

A-2. Color guard event – inspection phase

a. Common questions.

- (1) Define colors. Ans: A specific flag symbolic to the spirit and traditions of the United States.
- (2) What is the size of the garrison flag and when is it hoisted? Ans: The garrison flag is 38 feet by 20 feet and is hoisted on holidays and other important occasions.
- (3) What is the size of the post flag and when is it hoisted? Ans: The post flag is 19 feet by 10 feet and is hoisted when the garrison flag is not flown.
- (4) What is the size of the storm flag and when is it hoisted? Ans: The storm flag is 9½ feet by 5 feet and is flown during inclement weather.
- (5) What are the colors of the flag and what do they represent? Ans: The colors of the flag are: red – hardiness and valor, white – purity, and blue – justice.
- (6) What is the proper way to raise the flag to the half-staff position? Ans: The flag is first raised to the top of the staff, then lowered to the half-staff position.
- (7) What is the proper way to lower the flag from the half-staff position? Ans: The flag is first raised to the top of the staff and then lowered.
- (8) What is a flag staff? Ans: The staff on which a flag is mounted.
- (9) How many stripes are on the U.S. flag and how are they arranged? Ans: There are 13 stripes consisting of 7 red stripes and 6 white stripes with the first and last stripes being red.
- (10) What do the 13 stripes represent on the U.S. flag? Ans: The 13 original colonies.
- (11) When and how do you dispose of the U.S. flag? Ans: When the flag is no longer suitable for display, it is destroyed preferably by burning.
- (12) Where is the U.S. flag carried or displayed in relation to other flags? Ans: In the position of honor.
- (13) What is the birthday of the first U.S. flag? Ans: June 14, 1777
- (14) What are several names used to describe the U.S. flag? Ans: Flag, color, standard and ensign.
- (15) What is the U.S. flag's position in an auditorium or chapel? Ans: To the speaker's right and the audience's left.
- (16) What is the proper way to display the U.S. flag? Ans: Hanging free with the stars to the marching right and the observer's left.
- (17) Who is given credit for sewing the first U.S. flag? Ans: Betsy Ross
- (18) What are streamers? Ans: Long narrow ribbons displayed from the top of the flag staff.
- (19) Who wrote The Stars and Stripes? Ans: Sir Francis Scott Key b. Unique questions.

(20) Where is the U.S. flag located in a parade or procession? Ans: When carried in a parade or procession with other flags, the U.S. flag is located on the flag's own right, or front and center when marching in line.

(21) How is the U.S. flag displayed when placed on a wall? Ans: Either horizontally or vertically, with the union to the upper most and to the flag's own right.

(22) Who is authorized a U.S. flag over their casket at a military funeral? Ans: Members of the active military force, national guard, reserve, honorably discharged veterans and retired military.

(23) How is the U.S. flag placed on a casket? Ans: Lengthwise over the casket with the union over the head and left shoulder of the deceased.

(24) What is the flag head or finial? Ans: The decorative ornament on top of the flag staff or flag pole.

(25) How many stars are on the U.S. flag, what do they represent, and how are they arranged? Ans: 50 stars on the U.S. flag representing 50 states. The stars are white and arranged in 4 rows of 5 stars, and 5 rows of 6 stars.

(26) How long is the U.S. flag flown at half-staff after the death of a President or former President, and Vice-President? Ans: 30 days for a President or former President, and 10 days for a Vice-President.

(27) What is the hoist of a flag? Ans: Length (vertical edge) of the flag measured from top to bottom.

(28) What is the fly of a flag? Ans: Width (horizontal edge) of the flag measured from left to right.

(29) Can the U.S. flag ever be flown upside down? Ans: Yes. In times of distress.

(30) How is the U.S. flag placed when displayed at cross staff with another flag? Ans: On the marching right with its staff in front of the other staff.

(31) How are flags and pennants flown when hoisted? Ans: In order of precedence with the U.S. flag on top.

(32) What is the name of the shiny piece located at the bottom of the staff? Ans: The ferrule.

B-2. Color guard event

a. Color guard inspection sequence.

Head judge directs unit to report in.	Notes
1. Forward March	Judging starts. March at close interval with colors cased toward head judge.
2. Color Guard Halt	3 paces in front of and centered on head judge.
3. Order Colors	Flags & rifles to order arms with staffs touching ground.
4. Present Arms	Rifles move to salute, but flags are cased and do not move. Color guard commander reports in, "Sir / Ma'am / Sergeant (Rank), (School Name) is prepared for inspection". Head judge will return the salute.
5. Order Arms	Rifles move to order position.
6. Parade Rest	Judges visual & verbal inspection begins. When fronted by a judge, cadets move to attention. When judge leaves, cadets return to parade rest.
7. Color Guard Attention	Color guard commander calls unit to attention when the head judge returns to their original report in position.
8. Present Arms	Rifles move to salute, but flags are cased and do not move. Color guard commander reports out, "Sir / Ma'am / Sergeant (Rank), this concludes (School Name) inspection". Head judge will return the salute.
9. Order Arms	Rifles move to order position.
10. Carry Colors	Brings flags to carry and rifles to shoulder arms position.
11. Colors Reverse March	Unit exits inspection area the same way they entered. Judging stops.

b. Color guard performance sequence.

Head judge directs unit to report in.	Notes
1. Uncase Colors	Judging starts. Unit enters performance area and executes all movements required to uncase the colors: 1. Sling Arms, 2. Post, 3. Uncase the Colors, 4. Present Arms / Order Arms, 5. Post.
2. Report In	If not already centered on the head judge, unit executes movements to center on the head judge. Once centered, color guard commander will report in, "Sir / Ma'am / Sergeant (Rank), (School Name) is prepared to execute performance drill" . Of note, color guards do not present arms or salute (dip) colors when reporting in to head judge: remain at carry and right shoulder arms. Color guard commander verbal report in only. Head judge will not salute but direct color guard to execute performance drill. (MC: Present Colors, Reports In)
3. Colors Reverse March / Forward March (MC: Carry Colors)	
4. Left Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Left Turn / Fwd)	
5. Colors Reverse March / Forward March (MC: Countermarch / Fwd)	
6. COLOR GUARD HALT*	
7. Order Colors	
8. Parade Rest	
9. Color Guard Attention (MC: Attention)	
10. CARRY COLORS*	
11. Forward March	
12. Right Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Countermarch / Fwd)	
13. Right Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Eyes Right / Ready Front)	
14. Colors Reverse March / Forward March (MC: Countermarch / Fwd)	
15. Eyes Right (MC: Eyes Left)	
16. Ready Front	
17. Left Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Right Turn / Fwd)	
18. Left Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Right Turn / Fwd)	
19. Left Wheel March / Forward March (MC: Mark Time / Fwd)	MC additional steps: 19a. Left Turn / Fwd, 19b. Left Turn / Fwd, 19c. Right Turn / Fwd, 19d. Countermarch / Fwd.
20. COLOR GUARD HALT*	
21. Report Out	Unit executes all movements required to center the colors on the head judge. Color guard commander reports out, "Sir / Ma'am / Sergeant (Rank), this concludes (School Name) performance drill" . Unit exits the performance area. Judging stops. Of note, casing colors is not evaluated and is conducted outside of the performance area. (MC: Present Colors, Reports Out, Carry Colors)
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