

## ***Use and Display of Branch (Group) Arms***

*compiled by Modar Neznanich*

As per the precedent set by the SCA Laurel Sovereign-of-Arms Office and noted in the July 1980 LoAR cover letter;

"The arms of a branch are reserved to the head of the branch. In the case of a kingdom, principality or barony this is the King, Prince or Baron. In all other cases it is the seneschal. Kings, Princes and Barons may bear the arms of their branch upon a shield in battle as if they were their own personal arms, so long as they hold their office and no longer. Seneschals may not do so. All heads of branches may display the banner of the branch to indicate their presence. At any event held in a branch the arms of the branch may be displayed whether or not the head of the branch is present, to indicate that the branch is hosting the event. In grand marches the arms of branches may be carried by groups marching as those branches. Otherwise nobody can display the arms of a branch as if they were personal arms."

This means that a hosting group of an event may display the group arms, even if the head of the branch is not present. All other times, the display of branch arms is reserved for when the head of the branch is participating at the event. (Please note that this does not require the head of a branch to be sitting in their camp at all times for the group arms to be flown there...merely that the head of the branch must be attending the event.)

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