Social Media Policy for the Populace Discussion Group on Facebook

Statement of Policy

This policy is to better define the way that Social Media sites with the "Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands" service mark are to be managed.

Reason for this Policy

The reason for this policy is to better define how the Populace Discussion Group on Facebook is to be managed by the Social Media Deputy, Administrators, Moderators, and end users.

Change Log

Date	Version Number	Change Made	By Whom
26 Sep 2017	1	Document Creation	Jennifer Strobel (JJS)
27 Sep 2017	1	Substance and formatting changes	Krista Cogan (KC)
27 Sep 2017	2	Accepted changes made by KC and added commentary for discussion. Also approved some minor format changes that were made by JJS that did not affect substance or content.	JJS
27 Sep 2017	2	Resolved several discussions. Added content. Added comments	KC
28 Sep 2017	3	Resolved discussions, made changes to pronouns for inclusion purposes, and re-wrote discussed sections that required re-writing. Accepted all changes, turned off tracking, and did final formatting.	JJS
29 Sep 2017	3	Punctuation, spelling, and grammar review.	KC
29 Sep 2017	Final	Changes made, final document sent for review.	JJS

Policy Statement

Although this is an unofficial presence of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands (BMDL), it is often the first point of contact for new members and the media when looking for information about our group. Because of this, all behavior and communications are to be professional and respectable. For the sake of clarity, this group will be referred to as the "Populace Discussion Group".

Posts to this group should be limited to SCA-related topics of interest to the populace of the BMDL. These topics may be broadly defined (ex: ride requests, request for donations to charities, or calls for volunteers for demos and events). Non-SCA-related posts may be allowed on an infrequent and exception basis, provided they are of very broad interest and relevance to the people of the BMDL, and follow the rules set forth in Society Social Media Policy (ex: severe local weather or traffic alerts). Posts that do not meet these criterion (ex: posts to sell items, posts of a modern political nature, or posts that are bullying or harassing to another member or members) will be deleted, and if necessary, shared with the Baronial and/or Kingdom Seneschal for further action, depending on the post.

I.   Posting Policies

A.   Any posts of an "official" nature (those being posts from a Baronial Officer, Officer Deputy, or designee) should be specifically identified as such. Signing the post with your name and official title is enough to identify the post as being official. Posts that are the personal opinion or stance of an Officer or Officer Deputy of the BMDL should also be identified by using verbiage such as "I'm not speaking as Webminister, but I think…"

B.   No posts to this group are considered to be sufficient to meet official announcement requirements for events, policy changes, or policy interpretation. A link to an official page or blog post is okay, but posts that only appear in the Populace Discussion Group are not official in any way.

C.   Due to liability concerns, unofficial martial practices may not be posted to this group. Failure to follow this policy will result in having the post deleted and a warning given. After two warnings, the poster may be banned from the Group. Additionally, non-compliant postings will be deleted.

1.   This is only for unofficial practices, not official practices, which may continue to be posted here, as they are sanctioned by the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands and protected under the rules of SCA, Inc.

2.   At-large Marshals interested in running additional official practices should contact the Baronial Knight Marshal and the Baronial Seneschal.

D.   When deciding when a post is appropriate for the Populace Discussion Group consider:

SCA Social Media Policy, section 5.e.i-iv: [everyone taking part in an SCA presence shall:]

i. conduct themselves with courtesy, honesty, and chivalry, as would be done in any personal, face-to-face interactions;

ii. recognize that behavior or communications deemed to be excessively insulting, belittling, exclusionary, or generally unkind may be removed/unposted at the administrator's discretion, and that repeated occurrences may result in removal from the presence by the administrators Further information on enforcement is found below.

iii. acknowledge that any behavior or interaction deemed deceptive, hateful, threatening, solicitous, or illegal by the administrators will be cause for immediate removal (without warning) from the social media. All participants in social media outlets have the responsibility to report such communication/behavior to the administrators. Such behavior/communication found on official SCA social media sites/outlets maybe used as grounds for disciplinary action by representatives of the Society, up to and including revocation and denial of membership;

iv. be responsible in their choice of material to post via SCA social media outlets, and be patient with others who post material on these outlets as well (which is to say that, like any gathering of Society participants, social media will always be prone to conversational diversions, tangents, and random trivial interactions, but one person's "pointless off topic discussion" may, to another person, be "just the research material I was looking for!").

II.   Admin Policies

   A.   Admins/Moderator Assignment

      1.   The Admins for the Populace Discussion group will include:

         a)   *Baron and Baroness*

         b)   *Seneschal*

         c)   *Social Media Deputy*

      2.   The Admins for the Populace Discussion group may also include:

         a)   *Deputy Seneschal*

         b)   *Chatelaine*

      3.   Admins can only be removed or changed for the following reasons

         a)   *A change in office holder.*

         b)   *Failure to follow the Policies for Admins of the Populace Discussion Group, and/or Society Social Media Policy.*

            (1)   Removal due to not following Policy is to be discussed with the other Admins and decided by majority vote.

      4.   Moderators may be added as needed, with the consensus of the Admins.

   B.   Adding Members

      1.   Requests to join the group are moderated to avoid spam accounts joining the group.

         a)   *There will be three questions posed that verify that the requestor is a human, gathers interest information so that they may be directed to the appropriate people, and that they have read and understand the rules of the group.*

            (1)   Question 1: How did you hear about us?

            (2)   Question 2: What kinds of things are you interested in doing in the SCA?

            (3)   Question 3: Have your read and do you understand the group policies for posting? They are located under the "files" tab on the left-hand menu.

   C.   Deletion of a Post

      1.   If a post does not meet community standards or violates the stated rules, whichever Admin first sees the post is to hide it from the page using the Admin tools, and inform the poster that the post is under review.

      2.   The first Admin is to then contact the other Admins and share a screen capture of the post with them.

3.   The decision as to whether or not a post will be deleted from the page will be decided by majority vote and the poster will be informed as to why the post was removed with any recommendations for how to re-state the post to fall within the guidelines.

III.   Other

A.   Situations that fall outside the boundaries of these policies will be discussed among the Admins. If a policy change is needed, that will be decided by majority vote.

B.   Anyone in the Barony may suggest policy changes, however, any policy change will require majority vote by the Admins.