



The Sealed Knot



Officers' Handbook 2010

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Preface to the Second Edition – 1983

About 46 years ago His Majesty King George VI, who, so far as I remember, reposed great confidence in my courage, diligence and loyalty, sent me his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the old 16th Foot (which by that time had become the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment). Soon afterwards we — rather optimistically you may say — declared war on Nazi Germany, and I set off to France expecting within about a fortnight to lead No 7 Platoon of A Company, 2nd Battalion, against the Teuton Hordes.

That's not quite how things turned out, but it did fall to my lot during most of the period 1939-46, to train soldiers for war and to take them into action. If you go to enough battles, you are bound, I suppose, to learn something.

Well, what do I think I learnt?

1. An Officer must know his trade. If he doesn't understand minor tactics and the use of weapons and ground, he will be a pretty useless commander. This demands hard work and midnight oil.
2. You must look after the men. Know them individually, their problems, their good points and their bad. Treat them all the same, no favourites. Advance their interests when they deserve it. In addition, the cavalry must look after their horses — before themselves.
3. Leadership is done from the front! One can lecture for hours on leadership, but it is pretty straight forward really. They can't follow you if you are lurking in the rear.
4. Discipline is what binds a unit together. Esprit de Corps is a wonderful thing, but without drill, discipline and dress of a high standard, it is a brittle asset.
5. Demand a high standard of your men — do not pamper them. Build up their morale by the sense of achievement, which comes from obstacles surmounted and battles won.
6. These maxims are not easy to live up to, but history shows that this country, even in the worst times, has never lacked for bold, skilful and diligent commanders. It is for you to live up to the tradition.

Last point. Never soldier with miserable gloomy b.....s if you can possibly help it. Don't be SAD, take things as they come.

Peter Young, Captain-General

Section A **General Points**

1. The Society is organised in to two Armies and non-aligned units that report to the Adjutant General. The two Armies are the Army of Parliament and the Royalist Army, which both report to a Lord General. Each Army is composed of formations and units. The structure of the Armies will be published and updated through their own Command & Control channels.
2. Each Army publishes Standing Orders which outline the ways in which they operate and it should be noted that some of the information contained here may be subject to their own unique operational needs.
3. The Scots Brigade is composed of Regiments which represent differing sides from the Great Civil War and as such report through the OC Brigade to both Lord Generals.
4. Examples of Non-Aligned units include the Sealed Knot Medical Services, De Gomme's unit of Pyrotechnic specialists and a Civilian Group.
5. As is drawn to the attention of each recruit on enlistment, the Sealed Knot is a 17th Century Army; this fact sets it a little apart from such other clubs and societies of which he may be a member. All societies are subject to rules and regulations, and ours is no different in that respect, but organisation into military formations and the use of weapons requires an accepted hierarchy of command to ensure due control of our activities by responsible individuals. Whilst the Society has always recognised a degree of local autonomy in its component units and encouraged them to manage their own affairs as much as possible, it must be borne in mind that the Board of Directors is the one source of authority for appointments to rank and positions of responsibility.
6. The Board of Directors consists of 12 elected and 3 ex-officio Full Members. The elected members serve for three years with one third of their number elected annually. The ex-officio members are those holding the offices of Adjutant General, Treasurer and Company Secretary. A Chairman is elected annually by the members of the Board.
7. Initial enrolment in the Society is as an Annual Member with Full Membership available on application and election after two years service. Full Membership entitles the holder to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting and to stand for election to the Board. It is obviously desirable that all officers within the Society's armies should be Full Members in order that they may participate fully in its affairs.
8. Election or appointment to the Board of Directors does not carry military rank but members of this body are Directors of the Society and so have responsibilities in law

which empower them to act with the authority of the Board when necessary. Similarly, members appointed to particular offices, such as Commanding Officer or Regimental Adjutant, exercise the authority of their appointment, rather than that of their own rank. Normally, however, an individual's rank indicates his position in the military hierarchy and is a reflection of his experience, ability, current duties and responsibilities.

9. Rank should not be utilised to reward enterprise and effort over and above what can be rightly expected as duty; the Society has an established Honours and Awards system for the recognition of such contributions and it is important not to confuse this with valid promotion to higher rank when further responsibilities are to be incurred and greater status is required to fulfil a particular task.
10. Two descriptions require clarification in connection with rank:
 - a. The title Gentleman Volunteer is accorded to those recruits who have held or hold a commission in the Armed Forces of the Crown and to those members who have resigned a commission in the Society. This title confers no rank or authority and the holder will be required to serve in the ranks as any other. *Gentleman Volunteer is not currently a recognised title in use in the Army of Parliament.*
 - b. Reformado rank applies when through re-deployment, or loss of numbers, an officer is left without a command or duties, such officers will be employed as their Commander thinks fit and may be required to serve in the ranks if necessary.



