

# Base Data Tables

AEthelmearc Rapier Survey  
March, 2012

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# Survey FAQs

1. **Why do the number of respondents differ from question to question?**
  - a. First, not every respondent was asked every question. Some of the questions were asked as follow-ups based on previous answers. For example, if someone did not fight with the AEthelmearc rapier army at Pennsic 40, they would not be able to answer the question, “With which unit did you fight?”
  - b. Second, no question on this survey required a response. Respondents had the option to skip any question without responding and in many cases they did. Non-response data/percentages have been included for each item, but these numbers are not included in “Total Respondents” cells or as part of the total percentage data.
  
2. **On some of the questions, the percentages don’t add up to 100%. Did you calculate wrong?**
  - a. Some of the questions give the option of choosing more than one response. The percentages shown indicated that X percentage of the people who answered that question selected that particular response.
  - b. Percentages may also occasionally differ from 100% by 1 or two tenths due to rounding.
  
3. **I don’t remember some of these options on the questions. Where did they come from?**
  - a. First, additional categories were added based on “Other (please specify)” open-ended text responses. As these responses were being coded, categories were added as needed. These categories were not options that were considered when the survey was created, but were responses that respondents felt strongly enough about to add as a write-in. These responses are indicated by a \*. Please note that response rates might have been higher for those categories had they been initially offered as an option.
  - b. Second, a variety of open-ended text-based questions were asked as part of this survey. These responses were coded to identify different categories and types of answers given by respondents.
  
4. **Where did the categories for the open-ended comment items come from?**
  - a. First, different themes were identified within the data based on multiple, careful read-throughs of the set of comments for each item. A comprehensive set of categories for each set of comments was then created based on these themes. Two coders worked independently to categorize each individual comment for each item, and statistical tests were conducted to ensure that the coders agreed with one another and that the categorization process was free of coder bias.

# Demographics

## Response Rates

	Kingdom-Wide	1 (WV)	2 (W. PA)	3 (C/NE PA)	4 (W. NY)	5 (C. NY)	OOK	No Regional Response
# Authorized Fencers in Aethelmearc <sup>1</sup>	246	35	56	69	45	35	6	
# of Respondents	125	12	29	26	16	21	1	20
Response Rate	50.8%	34.3%	51.8%	37.7%	35.6%	60.0%	16.7%	16% (of 125)

## Q27. Region

Total Respondents	1 (WV)	2 (W. PA)	3 (C/NE PA)	4 (W. NY)	5 (C. NY)	OOK	No Response
105	12 (11.4%)	29 (27.6%)	26 (24.8%)	16 (15.2%)	21 (20.0%)	1 (1.0)	20 (16% of 125)

## Q30. Gender

Total Respondents	Male	Female	No Response
105	73 (69.5%)	32 (30.5%)	20 (16% of 125)

## Q25. How long have you been playing in the SCA?

Total Respondents	< 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-6 Years	7-9 Years	> 10 Years	No Response
108	2 (1.9%)	16 (14.8%)	18 (16.7%)	11 (10.2%)	61 (56.5%)	17 (13.6% of 125)

<sup>1</sup> Kingdom- and regional-level data obtained from the Office of the MOL, Kingdom of Aethelmearc (December, 2011).

## Demographics, Cont.

**Q26. How long have you been a fencer in the SCA?**

Total Respondents	< 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-6 Years	7-9 Years	> 10 Years	No Response
109	15 (13.8%)	33 (30.3%)	24 (22.0%)	7 (6.4%)	30 (27.5%)	16 (12.8% of 125)

**Q1. Which authorizations do you have? (Select all that apply)**

Total Respondents	None	Single Rapier	Rapier & Dagger	Rapier & Parrying Object	Case of Rapier	Cut & Thrust	Non-Rapier Martial Form
125	3 (2.4%)	116 (92.8%)	103 (82.4%)	95 (76%)	89 (71.2%)	22 (17.6%)	52 (41.6%)

**Q2. Are you a rapier marshal in the Kingdom of Aethelmearc?**

Total Respondents	MIT	Marshal	Not MIT or Marshal	Lapsed Warrant	No Response
122	23 (18.9%)	49 (40.2%)	43 (35.2%)	7 (5.7%)	3 (2.4% of 125)

