



Central Division Conference
Plainfield, Indiana
30 March - 2 April





Honor Guard & Color Guard MCL 2023

National HG/CG Chair:

Angela Maness
(910) 581-2128

Committee Members:

Matt Careins
Ray Morrell
Lisa Solarczyk



House Rules

- Hold All Questions Until The End, Please
- Train, Lead & Mentor. Praise Publicly and Often.
- If You (Or Your Detachment) Photos Are Viewed Here - Thank You For Allowing Us To Learn From Your Mistakes.



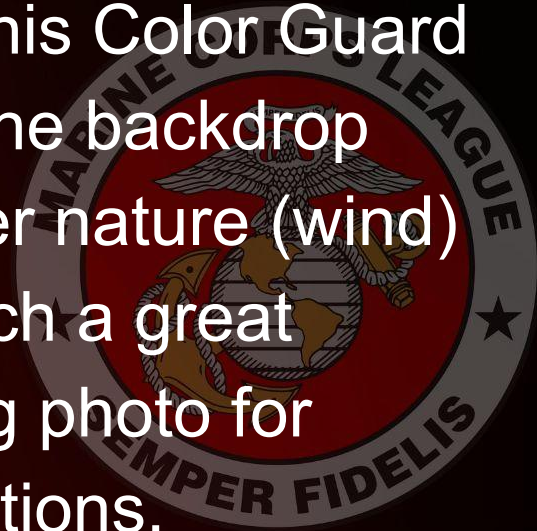
Objective

- Mission Statement
- “What RIGHT looks like” Campaign
- Perception is reality
- Practical Application
 - Basic Drill with the M1



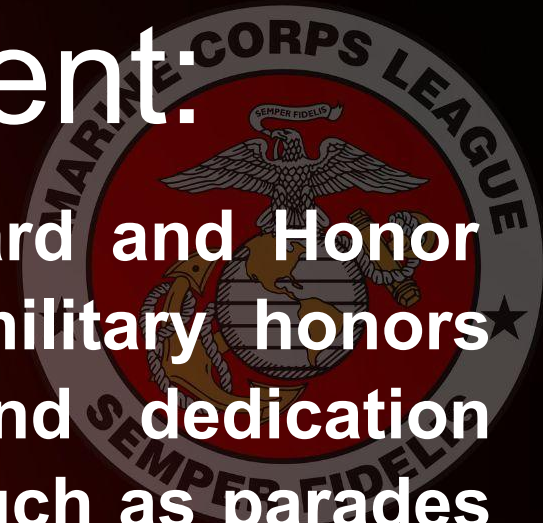
Motivation - Use Your Assets

Credit to this Color Guard for using the backdrop and mother nature (wind) to take such a great advertising photo for public relations, recruitment, and training.



Honor Guard/Color Guard Mission Statement:

Our Mission: To provide Color Guard and Honor Guard services in order to perform military honors for funeral services, memorial and dedication events, and other civic occasions such as parades and special events within our community.



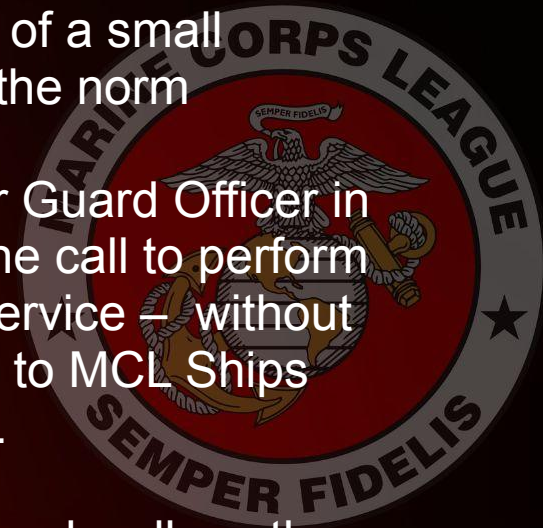
Deviation From The Norm?



Quick example of a small deviation from the norm

Here the Honor Guard Officer in charge made the call to perform the memorial service — without white belts due to MCL Ships Store shortage.

Good call OIC and well worth the uniform discrepancies.