Section B

Instructions for Officers of the Sealed Knot

1. There are four main classes of officers:
 - a. **GENERAL OFFICERS**, who are officers of the army as a whole and may give orders as their duty demands to all regimental officers. They have a duty to the Sealed Knot to control any misbehaviour in public of members of either army. This class of Officer requires Board approval.
 - b. **FIELD OFFICERS**, (Colonels, Lt. Colonels and Majors), whose authority is primarily over their own regiments.
 - c. **COMPANY OR TROOP OFFICERS**, (Captains, Lieutenants, Ensigns, Cornets and Quartermasters), whose authority is primarily over a particular company or troop of a regiment.
 - d. **JUNIOR OFFICERS** (recognised as Non-commissioned officers in modern terms), (Sergeants and Corporals) whose duty is to assist their company or troop officers.
2. Duties required of an Officer: -
 - a. Loyalty to the Sealed Knot.
 - b. Obedience to all lawful commands, the rules of the Society, and the law of the land.
 - c. Proficiency in drill, weapon training and administration.
 - d. Responsibility for the performance and conduct of the unit or units under his command at all times.
 - e. Consideration for the welfare of his men and the reputation of the Sealed Knot before that of himself at all times.
3. Qualities required of an Officer:
 - a. In appearance, punctuality and the performance of his duty, he will stand as an example to his men.
 - b. Calmness, strictness, geniality, fairness, courtesy, courage and honour are some of the marks of a good officer.
4. Officers are appointed on the authority of the Board of Directors and, in common with all appointments, their ranks shall be subject to periodic review and conditional on the performance of their duties. It is the responsibility of the appointing officer or body to specify the particular duties of a rank or appointment, and of the appointee to understand them. It is on the implementation of such duties that an officer's performance will be assessed.
5. It is not easy to be a good officer; anyone who finds these duties too difficult is welcome to return or refuse his commission and serve in the ranks as a Gentleman Volunteer.

Section C Promotion Boards

AIM

To establish the minimum level of competence necessary at various levels of command.

PROCEDURE

All promotions will be recommended on form SKF/2 by Regimental Commanding Officers and sent to Tertio or Association Commanders in the first instance (see Army chain of command). Tertio or Association Commanders may approve the promotions of Corporals and Sergeants and send the forms direct to the Membership Secretary. There is a more formal procedure for promotions to more senior rank. These will be considered by a Board whose minimum composition will be as follows:

Company Officers; Regimental Commanding Officer and Association or Tertio Commander

Field Officers; Association or Tertio Commander and Army Commander,

General Officers; in consultation with the Board of Directors

Army Commander; in consultation with the Board of Directors

The Lord General, at their prerogative, may promote and appoint—in the field, except where Board approval is required.

For Appointment as a Regimental Commanding Officer, a Brigade OC or for General rank; following approval by the Board, the SKF/2 will be forwarded to Army Administration where necessary, for transmission to the Membership Secretary and publication in the Orders of the Day.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF ALL CANDIDATES

1. The candidate must demonstrate his membership of the Sealed Knot.
2. Note will be taken of appearance, (both dress and arms), behaviour and politeness.
3. The board may conduct a formal interview or examine the candidate over a period of time, including observation of his ability in the field.
4. The promotion of officers in the Horse and Artillery will, as far as is practicable, follow the procedures outlined herein with due adaptation for the appropriate discipline.
5. That all Officers should have an understanding of the Sealed Knot Rules of Engagement.

QUARTERMASTER

The duties of this rank being primarily administrative, no form of practical examination is necessary. The Board shall however satisfy themselves that the candidate is competent to undertake the responsibilities which will be incurred.

ENSIGN OR CORNET

General:

The Ensign may be commissioned from the ranks of the NCOs. "He ought to be a proper man, grave, valiant and discreet", "In the absence of his Captain or Lieutenant (he) is the Commander in Chief of the Company, and ought to march upon the head of the same leading them with a half-pike". (Richard Elton, 'The Compleat Body of the Art Military', 1659)

Practical:

1. Demonstrate the Postures of the chosen arm.
2. Demonstrate competence in the instruction of recruits.
3. Assembly of a body preparatory to handing over to the Commanding Officer.
4. Pay full compliments to the Commanding Officer and hand over to him, awaiting further orders.

Oral:

1. Know the correct escalation of military ranks up to Colonel.
2. Explain the relevant responsibilities in connection with the following;
 - a. Safety on the field in relation to the chosen arm.
 - b. Injury to a member during a field event.
 - c. The law relating to the use of the chosen arm, both within and outside the Sealed Knot.
 - d. Dress and behaviour outside camp.

