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DRESS CODE FOR PIKEMEN

Guidance for the Pikemen of the Cittie of London Brigade

The purpose of this document is to share the aims and ambitions of the Cittie of London Brigade with its current members, new members and potential members looking for advice and guidance on what equipment is suitable for their chosen role. The main aim is to diversify our appearance under our individual regimental coats. Sombre coloured clothing is always likely to be suitable – greys, greens, browns etc. (*imagine anything created by a vegetable dye*).

We have prioritised certain items as they are the most important to get a new member involved with the regiment as soon as possible. We unashamedly have put authentic shoes first – they are expensive, but they are the single most important item in the authentic presentation of the regiment. Please support this decision by lending kit to new members thus minimising initial expense. We have also defined Parade and Battle Order. Parade Order is where we are doing displays and ‘*showing off*’ – Battle Order will be stripped out and ready for fighting!

PARADE ORDER – PIKE

FIRST LEVEL EQUIPMENT

- Closed Latchet shoes, Pikeman’s boots or Start-ups. (*Please try to get footwear first if you are a new member, the rest of your equipment can be borrowed to start with*).
- Regimental Coat – patched is ok but not torn. Patches should either match coat or be muted natural colours. (*Available from Regimental Seamstress*). Singlet – muted colours, wooden, cloth or pewter buttons. (*A doublet of the same colour as your breeches can be worn instead of a Singlet*)
- English Morion Steel Helmet. (*Traditionally leather lined, un-lined and worn with an English Cap or Monmouth, but definitely not lined with sponge!*)
- English bonnet, Monmouth Cap or Montero – muted sombre colour. (*NO Scots Bonnets unless in Covenanter Role*).
- Back and Breastplate Pikeman’s Armour. (*Tassets look good for early Civil War persona*).
- Plain linen / natural coloured shirt with collar or if collarless you should wear a jabot (*a linen strip approx. 3 inches wide and 36 inches long worn around the neck like a modern day cravat*). Coloured shirts shall not be worn – *keep them for off the field and out of the view of the public*.
- Breeches – of a dark or sombre natural colour – patched is ok but not torn. Patches should be natural wool or muted natural colours. (*Dark blue and black breeches will be reserved for commissioned Officers as these are the richest dyes*)
- Hose should be knitted wool, woollen cloth or linen. Colours should be natural and subdued. Cotton hose can be worn under woollen hose, if you need the comfort, but must not be seen.
- Leg ties should be cloth, linen or inkle loom woven wool. No modern fabrics or ribbons.
- Leather gauntlets – muted natural colours (*Welders gloves are not acceptable*)

- Snapsack, leather or heavy duty canvass or linen – make sure it has something in it to give it shape. Items that support the story of your 17th Century persona could be carried in it? Maybe a blanket or spare clothing.

SECOND LEVEL EQUIPMENT

- Sword in scabbard hung from either a sword belt or baldric – when choosing items they should be appropriate for the rank and social status of the person you are portraying (*If in doubt seek guidance from your Divisional Officer*)
- Water bottle – *hung over the shoulder.*
- Other bags & pouches for personal items.

EXTRA EQUIPMENT

- Appealing to the pikeman's interest in staying alive we might expect to see additional weapons – cudgels, clubs, daggers, knives etc. Make sure that anything sharp is safely sheathed to prevent accidental injury to either you or the public.
- Will you have food with you? If so how will you carry it and keep it clean? Will you have cooking equipment with you?
- Will you have a bedroll to sleep on? Maybe a blanket can be used to keep you warm and dry when on camp? Muted vegetable dye colours are most suitable – avoid bright colours.
- Will you have spare kit with you? Spare shoes, clothing?
- Maybe you have a little business selling something whilst in the camp – a small selection of fruit and vegetables on a bit of cloth makes you a greengrocer – a few beeswax candles makes you a candle maker; think of your own role and bring the kit.
- What about games to gamble on? Dice, cards etc expect to be berated by the Regimental Preacher!
- Is your character religious? A bible?
- Drinking tankards for common soldiers are more likely to have been leather or wooden rather than pewter.
- What personal items do you have – a love token from a sweetheart; a horn comb; a horn drinking cup; a whetstone for sharpening knives, weapons etc; a purse with some coins; some cutlery? Pamphlets – are you educated, maybe an apprentice? Flint and steel for setting a fire complete with kindling? A clay pipe and a little tobacco? Needle and thread to repair equipment on the march?
- Do you have an even bigger secret – are you a woman serving in the ranks? There is historical precedent for Hammonds to have women serving in the regiment of 1645. This could make an interesting story.
- Use authentic political and free religious slogans and statements to personalise your equipment – remember we are representing The New Model Army a professional standing army that are very much committed to the causes of Parliament.

BATTLE ORDER - PIKE DIVISION

Battle Order for the pike will include Helmet, Back & Breast, and snapsack over usual regimental coats, breeches, woollen hose/linen boot hose, shirt and jabot (*exposed at the neck*), gauntlets, latched shoes, pikeman's boots or start-ups.

This Standing Order is issued for the Citty of London Brigade, this daye 22nd February 2016.
By Order.

Jon Courtney-Thompson
Colonel & Officer Commanding Citty of London Brigade