

The Althing

Historical Althing

It was about the year 930 when the first Althing came into existence. There were 36 *Godar* (Great Lords) who controlled the land. This assembly of men met and voted on a chairman or Lawspeaker who held the position for 3 years and recited 1/3 third of the laws each year. Any free man could attend or a representative could be sent for a group. While each of the Lords was the supreme law within their territory the laws made by the Things were superimposed. Usually these were procedural laws so that there were no problems down the road.

Around the year 1000 the Althing was broken into a Legislative branch, which could make laws, amend laws, issue pardons and permits. There was also a judicial branch. This branch had several courts in each of the four Quarters of the land. If an appeal was needed then the Fifth Court stood and final decisions were made.

In 1262 the republic failed and the Althing disappeared.

Freehold Althing

So what made the Freehold come up with the Althing? The major item was size. We were one-third the size of the Principality with 150 members and only 5 people were really running the Freehold. Sir Maihie McFurgie was just one of the people who suggested that we have a committee or some sort of body that could give suggestions to the ruling group. So after much discussion the idea of the Althing was chosen.

We also were trying to get rid of some of the Politics during the rest of the time.

This is the purpose of an Althing. To put it differently- The Althing is the House of Representatives of the Alliance with all the political agendas of this form of Government. As such, there will be politics as various groups try to have the Alliance “pass” their idea or project.

But the secondary purpose of the Althing is to make it so that the only time there are politics is at an Althing.

No other time. We are supposed to be having fun the rest of the time.

Powers of the Freehold Althing

- 1) **To make laws for the Alliance.**
Take care of whatever business arises.
- 2) **To call for Revoking of a membership in Freehold.**
Needs 51% of total membership.
- 3) **To call for a vote to strip Chieftains, High Chieftains of rank and replace them**
Needs 75% of total membership.
- 4) **May award those who are worthy.**
- 5) **May take whatever action is needed disciplinary wise.**

Freehold Althings

1978	Pre-Althing		Confirmed new Structure of Freehold and made Charissa a Chieftain. Althing was created.
1979	1 st Summer	80 of 160	Law #1
1980	2 nd Summer	85 of 175	Discussed Changes in Freehold. Discuss Newsletter.
1981	3 rd Summer 1 st Winter	175 of 175 25 of 175	Law #2-7. Confirmed New Structure of Freehold. With several problems occurring Law 7 invoked.
1982	4 th Summer	75 of 200	Law #8. Attitude Problems, interaction with Mainstream.
1983	2 nd Winter 5 th Summer	40 of 150 50 of 150	Alfred made a Chief.
1984	6 th Summer 3 rd Winter	85 of 150 25 of 150	Law #9-11 Law #12
1985	7 th Summer	95 of 125	How to make Althing with Chieftains the ruling body when Erekoze not running Freehold.
1986	8 th Summer	45 of 115	How to make Althing with Chieftains the ruling body when Erekoze not running Freehold.
1987	9 th Summer 4 th Winter	65 of 120 20 of 120	Discussion on replacing Erekoze as the High Chieftain. Continue to discuss replacement.
1988	10 th Summer	50 of 105	Erekoze said to do it again. Tried to abdicate but Althing reserved him as the Elder. Discussion to change the name of the Alliance. Law #13
1989	11 th Summer 5 th Winter	45 of 94 45 of 94	
1990	12 th Summer	40 of 63	Leadership and who to pick for High Chieftain.
1991	13 th Summer	20 of 48	Barely more than a party...
1995	14 th Summer	15 of 50	Restart Althing. Workshops held. Statement that Runestaff needed to be restarted.
1996	6 th Winter 15 th Summer	15 of 45 35 of 45	Workshops. Sword naming ceremony for Freehold Sword of State.
1997	7 th Winter	60 of 100	
1998	8 th Winter 16 th Summer	50 of 150 45 of 90	One Chief Re-activated and another made.
1999	9 th Winter	50 of 150	
2000	10 th Winter 17 th Summer	45 of 200 25 of 200	Discussion to add another device that can be used with or instead of Ziggy.
2001	11 th Winter	45 of 200	Discussion to add another device that can be used with or instead of Ziggy. And mailing for vote. Law #14 occurs.
2002	12 th Winter	45 of 200	
2003	13 th Winter	50 of 200	Some minor changes in structure, mostly shifting duties. Leslie Robert made a Chief. Policy is that the Estrella

	18 th Summer	18 of 200	Althing is now the Primary Althing. Some changing of officers. New members. Reactivate two Chieftains.
2004	14 th Winter	26 of 200	Several problems with members and Chieftains. Total disruption of Freehold due to improper dealings with problems.
	19 th Summer	14 of 225	
2005	15 th Winter	18 of 175	Switch to Master Timotheus as High Chieftain.
	20 th Summer	12 of 175	
2006	16 th Winter	12 of 175	Alter Law #1
2007	17 th Winter	7 of 175(NQ)	Communication problems discussed, Runestaff restarted, multiple minor problems discussed. While no quorum, leadership attempted to work on all problems brought to their attention.
2008	18 th Winter	9 of 175(NQ)	Communication Discussed, Runestaff functional, multiple minor problems discussed. While no quorum, leadership attempted to work on all problems brought to their attention.
	21 st Summer	17 of 175	Creation of new Hold and induction of Chieftains. Discussion of War bling for Estrella. multiple minor problems discussed.
2009	19 th Winter	4 of 170(NQ)	The need for communication to be increased between the holds was discussed, more communication from the High Chieftain to the holds, and the sad lack of Freehold members at Estrella.
	22 nd Summer	18 of 170	Discussion increased. Several holds in creation. 3 Chiefs created before Althing. Growth occurring. Website being updated.
2010	20 th Winter	10 of 170(NQ)	Mostly Q & A for the membership. Accusations of miss-behavior of a member- -to be investigated. 2 Chiefs Created.
	23 rd Summer	22 of 170	Several holds inducted. A number of new members inducted. Discussion on a budget for the Freehold. Discussion on Communication, projects, were there real problems or did someone just have to pay more attention and get things done.
2011	21 st Winter	12 of 150	Due to the storm a very brief Althing opened and then closed and was transferred to Potrero. A Chief was re-activated and several members inducted and a Chieftain created.