The ensign should be able to drill a body of troops as he will be the first officer to fill the next senior position.

LIEUTENANT

General:

A Lieutenant need not have been an Ensign and may be commissioned from sergeant.

Practical:

1. Demonstrate the postures of the chosen arm, including the paying of compliments to a senior officer.
2. Drill a body of men both at the halt and on the march.

Oral:

1. Know the procedure to be adopted if approached by the media to comment on the Society's activities.
2. Explain the accepted procedure for dealing with a member who refuses to obey a lawful order and the correct reaction when a disagreeable order is received.
3. Know the minimum age requirement for active participation on the field of battle.
4. Know who has the authority to commit the Society to a legal contract.
5. Know the duties and attributes of an officer of the Sealed Knot.
6. For muskets, explain the duties and responsibilities in connection with;
 - a. Legal and safety requirements.
 - b. The Code of Conduct relating to the use of black powder.

CAPTAIN-LIEUTENANT

There are no additional requirements for promotion to this rank beyond those applicable to the rank of Lieutenant. In the Civil Wars, the Captain-Lieutenant commanded the Colonel's Company (or Troop).



CAPTAIN

Practical:

1. March and form a company on a marker and change front to right and left.
2. Form and control his company, according to the chosen arm, either:
 - a. In push and at point of pike, or
 - b. In giving fire by introduction and by extra-duction.
3. Array the companies (in conjunction with the CO) in their divisions with regard to their Honour and dignity.
4. Will be expected to hold a completed musket test (or Officers musket test) and to have passed their sword test.

Oral:

1. Have a full knowledge of all Sealed Knot forms and procedures relating to membership, promotion, awards and transfers.
2. Have a full knowledge of the rules relating to membership of the Society and of the agreed disciplinary procedures.
3. Have some knowledge of the structure, weaponry and composition of civil war units and of the civil war army.
4. Answer one or two questions on historical aspects of the civil wars and other related conflicts.

MAJOR

Practical:

1. Demonstrate command of a regiment of pike and musket both on parade and in battle.
2. The ability to move the regiment from marching column to battalia line and from battalia to marching column in their proper order and dignity.
3. To hold a musket test and sword test pass.

Oral:

1. Answer questions on any aspects covered by the promotion boards for other ranks.
2. Knowledge of the structures and current commanders of the relevant Army.
3. Knowledge of the pitfalls to be avoided during interviews with the media, in the event of permission for these being granted by the Public Relations Officer.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL, COLONEL AND GENERAL OFFICERS:

For promotion to the senior ranks in the Society, the Board will take into account experience, competence and character but shall otherwise have discretion to assess the suitability of the candidate as they consider appropriate.

However, the candidate must:

1. Show a proven understanding of the Sealed Knot Rules of Engagement
2. Be able to manoeuvre their regiments and tertias with an understanding of the strategy and tactics of armies in the 17th century.

Artillery Appointments & Titles

The Sealed Knot recognises the following styles and titles for use within its artillery units, in addition to the conventional system of ranks.

Mattross	basic rank of a member serving in the artillery.
Gunner	trained and qualified artilleryman
Gun Captain	Commander of a Gun, certified by the Inspectors of Artillery.
Battery Master	Commander of two or more guns,
Master Gunner	Commander of an artillery unit,
Master Gunner of all England;	Commander of all Parliament Artillery.



Section D
Organisation & Administration of Regiments, Brigades and Armies

1. The Sealed Knot is organised as two separate armies sharing a common central headquarters for administration. Each army is commanded by a Lord General, appointed by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the General Officers of the Society. The two armies are organised at the discretion of the Lord Generals into Regiments and Tertios or Associations with appropriate cavalry and artillery formations. New units will only be formed on the specific authority of the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Lord General.
2. The Commanding Officer of a Regiment or Independent Company is appointed by the Lord General on behalf of the Board of Directors and is totally responsible for the operation of his unit, including the financial operation and responsibilities, recruitment of suitable members, appointments to positions of responsibility and the recommendation of promotions.
3. Each Regiment is in effect a sub—branch of the Society with the responsibility of representing its aims at the local level, and is therefore recommended to draw up its own Regimental Rules/Standing Orders for the regulation of its own affairs, which must not contravene any rule of the Sealed Knot. Such Rules should be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.
4. Regimental organisation should provide for the following officers to assist the Commanding Officer in his duties; Adjutant, Treasurer, Quartermaster and Fire Officer. In a small unit it may be possible for one member to undertake more than one of these posts.
5. The Adjutant is an important part of the organisation of a Regiment; they are the personal staff officer of the Commanding Officer and as such has the authority of that Officer when acting for them. The Adjutant is responsible for maintaining accurate records of the Regiment and advising the Membership Secretary of any changes, issuing Regimental Orders on behalf of the Commanding Officer and handling all routine correspondence. In large Regiments, consideration may be given to the appointment of Company Clerks to assist the Adjutant.
6. The Treasurer is responsible for handling and maintaining accurate records of the Regiment's funds and the collection of subscriptions. All Regimental and Company accounts are subject to audit by the Society's Treasurer and annual statements of account will be submitted as required. The accounts are to be prepared in accordance with the Regimental Treasurer's Policy as issued by the Board of Directors.

