

FLAG PROTOCOL GUIDELINES

The flag of the United States of America symbolizes the freedom, equality and justice, which characterize our nation. It is an emblem of our unity and our heritage, representing the traditions and ideals we hold most sacred.

It follows that our patriotism – our respect and pride for our heritage – is reflected when we display the flag in our organization of ESA – at our homes and business on national holidays.

Tradition has established certain rules for the proper use and display of the Stars and Stripes.

The Display of Flags

The U. S. Congress legalized a detailed flag code with rules of etiquette for the U. S. Flag on December 22, 1942. The following are excerpts from "The United States Flag Code".

- Sec. 3: When grouped with flags of states, cities or societies, the U. S. Flag is at the Center and the highest point.*
- 3(c) No other flag should be placed to the right of the U. S. Flag except during church services conducted by chaplains at sea...*
- 3(k) When displayed from a staff on a platform, the U. S. Flag occupies the position of honor at the speaker's right. When placed on the floor, the U. S. Flag occupies the position of honor at the right of the audience.*
- Sec. 4: The flag of the U. S. should not be dipped to any person or thing. Other flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor (as during the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem).*
- 4(c) The flag should always be carried aloft and free.*
- Sec. 6: During the National Anthem, all present stand, face the flag and salute. If there is no flag, face the source of music and stand at attention.*
- Sec. 7: The text of the Pledge of Allegiance is given.*

Display of Flag of the United States of America:

"When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right; that is, to the observer's left."

"When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above or behind the speaker."

"When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the Flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right, as he/she faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience."

Flag Customs:

The Flag flown outside on buildings and flagstuffs should be displayed only from Sunrise to sunset. It should not be displayed in the open on days when the weather is bad.

In line with other flags, it goes to its own right and is hoisted before state or other flags. Flags should be of equal size and the staffs of equal heights. Flags of different nations are always flown at the same heights.

ESA Customs:

The State President selects the person(s) during her term in office, to present the flag Ceremony at the Annual State Convention.

The presenter should work with the State President in the selection of EA members to participate in the flag ceremony.

Suggested protocol – The bearers of the various flags should wear white gloves and dresses (skirts /blouses) in the flag presentation, under the direction of the flag presenter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

“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.”

Flags are displayed as follows:

American Flag - Indiana Flag – Visiting State Flag - Podium - Christian Flag - MARC Flag - Foundation
(Banner behind Podium)

Retiring of Flags

Flags will retire in reverse order:

*American Flag
Christian Flag
MARC Flag
ESA Flag (Banner)
State Flags*

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