

A decorative border featuring a white rose, a brown pinecone, green leaves, and a sprig of evergreen in the top-left corner, and a similar arrangement with a white rose, brown pinecone, green leaves, and a sprig of evergreen in the bottom-right corner. The background is a light green marbled paper with a gold leaf pattern.

ASK XXIV

Arsfest

Rules of Etiquette

What is an Annual Ball?

The Annual Ball is an academic dinner and fanciest event among all the student events. An Annual Ball is kinda like a birthday party for the Student Union.

The Annual Ball begins with the traditional Solenn akt introduced by the hostess and continues with greetings from the invited guests.

After the Solenn akt there is a bit of time to mingle before the actual dinner. During the evening guests are served a three course dinner, memorable speeches and snaps songs.



How do I dress?

During the Annual Ball the dresscode requires you to wear tails, a dark suit or an evening gowns

Ladies can wear a suit or tails if they wish. There may be reasons like experiencing gender-segregating clothing, the feeling of it female clothing as bothersome or masculine attire as a need or wish. When ladies wear a suit or tails, all etiquette rules for hem are to be followed.

It is not considered good etiquette to deviate from the dress code.

Tails or suit

For those who do not wear a dress it is recommended to have a tailcoat and a white waistcoat and bowtie. If you wear tails, leave your watch at home (a pocket watch can be used). Smoking is not suited for an academic Annual Ball.

A dark (black or dark blue) colored suit is also okay to wear. With the suit you can wear a white shirt and a plain tie, not a bowtie. With the suit you can wear a wristwatch. Suits in bright colors are not allowed.

We recommend wearing black (lacquer) shoes and black socks.

The dress

On the Annual Ball you wear long gowns like prom or evening dresses. The dress should cover the ankles, cocktail dresses are not allowed. The shoes should preferably cover your toes, so pumps are preferred over sandals.

Shoulders must be covered until dinner. All sleeve lengths are appropriate; if you have a dress that leaves your shoulders bare, you should use a shawl or a fancy cardigan. Long gloves are allowed but should be taken off at the table.

At the afterparty or nachspiel as it is also called, you can switch to a cocktail dress if you feel like it.

Hair

Hair should be set up so that the neck is visible, but otherwise the hairstyle is up to you.

Couleurs

You can wear colored ribbons or Couleurs that show what organizations you belong to, i.e. Couleurs of the Student Union or the Student Associations etc. Members, former members and honorary members have the right to wear ASK's Couleur. You can buy the Couleur from ASK's office.

Couleurs for tails

On the tailcoat the Couleur is fastened inside the tailcoat over the vest from the right shoulder down towards the left side. You can best attach the ribbon with safety pins on the vest, shirt or suspenders.

Couleurs for suits

On the suit the Couleur should be worn as a shorter version on the left lapel. Fasten the ends of the ribbon under the edges so that they are not visible.

Couleurs for dresses

With the dress you wear the Couleur as a "bow" on the left side. It is good to remember that the bow is not against bare skin. The bow shall be no more than 80 mm wide.

During the dinner

The Annual Ball participants should respect the toastmaster and the Annual Ball Marshal's authority, spontaneous exclamations and other outburst outside the program are very impolite! Please note that the Annual Ball is not a sitz.

Greet your table companions.

Women toast first left, then right, and finally straight.
Men, first right, then left, and finally straight.

When someone gives a speech or any other program, it is not polite to discuss with your table companion or help yourself to the food. You sit quietly and listen until the performance is over, however, it is considered okay to drink during performances but keep the cutlery on the table.

If you need to go to the toilet, try to save it to the conference i.e. the break. The etiquette is that you do not leave the table before it. If you still need to visit the toilet please do it discreetly!

When you have finished eating you put your cutlery so that they are at 5 o'clock so the waiters know you're done.