“What RIGHT Looks Like” Campaign

You know it when you see it - Advertise it often and use it as your recruitment tool

Remember - You represent the entire League – not just your Detachment

Ask questions – verify the commands, movements and sequence of events

We are not the VFW nor the American Legion

WE ARE SO MUCH BETTER



Perfect execution draws attention and future invitations



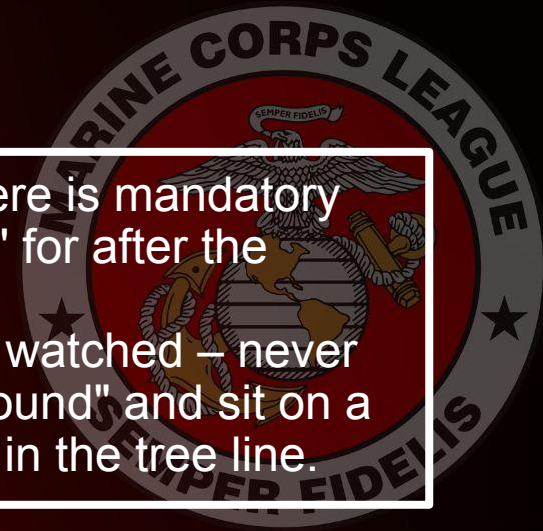
PER FID

Perception Is Reality

It is an honor to perform as a funeral detail for any Veteran – remember this statement when you're executing your 5th funeral of the day in 102 degree weather.

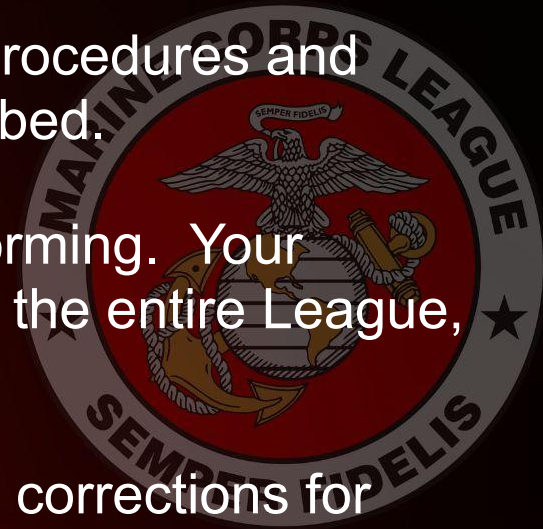
Wear the uniform with pride. Execute your movements with discipline. Never allow someone to questions who we are

Ceremonial Atmosphere is mandatory
Save the "jaw jacking" for after the ceremony.
You are always being watched – never assume "no one is around" and sit on a gravestone or urinate in the tree line.



How To Support Our Mission?

- Adhere to MCL Honor / Color Guard Policy & Procedures and USMC uniform regulations, as currently prescribed.
- **Research and Rehearse** your task before performing. Your success (and failures) are a direct reflection on the entire League, not just your Detachment.
- Have intestinal fortitude to make the necessary corrections for change AND make them with humility.

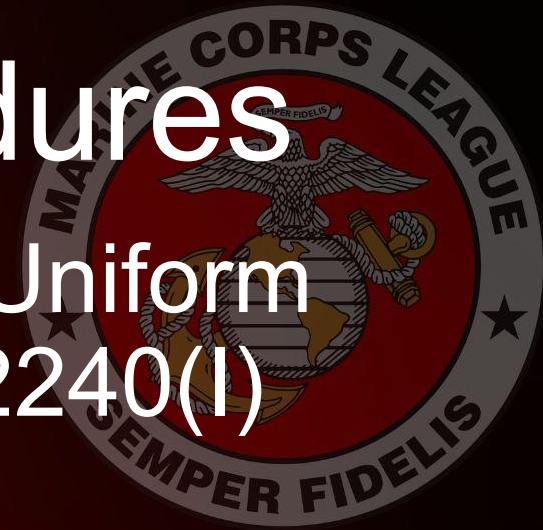


FOR
TRAINING
PURPOSES
ONLY!



2019 MCL Honor Guard Policies & Procedures

Chapter 2, Honor Guard Uniform
Section 2000 - Section 2240(I)



This outlines uniforms for the Honor
Guard/Color Guard

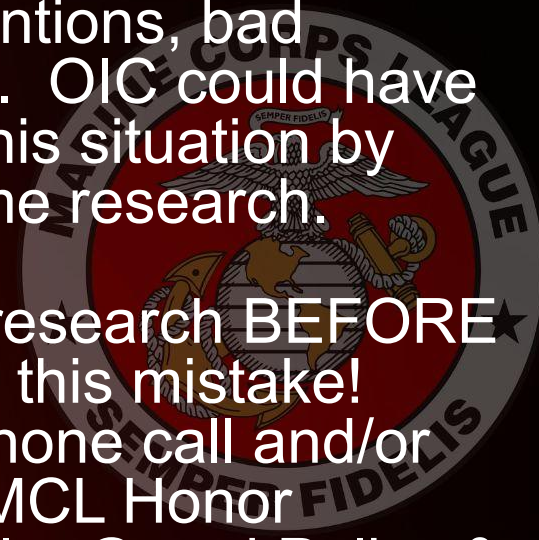
“This is the way we learned it at the VFW”



100% Avoidable Mistakes:

Good intentions, bad execution. OIC could have avoided this situation by doing some research.