**Q28. How many practices do you attend during a typical month?**

# of Practices / Month	<1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	No Response	
Total Respondents	102	7 (6.9%)	7 (6.9%)	21 (20.6%)	14 (13.7%)	33 (32.4%)	11 (10.8%)	4 (3.9%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (3.9%)	1 (1.0%)	23 (18.4% of 125)

Mean = 3.36, SD = 1.86

**Q29. How many official SCA events do you attend during a typical month?**

# of Events / Month	<1	1	2	3	4	No Response	
Total Respondents	102	13 (12.7%)	53 (52.0%)	27 (26.5%)	9 (8.8%)	0 (0.0%)	23 (18.4% of 125)

Mean = 1.31, SD = 0.81

## AEthelmearc Rapier Marshallate

**Q3. Do you feel that authorization standards are consistent between marshals from your own region?**

Total Respondents	Yes	No	Unsure	No Response
123	67 (54.5%)	35 (28.5%)	21 (17.1%)	2 (1.6% of 125)

**Q4. Do you feel that authorization standards are consistent between marshals kingdom-wide?**

Total Respondents	Yes	No	Unsure	No Response
124	24 (19.4%)	58 (46.8%)	42 (33.9%)	1 (0.8% of 125)

**Q5. Does the rapier practice you most often attend have enough marshals to meet its needs?**

Total Respondents	More Than Enough	Just Enough	Not Enough	No Response
121	47 (38.8%)	48 (39.7%)	26 (21.5%)	4 (3.2% of 125)

**Q6. How satisfied are you with the current AEthelmearc rapier policies?**

Total Respondents	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied Or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Response
124	54 (43.5%)	43 (34.7%)	14 (11.3%)	9 (7.3%)	4 (3.2%)	1 (0.8% of 125)

## AEthelmearc Rapier Marshallate, Cont.

**Q7. What changes, if any, would you like to see made to the current AEthelmearc rapier policies?** (coded<sup>2</sup>; Respondents could make as many different types of suggestions for changes as they liked)

Armor Standards		Weapon Standards		Combat Conventions	
3 (5.2%)	Relax armoring standards	10 (17.2%)	Relax buckler size specification	3 (5.2%)	Change calibration language to “positive pressure”
		5 (8.6%)	Add options for epee usage		
		4 (6.9%)	Approve of move to heavy default	3 (5.2%)	Increase consistency in interpretations of policy
		3 (5.2%)	Disapprove of move to heavy default		
		4 (6.9%)	Weapon Standards – Other	3 (5.2%)	Combat Conventions - Other

Authorizations / Auth Process		General (Policies)		Miscellaneous / Other	
6 (10.3%)	Increase consistency in authorization process	15 (25.9%)	Desire no changes in current policies	1 (1.7%)	Do not know / no opinion
4 (6.9%)	Change or relax auth standards (other than 2-handed sword)	6 (10.3%)	Approve of/request move towards society standards	5 (8.6%)	Other
3 (5.2%)	Create separate auth for 2-handed sword	1 (1.7%)	Improve access to policy documents		
2 (3.4%)	Find solutions for lack of marshallate presence				
1 (1.7%)	Authorizations - Other				
<b>Total Respondents: 58</b>			<b>No Response: 67 (53.6% of 125)</b>		

<sup>2</sup> Intercoder agreement = 97.3 %,  $K = .89$



## AEthelmarc Rapier Marshallate, Cont.

**Q8. Are there any other comments you would like to make regarding the fencing marshallate or marshallate-related issues in the Kingdom of AEthelmarc?** (coded<sup>3</sup>; Respondents could make as many different types of comments as they liked)

Obtaining & Maintaining Authorizations		Obtaining & Maintaining Marshallate Warrants		Codifying Policies & Procedures	
13(27.1%)	Notes inconsistency in auth policies/procedures	5(10.4%)	Inconsistency in warranting policies/procedures	9(18.8%)	Identifies a need to codify policies/procedures
4(8.3%)	Notes social bias in auth policies/procedures	2 (4.2%)	Too hard to obtain a warrant	5(10.4%)	Suggests a specific method of codifying policies/procedures (varies by respondent)
3(6.3%)	Too easy to obtain authorization	3(6.3%)	Warrants - Other	3(6.3%)	Identifies need for greater access to policy documents
2(4.2%)	Too hard to obtain authorization			3(6.3%)	Identifies need to add specific type of marshal training (type varies)

