

BRETHREN COURT



Letter to the People:

Honorable Delegates,

Hello and welcome to the fourth Freeman Model United Nations Conference! Our names are Sonvi Chawla and Siona Chakravarty, and we will be your chairs guiding you through the committee: Pirates of the Caribbean. Sonvi is a junior and Siona is a freshman at Freeman High School in the Center for Leadership, Government, and Global Economics. We have participated in many Model UN conferences and are thrilled to be chairing this committee! Even though this committee revolves around primarily fictional events and characters, we hope the various discussions between diverse perspectives and people will interest you in the true reality of unity and interactions of people worldwide.

As we begin to discuss some of the most pressing issues between the Pirates and the Europeans, we strongly advise and remind you that your positions on the topics should be strictly based on your assigned person's perspective, not your personal beliefs. We are excited to hear your position's different arguments and solutions through the debates held in the committee as well as through your position papers. Although we recommend that all delegates write position papers, it is optional; however, the papers are required for a delegate to be considered for awards. We hope to hear many exciting arguments from the many debates. Delegates who make significant and unique contributions to the committee through working papers and interaction with other delegates will be recognized by chairs for awards.

We are thrilled to be the chairs of such an amazing committee and are looking forward to seeing the committee come to life! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at pirates.freemunv@gmail.com! Good luck with your research and preparation!

Your Chairs,

Sonvi Chawla and Siona Chakravarty



Douglas S. Freeman High School Model United Nations Conference

Pirates of the Caribbean

Brethren Court

Topic I: *King of the Pirates*

Topic II: *Control of the Seas*

Committee Overview:

The Pirates of the Caribbean committee will be set in 1748. This directly follows the events of the third film in the Pirates of the Caribbean series, *At World's End*. While several movies follow the series, the setting of the committee will take place regarding events prior to the fourth movie, meaning that characters and events that occur in the fourth movie and onwards have no relevance to this committee. Information that delegates communicate should be primarily based on the films. In this committee, there will be members consisting of the Brethren Court and the East India Trading Company Court of Directors. Both, fighting to maintain control and power among the seas, must work together to reach a worthy consensus on the power of territory.

The Brethren Court was a league of pirates active in the Age of Piracy and consisted of the Pirate Lords. It was the “governing body” of the pirates. This court was governed by the Code, which directed the decision-making amongst the body and favored hierarchical command authority and individual rights. It was also noted that

Morgan and Bartholomew were perhaps the writers and producers of the Code, making them one of the most famous members of the Brethren. The court, meeting very rarely but for the fourth time at Shipwreck Island, convened by the singing of Hoist the Colors. Although the route of the calling is unsure, it is clear that the Pirates must rebuild in order to battle the Flying Dutchman. While battling the Black Pearl and the Flying Dutchman, several Pirates and Captains lost control of their territory and crew.

The East India Trading Company (East India Company) was a corporation formed to pursue trade with the Indian subcontinent and East Indies, later expanding to China and the Caribbean. Wealthy merchants and aristocrats owned shares of the Company; the government had indirect control and owned no shares. The leaders of the East India Company consisted of the Governor and the Court of Directors. It was up to the Company Directors to meet and discuss plans to regain stability and rebuild their armadas while holding back revolts and pirates. The Court of Directors met regularly; however, after the battle

between the Flying Dutchman and the Black Pearl, many elected members of the Company went missing.

Topic I: King of the Pirates

Background

The First Brethren Court gave rule of the seas, however as it was being challenged by members of the East India Company, a calling was made to the Pirate Lords for them to convene at Shipwreck Island for the Fourth Brethren Court. During the journey of getting to Shipwreck Island, there were several obstacles that prevented the Pirate Lords from convening at the court. Entry to the club required possession of one of the nine pieces of eight, which were symbolic items that confirmed Lordship amongst the Pirates, owned by the Pirate Lords of the Brethren Court. The Pirate Lords were all known for having claimed territory around the world and for binding the Sea Goddess, Calypso in human form. Jack Sparrow, being one of the Pirate Lords, never named a successor before being dragged to Davy Jones' Locker. This meant that surviving members of the *Black Pearl* including Elizabeth Swann, Tia Dalma, Hector Barbossa, and Will Turner had to rescue Jack. In trying to do so, they came across Pirate Lord, Captain Sao Feng in Singapore, later being attacked by the East India Trading Company. After recovering the *Black Pearl* and rescuing Jack, they came across boats of dead souls, one of whom is Elizabeth's father, Governor Swann, who

was executed by Lord Cutler Becket. Tia Dalma later mentions Davy Jones' curse and goddess Calypso. After being attacked by Sao Feng and Lord Beckett's men, Jack negotiates his freedom and Elizabeth is handed over to Feng, who believes she is Calypso. As Sao Feng was telling Elizabeth of the First Brethren Court and how the Pirate Lords worked to bound Calypso in human form after Davy Jones betrayed her, Feng was wounded. Elizabeth was then appointed as Feng's successor as Pirate Lord. The *Black Pearl* later arrived at Shipwreck Island where Barbossa attempted to convince the Brethren Court to release Calypso and Elizabeth argued to fight against the East India Company. This would mean that war would have to be declared, however only an elected Pirate King could declare war. This was a common issue throughout the history of the Brethren Court because there was never a Pirate King as all of the members voted for themselves; however, Jack voted for Elizabeth, making her Pirate King.

