

Authorization of Minor Combatants

For anyone who is 16 or 17 to become an Atlantian authorized fighter, capable of fighting with adults on the adult combat fields, the procedure bellow must be followed. Once a youth decides to participate with the adults, they are treated equally as an adult with regards to all rules and regulations. Additionally, a youth who has begun fighting as a Minor in any discipline may not regress to the Youth Combat field of that discipline without consultation with marshals. Minor Combatants may authorize in any weapon form for heavy combat, rapier combat, or cavalry combat (age range differs, see Cavalry Combat).

The procedure for authorizing a Minor to fight as an adult is as follows:

1. Parent/legal guardian and minor should contact a local marshal to establish communication, obtain practice scheduling and begin the process of learning to fight with adults. The parent/legal guardian must witness at least one practice personally prior to the minor participating. At the this initial practice, the Minor Authorization Form can be implemented and the MINOR COMBANTANT and FIRST PRACTICE OBSERVED portions completed. A parent/legal guardian must be present at all practices and events unless a completed and notarized Medical Authorization for Minors is in the possession of the Minor, and an individual named on said document is also present. (See ^^ below) Additionally, a Minor Waiver is requested to be kept on file with the Minor's paperwork until the date of their 18th birthday.
2. A copy of the Minor Authorization Form and signed Minor Waiver should be kept by the Marshal responsible for the training of said Minor. The parent/legal guardian must retain an original of the Minor Authorization Form until the Minor is prepared to authorize to fight as an adult. **The Minor must attend at least one SCA event where fighting in conducted in the discipline in which they intend to authorize, **prior** to the date of their own authorization.** An individual under 18 years of age can not legally sign the authorization paperwork, so a parent/legal guardian is also required to attend during the authorization of a Minor in order to provide legal signatures.
3. The Minor should be provided the Atlantian Rules of the List. Upon reading them and obtaining counsel from a marshal regarding any question, they should sign the acknowledgment above **AUTHORIZATION**.
4. Once the Minor has been deemed prepared to authorize by the marshal overseeing training, advanced preparation is required to arrange an event in which all who must be present can attend. The original Minor Authorization Form should be provided to the MoL-in-Charge for said event at the time of authorization by the parent/legal guardian.

5. The following individuals **must** be present for a Minor to authorize to fight as an adult in any discipline:
 - Parent/legal guardian with partially completed original Minor Authorization Form.
 - Authorizing Minor
 - Kingdom Earl Marshal or designated Deputy
 - Marshal-in-Charge for the event
 - Third witnessing marshal in the discipline being authorized.
 - MoL with Verification of Authorization, Temporary Cards and Minor Waiver.
6. The assembled marshals will execute the authorization and decide if the Minor is to be authorized to fight on the adult combat field. If the Minor is not ready, the Minor Authorization Form is returned to the parent/legal guardian. The Minor resumes practicing as before.
7. Upon successfully authorizing, the Minor and parent/legal guardian should complete a Verification of Authorization Form and Temporary Cards in triplicate. The lower half of the Minor Authorization Form should be completed with the legal names and signatures of the required marshals administering the authorization. An original signed Minor Waiver should accompany all paperwork. The notation of “MINOR AUTHORIZATION” should be boldly noted on the VoA, Minor Waiver and Temp Cards.
8. The original signed documents of the following should be submitted with the MoL Event Report: Minor Authorization Form; Minor Waiver; Verification of Authorization Form; one temporary Card bearing all legal printed names and signatures.

Minor Combatants are typically issued a fighter card that is a different color than adult fighters, and will expire on their 18th birthday, no matter when it was received. Upon expiration, the Minor should complete renewal paperwork to obtain an adult fighter card.

^^ Minor Medical Authorization Form

The Minor Medical Authorization Form (MMAF) is required for **all** minors who attend an event and participate in combat activities without the presence of their parent/legal guardian. The MMAF must be completed by the Minor’s parent/legal guardian and **signed in the presence of a notary**. The purpose of this form is to appoint specific individual(s) the ability to give consent to medical treatment, should the Minor require emergency medical attention. A Minor may not fight without the presence of either their parent/legal guardian or one of the individuals named in the MMAF. This form is not kept when presented, but simply confirmed and returned to the holder.