



# The Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire



## **RESOLUTIONS**

(As of October 25, 2009)

### **FOUNDERS TABLE AND MEMBERSHIP BASE**

#### **1-1 Founders Table**

The Founders Council consists of the following persons, who were initially responsible for the creation of the first Court system in Utah: (07/3/1980)

Bruce Allred	Chad Herinborg	Gordon Winklekotter
Thelma Ensign	Marty Pollock	Rose Carrier
Carole Martindale	Jim Beverage	Larry Kasper
Earl Ashley	Mack Hunt	Paul Douglas
Dennis Felix	Pepper Prespente	Bob Mandrake
Len Matheson	Jay Bradley	(One unpublished name)
Henry Bender	Terry Jones	

#### **1-2 Membership Base**

1. To insure that a membership base is always in place and because of their past service to the RCGSE, all past Monarchs do hereby become lifetime members of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire and will not need to fill out a reign membership each year.
2. It will be the responsibility of Past Monarchs to see that the Court Secretary is informed of any address changes or updates.
3. Each Monarch shall receive a monthly newsletter via mail or email. Voting privileges are subject to the rules and regulations set forth in the Bylaws.
4. In addition, all members of the Board of Directors shall remain members of the RCGSE and the Board of Directors until and through the first scheduled regular board meeting after Board Elections. During this meeting the nomination and election of the Secretary shall be held. (8/30/1988)

### **TITLES**

#### **2-1 Higher Titles**

1. Let it be known that there will be no title higher than Emperor or Empress in the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire. (5/25/1986)

#### **2-2 Elected/Regent Title**

1. At anytime, at the discretion of the Board, the Board of Directors will review any Monarch's resignation or removal from office. Should the Board conclude that the resignation was of such a nature (i.e., death, illness, etc.) that Monarch should continue to be recognized, the word "ELECTED" or any special denotation (such as the "Liberty Empress" title given to Lois Lane) shall be added to precede the Emperor or Empress designation. The title shall become a permanent title and that Monarch shall be so recognized.
2. Should the Board conclude that the Regent Emperor or Empress has/will fulfill the duties of the office to which they were elevated, the "REGENT" designation shall be dropped from the title, i.e., Empress VII-Tina and Emperor XVII Jeff Freedman. (5/23/1979)

#### **2-3 Permanent Titles**

1. Let it be known that from this day forth, immediately following the death of any lifetime titleholder, the Board of Directors of the RCGSE (during a regularly scheduled meeting) shall review the current or past status of the titleholder, then vote to either discontinue the title or to make the title a permanent title of the Court to continue for as long as the Court shall remain a functioning entity.
2. Should the title be one that is normally used in Court protocol, the Board of Directors shall have the option of placing that title available for Court use and assigning a new title to become the permanent title of the deceased lifetime titleholder. (6/2/1987)
3. The following titles are permanent titles:
  - Liberty Empress-Lois Lane
  - Duchess Dolly-Tiffany Dawn
  - Goddess of Legs for Life-Phoenix

## **2-4 Titles by Resolution**

1. A lifetime title by resolution of the Board of Directors can be given to a deserving Court member in good standing for life. Other than the title, no other duties or responsibilities are attached. (7/30/1980)
2. The following are lifetime titles by resolution:
  - Rev. Bruce Barton shall be known as "The Royal Bishop of Utah for Life" because of his love for the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire and the community of which he is such an integral part. (1991)
  - Chuck Whyte shall be known as "Keeper of the Lights for Life" as long as they shall shine because of his constant and unselfish support of the Royal Court. (1992)
  - Zachary Thomas Smith shall be known as "Heir Apparent to the Sixteenth Reign, Prince Zachary I, Reminder of Love, Strength, and Unity. (5/24/1994)

## **2-5 Life time Title Deadline**

1. All Lifetime Titles must be submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors prior to a date not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of Coronation or the privilege of giving a Lifetime Title becomes void. (3/30/1988)

## **2-6 Family Titles**

1. Since the past Monarchs hold the highest title allowed in the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire, the only titles that the newly elected Monarchs may bestow on past Monarchs are:
  - King Father (1 per reign)
  - Queen Mother (1 per reign)
  - Imperial Father to the Emperor/Empress
  - Imperial Mother to the Emperor/Empress
2. Subsequently, the only titles that the newly appointed Prince and Princess may bestow on past Monarchs are:
  - Royal Father to the Prince/Princess Royal
  - Royal Mother to the Prince/Princess Royal
3. These titles are not reserved for Past Monarch's, and may be given to anyone that the Monarchs and PR's feel are worthy of them

## **2-7 Prince & Princess Royale Titles**

1. To encourage respect for the Emperor and Empress, each Prince and Princess Royale may name no more that 15 titles (30total). Should the Prince or Princess Royale wish to give Prince, Princess, or Consort titles, they must be as follows:
  - Prince Royale
    - 1 Royal Prince
    - 2 Consort to the Prince
  - Princess Royale
    - 1 Royal Princess
    - 2 Consort to the Princess
2. The following titles are exclusive to the Emperor and Empress and cannot be used by the Prince and Princess Royale:
  - Prince and Princess Consort
  - Crown Prince and Princess
  - Czar and Czarina
  - Grand Duke and Grand Duchess
  - Marquis and Marquise
  - King Father and Queen Mother
  - Count and Countess
  - Baron and Baroness
  - Lord and Lady in Waiting
  - Court Jester and Jestress (5/24/1987)

## **2-8 Reigning Monarch's and Royal Family Titles**

Each reigning Emperor and Empress may give no more than thirty (30) titles each and that the decades Monarch gives two honorary titles each that will be listed with the reign's titles. The above-mentioned does not include yearly pageant titles. In many cases it is felt that multiple people should receive the same title. In this case, no more than three multiple recipient titles may be given, and of these, no more than two people may receive the same title unless, of course, it is an organization. If, while out of state, a member of the community who does not have a court title wishes to walk, the reigning Emperor/Empress may have the option of giving them an appropriate title for that walk only. This resolution shall be provided to the reigning Monarch's and PR's prior to investitures each year to help them with this process. (07/22/2003).

# COLLEGE OF MONARCHS

## 3-1 College of Monarchs

1. Membership in the College of Monarchs of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire shall be restricted to past Monarchs of the RCGSE, who are in good standing with the court.
2. Following the first general membership meeting of each reign, the college shall meet with the purpose of selecting a President and Vice president for that reign. Only members of the College of Monarchs of the RCGSE are eligible to be nominated for these positions.
3. The past Monarchs of the RCGSE present at this meeting shall be considered a quorum for voting purposes.
4. The College of Monarchs, in addition to the responsibilities listed in the Bylaws and Resolutions, shall host at least three events during a reign,
5. The last Saturday of Aids Awareness Week with proceeds to benefit the RCGSE AIDS Fund
6. The last Saturday of Cancer Awareness Week with proceeds to benefit the Cancer Fund
7. The Saturday following Golden Spike Awards with proceeds to benefit the Coronation Hospitality Suite.
8. Any disciplinary actions brought against a past Monarch of the RCGSE shall follow the same guidelines as set forth in the Bylaws and Resolution of the RCGSE with the following expectations.
9. Any accusation of the offenses must be submitted in writing to the President of the College of Monarchs, who with counsel with the Registered Agent and the President of the Board of Director of the RCGSE, shall decide necessity to call a meeting of the Disciplinary Panel.
10. Disciplinary Panel shall consist of the President of the College of Monarchs of the RCGSE, the President of the Board of Directors of the RCGSE, and three members of the College of Monarchs of the RCGSE. If any of the above mentioned members are involved in the disciplinary action being reviewed, they must be replaced.
11. "The Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire's College of Emperors and Empresses" shall function as the advisory board for the reigning Monarchs whenever needed with no other advisors to be appointed.

## 3-2 Crowning Paraphernalia

In order to insure safekeeping, registered agent shall arrange for the storage of all items used during the crowning ceremony at Coronation and make sure that both the new and original State Crowns, Scepter, Orb, Sword, Robes, and other items used are kept in good repair and ready for the next Coronation, and arrange for their delivery at the site of coronation in a timely manner. The College President shall receive the crowing paraphernalia for Coronation and return it to the Registered Agent directly following the event. The original State Crown shall be used for the crowning ceremony only and placed above the head of the newly elected Empress during the oath of office. (03/09/2004)

## 3-3 Complimentary Coronation Tickets

All past Monarchs of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire shall be offered one complimentary ticket for general admission seating at all Coronations of the Empire provided they reserve their ticket prior to the first of May each year.

