

# THE TRIBERTIES

The Triberties leads the Cohort, the largest unit within the legion. Raised from the rank of Manus Primus, all Triberties are equestrians. Each Triberties is responsible for their own equipment, arms, weapons, horses as well as that of their support staff. While the Triberties are well paid, usually it is family wealth that allows them to afford the life style they are expected to maintain.

A Triberties holds the rank until the age of 50. They must serve at least two years in each of the lower ranks before becoming a Triberties. Unless backed by a lot of money, the Triberties usually serves a four-year term at each lesser rank; starting as a *Manus*, then becoming either a *Manus Primus* or a *Sexton*.

## NUMBERS

There is one Triberties for each cohort in Tharda, 109 in total. Only the death, retirement, dishonor or the creation of a new cohort allows the promotion of a new Triberties. The first two of these conditions are the most common of the lot.

Since Triberties come from the existing legion ranks, they are not part of the estate draft. Still they tend to have close ties to a *Thardic* clan as legion officers are often the uninheriting sons or daughters of the wealthier ranks of the clan. The irony that the post of Triberties needs the estate draft is not lost on the politicians who decide on promotions and payments.

## TRAINING

A Triberties is expected to rely on his Manus Primus, Sexton, other Triberties and their writings for guidance. There is no official training for this rank. The assistants working with a Triberties can include: *Milities Primus* or *Manus Legatus*, all of whom probably have more experience individually with the legion that the Triberties they serve.

### Base Skills

Rank	Combat Skills										Craft/Lore Skills							Communications Skills									
	Initiative	Lance	Sword	Dagger	Shield	Javelin	Sickle	Bow	Axe	Sling	Pike	Riding	Unarmed	Foraging	Survival	Heraldry	Physician	Masonry	Woodworking	Craft	Engineering	Mathematics	Tactics	Law	Military Organization	Awareness	Intrigue
<i>Triberties Linari</i>	7	5	5	5	5			5			6		2	2	5	2					2	5	3	6	5	6	1
<i>Triberties Primus</i>	8	5	5	5	5			5			6		2	1	6	2					2	5	3	6	4	6	1

## ON-DUTY

The Triberties is responsible for setting the patrols, repair tasks and other duties the *Cohorts* legionnaires regularly perform. He is suppose to work in conjunction with the other Triberties as well as the Triberties Primus and the *civilian magistrates* such as the *district legar* and local lords.

### But, what About...

The Triberties Primus is the most senior Triberties in a district. The Triberties Primus commands not only his own Cohort, but all the other Triberties within the district. Whenever the Triberties Primus is stationed in the province or on the battlefield, is the legion's administration center.

Since there is only one Triberties Primus for each legion, there are 7 Triberties Primus in all of Tharda.

### Calling a Triberties...

A Triberties is addressed as "Sir" or "Triberties".

A Triberties Primus is addressed as "Triberties Primus" or "Primus Sir".

### Showing Rank

Ranks are denoted not only the type of armourment worn, but by the colors on the cloak. Triberties have a cloak with a red body with one off-center purple stripe.



The Triberties Primus has a cloak with a red body with three off-center stripes: purple, yellow, purple.



*The gods do walk the earth.  
The Triberties Primus is  
amongst us.*

Common Legion Saying

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Officially, the Triberties is suppose to assure the legionnaires are kept too busy to cause mischief. Unofficially the legion provides a vital services in repairing roads, bridges and fortifications. The road-paving project, started in 714TR, hopes to have all the major roads linking fortifications paved by 722TR. Secondary routes, linking outposts should be paved by 730TR.

Helping reap and sow crops, assisting with larger animal herds and even collecting the taxes all assist in the worker-starved economy of Tharda. These services are done in a highly organized and systematic way that seems counter-character for Tharda. It is the Triberties job to negotiation the use and extra pay the legion receives for these extra duties.

The Triberties reports either monthly, if separated, or weekly, if serving in the same fortification, to the Triberties Primus. These reports are as much diaries of activities as well as commendations and demerits. They also include accounting information on a day by day basis. The Triberties that does not keep their paperwork in good order could find themselves demoted, or worse.

The Triberties is also expected to review his troops at least once a month. Demerits and other fines are paid off each pay day. Punishment parade is performed either on the 30th of every month or the day immediately following the local moot. While the civilian magistrates have no authority over the legionnaires, it is important that locals see that even the legion is held to a series of laws.

### BEING PRIMUS

The Triberties Primus' daily duties are similar to those of the Triberties, especially since the Triberties Primus must lead his own cohort as well as command the other Triberties in the Legion. Triberties within the district are assigned to the first Cohort based in the District's capital. The Triberties Primus organizes and synopsis all the reports from the Triberties in his Legion, and sends a monthly report to the senate.

