Merchant Rules and Info for Pennsic LIII

Pennsic begins (gate opens) Friday, **July 24, 2026** **Pennsic ends** (gate closes) Sunday, **Aug. 9, 2026**

Merchant Selling Dates

Monday, July 27, 2026 – Friday, August 7, 2026

All merchants must be in operation by **Saturday August 1, 2026**. Failure to do so may result in loss of merchant space. Last day of sales is **Friday, August 7, 2026** and all sales must cease by **5:00pm**.

Merchant Selling Hours

Minimum 8 hr. daily (sunrise to 11:00p)

During the evening of Midnight Madness (**Wednesday, August 5, 2026**) shops may be open until 1 am., Thurs. Aug. 6, 2026

Some terms used on the merchant application form require further definition. Please read the following.

Primary Merchant Applicant of a Shared Space

A primary merchant of a shared space must apply and pay for the merchant space. If your shared space merchants wish to help pay for the space, they must make private arrangements with you. A primary merchant is responsible for the conduct and appearance of those sharing or working in the space.

Secondary Merchant Applicant of a Shared Space

A Secondary Merchant must provide current proof of a PA Sales Tax license and proof of General Liability Insurance. (see below for details). Shared space merchants are not permitted to request merchant space. This is the responsibility of the Primary Merchant applicant. The Secondary Merchant must complete an application and pay the merchant application fee and other fees when applicable. (For example: advertising, extra listings in the booklet and electricity when necessary)

Consignment Merchandise

All registered merchant businesses (shared or primary) are responsible for collecting and reporting all sales taxes on consignment goods sold through their business.

Each merchant business is responsible for the merchandise, conduct and appearance of those persons assisting in the merchant space. Business signs or other forms of advertisement are not permitted for consignment merchandise. Anyone dropping off consigned goods at a merchant space must follow the parking, set-up and departure rules for all merchants.

General Liability Insurance

All merchants must provide a 3rd party COI (Certificate of Insurance) for their businesses.

Insurance requirements include:

General Aggregate $2,000,000.00 Each occurrence limit $1,000,000.00

Additional Endorsement naming:

COOPER LAKE FARMS INC
205 CURRIE RD
SLIPPERY ROCK PA 16057

(The endorsement must be written exactly as shown above)

No merchant will be permitted to set-up their booth without a current and valid COI.

Tax Information

All Merchant Businesses must have a current **Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Permanent License or Temporary Transient Vendor Certificate** to sell at Pennsic. You must apply directly with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue: mypath.pa.gov You are required to show current proof of a PA tax license when you check-in at the merchant office or you may submit a copy of a valid and current PA tax license prior to war. No Merchant is permitted to sell without a current and valid PA tax License. It is not necessary for you to display the tax license in your booth.

Proof of SCA Membership (Applies only to primary merchants)

To receive the SCA membership discounts, please show proof of sustaining, associates or family membership current through **Pennsic 53**. Proof of membership is a copy of your membership card, a copy of your newsletter mailing label, or a copy of correspondence from the registry stating that you have received your membership renewal. You may show proof of eligibility as late as arrival at war.

Advertising

Merchants receive the following within the Pennsic Merchant booklet.

1. Business Name and address listed alphabetically
2. 1 free merchandise listing in the Shopping Guide
3. Space number and Business Name listed by space number

PLEASE NOTE: No one is permitted to place business flyers or advertisements on porta-johns or public notice boards anywhere in campground.

Space Assignments

The goal of the merchant office is to have a consistent layout of the merchant area. Your confirmation to sell at Pennsic, however, is not a guarantee of a particular space. Merchant space is not transferable and use is limited to the persons listed on the application. Requests for relocation should be placed in the General Information of the application. Also, please mark and send merchant map showing 3 location preferences. (The downloadable map pdf file is located in your merchant account.)

Space Upgrades

Shared merchants wishing to upgrade to their own space should include in the submitted merchant packet photographs, information about their business and a letter of involvement with SCA.

Merchant Set-up:

Merchants must have a current and valid **COI (Certificate of Insurance)** and a current and valid **PA Sales Tax License** . If you have not already submitted your paperwork, please have it available for review. Once you have checked in and have met these requirements, you will receive a merchant pass to enter the Marketplace to set-up your booth.

Office hours are 9:00am – 5:00 pm
If you arrive between 5:00pm –10:00 pm, merchant check-in is still available.
Please call 724 368 9605 for further instructions.

Ropes:
Ropes are not permitted to extend out into the roadways unless allowances have been made. You may cross ropes with your neighbors if this is agreed upon by all concerned.

Tent Rentals:
Please make arrangements with the tent company and the Merchant Office to coordinate set-up times and location. Rental tents are erected a few days before the Gate opens on Friday.

Business Identification
Merchants must have business signs that are visible to shoppers walking by.
No business sign is permitted to be displayed for Consignment Merchandise.