## 3-4 The Emblems of Office

1. An Emblem of Office shall be defined as any crown, medallion, or token that is presented to a recipient as a result of an election. Pageant or appointment that has been purchased by the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire. { with the exception of certificates }
2. The holders of the Emblems of Office shall be the Emperor, Empress, Prince Royale, Princess Royale, Crown Prince, Crown Princess, all winners of pageants, and any other title that may be added to this resolution.
3. The time span for the acknowledgement of these emblems under this resolution shall be from the time of taking the oath of office, appointment, or entitlement until the stepping down, replacement, or end of the reign.
4. The Emblems of office shall be worn at "all appropriate functions" as stated in the Bylaws of the RCGSE and be defined as:
  - RCGSE Victory Brunch
  - RCGCE Investitures
  - Gay Pride Day Parade
  - All Pageant Crowning Ceremonies
5. State functions as follows:
  - Snowball
  - Golden Spike Awards
  - PR Ball
  - At all out of realm walks

## 3-5 The RCGSE State Crowns (procedures)

1. Registered Agent will be responsible to ensure the State Crowns are cleaned, repaired and ready for crowning ceremony each year along with all other crowning paraphernalia.
2. The State Crowns are the property of the RCGSE and are loaned to the Respective Titleholder for the duration of their reign.
3. State Crowns shall be defined as the Empress, Princess Royale, and Crown Princess, Crowns, or any crown that is surrendered at step down and presented to their successor.
4. The State Crowns will be stored in their crown cases, which will be given to the Respective Titleholder at victory brunch, or time of

appointment.

5. If the State Crown becomes damaged at any time, the Board of Directors and the President of the College of Monarchs must be notified at the next scheduled board meeting. If the crown is lost or damaged beyond unrecognizable use, the reigning Respective Titleholder will be responsible for its replacement or repair. A new State Crown must be in the Courts procession before Coronation weekend, (no exceptions.) If the new state crown is not received or its damages fixed, the Board of Directors may not let the Respective Titleholder step down, or receive their title.

6. The Respective Titleholder may purchase a crown of their choosing at any time during their reign. The amount the RCGSE will provide for this crown will be stipulated in the annual Budget, and will be reimbursed no sooner than the Annual Golden Spike Awards. If the chosen crown is more than the line item budget, the Respective Titleholder will pay the difference. The purchase of the crown must be made no later than 30 days of their step-down.

### **3-6 Emperor Ring/Crown and Prince Ring/Crown**

The Emperor and Prince Royale may have the option to purchase their Crown/Ring (of their choosing) at any time during their reign, with the annual budget amount to be established by the budget committee. They will be reimbursed no sooner than the Annual Golden Spike Awards. The purchase of the Emperor's Ring or Crown and the Prince's Ring or Crown must be made no later than 30 days of their step-down. (08/10/2004)

## **COURT FUNCTIONS-BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **4-1 Board Liaison to Court Sponsored Functions**

1. To insure that all shows sponsored by the RCGSE continue to meet with the high standards of excellence set forth in the bylaws of the organization and to provide additional assistance to the show Host(s)/Hostess(es), be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve/appoint a current Board member as liaison to each RCGSE sponsored function at the time the function is approved for the Court calendar. If for any reason the liaison cannot be in attendance they must find a replacement board member. If they do not they may be brought up on disciplinary actions for dereliction of duty. A copy of the show form shall be given to the liaison so they may complete sections 2 and 3.

2. When the show form approval guidelines have been followed, the liaison must contact the event host three (3) weeks prior to the event to insure that all necessary event guidelines have been followed and assist the host/hostess with any outstanding details (i.e. advertising, spotlight person reminder, spotlight delivery and return, door person reminder, performers requested and notified) that need attention prior to the event.

3. The liaison will serve as the responsible party from the Board of Directors to insure that advertising has been posted within the required two-(2) week deadline. (09/04/2003)

## **COURT FUNCTIONS-GENERAL**

### **5-1 Guidelines for Court Events**

SHOW FORM: Let it be known by resolution, the Board of Directors of the RCGSE has attached "Guidelines for Court Events" and it will become part of the show forms given out to each host. The host sponsoring the event is working on behalf of the RCGSE and should understand the guidelines completely. The Board Liaison will be responsible for helping the host sponsoring the event to use the guidelines effectively. The show form, along with a copy of the advertising, must be turned in to the Board of Directors for immediate approval no less than 4 weeks prior to the date of the event. After approval, the show forms and advertising must be turned into the Advertising Chairperson so that they, along with the Board Liaison, can make sure that advertising for the event is up within the required time frame. Should of any or all of these requirements not be met, the Board of Directors has the right to deny any, or all, submitted show forms. At the end of the reign, the Advertising Chairperson will turn over all approved show forms to the Board Secretary to be included in the filing of paperwork for the reign.

The show form must have the following information:

EVENT  
PROCEEDS TO  
DATE  
TIME  
PERSON IN CHARGE  
PHONE #  
LOCATION  
M.C.  
ADVERTISING  
DJ  
SPOTLIGHT OPERATOR  
SET  
\*BOARD LIAISON  
\*DOOR PERSON

\*This person must be a member of the Board of Directors

1. EVENT VENUE: Contact with the proposed event venue should be done at least one month prior to the event date. The RCGSE Show form must have the initial of the venue manager/ contact prior to board approval of the event. During this meeting the following items should be

discussed and decided upon.

Arrangements of door proceeds should also be discussed. Decisions should be met concerning the time the Court is allowed to collect money at the door, when to start collecting, special donations given to the RCGSE by the venue, and having venue personnel checking identification. Special notes should be written on the show form and initialed by the venue manager/ owner. These notes should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors. A final confirmation with the venue manager/ owner should be done no later than one week in advance to event date discussing particulars of door proceeds.

Details for the event, including the stage, set and seating arrangements should be discussed and confirmed with the venue host. The use of DJ, lighting, spotlight operator, décor, dressing room location/ usage and extra seating should be discussed. The host may have to supply a DJ, spotlight person, etc. If the venue will supply these things, have them initial the RCGSE Show form. Confirm with the venue one week prior to event.

The event host is responsible for removing the set and cleaning up the dressing room.

2. **ADVERTISEMENTS:** If advertisements are not up on time, the Board liaison and/or the Board of Directors may assume responsibility and charge the event host for the posters/advertising.

In general, the following items should be on all advertising:

RCGSE (Our Organization name)

PROCEEDS BENEFITTING (Fund for which monies are being raised.)

COST OF THE EVENT

TIME

DATE

WHERE

COURT WEB SITE ([www.rcgse.org](http://www.rcgse.org))

a. *Advertising.* Each location has rules to follow concerning advertising. An agreement should be made regarding, poster size, placement of the posters, when advertising may be placed in venue, newspaper advertising paid for by venue, flyers, table tents and other forms of advertising. Standard poster size of 22" x 28" is generally used unless otherwise agreed upon by all parties. Posters should be hung 4 weeks prior to the event, with the exception of Pageants which are to be posted at least 3 weeks prior to the event. If the event is held in a Private Club, the Club's name must be followed with an asterisk (\*). Below, in a font no less than the size of the Club's name must read: \* A Private Club for the benefit of its Members.

3. **COST:** A \$5.00 suggested donation is set up for every Court function or show. (With the exception of Pageants which bear a \$6.00 suggested donation.) If an event's donation charge is different than \$5.00, Board approval must be obtained.

4. **COMP TICKETS:** Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors prior to the event, only performers in the event will be allowed entrance without paying the donation. Backup performers and helpers to the performers are strongly encouraged to pay the donation. The 'Host' of the event is required to provide a comp list to the door people within one (1) hour of the scheduled start times of the event. At RCGSE pageants, comp tickets will be allowed for the following: *Reigning Monarchs, reigning PR's, Pageant Committee members, contestants, reigning titleholders of that Pageant, spotlight person, emcees (limit 2), judges (if applicable), and door people (limit 2).* The Pageant Committee chair is required to provide comp list to the door people within one (1) hour of the scheduled start time of the event.

5. **PARTICIPATION:**

A) Those not in good standing with the RCGSE may not be invited to perform, emcee or use their Court title at the event

B) All performers and performances must adhere to Utah State Laws

6. **SET UP:** The stage and set should be completed by 3 pm on the day of the event or as early as possible prior to show time as allowed by the venue owners and management.

7. **ARRIVAL TIME:** The event's host and the board liaison of the event must be at the host facility at least one hour in advance, on the event date. All performers, and anyone else involved with the event, must be there a half-hour prior or they may not be allowed to participate in the event.

8. **SPOTLIGHT:** The host of the event is responsible to make sure the spotlight is delivered to and returned from the event. These arrangements should be made at least one day in advance through the court storage unit liaison (typically the reigning Emperor and Empress). There are currently (6/30/09) two court owned spotlights in the storage unit.

