

East Kingdom Youth Combat

Division IV – Youth Armored Combat (Youth Rattan)

Division IV – Youth Armored Combat (Youth Rattan) is open to youth from 16 – 17 years of age.

Armor Standards

1. Armor standards for those individuals participating in Division IV – Youth Armored (Heavy-List/Rattan) Combat activities of the East Kingdom Youth Combat Program shall be as per the Society for Creative Anachronism's minimum armor standards for heavy list combat found in the most current version (2 November 2008) of the SCA Marshal's Handbook. The following additional requirements will also apply to Div. IV armor standards.
2. The points of the shoulders shall be protected with the minimum of a piece of armor made from rigid* materials.
3. The forearms shall be protected with the minimum of padded vambraces made from rigid* materials and wrapping around the arm to the inner portion of the lower arm. Solid or splinted style vambraces are both acceptable. This protection will not be required on an arm that is protected by a shield.
4. The neck shall be protected by a gorget or aventail as noted in the SCA Marshal's Handbook.
5. Rigid & padded elbow protection or its equivalent will be worn on the shield arm.
6. The sternum shall be protected with a minimum of a placard of rigid* material or its equivalent. This sternum protection shall be a minimum of 6" in diameter. However, as determined by a Youth Combat Marshal, variations to this size requirement may be necessary for individuals of above or below average stature.

NOTE: All individuals are reminded that these armor standards are in addition to the Society for Creative Anachronism's minimum armor standards for heavy- list combat found in the most current version(2 November 2008) of the SCA Marshal's Handbook.

* rigid materials shall be as defined in the guidelines found in the SCA Marshal's Handbook (March 21, 2007).

Weapon Standards

1. NO METAL, PLASTIC, OR PVC MAY BE USED IN THE STRIKING SURFACE OR SURFACES OF ANY WEAPON.
2. Weapons used single-handed shall have a wrist strap (or equivalent restraint), which will keep the weapon from leaving the immediate area of the user.
3. Flails and great mauls (mass weapons longer than 6 feet) are expressly prohibited.
4. Swords:

- a. Swords may be constructed of rattan or siloflex and shall be not less than 1¼ inch (33 mm) in total diameter (including tape) along its entire length.
- b. Rattan shall not be treated in any way that will substantially reduce its flexibility i.e. treated with wax, resin, fiberglass, etc.
- c. The edges and tip of the blade shall be rounded and the blade itself shall be no less than 1 ¼ inches (33 mm) in cross section.
- d. The full length of the blade, including the tip, shall be wrapped with tape in a manner, which allows no rattan splinters to protrude.
- e. Low Profile Thrusting Tips are the same diameter as the sword they are mounted on. They must be constructed of at least 1-1/4 inch (33mm) of closed-cell foam (although at least 1½ inches (38mm) are recommended). The thrusting tip will be securely attached with at least ½ inch (12.5mm) of progressive give across the face of the thrusting tip without allowing contact with the rigid tip of the weapon. (Note: pressing with the thumb into the center of the thrusting tip is not an adequate test. The give must be across the entire face of the tip.) This type of thrusting tip may be only used for single-handed weapons and it must be marked with contrasting tape. (e.g., red tape with a silver sword and yellow for a black sword)
- f. When other thrusting tips are used, they shall be no less than 2 inches (51 mm) in diameter or cross-section and shall provide progressively resistant “give” under pressure without allowing contact with the rigid tip of the weapon. It shall not be possible to force the thrusting tip more than ½ inch (12.5 mm) into a legal face guard.
- g. Swords shall have a hand guard such as a basket hilt, quillons, or equivalent. The hand guards shall have no sharp edges and anything, which protrudes more than ½ inch (12.5mm), must be greater than 1-1/4 inches (30mm) in diameter. It shall not be possible to force the guard more than ½ inch (12.5 mm) into a legal face guard.
- h. Edged weapons will have all cutting edges marked with contrasting tape.

