

# Corpora of the Kingdom of the Rising Winds

The Rising Winds is a nonprofit corporation in the State of Indiana with several sub-organizations located around the globe. The Rising Winds is the only official legal entity and all business dealings shall go through the Rising Winds and the Board of Directors.

The Rising Winds is a medieval recreation society that uses the rules set forth in the Amtgard rules of play. The most current official version of the rules shall be officially adopted by the organization.

The Rising Winds is a social organization set up to foster medieval recreation and sport in a safe environment. The safety of the membership is paramount.

The Rising Winds is a secular organization that will not discriminate based on race, religion or creed. All members of the organization are bound by this document, the Corpora, and the Bylaws document of the Rising Winds.

## **Introduction to Amtgard**

*Amtgard is a vehicle of recreation. This Corpora and the Rulebook of Play are guidelines to aid in the interaction of people who participate in this game.*

## **Standard Disclaimers**

- Amtgard officials (B.O.D. Members, Monarch, Prime Minister, Champion, Guildmaster of Reeves, etc.) are not responsible for any injuries sustained while playing Amtgard.
- Amtgard does not provide for religious affiliation. We are a non-sectarian organization.
- Amtgard does not condone any illegal activity or physical violence against another person.

## I. Membership

1. Membership is limited to persons who have signed a waiver, and currently attend official meetings and events in groups and locations officially recognized by the Board of Directors of the Rising Winds.
2. Any member under the age of 18 may only join if their parent or legal guardian signs the waiver.
3. No person under the age of 14 may be a member unless their parent or legal guardian is present at all functions the member takes part in and has the permission of the highest-ranking official present.
  - a. If the highest-ranking official present is not the monarch, the monarch may veto or approve this action upon his or her arrival.
4. Membership is divided into two classes:
  - a. General Populace
    - i. This group consists of all members who attend official meetings and events. Other than attendance and adherence to the rules and clarifications of the Rising Winds, there is no further requirement.
    - ii. This is a non-voting membership. They may not vote in any officer election or Althing meeting.
  - b. Members in Good Standing
    - i. This group consists of all members who occasionally participate in the functions of the Kingdom of the Rising Winds and who adhere to the rules, clarifications, and decisions of the governing body of the Rising Winds.
      1. 'Occasionally' is defined as at least 7 (Seven) times in the 6 (six) months immediately prior to the end of declarations for Crown, Prime Minister, or Guild elections.
      2. 'Participate' is defined as attend, sign-in, and interact in accordance to the nature of the function as determined by the PM or the PM's designated representative
    - ii. The person must have been on the records as an attending member of the Rising Winds for six months.
    - iii. The person must be dues paid during the current reign.
      1. Dues are \$6 for each six-month period
    - iv. Must be at least 14 years of age
    - v. The person must identify the official park within the Rising Winds that they attend (A.K.A. Home Park). This should be the park they attend most, although in the case of a member who attends more than one park regularly, they may opt to select whichever park they choose.
    - vi. This membership class grants the following benefits:
      1. May vote in elections and althings
      2. May run for any office of their park or any Kingdom office as long as they also meet the other requirements for the given position.
  - c. Dues Paid for Life
    - i. Dues paid for life, non transferable, one time fee of \$100 dollars.
5. Good Character Requirements
  - a. All members of the Rising Winds will obey federal law and the laws of the state in which they live.
  - b. All members of the Rising Winds are personally responsible for their own behavior. Any physical damage to non-Rising Winds property, public property, or any other unbecoming behavior demonstrated by an individual at a Rising Winds event is the responsibility of the individual

alone. The Rising Winds will not be held financially or criminally responsible for such behavior.

## II. Board of Directors

1. Membership and Duties
  - a. The Board of Directors is for the express purpose of managing the business and corporate affairs of the Rising Winds. They will possess no power concerning rules of the games or cultural presentations themselves except in the cases of safety for the membership.
  - b. The Board of Directors will be an entity consisting of five elected seats and two additional seats reserved for the two primary Rising Winds officers: the current Monarch and current Prime Minister.
  - c. Election to the Board shall be for a term of one year. Two members will be elected during the winter midreign, and the remaining three shall be elected at the summer midreign. The seats held for the Rising Winds officers will change according to election or appointment accordingly.
  - d. At the first meeting of the Board of Directors following an election for Board of Directors, a vote shall be held for position of Chairman. The candidate with the most votes, not necessarily a majority, will assume the position for the next six months.
  - e. The Chairman is responsible for calling official votes on issues and for making primary motions.
  - f. Should any of the elected Board members decide to run for the office of Monarch or Prime Minister, they will step down from the position no later than the day on which Qualifications for the election are held.
  - g. Should a Board Member step down voluntarily, they will have the option to name the successor to their seat. This action must be taken within one week of the announcement to step down. Should such an action not be taken, the Chairman will appoint another member of the Rising Winds to hold the seat for the remainder of that term.
  - h. All members appointed as successors may only assume office by a majority approval of the Board Members. Should a successor not be approved, the appointing Board Member shall select another member to take their place. If the second selection is not approved, the Board will select a successor by majority vote.
2. Board Meetings
  - a. An official Board Meeting may take place only if a meeting is assigned to take place at least one week in advance and four Board Members are in attendance. Should two consecutive scheduled meetings not have a quorum, the next scheduled meeting will be held regardless of attendance.
  - b. An Emergency Board Meeting may be declared with 24 hours notice of the emergency issue. The only business that may be considered for that meeting is the emergency issue itself.
  - c. All Board of Directors meetings, except for disciplinary proceedings, are open to the dues paying members of the Rising Winds. Each member of the Rising Winds so attending may be given a chance to address the Board concerning various issues but will hold no vote on those issues.
  - d. The Board of Directors shall be directed by the Chairman. The Chairman shall be responsible for the content of the meetings and for calling the votes.
  - e. Voting
    - i. The member holding the Rising Winds position of Prime Minister shall be responsible for the official tallying and recording of all votes.

