

SENIOR DRILL TEAM RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. TIME AND PLACE:

The Contest will be held in the Department Convention city at a time and place selected by the Department Contest Supervisory Committee. The contest will be held outdoors on a field 160 feet wide by 300 feet long.

If only one Senior Drill Team shows up to compete, to be paid first place money it must place at least with the minimum score of 75 points. Otherwise, it will receive third place money.

2. SUPERVISION:

Such competition shall be under the supervision of the Contest Supervisory Committee.

All rulings during the contest or during the preceding Meeting of Representatives or other meetings, made by the Contest Supervisory Committee representative or representatives in charge of such contest or meetings, shall be subject to review and correction by said committee, and upon such review and correction said committee may take such other action as may to it seem proper.

No agreement between contestants, as to the penalty for the violation of any rule or as to the waiver or variation of any rule or requirement, shall have any force or effect without the consent of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee.

3. ENTRY BLANKS:

The Contest Supervisory Committee will mail copies of these rules and regulations, with entry blanks, to the Commander of all senior drill teams on the mailing list in Department Headquarters. A duplicate mailing will be made to the Post Commander.

4. ENTRY:

Each competing drill team shall, not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention, forward by registered mail to the Department Adjutant of The American Legion, on the prescribed form, a list of its members, with their membership card numbers for the current year, certified by the Commander and Adjutant of the organization which the drill team represents. Entry blanks may be delivered in person at Department Headquarters and a receipt showing date and time of delivery will be issued. Entry blanks must be postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention or the unit will not be permitted to participate in the contest.

Any drill team may, up to fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention, make additions to or deletions from the roster submitted on the entry blank filed 45 days prior to the opening of the Department Convention. Such changes must be postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days before the opening of the Department Convention and shall be certified by the Commander and Adjutant of such organization as aforesaid. No prize will be awarded any drill team until its eligibility has been approved the Department Adjutant.

5. ELIGIBILITY:

Only units composed of bona fide members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion, over 21 years of age, in good standing with a membership card for the current year, shall be permitted to compete. All members must have their membership card on their person and supply their signature at pre-inspection time, at the discretion of the Supervisory Committeeman. If uniform makes this impossible, the Drill Sergeant may have the cards. Each such unit must represent a Ritual Team, Voiture, District, County, City Council or Post organization of The American Legion. Each contest shall be open to all such units composed of not less than nine (9) members including a commanding officer.

6. PARADE:

All competing personnel of each organization entering such contest must participate in convention parade and wear the uniforms in which they competed.

Second uniforms for bad weather will consist of trousers of near color, shoes (no sandals), shako or caps all the same and jackets. Inspection will be made at the start of the parade by a member of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee. Any infraction of this rule will result in the loss of parade money.

7. MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES:

At a time prior to the contest and at a place, both to be designated by the Supervisory Committee, one representative of each competing unit shall meet with the representative of that committee or receive instructions and transact any business which may properly come before such meeting. Each unit shall be represented BY A MEMBER OF THE UNIT OR OF THE SPONSORING POST at the drawing for position in the contest. If unable to appear, it may delegate IN WRITING the authority to a member of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee. Failure is cause for a penalty to be assessed. No judges are to be in attendance at this meeting.

8. JUDGES:

Six judges, plus a timekeeper, shall be provided; an inspection judge; two general effect judges and two marching and maneuvering judges, and one penalty judge shall be selected by the Department Contest Supervisory Committee.

9. POINTS:

Awards will be made on the following points:

1.	Inspection	A Penalty Caption
2.	Marching and Maneuvering	60%
3.	General Effect	40%
TOTAL		100%

10. UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:

The style and color of uniforms shall be optional with each drill team. Optional equipment may include the U.S. Colors, flag of The American Legion sponsor (rifles, or simulated rifles). No "rebel" flag will be permitted. Simulated rifles are to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past or present. Sight and sling are optional. In addition to these arms the Commander may carry a side arm, saber or sword. Judges shall penalize for improper carrying or use of optional equipment. A bugler and/or drummer shall be judged on the proficiency of his bugling or drumming under the General Effect caption. Bugling shall be limited to standard bugle calls. Minimum size of U.S. Colors, Flags and Banners - 3 feet by 5 feet. No flag shall be larger in size than the U.S. Colors. Minimum length of saber and/or sword blades is 24 inches.