While many see the rank of Triberties Primus as being more social than functional, it is only in times of war that the Triberties Primus must organize the provincial forces as a singular unit. The Triberties Primus controls the battle lines and works under the senate-appointed Imperiator. In times of peace most Triberties Primus are referred to as Paper-Pushers, for they spend most of their time reading reports and organizing supplies for their ungrateful underlings.

### DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

The Triberties is much like a senator, in that he is obliged to rule and from that obligation comes all his obligations and duties. Each Triberties is both personally and financially responsible for all the soldiers under their command. Any law-breaker must be punished under the legion law and any restitution to civil authorities is paid by the Tribertes.

Legion law allows a tribunal appointed by the Triberties to hear the case and meter out the punishment. The most common punishments are fines. Floggings are reserved for repeat offenders or crimes in which the victims demand blood. Theft is punishable by hanging. The Legion can also sell the guilty into slavery to help pay off fines.

A Triberties who abuses his command, leading to the death or severe injury of his forces is stripped of his rank and fined into bankrupts. This assures that such abusers are

### Daily Life

The Triberties has at least one squire and possibly a slave to see to their basic needs.

The Triberties Primus has at least the same number of servants as the Triberties, but he also has scribes at his beck and call. Having someone else chronicle his daily reports, tally his rosters and pay, and prepare his monthly reports to the senate gives him extra time to deal with the other Triberties under his command, read their reports and deal with his own cohort.

### Additional Tours

The Triberties can expect to serve for as many, or as few, four year terms as he likes. Occasionally, if he works well with the Triberties Primus, there could be further financial incentives to keep him in the legion.

The Triberties Primus technically serves from a year-to-year basis, and the senate can relieve him of his duties at any time. In reality there are few Triberties Primus who are ever removed from their posts before the age of 50, when they must retire.

### Salaries For The Triberties

Rank	Wage / tenday	# in the Legion
Linari	60 d	109
Primus	108d	7

removed from power. Since fines are inheritable, this can drag anyone financially backing the Triberties down with the guilty.

By Legion law only a superior can judge a legionnaire. So a Triberties may be judged by a tribunal of other Triberties led by the Triberties Primus. But a Triberties Primus can only be judged by the Senate.

## WHEN ALONE

The Triberties is suppose to be an example to the other officers. Their day revolves around three primary goals:

- To be visible: While not all Triberties like to take an active part in the leadership of the lesser units, all triberties learn that their presence lends credibility to the orders of their officers and helps keep the peace.
- Keeping in touch: The Triberties can only read so long and know what is going on. This means they must also meet with the lesser officers and civilian magistrates on an almost daily basis.
- Planning: Most legion activities take months of planning and organization, like helping with the harvests.

## IN FOREIGN LANDS

Officially a Triberties could be an emissary of the *Republic*, but it is rare that such an officer would be endangered on missions outside the Republic. Usually a Triberties is assigned to guard and guide important visitors within the Republic. Triberties are always held responsible for their own actions. Anything they can do and come out the richer, without poaching on another Triberties' men, duties or obligations, is always seen as a net win.

## WHEN OFF DUTY

While a Triberties can be off duty, they still remain a Triberties. If he travels without a weapon, it is expected he travel with at least an armed escort befitting his rank. A Triberties gets 1 day every 10 off as well as 1 month each year. Most Tribertes use this time to visit family. Married officers may either live with their spouses in the fortification in which the Triberties serves, although usually a manor house or family home is preferred, at least by the spouse.

## WINE, WOMEN AND SONG

Whatever tavern in which the Triberties congregate becomes the "officer's" establishment. Fortunately, most towns near fortifications have at least 2 taverns or inns. Those that do not, divide their establishment with walls, cords or even a line painted along the floor to give the officers and the soldiers their own place to relax. The officer's establishment is more expensive that of the soldiers, but it is usually also of a higher quality.

The Triberties sets the tone for the Officer's mess. The Tribertes is responsible for paying for at least two full meals a year. These meals set the bar that all the other officers strive to maintain year round. A Triberties' reputation for wealth and generosity are often made during these feasts. The twice yearly feasts are held on dates set by tradition: each one name dafter its founder with some tale attached. The retelling of the founder's tale at each dinner is an important tradition, often made difficult through consumption of copious amounts of strong alcohol and rich foods.

