



Living History Exhibit Regulations

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Introduction

The responsibilities of the Living History Co-ordinator, as defined by the Code of Law;

“They shall have final responsibility for the image presented by the LHE and for ensuring, as far as is possible, the authentic portrayal of life at public displays involving the LHE. All members of the Society shall fall under their jurisdiction (within the CoL) whilst they are within the bounds of the LHE. They shall work closely with the AO in this regard, and may amend but not lessen the force of the rulings of the AO in these matters.”

Aims and Objectives

The Regia Anglorum Living History Exhibit exists to represent and demonstrate to the public snapshots of daily life, activities and crafts from the society's period of interest.

It educates the public and trains its members. As a result, it will necessarily change and grow, and these regulations will therefore be reviewed annually. The aims and objectives of the society with respect to living history are continuously to improve the quality of the exhibit, and thus enhance the reputation of Regia Anglorum in the field of Historical Re-enactment.

The regulations are written with this in mind.

Regulations

1. Structures
 - a. The LHE consists of a number of authentic tents, work shelters and fire covers. These are used as a 'vehicle' to display daily life, activities and crafts of Regia's period.
 - b. Tents will be of an authentic design for Regia's period (but can be side- opening for the purpose of displaying their contents). New tents should be end opening rather than side opening.
 - c. Tents should be open throughout public hours and must be appropriately dressed. Closed tents should not be on the rope line if at all possible and should be behind open structures.
 - d. Work shelters / fire covers should be of a simple design so as not to detract from the overall site image. It is the contents that should stand out for public scrutiny.
 - e. Structures should be booked in, in advance of the show so that the LHEC can produce a site plan for the show enabling everyone to know where they are pitching.
2. Roping off
 - a. The LHE does not have to be roped off. However, measures have to be taken to ensure that the following are done;
 - i. Enclose all obstacles such as guy ropes & pegs.
 - ii. Place all moveable items of LHE equipment beyond arm's length of the public. This does not preclude items being handed to the public to handle, but they shouldn't be easily grabbable by the public.
 - iii. All sharps must be used behind a rope line.
 - iv. All fires must be behind a rope line.
 - b. Each wic must provide its own ropes and pins/stakes (or other acceptable barrier).
3. Fires
 - a. Many sites are archaeologically sensitive and firepits are not allowed.
 - b. In these cases, fires must be in a container and raised above the ground. Fireboxes and altar fires are both acceptable. They should be at least 6 inches off the ground.
 - c. Fire boxes should be a simple construction. Over-engineered fireboxes of wood or metal are not permitted.
 - d. There must be a fire extinguisher in a red bag clearly visible by every fire. It is also advisable to have a fire blanket, also in a red bag and a bucket of water available.
 - e. Fires must always be attended.
 - f. An unattended fire may be extinguished by the LHEC or deputy.
 - g. Any incident involving a fire must be reported to the LHEC and health and safety officer using the form in Annex 1 within 7 days of the show. The LHEC or deputy must be notified at the time of the incident.

4. Conduct on the LHE

- a. The LHE is open to the public throughout the day.
- b. A live time will be given in the show information. Members are given a warning at least half an hour before we are live and are expected to be ready in time for live.
- c. During this period the LHEC and deputies will inspect to make sure that everything and everybody is authentic and there are no anachronisms.
- d. Open tents are encouraged; the LHEC would rather a tent was closed for half an hour to get changed etc than have it closed all day.
- e. Members of Regia on the LHE should be aware of and be ready to engage with the public at all times. Members should take care not to exclude the public, either physically (e.g. by forming closed circles) or verbally (e.g. by discussing last night's TV amongst themselves). If you don't know a question, ask someone else or say so. Do not sit with your back to the rope line. If you are visiting somebody else's wic and talking to them, try and stand in a way that invites the public not precludes the public.
- f. Although the LHE is open all day, it does not mean that everyone is to be there throughout. Most wics have sufficient people to enable some to have time off during the day.
- g. Only members of Regia in full kit may be within the roped-off areas of the LHE during public hours.
- h. Children on the LHE are the sole responsibility of their parents/guardians.
- i. Foul language is not acceptable.
- j. Smoking is not permitted on the LHE during public hours. All evidence of smoking out of hours must be removed before going live.
- k. No Alcohol is permitted to be consumed anywhere on the show site during public hours.
- l. Any person not complying with these regulations shall be required to leave the LHE.

5. Food on the LHE

- a. Those wics who cook on site must use authentic equipment and should ensure as far as is reasonable that only authentic foods are used (e.g. modern carrots are acceptable, tomatoes are not). There is a list of acceptable foods in the authenticity guide. If you want to use something else, please ask the LHEC.
- b. Any food on site during public hours must appear to be authentic and carried in or eaten from authentic containers.
- c. Members must ensure that the public do not have access to foodstuffs with or without permission, as Regia is neither equipped nor insured for food supply to non-members.

6. Clothing on the LHE

- a. All clothing is to be correct for the dateline of the show, appropriate to the task or activity in hand and may be checked by the AO and deputies. It must be in line with the AO regs.

