

General Chirurgeonate Policies for Pennsic 36

Applicable to all on-duty Chirurgeonate personnel

1. For reasons of safety and sanitation, and to present an appropriate image to the populace, shoes and shirt are required at all times when on duty at First Aid Point or on the Battlefield. Closed-toe shoes are recommended, but not absolutely required, due to occasional presence of sharp objects.
2. The Crew Chief or Battle CIC (or above) may defer anyone from working on a specific shift if in her or his judgment that person is not suitable for duty due to apparent intoxication, excessive fatigue, emotional upset, or other causes. This deferral of duty is without prejudice and does not bar the person from working on future shifts once the situation has been remedied.
3. A strict eight hour “bottle to throttle” rule will be enforced for all personnel who are providing or directly supervising patient care. This means that treating Chirurgeons, Crew Chiefs, and Nonmedical Volunteers assisting with patient records must not have consumed any alcoholic beverages for eight hours prior to the start of their duty shift. All personnel are urged to consider the effects of any medications that may pose a similar hazard to quality of care, and to refrain from working when under the influence of such medications. No alcohol may be consumed while on duty nor stored at First Aid Point.
4. Privacy of patients is to be protected at all times. This will be **very strictly enforced**.
5. Except in case of major emergency, no one providing or directly supervising patient care is to work more than 12 hours in a single 24-hour period. Exemptions may be approved by a Deputy Chirurgeon Coordinator or above.
6. Nonmedical volunteers are not expected, nor permitted, to clean up bodily fluids or otherwise work in biohazard situations. They may change dry bedding or help with disposal of normal trash.
7. During normal operations, the EMS team are to be the first point of contact with all incoming patients. They will refer patients not requiring advanced care to the Chirurgeonate, and the Crew Chief or battlefield team leader will assign one or more Chirurgeons to assist each patient.
8. Regardless of any other circumstances, **if any patient specifically requests EMS or an ambulance, alert the Crew Chief at once so that the patient can be referred to EMS immediately.**
9. When a patient needs to be referred to EMS, the referral should normally be directed through the Crew Chief. **If for any reason the Crew Chief cannot be quickly located for an EMS referral, the person with the patient is to alert EMS directly or send a runner to do so.**
10. Per Pennsic policy, smoking is not permitted within or just outside First Aid Point at any time (see the site book for the official policy). Because of the presence of bottled oxygen at First Aid Point, the non-smoking rule will be very strictly enforced. Smoking while treating a patient is also not permitted, due to the possibility of asthma, allergies, or similar conditions.
11. Any monetary donations from the populace are to be placed (preferably by the donor) directly into the sealed donation box. It is not permitted to hold or withdraw cash from donations to purchase items.
12. All volunteers and EMS are welcome in the “ready room” tent behind First Aid Point. Socializing (quietly, please, for the sake of our patients) is permitted, as is use or charging of portable electronic devices. You are responsible for the security of your property. If you are in the “ready room” you are considered to be available for emergency duty if needed.
13. Active volunteers are entitled to shower privileges, in proportion to the volunteer time given. As a general rule, one shower per four-hour shift is considered appropriate. Everyone who uses the showers or sinks in the trailer is expected to help with keeping them clean. The trailer is shared by all Pennsic departments.
14. Although we are all in the SCA and will maintain “the game” within reason, First Aid activities are fundamentally in the modern domain. Everyone will be treated with equal respect regardless of title or rank in the medieval domain of the SCA all the way through.