**Info Regarding the Wilderness Guardians**

How To Find a Clan like the Wilderness Guardians (PVP/PK Clans):

PKing clans can seem a little obnoxious at first actually. They thrive on bragging – it’s all about being the best and ripping other clans apart… but you see, that’s what makes it so fun. As a result, PKing (ie. PVP) clans are most present on fansites, where they post hundreds and hundreds of topics about how they beat other clans. That’s where you’ll find them.

Second, the best PVP clans are highly organised. It’s not enough to join a PKing CC and head out into the wilderness like a headless chicken. An organised PKing clan relies on its own website and forums, which is how we communicate across all time zones and leave messages for each other. We also have our own voice over software that allows us to communicate much faster than typing, giving us the advantage over enemies without that software. Because of this need for cutting edge organisation, the best PK clans don’t hang around the Runescape boards. You’ll have to go hunting for them. A good place to start is on Youtube. Type in the names of some PKing clans you might know, and watch the carnage unfold. Of course, if you want to find us the old fashioned way, bring some pretty armour into multicombat wilderness. Hopefully you’ll catch the clan’s name before you hit the ground! :P

And one final observation… PKing clans tend to be very private. They don’t like sharing their information because other clans could crash their trips. Events are kept confidential – imagine the chaos that would arise from a PKing clan posting their events on public forums! Because of this need for privacy, if a member wanted to join, they would usually have to apply on a clan’s private forums. Also, they don’t use the Clan Chat system as much as other types of clans because they have different ways of communicating. Again, this arises from the need to be more organised than other clans. You’ll find that the clan chats of even the most powerful clans are dormant much of the time.

How to Run a PKing Clan (in a nutshell):

You can be certain of one thing. PKing clans are the most difficult Runescape clans to manage, but are also extremely rewarding. A PKing clan has all the challenges of any other clan: resolving fights, building a friendly community, keeping tabs on activity rates, etc. On top of all this, there are some really important things to consider. Firstly, your clan is automatically in competition with every other PKing clan in Runescape. If you lose a fight, you lose morale. Continue losing, and members are going to leave, so choose your foes carefully. You must keep track of every other major clan out there, not just yours, so you know who you can handle and who you can’t. Also, power comes and goes. No PVP clan has ever been on top for more than a few months. PKing clans are volatile and can rise and slump quickly. Knowing how to deal with low points in your career is a necessity.

Say I disappeared off the face of the Earth, and you the reader inherited my clan, The Wilderness Guardians. What advice would I give you to run it well? Firstly, always remember that the strength of a clan in the wilderness relies on three things. Lots of members, high levels, and superior organisation. If you are on lookout for good recruits, encourage your members to train, and teach them all the little tricks on how to fight, you’re off to a good start. It’s a dog eat dog world, so be ruthless. Finally, you’re dealing with humans, not pixels. It’s not just about hitting other clans. Members have to be kept happy with plenty of fun events and a positive environment, so please broaden your gaze beyond smacking pixels with a sword. The happiness of the members is the ultimate goal of any clan, regardless of how it plays the game.

What The Wilderness Guardians expects from its members:

As mentioned previously, there’s a certain exclusive atmosphere around PKing clans, and for good reason. Other clans are out there to kill us, so we need privacy, and we need the most experienced players in the game.

Our requirements are 105+ F2P Combat, and we also require 70+ Ranged so that all our members can wear black dragonhide in P2P. PK clan requirements are high for a very good reason. If you’re too low, we can’t protect you if you get attacked in the wilderness.

As far as atmosphere goes, this clan prides itself on its community. This clan is not just a united group of players like other clans. We know each other intimately and when someone joins, they become new members of a very close-knit family. This means you have to be truly interested in knowing the people behind the characters. Players who join to just kill people in the wilderness turn out to be rather dull.

Of course, you can’t commit half-heartedly to any PKing clan. Being active is extremely important. We expect you to check for upcoming events regularly on our forums, and post if you can or can’t attend. So yes, this does involve a little planning ahead and remembering to be online at a certain time if you’re available. We assume that any member who doesn’t keep in touch with affairs has left.

Finally, as you’d expect, we do expect our members to be OK with dying and losing a few sets of rune along the way. If you’re worried about protecting your gear, you’re probably not concentrating on the battle at hand. I myself was scared to die for the first few months of being in WG, but it’s like skydiving. Keep at it and that fear goes away. Don’t worry if that’s where you are now. I think we all start out that way. Eventually, dying in wilderness will just feel like you got teleported away by a random event.

What our members expect from us

Members have come to expect many things. Events that happen on a daily basis, some planned and others spontaneous, and of course a friendly community, but most importantly, some sense of direction. Every member wants the clan to become the best in every pursuit, and once we reach the top, stay there for as long as possible. So there is an expectation for us to improve, grow, and get larger and stronger.

The leaders are expected to be active and highly accessible, and the lines of communication need to remain open. And since we have over a hundred members spread across America, Europe and Australia, it is also expected that we have events that suit every time zone. Speaking of events, we are also required to do more than just PVP. We must offer variety in the form of other non-wilderness events too.

In the wilderness the clan is required to abide by a certain code of honour. Members expect us to fight fairly, and the leaders are obliged to organise wars with reputable clans, and none that could cheat or play dirty. We are also expected to maintain strong relations with our allies, The Sabres (the oldest clan in Runescape).

