



Office and Court of the Lord Lyon - Guidance Note

Succession to a Scottish Peerage or Nova Scotian Baronetcy or to a Peerage or Baronetcy of Great Britain or the United Kingdom with a Scottish Territorial designation **Matriculations of Arms with additaments appropriate to a Peerage or Baronetcy**

1. ***Official recognition as peer or baronet*** - Before a person may be officially recognised as a peer or a baronet their name has to be entered in either the Roll of the Peerage established by Royal Warrant given on 1 & 3 June 2004¹ or in the Official Roll of the Baronetage established by Royal Warrant given on 8 February 1910².
2. ***Evidence of succession*** - The Assistant Registrar of the Peerage & Baronetage will generally accept a Matriculation of a Coat of Arms by the Lord Lyon King of Arms with the additaments appropriate to a peer or baronet as evidence of succession to a Scottish Peerage or Nova Scotian Baronetcy or to a peerage or baronetcy of Great Britain or the United Kingdom as evidence for entry onto the Roll. Succession can also be proved in the other ways set out in the Ministry of Justice Guidance letters noted below. However, the Matriculation is but evidence of the succession and the person concerned cannot be officially recognised as a peer or a baronet until their name has been entered on the Roll.
3. ***The Rolls*** - The Royal Warrants provide as follows:

The Peerage Royal Warrant paragraph 3:

- “3. *Peers not entered on the Roll not entitle to precedence of Peerage etc*
Any Peer who is not entered on the Roll shall not:
(a) be entitled to any precedence attaching to his Peerage;

¹ The Gazette – Royal Warrant Roll of the Peerage
<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/notice/L-57314-889>

² The Edinburgh Gazette – Royal Warrant Roll of Baronetage
<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/Edinburgh/issue/12645/page/210>

(b) be addressed or referred to by any title attaching to his Peerage in any civil or military Commission, Letters Patent, or other official document.

The Baronetage Royal Warrant paragraph II:

“II. That no person whose name is not entered on the official Roll of Baronets shall be received as a Baronet, or shall be addressed or mentioned by that title in any civil or military Commission, Letters Patent, or other official document.”

4. **Matriculation of Arms** – To obtain a Matriculation of Arms with the additaments appropriate to peerage or baronetcy, a Petition to the Lord Lyon setting out the genealogical succession to the peerage or baronetcy should be lodge with the Lyon Clerk praying that the coat of arms might be re-matriculated in the name of the Petitioner with the additaments appropriate to the peerage, which are the peer’s helmet and coronet or to the baronetcy which are a canton of the arms of Nova Scotia for a baronet of Nova Scotia or the canton of the red hand of Ulster for baronets of Great Britain or the United Kingdom, with, in either case, the appropriate baronet’s badge pendant below the shield.

5. **Applications for entry on the Roll** - Applications to be entered on the Roll of Peers or on the Roll of the Baronetage are made to:

(i) Claim to a Peerage with entry onto the Register of Hereditary Peers – Ian Denyer Esq, Registrar of the Peerage

(i) Claim to a Peerage where no right to stand for election is sought - Ian Denyer Esq, Registrar of the Peerage or Grant Bavister Esq, Assistant Registrar of the Peerage

(iii) Claim to a Baronetcy - Grant Bavister Esq, Assistant Registrar of the Baronetage

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6. **Ministry of Justice Guidance Notes** - Ministry of Justice Guidance Notes on succession to Peerages and Baronetcies, although they do not record that a

matriculation at the Court of the Lord Lyon is accepted as evidence of succession, are at:

(1) Guidance Notes on Succession to a Peerage (with entry onto the Register of Hereditary Peers) –

<http://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/GuidanceNotes1.pdf>

(2) Succession to a Peerage where no right to stand for election in the Lords By-Elections is sought –

<http://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/GuidanceNotes2.pdf>

(3) Succession to a Baronetcy of Scottish Territorial Designation or Nova Scotian Creation –

<http://www.baronetage.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Guidance-Notes-Baronetcy-Scots-Territorial-or-Nova-Scotian-creation-rev-June-14.pdf>

(4) Succession to a Baronetcy other than those of Scottish Territorial Designation or Nova Scotian Creation –

<http://www.baronetage.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Guidance-Notes-Baronets-other-than-Scottish-or-Nova-Scotian-creations-rev-June-141.pdf>