7. The Quartermaster is responsible for the issue of Regimental equipment to individuals and maintaining records of any property placed in the charge of the Regiment.
8. The Fire Officer is responsible for the supervision of all matters connected with the use of Black Powder within the Regiment, including the duties outlined in the policy for the purchase and distribution of Black Powder.
9. Individual Regiments vary greatly in size but the recognised minimum is 40 combatant troops, (i.e. excluding camp followers and children), for Foot and 25 for Horse and Dragoons. Companies should each have about 20 members, thus a Regiment of Foot will consist of at least two Companies. To produce these numbers in the field on a regular basis will, however, necessitate recruiting about half as many again in the expectation of a 66% turnout at musters.
10. The following model establishments are offered as guide to the organisation of individual units:

COMPANY OF FOOT

Company Commander	Lieutenant, Captain-Lieutenant or Captain
Second-in-Command	Lieutenant or Capt. Lieutenant, (Col's. Company)
Ensign	
Sergeant	
Drummer	
Corporals	One for every 8 soldiers
Pikemen/Musketeers	Twelve

At the Regimental level, provision should be made in the Colonel's Company for an Elder Sergeant, Quartermaster and a Gentleman of the Arms (Royalist Army only).

TROOP OF HORSE

Troop Commander	Captain, Major
Second-in-Command	Lieutenant or Capt. Lieutenant
Cornet	
Trumpeter	
Corporals	
Troopers	Nine

At the Regimental level, provision should be made for a Quartermaster. Depending on the number of horses available, it may be necessary for the Troop to be limited to three sections each of four horsemen.

COMPANY OF DRAGOONS

Company Commander	Lieutenant, Captain-Lieutenant or Captain
Second-in-Command	Lieutenant
Guidon	
Drummer	
Sergeant	
Corporals	
Dragoons	Nine

11. All new recruits should be interviewed by the Regimental Commanding Officer, or one of his Officers, before acceptance. No recruit will be enlisted except as a member of an established unit and on the recommendation of the Commanding Officer. In no circumstances will a child under 16 years be enrolled other than on a Family or Individual Family Membership. 16-18 year olds must also be included as part of a family membership.
12. All membership applications must be submitted to the Membership Secretary for registration and will not be effective until the issue of a membership card. The Gate List must be prepared one week before the event and there is a limit to the number of late entries that can be accommodated. This procedure enables the new member's card to be dispatched in good time for the muster. New members must not be encouraged to travel to a muster without a card; they will be turned away if their name does not appear on the Gate List.
 - a. **Temporary memberships** for each muster are available. The CO of the regiment must send the completed form and cheque to the membership secretary. All membership applications must be submitted to the Membership Secretary for registration and will not be effective until the issue of a membership card. The Gate List must be prepared one week before the event and there is a limit to the number of late entries that can be accommodated. This procedure enables the temporary member's card to be dispatched in good time for the muster.
 - b. **Emergency Temporary memberships** are issued by the regiment. The Adjutant General and Membership Secretary give annual advice on how this is to work.
13. Membership expires as advertised in Orders of the Day each year, usually after the August Bank Holiday. In order to attend any officially recognised event and be covered for insurance purposes after that date, members must have re-enlisted in good time. Late renewals will incur the £6 enlistment fee. Re-enlistments received after the 3 months grace period of this date will also result in loss of rank and Full Membership, if applicable.
14. Members wishing to transfer from one regiment to another are required to complete the appropriate form (SKF/15) and obtain the consent of both Commanding Officers involved. This consent should not be withheld unreasonably and any objections from either party should be made known to the Adjutant General. There is no entitlement to

retain rank on transfer, but the new Commanding Officer has discretion to make an appropriate decision (corporals, sergeants and elder sergeants) or recommendation (ensign and above) on this matter. Due to the concentrated workload in the Membership Secretary's office in the early part of the year, no applications for transfer will be entertained during the period 30th November to 31st March.

