

A Spectator's Guide to Atlantian Rapier

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Class purpose

This class serves as a quick overview of Atlantian rapier including its goals, rules, and structure so that you as an observer can better understand what you see on & off the field.

Outline

What is Rapier Combat?
Rules & Conventions
Atlantian officers and awards
Academie d'Espée

Glossary

Light rapier – modern foil or epee blade. These blades are primarily used for youth combat. While legal, they are rarely used by Atlantian adults.

Heavy rapier – A dull, blunt, period sword simulator with an oval or diamond cross section blade and a blade length typically between 30 and 45 inches.

Case of rapier – two swords, sometimes called “Florentine”.

Rapier armor – protective fencing gear including sturdy cloth or leather torso protection, mask and gloves subject to standards specified in the rules. Other than the mask, legal rapier armor will generally look like normal (most often 16th Century) SCA garb.

Prize – a demonstration of prowess as part of a fencer’s advancement to a higher rank. The fencer fights the assembled representatives of their new rank to show their skills.

Academie d'Espée – Atlantia’s rapier guild based on the London Masters of Defense.

Scholar – Initial Academie rank offered to all authorized fencers in Atlantia

Free Scholar – Middle Academie rank offered to advanced fencers and leaders. Requires the sponsorship of three Provosts and the good will of the rest of the Provosts.

Provost – Top Academie rank given to those recognized by the Crown to join the Order of the White Scarf

Don/Doña – Title used in other Kingdoms for White Scarves.

Cadet – Student of a Don. Commonly indicated with a red scarf. Not common in Atlantia.

Bibliography

Arte of Defence: An Introduction to the Use of Rapier, William Wilson, ISBN 1891448188. This is an excellent introduction to a variety of period fencing masters and their techniques.

See <http://www.baronllwyd.org/articles/Intro2PeriodRapierMan.pdf> for a longer list.

Websites

Kingdom Rapier Marshal: <http://rapier.atlantia.sca.org/>

Academie: <http://www.mindspring.com/~aedan/>

My site: <http://www.baronllwyd.org/>