

## FLAG DETAIL COMMANDS – FLAG RAISING OUTDOORS

*Detail composition and roles: Caller or leader or color guard commander (gives all commands); color bearers (carries flags, posts flags, and retrieves flags); color guard (protectors of the US flag – may simply march with bearers or carry other flags); Color Guard – often refers to the entire flag detail*

*Caller Commands: Opening*

1 *If seated:* Say to the audience, "**Please rise for the presentation of the colors.**"

*If NOT seated, move to next command:*

2 Say, "**Please remove any hats that are NOT part of a Scout or military uniform.**"

3 Say, "**Color Guard ---- Attention!**"

4 Say, "**Troop ----- Attention!**"

5 Say, "**Color Guard, advance!**" *The color guard should walk slowly to the flagpole or stand, halt, and face the pole or stand*

6 Say, "**Clear the halyards!**" *Color guards untie/loosen flagpole ropes (halyards)*

7 Say, "**Color Guard, post the colors ----- Troop (or Camp), Salute!**" *The color bearer raises the flag or places it in the stand. US Flag first and quickly to the peak even for half-staff flight; remaining flags follow. Audience renders appropriate honors: salute or right hand over heart. To the Colors followed by The National Anthem may be played at this time*

8 Once all halyards are secured and music concluded, say, "**Color Guard, honor your colors.**" *The color guard salutes.*

9 Say, "**Two!**" *All participants lower hands after the later of either last note of music or US flag at peak*

10 Say, "**Please place your right hand over your heart and join me in reciting 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.**" *Color guard does NOT participate in this but stands at attention and stands watch over the colors*

11 Say, "**Two!**"

12 Say, "**Scout sign!**"

13 *Caller then instructs in recitation of Scout Oath, Scout Law, Outdoor Code, or other selection; may be followed by patriotic music/song, or flag history. Color guard stands fast and watches over colors*

14 Say, "**Color guard, return to ranks.**" *Color guard marches back the way they entered, in an orderly way, and rejoins their patrol from the rear*

15 *Caller then instructs attendees to be seated or proceeds with announcements, dismissal to activities or program. Alternatively, another leader – SPL, Scoutmaster, etc. may take over the group and instructions.*