15. Applications for day passes to allow Members' guests to visit them on the camp site should be sent to the Membership Secretary via Regimental Adjutants, (in order that Regiments may be aware who is in their lines), at least two weeks before the muster. Please specify the date of the visit, the name, number and regiment of the sponsor and the names of the guests. The Chairman may also issue Day Passes to guests and prospective clients. All passes are issued subject to the following standard conditions:
 - a. The Sponsoring Member is responsible for the conduct of his guests.
 - b. 2. The pass is valid for the date(s) indicated only and no guest may stay overnight on the camp site.
 - c. Guests must in no circumstances dress in 17th century costume nor take part in any re-enactment, drill or performance.
 - d. A visitor to the camp is not exempt from any entry charge levied on spectators of our performances.
16. Camp site regulations are listed in a separate document (available on the Sealed Knot Website), but Standing Orders give brief guidance in this document.
17. Officers on camp are to enforce camp rules and that Brigade areas are under the direct responsibility of OC's Brigade or equivalent
18. Officers are in post as line managers of the Society; this makes them responsible for: –
 - a. Management of people within the Society
 - b. Performance of people within the Society, both on and off the field
 - c. Safety of people in the Society, both on and off the field
 - d. The standards of dress of the members, as set by the chain of command,
 - e. The attitude of Society members, both on and off the field
19. Officers should be aware of their responsibilities within the chain of command, and should be aware of who to speak with when in doubt of anything.
20. Officers should be conversant with the Discipline and Complaints Policy.

Section E

Dress Regulations for Officers (Other than Standard Dress Regulations)

Officers should wear clothes appropriate to their rank and position within their army or their regiment. An officer's rank is shown by the quality of his dress and need not follow the style and colour of his regiment's common soldiery.

COATS OR DOUBLETS

All coats/doublets will conform to the styles worn between 1639 and 1651. The materials used should be of wool. The material colour should be a colour obtainable from natural dyes available in the 17th century.

BREECHES

These should conform in materials to the coat. They should be of the style of 1639-1651. Braces, when worn, should not be apparent.

SHIRTS

The shirt should be made of linen. Any decoration on the shirt should denote the officer's rank and status.

HATS AND HELMETS

The wearing of lobster-tailed helmets is restricted to mounted cavalry, dragoons and dismounted officers; other suitable headwear are a broad brimmed felt hat, monmouth cap, montero or suitable and appropriate helmet. No officer shall appear on the battlefield or parade bare headed. The wearing of plumes in helmets or hats will be at the discretion of the Regimental Commander.

ARMOUR AND BUFF COATS

A buff coat is of thick animal hide and is not the same as a leather jerkin. Officers should adopt protective wear as befits their status.

FOOTWEAR

The wearing of bucket-top boots is restricted to officers and cavalry. Boots, if worn, should be of a 17th century style and worn with butterfly spur leathers and spurs. Appropriate shoes should be worn otherwise.

HOSE

All socks or woollen stockings should extend over the knee and should be held up by ribbon garters. Linen over-stockings or boot hose should be worn where appropriate.

BADGES OF RANK

No badges of rank will be worn by any member of either army. The wearing of modern badges, (including that of the Sealed Knot), will not be permitted.

GORGET

Officers may wear a gorget as a badge of rank. The style should denote their rank and status. The construction must conform to the specifications as listed in the Polearm Subcommittee regulations. (document on the Sealed Knot website).

POLEARMS

An officer's polearm should denote his rank and status. The polearm must conform with the specifications of the Pole-Arm sub-committee regulations (document on the Sealed Knot website).

SASHES OR SCARVES

Officers may wear a sash of appropriate colour and material.

SPECTACLES

Spectacles should not be worn unless of a style appropriate to the period.



The Well-Dressed General Officer



The Well-Dressed Field Officer



The Well-Dressed Company Officer

Section F **Standing Orders**

GENERAL

1. At all times, but particularly when in 17th Century costume, members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which will contribute to a positive image of the Sealed Knot. A willingness to answer questions from the public and a good humoured tolerance of the interest aroused by our appearance will assist the reputation of the Society whereas disruptive behaviour will soon undo the good name for which we have striven over the years.
2. No sidearm of any description will be worn off camp except as part of an official parade. No knives or daggers of any description (having a blade length less than 20 inches), shall be worn, carried or used on the field, or in the camp site, except as a part of a living history display or an authentic camp scene prior to a battle re-enactment. Knives used in such displays and camps shall be collected together and locked in a suitable box before any battle commences.
3. The double rope barrier alongside the battlefield is a safety measure for the protection of the public. It is not a 'safe' area, particularly for small children, and must be kept clear. Members in costume are only permitted between the ropes for the purposes of Medical duties and cameo entertainment, and provided that they do not impede the view of the public. Members in costume who do not wish, or are unable to take part in the battle may use the designated safe area. Members not in costume must remain in the public area.