9. **MUSIC GUIDELINES:** All numbers to be performed should be given to the DJ with the play list 10 minutes prior to the event. All music must be cued and labeled with the performer's name, cut/side, track, etc. Changes should not be made to the play list after it is submitted.

10. **DRESSING ROOM:** Performers are the only ones allowed in the dressing area. The dressing area is to be vacated within 1 hour after the event.

11. **DON'T BE LATE:** The event should start within 10 minutes of the posted time.

12. **RETURNING MUSIC:** Music should be collected by the show host or board liaison from the DJ immediately after the show and then returned to the performers individually. Any performer that leaves prior to the conclusion of the show or is unavailable to collect their music resumes responsibility for obtaining their music from the DJ directly or arranging to have it collected by another party.

13. **TURNING IN FUNDS:** Monies raised will be submitted only to be board liaison or the treasurer after the event. Each submission must be accompanied by a verified counting receipt signed by the accepting party and the event host.

14. The Host and Board Liaison for the event are responsible for informing all participants of these guidelines and sees they are followed.

(07/18/2006)

## **5-2 Receipts for Reimbursement**

Let it be known by resolution of the Board of Directors of the RCGSE all receipts for reimbursement for funds spent on Court functions or shows must be turned in no later than 30 days following the event. Receipts must be submitted before any reimbursement can be made. Receipts turned in later than the above-mentioned time or in excess of the budget will not be reimbursed without special approval of the Board. This applies to all Court sponsored events with the exception of Coronation which will have a fifteen (15) day time limit on receipt. (7/2/2002)

## **5-3 AIDS Awareness Week**

1. A week in March shall be proclaimed AIDS Awareness Week in Utah. The efforts put forth this week shall be for the purpose of raising funds for the various AIDS projects and providing the gay community current AIDS information.
2. Every effort shall be made to include every gay business, bar and organization, making it a community event. The reigning Emperor shall be in charge of the week that will continue to be held annually until there is no longer a need; i.e., no longer AIDS. (08/12/03)

## **5-4 Functions (Sponsored or Supported)**

The following are definitions and stipulations concerning RCGSE sponsored or supported functions:

1. RCGSE Sponsored Function:
  - a. A function where all of the proceeds benefit an RCGSE fund (existing or new).
2. RCGSE Supported Function:
  - a. A function where all or part of the proceeds benefit a cause/organization other than the RCGSE.
  - b. All funds raised during and RCGSE supported function must be filtered the RCGSE Direct Charity Fund. The Court will then write a check for the full amount of what was raised directly to the cause/organization.
3. To insure the quality of any function and the reputation of the RCGSE, any event which bears the RCGSE's name or any Court titles shall follow the guidelines set forth in the Bylaws and Resolutions of the RCGSE.
4. This includes (but not limited to) Board members collecting donations, starting time, and surrendering all proceeds to the RCGSE so proper distribution can be made (i.e., spot light rental, any monies owed, 13% to the general fund, etc.)

## **5-5 Annual Events**

Let it be known by resolution of the Board of Directors of the RCGSE that the following events must take place sometime during the month listed:

Mr. Miss, Ms. Gay Pride of the RCGSE JUNE  
Closet Ball SEPTEMBER  
AIDS Awareness Week OCTOBER  
Mr. & Miss Golden Spike Universe NOVEMBER  
Snow Ball NOV/ DECEMBER  
Mr. & Miss Gay Utah JANUARY  
King & Queen of Hearts Ball FEBRUARY  
Cancer Awareness Week MARCH  
Name that Drag MARCH  
Golden Spike Awards APRIL/ MAY  
Coronation Events MAY

## **5-6 PWA Kick-off Events**

It will be the responsibility of the reigning Prince and Princess to take charge of all preparations for the Court's yearly "PWA Kick-off Event" The fundraiser will be held prior to Labor Day and all proceeds will go to benefit the PWA Christmas Fund. (08/10/2004)

## **5-7 Golden Spike Awards**

Golden Spike Awards is a community voted awards program designed to bring the community together and celebrate each other and the past year of the organization. The awards are meant to be fun, not demeaning and final voting is open to the entire community of Salt Lake City. To insure the smooth operation of the Golden Spike Awards, the following shall apply:

1. The monarchs of the reign matching the number of the annual Golden Spike Awards shall be in charge of putting on the event.
  - a. They will oversee all aspects of the awards and will work with the Board of Directors to ensure that these rules are followed.
  - b. They will assist with the Golden Spike voting process as deemed necessary.
  - c. Should both monarchs scheduled to host be unable to oversee the event, the election of Voting Administrators shall be by nomination and vote of the Board of Directors

## **Golden Spike Awards Voting**

*Voting Administrators listed below are the monarchs in charge of Golden Spike Awards that year.*

### Preliminary Voting

1. The Board of Directors shall determine the categories and the criteria to be eligible for each category no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.
2. The Board of Directors shall determine the dates, times and locations of final voting and when the Golden Spike awards will be presented
  - a. The voting administrators will select the venue and start time for the ceremony itself.

3. The Board of Directors, College of Monarchs and the membership of the current reign shall then vote for their choice in each category to determine the contestants on the final ballot.
4. The top five (5) names receiving the highest number of nominations will appear on the final ballot.

#### Final Voting

1. Voting Administrators will prepare the final ballots containing the top 5 contestants who received the most nominations in each category.
2. The community at large will vote for one person per category to determine the winners.
  - a. Write in votes will be considered void
3. Voting will be held in April each year from 9 PM until Midnight
4. There will be no court sponsored functions held on the night of final voting
  - a. This is to ensure adequate coverage for all voting locations
5. Any person nominated for an award cannot man a voting box if possible.
6. Voting Administrators will collect and tally the votes, determining 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category.
  - a. Voting administrators may request any assistance needed to count the ballots, but no one but the Voting Administrators shall know the final tally.
7. If a tie should occur on final ballots for second or third place, each person will be awarded a certificate.
8. If a tie should occur on final ballots for first place, each first place winner will be awarded a plaque.
9. There shall be no printed campaign material for any of the Golden Spike Award categories. Any printed advertising of a nominee will result in immediate disqualification.

#### Awards

1. Voting Administrators will be responsible for acquiring the appropriate awards for the top three winners in each category (i.e. plaques and/or trophies)
  - a. If necessary, the Voting Administrators may receive help in acquiring the awards.
2. Voting Administrators must abide by any and all budget amounts when acquiring awards.
  - a. Voting administrators may look into getting sponsors for the awards, but it is not necessary, as the budget amount should be sufficient enough to cover costs.
3. If an individual wins first place in any category for three consecutive years in a row, that category will then be put in that individual's name and therefore disqualifies that individual from being nominated in that category.
4. If a couple wins Male or Female Lovers of the Year for three consecutive years in a row, the award will then be put in both parties names.
  - a. It stays in their name until some other couple wins three consecutive years in a row or until they are no longer together, at which time it returns to the original category name on the ballot.
5. Any awards based upon a performance (i.e. Song of the Year, best MC, etc...) must have been done or performed at least twice prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### *Other Awards at Golden Spike Awards*

1. The reigning Emperor & Empress shall have the opportunity to present personal awards to individual community members of their choosing. Examples of such awards are:
  - a. Most money raised by a Pageant Title Holder
  - b. Most money raised by a General Member
  - c. Community Supporter of the Year
  - d. Most creative show idea
2. The reigning Emperor & Empress will also present the Lifetime Achievement Award
  - a. See Resolution 11-3
3. Past recipients of the Community Service Award will also present the award to a new recipient at Golden Spike Awards

#### **5-8 Cancer Research Awareness Week**

1. A week in October shall be proclaimed Cancer Research Awareness Week of the RCGSE. The efforts put forth this week shall be for the purpose of raising funds for the various Cancer projects and providing the gay community current Cancer information.
2. Every effort shall be made to include every gay business, bar and organization, making it a community event. The reigning Empress and the past year's Empress shall be in charge of the week that will continue to be held annually until there is no longer a need; i.e., no longer Cancer. (08/10/04)

#### **5-9 General Fund Operating Capital**

To insure adequate operating capital for the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire, any Court supported or sponsored show or function, not already donating the proceeds to the General Fund, shall designate thirteen (13) percent of the proceeds to the General Fund of the RCGSE. This rule will apply only to shows and functions that bear the Royal Court's name or functions that are Court Sponsored. Functions exempt to this resolution are as follows:

PWA Kickoff

Functions during AIDS Awareness Week

Functions during Snowball Weekend

Functions during Cancer Awareness Week

# PAGEANTS

## 6-1 Pageant Committee

To insure consistency and the production of high quality RCGSE pageants, a pageant committee will be established to oversee them. The responsibility of this committee shall be as follows:

1. To establish and present to the Board of Directors annually a list of rules and regulations governing all RCGSE pageants.
2. To enforce the rules and regulations at each pageant.
3. To serve as advisors to the pageant title-holders and act as liaisons with the pageant and the Board of Directors.
4. To be accountable for:
  - Procurement of judges for each pageant
  - Providing a unique judging form for each pageant
  - Tabulation of the judge's ballots
5. To provide:
  - Applications for each pageant that include a list of rules and applicable fees for that pageant.
  - The current pageant titleholders with the responsibilities and expectations for a RCGSE pageant titleholder.
6. To either MC or obtain a qualified MC for that pageant.
7. To work with the title holder helping with all responsibilities for the pageants including the date, place, time, and set for the show. The reigning titleholders shall assist with enlisting contestants. The committee's goal is to produce an excellent, well rounded pageant and show, which sparks enthusiasm, leadership and friendship.
8. The pageant committee shall consist of a Chairperson, who shall be nominated by the reigning Monarchs, and voted upon by the current Board of Directors. The Chair person will hold a seat on the Board of Directors until replaced by the next reign's chair. In addition, the chair person will choose a committee consisting of five additional members from the Board of Directors and/or the General Membership. This committee will also be approved by the Board of Directors. The chairperson and the committee shall be announced after the Gay pride Pageant of the RCGSE and serve through the following Gay Pride pageant of the RCGSE. (07/18/2006)

## 6-2 Performers at Pageants

1. At their step-down, the reigning pageant titleholders will be allowed an opening and final number as well as asking two guest performers each. The reigning title holders will inform the Pageant Committee Chairperson of whom they would like to perform a minimum of 24 hours prior to the day of the pageant. The remainder of the performers and order of the evening will be selected upon and decided by the Pageant Committee.
2. The pageant committee, in conjunction with the reigning titleholders, will choose the rest of the entertainment for the pageant. Performers chosen should not be limited to past and reigning titleholders.
3. It is suggested as few as three (3) numbers should be performed between pageants, with only four (4) performances while the votes are being tallied.
4. The reigning titleholders will inform the Pageant Committee Chairperson of whom they would like to perform a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the day of the pageant. The pageant committee will have the final say as to the number of performances in each pageant. (07/18/2006)

## 6-3 General Pageant Rules

By resolution of the Board of Directors of the RCGSE, let it be known the following Rules and Regulations pertaining to all pageants will apply:

1. Contestant fees are \$10.00 for all contestants. Contestant fees must be in CASH, or MONEY ORDER and will be collected by the Pageant Chair only or in their absence a designated Board Member. It is non-refundable and will go to the RCGSE General Fund. After payment a receipt must be given to the contestant by the Treasurer or one of the signors on the Courts accounts and a copy will go to the Board of Directors. All contestants that are non-members must also join the RCGSE at the time of registration for the current membership fee. Contestant fees must be in CASH or MONEY ORDER only and will be collected by the Chairman of the Pageant Committee only or in their absence a designated Board member.
2. Contestant fees will be accepted up to and including the day of the pageant. However, contestants must be registered no later than (1) hour to show time as predetermined by the Pageant Committee on the day of the pageant at the advertised location.
3. Pageant advertising, including pageant and court membership applications along with rules and regulations must be available at least (4) weeks prior to the pageant. Also, a flyer advertising the pageant, a pageant application, a membership application and rules and regulations per pageant may be added to the newsletter (1) month prior to the pageant. A location for collection of contestant fees and applications the day of the pageant should appear on all advertisements.
4. If a program is used and ads are sold, the money raised shall be used to offset the cost of printing the program, and any left over money will go towards the proceeds of the pageant.
5. All Contestant fee collected will be given to the Treasurer or the Board President.
6. The Pageant Committee will be responsible for securing the crowning paraphernalia. The traditional RCGSE paraphernalia should be purchased a month prior to each pageant. This will allow for ordering and shipping time of any crowning items that are needed for the upcoming pageants. The Pageant Committee Chair will be responsible for holding these items for the upcoming pageants. The Pageant Chair will also work with the Treasurer to acquire the funds for these items.
7. The pageant committee will select Judges for each pageant (except King and Queen of Hearts). Each pageant will have 5 to 7 judges and all

decisions of the judges are final. In the event of a tie, the tied contestants will answer a question individually and that score will be added to each contestant's total score. To ensure there is not a tie during the King & Queen of Hearts Pageant, prior to the pageant, the Pageant Committee Chair and two (2) members of the Pageant Committee will vote for King and Queen based on the contestant's campaign. These ballots will be sealed and placed in the ballot box, only to be opened in the event a tie occurs.

8. To eliminate any problems, contestants will be known by number only (Excluding King & Queen of Hearts). No names will be announced until all score sheets are completed and received by the pageant committee.

9. Contestants will be judged in the following categories: Theme Wear, Evening Gown (Floor length gown – at ankle or longer) and Men's Formal Wear (Suit and tie/Tuxedo), Question and Answer, and Talent with maximum 100 points total possible. Exception: Golden Spike Universe Contestants will be judged on a Country Costume (from a real country that is approved by the pageant committee) instead of Theme Wear and Closet Ball will be judged on presentation of true gender and transformation to opposite gender. Along with those, King and Queen of Hearts will only have three categories of Red and White Wear, Talent and Evening Gown and Men's Formal Wear.

10. The contestant's talent presentation can be no longer than seven (7:00) minutes max. This is to include set up, presentation and take down. This time limit will be enforced.

11. In the case of more than five (5) contestants per title, a process will be announced in advance to eliminate those with the lowest scores prior to the talent category.

12. Pageant Contestants, door persons and pageant committee members must arrive at the pageant at least one (1) hour prior to advertised show time. This is so each contestant has time to turn in music, draw numbers for order of entrance. (numbers exception is King & Queen of Hearts) If contestant arrives late, a decision by the Pageant Committee Chairperson and the Reigning Monarchs will be made as to whether or not the contestant will be allowed to compete. Their decision is final. One our prior to the start of the pageant, the Committee will read and go over the rules, regulations and obligations for the title for full understanding.

13. Each person winning a pageant title is required to hold at least one (1) function to benefit any RCGSE fund. Functions may be held individually or jointly. For example, all two (2) title pageants such as King & Queen of Hearts shall have an obligation to hold at least two (2) individual or two (2) joint functions, three (3) in the case of Gay Pride and Gay Utah as there are three (3) titleholders for said pageant. These functions must be held no later than 1 month prior to their step down. If this obligation is not met, the Board of Directors of the RCGSE may remove the title.

14. Should a title holder's title be removed or in jeopardy of being removed they will be notified via certified mail to the address listed on the application (unless otherwise updated on the court records in writing) in a letter signed by the Board President, Reigning Monarchs and Pageant Chair.

15. All contestants must be 21 years of age and a resident with a valid Utah State ID to enter any of the RCGSE pageants. State issued ID will be required for proof of age. If you are not 21 you will be disqualified as a contestant. If a pageant titleholder, at any time during their reign, move out of the State of Utah, the Board of Directors has the option of replacing or removing the title.

16. The night of the pageant the winners of each title will receive said crowning paraphernalia (tiara, medallion and or sash) for the title won. At the end of the night crowning paraphernalia will be turned back over to the pageant chair and will be held until their court function has been booked and completed. At their function their crowning paraphernalia will be presented back to them as a token of completion of their contractual obligations.

17. The proceeds from each pageant shall go to the General Fund.

18. Contestants are not allowed to accept tips. (07/18/2006)

## **6-4 Closet Ball Rules**

1. Contestants are not to have done drag (male or female) for at least 1 year prior to Closet Ball.
2. Each contestant will enter with a sponsor (Drag King/Queen).
3. After presentation of true gender, the contestants will have 1 hour to transform to opposite gender.
4. Contestants may not have any makeup on their face or be wearing any transformation aides prior to or while being presented in their true gender. This ensures all contestants start on an even footing.
5. Only the contestants, their sponsors, and members of the pageant committee are allowed backstage during the transformation hour.
6. Sponsors are the only ones allowed to perform the transformation on the contestants. No other help/helpers will be allowed.
7. A member of the pageant committee will be stationed backstage to ensure these rules are followed.

