

Giovanna's 



MOL Training

Manual 

*Revision: 3/2009 by Lady Giovanna Antonia da Napoli, Barony of EndlessHills, Kingdom of Aethelmearc.
A.S. XLIII*
*Original: 11/2008 by Lady Giovanna Antonia da Napoli, Barony of EndlessHills, Kingdom of Aethelmearc.
A.S. XLIII*

WELCOME!

My name is Lady Giovanna Antonia da Napoli. I am a Warranted MOL, for the Kingdom of Aethelmearc and the Barony of Endless Hills.

So you want to become an MOL and you don't know where to start. This manual is designed to get you prepared to run a list. MOL activities may also occur before, during, and after combat and tourney related activities.

The first step in training to be an MOL is to contact your current MOL, for your specific area. If you do not have a local MOL, then I recommend contacting your Regional MOL, to get a listing of MOL's in your area.

After you decide on becoming an MOL, you will need several items, in order to perform your new job properly.

Here is a list of books and forms you will want to become familiar with:

1. MOL Handbook. Required
2. Combat Sign in Sheets. Required
3. Release Waivers. Required aka roster waivers.
4. Johan's Book of Lists. Highly recommended, but not required.
5. Tournament Reports. Required
6. Combat Reports. Required.
7. Authorization Forms.
 - a. Adult HW and Fence – Required.
 - b. Youth HW and Fence – Optional; carry if you MOL youth activities.
 - c. Adult Equestrian – Optional; carry if you MOL equestrian activities.
 - d. Youth Equestrian – Optional; carry if you MOL equestrian activities.
8. MOL and Marshal warrant forms – Optional; can carry a few of each just in case.
9. Youth tourney sign in sheets – Option; carry if you MOL youth activities.
10. Youth individual waivers – Optional; carry if you MOL youth activities.

Depending upon your level of interest, you may wish to read combat handbooks for the various areas (fencing, heavy weapons, equestrian, youth, etc.) but it is not required.

Handbooks for marshals and other group officers are for those group officers. The MOL doesn't need to know their jobs too. I personally carry a copy of marshals and other group officer's handbooks, just in case someone has a question about that office, I can refer them to that office's handbook.

The following page gives a description of what each book or form will be used for and how they affect your MOL duties.

1. **MOL Handbook.** This has a vast compiling of Kingdom Policies for the MOL office. This includes steps to take before, during, and after tourneys or combats at events. It is also a list of the most common tourneys you will need to know, and copies of all of the forms you will need to have with you.
2. **Combat Sign in Sheets.** It is required at all events for any and all combatants to sign in. This lets you and the marshal in charge know how many are participating. The amount of fighters participating may adjust the tourney or combat style.
3. **Release Waivers.** You MUST have these at any and all events, for those who cannot show proof of a waiver on file. They are also needed at practices. If a person does not have a CURRENT Authorization card or a Blue SCA Membership Card, they MUST sign the waiver. If they refuse, then turn the issue over to the marshal in charge.
4. **Johan's Book of Lists.** This book gives you an outline, with pictures, of all of the most common tourneys and how to run them.
5. **Tournament Report.** The report that must be filed when a tournament is fought and a single winner is named.
6. **Combat report.** The report that must be filed when no obvious winner is identified, e.g. melees, bridge battles, etc.
7. **Authorization forms.**
8. **Youth tourney forms.**
9. **Youth individual waivers.**

The following list contains items you may need to properly perform your MOL duties. I have put them into a list form so you will be able to refer back easily when gathering your items.

1. Table.
2. Chair.
3. Table Cloth.
4. Blank Paper.
5. Pens.
6. Pencils.
7. Highlighters.
8. 2.5 x 2.5 blank pieces of paper.
9. Small container for the blank pieces of paper.
10. Clipboard.
11. Paperclips.
12. School Size Folders.
13. Staple Gun and Staples.
14. Scissors.
15. Duck Tape.

16. Masking Tape.
17. Whiteout.
18. Hand Sanitizer.
19. Baby Wipes.
20. Drink.
21. Box Cutter.
22. Small Trash Can &/or Trash Bags.

Now that you have gathered the necessary items, I will give you a brief description of what each item will be used for. I know it seems like a lot, but I can assure you that these items do come in handy. You never know what items you will be asked for.

School Type Folders. These are great to have so you can keep organized. I have a folder for just about everything. Handbooks that don't contain a lot of papers, combat graphs, waivers, and all of the report forms you will need. I even have one for the Aestel for 2008. If someone missed an issue or thinks they may have seen something in an Aestel, you can easily hand them your Aestel Folder, and they can check it out. I always make sure I have an extra seat, near me, so that my Aestel Folder stays by me, when someone is looking at it.

Paper, Pens, and Everything in between. I have so many of these items with me, at all times. I have a special SketchBook for drawing out any type of tourney that may need to be drawn out. I also have a small container of 2.5 in x2.5 in pieces of blank paper. There will be times when you need to write the combatant's names down and pair them off.