## Life In The Legion

Triberties responsibilities way heavily with their need to make money. Often career officers have little or no income outside the legion, although they are suppose to be independently wealthy. This dichotomy is not lost on most officers, who have to help assure their commanding officers live in the appropriately lavish lifestyle. Some Triberties insist their junior officers pay for one days meals in their entirety out of ten. Some Triberties Primus insist on two such days.

The officer's mess alone may cost as much as the Triberties salary each tenday. That, combined with the expensive and decorative arms and armour required by the post as well as the servants, squire and scribe can all lead to early bankruptcy.

No officer is expected to bank monies with the legion, at least not regularly. Therefore most Triberties expect their men to find means to make money. Selling their services during harvest, having merchants pay for escorts - and other such ventures are often overlooked so long as the Triberties gets his share. In return for his share, the Triberties works to not draw attention to the late or missing soldiers during times of peace. To make it fair an additional share is accepted by the Triberties for the legion as a whole.

In times of war, no additional means of making money is permitted amongst the legion for fear of conflicts between the all mighty coin and the Triberties.

The Triberties must pay at least 1/4 of the funds used to pay for the officer's mess year round.

### EQUIPMENT AND ARMOUR

The Triberties equipment varies greatly from officer to officer. Each triberties also must equip at least a squire and, optionally, a man-at-arms.

The squire is usually between the ages of 12 and 16 and hopes to become an officer in the legion. A squire requires a horse, suitable clothes and training in combat and horsemanship as well as learning to read, write and perform mathematics. They are also expected to study legion lore, and tactics. The squire takes care of the Triberties horse, arms and armour.

Scribes, usually only hired by the Triberties Primus, must be equipped with ink, paper and quills. They are also paid 5d each 10day. The scribes write the Triberties reports, keep the cohorts books and help the Triberties with his diaries and his personal correspondence.

The man-at-arms is often a milities Primus who acts as a personal bodyguard and armed messenger on the battlefield. He is both a trusted assistant and advisor as well as a paid servant. He receives 12d each 10day and the Triberties must purchase and maintain the Milities Equipment, arms and armour. In some cases the Milities Primus is retired, but in most the Triberties must also pay the Milities Primus' scuttage.

Slaves are usually either family retainers that followed the Triberties up through the ranks. Occasionally the slaves are bought when the Triberties obtains the rank or are presented as gifts. A Triberties personal slave takes care of the Triberties grooming as well as his quarters. Some Triberties have multiple slaves in attendance. While a slave is a personal mark of wealth, it is considered pretentious for a Triberties to have a retinue larger than his Triberties Primus.

### EQUIPMENT

The principal weapon is the broadsword, supplemented by a dagger and their staff of office. While all equipment and weapons must be provided personally by the Triberties, Triberties Primus or their family, over a generation a "standard" equipment list has evolved. Items priced with a \* vary greatly depending on the size and quality desired.

A Triberties has his own mule when travelling, as well as numerous servants and squires to help carry his equipment, arms and armour. While they are officially suppose to travel light, it is yet another reason why most Triberties avoid combat whenever possible. Their gear can be greatly varied dependant upon the Triberties hobbies and interests as well as the amount of money he has to spend on his equipment.

### Equipment of Note

A triberties usually relies on their squire or scribe to take care of quills, paper and ink; but a few keep their own journals and so travel with a separate bag for their writing implements.

Pots, pans and other cooking utensils are usually carried on a mule or in a cart for the Triberties, depending if the legion or just the cohort is travelling.

### The Kits

The various kits were are available for any officer to purchase. Each comes rapped in a piece of soft leather, and some even have little hoops into which such things as the razor or a candle could conveniently go. Some are more elaborate, being tough leather boxes, sewn together with colored sinew. The price listed is a minimum at which these kits can be bought.

Most kits are bought by Triberties, and replaced in later years by gifts. In some parts of Coranan the washing kits especially have become an affectation of the rich.

A Triberties kit includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Item	WT	Description	Price
Saddlebags	02.00	capacity: 25 lbs.	45d
Mess Kit *	03.00	pewter plate, bowl and cup and eating utensil	15d
Bed Roll	06.00	woolen blanket - rolled up	60d
1 Day Rations	01.26	1lb grain, 3 oz. cheese, 1 oz., meat, 0.25 oz. honey	00d
Ration Bag	01.00	Small sack (20lb capacity).	07d
Waterskin	00.50	weight when empty	10d
Horse Kit*	36.00	Includes a saddle, bridle and bit, cloth tabard (optional), horse blanket and curry combs	*
Dry Underclothes		Clothes worn when sleeping/off duty/exercising	*
Waterskin (small ale)	06.88	6.38lbs of small ale (3 pints)	10d
Waterskin (strong ale)	04.75	4.25lbs of strong ale (2 pints)	10d
Lighting kit*	02.50	Includes a tinderbox and two candles.	20d
Washing Kit*	02.50	Includes a washcloth and towel., 1lb bar of tallow soap and either a razor and strop or sizzers.	10d
Total Weight	66.39	Total Price	187d

**Armour Variations**

The Triberties can wear chain, mail or even kurbol and leather if they prefer, but the cuirass and helm are part of a uniform they cannot replace.

