

Gravenwurm Keep Bylaws

Updated October 14, 2025

This document shall act as a record for the bylaws governing the Chapter known as Gravenwurm Keep (henceforth referred to as GWK in this document). This Chapter, based in Northwest Arkansas, is a part of Dagorhir Battle Games, a national medieval-fantasy inspired foam sword-fighting club. All rules written herein are secondary to the bylaws and rules of Dagorhir as a whole. The purpose of this document is to create a simple and fair method by which the Chapter and its participants can determine voting rights, eligibility for candidacy, election proceedings, and general functions as a group.

1. Becoming a Member

1. All Members must be at least 16 years of age and have an active waiver on file with the Chapter. This waiver must list GWK as the player's home Chapter.
 - a. For those who are under 18, a legal guardian must sign the release form with either a notary or a member of the Dagorhir check-in staff as witness.
 - b. Players 18 and up must have a waiver signed by them as an independent, legal adult
2. In order to be a voting member of the Chapter (Henceforth referred to as the rank "Denizen,") Members must ALSO meet the following requirements:
 - a. Attended a minimum of 6 Chapter Meetings within a consecutive 6-month window.
 - b. Be in good standing with the Chapter and not under any suspensions or investigations.
 - c. Have paid dues to the Chapter
 - i. Dues are paid annually to the Curator of Funds and cover 1 year of voting rights in the Chapter.
 - ii. Dues are \$10 USD
3. Non-voting Members of the Chapter are referred to as Commonfolk and are not required to pay dues for regular game participation.
4. Chapter Meetings are defined as necessary by the Council, but all Meetings must be:
 - a. Open to the public
 - b. On the schedule maintained by the Vox Draconis
 - c. Announced at least one week in advance

2. Changing Bylaws and Voting

The process by which this document may be adjusted or changed is as follows:

1. Any Denizen may propose changes via a post on the appropriate channel in the official GWK Discord server.
2. Changes must be laid out clearly with current verbiage versus proposed new verbiage as well as a reason for the change.
3. Votes on these changes will always be held the final Sunday of each month, running from 10am to 11:59pm.
 - a. A proposal must be posted on the Discord at least a week in advance of an upcoming vote.
 - b. In the case that a proposal is set forth less than a week before the voting day, it will be placed on the next month's voting agenda instead.
4. The Council Scribe will make a post laying out what proposals are up for vote on both the Official GWK Facebook Group and the Official GWK Discord as well as listing all voters that will be eligible by the time of the vote. This post must be made at least 24 hours before the vote opens.
5. In the case of a tie, the decision will fall on the Council Members.
6. Non-bylaw related votes will be held in the same fashion as above unless otherwise noted.

3. Council Membership

1. To become a member of the GWK Council, one must meet the following requirements:
 - a. Be at least 18 years old
 - b. Be a Denizen in GWK (see Section 1.2)
 - c. Be in good standing with the law and with Dagorhir as a whole.
2. Council seats (besides the Curator of Funds) will be voted on annually, with elections being held during the month of October.
 - a. The active Scribe will make a post on the Official GWK Discord and Official GWK Facebook group reminding players of upcoming elections in the first week of October.
 - b. Any players wishing to run for the elections must publicly declare their intent to run at least a week prior to the October Voting Day.
3. A Council Member may be removed by a vote of no confidence if the following conditions are met:
 - a. Any Denizens submit the proposal to the appropriate Discord channel.
 - b. A vote is passed with $\frac{3}{4}$ of all Denizens.

- i. The Council Member in question will be fully removed from the voting process.
- 4. In the case of an elected official stepping down or being removed by a vote of no confidence, a two week declaration period will open followed immediately by a vote to replace the vacated position.
 - a. This vote will be run by the Scribe or the Vox Draconis if the Scribe is unavailable. If for some reason both positions need to be replaced, it will fall on the Marshal, then the Curator of Funds to run these elections. This order is the general order for all voting processes where applicable.
- 5. Council Members each serve the secondary role of being involved in all Council Votes.

4. Council Roles

1. Vox Draconis

- a. This role serves as the general head of leadership for GWK. They also act as the liaison for local law enforcement, other Chapters, and Dagorhir.
- b. This role will create and maintain a viewable Chapter schedule throughout the year including but not limited to crafting nights, large events, and regular practices.
- c. Mediate any issues between players and promote a general sense of harmony through the Chapter.

2. Scribe

- a. This role serves as the record keeper for the Council.
- b. The Scribe will run all votes unless otherwise noted.
- c. The Scribe will maintain accurate attendance and waiver records, schedule Council Meetings, and keep Council minutes.

3. Marshal

- a. This role serves as the general game-planner and is the last line of contact for disputes among players and Heralds.
- b. The Marshal will create the battlegames for each regular practice, run weapons check, and assign Heralds to each game.
- c. The Marshal will also serve as the point of contact for fighting groups who wish to receive official Chapter Unit status. See Units Section.
 - i. An up to date and easily viewable list of Chapter-recognized Units should be kept by the Marshal.

4. Curator of Funds

- a. This role serves as a Treasurer for the Chapter. They are in charge of all funds and spending, as well as reporting for nonprofit status and Chapter inventory auditing.
 - i. An inventory audit should be performed once per year to identify items belonging to the Chapter as a whole and keep things in good repair.
 - ii. A clear and concise document of expenditures, budget, and balances should be kept in a method that is viewable to all Members of GWK.
 - iii. All expenditures must be approved by a Chapter vote.
- b. This is the only Council role that does not serve a limited term. They may still step down at any time, with the expectation of assisting their replacement in taking over duties.