5. Siloflex

- a. Swords may be made using tubular materials meeting ASTM standard D-2239 or the international equivalent, having at least a 1¼ inch (33 mm) diameter on the outside and at least 1/8 inch (3mm) walls.
- b. This sword shall have an inner core of rattan that fills the interior of the tubular material entirely.
- c. Siloflex may only be used for single-handed weapons. Periodic inspection shall be made to determine the condition of the inner core.
- d. The edge of the tip shall be slightly beveled or rounded to help protect opponents.

6. Mass Weapons (single-handed):

- a. Hafts shall be of rattan of no less than 1¼ inches (33 mm) in diameter.

- b. The haft may not be treated in any way that significantly reduces its flexibility.
- c. The head shall be firmly and securely attached to the haft. The head shall allow at least a ½ inch (12.5mm) of progressive give between the striking surface and the weapon haft.
- d. The striking surface of all mass weapons shall have no sharp edges or square corners.
- e. If grips or guards are used, they shall have no sharp edges or protruding unpadded points with cross-sections of less than 1¼ inch (33 mm) in diameter. Guards and pommels shall be firmly and securely affixed to the haft.
- f. When thrusting tips are used, they shall be at least the same diameter as the shaft of the weapon they are mounted on and have at least ¾ inch (19.1 mm) of resilient material in front of the rigid tip of the weapon providing at least ⅜ inch (9.53 mm) of progressively resistant give across the face of the thrusting tip. (Note: Pressing with the thumb into the center of the thrusting tip is not an adequate test. The give must be across the entire face of the tip.).
- g. Maximum total weight of weapon shall not exceed 5 pounds (2.3kg). Total mass weapon length shall not exceed 48 inches (122cm).

7. Polearms:

- a. Shafts shall be of rattan and no less than 1¼ inches (33 mm) in diameter.
- b. Pole weapons shall not be excessively flexible or whippy.
- c. Unpadded glaives shall consist only of the rattan haft, with the weapon head clearly marked and the striking surface marked with contrasting tape. Any material attached to the striking surface is considered a head. Heads and thrusting tips must conform to the standards for pole weapon construction, as listed below.
- d. The head shall not be constructed of solely rigid materials. The head shall be firmly and securely attached to the haft. The head shall allow at least ½ inch (12.5mm) of progressive give between the striking surface and the weapon haft.
- e. No pole arm may have a cutting head and/or smashing head at both ends.
- f. When thrusting tips are used, they shall be at least the same diameter as the shaft of the weapon they are mounted on and have 1.5 inches (38.1 mm) of resilient material in front of the rigid tip of the weapon, thereby providing progressively resistant give.
- g. Weight of the total weapon shall not exceed 6 pounds (2.73kg).
- h. Total polearm length shall not exceed 6 feet (228.6cm).

8. Greatswords:

- a. Greatswords shall be constructed of rattan of not less than 1¼ inch (33 mm) in total diameter (including tape) along its entire length.

- b. Rattan shall not be treated in any way that will substantially reduce its flexibility, i.e. treated with wax, resin, fiberglass, etc.
- c. The edges and tip of the blade shall be rounded and the blade itself shall be no less than 1 ¼ inches (33 mm) in cross section.
- d. The full length of the blade, including the tip, shall be wrapped with tape in a manner that allows no rattan splinters to protrude.
- e. Quillions or crossguards shall have no sharp edges or protruding unpadded points with cross-sections of less than 1¼ inch (33 mm) in diameter. Guards and pommels shall be firmly and securely affixed to the haft.
- f. When thrusting tips are used, they shall be at least the same diameter as the shaft of the weapon they are mounted on and have 1.5 inches (38.1 mm) of resilient material in front of the rigid tip of the weapon, thereby providing progressively resistant give.
- g. Weight of the total weapon shall not exceed 6 pounds (2.73kg).
- h. Total weapon length shall not exceed 6 feet (228.6cm).

