

Sample Questions for New Heavy Authorizations

These are suggestions for questions to be asked to fighters who are being authorized. As a Senior Marshal conducting an authorization, you must determine if the new fighter is aware of the rules and conventions of combat in the West for both Tournament and War. Remind them that these rules and conventions may not be the same in other kingdoms. Feel free to add other questions as you wish.

1. What are the minimum requirements for armor?
2. What is every fighter assumed to be wearing unless stated otherwise? Is this the same in Wars?
3. What are legal targets? What are illegal targets?
4. Demonstrate how you respond to a good leg blow- to a hip blow- to an arm blow
5. Where is the delineation between a hip shot and a leg shot?
6. If you loose your arm and then are struck in the “lost” arm, what happens?
7. If you are struck a good leg blow and then a head blow, what happens?
8. If you do not have the ability to use your off hand after loosing your weapon arm, what happens?
9. What is the marshal’s job?
10. What are the tournament weapons?
11. What are mass weapons and how do they differ from non-mass weapons?
12. Describe the different sizes and “give” of thrusting tips- Low profile, regular sword, rattan pike, fiberglass pike
13. What is meant by “progressive give”?
14. What is target substitution?
15. What is anvilling?
16. What is corkscrewing?
17. What is the rule regarding shield to body contact?
18. What is meant by “crossing the plane of the knees”? What is the custom regarding this?
19. Demonstrate hitting “flat”? How do you determine if a blow is “flat”? Is that blow “good”?
20. What are the rules of engagement when you are in a line? Passing through a line?
21. How do you kill a fighter from behind with a sword? With a pole weapon?
22. How do you kill a light fighter?
23. Demonstrate 15 feet or 5 yards?
24. Demonstrate “Positive force”.
25. Explain the grievance procedure and when you would use it.
26. Who determines if your opponent is dead? In tournament? In war? In a Pas d’Arms?

If you find yourself unable to answer these questions and you are an authorized fighter- go to www.westkingdom.org and look under the Marshal sigil for the Marshal’s Handbook and the Combat Standards Manual to refresh your memory.