a duty of under Common Law through inaction, i.e., by doing nothing.

Officer-At-Large: A Society member serving in an appointed office as defined in Corpora below the kingdom, principality or regional level, which is not attached to any local group.

Over the Counter or *OTC*: referring to non-prescription drugs which can be sold to the general public without prior approval by a physician or other prescribing medical professional.

Precedence: In the SCA, precedence is one's place in the system of medieval ranks used in the SCA. The designations of Chirurgeon-in-Training, Chirurgeon, Mentor Chirurgeon and Chirurgeon Emeritus are not SCA titles and do not carry SCA precedence.

Principality: An SCA branch that has a ceremonial head of a Prince and Princess.

Privacy: See *Violation of Privacy*.

Red Cross: A generalized name for the International Red Cross and its affiliates around the world, like the Australian Red Cross or American Red Cross. The International Red Cross is recognized and protected by the international series of treaties referred to commonly as the Geneva Conventions, which govern international standards for humanitarian aid, treatment of prisoners of war and those injured during war, etc., among the signatory countries.

The red cross couped on a white background is the emblem for the International Red Cross and affiliated organizations, and for medical units and medical transports used by the militaries of the Geneva Conventions signatories. Its use is restricted to those groups and a small number of other entities like non-profit ambulance squads. The current treaty governing the use of the red cross emblem is: UN Treaty Series. No. 970, vol. 75, pp.31-83 (1950), CONVENTION (I) FOR THE AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION OF THE WOUNDED AND SICK IN ARMED FORCES IN THE FIELD. The use of the red cross emblem is discussed in Chapter articles 38 through 44 plus article 53. Article 53 specifically forbids the use of the red cross or any other device which resembles it by groups not specified in articles 38 through 44.

Region: A non-official grouping comprised of contiguous local SCA groups, formed for the convenience of administration of large geographic areas by a kingdom and/or for the purposes for organizing and forming future principalities.

SCA combat: Medieval martial arts under the supervision of the Marshallate. Participants use simulated weapons and wear steel or leather armor.

SCA Name: The name someone uses in the Society for their persona. Includes at least one given name, and can have at least one other name or qualifier, but no titles; all titles used in the Society must be granted by SCA royalty.

Seneschal: Group administrator, and legal representative of the SCA found at local, regional, kingdom, and Society levels.

Site: A place where any SCA event is being held.

St. John's Priory, or St. John's Ambulance: A charitable organization which provides emergency medical services on a good Samaritan basis in many English Commonwealth countries. In Scotland, the equivalent organization is St. Andrew's Ambulance. Like the Red Cross, St. John's is a major provider of first-aid and CPR classes in countries where it is active.

Tabard: An open-sided tunic, usually sleeveless, often bearing a heraldic badge of a household or SCA group. A red tabard bearing the badge of the Chirurgeonate is reserved apparel for warranted Chirurgeons.

Token: This term has several meanings. Simply put, a token is a physical symbol of some sort of association with a person or group of persons. In some cases, an award may have a token (usually worn on a chain or ribbon). Some local SCA branches or households also have tokens that are sometimes worn. Some SCA events may have tokens that are worn to show that you have paid your site fee, and may be kept after the event is over. Tokens can take a variety of shapes, and have a variety of meanings. Chirurgeons-in-Training may wear a token bearing the badge of the Chirurgeonate while working with a warranted Chirurgeon during their observation period. See also *Favor*.

Violation of Privacy: In the United States, Canada and many other countries, it is illegal to make public certain kinds of information on individuals, including phone numbers, addresses, and the existence of chronic medical conditions, to name a few examples. It is also unethical to make public other sorts of information which may be collected while providing first aid as an SCA Chirurgeon, for example, learning that a patient may have no medical insurance. Release of a lot of medical information on an individual may require the permission of the individual, depending on the legal jurisdiction where the information was collected or exchanged. Under no circumstances will the SCA sanction any illegal act by an officer of the SCA, including the exchange of personal information on a patient without prior permission. It is up to an individual Chirurgeon to know what the laws are concerning patient confidentiality in his or her legal jurisdiction.

The entries in this glossary were based in part on the following sources: the Organizational Handbook of the SCA, Inc.; the glossary of SCA terms maintained by Ken Mayer, Director of the Golden Stag Players, at www.goldenstag.net/MiscSCA/glossary.htm (accessed May 2001); the glossary of SCA terms by Stacy Sandstedt., and maintained by the Province of Silver Desert, a local branch of the SCA in Reno, Nevada, at www.silverdesert-sca.org/chatelaine/a-h.html and www.silverdesert-sca.org/chatelaine/i.html (accessed May 2001); the legal dictionary and encyclopedia maintained by the Nolo Foundation at www.nolo.com/index.html (accessed May through October, 2001); and Black's Legal Dictionary, 2nd Pocket Edition (June 2001), B. A. Garner, Ed., West Information Pub Group, ISBN: 0314257918. Any legal information in this glossary and the Handbook is just that: general information about legal matters. In no way does any of the legal information presented here constitute legal advice or legal opinion by a lawyer or any other legal professional.

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Don't
panic!