9. Spears:

- a. Spears shall not have a cutting or smashing head.
- b. Shafts may be of rattan of no less than 1¼ inch (33 mm) in diameter.
- c. Thrusting tips shall be no less than 2 inches (51 mm) in diameter or cross-section, and shall provide progressively resistant give, under pressure without allowing contact with the rigid tip of the weapon. It shall not be possible to force the thrusting tip more than ½ inch (12.5 mm) into a legal face guard.
- d. Total spear length shall not exceed 9 feet (366cm).
- e. Counterweights or any other addition that significantly increases the weight of the spear are not allowed. Lightweight “buttcap-type” handles are allowable at the discretion of the Kingdom Earl Marshal for Youth Combat, provided they do not add significant weight to the spear.
- f. Mechanical devices known as "sliders", used to guide/propel spears, is banned from use in SCA combat.

10. Fiberglass Spears

- a. Poltruded fiberglass piping only may be used. Substitutions are not allowed. The piping must be 1¼ inch (33 mm) in diameter and have a sidewall of not less than 1/8-inch (3.2 mm) thickness. Hence it shall have an interior diameter of 1 inch (25.4mm).
- b. The end of the shaft which will have the thrusting tip attached must be covered with a schedule-40 PVC cap with an interior diameter the same as the outside diameter of the shaft (1¼ inch, or 33 mm). The thrusting tip will then be attached over this cap, and shall meet the requirements for fiberglass spear thrusting tip.
- c. All fiberglass spears must have a thrusting tip with a minimum of 3 inches (75 mm) diameter or cross-section. Additionally, these thrusting tips must be constructed so that there is a minimum of 3 inches (75 mm) of resilient

material in front of the PVC endcap and shall provide progressively resistant “give” under pressure without allowing contact with the PVC endcap. It shall not be possible to force the thrusting tip more than ½ inch (12.5 mm) into a legal face guard.

- d. Shafts may be “spliced” using a solid fiberglass rod of the same or equivalent material, which has an outside diameter of 1 inch (25.4mm) and is between 8 inches and 12 inches in length (20.3 cm to 30.4 cm). Only two splices will be allowed per spear shaft. Each end to be spliced shall be cut square and clean of cracks or frayed fibers. The rod shall extend at least 4 inches (10 cm) into each spliced end. One or both of these two methods shall secure the splice: i. Epoxying both ends of the fiberglass rod before insertion. ii. Epoxying one end of the fiberglass rod before insertion, and thoroughly taping the splice over with fiber tape.
- e. The butt end of the shaft shall be smooth and free of cracks or frayed fibers. The butt shall be taped over or otherwise sealed. It is recommended, but not required, that the entire length of the shaft be taped, because prolonged exposure to sunlight will shorten the life span of the shaft. If a weapon is completely taped, a marshal may require one section be untaped enough to determine that Poltruded Fiberglass has been used in the construction of the shaft.
- f. Total spear length shall not exceed 9 feet (366cm).
- g. Mechanical devices known as "sliders", used to guide/propel spears, is banned from use in SCA combat.

Combat Conventions

- 1. Youth Armored Combat fighters must mark their helmet with a large ‘Y’ in a contrasting or bright color. Tape is appropriate.
- 2. The legal target areas are defined as the whole torso, head and limbs, with the exception of the lower legs beginning one inch above the top of the kneecap, and the hand from one inch above the wrist. Blows landing on illegal targets need not be counted, and if thrown intentionally are considered dangerous and a censurable act. Blows to the groin are to be acknowledged, however, such blows are strongly discouraged, and throwing them frequently is grounds for censure. Pickaxe and baseball swings with a polearm are forbidden.
- 3. All weapons to be used in combat are to be declared to the opponent and the marshals before the fight.
- 4. A “Hold” may be called only by the fighters and marshals on the field, or by the Sovereign or his representative. Others may call a hold only in the case of immediate safety hazards. Upon the calling of a hold, combat shall cease, and will not be resumed until the reason for the hold has been corrected and the marshals have given their permission. Anyone beginning a blow after a "hold" is called is subject to censure.

