

1. **TRM** - Often when we call forth our orders of Peerage or of High Merit, the phrase we use is this – ‘the order is incomplete.’ Today, however, our orders of Peerage themselves are incomplete, and We are minded, therefore, to create a new Peerage. When making a new peer, we consult with the existing peers, for wisdom should never be scorned, but rather sought. Therefore we are minded to consult with representatives of the existing peerage orders concerning the creation of the Order of Defense, a peerage designed to recognize the martial prowess and contributions to the Society for fencing.
2. We call in the four speakers in order of Precedence of the Orders (date of creation of the Peerages) though all will walk in together (cue music). The speakers will split two and two to either side of the thrones (i.e. two stand to one side of the King and two stand to one side of the Queen)
 1. Duke Edward Grey for Chivalry
 2. Master Alexandre d'Avignon for Laurel
 3. Master Thomas de Castellon for Pelican
 4. Countess Marguerite Ingen Lochlainn for Rose
3. We will then declare the Order official,
 1. **TRM** - We have heard your words and find them good. In accordance with the laws not only of the East Kingdom, but of the Society for Creative Anachronism itself, we create the Order of Defense, and acknowledge it to be a rightful peerage order in the Society, its members to be equal in honor, station, and precedence with the bestowed peerages of the Chivalry, Laurel, Pelican and Rose. Please remain and bear witness to the first members of this new Peerage.
 2. **Ernst**: Read the requirements for inclusion and why this is an important occasion
4. The four speakers will step to one side of the court and remain during the peerages. (kneeling)
5. Then all three candidates are called in by order of precedence. Each has a herald to herald them into court
 1. Sir Antonio Patrasso (scroll read by **Thomas**)
 2. Frasier MacLeod (scroll read by **Alys**)
 3. Donovan Shinnock (scroll read by **Rowan**)
6. All three will be up on stage for all elevations. The current candidate being elevated will move to the center then step to the side to make room for the next one. Each candidate has their speakers and regalia. So the order of elevation for each:
 1. Special note for Donovan-Ryan must release him as his protégé before we can proceed
 2. Speakers
 3. Regalia
 4. Swear fealty for those who choose (Donovan will, Antonio is already in fealty as a Knight, Fraiser is already in fealty as a kingdom officer, both should be stated)

5. Queen will then challenge each candidate with a gauntlet to continue to support fencing.

1. **Her Majesty**: We, Etheldreda, Queen, charge and command you, [name], to protect always this our Realm of the East, and to defend, sustain and promote the art of defense, and so charging and commanding, we cast this gauntlet before you and challenge you to take up your duty as a Master of Defense. Let the call to defend the East Kingdom never go unanswered.

7. This ends the elevation ceremony with the scroll reading like it would normally occur as they greet their Order. In this case, we will hold greetings until after Donovan.
8. **Her Majesty- Toast**: Today we take the first step toward the future of our Society where everyone has a path to Peerage for that which they are most passionate about. Please fill your glasses and join me in toasting the Order of Defense. May that passion never wane!
9. Candidates will process out (Cue music, original song written and performed by Martyn de Haliwyell)