**Imperial Clan - Hillbilly Degree**

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**Unit or Club?**

The Grand and Glorious Order of the hillbilly degree originated as a sideline degree for **Shriners** to be a fund raising tool for fundraising for the Shriners Hospitals for Children and to be a fun way of doing it!(History can be found on Website) Those who were initiated were accepted into a Hillbilly Clan!

The Clans spread out over the world of shrine Dom. Many became Units of their Shrine centers and were under the control of the Potentate of their Shrine Center. Many remained as a Club or simply put an organization of Shriners.

(Example: Jesters)

From the start it was accepted as a good way to get both nobles and their ladies involved in the fundraising events! Having both a men’s degree and a woman’s degree made the process even more attractive to couples!

As the fast growth continued soon, as most organizations run into, the degree as it is known, (because of the large amount of money generated) became a sought after group where some Shrine centers wanted total control of monies made and thus deviating from the constitution and by-laws of The grand and Glorious Order of the Hillbilly Degree, as set forth by the Board of Directors of Shriners Children’s Hospitals, which was accepted by Shrine center in their request for granting them a clan!

This was then under Imperial Direction resolved by a having group petitioning Shrine Center decide whether to become a unit or club! The direction of funds were to still go to either Hospital or Sponsoring Shrine Center Hospital Transportation fund! EXCEPT IN CASES, where **units are required to**, in the event of EMERGENCY, provide support for Shrine Center operation!

Under a **UNIT** as stipulated under Imperial Shrine Law a noble may **ONLY BELONG TO ONE** under their centers umbrella!

Under a **CLUB** that is sanctioned to operate under the umbrella of their center, the funds are protected to be sent **ONLY** to **Hospitals** or the Shrine Center sponsored **transportation fund** under which Clan was created! Under a club on the other hand, as stipulated by Imperial Shrine law, nobles can join as many clubs of sponsored shrine center that they govern. Thus, creating a large pool of prospective members, increasing fundraising capabilities for clan and greater results for the Shrine Center!

**Most Clans Process their funds** **thru** their sponsoring shrine center for accounting and distribution to either Hospitals or transportation fund! Filing a **yearly** financial report with the **Sponsoring** shrine center as per their accounting requirements, **DOES NOT NEGATE** their requirement to send a total donated report to the **Imperial Hillbilly** **Keeper of the cob as required under article# 9 of the Grand and Glorious Order of the Hillbilly Degree, that was agreed to at time of chartering!**

Questions!

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