5. Judging the effects of blows is left to the honor of the combatants, unless they relinquish this responsibility, with the exception of clear violations of the Rules of the Lists or the Conventions of Combat.
6. A blow only partially deflected by a shield or defensive weapon will be counted as being unobstructed. Blows striking the shield or defensive weapon and then the combatant need not necessarily be counted unless they are of impressive force, or the type of weapon permits a kill while part of the blow is obstructed. For example, an axe or mace blow may kill even though the haft stuck the shield or defensive weapon.
7. A blow that includes the dropping or breaking of a weapon need not be counted, unless a sound weapon was clearly broken upon the opponent.
8. A helpless opponent shall not be struck, and a "Hold" must be called. An opponent is helpless if he has slipped or is falling, or has struck the ground, or if he has dropped or broken his weapon. Blows begun before the cause of the hold shall be counted. If a combatant either drops his weapon, or slips and falls without being pushed, three times, the combatant will be warned that on the next occurrence he will be considered to be held at sword's point and be forced to yield.
9. If during combat a fighter loses his helm or the visor opens up, or if the protective value of the helm is in any way impaired, the fighter is dead and shall leave the field immediately.
10. Blows landed simultaneously count to both opponents. A kill that follows a wounding blow is a kill (i.e., a wounded opponent is not helpless). A wounding blow thrown simultaneously by a combatant receiving a wounding blow wounds his opponent. A killing blow started before the combatant receives a killing blow counts. Double kills may be re-fought except in melees or wars, where both are deemed dead.
11. If, during the course of a fight, a sword is used for three static blocks (i.e. braced against the shield or helm), the fighter will be warned by the marshal that at the next occurrence the sword will be considered broken, and the blow good.
12. Face Thrusts are legal in Youth Armored Combat. A 'Face Thrust' is defined as a thrust which lands above the collarbones, below the mid-brow, and between the sideburns. Calibration is touch to the face.
13. A fighter who has been wounded once loses control of the portion of the limb below the wound. If the arm is struck again below the wound so as to block a further disabling or killing blow, the blow is counted as if the arm was not there. In no way may the wounded limb be used to grasp, or propel the fighter: he is to act as if motor control were absent.
14. A mace, warhammer, polearm, or greatsword blow to the hip kills, as does an ax blow to the inner thigh. Any other weapon blow to the hip disables the fighter, so that he may not rise up on his knees. A blow to the shoulder joint or the inside of the shoulder joint with a weapon listed above kills. A blow on the outside of the shoulder joint disables the arm.
15. No mention is to be made of magic, religion, superstition, or supernatural powers in connection with combat. Many fighters take

such matter seriously, giving an unfair advantage to an opponent who violates this convention by claiming that such powers were involved with his prowess or victories. Needless to say, no honorable fighter would seek such assistance to unfairly insure victory on the field.

Transition to Adult Armored (Heavy List) Combat

Exceptionally proficient and mature youth fighters may apply to authorize into adult Armored Combat (Heavy List) at 17 years old. The “YOUTH-TO-ADULT HEAVY LIST WAIVER RUBRIC” (appendix A) explains the requirements for application to ‘move up to heavy’ early. It is a process.

1. The youth fighter and parent/guardian apply to the Earl Marshal of Youth Combat (EMYC)
2. The EMYC evaluates the youth fighter according to the “YOUTH-TO-ADULT HEAVY LIST WAIVER RUBRIC” (appendix A).
3. After a successful evaluation (if the fighter meets the rubric requirements), the EMYC reports support of the exceptional youth fighter to the youth’s corresponding Regional Armored Combat Marshal (RM).
4. The RM will arrange an evaluation and authorization. If the youth passes his/her authorization, the RM may grant an adult authorization to participate in armored combat activities. This is a standard, adult, armored combat/heavy list authorization...just like any other adult fighter.
5. Exceptional youth fighters who are issued an authorization to participate in adult Armored Combat (heavy list) must mark their helmets with four yellow diamonds. The authorization card must say ‘MINOR’ across the top of the card.
6. Minors who hold adult authorizations may practice and participate in armored combat activities as would any other authorized adult fighter, but must conform to the helmet marking (diamonds) and youth waiver requirements of the Kingdom. The adult-authorized minor must inform the Marshal in Charge of an event / practice that, though they hold an authorization card, they are a minor and inform that MiC that they have marked their helmet.



YOUTH-TO-ADULT HEAVY LIST WAIVER RUBRIC

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		<i>Physical Ability</i>	<i>Training</i>	<i>Sportsmanship</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Commitment</i>	<i>Overall Effectiveness</i>
3 ✓+	EXEMPLARY	<p>Youth is extremely physically fit and of appropriate physical condition for heavy list fighting as evidenced by muscle to weight ratio, ease of movement in list legal equipment, stamina displayed during repeated or extended combat.</p> <p>Youth displays no evidence of developmental delay that would place them at risk in the heavy list environment.</p> <p>Youth's stature, coordination and constitution do not cause any concern for participation in heavy list.</p> <p>Youth can articulate a reasonable plan to address the need for further physical, neurological and awareness conditioning in their development in heavy list fighting.</p>	<p>Youth shows an extremely high level of training in chosen weapons form as evidenced by integration of movement, range, variation and precision in both offensive and defensive skills.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates appropriate and effective use of chosen weapons form through changes of tactics, targeting and range when presented with differing styles of the chosen weapons form and levels of aggression.</p> <p>Youth skillfully and safely uses chosen weapons form in qualifying with the KEM or his representative.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates clear understanding of Heavy List conventions and requirements as evidenced by discussion and integration of them into the youths conduct on the field.</p>	<p>Youth has demonstrated through discussion and deed an understanding of the spirit of chivalry in the SCA as evidenced by actions upon the field regarding safety, calibration, competitiveness and mentoring; along with actions taken off the field related to camaraderie, teaching and sharing with mentors and peers.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates through discussion and action a sincere respect and appreciation for marshals, for training, the rules of the lists and for the customs of the East Kingdom and the SCA.</p> <p>Youth can articulate a sincere and earnest desire to advance to heavy list combat.</p> <p>Youth through actions on the field and at practice demonstrates the likelihood of smoothly transitioning to heavy list combat.</p>	<p>Parent/s take an active role and provide consistent support for teens growth within the SCA combat community as evidenced by attendance, vocal support and assistance mentoring of their youth and others.</p> <p>Parent/s voice enthusiastic support for their child's advancement into the adult heavy list environment.</p> <p>Parentis an authorized fighter and agrees to be "on battlefield" and "in reasonable proximity" to youth at all times they are competing in adult heavy list.</p> <p>Parent is fully aware and can voice understanding of all requirements of this Waiver.</p> <p>Youth has the unquestionable support of 2 youth marshals, 1 heavy list marshal, 1 knight marshal and the Earl marshal of the East Kingdom.</p>	<p>Youth has taken time to read all the rules of the list and can voice a respectable knowledge of them for a beginning heavy list fighter.</p> <p>Where available, the youth has attended a minimum of 2 years of near weekly youth combat practice and has authorized in youth combat in their chosen weapons form.</p> <p>Where available, the youth has competed in youth rattan for a minimum of 6 months of near weekly practice.</p>	Youth regularly exceeds all expectations and requirements.
2 ✓	PROFICIENT	<p>Youth is of appropriate physical condition for heavy list fighting as evidenced by muscle to weight ratio, ease of movement in list legal equipment, stamina displayed during repeated or extended combat.</p> <p>Youth displays only minor evidence of developmental delay which would not place them at risk in the heavy list environment.</p> <p>Youth's stature, coordination and constitution cause minimal concern for participation in heavy list.</p> <p>Youth can articulate ideas which address the need for further physical, neurological and awareness conditioning in their development in heavy list fighting or can identify an individual who will assist them in this area.</p>	<p>Youth shows a high level of training in chosen weapons form as evidenced by use of movement, range, occasional variation and reasonable precision in both offensive and defensive skills.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates appropriate and safe use of chosen weapons form through changes of tactics or targeting or range when presented with differing styles of the chosen weapons form and levels of aggression.</p> <p>Youth safely uses chosen weapons form in qualifying with the KEM or his representative.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates a reasonable understanding of Heavy List conventions and requirements as evidenced by discussion and/or integration of them into their conduct on the field.</p>	<p>Youth has demonstrated through discussion or deed the concept of chivalry in the SCA as evidenced by actions upon the field regarding safety, calibration, competitiveness and mentoring or with actions taken off the field related to camaraderie, teaching and sharing with mentors and peers.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates through discussion or action respect and appreciation for marshals, for training, the rules of the lists and for the customs of the East Kingdom and the SCA.</p> <p>Youth can articulate a reasonable desire to advance to heavy list combat.</p> <p>Youth through actions on the field or at practice demonstrates the likelihood of safely transition to heavy list combat.</p>	<p>Parent/s plays a role and provides support for teen's growth within the SCA combat community as evidenced by attendance, vocal support and assistance of their youth.</p> <p>Parent/s voice support for their child's advancement into the adult heavy list environment.</p> <p>Parent is an authorized fighter and agrees to be "on battlefield" and "in reasonable proximity" to youth at all times they are competing in adult heavy list.</p> <p>Parent is fully aware and can voice understanding of all requirements of this Waiver.</p> <p>Youth has the support of 2 youth marshals, 1 heavy list marshal, 1 knight marshal and the Earl marshal of the East Kingdom</p>	<p>Youth has taken time to read all the rules of the list and can voice a capable knowledge of them for a beginning heavy list fighter.</p> <p>Where available, the youth has attended a minimum of 2 years of at least monthly youth combat practice and has authorized in youth combat in their chosen weapons form.</p> <p>Where available, the youth has competed in youth rattan for a minimum of 6 months of at least monthly practice.</p>	Youth meets all expectations and requirements.

1 x	INSUFFICIENT	<p>Youth lacks appropriate physical conditioning for heavy list fighting as evidenced by muscle to weight ratio, ease of movement in list legal equipment, stamina displayed during repeated or extended combat.</p> <p>Youth displays evidence of developmental delay that would place them at risk in the heavy list environment.</p> <p>Youth's stature, coordination and constitution cause concern for participation in heavy list.</p> <p>Youth can not articulate appropriately the need for further physical, neurological and awareness conditioning in their development in heavy list fighting, nor identify a resource person to help them.</p>	<p>Youth does not show a reasonable level of training in chosen weapons form as evidenced by use of movement, range, variation or reasonable precision in both offensive and defensive skills.</p> <p>Youth fails to demonstrate safe use of chosen weapons form when presented with differing styles of the chosen weapons form and levels of aggression.</p> <p>Youth does not safely use chosen weapons form in qualifying with the KEM or his representative.</p> <p>Youth demonstrates a poor understanding of Heavy List conventions and requirements as evidenced by either discussion or integration of them into their conduct on the field.</p>	<p>Youth fails to demonstrate through discussion or deed the concept of chivalry in the SCA as evidenced by actions upon the field regarding safety, calibration, competitiveness and mentoring or with actions taken off the field related to camaraderie, teaching and sharing with mentors and peers.</p> <p>Youth fails to demonstrate through discussion or action respect and appreciation for marshals, for training, the rules of the lists and for the customs of the East Kingdom and the SCA.</p> <p>Youth can not articulate a reasonable desire to advance to heavy list combat.</p> <p>Youth through actions on the field or at practice demonstrates the likelihood they will not safely transition to heavy list combat.</p>	<p>Parent/s does not take an active role or provide support for teen's growth within the SCA combat community as evidenced by lack of attendance, vocal support or assistance to their youth.</p> <p>Parent/s do not voice support for their child's advancement into the adult heavy list environment.</p> <p>Parent does not agree to be "on battlefield" and "in reasonable proximity" to youth at all times they are competing in adult heavy list.</p> <p>Parent is not fully aware and does not voice understanding of all requirements of this Waiver.</p> <p>Youth has only mild support or support with reservations of 2 youth marshals, 1 heavy list marshal, 1 knight marshal and the Earl marshal of the East Kingdom.</p>	<p>Youth does not appear to have taken time to read all the rules of the list and can not voice a knowledge of them that is expected in a beginning heavy list fighter.</p> <p>Though available, the youth has not attended a minimum of 2 years of near weekly youth combat practice and/or has not authorized in youth combat in their chosen weapons form.</p> <p>Though available, the youth has not competed in youth rattan for a minimum of 6 months of near weekly practice.</p>	<p>Youth meets a less than satisfactory level of expectations and requirements.</p>
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