Vehicle Rules

All vehicles must be moved to the parking area after unloading. Vehicles are not permitted in the Marketplace from **Saturday, August 1, 2026 until 5:00pm on Friday, August 7, 2026** without special authorization.

Water
No one may block access to the water spigots. No washing/dish washing is permitted at the spigots.

Electricity
Please purchase your electric in advance. (see application). If you are not allocated an electric outlet, you will receive a refund. If you are allocated an outlet, you will receive a tag for your extension cord upon check-in at the Merchant Office.

Rules for Space Use
Selling tents are encouraged to be period in style.
All modern living tents should be hidden from sight.

Fire Policy
No open fires are permitted in the Merchant area. (Charcoal cooking in metal containers (i.e. hibachis, etc.) are not considered open flame. Please be familiar with fire safety instructions /recommendations outlined in the Pennsic Program (on-site/ booklet).

Safety requirements for Wood Objects: Wooden candle holders, /lanterns etc., must have some type of metal set between the candle and the wood.

Garb
All merchants must conform to acceptable SCA standards of dress.

Music
Music inappropriate to SCA period is banned.

Midnight Madness
All merchants are encouraged to participate in Midnight Madness (**Aug. 5, 2026**) during the hours of 8 pm – 11pm. Your participation in Midnight Madness will enhance the experience for all involved.

Merchandise
NOTE**:** Please maintain an acceptable level of inventory throughout War week.

RESTRICTED MERCHANDISE

Food and Beverages of any kind. (A separate application for food and/or beverage vendors must be requested through the Merchant Office.)

ACCEPTABLE MERCHANDISE

Merchandise must be Medieval / SCA related. The Merchant Staff reserves the right to demand removal of non-acceptable merchandise.

BANNED MERCHANDISE

BODY PIERCING, FANGS, TATTOOS, CHIROPRACTICS, MASSAGE THERAPY, CHILDREN'S WOODEN SWORDS/DAGGERS , UNREGISTERED STROLLING MERCHANTS Please contact merchant office about regs/rules. Only registered merchants are permitted to have strolling (wandering) merchants selling their wares.

Customer Orders/Sales

Only registered Pennsic merchants may engage in business activities such as selling or receiving customer orders.

Deliveries

UPS, FEDEX, USPS, DHL overnight express shipments can be made at the Merchant's own risk, directly to Cooper's Lake and will be kept in a locked trailer for pick-up. Our trailer is not available for storage.

MOTOR FREIGHT - No deliveries by semi-trucks / freighters are permitted at Coopers Lake. You must make arrangements to meet them elsewhere.

Perishable items will not be accepted by the Merchant Office. Pennsic attendees must make other arrangements to meet their delivery outside of Pennsic.

No deliveries will be accepted prior to **Monday, July 27, 2026.**

No incoming COD's will be accepted unless the Merchant is present at delivery, or unless a check for the proper amount (made out to the company from which the goods are shipped) is left with the assistant in charge of receiving. We are not in any way responsible for items delivered to Pennsic. You ship at your own risk.

Photo ID is required for parcel pick-up.

Shipping address is: Merchant Business Name
Cooper's Lake
205 Currie Rd
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

There is no available on-site pick-up for outgoing shipments at the end of Pennsic. You will need to make your own arrangements.

MERCHANT OFFICE POLICY REGARDING VIOLATION OF RULES:

All merchants sign a merchant contract agreeing to abide by all of the rules established by Cooper's Lake, the Commonwealth of PA, the Society for Creative Anachronism, and the Autocrating staff at **Pennsic War 53.**

Failure to follow the rules may result in an eviction and/or denial of future merchant invitations.

Infractions and **violations** hold differing degrees of response.

Infractions: Merchant receives a written notice. A series of infractions holds the same degree of severity as a violation. Some examples of infractions:

Business signs are not displayed.
Tent ropes or merchandise are not behind the street line without special permission.
A disregard of vehicle rules

Violations: Merchant receives a written notice. One violation may be grounds for eviction and / or denial of application for future Pennsic Wars.

Some examples of violations:

Selling outside of the marketplace.
Selling without a current and valid PA tax license.
Selling without a current and valid certificate of Insurance
Violation of SCA Site Rules, Cooper's Lake Rules, or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania laws.

Please review the rules thoroughly. All merchants are encouraged to consult with the merchant staff when a clarification of the rules is needed.

REFUND POLICY

MERCHANT SPACE FEE REFUNDS
Cancellations **on or before June 15, 2026** - Full Refund of merchant space fee.
Cancellations **after June 15, 2026** - Full Refund of merchant space fee provided that the Merchant Office is able to fill the vacancy.

The following are non-refundable:
Merchant Application fee, business ads and extra listings (if placed in Merchant Booklet)