

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR'S TRAVELING SWORD PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

Background

In an effort to encourage and promote inter-Commandery communication, cooperation, fellowship and activation the Knights Templar Association of Colorado is proud to sponsor a *Traveling Sword Program*. The program is simple; visit the Commandery holding the sword and claim it under the guidelines below.

The Traveling Sword

The Traveling Sword is an exact reproduction of the swords carried by the Knights Templar in the 12th Century made in Toledo Spain. Its blade is of tempered steel embossed with 24-karet gold. The hilt, made from a cast of an original Templar sword, is plated with 24-karet gold with silver medallions insert and topped with a Templar Cross.

The Award

The Traveling Sword Award is a plaque, with a miniature sword, again made in Toledo Spain, mounted in such a way that it can be used as a letter opener. A plate will also be on the plaque with the award's name on it. This plaque will be presented to the Commandery and another to the Commander, each with their name on it. The awards will be presented at the Grand Commandery session to the Commandery which claims the Traveling Sword the most times. In case of a tie, it will go to the Commandery traveling the greatest distance to make the claim(s).

The Guidelines

1. A Commandery shall hold on to, and maintain in good condition, the Traveling Sword until it is claimed by another Commandery within the jurisdiction of the grand Commandery of Colorado.
2. A Commandery claiming the Traveling Sword, and the Commandery surrendering the Sword, must notify the Grand Commandery Recorder within 24 hours of the change in location. This will allow any Commandery to call and find out its location at any time in planning its visitation and claiming.
3. More than one Commandery may mount a challenge at the same conclave.
4. The Traveling Sword may be claimed by the visiting Commandery at a stated or special conclave of the holding Commandery. In the event more than one Commandery is present to make a claim it will go to the Commandery with the greatest percentage of their active membership present. For example: Commandery A and B visit Commandery C at the same conclave to claim the Sword. Commandery A has 12 Sir Knights of

their total membership of 58. Commandery B has 7 of their total membership of 72. Since Commandery A has 21% of its membership present and Commandery B has 10% of its membership present, Commandery A would lay claim to the Traveling Sword. If two or more visiting Commanderies have the same percentage present at the claiming, the Commandery traveling the greatest distance will lay claim to the sword (distances measured from stated meeting place). The minimum number of Sir Knights claiming the Sword at a conclave shall be at least two of the top three dais officers and three other Sir Knights making the total of 5 Sir Knights attending.

Grand York Rite Sessions

The Commandery having possession of the Traveling Sword at the end of August will bring the Sword to the Grand York Rite Sessions and relinquish it to the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The incoming Right Eminent Grand Commander will present the Traveling Sword to the Commandery of his choosing to start the new year of traveling.