



Uncommon Rules and Situations

Chin Strap Failures

- ▶ “Any fighter whose helmet or chinstrap breaks, or visor opens, or becomes seriously dislodged in combat will be considered dead. If both contestants wish to appeal to the Sovereign, as a Kingdom law, this may be rescinded by the Sovereign’s decision”
- ▶ The fighters cannot make the decision.

Secondary Weapons

- ▶ A fighter may enter the field with an extra weapon.
- ▶ The weapon should be handed to a marshal for inspection and safe-keeping.
- ▶ During a break in the fighting, the fighter that brought the secondary weapon to the field may ask his opponent if he can switch weapons.
- ▶ “Any fighter that wishes to change weapons form or type during the course of one round of combat must obtain their opponent’s consent.”

Corkscrewing

- ▶ “When one combatant is kneeling and the other is standing, it is forbidden for the standing fighter to circle or ‘corkscrew’ the kneeling fighter.”
- ▶ A bout that stays close to 180 degrees is usually considered acceptable.
- ▶ If the kneeling combatant moves with the standing combatant, there is no corkscrewing.
- ▶ Corkscrewing is a safety and honor issue.
- ▶ No fighter is required to defend themselves from a flat snap from behind.

Hip Shots & Great Weapon Thrusts

- ▶ In the West, if a fighter is struck with a good blow to the hip, from a standard weapon (not a mass weapon), the then legged opponent is considered “grounded”, and may not move, maneuver, or in anyway use the leg muscles to raise their butt off the ground, for the remainder of the fight.
 - ▶ This is not universally practiced throughout the SCA
- ▶ “A thrust to the hip or shoulder from a mass weapon, great sword, pike, or polearm is not considered fatal or totally disabling, only wounding.”

Anvilling

- ▶ “Blows repeatedly blocked by a weapon in contact with a fighter’s helm, body, or shield at the moment of impact may, at the Sovereign’s or Marshal’s discretion, be considered to have broken the blocking weapon.”
- ▶ If the weapon is considered broken, “this will force a fighter to forfeit the fight, unless a secondary weapon is carried onto the field or the opponent chooses to allow the fighter to rearm with another weapon.”
- ▶ “In the West, the defending fighter will be forced to continue the fight with a different type of weapon.”

Target Substitution

- ▶ “If a combatant intentionally places an illegal target area (e.g. an empty hand and or lower leg, including the knee and foot) in the path of a blow, the combatant forfeits that attached limb as if it had been struck in a legal target area.”
- ▶ The action must be repeated and obviously intentional to be deemed target substitution.

Waivers for combatants

- ▶ Waivers are required for every combatant, regardless of martial discipline, to participate in martial activities at ANY official SCA event.
- ▶ An “official SCA event” includes any practice, or gated event, that is published in an official kingdom/SCA publication.
- ▶ Waiver methods:
 - ▶ Blue-card member. If someone is a sustaining member, then they have signed a waiver, as indicated by their blue membership card.
 - ▶ Single person waiver. These waivers are most commonly seen at an event gate, and is required for any non-member attending an event
 - ▶ Mass waiver. This is a waiver form that allows multiple people to sign a single waiver (one page). This is most commonly seen at/use for fighter practices
- ▶ It is incumbent upon the MiC of a practice or event, to make sure all martial participants have filled out one of these types of waivers.
- ▶ This issue is most commonly overlooked at practices, due to the casual nature of a practice.