Do your research **BEFORE** you make this mistake!
Make a phone call and/or read the MCL Honor Guard/Color Guard Policy & Procedures.



What is wrong with this pictures?



Where are the two associate members?



Shorts and polos shirts are NOT our uniform of the day - *EVER!*



Are These Your Marines?



- Duty belt sagging
- Wrong cover
- Female shirt not tucked in
- Sunglasses on just two Marines
- No duty belt on Color bearer
- Brown shoes on L Rifleman
- Fringe on the National
- Both flags are not North and South
- Rifleman swinging his arm?



Marines,

We do not march at Port Arms!

Get the weapon to your shoulder
and leave it there!

Every staff should be in a straight
North & South position when at the
carry.

Only time the National ensign will dip
is when? - NEVER!



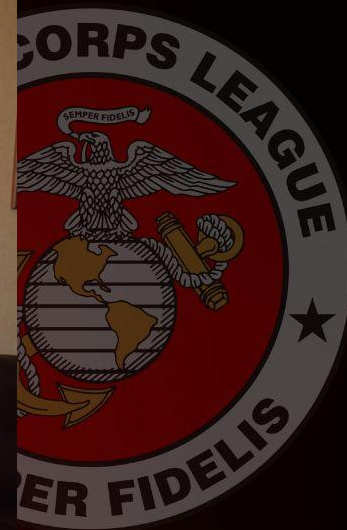
How Many Things Are Wrong?



What's Wrong With This Picture?



Red Blazers?



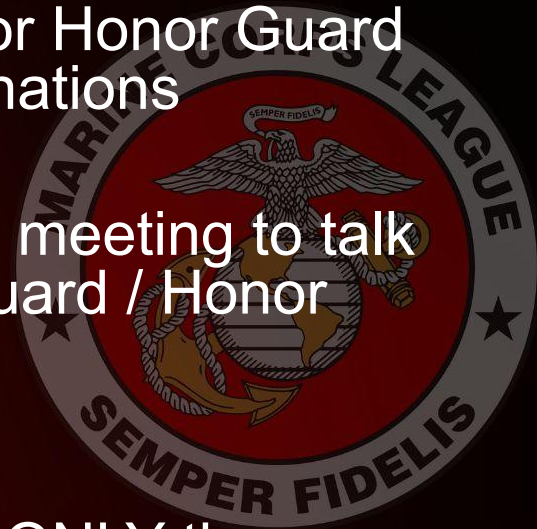


Nov 2022,
Marines attending
a USMC Birthday
Ball celebration.
Swords are
NEVER
authorized in a
MCL CG. What
else do you see
wrong?



How To: Grown Your Own

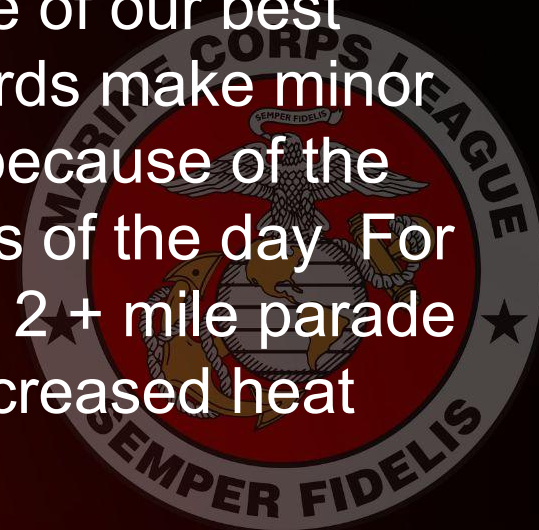
- Start a fundraising project to raise money for Honor Guard gear, uniforms and incentives or ask for donations
- Dedicate time in your detachment business meeting to talk about the value added of a trained Color Guard / Honor Guard
- Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse AND wear ONLY the **RED** detachment cover



This Is What DEDICATION Looks Like...



Even some of our best Color Guards make minor mistakes because of the distractions of the day. For example a 2+ mile parade route at increased heat index.



