Boy Scout Troop 658

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Flag Ceremony Standards for both
Indoor & Outdoor Flag Ceremonies
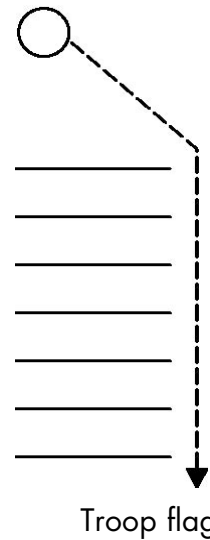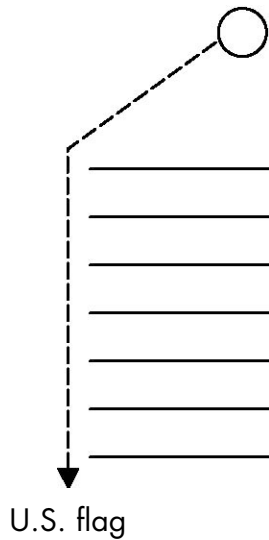
(Customized from original document created
by Troop 167, Seattle)

Indoor: Presenting the Colors
(Opening Ceremony)

SM and/or SPL

Xx

Troop flag   U.S. flag

Command	Action
	Color Guard prepare with the flags in the back of the room, per diagram. Location and travel path should be determined by venue layout.
SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}: "Prepare to present the Colors."	Flag Color Guard prepare to advance
SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}: "Will the audience please rise for the presentation of the colors."	Audience rises
SCOUT {after audience rises}: "Color Guard, advance!"	Color Guard advance the flags according to diagram above. U.S. flag should be held a little higher than the Troop flag. Flag bearer is in front, flag guard follows. U.S. flag crosses first followed by Troop flag.
SCOUT {as U.S. flag approaches}: "Scouts Salute."	In uniform – Scouts salute Not in uniform – no special action
SCOUT {after flags pass}: "Two!"	Let down salute
SCOUT {after color-guard stops}: "Post the colors."	Color Guard place poles in flag stands: – Troop flag, then U.S. flag.

Command (CONTINUED)	Action (CONTINUED)
SCOUT {after flags are posted}: "Will the audience please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. All those in uniform please salute. If you are not in uniform, please place your left hand over your heart."	In uniform – Scout Salute Not in uniform – Right hand over heart
ALL: \<Recite the Pledge of Allegiance\>	"I pledge allegiance to the Flag, of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."
SCOUT: "Two!"	Salute / hand is let down.
SCOUT: "Will the scouts please make the Scout Sign and join me in the Scout Promise"	In uniform – Scout Sign Not in uniform – no special action.
ALL: \<Recite the Scout Promise\>	"On my honor I will do my best. To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times;To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."
SCOUT: "And the Scout Law."	Continue Scout Sign
ALL: \<Recite the Scout Law\>	"A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. "
SCOUT: "And the Outdoor Code."	Continue Scout Sign
ALL: \<Recite the Outdoor Code\>	"As an American, I will do my best to - Be clean in my outdoor manners, Be careful with fire, Be considerate in the outdoors, and Be conservation minded."
SCOUT: "Two!"	Salute / hand is let down.
SCOUT: "Color Guard honor the colors." "Color Guard dismissed. The audience may be seated."	Color Guard give quick salute and return to attention Color Guard return to their seats.

Indoor: Retiring the Colors

SM and SPL

Xx

U.S. flag   Troop flag

Command	Action
SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}: "Prepare to present the Colors."	
SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}: "Will the audience please rise for the retiring of the colors."	Audience rises
SCOUT {after audience rises}: "Color Guard, advance!"	Color Guard leave their seats and approach the Scout. Color Guard salute the Scout together and Scout returns the salute.
SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}: "Retire the colors. Scouts Salute."	In uniform – Scouts salute Not in uniform – no special action Color Guard take the State flag out of stand, then U.S. Flag, then walks straight to the back of the auditorium (see diagram). U.S. flag goes first. Flags do not cross.
SCOUT {when flags are at the rear}: "Two!"	Salute is dropped.

Outdoor: Presenting the Colors
(If for Scout Meeting, also include the Scout Law
and Outdoor Code listed in top section.)

Command	Action
	Color Guard prepare with the folded U.S. Flag, a few paces away from pole.
{skip this item if no audience is present} **SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}:** "Prepare to present the Colors. Will the audience please rise for the presentation of the colors."	Audience rises.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, advance!"	Color Guard advances with the flag.
SCOUT {when color-guard is at pole}: "Color Guard, present the colors."	In uniform (not color guard) –Scout salute Not in uniform – Right hand over heart Color Guard attaches flag to rope, then swiftly and carefully raises the flag to the top of the pole, then secures the rope (with a cleat hitch, if cleat is used).
{skip this item if no audience is present} **SCOUT {after flag is raised}:** "Will the audience please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. All those in uniform please salute. If you are not in uniform, please place your left hand over your heart."	In uniform – Scout Salute Not in uniform – Right hand over heart
ALL: <Recite the Pledge of Allegiance>	"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."
SCOUT: "Two!"	Salute / hand is let down
SCOUT: "Color Guard, honor the colors"	Color Guard salute then drop hands back into attention.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, dismissed"	

Outdoor: Retiring the Colors

Command	Action
{skip this item if no audience is present} **SCOUT {speak loud and clear!}:** "Prepare to retire the Colors. Will the audience please rise."	Audience rises.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, advance!"	Color Guard advances to the pole.
SCOUT {when color guard is at pole}: "Color Guard, honor the colors"	Color Guard places their hand over their heart for one second, then drops hand back into attention.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, retrieve the colors."	In uniform (not Color Guard) – Scout Salute Color Guard swiftly and carefully lowers the flag, then detaches the flag from rope.
SCOUT {after flag is detached}: "Two!"	Salute is let down.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, retire the colors"	Color Guard properly folds the flag.
SCOUT: "Color Guard, dismissed."	