

# Beltania 2010

## Ritual Guidelines

To allow for the inclusiveness all, we have created some guidelines that we wish for all ritual organizers to follow.

### Welcoming

1. Before circle gathers, ritual leaders (or ritual participants) are responsible for individually welcoming each person when they arrive.
2. Make sure ritual leaders intro themselves before anything is done in circle, preferably before ever starting. Make sure each attendee has a chance to at least share their name with the whole group, or if a very large circle, with those around them.
3. Try to provide clear directions if you need anyone to do anything or say anything either before the ritual or before you do something (unless you have a clear reason not to, surprise or whatever), can be brief and done with gesture or a few words, but just keep in mind that there may be newbies in circle or ones that do not practice your specific path.
4. Most important: Include some sort of "sharing" or "participatory" component to the ceremony, energy raising, or ritual structure. For example, during the main magical working/main process, provide a time for reflection on how each person interprets/directs/works with the energies involved, or to think about how the working applies to his/her individual life. Then, at some point allow each person to somehow share or contribute with their thoughts or energies. This can be done verbally with round-robin, popcorning (overlapping voices all shouting simultaneously), ask people to share when ready in no particular order, or non-verbally in some creative expression, focus of attention, contributing magickal energies, moving or gesturing. Can be done whole-group or in breakout smaller groups if lots of people are present.
5. Thanking everyone for coming at the end, complimenting others as desired, reiterating the welcoming nature of the event.

### WHY?

This does four things:

- Makes each person feel included and important to the ritual, so that we're not just watching someone perform a ritual to an audience
- Enhances and increases the energies and intensifies the magic, since each person is adding to it, for a more effective spell or process
- Makes the ritual personally relevant and meaningful to each person
- The sharing aspect builds relationships, community, and caring for those in circle. It connects us and helps us feel part of something special, and we can express support for each other. We're not all in our own little worlds, but there for each other as well.