IN CAMP

4. Proof of Society membership is to be shown by all members on entry to the camp site. Members who have forgotten or lost their membership card will be verified against the Gate List and provided with form SKF/26 bearing their membership number to serve as a pass for the muster.
5. Regard shall be had to the land owner's property; trees, fences, farm buildings and stock not be damaged or interfered with.
6. The maximum vehicle speed permitted in camp is 5 m.p.h. For reasons of safety, learner drivers are not allowed. In order to avoid damage to the site, vehicle movements should be kept to a minimum in poor weather conditions.
7. Tents and caravans must be so sited as to minimise the risks of fire, with adequate space between them to facilitate their easy removal in an emergency. The recommended distance between facing walls of adjacent caravans is 20 feet, (approximately one and a third pike's length). Motor vehicles should be parked at the side of the caravan or tent and must not obstruct the roadway.
8. All animals are to be kept under control, and must not be allowed to run loose on the camp. The recommended length of lead when tethered is a maximum of 10 feet. Animals must be exercised away from caravans and tents. Owners are required to clear up all animal droppings in the camp area. Horses must be led, or ridden at the walk, when passing through the camp.
9. It is strongly recommended that all vehicles carry a suitable B.S.I. and/or F.O.C. approved fire extinguisher and a first aid kit.
10. Camp fires should only be lit when permission has been obtained from the land owner by the Muster Organiser. Care should be taken to remove the turf beforehand and to replace this afterwards. Barbecues should be sited well away from caravans, awnings, tents etc.

11. The flying of kites and model aircraft and the use of items like catapults or muskets as well as ball games are not permitted among, or close to caravans and tents. The flying or release of fire lanterns (or any other generic name) is strictly forbidden.
12. Noise from radios, televisions and other sources, e.g. generators, should be kept to a minimum. Quiet should be kept after midnight.
13. Water points must be used only for the collection of water, they are not to be used for washing of animals, footwear, clothing or utensils.
14. Members must utilise the toilets provided by the Muster Organiser or their own chemical toilets properly charged with one of the formaldehyde-based chemical fluids. The contents of chemical toilets must not be disposed of on the camp site except into the disposal point, agreed with the land owner.
15. Similarly, waste water must not be disposed of except into the designated disposal point. Waste water from caravan outlets should be collected in a suitable receptacle and not allowed to foul the ground.
16. All members are required to keep their camping area clean and free from litter during the muster; the area should be carefully checked before leaving to ensure that no refuse has been left behind. Members attending musters of short duration, (i.e. one day) can reasonably be expected to take their refuse home with them.
17. Under no circumstances should refuse be emptied into the toilet disposal point but placed in the plastic bags supplied by the Muster Organiser. Refuse bags shall be deposited in the skips provided before leaving the camp.
18. All members wishing to trade on the camp site shall register with the Inspector of Markets, caterers must also have a licence issued by their Local Authority for the purposes of Public Health Legislation. No alcohol or alcoholically fortified beverages shall be sold on the camp site to the membership at large, other than from the authorised beer tent. This ruling does not include private regimental parties or canteens.

ON THE FIELD

19. The minimum age for participation in battle re-enactments is 16 years. Children between the ages of 10 and 16 years, serving as SK Apprentices, drummers, camp followers, water-carriers etc., may march onto the field with their regiments but must be withdrawn from the action to a safe area during the battle. The decision as to what constitutes a safe area rests with the Muster Organiser and the officer commanding the Army who will take into consideration the scale of the re-enactment, the presence or otherwise of horses, the position of cannon and the topography of the site.
20. Helmets or secrets must be worn in pike pushes and on horseback.
21. Pikes should be a minimum of 12 ft. in length and half pikes 7.5-8ft. Half pikes and partizans are to be carried by officers only and halberds by sergeants. Metal headed pole arms may only be carried on parades and may not be used on the field.
22. Swords should conform to the requirements of the Board of Safety, be carried in a suitable scabbard and drawn for combat only by accredited swordsmen. Two-handed swords will only be used by bona fide Highland units.
23. Pikes should be kept still in hedgehogs against cavalry. No horseman is to enter a hedgehog except by prior agreement between the Commanding Officers concerned.
24. No horseman is to be deliberately unseated except as part of an agreed cameo when proper provision shall be made for the safe removal of the horse.
25. Regimental Colours are not to be captured except by prior arrangement between Commanding Officers; when taken they are generally to be accompanied by the

Ensign in whose charge they have been placed. Ensigns and Cornets are not to use their colours as weapons, on foot or on horseback.

