

Terms Used in a Flag Ceremony

The **color bearer** (or flag bearer) is the person who carries the flag. There is one color bearer for each flag used in the ceremony.

The **color guard** is a team that guards the flags. Any even number of guards may be used, but usually four or six girls are sufficient.

The **Girl Scout in-charge** (or caller or Sergeant at Arms) is a designated Girl Scout who announces or calls each part of the ceremony.

Opening Flag Ceremony

"Please stand."

"Color guard advance." This signals the color guard to advance with the flags and stand behind the corresponding flag stand facing the audience. Flags should be held in the same position as they were when carried in, not resting the flag poles on the floor. The American flag should be the lead.

"Color Guard, post the colors." This directs the color guard to place the flags in flag stands. The American flag is posted last. This ensures the American flag is always higher than the flags as they are being raised to be placed in the stands.

"Please join us in saying the Pledge of Allegiance." The color guard stands at attention.

"Please join us in saying the Girl Scout Promise." The color guard stands at attention.

"Color guard, dismissed." The color guard leaves in formation, without the flags.

Closing Flag Ceremony

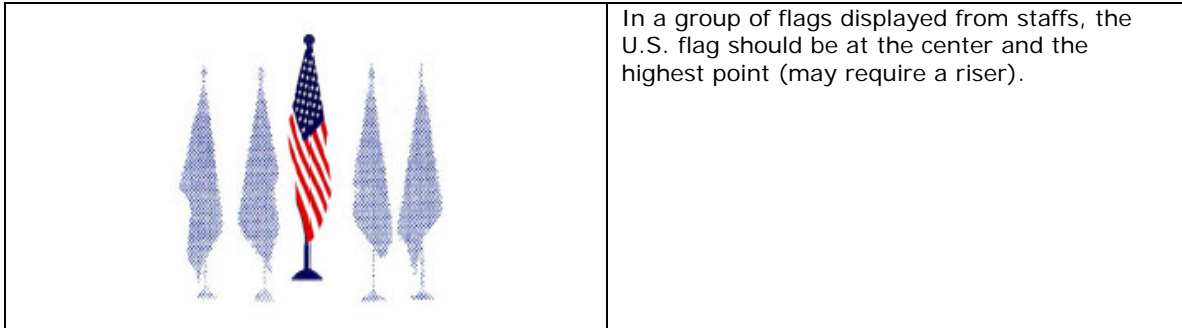
"Please stand."

"Color guard advance." This signals the color guard to advance to pick up the flags.

"Color Guard, retire the colors." This directs the color guard to remove the flags from the flag stands. The American flag is removed first so it is always higher than the other flags as they are being removed.

"Color guard, dismissed." The color guard leaves in formation, with the flags. The American flag always goes first.

"Girl Scouts dismissed." This signals the end of the ceremony.



The Ohio flag would be the furthest on the left of the above diagram. I would recommend the following order, from left to right:

Ohio

WAGGGS

American

Council or Service Unit flag

Brownie

Daisy