## **6-5 Voting and scoring rules for King and Queen of Hearts**

1. Contestants will be judged by an audience vote in each contestant category. The audience may vote for one (1) King and one (1) Queen in each category. Voting will be done on a "yes or no" basis and not on a judged point scale. Ballots for voting will be provided to the audience members as they pay the door charge for the pageant. Each audience member will receive only one (1) ballot per person. To insure that there are not duplicate ballots, the ballots given out will be previously numbered and the Pageant Committee Chair as well as two (2) additional pageant committee members will destroy any remaining ballots.
2. After the final contestant category has been voted on, audience members will be asked to deposit their ballots in boxes that will be provided by the pageant committee. When scoring the ballots, the King and Queen Contestant with the greatest number of "yes" votes will be crowned the winners.
3. To insure that there is not a tie between the King contestants or the Queen contestants, the Pageant Committee Chair and two (2) committee members will vote for a King and Queen, based on the contestants campaign, before the start of the pageant. The ballots that will be used are 001, 002 and 003. These votes will be sealed and held by the pageant committee chair and only opened if a tie occurs. If there is not a tie between any King or Queen contestant, the sealed votes will be destroyed by two (2) committee members and

the Pageant Committee Chair (07/18/2006)

### **6-5 Pageant Title Holders**

Let it be known that all pageant titleholders will no longer be known by the respective year that they held a particular title, but instead will now be recognized as a number corresponding from when the pageant title was first introduced into the RCGSE until the present. I.e. Miss Golden Spike Universe XX, Mr. Gay Utah XII etc.... If a pageant titleholder has not received a title for a particular reign, the person may use their pageant title to walk. The title shall be used in a pageant titleholder walk for crowning ceremony for each particular pageant title held.  
(07/18/2006)

### **6-6 State Pageant Titles**

The following Pageant Titles will be exclusive to the RCGSE:

Mr. Miss & Ms Golden Spike Universe  
Mr. Miss & Ms Gay Pride of the RCGSE  
King & Queen of Hearts

The Following pageant titles will be known as State Titles. This means that any resident of the State of Utah may compete for these titles:

Closet Ball King & Queen of Utah  
Mr. Miss & Ms Gay Utah

NOTE: Although these are open to anyone living in the State of Utah, these titles will remain under the jurisdiction of the RCGSE and all rules as outlined in the Bylaws and Resolutions of the RCGSE. If a member of another Utah court other than the RCGSE chooses to run for either of these titles and are already a member of the other court, that candidate is required to become an associate member of the RCGSE at the time they submit the application of candidacy.

The following is a guideline showing the month a specific RCGSE pageant should be held:

Closet Ball King & Queen of Utah - SEPTEMBER

Mr. Miss & Ms Golden Spike Universe - OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Mr. Miss & Ms Gay Utah - JANUARY

King and Queen of Hearts - To be held in JANUARY/FEBRUARY on or before the weekend of Valentine's Day

Mr. Miss & Ms Gay Pride of the RCGSE - JUNE

## **FUNDS & DEBTS**

**7-1 It shall be mandated according to federal 501( c) 3 guidelines (51-6707628) that no member of a current sitting Board of Trustees/Directors, may access the specific fund. This is in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Federal government that oversees the stipulations and acts of a non-profit organization in good standing.**

### **7-2 RCGSE AIDS Fund**

The RCGSE AIDS Fund was designed to help those living with HIV/AIDS during the interim period between diagnosis and possible eligibility for supplemental income. Guidelines for the administration of these funds are as follows:

1. At least two members of the College of Monarchs shall oversee the administration of the RCGSE AIDS Fund.
  - a. One Shall be the President of the College of Monarchs and the other shall be chosen by the College of Monarchs at the beginning of each reign.
2. If a request for assistance is made from the RCGSE AIDS Fund, the administrators shall work to ensure the application is complete and all requirements are met.
3. Due to the growing number of people living with HIV/AIDS in Utah, a maximum lifetime amount, per recipient will be set at \$300.
4. Funds will be distributed directly to the creditors and must be accompanied by copies of invoices when presented to the Court for payment.
5. If request is approved, copies of all receipts/bills and the application must be turned over to the treasurer before any disbursement will be made.
6. To ensure confidentiality, all names and personal information will be removed from the copies of the receipts/bills and the application. The application will then be designated with a number.
7. If the balance of the RCGSE AIDS Fund exceeds \$4,000, the reigning Emperor shall have the option of donating the overage to a worthy AIDS cause or organization.

### **7-3 Cancer Fund**

The Cancer Fund is designed to assist those persons who find themselves afflicted with Cancer and the monetary obligations which occur. Guidelines for the administration of these funds are as follows:

1. At the beginning of each reign, the reigning Monarchs shall appoint at least two members of the Board of Directors to oversee the administration of the Cancer Fund.
2. If a request for assistance is made from the Cancer Fund, the administrators shall work to ensure the application is complete and all requirements are met.
3. Due to the limited resources at our disposal, a maximum lifetime amount per recipient will be set at \$300.
4. Funds will be distributed directly to the creditors and must be accompanied by copies of invoices when presented to the Court for payment.

5. If request is approved, copies of all receipts/bills and the application must be turned over to the treasurer before any disbursement will be made.
6. To ensure confidentiality, all names and personal information will be removed from the copies of the receipts/bills and the application. The application will then be designated with a number.
7. If the balance of the Cancer Fund exceeds \$4,000, the reigning Empress shall have the option of donating the overage to a worthy Cancer cause or organization.

#### **7-4 The Wade DeForest "Felicia" Young Adult Fund**

The purpose of such fund will be the following, but not limited to such:

- a) Will be solely designed to help individuals or organizations benefiting people 21 years of age or younger.
- b) Will not be limited to gay youth. Any young person or organization in need may call upon such fund.
- c) Will not be limited to scholarships, but may be put toward the Court Scholarship Fund at the end of the reign if seen fit by the reigning monarchs and the president of the Board with Board approval.

(08/10/2004)

#### **7-5 Drive of the Spike Scholarship Fund**

1. In order to empower individuals within our community, the RCGSE will establish a scholarship fund entitled the Drive of the Spike Scholarship Fund. A minimum of \$1000, but not limited to that amount, must be awarded each year at Coronation. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for raising and monitoring these funds. To insure there will be a minimum of \$1000 available each year, 2% from every court-sponsored function shall be placed into a profit bearing account known as the Scholarship Reserve.

Functions exempt to the 2% are:

Coronation

PWA Kickoff

Functions during AIDS Awareness Week

Functions during Snowball Weekend

Functions during Cancer Awareness Week

The principle of the reserve shall remain untouched unless it exceeds \$1000. Any overage will be transferred to the Scholarship Fund.

(01/16/2007)

#### **2. Scholarship Panel**

Scholarship distribution and policies will be governed yearly by a Scholarship Panel consisting of the following members: President of the Board of Directors, the Reigning Monarchs, the Reigning Prince and Princess Royale and one Board member from the elected Board of Directors. In recognition of being the creators of the Drive of the Spike Scholarship Fund, the Scholarship Panel will extend an invitation to Emperor XX Peter Christie and Empress XX Sheneka Christie (aka Ralph Currington) to serve as honorary members of the panel each year. They will also be invited to be on stage during the time the scholarships are awarded. If any member of the standing panel, excluding honorary members, is unable or chooses not to serve on the panel, the Board of Directors will elect a replacement for them.

#### **3. Distribution of Money**

The President of the Board of Directors and the Reigning Monarchs will distribute scholarship monies being awarded that year at Coronation at the designated time that evening. Special recognition will be given to Emperor XX Peter Christie and Empress XX Sheneka Christie as the originators of the Drive of the Spike Scholarship Fund. (03/18/2003)

#### **7-6 Peoples Concern Fund**

This fund is to provide relief for those needing financial assistance due to an unforeseeable tragedy or emergency.

This fund is not limited to the guidelines mentioned below. The Peoples Concern Fund is to be used in manners as described as follows:

- a) To help individuals whose personal rights have been violated due to their sexual orientation.
- b) To help individuals with extreme medical problems that are not AIDS/Cancer related.
- c) To help individuals involved in litigation that does not involve drug/alcohol offenses.
- d) To help individuals with utility bills where the service is being disconnected and/or have been given notice that payment must be paid within ten days (Final Notice), or termination of services will be put in affect.
- e) To assist individuals with emergency funding when needed. (I.e. death in family, wrongful termination, car issues, natural disaster.)
- f) At no time will any individual be allowed to receive more than \$200 during any one reign. The administration of this fund will be done through the Prince and Princess under the direction of the Board of Directors.
- g) Applications will be available at all times through the Court website and the Prince and Princess.

(09/04/2003)

#### **7-7 Travel Donations**

The Travel Fund shall be established for monies donated above and beyond the budgeted travel allowances. The only restrictions on the account are that it is divided equally between the Emperor and Empress, and no more than two functions in a year can be thrown by the RCGSE, or in the realm, for the purpose of filling the account. Money is to come from direct donations or functions thrown on behalf of the monarchs by other courts.

