

Responsibilities of the Queen's Guard

By THL Nickolaus [Niko] Phaistos

Being on the Queen's Guard is a great honor, but it is also a great responsibility. One not only contributes to the splendor of our game, but also the ground work required to make the game a reality. One is both in the spotlight as well as behind the scenes. One gets his or her hands dirty one minute, and in the next he/she is the escort to the most identifiable person in the Kingdom. One can have a tremendous amount of fun, but will also have an equal amount of work. Here is a list of some of the obligations one takes upon his/herself.

- One needs to attend more events during the reign. He/She needs to help out as much as he/she is able. Not all events must be attended, but more events than the average attendee.
- When said events are attended, one is encouraged to make oneself available to the Queen as much as one can.
- At the beginning of the day at most events, the kingdom pavilion is set up. One should be involved with either or both of these tasks. Ropes and polls need to be transported and set up with spikes in the ground. Rugs, thrones and tables must be set up. The Royal banners should be flown. At the end of the day, all these things need to be taken down and stored. People, no matter what shape they are in, can help. There is often a sign in sheet to help coordinate the day.
- One needs to be available for court guard shifts. When court has begun, there are usually two to four people standing guard. They are usually stationed at either side of the end of the main isle. Occasionally, there are two more flanking the thrones. Most of the time they have spears or some other weapon showing their status as guard. They are changed every 10-20 minutes. When one is relieved, please accept it and move on. One or two other guards can be posted near the end of the isle to escort single people to the royals.
- Though out the day, the Queen should have a guard escort. One does not need a weapon for this task and the shift should not be more than a half hour. During this assignment, one is expected follow her Majesty making sure she is not overwhelmed with well-wishers. She may need the shade of a parasol and a person on the guard may hold it for her. Check in with the Captain of the guard to know times when one is needed.
- When the Queen is in a meeting with others and does not want to be disturbed, one is tasked with keeping a distance while still preventing others from interrupting. One should be kind in this endeavor.

When one is guarding, one should be nice at all times. It is an enjoyable, challenging experience. Thank you for serving.