4. Council Meetings

1. The Council shall hold quarterly meetings to discuss Chapter health, player retention, improvements, etc.
2. The Council Meeting minutes will be recorded by the Scribe.

5. Fighting Units

There are some groups of friends within the Chapter that may wish to form an officially recognized Fighting Unit.

1. An official Unit will be kept together to the best of the Marshal's ability when planning teams for battlegames.
2. To become an Official Unit, a group of at least 3 members (with one being appointed the Unit Leader) must present the Marshal with the following:
 - a. A Unit name
 - i. A small amount of roleplay-centered "lore" is encouraged but not necessary. This will allow the Marshal to add more custom "flavor" to the Unit battlegame.
 - b. An official heraldry or Unit Symbol
 - c. 2-3 official colors that represent the Unit
 - i. Units are encouraged to be easily distinguishable from others via these colors.

3. Within the month following this submission, the Marshal will plan a special battlegame for the Unit in order to test their teamwork and skill.
 - a. This game is primarily for roleplay purposes with a mild skill level requirement.
 - b. Victory in this battlegame will officially earn your Unit's recognized status in the Chapter.
 - c. Failure in this battlegame will simply mean the Marshal will run a test again the following month. A Unit may try as many times as necessary but no more than once per month, so as not to overwhelm the Marshal.
4. It is encouraged for Units that have achieved official status to create or be gifted an official banner with their heraldry or Unit symbol on it.

6. Player Bans

In accordance with the Dagorhir Code of Conduct and Manual of Arms, bans may be issued to individuals who are determined to be a threat to the health and safety of GWK participants. Any Member can approach any Council Member to make a report and discussion of this manner is to be treated with the utmost seriousness and care. Bans from the nearby Chapters of Alterra and Dominion of the Unconquered Sun will be enforced within GWK by default, though the Council may override this with a unanimous vote.

All Members of the Chapter are expected to follow all City, State, and Federal laws when attending one of our Meetings. Anyone that is currently charged with a crime involving another Member as the victim will be temporarily banned from all practices and events held or sponsored by the realm until the case is resolved. A conviction can result in a permanent ban. Even if not charged with an official crime, anyone found violating City, State, or Federal law can be banned from all future practices and events held or sponsored by the Chapter. The Council of GWK will also take all accusations of harassment and bullying very seriously.

Anyone removed from the battlefield due to rule violations three times in three months will be banned from practices held or sponsored by GWK for six months. If they are removed for rules violations three times in three months a second time, further disciplinary action will be taken up to a permanent ban from all practices and events held or sponsored by the realm. Anyone whose actions result in major physical injury to a member of a realm more than once will be permanently banned from all practices and events held or sponsored by the realm.

Alongside the guidelines above, the general ban process is outlined as follows:

1. When a report is made, the Council member who received the report will call for a Council Meeting to update their fellow Council Members.
 - a. Members may be required to sign an NDA.
 - b. In the case that a Council Member is involved, they will be removed from the discussion.
 - c. This meeting must be held in a reasonable timeframe after the report.
2. The Scribe will make an announcement on the Official GWK Discord and Official GWK Facebook group that a temporary 5th position on the Council will be opening and an urgent vote will be held to fill this position.
 - a. This announcement MAY NOT mention the player under investigation, the victim(s), nor the violation in question.
 - b. Any voter-eligible Member may fill this position.
 - c. On the ballot, the Council should list at least 3 consenting Members to vote between. These players should be from different Units or affiliations to encourage neutrality.
 - d. This position's role is solely for the sake of having a reliable tiebreaker and accountability that the Council is making a fair and informed decision.
 - e. If Council Member(s) are involved with the report, multiple filler positions will be opened until a Council of 5 is made.
 - f. This vote will occur no later than a week after the Council Meeting.
3. The official Dagorhir ban addendum shall be used as a general rubric to determine the severity of offense and the punishment deserved.
4. The player under investigation must be given a fair chance to share their side of the story and present any counter-evidence to the Council.
5. A Council Vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ approval is all that is needed for minor punishments including but not limited to: written warnings, mediation meetings, or suspensions of 6 months or less.
6. A Council Vote of $\frac{4}{5}$ approval is required for more serious infractions such as permanent bans from the Chapter or game-wide bans.
7. After collecting as much information and WRITTEN OR PHYSICAL evidence as possible, the Council shall hold a private final vote.
 - a. This final vote should be held within 3 weeks of the initial report or infraction.

8. After a ban decision is made, an announcement shall be made on the Official GWK Discord and Official GWK Facebook in the following format:

The Council has voted with (x/5) approval to ban the player known as (Legal Name), under the persona name of (Persona Name). This ban shall last (timeframe). The report was made/the infraction occurred (Date of Report/Infraction) and the Council has made this decision (Decision Date).

9. An appeal may be made, should Members deem it necessary. This appeal must be presented by any Denizen in a manner similar to a standard vote proposal and MUST pass a vote with at least 80% Denizens approval.
 - a. In the event the appeal passes, Council Members should do all they can to truly determine the seriousness of the situation, reevaluate the ban, and come to a UNANIMOUS decision.
10. Bans should not be given lightly and should often be considered the last option after mediation or discussion.