(03/30/2005)

## **7-8 The Pride Fund**

The Pride Fund shall be established to ensure the RCGSE can take part in the annual Pride Day festivities. This will also ensure that our organization and our mission remains a visible presence to the community we serve. The guidelines for the fund and raising and administration of monies are as follows:

1. Money raised for the Pride Fund shall be the responsibility of, but no limited to, the reigning Mr., Miss and Ms. Gay Pride of the RCGSE.
  - a. 50% of the money raised during their required function shall go to the Pride Fund and 50% shall go to the fund of their choosing.
2. Any money raised shall be used to:
  - a. Secure an entry in the Pride Parade for the RCGSE.
  - b. Secure a booth during the Pride festival.
  - c. Help pay for any insurance that the RCGSE will need for the Pride festivities.
  - d. Cover the cost of items for the float and items to be used in the boot at the festival.
    - I - Money shall not be used by anyone representing the RCGSE in the parade or in the booth or otherwise for personal reasons, i.e. food and drink, personal purchases at the festival, etc.
- 3 A committee consisting of two members of the Board of Directors as well as the reigning Mr., Miss and Ms. Gay Pride of the RCGSE shall be established by the last board meeting in March of each year. The responsibility of this committee will be:
  - a. To acquire and complete all necessary forms from the Utah Pride Center to:
    - I – Have an entry in the Pride Parade.
    - II - Have a booth during the Pride festival.
  - b. Attend any required meetings or briefings concerning the Pride festivities.
  - c. Coordinate and work with the newly crowned Mr., Miss and Ms. Gay Pride of the RCGSE, as well as, anyone else willing to volunteer, to construct our float/entry in the parade and putting together anything needed for our booth at the festival.

## **VOTING-BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **8-1 Voting**

Let it be known, by resolution of the Board of Directors of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire, Board members will have the following voting rights:

Yes

No

Not casting a vote

Any matter brought before the Board requiring a vote in order to pass, must receive a simple majority of "Yes" votes from active Board members present at the meeting (51%), or 2/3 thirds for certain matters as required in the Bylaws and Resolutions.

In addition, all voting conducted at Board Meetings shall be done by a show of hands with the exception of Peoples Concern Fund issues. Board members with current voting rights shall have the right to request a vote by ballot for any reason. (08/26/2003)

Board member voting rights are outlined in Bylaw VII, section 11.

### **8-2 Phone Votes**

Whenever a situation arises that would require action by the Board of Directors outside a regularly scheduled Board meeting, the following will apply:

1. The Chairperson of the Board and both of the co-Presidents will discuss the situation and determine if a phone vote is needed or if the matter can wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting. This decision must be unanimous.
2. The Chairperson and/or the Board Secretary will make the phone and/or email contacts.
3. The Secretary will list all members of the Board with active voting rights and will make at least two attempts (one attempt should be during the evening hours if the first unsuccessful attempt was made during the day) to contact all members with voting rights. The situation will be explained to each member and a YES, NO, or UNABLE TO CONTACT notation placed by each name. A TWO-THIRDS majority of the voting members must be contacted (regardless of the time involved or the numbers of attempts necessary) to constitute what will be considered a voting quorum.
4. The Secretary will contact the Chairperson of the Board with the results of the voting quorum. A majority vote of the voting quorum will be the action of the Board. And the voting list will be brought to the next scheduled meeting to be read into the minutes.
5. The Chairperson, as in any action, will vote only in the case of a tie, and will be responsible to see that the results of the vote are properly implemented.
6. Any action that requires, by bylaw, a two-thirds majority vote of the Board cannot be considered for a phone vote
7. The President and/or Board Secretary must state the action and the outcome of the vote, so that it may be entered into the Board minutes. (08/10/2004)

### **8-3 Confidentiality of the Board**

Information discussed at Board meetings is open information to the general membership, with the exception of following:

- a) Persons, names, or information relating to monies given out from the People's Concern Fund
- b) Board members who are not able to maintain confidentiality when needed may be subject to action by the Disciplinary Committee. Board members are asked to remember that, due to the nature of our organization, all information is ultimately accessible to the public and therefore

should maintain professional discussions when in Board meetings. (5/11/1993)

c) Board members are expected to maintain confidentiality of information whether they are presently or no longer serving on the Board; in short, what was learned in confidence remains in confidence perpetuity.

Board members who are not able to do so may be subject to action by the Disciplinary Committee.

#### **8-4 Excused Absences**

Any active member of the Board of Directors of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire may be granted an excused absence if they are unable to attend Board meetings due to an illness that requires hospitalization or extended home care after hospitalization. Excused absences will not affect the voting rights or proxies of the

Board member and there will be no limits on the number of absences taken by an Active Board member during a reign. During an excused absence, the President of the Board of Directors may assign the excused Board member's vote to another active Board member who is not already holding a proxy. An excused absence may be granted during the current reign only, and expires on the first scheduled Board Meeting of the next reign. Excused absences may also be granted to Board Members who have to care for a longtime companion or immediate family members during home care after hospitalization.

#### **8-5 Non-Board Members at Board Meetings**

To promote involvement as well as an understanding of the business operations within the general membership of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire all REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS of the

RCGSE shall be open to all interested persons wishing to sit in on such meetings. NON-VOTING spectators shall not interfere in any way in the operations of the board and will not be allowed a vote unless otherwise provided for within the bylaws of the RCGSE. An executive session may be called to discuss business deemed "sensitive nature" (discussions regarding, but not limited to, the Peoples Concern Fund). (7/20/1999)

#### **8-6 Registered Agent**

In the event of the death, resignation, inability or refusal of the President of the Board to serve, the Registered

Agent shall assume the position of the Interim President of the Board of Directors. This individual shall hold the position until such time the Emperor and Empress nominate a new candidate to the Board for approval to fill that position. And this action shall be automatic and not require any action by the Board.

#### **8-7 Spokesperson**

Whereas the RCGSE is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising money to improve the lives of others, and whereas the Court encourages its members to be active in the community and to freely express their opinions on community affairs, and whereas it is necessary to the mission of the Court for the organization to maintain the respect and support of the entire community, be it resolved that the current president of the Board of Directors be the official spokesperson for the organization. In their absence it will fall the reigning Emperor and Empress. Be it further resolved that only the spokesperson shall make any statement on behalf of the RCGSE.

### **REPORTS**

#### **9-1 Budget Report**

Let it be known from this day forth by resolution of the Board of Directors, the Budget Chairperson shall give a Budget Report at the first Board meeting of September, November, January, March and May. Said report will state the percentage and total amount of each budget item at that time. Also, he/she will give a year-end report at the first Board meeting in July. (7/12/1994)

#### **9-2 Audits**

In order to insure the integrity of RCGSE Funds, members of the Budget Committee shall perform an annual audit of the previous year's books. If prior year's Treasurer is a part of this committee, he/she shall not participate in the actual audit and his/her duties will consist only of what is spelled out below.

1. If available, the prior year's Treasurer shall make themselves available to the auditors to answer any questions they might have. Additionally the prior year's treasurer shall provide to the auditors the following:

A breakdown of all transactions including, deposits, checks, transfers, or any other activity in regards to the individual funds and savings, and checking accounts.

Copies of all bank statements that cover the fiscal year being audited.

Cancelled checks, deposit receipts, check request forms, and any other documentation that the auditors might find relevant.

2. Once finished, the Committee shall report their findings to the Board of Directors. Record of findings shall be entered into minutes and recommendations regarding possible changes should be conveyed to the current Treasurer.

#### **9-3 Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report duties are amended to include a bi-weekly report that includes the following columns for each category unless logically or mathematically unfeasible:

Reign Starting Balance

Deposits since the last report  
Debits, etc, since the last report  
Reign-to-date deposits  
Reign-to-date debits, etc  
Find current balance

Additionally the bank balance un-dispersed amounts, and credits due (i.e. sales, tax, refunds, etc.) A comparison of what is actually in the bank vs. all positive balances from the funds. (02/22/2005)

## **GENERAL ELECTION**

### **10-1 General election campaign rules**

In order for an individual to seek an elected office in the RCGSE, they must meet the following qualifications and attend a Candidate interview at which time they are to pay the candidate campaign fee and submit an 8 x 10 black & white photo.

#### **1. Qualifications for running for a RCGSE office**

- a) The candidate must be 21 years of age and a resident of the State of Utah twelve (12) months prior to application.
- b) Any member aspiring to seek an office must attend 70% of all general Court meetings during the current reign, until and including the first meeting in the month of April, and responsible for signing the membership roll sheets themselves.
- c) A candidate must be a member in good standing of the current reign at least nine (9) months prior to candidate interviews (April). (A candidate is not eligible to run for office if they have an outstanding debt with the RCGSE.)
- d) A candidate must not have any outstanding debts or bad checks with the business's, bars and organizations of the gay community.
- e) Any other requirements stated in the RCGSE bylaws.
- f) The candidate must be approved and indorsed by a 2/3 vote by the Board of Directors
- g) A member of the Board of Directors or a member of the College of Monarchs who is also a candidate for the office of Emperor or Empress will not have a vote counted for that office. This done to promote fairness for all candidates who wish to run for an elected office since those Board Members are not present for the opposing candidates interview(s).(09/04/2003)

#### **2. Candidate Interviews**

- a) Candidates will meet with a Board Representative (selected and approved by the Board and the candidates at the time of candidate interviews) following interviews and prior to Golden Spike Awards to decide how campaign functions are to be run: (A) together, (B) separately, or a combination of both.
- b) Any candidate unable to attend the interviews must make arrangements before hand to reschedule their interview.
- c) Any active member of the Board of Directors that is a campaign manager of a candidate for an elected office may not participate in the interview process for candidates seeking the same position.
- d) Candidate interviews are considered a "sensitive nature" and will fall under the guidelines stated in Resolution 8-5.

#### **3. Voter qualifications:**

- a) All persons voting must show proof of residency by a Utah driver license, a Utah State I.D. card or military I.D. issued from a Utah Military base or post. There will be no exceptions. Passports are not valid I.D.
- b) There will be no campaigning, to include telling someone how to vote, or loitering by anyone in or around the voting room. Candidates and their staff will not be allowed in or around the voting area except to cast their votes. (This includes the parking lot).
- c) The President of the Board of Directors will provide a list of people who are allowed in the voting room. This list must be presented at the Board meeting prior to voting. Before presenting the list to the Board, the President must review the list with the Candidates and the Board Representative. (This list should include, but not limited to the Emperor and Empress, Coronation Ticket Sales Coordinator, and the Board Representative.)
- d) Voting will occur at least one week prior to Coronation in a neutral territory and not in a bar or on bar property. Voting will be one day and will be for a 12 hour period.
- e) The Board of Directors will advertise throughout the community voting information regarding the general election. The advertising must include the date, time, location, voting qualifications, the court website and the court phone number. No information regarding candidates will be on the poster. The advertising will be paid for through the General Fund.

#### **4. Campaign rules**

- a) No candidate may campaign prior to the day of Golden Spike Awards, 12:01 A.M., posters, etc., may appear at that time. Pre-campaigning (discussing your intention of seeking an elected office by soliciting votes with possible voting members of the community) will be a violation and may result in your inability to seek office.
- b) The reigning Emperor and Empress, President of the Board and reigning Prince and Princess Royale may not openly endorse or campaign for any candidate.
- c) The reigning Emperor and Empress and the Board of Directors will set the length and dates of the campaign. However, the candidates have priority for all scheduling during the campaign period with the exception of prescheduled General Court or Board meetings.
- d) The candidate must contact each business individually regarding location, the size and the number of posters that are allowed in their bar. A signed statement from the business's manager and or owner must be received regarding the decision.
- e) To make unveiling fair for all candidates, the Board Representative will be in charge of coordinating the unveiling ceremony. The Posters for unveiling cannot be bigger than 22 x 28. The candidates and the Board of directors shall decide the location of the unveiling.
- f) Candidates and their campaign managers are responsible for the actions of their Campaign.
- g) Campaign is defined as the candidate, the candidate's campaign manager, the candidate's campaign committee, and all persons campaigning

on behalf of that candidate.

h) No Campaign will deface any business; graffiti is prohibited.

i) Campaigns cannot buy votes.

j) All complaints must be personally referred to the Board representative by the candidate himself/herself.

k) Any Campaign that is found in noncompliance with any campaign rules will be called to a meeting of the Board of Directors to review the situation. The Board Representative must initiate any noncompliance issues before the Board. The Board of Directors will then decide if action should be taken, including revocation of candidacy and/or impose fines on that candidate deductible from that candidates campaign refund and will see that such action is enforced.

l) Candidates may have one poster in the voting room during voting and one of each in the hospitality suites. No other paraphernalia may be posted in these areas. The poster cannot be bigger than 22 x 28.

m) Board of Directors will provide 1 (one) "voting shuttle" complete with a driver.

n) Candidates are allowed to provide their own shuttle; rule #13 does not apply

o) RCGSE voting shuttles cannot be decorated inside or out with any signs, pins, flyers, or any other campaign paraphernalia. Candidates and/or campaigning will not be allowed in voting shuttles.

(RCGSE voting shuttles defined as shuttles provided by the RCGSE, including any that are provided from the Candidate Campaign Fund.)

#### 5. Candidate Campaign Fees

a) Campaign fees are as follows:

\$100.00 per Emperor Candidate

\$100.00 per Empress Candidate

b) Campaign fees will go into a campaign fund for use by the candidates.

c) Criteria for the refund of Candidate Campaign fees:

Campaign fees will be refunded at the first Board meeting of the reign.

The amount refunded is to be calculated by the amount of that candidate's campaign fee minus any money spent plus any money made.

d) Reasons why a Candidate may not receive their full Campaign fee refund:

A candidate will be responsible for four (4) hours of assistance to the Coronation Coordinator. This may be done either personally or by a representative of the Candidate. The candidate or their representative will be responsible to sign in with the coronation Coordinator. NOTE: If the candidate sends a representative, they must show up or the candidate will be held responsible. Any candidate (or their representative) that does not show up for their four (4) hours of work, will not receive their candidates' fee refund and it will be donated to the General Fund.

Candidates are responsible for the cleanup of all campaign paraphernalia in the bars 24 hours after Coronation, or they may be fined at the Boards discretion from their share of the Candidate Campaign Fund. If a Candidate's campaign is found in violation of the campaign rules and fined by the Board of Directors, their fine will be deducted from their portion of the refund of the Candidate Campaign Fund. If the Candidate does not get a signed waiver regarding poster sizes and an issue arises with the bar/ establishment/ manager/ owner pertaining to that matter, their campaign fee may be withheld.

(09/04/2003)

#### 10-2 Yes or NO votes, Refusal to accept office

During the election process for any RCGSE title or position, should only one candidate apply or be found eligible to run for the position, the ballot will call for a YES or NO vote for that candidate. Should the candidate receive a majority of NO votes, the following will apply.

1. For any position other than Emperor or Empress, the position or title will not be filled. During the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board will have the option of filling the vacancy with a person of their choosing who receives a majority of affirmative votes from the Board of Directors.

2. If the candidate receiving the majority of NO votes is running for Emperor or Empress, it will be considered an inability to serve and the position will be according to the existing Bylaws and Proclamations of the RCGSE. (7/16/2002)

3. For further clarification, since the Monarchs reign is from one Coronation until the next coronation, the same is true for their Imperial family. Thus, in the case of a NO vote, the College of Monarchs shall assume the position as set forth in the Bylaws of the RCGSE.

#### 10-3 No Candidates for the office of Emperor and/or Empress

In the event that no candidates seek, or qualify for, the position of Emperor and/or Empress, the College of Monarchs shall have the option of either:

1. At the time of the candidate interviews, the College shall present candidates for the office(s) to campaign for the position.

2. Appoint a past Monarch during the Crowning Ceremony at Coronation to fill the position. The past Monarch, who accepts or is elected to the office per this resolution, shall known as Regent during that reign. The position(s) shall be offered to any past Monarch, who is willing to step into the vacancy, as approved by the College of Monarchs.

## ODDS & ENDS

#### 11-1 Button Machine

The Registered Agent of the RCGSE shall to be responsible for the Court button machine and shall make sure the machine is kept in good repair, keep a log of its use and see that the following agreement is kept with anyone who uses it:

A fifty dollar (\$50.00) deposit is left for the use of the machine.

From April 1 to May 31, the machine can be rented for two (2) days only.

From June 1 until March 31, the machine can be rented for one (1) week.

There shall be no rental fee unless:

The machine is not returned on time (there will be a \$5.00 per day late fee charged).

