

Frequently Asked Questions - Authorisation for Equestrian Activities

Always refer to the most current SCA Equestrian Handbook
(http://www.sca.org/officers/equestrian/pdf/equestrian_handbook.pdf)

1. **Do I have to be authorised to ride at an event? Yes** - the only exceptions are:
 - a. an individual in the process of authorising at an event under the supervision of an Equestrian Marshal;
 - b. An individual being led by an authorised equestrian; and
 - c. Demonstrating an activity with the approval of the Kingdom Equestrian Officer (always contact your KEqM in the first instance to discuss any plans).
2. **What types of authorisations are there?**
 - a. General Riding;
 - b. Mounted Games;
 - c. Driving;
 - d. Special Authorisations (e.g. mounted archery, mounted combat, crest combat and foam jousting - these may vary from Kingdom to Kingdom depending on local rules).
3. **Do I need to be authorised to help out as ground crew in Lochac?** Not at this time - contact the Equestrian Marshal in charge at the event and have a chat to see what help you might be able to give. Please don't be offended if the answer is 'thanks but no thanks' - your safety, that of the riders, horses and others is paramount.
4. **Can youths be authorised as equestrians?** Yes, with some limitations. Minimum age is at least five (5) years of age or older - refer to the Equestrian Handbook for all the requirements. Age restrictions by individual site owners must be observed. Youths are prohibited from jousting, crest combat and mounted combat.
5. **Is there a maximum term for authorisations?** Yes - no more than 4 years.
6. **I'm an authorised Equestrian - can I take my horse to events?** Only if the autocrat or event steward wishes to include equestrian activities, the site allows horses and there is a warranted equestrian marshal to serve as the Equestrian Marshal in Charge (EqMIC). *This includes parades and demos where equines and riders are representing the SCA.* Make sure you check all of these things prior to taking your horse to an event - always check with the Event Steward or the Equestrian Marshal in charge for details.
7. **So how do I authorise for Equestrian Activities in Lochac?**
 - a. First, read and make sure you understand the SCA Equestrian Handbook (link at the top of this page). You need to demonstrate your familiarity with the handbook ;and
 - b. Any Lochac specific requirements (check the Lochac Equestrian web page or contact an Authorising Marshal or the Lochac Equestrian Marshal);

- c. Have a suitable mount and be able to demonstrate the skills required for the type of authorisation;
- d. You must be able to demonstrate an awareness of the risks inherent to equestrian activities, including recognition of how your current skill level relates to the equine you intend to ride;
- e. Check the summary sheets for each authorisation type (on the Lochac web page) to help you prepare; then
- f. Check if you can authorise at an Equestrian event near you or contact the Lochac Equestrian Marshal to organise a video authorisation.