

Historically, the Knight Marshal and his men were responsible for maintaining order within the King's Court (According to *The Present State of the British Court*, published in 1720),

"The Knight Marshal is an Officer employ'd in the King's Court or Marshalsea, and the Marshal's Men under him are properly the King's Bailiffs. They arrest in the Verge of the Court {i.e. within a 12 mile radius of the Sovereign's palace} when a Warrant is back'd by the Board of Green-cloth. The Knight Marshal and his Men have place in all publick Cavalcades, at Declaring of War, Proclaiming Peace, publick Entries and Processions made by the Sovereign."

The Knight Marshal was appointed by the Crown for life. Wages were fixed at £21 5s 10d in 1662. In 1685 a salary of £26 was provided. The separate office of Knight Marischal exists in the Royal Household of Scotland, but has not been filled since 1863.

In the SCA, a Knight Marshal is in charge of making fighter practices safe. He is also a direct representative of the King and legal representative of the SCA.

At a tournament it is the Knight Marshal's job to inspect armor and make sure it is safe, and to make sure there are enough marshals for the field. The job of finding heralds for the tournament falls to him as well. Following fights, the Knight Marshal must prepare paperwork for reports etc.



William Brandon; Henry VII's Standard Bearer, and early Knight Marshal