- ii. Each member will possess one full vote on all issues brought before the Board of Directors. In the case of a tie, the Chairman may opt to cast a deciding vote or to hold the vote until any missing or abstaining Board members are given a chance to vote affirmatively or negatively.
    - iii. All motions on any issue, other than disciplinary votes, will require a simple majority to carry.
    - iv. Disciplinary motions (i.e. motions to ban a current member from the Rising Winds) will require a vote of five out of seven to be carried.
  - f. Should any Board Member miss two consecutive meetings, a motion may be made to remove the Member from the Board by majority vote and permit the current Chairman to appoint a member of the Rising Winds in good standing to the Board. The Board must approve such appointment by majority vote. If no suitable candidate is found, the departing member may appoint a second for the same process.
- 3. Duties of the Board of Directors
  - a. The Board will oversee all corporate business for the Rising Winds.
  - b. The Board will vote on any and all business or corporate decisions as set forth by the laws of the State of Indiana and the Federal Government of the United States.
  - c. The Board will have the power to admit new parks to the Rising Winds.
  - d. Disciplinary Action
    - i. The Board will have the final vote on any Disciplinary Action regarding a member of the Rising Winds.
    - ii. Disciplinary Actions may be brought by any Rising Winds officer elected, appointed or won. This list includes, but is not limited to:
      - 1. Monarch
      - 2. Prime Minister
      - 3. Regent
      - 4. Guildmasters
      - 5. Reeves
      - 6. Champions.
    - iii. Disciplinary Action should only be taken in limited cases including, but not limited to:
      - 1. A pattern of ongoing behavior that demonstrates the inability to take part safely in the Rising Winds events.
      - 2. Continued use of unsafe equipment.
      - 3. Inappropriate behavior toward non-participants.
      - 4. Vandalism of Rising Winds property.
      - 5. Committing a felony or violent misdemeanor at a Rising Winds Event.
    - iv. Appropriate punishment may be determined by the Board. Standard punishments will include banishment from the Rising Winds permanently or temporarily; or public apologies for behavior.
    - v. In all cases, the accused member and the accusing officer have the right to attend the Board meeting and to issue statements defending their positions. Witnesses of actual events may be brought.

**III. Althings:**

- 1. An Althing shall be scheduled once each month. Whether it is actually held is subject to group interest and involvement. (i.e. - if no one has business to bring before the group, then there will be no Althing for that month).
- 2. Anyone may attend, however only a member in good standing may vote.

3. The Monarch, Regent or Prime Minister shall act as chairperson for the meeting, in that order.
4. Althing Activities
  - a. Discuss and enact rule clarifications.
    - i. If there is contention over a handbook rule, the GMR shall issue a temporary clarification that will be held as official until the next Althing. The Monarch has the power to overrule this temporary clarification
    - ii. Only a guildmaster of an official class or the Guildmaster of Reeves may bring up rules changes for a class. Any Guildmaster of an official class or the Guildmaster of Reeves may bring up a rules clarification concerning the general rules.
    - iii. Once brought up, any attending member may speak briefly concerning the rule.
    - iv. A rules clarification is adopted by majority vote.
    - v. Rules clarifications may not contradict explicit wording of the official rules. A rule may be changed by an Althing decision in instances where safety is concerned.
  - b. Revise and update the Corpora or Bylaws.
    - i. Any member may bring forth a motion to change the Corpora or the Bylaws.
    - ii. A motion to change the Corpora or Bylaws may only be voted on at an Althing held at a Rising Winds Kingdom Coronation.
    - iii. Any attending member may speak briefly on the requested change.
    - iv. A Corpora or Bylaws update is adopted by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  affirmative vote of participating Members in Good Standing (see section I.4.b.).
    - v. The Corpora takes precedence over any Althing decision.
    - vi. Any change to the Corpora must be written in the proper form of the Corpora.
  - c. Althing Decision
    - i. An Althing decision is a motion that passes a simple majority vote of participating members in good standing and is not a change to the Corpora or Bylaws.
    - ii. An Althing decision may not change, hinder, or add to any part of the Corpora or Bylaws.
    - iii. Examples of Althing decisions are:
      1. Discuss and vote on major expenditures (greater than 10%) of the group treasury. Such expenditures are approved by a majority vote of participating members in good standing.
      2. Discuss and vote on any issue. This vote may override any decision made by any officer as well as remove officers as outlined by their office.
  - d. Althing votes shall be either for or against, abstentions shall not be counted for the purposes of determining the outcome of voting.
  - e. Althing rules of order may be set down by the Crown. The Champion is responsible for enforcement.
5. All Althing agenda items must be phrased such a way to render either a "for" or "against" vote.