



Weapon Standards, from your Champion

The follow are the weapon standard changes from the Althing of January 2000 as determined by Stinkfoot, the current Champion of Neverwinter. The text has been edited to read easier. For the original copy of the text, please refer to the NW list archives.

Short Spears/Zulu Spears

The core must be 505 (kitespar) or golf club, no PVC or bamboo. The weapon must have safety padding from the end of the striking surface to the pommel (3/8 of an inch). Grip tape all of the safety padding area, if you do not like the squishiness of the padding you may grip tape only in the hand grip area.

(Definition of the hand grip area: area of the sword covered when gripped in a thumbs up position, from the tip of the thumb to the base of the hand)

To build up handle, use duct or grip tape underneath the safety padding.

The minimum blade length is 12 inch-

es, the total length of the weapon is not to exceed five feet

Polearms eight feet to five feet:

The core of the weapon must be 3/4 inches in diameter, consisting of thin

Thought from the editor:

Agree or disagree with the Champion, that is your right, but let him do his job. When you have advice or criticism give it but don't be childish about it.

walled bamboo, fiberglass or thick walled PVC (when using PVC, whip shots may not be called).

The padding must be 2 3/4 inches thick. The safety padding will run from the pommel to the striking surface and be 3/8 inches thick.

The minimum blade length will be one foot, the maximum will be two feet.

Use three inches of padding for the tip of the weapon (suggested tip: 1/2 of a nerf basketball- handheld size)

Polearms over eight feet

For weapon core requirements, refer to the last weapon standard.

The weapon will have a minimum blade length of one foot, with funnoodle padding for the striking surface.

The safety padding must cover 1/3 of the total length of the polearm (this length includes the blade). Safety padding will be 1/2 inch.

The tip padding will be five inches (suggestion: 1/2 of a nerf soccer ball).

The buttspike must be slash legal, minimum one foot blade length, five inch tip for over eight foot long weapons, three inch tip for weapons under eight feet in length.

These are the changes that are being made, for all other weapon standards, please refer to old standards.

Minutes of Amtgard Florida Board of Directors

January 21, February 03 and electronic discourse in between.

Dan Delgado, Patrick Flanagan, Chris Gipson, Barry Guertin, Anthony Malangone, Ray McCarson, and Ken Shannon present.

In a unanimous vote, the BOD approved funds for Kingdom Insurance. A total of \$805 dollars was given to Patty McCarson (AMC) for the purchase of this insurance.

In electronic discourse, a motion was made to put all BOD discourse on an E-groups list. The archives of this list will be accessible to the public. By the time of the next BOD meeting, there were five votes in favor and two members had not yet responded. See below for more information.

The BOD held a meeting at the Hoggetowne Faire in Gainesville, FL on 02/03/01.

Meeting began at 1 p.m.

Dan Delgado, Patrick Flanagan,

Barry Guertin, Anthony Malangone, Ray McCarson, Kyle Platte and Ken Shannon present.

Confirmation of voting info and funds transferred at the last BOD meeting. Discussion of the status of Contracts with Stormfarharfn and Dragon's Keep. Discussion of the nature and implementation of a colonial policy for the Kingdom.

MOTION: For the purposes of future growth, the BOD will treat the state of Florida as the boundaries of NW proper.

Motion PASSED in a 6-1 vote.

MOTION: Any formal petition to join the Kingdom of Neverwinter must be accompanied with a signed Amtgard of Florida contract.

Motion PASSED in a 7-0 vote.

MOTION: As an exception the BOD policy passed earlier, the BOD will offer the freehold of Dragons Keep a contract

for full membership in Neverwinter. This offer must be finalized with a signed contract by March 31 or it becomes void.

Motion PASSED in a 7-0 vote.

On the formation of a E-Groups BOD mailing list: the two members who failed to respond to the e-groups issue by mail both vote in favor of it. The populace will be informed when the list is operational.

Discussed the merger of Emerald Coast with Falling Fire and subordinate groups in general.

MOTION: The BOD will maintain Todd Williams (former BOD president) as its legal agent, granting him the right to enter into contract on our behalf and maintaining the existing contact address for the corporation.

Motion PASSED in a 7-0 vote.

MOTION: THE BOD will maintain
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Basil – Basilikon: Le Herb Royale

By Leofric Moonson

Basil, my favorite spice, is one of the oldest and most beloved herbs of Eurasian civilization. It's use as a cooking herb are as unknown as the origins of wheat or fudgesicles, but it's safe to say that our Mesolithic ancestors used it on their Mammoth steaks.