The cloak is optional, but it too is an identifying mark and so tends to be worn when other armourments are not. Most Triberties pay extra for a leather cloak for it lasts longer and is better suited as protection from the weather.

While common soldiers receive a free cloak and pair of knee-high leather boots each year, the Triberties is not so fortunate.

**ARMOUR**

Frequently their plate armour is decorated with silver and gold plating and with embossed scenes and emblems. This kind of armour is seen as a heirloom of great value, often encompassing a fair share of the household wealth. Tribertes very rarely carry shields as it is virtually unknown for them to fight.

Triberties/5		WT	PR	Skull	Neck	Shoulders	Upper Arms	Elbows	Forearms	Hands	Thorax	Abdomen	Hips	Groin	Thighs	Knees	Calves	Feet	
Chain	Hauberk (ls)	32.0	960			P					P	P							
Quilt	Gambeson (ls)	12.8	256										L	L	L	L	L	L	
<i>Bezainted</i>	<i>Trews</i>	13.7	273			C	C	C	C		C	C	C	C					
Quilt	Hood	1.2	24	Q	Q														
Plate	<i>Halfhelm</i>	3.0	100	P															
Chain	<i>Camail</i>	1.9	49		C														P
Kurbol	Boots	1.3	35														P		

**Off Duty Clothes**

When off-duty, a Triberties normally wears a tunic and cloth leggings with leather shoes or sandals. Some may wear cloth *surcoats* as well. There is no off-duty uniform, or even a preference by the legion in colors. Some Triberties will always wear their units colors while others seem to wear anything but those colors when off duty.

	B	E	P	F
Total WT	65.9	11	6	6
Total PR	1,697	13	4	4
Average APV	5	8	3	3

**Gloves and Mittens**

None of the *armours* listed have gloves or mittens. They can be added, giving some protection to the hands, but are more an affectation of style than armourment.

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Triberties/6		WT	PR	Skull	Neck	Shoulders	Upper Arms	Elbows	Forearms	Hands	Thorax	Abdomen	Hips	Groin	Thighs	Knees	Calves	Feet	
Plate	Cuirass	25.6	700			P					P	P							
Leather	Leggings	8.8	176										L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Cloth	Tunic	4.4	88			C	C	C	C		C	C	C	C					
Quilt	Gambeson	19.5	260			Q	Q	Q	Q		Q	Q	Q	Q					
Plate	Helm	3.2	100	P															

<b>B</b>	6	0	12	6	6	6	6	0	12	12	8	8	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>E</b>	10	0	14	4	4	4	4	0	14	14	8	8	4	4	4	4	4	4
<b>P</b>	6	0	9	3	3	3	3	0	9	9	6	6	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>F</b>	2	0	7	5	5	5	5	0	7	7	8	8	3	3	3	3	3	3

Total WT	87.1
Total PR	1,774
Average APV	7

Triberties/7		WT	PR	Skull	Neck	Shoulders	Upper Arms	Elbows	Forearms	Hands	Thorax	Abdomen	Hips	Groin	Thighs	Knees	Calves	Feet	
Plate	Cuirass	25.6	700			P					P	P							
Leather	Leggings	8.8	176										L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Cloth	Tunic	4.4	88			C	C	C	C		C	C	C	C					
Quilt	Gambeson	19.5	260			Q	Q	Q	Q		Q	Q	Q	Q					
Plate	Helm	3.2	100	P															
Plate	Vambraces	4.8	125																P
Plate	Kneecops	4.8	75													P			
Plate	Greaves	16.0	250																P

<b>B</b>	6	0	7	1	1	1	1	0	7	7	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
<b>E</b>	10	0	11	1	1	1	1	0	11	11	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5
<b>P</b>	6	0	7	1	1	1	1	0	7	7	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4
<b>F</b>	2	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4

