



# 6<sup>th</sup> Texas District Newsletter (CCCs)

October 2024

Blake Krass, Master



## Fallout attire

There is a major emphasis from the VSM on being properly attired for fallouts. We tend to be lax in this area, especially at funerals.

Proper attire for fallouts consists of:

- Uniform blazer, pants, beret, pin, service baldric, sword, gloves, white shirt, proper footwear, etc., as seen [here](#).
- The pin must be the smaller Fourth Degree pin we have been giving out at exemplifications.
- Berets need to be properly shaped and positioned.
- Mini-jewels and current officer jewels are optional. Mini-jewels must be lined up and in the proper order.

Proper attire for fallouts is not:

- No pin or the wrong size pin or any other pin. You can wear any other pins under your lapel close to your heart so it is out of sight. The VSM does this.
- Berets that look like shower caps, skull caps, chef hats, or any other variation.
- Correct uniform but no sword.
- Suit with social baldric and pin. That is fine for social functions only, not for falling out.

Marshals and I will enforce this and CCCs should do the same. If the VSM sees or hears of pictures posted from fallouts where SKs are not in proper uniform, I will hear about it.

Spread the word – no one should be upset if we tell them they cannot join a fallout. Consider buying extra pins [here](#) for any of your SKs who have lost theirs.

## Fallout changes related to swords

We see minor changes in fallout procedures regularly. The current stress is on reducing noise from swords and scabbards. (This has not been a huge issue here but it has elsewhere.) You will hear more about this when a Marshal or I attend a fallout.

The major changes are:

- Standing instead of kneeling at Masses to avoid banging scabbards. Any SKs who cannot stand that long can sit.
- Drawing/returning swords just after leaving/just before entering pews so we can concentrate on watching our scabbards as we move sideways in and out of pews. (This is covered in the 2018 Drill Manual found [here](#).)

## Other fallout procedures

Some things are not new, but not everyone knows about or follows them. Examples:

- We no longer “arch” swords like we had to do with the chapeau – they go straight up and down.
- Drawing and returning swords is a two-step procedure.
- We do not drop swords into scabbards; we slide them in.
- Feel free to use your left hand to guide the sword when going to carry and when returning. We do not want swords flying around accidentally.

There are other procedures worth reviewing, but we will deal with that before fallouts or if we hold any training sessions. CCCs can offer to do a mini training session just before or after Assembly meetings.