It's generally agreed that Basil originated somewhere in a swath of land stretching from Southeast Asia to the Middle East. The Ancient Egyptians used Basil in cooking and it was included in the burial of the dead from all walks of life, referring to it as "The Key to the Gates of the Afterlife." It's important to the Hindu religion and has been offered up to Krishna and Vishnu since time out of mind. They put in the hands of the dead on the funeral pyres. Aristotle simply loved it. In his writing he referred to the herb as Basilikon, "The Royal Herb," which is the source of it's name. Legend has it that it was one of the sweet herbs found in the Tomb of Christ after the Resurrection.

As Phoenician, then Greek, Civilization spread throughout the Mediterranean Region, so did Basil. Old Jewish Folklore held that Basil helped give a person strength to endure during periods of fasting. Epicureans considered it to be one of the most important ingredients in any feast. It's apocryphal connection to Christ's Resurrection made it important to early Christianity and was found in most churches in pots placed under the altars. The Orthodox Church sprinkled dried Basil into the Holy Water. It has even been used in West African since who knows when not only for cooking, but medicinally in gargles for sore throats and in dressing wounds.

It was popular in Medieval and Renaissance Europe. In Italy a pot of Basil placed on the windowsill indicated that there was a young, unmarried virgin in the house seeking suitors. It might be considered ironic then that in England pots of Basil were kept around as a bug repellent and to ward of evil spirits. The Cult of Chivalry in Provence spread and kept alive by the troubadours included Basil's uses as an aphrodisiac and at not-so-secret indicator that two people wearing Basil

were intimately involved. This no doubt became confusing since nearly everyone probably wore sprigs of the herb.

It is said that it was the favorite spice of Eleanor of Aquitaine, Pope Innocent III, Saladin, Edward the Black Prince, and Leonardo DaVinci. King Louis XIV echoed Aristotle and called it Le Herb Royale. To not serve pepper at a feast was understandable – it was one of the rarest and most expensive spices. To not serve Basil meant you were being deliberately insulting or were simply stupid beyond words.

There are over a half-dozen varieties of Basil, *Ocimum Basilicum*, some with overtones of licorice, of pepper, curry, and of mint. The variety most familiar to Americans is Genovese Basil, having been introduced to the New World by the Conquistadors, who couldn't imagine life without it. It took almost no time at all for people in both worlds to mix Basil and tomatoes. As far as I am concerned, the Conquistadors were right – without Basil, why bother with Italian food? I also feel that no steak is complete without sprinkles of Basil as it grills.

Basil has traditional medicinal uses that an herbalist should learn. Reflecting its West African uses, crush fresh Basil leaves to rub on cuts, bee stings, and bug bites. Basil tea is good for upset stomachs and is an aid to digestion and frazzled nerves. I wouldn't recommend it nowadays, but up until the early 20th Century, the English and Northern Europeans used powdered Basil mixed with snuff to treat colds and headaches. The Italian are much more sensible and steep fresh Basil in red wine for their cold symptoms. It has even been used, mixed with rosemary, as a hair rinse.

Basil Tea:

For fresh leaves –

Bring 2 pints of water to a boil, then bring water to a simmer.

Add 15 seeds and let simmer for 45 minutes.

Removes from heat.

Add a 1 handful of dried leaves and let steep for 25 minutes.

For store-bought Basil spice –

Boil 3 cups of water.

Remove from heat.

Add 1 teaspoons of basil and steep for 1 hour.

A Riddle in the Style of Anglo-Saxon Riddles

By Leofric Moonson

I've always been fascinated by the Anglo-Saxons, their culture and language (Old English). I've written a riddle that is taken from their traditions of bards. Can anyone answer it? I'll speak the riddle aloud at Dragonquest. The first person to give the right answer will have the event cost waived by me.

My body was in pieces
when they pulled me from the bog.
I was worth only as much
as rocks until the strong man
took me into his rough hands
and said I would have new life.
He put me into fires
as hot as the Inferno
as young men of new-sworn hearts
blew the breath of life into
the hell-fires and brimstone
as my new father looked on.
My body became slowly
reborn, reshaped, whole again.
Then my father, my master,
rescued me from Satan's realm.
He told me I was worthy
but then he beat me over
and over. He said it was
all that I truly deserved .
He put me into a bar
to live with my kindred hogs.
We all slept there, all dreaming
what new masters would decide
what our new bodies would be.
Who am I?

Answers to last month's riddles

-Anglo-Saxon Riddles, Translated by John Porter

Number 30

"I flicker like fire, flirt with the wind,
Swathed in splendor, tossed in storm,
Eager on journeys, eaten by flame,
Ablossoming grove, a burning glee..."

Answer: Wood

Number 37

"I saw a beast; his belly bulging
hugely on his back. A bold man
served him with strength, his stomach's
filling flew out through his eye..."