Current Status

After Elizabeth declared war on the East India Trading Company and the *Flying Dutchman*, she and Will Turner were wed by Barbossa during the battle. Due to Will departing on the *Flying Dutchman* to guide souls lost at sea to the next world, Elizabeth is left pregnant, still being the Pirate King. Although being the Pirate King was beneficial for all the pirates, Elizabeth felt that she was not able to maintain such a high position of the Brethren Court while also taking care and protecting her child from any outside harm. This led to her stepping

down from her position as Pirate King, leaving there be no Pirate King of the Brethren Court once again. As several Pirates went missing and were lost after the battle between the *Black Pearl* and the *Flying Dutchman*, there is no head of the Pirates, causing confusion and mayhem amongst the court.

Analysis

There is now a lack of leadership in the Brethren Court; the Pirate Lords must work to discuss and come to an agreed consensus on which other member would be worthy of the position of Pirate King. This leader must be able to make decisions that satisfy the majority of the Brethren Court while also following the Code and maintaining a powerful status among the Court. Due to the high possibility that many of the Pirate Lords are going to vote for themselves, the Brethren Court has allowed other outside Pirate crew members to argue on behalf of certain Pirate Lords, in addition to the members themselves. The members must find a worthy and exceptional Pirate King to replace former Pirate King, Elizabeth Swann. It must also be noted that intentions with declaring war and the future goals of the Brethren Court revolve around the Pirate King's motives. This could possibly affect outsider entities such as the East India Company in several ways regarding control of the seas and territory. Possible solutions in choosing a Pirate King include having older and more experienced Pirate Lords decide the future leadership of the Court and/or having the members vote for a Pirate King without being allowed to vote for themselves. This will create more

spread out results during the voting process. It is necessary for other Pirate Lords to come up with solutions to this long going issue; while attempting to satisfy the majority of the Brethren Court.

Questions to Consider

1. What qualities are necessary for a possible Pirate King to possess before being considered for the leadership of the Brethren Court?
2. Which process of selecting a member is best? How long should the Pirate King maintain their leadership for?
3. How will selecting a Pirate King determine future allies and enemies with outsider corporations such as the East India Trading Company?
4. To what extent should the Pirate King be able to make decisions for the Court? Should any limitations or rules be placed regarding the power of the Pirate King?
5. Whose opinions among the members of the Brethren Court are most valuable and should that have any weight on the future leadership of the Court?

Topic II: Control of the Seas

Background

As the surviving members of the *Black Pearl* attempted to convene the Pirate Lords for the Brethren Court and collect the nine pieces of eight, the East Asia Trading

Company became aware of this goal, knowing that they must fight to rid the pirates. Anyone connected to piracy was punished and executed, and the members of the Court of Directors sailed out to achieve their goal of claiming back territory and control of the seas. The leader of the East India Trading Company, Lord Cutler Beckett, was eager to fulfill his personal duty of ridding the Seven Seas of pirates and ending the Age of Piracy. In order to do so, he and the other directors had to connect and make deals with pirates whose goals varied from the majority. Lord Cutler Beckett and his men attacked Captain Sao Feng and the *Black Pearl* crew, later connecting with Feng and taking control of the *Flying Dutchman*. Many other attacks and deals/bargains took place throughout the journey to Shipwreck Island. An example of this was when the *Black Pearl* took a stop at an island for water, it was attacked by Sao Feng and Lord Beckett's men. During this time, Jack Sparrow makes a deal with Beckett, promising to reveal information about where the Brethren Court will take place and how to defeat the pirates. There are several members of the Company whose alliances and loyalty for each other took a toll of their lives strictly for the sake of controlling the world's seas and to end piracy.

Current Status

The battle between the *Flying Dutchman* and the *Black Pearl* has left the East India Trading Company defeated and eager to fight back to end piracy once and for all. Due to the death of Lord Cutler Beckett, the Company directors are left

weakened and greatly fazed by the loss of their men. After the change in leadership among the Brethren Court and the shift in alliances with the East India Company, both corporations are eagerly planning their next steps in achieving control of the seas. The East India Company, following their former leader's goal of ending piracy, is attempting to regain their power after their downfall at Shipwreck Island. Even though the East India Trading Company did suffer greatly from the battle, the Brethren Court and the Pirate Lords must determine ways that they are going to maintain power and control of the seas, with the ultimate goal of preventing enemies from arousing within the pirates.

Analysis

Since both groups are fighting for their control over the seas, it is likely that they will encounter each other once again, possibly leading to more loss of members and chaos. It is up to the Brethren Court members and the East India Trading Company Court Directors to discuss future action plans that will possibly eliminate the rivalry between the two organizations, preventing future battles and wars. There is a shift in powers within the associations and they are beginning to interact with each other, which could create more issues and territorial disputes. Even though the pirates may have a slight advantage, defeating the *Flying Dutchman* in the previous battle, the long-lasting competition of who controls the world's seas will still continue to grow, which is why the Brethren Court and East India Company must consider taking actions that will once and for all end the conflict between the two groups. Possible solutions

to ending the dispute can include treaties or agreements that respect both corporations. This may be possible to achieve, however both parties must reconsider their original goals which jeopardize the success of the opposing party.

Questions to Consider

1. How will the East India Trading Company recover from their downfall and what actions should they take to prevent future destruction? How will this affect the Brethren Court and the pirates?
2. What are possible solutions towards ending the disagreement between the Brethren Court and the East India Company? Who should dictate and monitor the following of these solutions?
3. To what extent will the solutions of who controls the seas be effective to? Are there any situations where the agreement between the Brethren Court and the East India Trading Company can be misused or ignored?
4. Is it recommended that both organizations limit their interactions with each other, or will it be more beneficial, maybe even necessary, to work together or be tolerant of each other?

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