26. In hand-to-hand fighting, all blows must be pulled to minimise injury and damage to weapons, uniforms and equipment.
27. All units on the battlefield shall be assumed to be ready to engage or be engaged unless specifically withdrawn from the line to rest, where their temporary non-participation should be evident.
28. A unit engaged with another shall not be engaged by a third unit without due warning.
29. Musket units and cannon shall not be engaged when they are loaded preparatory to firing.
30. All members on the battlefield shall be assigned to a particular unit or specific role. Individuals are not permitted to roam at will.
31. No member or unit, actively participating in a battle, shall enter the designated safe areas during the performance. No weapons, other than a sword carried in a scabbard, may be taken into a safe area.
32. Video and other cameras are not to be taken on the field during battle re-enactments without permission of the Board of Directors
33. The accepted signal for the indication of a casualty on the battlefield requiring the attention of the Sealed Knot Medical Service is two crossed pikes. Other personnel are required to keep clear. The advice of the S.K.M.S. in medical matters must be respected. Their orders as to the treatment of casualties must be obeyed. To disregard either could have serious consequences for the injured member.



Section G

Terms and Conditions of Membership of the Sealed Knot or Renewal Thereof

1. **The Society**, its officers, members, organisers of Sealed Knot events, servants or agents shall in no circumstances be liable in any manner whatsoever for loss of any kind to any member or damage to the property of such member arising from out of or in connection with any of the activities of the Society however such loss or damage or loss may have been caused or contributed to, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) where such loss or damage is or was caused by the negligence breach of contractual or other duty or other default of the Society, its officers, members, organisers of events, or other their servants or agents, licensees or invitees.
2. **Member**" means any person who has paid their annual subscription to the Society for the current year or is entitled to and granted a current Membership Card. Only those whose subscriptions are fully paid are entitled to the privileges of membership. A member whose subscription is only partly paid is not entitled to the privileges of membership but is nonetheless subject to the obligations thereof.
3. **The Sealed Knot** reserves the right to refuse an application for membership. Subject to the provision of its Articles of Association, the Sealed Knot also reserves the right to refuse or withdraw membership from any members should it consider this action to be in the best interests of the Society for such reasons as, including but not limited to, such a member embarking on a course of legal action against the Society or another member in relation to the activities of the Society or being known to be a registered drug addict or abuser or (subject to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act) having been found guilty of any criminal offence involving drugs or any prohibited substance or any crime of violence or theft.
4. **The Sealed Knot** undertakes to indemnify its members against reasonable claims from a third party and to insure its members to a reasonable degree against personal injuries, disablement and death arising from their lawful activities in accordance with these Terms and Conditions at or in connection with all authorised events.
5. **The applicant(s)** agree(s) for himself or herself or themselves and where applicable for and on behalf of any children who are incorporated in his, her or their membership and who purport to apply for membership under this application, to be bound by these several terms and conditions and the rules of the Society now made or at any time hereafter to be made.
6. **The applicant** agrees to indemnify the Society against any loss or damage to property sustained by them as a result of any member of his family not being bound by these terms and conditions for any reason, the applicant agrees that in entering into a contract with him or her the Society is acting not only on its own behalf but also on behalf of its present and future members, officers, organisers, servants and agents for the purpose of conferring upon them the benefit of these conditions and in particular of the exemption of liability for loss and damage. The applicant expressly authorises the Society to enter into contracts with other applicants on his or her behalf for the purpose of conferring the said benefit upon the applicant.
7. **The applicant(s)** agrees not to organise musters or other events and not to grant interviews to the Press nor to any broadcasting or television service or authority nor any other advertising organisation without the permission first obtained from the Board of Directors through the National Events Co-ordinator or Public Relations Officer.
8. **The applicant** agrees to pay to the Membership Secretary or other responsible officer of the Society authorised to receive the same, via his or her own regiment's bank account, his or her own annual subscription, such subscription being renewable on the date as published in Orders of The Day for the following calendar year. The expression "Family Subscription" includes two adults (e.g. husband and wife) and their children or adopted children being under

the age of 18 years and/or exceptionally, in the case of disabled persons, such other situations as the Society (by its Company Secretary) may individually recognise. There is a £6.00 joining fee payable with new subscriptions which term includes applications to renew membership received by the Membership Secretary after the 3 months grace period.

9. **All adult members** must affix a recent recognisable photograph of themselves to and sign their membership card upon receipt of the same. Membership cards are not valid, and will not afford admission to the Society's camp sites, until they bear such a photograph and signature.

10. **All members** wishing to take part in public displays must be suitably dressed and armed. On behalf of him/herself and if applicable, those who purport for membership hereunder, the applicant agrees to dress and equip him/herself and the aforementioned persons in accordance with the historic fashion and requirements of the 17th century (Circa 1640-1660) so far as regards civil dress or military uniform as required by the Regiment of the Society selected and as required by the Society's Dress Regulations from time to time published, as soon as possible and before taking part in musters.

11. **All members** are expected to obey lawful orders given by a senior officer in public. Any matter of complaint should be discussed in private. In military matters, any case of dispute or grievance between one member and another should be referred to the Officer next in rank or seniority to the senior of those in dispute. Additionally, all members are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner which will not give rise to reasonable complaint or be likely to bring the Society into disrepute; and to specifically refrain from offensive, objectionable or violent behaviour.