Total WT	87.1
Total PR	1,774
Average APV	7

Triberties/8		WT	PR	Skull	Neck	Shoulders	Upper Arms	Elbows	Forearms	Hands	Thorax	Abdomen	Hips	Groin	Thighs	Knees	Calves	Feet	
Mail	<i>Haubergeon</i> (ls)	25.6	960			M	M	M	M		M	M	M	M	M	M			
Quilt	Gambeson (ls)	12.8	256			Q	Q	Q	Q		Q	Q	Q	Q	Q				
Quilt	<i>Chausses</i>	23.0	690											Q	Q	Q	Q		
Quilt	Hood	1.2	24	Q	Q														
Plate	<i>Halfhelm</i>	3.0	100	P															
Mail	<i>Camial</i>	1.9	49		M														
Kurbol	Boots	1.3	35																K

<b>B</b>	11	0	7	7	7	7	7	0	7	7	7	7	7	7	12	12	7	4
<b>E</b>	13	0	11	11	11	11	11	0	11	11	11	11	11	11	14	14	11	5
<b>P</b>	8	0	7	7	7	7	7	0	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	7	4	
<b>F</b>	6	0	5	5	5	5	5	0	3	5	5	5	5	9	9	5	3	

Total WT	68.8
Total PR	2,114
Average APV	8

## Sharing Loot

As a tradition, any loot acquired by any legionnaire on duty is divided equally into:

- 1 share for each member of the unit/team involved.
- 1 share for the commanding officer
- 1 share for the legion.

## Other Equipment of Note

All Tribertes carry a ceremonial staff of office, which is about 1/2" (13 MM.) in diameter and three feet (90 cm) long made from hardwood. The staff is tipped at either end with a silver-gilt head.

They also carry a silvered hunting horn that can be used to transmit their orders in the heat of battle.

Their helmet has a purple feather ruff atop it. Some Tribertes have a "dress" helmet and a "plain" helmet. Those entering a battlefield prefer not to mark themselves so clearly to the enemies archers.



## MUSTERING OUT

The Triberties does not “Muster Out”, rather they either retire to private life and pay *scuttage* until they turn 40; or they become Triberties Primus. The former is called “Retirement” while the latter is a “Promotion”.

## PROMOTIONS & AWARDS

It is expected by tradition that the newly appointed person gives everyone present a gift equal to five days pay for that person.

The appointment of Tribertes takes place in front of the whole cohort. A Tribertes Linari can expect to distribute gifts to the value of three hundred pennies.

The promotion to Tribertes Primus takes place in front of the whole legion. A Tribertes Primus will expect to pay a few thousand.

The promotion is followed by a lavish celebration, a banquet followed by an all night drinking session, with the promoted man's new peers. Of course, it is his duty to pay the bill. The combination of bribes, gifts, and celebrations mean that is normally only the independently rich or those with sponsors that most eagerly seek promotion.

Though promotions for ability and experience do occur, it is not considered unusual to buy a promotion. There are, obviously, no fixed fees, but usually between half and full years pay at the promoted level is offered to the commanding Tribertes (a portion of which is passed on up the chain of command). If the Tribertes and Legatus (provincial Marshal) favour the applicant above all others, then he can look forward to his promotion in the future.

There are however a few rules which limit the buying of promotion. The two most important are that one can not purchase a promotion within two years of a previous one and that you may not be promoted to a rank more than one level higher than you currently are. As will all rules in the bureaucratic Republic, exceptions do occur, but the value of the 'gifts' must be correspondingly high. Only very powerful patronage could purchase the rank of Tribertes Linari without the candidate serving at a more junior command level first.

## DEMOTIONS & PAYMENTS

There is no “official” demotion of a Triberties. Either he is given a contract at his rank, or he is not. If he has no contract, he could reenlist at a lower rank soldier (like a Tala).

A Triberties Primus could take a contract as a Triberties. While he could, technically, return to being either a Tala or a Triberties, both are often considered below anyone who once officially held the title of Triberties Primus. Often instead either the Triberties Primus retires or goes into politics. Occasionally a young Triberties Primus is taken on as a Senior man-at-arms to manage the body-guard forces of a clan leader. While socially a step down, this role can pay at least twice as much as the official rank.

There are, officially, no awards for best Triberties. Instead this is gauged by the wealth acquired by the Triberties during his tour and the gifts lavished upon him by his men. As a commanding officer, the Triberties always gets one share of any loot acquired by his men.

## RETIREMENT

After each four year term the Senate can decide not to renew the Triberties Primus' contract - putting him out of a job. The senate, while fickle, is often lazy, and Triberties Primus rarely worry about their employment for, if they treat their men well they may develop a popular army. If they miss-treat their men, they may end up dead. In comparison to such stark contrasts, retirement in to politics or private service must seem tame.

A Triberties would only retire due to injury or old age. As with all soldiers, the age of retirement is 40; although some Triberties serve until their 50s