Marshallate Behavior (Non-auth related)		Pennsic War		General / Misc.	
12(25.0%)	Notes inconsistency in application of policy on the field	4(8.3%)	Notes Pennsic-related melee issues / interkingdom conflict about policy or marshalling	8(16.7%)	No comment / none
4(8.3%)	Notes inadequate or inappropriate marshalling on the field			6 (12.5%)	Other
4(8.3%)	Notes social bias in application of policy on the field				
4(8.3%)	Notes a lack of marshallate presence				
3(6.3%)	Praises marshallate				
<b>Total Respondents: 48</b>			<b>No Response: 77 (61.6%)</b>		

<sup>3</sup> Intercoeder agreement = 95.8%,  $K = .68$

## AEthelmearc Fencing Community

**Q9. When you think about the fencing-related group that you personally identify with most strongly, would you say that you primarily think of yourself as a fencer who is part of...?**

Total Respondents	Small Regional Group (AE)	Kingdom of AEthelmearc	Large Regional Group (AE)	Do Not ID With Any Group	Private Household or Fencing School (AE)	Known World	Group From Another Kingdom	More Than One Group	Other	No Response
116	45 (38.8%)	20 (17.2%)	18 (15.5%)	12 (10.3%)	11 (9.5%)	5 (4.3%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	1 (.8%)	9 (7.2%)

**Q10. Did you fight as part of the AEthelmearc rapier army at Pennsic 2011 (Pennsic 40)?**

Total Respondents	Yes	No	No Response
116	53 (45.7%)	63 (54.3%)	9 (7.2% of 125)

**Q11. If you fought as part of the Pennsic 40 AEthelmearc rapier army, with which unit did you fight? (coded, possible to write-in more than one)**

Total Respondents	Northern Irregulars/Mtn. Confed	Southern Watch	Small Regional	Special Ops Unit	No particular unit	Do Not Know	No Response
50	20 (40.0%)	14 (28.0%)	12 (24.0%)	5 (10.0%)	4 (8.0%)	3 (6.1%)	3 (6% of 53)

**Q12. If you did not fight as part of the Pennsic 40 AEthelmearc rapier army, what was the reason? (Select all that apply)**

Total Respondents	Not At Pennsic 40	Scheduling Problems	Dislike Melee	Did Not Fight At Pennsic 40	Not Authorized	Marshalled Instead	Physical / Medical	Joined OOK Unit	Disliked Command Structure	No Response
63	30 (47.6%)	12 (19.0%)	8 (12.7%)	7 (11.1%)	6 (9.5%)	4 (6.3%)	4 (6.3%)	1 (1.6%)	1 (1.6%)	0 (0.0%)

## AEthelmearc Fencing Community, Cont.

**Q13. How satisfied are you with the AEthelmearc fencing community?**

Total Respondents	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied Or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Response
114	36 (31.6%)	52 (45.6%)	12 (10.5%)	13 (11.4%)	1 (0.8%)	11 (8.8% of 125)

**Q14. What, if any, do you think are the greatest strengths of the AEthelmearc fencing community?** (*coded<sup>4</sup>; Respondents could identify as many different strengths as they liked*)

Interpersonal Social Support	Teaching & Learning	Prowess – Individual	Commitment to Newcomers	Honor/Character /Values	Prowess – Melee	Enthusiasm
40 (50.0%)	33 (41.3%)	19 (23.8%)	13 (16.3%)	12 (15.0%)	12 (15.0%)	11 (13.8%)

Leadership	Diversity	Marshallate	Individual Groups in AE	Events & Practices	Relationships w/ Non-Fencers	# of Fencers
11 (13.8%)	8 (10.0%)	7 (8.8%)	7 (8.8%)	6 (7.5%)	5 (6.3%)	5 (6.3%)

AE Rapier Policies	Communication	Authenticity	Appearance	Patriotism	History/Tradition	Other
4 (5.0%)	4 (5.0%)	3 (3.8%)	3 (3.8%)	3 (3.8%)	2 (2.5%)	3 (3.8%)

<b>Total Respondents: 80</b>	<b>No Response: 45 (36.0% of 125)</b>
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<sup>4</sup> \*Intercoder agreement = 97.3 %,  $K = .89$

## AEthelmearc Fencing Community, Cont.

**Q15. What, if any, do you think are the greatest weaknesses of the AEthelmearc fencing community?** (*coded<sup>5</sup>; Respondents could identify as many different weaknesses as they liked*)

<b>Intergroup Conflict/Divisiveness</b>	<b>Lack of Kingdom Unity</b>	<b>Social Bias / Exclusivity Between Groups</b>	<b>Insularity &amp; Isolationism (Between Groups In-Kgdm)</b>	<b>Melee – Poor Leadership</b>
24 (33.8%)	22 (31.0%)	20 (28.2%)	17 (23.9%)	13 (18.3%)

<b>Melee – Lack of Prowess</b>	<b>Lack of Participation / Apathy / Disinterest</b>	<b>Marshallate / Policy Concerns</b>	<b>Insularity &amp; Isolationism (In-Kingdom vs. OOK)</b>	<b>Recruitment/Retention/Training of New Fencers</b>
13 (18.3%)	13 (18.3%)	11 (15.5%)	10 (14.1%)	10 (14.1%)

<b>Inappropriate Values</b>	<b>Leadership – General (not melee)</b>	<b>Training / Advancement of Post-Newcomers</b>	<b>Access to Resources (not training or participation)</b>	<b>Other</b>
10 (14.1%)	7 (9.9%)	4 (5.6%)	3 (4.2%)	7 (9.9%)

<b>Total Respondents:</b> 71	<b>No Response:</b> 54 (43.2% of 125)
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<sup>5</sup> \*Intercoder agreement = 96.5%,  $K = .77$

## AEthelmearc Fencing Community, Cont.

**Q16. What changes, if any, would you like to see made within the larger AEthelmearc fencing community (non-marshallate related)?** (coded<sup>6</sup>; Respondents could suggest as many different types of changes as they liked)

Inter- & Intragroup Relations		Participation & Role Transitions		Teaching & Training	
16 (33.3%)	Emphasize Kingdom-level unity	5 (10.4%)	Increase/improve participation (general)	5 (10.4%)	Implement formalized training systems
12 (25.0%)	Increase/improve interaction between in-kingdom groups	5 (10.4%)	Increase/improve advanced fencer participation (including OWS)	4 (8.3%)	Have more rapier-centric events
10 (20.8%)	De-emphasize regional divisions	4 (8.3%)	Increase/improve newcomer participation	2 (4.2%)	Emphasize historical accuracy
10 (20.8%)	Address social inequality / bias / perceptions of exclusivity	3 (6.3%)	Improve or increase clarity with regard to post-newcomer advancement		
4 (8.3%)	Increase/improve interaction between AE & OOK groups				
3 (6.3%)	Emphasize tolerance for different viewpoints				
2 (4.2%)	Increase/improve interaction with non-fencing community				

Melee		Honor / Character / Values		General / Misc.	
6 (12.5%)	Address issues w/ melee leadership/command	8 (16.7%)	Change/improve values (particular values vary by respondent)	4 (8.3%)	Marshallate Issues
3 (6.3%)	Improve melee prowess			3 (6.3%)	Other
2 (4.2%)	Increase focus on melee				
<b>Total Respondents: 48</b>			<b>No Response: 77 (61.6% of 125)</b>		

<sup>6</sup> Intercoder agreement = 95.7%,  $K = .74$

## AEthelmarc White Scarves

**Q17. Does at least one White Scarf regularly attend (i.e., at least 50% of the time) the practice you most often attend?**

Total Respondents	Yes	No	No Response
111	68 (61.3%)	43 (38.7%)	14 (11.2% of 125)

**Q18. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, are accessible to me personally”.**

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
111	47 (42.3%)	33 (29.7%)	16 (14.4%)	9 (8.1%)	6 (5.4%)	14 (11.2% of 125)

**Q19. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, are helpful to me personally”.**

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
111	42 (37.8%)	34 (30.6%)	14 (12.6%)	15 (13.5%)	6 (5.4%)	14 (11.2% of 125)

**Q20. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, encourage non-scarved fencers to take leadership roles within the community”.**

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
108	26 (24.1%)	25 (23.1%)	32 (29.6%)	13 (12.0%)	12 (11.1%)	17 (13.6% of 125)

## AEthelmearc White Scarves, Cont.

**Q21.** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, are open to ideas suggested by non-scarved fencers”.

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
109	13 (11.9%)	36 (33.0%)	32 (29.4%)	13 (11.9%)	15 (13.8%)	16 (12.8% of 125)

**Q22.** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, have a good sense of the needs of the AEthelmearc fencing community”.

