

## Flag Lesson Plan

Why do we have flag rules? To honor and pay respect to the flag and the United States, the country it represents.

### Displaying the flag

- Can be flown every day
- Usually flown sunrise to sunset
- Should be flown on all national and state holidays & other days proclaimed by the President
- Flying at full-staff
  - Hoist it briskly and lower it slowly
- Fly at half-staff to show sorrow and mourning following a national tragedy, the death of a president or other national or state figure, or to honor those who have sacrificed their lives for their country.
  - Hoist the flag to the top of the pole, hold for an instant, lower to point halfway between top and bottom of pole
  - To lower, first raise to top of pole, then slowly lower it.
  - On Memorial Day, fly at half-staff until noon, then hoist to full-staff

### Raising the flag – use a minimum of two people

- First person and any additional persons needed.
  - Holds the flag
  - Steps back and salutes after flag is free
- Second person
  - Attaches to lanyard
  - Raises the flag, doesn't salute
  - Ties halyard
- Audience
  - Stand at attention (stand straight, hands at side, not in pockets)
  - Face the US flag
  - Salute at the first note of the National Anthem, or when directed, or when the flag is lowered.
  - Hold salute until last note of the National Anthem, until directed, or when the flag is free of the halyard

### Lowering the flag – use a minimum of two people

- First person
  - Unfastens halyard and lowers slowly
  - Removes flag from halyard; ties halyard
  - Folds flag
- Second person and any additional persons needed
  - Salutes as it's lowered
  - When it is within reach, gathers flag in
  - Folds flag
- Folding demo

### Greeting

- When in uniform, greet flag with Scout salute as you pass it, or it passes you
- Use Scout salute when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
- When not in uniform, place right hand over heart; remove hat and hold over heart

### Other Rules of Display

- Always carry flag aloft and free, never flat or horizontally
- When carried with other flags, US flag is carried in front or on its own right
- When displayed with other flags, it's on its own right
- When flags are different heights, the US flag is the highest; hoisted first, lowered last
- When displayed on a wall the blue field should be at the top and the flag's own right
- When hung over a street, the blue field should be to the north or east
- Flying the US flag upside down is a sign of distress
- When with flags of other nations, display on separate flagpoles of equal height and flags should be approx the same size
- Never dip the American flag, but do dip the troop flag as a form of respect when others are saluting.