Why join The Wilderness Guardians (and how are we different to other PKing clans)?

No other PKing clan is like WG. There’s a lot that sets us apart from other clans:

1. Like most PKing clans, we throw non-PVP events into the mix to offer some respite from exhausting wilderness combat. What makes us different is the variety of events. We keep a catalogue of the different types of events we host, and there are over 100 types, meaning we have the most variety of events in any clan. No clan holds a candle to this number, not even event-based clans. In this catalogue are events like pirate flash mobs, world map races and boss hunting, just to name a few.
2. Our history is long enough to make you die of boredom. As a clan, we’ve built up over seven years of experience in warring and community. I’ve been leading since 2003, and love to brag to basically everyone that I’m the longest serving clan leader in Runescape. What does that mean? It means I’ve made plenty of mistakes and seen lots of changes, giving me enough experience to run a clan without screwing up. In that time, we’ve been part of the largest and most exotic fights in clan world history, and had one hell of a voyage go get where we are.
3. In the wilderness, we always conduct ourselves honourably. Our antiRPKing code in particular is unique to WG and our allies, The Sabres. It means we only fight people who are looking for a fight; while it’s the wilderness, and everyone is fair game, we choose to only target other PKers, not skillers or monster killers. In fact, our clan motto is “we are the shield of the innocent”, so we look after the little guy. Also, our code of honour means we don’t insult other clans, even if they insult us.
4. Community is the beating heart of any clan, even PKing clans. This is the secret to WG’s longevity. Our community is so close, we’ve grown up from children to adults together, and have met in real life several times across four continents. A clan’s strength isn’t measured by how it enjoys success… that’s easy. To test the strength of something, put it under pressure. This clan has endured many hardships over the years, because of the close-knit community. We’ve looked after each other through thick and thin.
5. PKing clans are often restricted to specific time zones, such as Europe or America, but not us. We service all time zones, including the very large Australian player base. One downfall of this is that it’s very hard to get all our members online at once for a fight, but we compensate for that with the remaining members. No time zone suffers. On top of this, we service both paying members and free players, though membership is recommended.
6. Finally, there’s a certain prestige to being in the Wilderness Guardians. Jagex have kindly spotlighted us numerous times over the last year, and coupled with our long history and mass media, we’ve come to be the most famous PVP clan in Runescape (As verified by a recent public survey on the official forums). Everyone wants to be proud of their clan.

To be a cutting edge PKing clan is already a great achievement, but we strive to give players the “total experience”, adding boss hunting, community, and other things into the mix. We are a PVP clan and much more.

A Testimonial about the Wilderness Guardians

It’s really easy to make friends in PKing clans. Don’t believe any stereotype that says PKers are shallow-minded and only care about loot. If you’re in the wilderness, and your clan is the only thing between you and death, you learn to trust them and they will trust you back. I love everything about PKing clans. The fierce friendships and rivalries, the suspense of not knowing what’s coming up on the minimap, typing up this article in hopes of finding new friends to share good times with… these are experiences that separate Runescape from your average online game.

You may have asked yourself while reading all this, why are we called The Wilderness Guardians? What are we guarding? Honourable combat - In a clan world that gets so caught up with winning, honour tends to take a back seat. WG is more than just being the best. It’s about protecting the values of fair play.

When we were founded in 2003, our members were all around level 40 combat, and we took steel armour and trout into the wilderness (which we had fished from Edgeville just minutes before). We really sucked, and growing stronger wasn’t easy. Even still, I look back on those days fondly, and remember members running into the heat of battle to sacrifice themselves so that the rest of us could escape, then we’d all meet in the Jolly Boar Inn afterward and share some beers.

Fast-forward a few years, and 100 of us are marching up in the best armour of the day… to war. We are competing with Runescape Dinasty for the title of strongest pay-to-play multi-combat clan (Damage Incorporated was the undisputed king of single-combat at the time). Defeating them, we secure our place as one of the great forces in the wilderness.

Can you imagine what would happen to a clan with the word “wilderness” in their name when the wilderness is removed? For three years, the clan slipped into the shadows. They were dark days indeed, and many members lost faith that we would ever return to glory. To prevent closure of the clan, we forced ourselves to try new things, new ways to fight and new ways to recruit. Times were hard, but I loved them nonetheless. So many members had faith and love for this clan that we had created. Knowing that no matter how hard things got, we still hard a core of members who would never abandon us… it revealed our true resilience and strength.

We return to the present day. We have a wilderness, and a purpose. New life has been breathed into this historic clan, with generous help from Jagex through several features including this one. It has only been a few weeks, but growth is promising. This is a clan that has suffered greatly without a wilderness, but we had too much going for us to stop. Stability, after all, is one of our strong points. We will never die. As a new era dawns on the wilderness, we are perfectly poised to recapture our position as one of the great forces of the clan world. All we need are more people who share our vision and our values. I wonder… will you help us return to that glory which made us one of the jewels of the clan world?

This has been a lot to read, I realise. It’s nearly impossible to condense the ever-changing world of PVP into a single article. Every day is different, and every clan is unique. I’m hoping that after all this, you’ve caught my enthusiasm for PKing and warring, and you’ll look us up and give us the chance to show you what it’s like to be in the historically famous and active clan, The Wilderness Guardians.