

SECTION II - Introduction

(Spring, XXXII; Summer, XXXVII (2002))

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Number of Pages: 1

Policy Level: All

Intended Audience: General

Abstract: An introduction to the Handbook and instructions for ordering.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE WEST KINGDOM HERALD'S HANDBOOK

Frederick of Holland, Alison von Markheim, Hirsch von Henford

Last updated: Summer, 2002 (AS XXXVII)

You have in your hand the current version of the West Kingdom Herald's handbook. A few words of introduction are necessary to explain how to use this Handbook. If you have looked through it you will notice that it is not yet complete. This Handbook was not intended ever to be a complete work, but rather a compilation of articles on heraldry and heralds in the West Kingdom which set policy or which may be of use otherwise. Each article is dated with the date that it was included in the Handbook, or on which it was included in a revised form. Articles which may be included in the Handbook are listed in the Table of Contents with a "(date)" rather than a real date, but this does not mean that additional sections or sub-sections may not be added at a later date. You are welcome to suggest revisions or additional articles for future editions.

The Handbook is not intended necessarily to be read cover to cover. Rather it is intended to be perused through the Table of Contents and the various cover pages, and useful information culled out as you require it. Each article or section has a cover page giving the title, author, number of pages and a brief abstract, to help you in finding information of use to you.

There are basically three kinds of articles herein. The first represents official policy, either of the College of Arms of the SCA, Inc. (CoA) or of the West Kingdom College of Herald's (CoH, or CoHoW). These are such things as "Duties of Herald's" or "The Rules of Submission". The second represents information which it is hoped will be useful to working heralds, such as "Philosophy of Court", or "How to set up a Duty Roster" or "Beginning Blazon". The last are articles or information which may be of use to anyone in the West Kingdom, and which they will generally come to a herald to obtain. "How to Submit a Device", and "How to use your College of Herald's" might fall into this category. Nothing in this Handbook is secret knowledge, fit only for heralds, though some articles will be more technical than others.

When this Handbook was originally published, it was intended to function like a computer manual. As things changed in the heraldic world, new pages or articles would be produced to replace the outdated ones. However, it has been found that things don't change all that often, and that is not a practical way to manage a book of this sort. As of this writing, no price is known for this edition, but it will be available from the College of Herald's. Announcements about it will appear periodically in the Kingdom newsletter ([The Page](#)) and/or the Herald's Minutes.

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(October, 2000)

At this time, there is no publisher for this book. It is available online in downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) format only, from the Golem Pursuivant's website.

Page numbers have been changed to make it easier to update a single section and not re-do all the page numbers for the whole book.

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