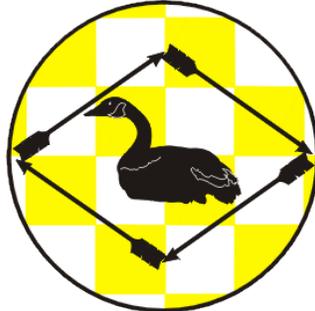


Badge of the Order of the Grey Goose Shaft

In An Tir tradition, any Charter or Scroll created for Their Majesties' use in welcoming an individual into the Most Noble Order of the Grey Goose Shaft, needs to have this badge included somewhere in the design.



by Symmonne Deccarrete de Villette

Blazon: *Checky Or and argent, a goose within four arrows lying as on a mascle sable.*

A Blazon is the formal or legal written description of a heraldic device. A Blazon also tells the scribe with words, how a heraldic image is to be drawn and colored. It describes the field (background) and the charge or charges (graphic images) placed upon the field.

The very first words of a blazon indicate how the background (field) is to be depicted. In this instance "***Checky Or and argent***" means that the field is to be a checkerboard of squares (***Checky***) of the alternating colors gold/yellow (***Or***) and silver/white (***argent***). **NOTE:** The first color called out (***Or***) is the color to be used in painting the first square of the checkerboard (i.e., the upper leftmost square).

The next three words of this blazon "***a goose within***" indicate the major charge upon the field of a goose (which by default is drawn in a nesting position, without legs, facing to the left).

The next seven words "***four arrows lying as on a mascle***" indicate the minor charges of four arrows arranged upon the field in the shape of a mascle (which is an heraldic symbol in and of itself).

The final word in the blazon "***sable***" tells the scribe that all the charges already named in the blazon are to be colored black (***sable***).

An attempt to draw or color a heraldic device differently than the blazon describes would make it no longer the appropriate device. In other words, heraldic emblazons permit little, if any, artistic license. A scribe should never stray from the instructions given in the blazon.