The machine is not returned in good repair (the person using the machine shall be charged repair costs). (3/8/1994)

### **11-2 Out of Realm Courts in Dispute**

Any court recognized by the International Court System experiencing internal disputes of legitimacy (that we are aware of) shall not be acknowledged by the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire until their internal concerns are resolved. The courts in dispute are welcome to visit the realm of the RCGSE; however, neither none of the disputing parties' titles will be acknowledged nor will they be allowed to participate in any of our court sponsored functions including Coronation. (09/04/2003)

### **11-3 Lifetime Achievement Award**

At Golden Spike Awards, the reigning Emperor and Empress will present "THE ROYAL COURT LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD" to someone within the court whose dedication and persistent efforts within the Court merit this special recognition. (7/19/1990)

### **11-4 Excellence of the Spike Award**

The reigning Emperor and Empress will choose an individual from their reign who has shown extraordinary support, to be the recipient of the "EXCELLENCE OF THE SPIKE AWARD". This award will be presented annually the night of Coronation. (05/28/1995)

### **11-5 Citizens of Utah for Life**

Because of their dedication, love and respect of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire, two (2) individuals from outside the realm (of the RCGSE) may be selected as "Citizens of RCGSE". These individuals shall have all the privileges of a regular RCGSE court member. They shall be chosen by the reigning Emperor and Empress and will be named each year at Coronation (08/10/2004).

### **11-6 Court Member of the Month**

The Emperor and Empress shall have the option to select a Court Member of the Month. All Court members in good standing are eligible for this recognition. These individuals shall be recognized through but not limited to, the Court newsletter, local newspapers, the website and/or any other means available. The recipients shall receive a certificate as part of this recognition. The Certificates are to be a budgeted item.

### **11-7 Court Member of the Year**

The reigning Emperor and Empress will choose an individual from their reign who has shown extraordinary support, to be the recipient of the "COURT MEMBER OF THE YEAR". This award will be presented annually the night of Coronation.

### **11-8 Board Member of the Year**

The reigning Emperor and Empress will choose an individual from their Board of Directors who has shown extraordinary support, to be the recipient of the "BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR". This award will be presented annually the night of Coronation.

### **11-9 Program Ads**

Any individual, organization, or business wishing to place an ad in any program for an RCGSE event, to include Coronation, PR Ball, Pageants, etc must have their ad to the current program advertising coordinator prior to the deadline set by said coordinator annually. At this time a contract must be signed in order for the ad to be placed in the program. All ads in must be paid in full prior to the program in printed or it will be deleted from the program.

Contract added at the end of the RESOLUTIONS to be considered as "original" for copying purposes.

## **DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

### **12-1 Disciplinary Sanctions (passed as resolution with intent to be Bylaw Addition)**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

To uphold the reputation and the integrity of the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire and establish the Court's policy on disciplinary sanctions.

#### **2. GENERAL POLICY**

The Royal Court strives to provide and maintain continuous involvement through effective planning and communication with its members. Under Court policy, disciplinary actions of members are expected to be handled in such a manner as to achieve the least adverse effect upon the members and the Royal Court of the Golden Spike Empire.

#### **3. DEFINITIONS**

Discipline: Action (including imposition of sanctions) undertaken to correct or modify unacceptable performance or behavior to acceptable

standards.

Sanctions: Disciplinary measures imposed, including oral or written reprimand, warning letter, probation, suspension, or expulsion.

#### 4. CAUSE

Imposition of member sanctions, for cause, may result for the following reasons under circumstances that demonstrate the inability or unwillingness of the member to meet their duties and/or responsibilities to the

Court:

- a) Negligence
- b) Incompetence
- c) Excessive absence and/or tardiness
- d) Misuse of Court property or funds
- e) Disorderly conduct
- f) Unauthorized acquisition of donations, goods, money, materials or services
- g) Fraud or misrepresentation
- h) Unjustified interference with the duties of other

#### 5. PROCEDURES

- a) Any accusation of the aforementioned offenses must be submitted in writing to the President of the Board of Directors and/or the Reigning Monarchs. These individuals shall decide necessity to call a meeting of the Disciplinary Panel.
- b) If a member of the RCGSE is brought before the Panel, they shall have the right to defend themselves and confront their accuser.
- c) The member should be warned and given an opportunity to improve before sanctions are imposed. This warning can be given orally or in written form, stating the members alleged offense(s) and outlining corrective action to be taken within a specific time limit, up to 90 days with the ability to review and extend. The President of the Board and/or the Reigning Monarchs is responsible for initiating warning procedures for disciplinary purposes.
- d) Sanctions may be imposed for one or more but not limited to the grounds described above (D). Sanctions ordinarily should be limited to measures that are deemed likely to achieve the purposes as stated above. Should not be disproportionately severe in relation to the grounds for their imposition, and should be calculated to give due consideration to any special circumstances that may tend to reduce the seriousness of the member's sanctionable actions or omissions.
- e) Any situation involving a past monarch would be handled within a panel consisting of members of the College of Monarchs

#### 6. AVAILABLE AVENUE OF REVIEW AND ACTION

- a) Disciplinary Panel shall consist of five (5) Board members including the President of the Board, the Emperor (President), Empress (President), and two additional Board members selected by the Board of Directors. If any of the above mentioned members are involved in the disciplinary action being reviewed, they must be replaced. A Board member previously holding that same position must then replace those excluded.
- b) The Disciplinary Panel shall review the allegation and then by majority vote will take appropriate disciplinary action to resolve any minor offense, with no further Board of Directors action required.
- c) If the Panel deems the sanction requires suspension of the member's title, position, or expulsion, they will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors to call for a General Membership vote.

7. After the Disciplinary Panel takes any action, it shall be read at the next Board meeting and recorded in the Board minutes in a closed session. (09/04/2003)

## 12-2 Outstanding Debts, Theft, and Negligence

### 1. Definitions

- a) Any individual, organization, or business owing money to the RCGSE is a "debtor"
- b) An original debt is a debt which is still pending a prearranged date of payment or for which a date of post payment needs to be agreed upon
- c) A past due debt is an original debt for which has surpassed the arranged date of payment by 10 business days, or an original debt for which a date of payment has not been negotiated within 10 business days from the date it was created.

### 2. Past Due Debts

- a) Payments which have exceeded the arranged date of payment by five or more business days shall be contacted by phone, e-mail and/or U.S. mail, at the discretion of the sitting Treasurer. A period of no more than 10 business days, but no less than five business days, shall be considered sufficient, not withstanding special knowledge of the absence of the debtor(or debtor's agent) from their legal address, for response. Failure to respond will be deemed an indication of intent to default. The debtor will then be presented with a demand for payment via U.S. Registered mail. A period of no more than 10 business days, but no less than five business days, shall be considered sufficient, not withstanding special knowledge of the absence of the debtor(or debtor's agent) from their legal address, for response. Failure to respond will be deemed an indication of intent to default.
- b) The debtor of an original debt for which a date of payment has not been negotiated within ten business days from the date upon which it was created not withstanding special knowledge of the absence of the debtor (or debtor's agent) from their legal address, for response. Failure to respond will be deemed an indication of intent to default. The debtor will then be presented with a demand for payment via U.S. Registered mail. . A period of no more than 10 business days, but no less than five business days, shall be considered sufficient, not withstanding special knowledge of the absence of the debtor(or debtor's agent) from their legal address, for response. Failure to respond will be deemed an indication of intent to default.

### 3. Defaulted Debts

a) At the discretion of the Board of Directors a defaulted debt of sufficient value may be pursued via feasible legal remedy. Provided said remedy can be secured "pro bono" or at a rate of return exceeding 50% of the original debt after payment of costs associated with recover

### 4. Provision for Court members

- a) We cannot, and should not, prevent debtors from attending our functions. Any donations or entry fees they may pay will not offset the loss.
- b) Current titles and position will be suspended without further discussion. Membership will not be, however newsletters will stop.
- c) Said individual(s) cannot seek or be appointed to an office, or enter in a pageant of the RCGSE.
- d) We do not charge interest, however service fees will be collected.

### 5. Theft

- a) At the discretion of the Board of Directors a demonstrable theft should be pursued, constrained by the provisions and guidelines of 7-2. C.1
- b) Charity and contribution considered, the Board of Directors at its discretion implement a repayment schedule with the guilty party(ies) dependent on a 2/3 majority of the entire board, no proxies allowed.
- c) Theft accompanied by intent to conceal is to be reported to the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting after the Executive Committee has proof of both the theft and the attempt to conceal. Immediately following that meeting the proper authorities are to be contacted.

### 6. Negligence

a) Loss to the Court through blatant demonstrable negligence is comparable to theft. The easiest way to alleviate individual liability is to alert the Board of Directors to any possible loss at least one scheduled meeting in advance of any deadline, or by contacting the President of the Board, Treasurer, or a Reigning Monarch at least two days prior to any deadline when there was no previous knowledge of the peril.

In the event of:

### 7. Monetary Loss

a) Individual (s) will never be given financial responsibility, or power to disperse again.

### 8. Property Loss

a) Individual (s) will have their ability to access Court property unsupervised suspended for a year on the first offense. A second offense will result in a permanent ban on unsupervised access to Court property.

9. All negligence-based reprimands are a discretionary prerogative of the Board of Directors (02/22/2005)