Answer: Forge Bellows

Neverwinter Classified

Chainmail Jewelry

I would like to offer my services in making custom made chainmail jewelry. I use 18-gauge 3/16" turn stainless steel for all the jewelry. This is medical grade steel and will not rust. I am proficient in many different styles, 4-1, 6-1, half Prussian, full Prussian, Prussian snake (must see), box weave, birdcage and more. Price vary upon length and style, bracelets will start at \$10 and necklaces at \$15. Chainmail key chains also available. Please contact Auwyne at Auwyne@yahoo.com to discuss custom pieces.

Gak Enterprises Inc.

The Kingdom's for most suppliers of new tech swords would like everyone to know that they are now open to the populace. New tech swords are made from light yet durable carbon graphite and funnoddle. Expert sword maker Stink Foot from the Land of Falling Fire painstakingly handcrafts each sword to perfection. Swords range in length from 32" to 40+". Swords start at \$15 dollars and go up to \$30 for custom made ultra light models. Please contact Stinkfoot or Auwyne at Auwyne@yahoo.com

Photos and Video

Ahriman is looking for video and photographs for use in demo material. If you have any material that the can be used, please contact him at toddwilliams@hotmail.com.

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Patty McCarson as our insurance agent, granting her the power to enter into contracts with insurance agencies on behalf of Amtgard of Florida.

Motion PASSED in a 7-0 vote.

Discussion of contracts and waivers for Amtgard of Florida. This included legal advice for cleaning up syntax and the

process of having all members and groups under Neverwinter sign new kingdom documents toupdate/replace existing paperwork.

Pat made abusive and or threatening remarks to other BOD members. This will be shortened to "P!" in future minutes.

The meeting was closed at 2:15 p.m.

A whole lot going on in April

Hello all, just taking some time to try to address the kingdom as a whole. If you take a look at the calender...go ahead, its right there, just to the right. I can wait. Done? Good. As you can see, we have several coronations, a Kingdom Midreign, a group event, not to mention the holiday of Easter and tax day (April 15). That is a whole lot for one month and yet, it could have been worse.

At the beginning of March, we were looking at least four events going down in March, three having the potential of being "big" events. King Cho-Hag took the sensible step of combining Kingdom Midreign with Darkwater East and Bloodstone's combined coronation. I have talked with most of the parties and all profit from the event will be split up amongst the two groups and the kingdom. A generous offer from DWE and Bloodstone.

What we were facing was people having to make a tough choice between going to their own coronation or going to the Kingdom event. Now we can do both.

Silverwater had already decided to hold it's coronation at Kingdom Midreign, perhaps more groups can do this...add to the pageantry.

The calander exists so we can schedule and not run over each other. It only works if everyone cooperates and keeps everyone else up to date.

Kingdom Calendar

If you have any additions/comments to/about the calendar, send them to Ahriman@nightmail.com

March

03/10 Shining South Midreign
Florida Renaissance Festival South

March 4th weekend. Location: Quiet Waters Park, 401 S Powerline Rd Deerfield Beach.

03/15-18 Italian Renaissance Festival at Vizcaya Location: At Vizcaya on the James Deering Estate, on Biscayne Bay I-95 & US-1, Miami.

03/14-18 Spring War VIII Location: Burnet, Texas.

03/16-18 Olympiad Olympia, Washington. Interkingdom eventhosted by Mystic Seas.

03/17 St. Patrick's Day Parade Orlando. Bloodstone is hoping to be marching. Contact Uchtette Devall Esq. for more information.

April

04/1 April Fool's Day and Daylight Savings (set clocks forward one hour)

04/1 Falling Fire Crown Qualls, Darkwater East Crown Qualls.

04/7-8 Dragonquest Location: Stromarhafn, Sarasota. More to come. Contact Leofric for more information.

04/14 Lost Woods Coronation Location, Tallahasee

04/27-29 Kingdom Midreign Bloodstone, Darkwater East and Silverwater combined Coronation Location: Florida Bible Camp, Gainesville. Contact King Cho-Hag for more information.

May

05/13 Mother's Day

05/20 Great Southern Chili Challenge Location, Lake Biwa Pavillion, Delray Beach. Contact Ahriman ibn Ahrim for more information.

05/28 Memorial Day/ Great Eastern

June

06/?-?(TENTATIVE) Kingdom Qualifications Location will be in the north. More to come.

06/17 Father's Day

July

07/?-?(TENTATIVE) Kingdom Coronation Location Kingdom south,

07/4 Independence Day

07/19-22 CLAN Cloudcroft,NM - Atkins Meadow.