Heels together, feet at a 45

Unauthorized Gear

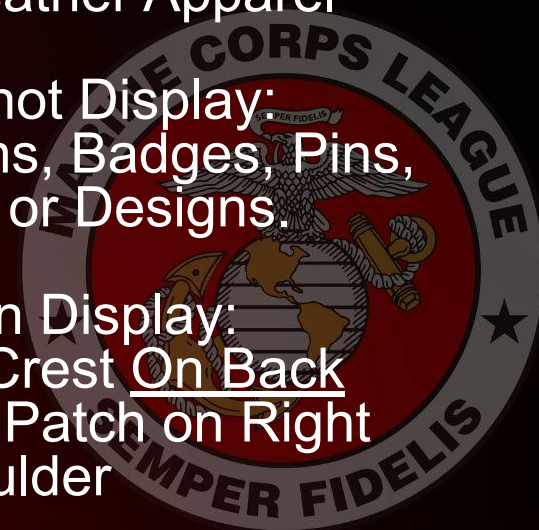


Inclement Weather Apparel

Coats Cannot Display:
Insignia, Emblems, Badges, Pins,
Embroidery or Designs.

Coats Can Display:
EGA or MCL Crest On Back
American Flag Patch on Right
Shoulder

**ALL INCLEMENT WEATHER
APPAREL MUST BE IDENTICAL**



Unauthorized Gear

Not Identical



Helmet?



Only Solid White Duty Belt



No Dress Blues Belt



Unauthorized Gear



No Belt On The Outside Of Any Jacket (Unauthorized Jacket)

No Rank On Cover, EVER!

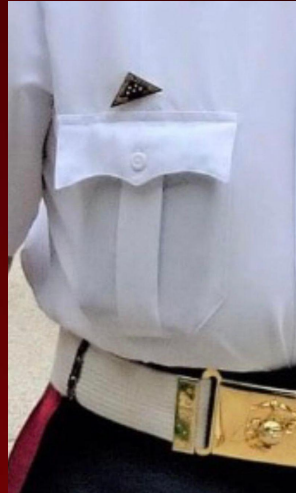


MCL Cover Not Authorized With Any Other Uniform!



Unauthorized Gear

No Honor Guard
Rockers



No Honor Guard Pins



No Honor Guard Pins

Unauthorized Gear



No Khaki Pants

?????



No Red Polos

No Dress Blues



Bugler Is Part Of
The Honor Guard
(Same Uniform)



No Mixing HG & CG



If You Don't Have The Right Gear...



DON'T

Detachment Colors


<https://www.dixieflag.com>
<https://www.gettysburgflag.com>

Correct Flag Size: 4x6
with yellow fringe

Flags Can Also Display:

- Red and Gold Tassel
OR Streamers, NOT
BOTH



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Marine Corps League Honor Guard / Color Guard >

🔒 Private group · 705 members

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About

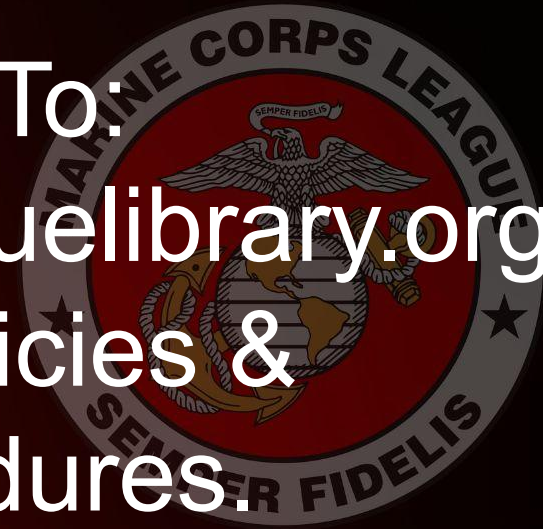
This Closed Group is for Marine Corps League members who are members of MCL Honor Guards and Col... [See More](#)

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Questions? Comments? Concerns?



MCL HG/CG History

Stats: In 2019: 405 Funerals and Memorial Services (flag folding)

236 Color Guard/Parade performances {641}

In 2020: 423 Funerals and Memorial Services (flag folding)

109 Color Guard/Parade performances {532}

Before 2019 there was little in the form of policy and procedure for our MCL Honor Guard and Color Guard. We have improved, however, have maybe developed bad habits from other organizations.

In 2019, John Clickner and other MCL members put together the HG/CG Policy & Procedures document that provided us this foundation.