12. **Members** are required to acquaint themselves with all safety and other regulations which are mandatory upon them. Any member entrusted with any stewardship e.g. Treasurer, Adjutant, musters organisers, quartermasters and the like, shall keep proper written account of that trust

13. **It is understood** that upon certain occasions the adult applicant or applicants might be invited to play the part of either a Royalist or Parliamentarian, and if so they will kindly do so with good grace and for the benefit of the Society.

14. **Adults** are at all times responsible for the security, safety and welfare of any child or children included in their membership and accompanying them to a muster. The applicant(s) undertake(s) not to permit any such child under 16 years to enter or remain on the field during any battle re-enactment but to ensure that they are withdrawn to a designated safe area during the performance.

15. **All members** taking part in the public performance —in kitll agree to images of themselves or their children which are taken during the public display being used for Sealed Knot purposes (including websites, publications and press). Parents/guardians must decide whether they wish to allow their child to participate —in kitll, in light of the fact that photography or video recording will take place and images may be published.

16. **Membership** is also subject to the Memorandum & Articles of the Association of The Sealed Knot Ltd.

17. **Due to** the high cost of postage, stamps for the appropriate amount should be enclosed for any reply to any applications for membership or renewal thereof. Applications to annually join or re-join the Society must reach the Membership Secretary not less than two weeks before the participation in an event, to allow time for the application to be processed.

NB the term 'muster' includes all meetings of the society and/or its component groups for the purposes of any performance or training and applies for the duration of the period during which the society shall occupy any site.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE APPLYING TO JOIN A 17th CENTURY ARMY. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO ABIDE BY THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND OBEY THE SOCIETY'S RULES, ORDERS AND DISCIPLINE, PLEASE DO NOT JOIN OR REJOIN.

Section H

Standard Sealed Knot Forms

SKF/1	Recommendation for Honour/Award
SKF/2	Recommendation for Promotion
SKF/3	Recommendation for Appointment
SKF/4	Ballot Paper, Election of Board of Directors
SKF/5	Muster Application Form
SKF/6	Sealed Knot Membership Card
SKF/7	Temporary Membership Form SKF/8 Public Warning Notice, (Battles)
SKF/9	Sealed Knot Forms and Publications
SKF/10	Renewal of Membership Master Sheet, (Regimental)
SKF/11	SKMS Casualty Treatment Record
SKF/12	SKMS Head Injury Instruction
SKF/13	Sealed Knot Invoice
SKF/14	Application for Full Membership
SKF/15	Application for Regimental Transfer
SKF/16	Reply to membership enquiry
SKF/17	Application for Membership of The Sealed Knot
SKF/18	Day Visitors Pass
SKF/19	Muster Strength Return
SKF/25	Renewal of Membership, (Individual)
SKF/26	Verification of Membership Slip, (Campsite)
SKF/27	Sponsored Activities, (Application)
SKF/28	Sealed Knot Directory
SKF/29	Sponsored Activities, (Donation Record)
SKF/30	Annual Return of Headquarters Property
SKM/1	Muster Expenditure Budget
SKM/2	Muster Expenses Claim Form
SKM/3	Muster Income and Expenditure Statement
SKM/4	Display/Fete Fee Claim Form
SKM/5	Powder Order Form
SKGE/1	Expenses Claim, (General)

Section I Honours and Awards

CAPTAIN GENERAL'S COMMENDATION

Awarded in recognition of long and exemplary service as a senior officer of the Society.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SEALED KNOT

Awarded in recognition of long and exemplary service as a senior officer of the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE SEALED KNOT

Awarded to distinguished public figures who are supportive of the aims of the Society.

THE HONORARY OFFICE OF KNIGHT MARSHAL OF THE SEALED KNOT

Awarded for distinguished services to the Society over a considerable period of time.

THE FORLORNE HOPE

Awarded by the Board of Directors for distinguished contributions to the work of the Society.

THE LORD GENERAL'S COMMENDATION

Mention of praiseworthy conduct in Orders of the Day.

THE KING'S MEDAL (Gold, Silver, Bronze) – Royalist Army

Awarded by the Lord General of the Royalist Army for services to that Army and/or the Sealed Knot as a whole

THE FAIRFAX MEDAL (Gold, Silver, Bronze) – Army of Parliament

THE ESSEX MEDAL (Gold, Silver, Bronze) – Army of Parliament

THE COMMONWEALTH MEDAL – Army of Parliament

THE ARMY CROSS – Army of Parliament

(Full descriptions of Medals of Parliament, status and criteria are contained in Army Standing orders.)

Recommendations are made through the usual Army channels of communication.