A Clipboard. This will come in very handy, especially on those windy days, at an event. Have you ever seen papers go flying at an event? It's pretty funny unless it's your papers. So, if you have windy conditions, use a clipboard. The combatant's will not mind if you have to actually sign their names in, for them. I think they quite like it. They only have to give you their cards and you do all the hard work for them.lol.

Tape. This comes in handy, as well. I carry my own table and vinyl table cloth for easy clean up. I use duck tape to keep it in place. Also, I have found it to be a good idea, to make a sign that states "MOL TABLE" and "SIGN IN". This way the combatants know exactly where you are. It's also good to have duck tape, for it is the force of that drives the Heavy Weapons Fighters. They use it and need it for everything. You will become amazed at what they can do with duck tape, so keep some handy.

Other items which may be useful are: paperclips, staples, staple gun, whiteout, highlighters, box cutter, and scissors. I even carry single packets of Gatorade, just in case a person needs a drink that has electrolytes. I have been MOLing at events and have been asked for what seems to be the strangest things. So now when I look at an item I think, "Will there ever come a time when I am asked if I have this item?" If your answer is

“yes” or “maybe”, then it is a good idea to have it. Use common sense because if a person asks you for, well, a frying pan, then they are probably being silly. Tell them, “No M’lord, but will the kitchen sink do?” They will get a chuckle, and now they will always remember you.

Drink. Make sure you have a drink. You will be sitting a long time and you may not have a runner, to get you one.

Hand Sanitizer and Baby Wipes. I have had people ask for both, so I carry them with me.

Shoulder Bag or Storage Container: It seems like a lot to carry, but, with the right size bag or container, it will all be kept in one place. I bought my bag, which is a denim styled, shoulder strapped, brief case type, at a flea market. I picked it up for about \$3.00. It is the best three bucks that I have ever spent. It has a lot of pockets, so I am able to keep it organized and I know where everything is, at a moments notice.

Trash can or bag. We are not litter bugs. Do not be afraid to ask someone to throw away their trash. They will leave trash at your table if you don’t.

These are necessary to help you become a very efficient and effective MOL. There are many other training steps I will go over, in detail, but these are really the beginning essentials to get you started.

STARTING YOUR TRAINING AS AN MOL.

Now, you have all of your supplies and it’s time to begin. Take your time. Do not let the participants try to rush you. Mistakes can cause chaos, so try to be careful.

ALL MOL’s MUST BE WARRANTED, in order to run a list field, at events. So if you are MOLing at an event and you are not Warranted, you MUST have a Warranted Mol, Shadowing you, as per the New Kingdom MOL Policy.

You MUST check every combatant no matter who they are. At any time, Kingdom can check to make sure your information is correct, so check EVERYONE. I have had Knights say, “Add His Majesty to the tourney list.” and my response, “You will need to bring His Majesty’s Information to me, so I can make sure he is current.” Just because he was current at the time he was invested in, does not mean he did not expire since then. Always Check, I can’t stress this enough.

If you do not have an event to start your training, then go to your local practices. You will find that the fighters will be more than happy to help you train. The fighters want you to be efficient, so they will help you in creating “Mock” tourneys and combat

activities. Do not be afraid to ask. Most fighters will help you in drawing out a diagram and how to arrange the names. They will also explain how that specific tourney works.

I have had Knights help me because they wanted to do a tourney style that I had only practiced on paper. They were so patient and kind, and explained how I was to run the activity. When an experienced person sees you need help, they will help.

Have the fighters put on the most common tourney styles for your training, and run it as though it were the real thing. I like to have little prizes for the winners. They love chocolate, coffee and donuts, just to name a few! It's really fun and educational. The fighters are always willing to help you, if you get stuck. MOLing at a practice does not interfere with the fighters because they are still getting in their practice. You are just adding to the realism of an event list field.

Also use an 8 sided, roll playing game dice. Take a combat graph sheet and write down eight names. These are your fighters. Now, using your dice, where the higher numbers rolled are the winning hits, have your "fighters", well, fight. See who the winner is. Play it out completely to see what happens, and how it happened. This is a great way to learn when there are no events or practices that you can get to.

If you do not have a local practice, see about carpooling with someone, to a practice. Even if you can only make one practice a month, it is so worth it.

Ask questions. I am a Warranted MOL, and I still ask questions. You can call or email your Local, Regional, or Kingdom MOL for information. You can also contact a Deputy Mol or MOL-At-Large, to assist you, with your questions or concerns. The only stupid question is one not asked.

THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES CONTAIN ALL SORTS OF USEFUL INFORMATION REGARDING THE SCA:

Aethelmearc Kingdom Website:

www.aethelmearc.org

Aethelmearc Kingdom Minister of The Lists Website:

<http://mol.aethelmearc.net>

Society for Creative Anachronisms, Inc:

[ww.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)

Aethelmearc Kingdom MOL Email:

ae.mol@aethelmearc.org

Aethelmearc MOL distribution list:

mol-list@aethelmearc.net - subscribe via the MOL website.

And if you have any questions for me, I can be emailed at:

beh_mistressofthelist@yahoo.com or greyraven315@yahoo.com

I hope the information I provided was helpful in assisting you on your journey towards becoming an MOL. Good Luck with your new job as an MOL and I look forward in meeting you someday.