11. CADENCE:

Cadence shall be optional with each unit.

12. CONDUCT OF THE DRILL TEAM:

(a) Each unit shall be on the field not less than six (6) minutes nor more than eight (8) minutes. A warning signal will be given at the expiration of six (6) minutes.

(b) Each unit shall enter over the traditional starting line plus any part of the back side line, and leave over the traditional finish line plus any part of the back side line. The saluting point shall be the center of that sideline of the field which is to the right of the starting line. The use of colors must be with dignity and propriety.

(c) Proper salutes to be rendered in accordance with the current FM-22-5.

(d) A unit may execute any other appropriate maneuvers. (No Ammo shall be used.)

(e) Time and judging will start for a unit with the first step of a member of the unit proper. The Commanding Officer is not a member of the Unit Proper for timing purposes only. Timing and judging will cease when the last member of the unit proper crosses the finish line.

(f) Commanding Officer, Bugler and/or Drummer shall be judged as a part of the unit proper.

(g) Following inspection, the Drill Team shall not break ranks prior to competing.

(h) Each Drill Team shall be subject to the rulings of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee with respect to entry on, exit from, and conduct on the field, and in the immediate area.

(i) All boundary lines shall be strictly enforced (Starting Line, Side Lines and Finish Line.)

(j) Use of music shall be optional.

13. PENALTIES:

(a) A unit violating any time requirement shall be penalized one point for each thirty seconds, or fraction thereof, over a maximum, or under a minimum requirement.

(b) A unit violating any requirement of Rule 5 shall be disqualified, and its position and standing in the contest shall be forfeited.

(c) The failure of any unit to report at the inspection line ready for inspection at the time set for it to report *shall* be penalized one-half point. For each 15 minutes or part thereof and up to the conclusion of the contest another one-half point shall be assessed.

(d) Once a unit reports to the starting official that the unit is ready, the unit must start in 60 seconds or less, or be assessed a one-point penalty.

(e) A unit violating any rule, or part of a rule, for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each *such* violation, not less than one point nor more than disqualification, in the discretion of the Department Contest Supervisory Committee.

(f) Any infraction of flag etiquette shall be penalized 2 points for each offense. The authority adopted for flag etiquette is "American Legion Competitive Flag Code:", adopted by the National Contest Supervisory Committee, October 3-4, 1965.

(g) Any unit violating Rule 7 will be assessed a two point penalty.

(h) Any unit violating Rule 12, Section (i) will be assessed 3/10 point penalty for each infraction.

14. PROTESTS:

Any protest regarding these contests shall be filed in the office of the Department Adjutant at the established headquarters of the Department organization in the convention city not later than 5:00 p. m. of the day following the contest, by which hour copies of the protest must have been given any other units involved or affected. The protesting unit must be represented by a proper officer at the meeting of said committee at 10:00 a.m. of the day following the convention parade, at said established headquarters.

15. PRIZES:

No prize shall be deemed won or awarded until confirmed by the Contest Supervisory Committee.

(a) Cash prizes, appropriated from the Department Music and Drill fund, will be awarded and all competing Drill Teams shall participate in the prize fund.

(b) The winner of first place will be awarded a plaque, They shall be known as the Department of Michigan Championship Drill Team until the following Department Convention contest.

16. REGISTRATION FOR DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS:

Any unit participating in the contest will pay a minimum Entry Fee of \$15.00 if they have housing and proper insurance. Any unit that desires insurance or housing shall pay a registration fee of \$2.00 per person. Any person who is a delegate need only pay the regular delegate fee. If any unit fails to register or is not covered by insurance, it will not be allowed to share in the Music and Drill Fund.