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
110	18 (16.4%)	34 (30.9%)	34 (30.9%)	18 (16.4%)	6 (5.5%)	15 (12.0% of 125)

**Q23.** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement, “The White Scarves, as an order, provide a good example for the rest of the AEthelmearc fencing community”.

Total Respondents	Very Much Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Very Much Disagree	No Response
111	35 (31.5%)	35 (31.5%)	19 (17.1%)	14 (12.6%)	8 (7.2%)	14 (11.2% of 125)

## AEthelmearc White Scarves, Cont.

**Q24. Are there any comments you would like to make to or about the Order of the White Scarf in the Kingdom of AEthelmearc?** (coded<sup>7</sup>; Respondents could make as many different types of comments as they liked)

<b>Comments to OWS – Positive</b> (21 – 36.2% of respondents)		<b>Comments to OWS – Negative</b> (43 – 74.1% of respondents)	
11 (19.0%)	OWS are inspirational / set a good example / demonstrate good personal character	20 (34.5%)	OWS are physically unavailable (e.g., do not travel, do not attend practices or events)
8 (13.8%)	OWS are good teachers / willing to teach	10 (17.2%)	OWS are socially unavailable (e.g., standoffish, avoid non-scarves at events, do not reach out to others)
6 (10.3%)	Respondent has a positive personal relationship with member(s) of the OWS (e.g., cadet, friend)	9 (15.5%)	OWS are arrogant / look down on others / have too high an opinion of themselves
5 (8.6%)	OWS are open / approachable / easy to talk to	8 (13.8%)	OWS allow personal grudges to negatively affect their behavior
4 (6.9%)	OWS are helpful	6 (10.3%)	OWS are uninspirational / set a poor example / demonstrate bad personal character
3 (5.2%)	OWS travel to practices	2 (3.4%)	Attaining OWS perceived as caused by something other than personal merit (e.g., politics, pity)
		3 (5.2%)	Other

<b>What Should The OWS Be Doing? / Advice to the Order</b>		<b>General / Miscellaneous</b>	
10 (17.2%)	Providing inspiration / positive example for others	12 (20.7%)	Respondent notes that OWS is both positive & negative / some members are positive, some members are negative
9 (15.5%)	Being physically available	4 (6.9%)	Request to codify requirements for attaining OWS
7 (12.1%)	Being receptive to teaching	3 (2.4%)	Request to codify expectations of order membership
6 (10.3%)	Being socially available	3 (2.4%)	Request to provide transparency of order policy / procedures
6 (10.3%)	The accolade of the OWS carries obligations that must be met	6 (10.3%)	Other
3 (5.2%)	Addressing personal conflicts within the order		
2 (3.4%)	Taking (more) cadets		
<b>Total Respondents: 58</b>		<b>No Response: 67 (53.6% of 125)</b>	

<sup>7</sup> Intercoader agreement = 97.0%,  $K = .81$



## Miscellaneous

**Q31. Are there any final comments you would like to make about anything related to Aethelmearc fencing or your participation as an Aethelmearc fencer?** (coded<sup>8</sup>; Respondents could make as many different types of comments as they liked)

Participation As An AE Fencer		Intergroup Relations		Marshallate & Policy		Teaching & Training	
7(18.9%)	Positive experience with people/groups	5(13.5%)	Kingdom unity/factionalism	5(13.5%)	Changes to policy/policy discussions	2(5.4%)	Access to resources
5(13.5%)	Expressed personal enjoyment of fencing	3(8.1%)	Need to move past old conflicts	2(5.4%)	Addressing on-field behavior	1(2.7%)	Consistency in training
		3(8.1%)	Relationships with non-fencing comm.			1(2.7%)	Recruitment/retention
						1(2.7%)	Desire for historical accuracy

Order of the White Scarf		Melee		Comments About Survey		General / Misc.	
2(5.4%)	Access to OWS (including travel)	6 (16.2%)	Pennsic / Interkingdom conflict at Pennsic	4(10.8%)	General comments about survey as a whole	7 (18.9%)	Other / No Response / Unclear Response
2(5.4%)	OWS - Other			3(8.1%)	Comments about individual survey items		
<b>Total Respondents: 37</b>				<b>No Response: 88 (70.4%)</b>			

<sup>8</sup> Intercoader agreement = 95.8%,  $K = .63$

## Acknowledgements & Final Notes

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