Living History Exhibit (LHE) Regulations

- b. No mixture of modern and authentic clothing is acceptable whilst on duty.
- c. LHE personnel necessarily come under close public scrutiny. The role chosen to be depicted on the LHE must be consistent and ideally stuck to throughout the day on the LHE.
- d. Any person not complying with these regulations shall be required to leave the LHE.

7. Demonstrations & Displays.

- a. All demonstrations & displays must feature only authentic tools and materials.
- b. Demonstrators must be prepared to talk about their craft/display to the public.
- c. They must know the provenance of the crafts and equipment they demonstrate.
- d. Subject to the permission of the LHEC and the cognizance of the Merchandizing Officer, demonstrators may sell authentic items they have made, but no signs or labels may be on show.
- e. All relevant safety precautions appertaining to their craft/display must be taken.

8. Weapons and Armour

- a. Only full, adult, competent members may act in an interpretive role in respect of weapons handling.
- b. An armoury must be sufficiently well staffed to ensure the safety of the exhibit and the public.
- c. It must be the personal decision of the individual interpreter whether or not to allow a particular member of the public to handle war gear.
- d. Members of the public handling weapons and armour must do so at a designated armoury area. Children should be supervised by a parent or guardian.
- e. Weapons and armour must never be left unattended.
- f. An armoury is a display, not a weapons store. Individuals must store their combat equipment safely, out of reach of the public, and without obstructing the exhibits.
- g. The LHEC will consult whenever necessary with the MAA and MTO with regards to weapons and armour on the LHE.
- h. Fighting is only permitted in designated areas on the LHE and in conjunction with the MTO and MAA.

9. Wic Areas and Leaders

- a. Each wic shall have a Wic Leader who is responsible to the LHEC for all aspects of his/her wic for the duration of the show, including set-up and pack.
- b. The name of the Wic leader shall be notified to the LHEC.
- c. Wics must never be left unattended.
- d. Fires must never be unattended.
- e. Knives, tools etc. must never be left unattended or within reach of the public.
- f. Potentially dangerous activities such as wood-chopping are to take place only in designated areas approved by the LHEC.
- g. Wic areas must be left clean and tidy at the end of the show.
- h. Animals may only be bought onto the LHE subject to the Livestock Regulations.

This will be stated prior to a show in the members information. If you want to bring an animal, please speak to the LHEC in advance of the show.

10. Curfew

- a. Due to the hours kept by the LHE and the early start necessary to ensure a smooth beginning to the day, from midnight to seven am are designated quiet hours. On occasions these hours may change where the event has early opening for example. If different this will be published in advance in the show information.
- b. Blowing of Horns is not permitted after 8pm due to the levels of noise they make unless specifically requested by the client. Notification of this will be in the show information.
- c. Anyone disturbing the peace during these hours may be asked to leave the site.

11. Rewards

- a. The LHEC is currently looking at a way to acknowledge outstanding craftsmanship. The details of this will appear here when finalised.

Appendix

1. Introduction to the Living History Exhibit and Site

The Living History Exhibit exists to represent and demonstrate to the public snapshots of daily life, activities and crafts from Regia's period of interest.

It is open to the public all day and any member of Regia in kit must consider him/herself to be on duty while within its boundaries.

From 30 minutes before opening time until close all aspects of the LHE must be authentic and accurate.

2. Who Can Take Part?

Any competent member of Regia who is willing to abide by the site regulations, meet the authenticity standards necessary for close public scrutiny, and who is willing to take an active part when on site.

3. How it Works

The LHE is organized in "Wics" (an Old English word meaning a dwelling place, a lodging, habitation, camp, castle or house).

A wic may be one or more groups organized to share cooking and other daily tasks in order to free members to demonstrate crafts/talk to the public.

Individuals wishing to join the LHE may be attached to established Wics, either by personal negotiation or through the LHE Co-ordinator.

4. What a Wic Needs

- Named Wic leader for the event
- Shelter
- Cooking utensils
- Axe
- Firebox
- Storage containers for food
- Water Containers
- Table
- Seating
- First Aid Kit
- Fire extinguisher(s)

5. What each member needs

Appropriate soft kit for dateline, ethnic background, geographical area of the show etc. and the task they plan to undertake, regardless of their normal group status.

Eating and drinking utensils and Authentic containers

Annex

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS TO COMPLETE THIS FORM

LHE Incident Report Form

A. PRINCIPAL PERSON INVOLVED (Who it happened to) Name:

Group / Wic incident occurred on.....

OTHERS directly INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT Name:

B. WHEN AND WHERE DID THE INCIDENT OCCUR? Date: / / Time: am/pm

C. ANY WITNESSES TO THE INCIDENT? Names

D. FACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT (Include details/location of any injury, effects on person involved, any damage to ground, any damage to equipment. Please also include near misses.)

E. DID THE PERSON RECEIVE ANY TREATMENT?

F. PERSON REPORTING THE INCIDENT. Name:

To be filled out by LHEC/H&SO
CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS

ACTION TAKEN AND OUTCOMES:

RECOMMENDATIONS: