

Revised Corpora Amendments

In the complete revision of any significant document, as with the original writing of one, it is inevitable that some things will be overlooked – Consider the example of the US Constitution: Before the ink was completely dried, a set of amendments, clarifications, and addenda was proposed to cover things omitted in the original. This is not to say that the following items carry the significance of the Bill of Rights, but some important concepts not fully addressed, or addressed in confusing manner, are covered. It is intended that each of these be offered as a separate Proposal to amend the August 2001 Revised Corpora, so that each may be considered on its own merits. Some are things just plain overlooked, some are rewordings intended to clarify their respective sections, and some are things the Committee discussed that somehow did not get into the final document for one reason or another.

PROPOSAL ONE: Removal of Club Officers

No provision is made in the Revision for the removal of Club Officers, as is normally a basic part of most governing documents. It is proposed that the entirety of Section 4 of the Old Corpora be added, and designated Section 3.2.8 as follows:

3.2.8 Removal of Kingdom Officers

- 3.2.8.1 Monarch, Prime Minister, Regent, Champion, GM of Reeves, and all BOD Members are subject to removal from office.
 - 3.2.8.2 Can be initiated by a petition signed by 20% of the Active Members.
 - 3.2.8.3 Requires a 2/3 vote of Allthing for removal
 - 3.2.8.4 May be jointly overruled by the Monarch and PM, unless either is the subject of the removal vote.
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PROPOSAL TWO: Clarifying Rules and Laws

Authority of the Monarch and PM to act by Joint Proclamation and GM Reeves authority to interpret the Rule Book are omitted in the Revised Corpora. This proposal is to add Section 5 of the Old Corpora as Section 3.4 to the Revised Corpora as follows:

3.4 Clarifying Rules and Laws

3.4.1 Responsible Officers

3.4.1.1 Any decision agreed upon by the Monarch and Prime Minister is law until the next Allthing, provided it does not conflict with a previous Allthing decision or mundane law.

3.4.1.2 Rules Clarifications may be made by the GM of Reeves. The Monarch and Prime Minister may jointly overrule that clarification with another clarification.

3.4.1.3 Any suggested changes to a class should be reviewed with the Guildmaster of that class before presentation to an Allthing.

3.4.2 Dissemination

3.4.2.1 Temporary rulings may be published online and in the newsletter.

3.4.2.2 Final rulings shall be published online and in the newsletter, and a printed copy sent or delivered to each Provincial record keeper.

3.4.2.3 The Prime Minister is responsible for documenting that every Province receives a copy of every ruling by obtaining a receipt for the ruling from each Provincial record keeper.

PROPOSAL THREE: Treatment of Donations

Donations (as opposed to dues) are not covered in the revision. It is proposed to add a section to clarify that any donations received by any level do not have to be split with any other level.

2.2.5 Donations may be made to Kingdom or to any Province. These donations stay where donated and need not be split.

PROPOSAL FOUR: Additions to Glossary

The terms 'Kingdom Officer', 'Kingdom Event', Member, Non-Contributing Member, and 'Active Member' are not included in the Glossary. It is proposed to add them as set forth below and modify the term Contributing Member to read as set forth below:

'Kingdom Officer' Includes Monarch, Prime Minister, Regent, Champion, GM of Reeves, and all members of the Board of Directors (BOD).

'Kingdom Event' shall include Coronation, Weaponsmaster, Midreign, Quest, Quals, and any other event sponsored by the Kingdom and so designated by the Monarch.

'Member' shall mean and refer to any person who has a current (within one year) signed waiver on file with, and whose official records reside with, the Celestial Kingdom or one of its Provinces.

'Non-Contributing Member' shall mean and refer to any Member who has not paid dues for the current six months.

'Contributing Member' shall mean and refer to any Member who has paid dues for the current six months.

'Active Member' shall mean and refer to any individual who:

1. Has been a member of the Celestial Kingdom for six months or more, AND
 2. Has a current (within one year) waiver on file with the Kingdom, AND
 3. Has paid dues for the current six months, AND
 4. Has at least six attendance credits, including at least one Kingdom Event, in the immediately preceding six months.
 5. If special circumstances exist, the Monarch and PM may jointly rule a member is eligible to vote if that member meets all requirements except attendance.
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PROPOSAL FIVE: Voting Eligibility

It is clearly stated in the Rule Book that payment of dues is not required to participate in Amtgard events, but the rule book also states:

"However, there are certain advantages for those whom (sic) choose to financially support Amtgard. Donations to the treasury (informally referred to as "dues") are \$6 every 6 months, payable to the Prime Minister of the group to which a member belongs. No one may simultaneously belong to more than one Amtgard group. People up to date on their "dues" are considered to be contributing members (emphasis added). This status entitles a member to receive a copy of the handbook and issues of the Amtgard newsletter. It also, with a minimum attendance stated by the Monarch, allows the member to vote in Amtgard government (the Allthing). Funds received in this manner are used to support Amtgard functions and activities such as printing fees for handbooks/newsletters/fliers/etc., renting sites for feasts, purchasing prizes for tourneys and quests, and so on. No one is required to pay "dues" (although some officers are required to be paid up). We have no "pay for play" rules. Nondonating members are allowed to participate in all activities and receive all benefits not specifically listed as exceptions in this paragraph."

As noted in the above rule book quotation, payment of dues is REQUIRED to vote, and allows for establishment of attendance requirements to be eligible to vote as well. The committee, after lengthy discussion, agreed that it is necessary to have at least minimal attendance to be able to cast an informed vote, and decided to add that requirement to the payment of dues for a FULL six months, to the qualifications to cast a vote. It was also determined that at least minimal attendance at KINGDOM events should be a requirement to vote on KINGDOM matters. The final result of the discussion was inadvertently omitted from the final document, so it is proposed to modify Section 1, Club Membership to read as follows:

1. Club Membership – for the purpose of identifying the Celestial Kingdom and its members, membership is defined as follows:
 - 1.1 'Member' shall mean and refer to any person who has a current (within one year) signed waiver on file with, and whose official records reside with, the Celestial Kingdom or one of its Provinces.
 - 1.2 'Non-Contributing Member' shall mean and refer to any Member who has not paid dues for the current six months.
 - 1.3 'Contributing Member' shall mean and refer to any Member who has paid dues for the current six months.
 - 1.4 'Active Member' shall mean and refer to any individual who:
 - 1.4.1 Has been a member of the Celestial Kingdom for six months or more, AND
 - 1.4.2 Has a current (within one year) waiver on file with the Kingdom, AND
 - 1.4.3 Has paid dues for the current six months, AND
 - 1.4.4 Has at least six attendance credits, including at least one Kingdom Event, in the immediately preceding six months.
 - 1.5 All Members are entitled to full participation in all activities of the Kingdom and its Provinces on equal terms, except as follows:
 - 1.5.1 Only Contributing Members are entitled to receive Kingdom publications at no additional charge. Provision MAY be made for other Members to purchase them at a nominal cost (i.e., cost to produce).
 - 1.5.2 Only Active Members are entitled to vote. NOTE: If special circumstances exist, the Monarch and PM may jointly rule a member is eligible to vote if that member meets all requirements except attendance.

NOTE: Revision of the Glossary entries to be consistent with this section is submitted as a related Proposal.

PROPOSAL SIX: Board of Directors (BOD) Section

The entire BOD Section wound up being somewhat confusing, what with everything being numbered '10.1. something', which leads to a blurring of lines between sections. In addition, some key elements were overlooked by the committee – specifically BOD Quorum requirements, provisions for doing business without face-to-face meetings (which are included in almost EVERY organization's governing documents), and the requirement for at least one BOD member signature on any document binding on the Kingdom. It is Proposed to rework the Section, retaining all the previous provisions, and adding the elements marked with a '*', as follows:

10. Board of Directors (BOD)

10.1 General Information

- 10.1.1 Serves as the business management offices and corporate offices of the organization.
- 10.1.2 Shall be responsible for ensuring that the organization is operated according to the Laws and Regulations of the United States and the State of Texas.
- 10.1.3 Shall be responsible for the accounting for Kingdom Funds.
- 10.1.4 Shall serve as the authority in any matters involving the club and individuals or organizations outside the club with whom the Kingdom may wish to conduct business.
- *10.1.5 Shall hold a regular meeting at each Coronation and at each Midreign, and called meetings at such other times as may be required, provided that no called meeting may be held without at least one week's advance notice to all BOD members.
- 10.1.6 All meetings of the BOD shall be open meetings, but no person who is not a BOD member may speak without the approval of a majority of the directors present.
- 10.1.7 The first order business of the BOD after new members are elected shall be to select a Secretary. The Monarch shall serve as President, the Regent as Treasurer, and the Prime Minister as Membership Officer.
- *10.1.8 Minutes of meetings of the BOD shall be posted to the Internet list and in the Kingdom newsletter.

10.2 Board of Director (BOD) requirements

- 10.2.1 All BOD members must be at least 18 years of age at the time elected, and have been a member of the Celestial Kingdom for at least one year.
- 10.2.2 The BOD shall be composed of seven voting and two nonvoting members.
 - 10.2.2.1 The Monarch, Regent, and Prime Minister shall hold automatic seats.
 - 10.2.2.2 Two other members shall be elected at every Coronation to serve one year terms.
 - 10.2.2.3 The two non-voting seats shall be held by the last previous Monarch and last previous Prime Minister.
- *10.2.3 Any BOD member who misses two consecutive regular or called meetings of the BOD will be considered to have resigned their position, and a replacement shall be elected at the next Kingdom event.
- 10.2.4 No BOD member shall hold any other elective office (except class Guildmaster).

***10.3 Quorum.**

- *10.3.1 No BOD business shall be conducted without the presence of a Quorum.
- *10.3.2 Quorum for all business of the BOD shall be the four voting members.
- *10.3.3 EXCEPTION: Any written resolution which includes a waiver of notice and meeting, and is signed by all BOD members, at least four of whom state approval, shall be treated as though passed at a regular or called BOD meeting.

The following is a restatement of Section 10.1.8:

10.4 BOD Authority to suspend or bar Members.

General: The BOD shall have the authority to suspend, and in extreme cases, bar permanently members from participation in all activities of the Kingdom and its provinces for repeated and/or serious instances of inappropriate behavior such as verbal and/or physical altercations, assault of any kind, willful injury to person or property, theft, or any violation of mundane law.

10.4.1 The BOD may not take any action without a written complaint.

10.4.1.1 The complaint must allege one or more offense(s) AT AN AMTGARD ACTIVITY.

10.4.1.2 The complaint must be made by a member who was directly involved in, or was personally a witness to, the alleged offense.

10.4.1.3 The complaint must state the time, date, and place of the alleged offense, the person(s) involved, and the names of any witnesses.

10.4.1.4 The complaint must be signed, and must include full name, address, and phone number of the complainant and a list of potential witnesses.

10.4.1.5 Knowingly filing a false complaint with the BOD is itself an offense, and the member who filed the complaint shall be subject to the maximum penalty for the alleged offense.

10.4.2 Written notice of the complaint must be given to the alleged offender(s).

10.4.2.1 Notice shall be given within 7 days of the receipt of the complaint.

10.4.2.2 May be by Certified Mail to alleged offender's address on file, or by personal delivery.

10.4.2.3 A written receipt for the notice shall be obtained.

10.4.2.4 Non-receipt, or alleged non-receipt, of notice will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

10.4.3 A hearing shall be held within 21 days of receipt of a complaint by the BOD.

10.4.3.1 Written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing shall be sent to all BOD members, the complainant(s), the alleged offender(s), and all potential witnesses.

10.4.3.2 Such notice shall be sent to each involved member's address as listed in Kingdom records not less than 10 days before the hearing.

10.4.3.3 The hearing shall be open to all members in good standing, but notice is only required to those listed in 10.4.3.1.

10.4.3.4 No member may be prohibited from attending, but any member may be removed if the member is creating a disturbance or otherwise hindering the process of the hearing.

10.4.4 Affirmative vote of five BOD members is required to suspend a member, or to place a member on probation. Unanimous vote is required to bar permanently.

10.4.5 The BOD shall consider action in three possible stages:

10.4.5.1 Stage One – A first offense not involving physical altercation, willful or intentional damage to person or property, or minor violation of mundane law. The penalty shall be probation for not less than one month, nor more than six months.

- 10.4.5.2 Stage Two – Any Stage One offense while on probation, or an offense involving physical altercation, or willful or intentional damage to person or property, or violation of mundane law. The penalty shall be suspension from all Amtgard activities within the Celestial Kingdom and all of its Provinces for not less than three, nor more than twelve months. If a member is already on probation, the probation will be run simultaneously with the suspension.
- 10.4.5.3 Stage Three – Any Stage Two offense while on probation, or any offense treated as a Felony under mundane law. The penalty shall be suspension from all Amtgard activities within the Celestial Kingdom and all of its Provinces for not less than two years, followed by probation for not less than one year. In extreme cases, the BOD may vote to permanently bar a member, but such a decision requires a unanimous vote by the BOD. Reversal of a BOD decision to permanently bar a member also requires a unanimous vote, and such may not be considered earlier than two years following the vote to bar the member.
- 10.4.6 Any and all suspensions and probations shall run from the date of the BOD decision, and the alleged offender shall be entitled to fully participate until the BOD renders a decision.
- 10.4.7 After completion of suspension and/or probation, a member's record shall be considered clear of all offenses and such may not be considered in treatment of any subsequent complaints against that member. However, prior actions for which a member was suspended or placed on probation may be considered to show a pattern or trend of behavior.
- 10.4.8 No member shall be twice brought before the BOD on the same complaint.
- 10.4.9 Upon receipt of notice that a complaint has been filed with the BOD, a member may elect to waive a hearing before the BOD and accept the minimum penalty for the alleged offense(s). Such waiver shall be written and witnessed by at least two members of the BOD. The waiver shall be treated as though the result of a hearing of the BOD and an affirmative vote by five members for the minimum penalty, which shall run from the date the waiver is received by the BOD.
- 10.4.10 If a suspended or barred player is knowingly allowed to participate at any activity, the activity shall not be recognized as an Amtgard activity, and no member shall receive credit of any kind for their participation in that activity. The Celestial Kingdom shall bear no responsibility of any kind for the activity.
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PROPOSAL SEVEN: Limited Quorum

For some time, it has been extremely difficult to gather sufficient eligible members to conduct an Allthing. The committee considered at length several provisions to enable the Kingdom to conduct necessary business. The result was inadvertently omitted from the final draft. It is presented here as a substitute for the Revised Corpora Section 7.6.

7.6 Quorum will be considered for each issue presented to Allthing.

7.6.1 Full Quorum

7.6.1.1 Shall consist of a number of Active Members equal to the sum of:

10 per Duchy + 5 per Barony + 1 per Shire OR 2/3 of the Active Members of the Kingdom, whichever is LESS.

7.6.1.1 Anything passed by a Full Quorum is law unless it is overturned by another actual Full Quorum.

7.6.1.2 Full Quorum may consider Proposals without proper notice if approved issue by issue by a 75% majority vote.

7.6.2 Limited Quorum

7.6.2.1 Shall consist of at least 25% of the Active Members plus representation of at least half of the Kingdom's Provinces.

7.6.2.2 Shall NOT consider any Proposal without required notice.

7.6.2.3 Results of a Limited Quorum are treated as though passed by a Full Quorum UNLESS more than half of the Provinces communicate to the Monarch and Prime Minister that a local vote has been taken and the decision of the Limited Quorum rejected by 2/3 or more of the voters of that Province. If this happens, the decision is overturned as though it had NOT passed.

7.6.3 No Quorum

7.6.3.1 Less than 25% of Active Members, OR less than half of the Provinces represented.

7.6.3.2 The Monarch and PM MAY (but are not REQUIRED to) make a joint Proclamation that all issues for which proper notice has been given will be discussed and the vote taken on them at the Provinces' regular meeting using the Kingdom voting procedures.

7.6.3.3 If the Monarch and PM refer the vote to the Provinces, a written record of the discussion shall be made and delivered to every Province within seven days.

7.6.3.4 The Provincial votes shall be taken using Kingdom voting procedures within 30 days.

7.7 Voting at Allthing shall be done by display of voting cards, except for Absentee Ballots.

7.7.1 One Voting Card will be issued by the Prime Minister to each Active Member.

7.7.2 New unique Voting Cards will be issued at each Allthing.

7.7.3 Each Active Member must personally sign for his or her own Voting Card.

7.7.4 It is the Member's responsibility to prove the member is entitled to vote.

7.7.5 Absentee ballots

7.7.5.1 Must be from an Active Member

7.7.5.2 Must be witnessed by a Kingdom Officer.

7.7.5.3 Must state separately each item to be voted on, and a vote for that item.

7.7.6 Each recognized (per 7.7.5) Absentee Ballot shall be counted as an Active Member present for Quorum purposes.
