

**International Order of Rainbow for Girls
Pennsylvania Grand Assembly**

**Official Drill Team Rules
(Revised March 2018)**

Official Drill Team Rules – Revised March 2018

The Official Drill Team Rules should only be revised once a year at the Patton Campus Drill Weekend in March. The updated rules are located on the PA Rainbow Girls website under “Competitions.”

Below are rules that were agreed upon at the 2014 Patton Campus Drill Weekend for use during 2014 Grand Assembly Drill Competition. There were no changes made at 2015 or 2016 Patton Campus Drill Weekend. In 2017, the uniform requirements were amended to allow for either the Rainbow Patch or a Rainbow Emblem in addition to the Grand Worthy Advisor’s pin in order to meet uniform requirements.

These rules appear in the appropriate location in the Official Drill Team Rules however they have been listed below for easy reference.

Changes for 2018 (bold text indicated the change):

Music Submission (Addition, Page 9)

- Instruction were added on how to submit music for Grand Assembly

Judges

- It was discussed and agreed that P.J. O’Neill would investigate using new judges for 2018 Grand Assembly. The focus would be on using individuals who are involved in marching bands or drill teams but aren’t necessarily professional judges. The goal is to still provide feedback and allow for competition but in a more positive and less punitive manner.
- If a change is made, it will be reevaluated at 2019 Drill Weekend

Note: While the Rainbow patches are not a requirement, if you need Rainbow patches for your Assembly, please order them prior to Grand Assembly or check with other Assemblies for extras. The Rainbow patches are in limited supply and we may not have many at Grand Assembly.

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Forming a Drill Team

Membership

- Any active Rainbow Girl can participate in a Drill Team. Prospective Rainbow Girls can participate as long as they are initiated members of an Assembly by or at Grand Assembly. Rainbow Girls receiving their Majority prior to Grand Assembly may not participate, however Rainbow Girls receiving their Majority at Grand Assembly may participate in that year's Drill Team.
- All Drill Team members are encourage to attend Grand Assembly full-time
- If four girls in an Assembly want to participate in Drill Competition, then the Assembly must form its own Drill Team. If less than four girls want to participate in Drill Competition, then the Assembly may form its own Drill Team or the girls may join another Assembly's Drill Team. If the girls decide to join another Assembly's Drill Team, they must first get approval from the Drill Director before joining. Note: If the girl's Assembly has a Drill Team, the girl must participate with the Assembly's Drill Team.

Drill Instructor

- The Drill Instructor must be a member of a Masonic organization, a Majority Rainbow Girl, or a parent of a Drill Team member.
- The Drill Instructor is responsible for the writing of the drill show, selecting the music, choosing captains, and overseeing the Drill Team in the actual execution of the Drill performance.
- The Drill Instructor should work closely with the Drill Team members, the Assembly Advisory Board and the Drill Directors throughout the planning of the Drill Performance.
- A courtesy gift for the Drill Instructor at the end of the season is permitted.

Drill Practice

- Preliminary preparations can begin in January. Preliminary preparations include preparation of music, planning of drill show, and training the new members in the basics of marching and maneuvering.
- Regular Drill Practice can begin in February.
- The Rainbow schedule has priority over Drill Practice. All Drill Practices, engagements, and money making projects should be arranged with the Mother Advisor, and the Worthy Advisor should include them as part of her term.
- From the first regular Drill Practice until Grand Assembly, a Drill Team can practice no more than 80 hours.

Cost

- Drill Teams should not spend excessive amounts of money on uniforms, equipment, and other related expenses.

Entry

- The Official Rainbow Drill Team Rules and Entry Form will be available on the PA Rainbow Girl website under “Competitions.”
- All entry forms must be received by the Drill Director by June 15th. Entry forms can be either mailed or emailed to the Drill Director. The Drill Director should notify the Assembly once they have received their entry form.
- Each Assembly can only enter one Drill Team.

Approval

- A Drill Director must see all Drill programs including music, uniform, and equipment prior to Grand Assembly. This can be either in person or via a video.
- Any significant changes made after a Drill Director has seen the Drill program must be reviewed by the Drill Director by Thursday at Grand Assembly.
- It is recommended that Assemblies consult with the Drill Director before purchasing or altering their current uniforms or equipment.

Patton Campus Drill Weekend

- Time at Patton Campus Drill Weekend will be dedicated to reviewing and clarifying any existing Drill Team rules.
- The Drill Instructor and an Advisory Board Representative from each current or prospective Drill Team should attend this session.
- This is the only time rules can be added or amended and the rules decided upon at Patton Campus Drill Weekend will govern the Drill Competition at Grand Assembly.

Drill Competition at Grand Assembly

- The Drill Competition is held every year at Grand Assembly. The Drill Director and the Assistant Drill Director are responsible for this competition.
- The Drill Competition Floor is 50 feet long by 30 feet wide. This boundary will be indicated by at least 1½ inch wide contrasting color tape. The competition area is measured from the inside edge of the tape.

Pre-Competition Meeting

- Prior to the Drill Competition, the Drill Director will set a specific time and place for a Pre-Competition Meeting. The Drill Team Captain/ Co-Captain and an adult should attend this meeting.
- At the Pre-Competition Meeting, the Drill Team Captains draw lots to determine the order of appearance in each class. The method of drawing lot is determined by the date the entry form was received by the Drill Director and then by class. After the lots are selected, each Drill Team will then be assigned its time for Saturday morning practice and performance.
- Cassette tapes for the judges and any declarations are also given to the Drill Director at this time.

Judges Tapes

- Each Drill Team must submit two cassette tapes to the Drill Director at the Pre-Competition Meeting.
- Each cassette tape should be labeled with the Assembly's name and number with side one clearly labeled and set in the proper playing position.
- One tape should be labeled "G.E. #1" and one tape should be labeled "G.E. #2"
- The cassette tapes are returned to the Drill Team Captains along with their score sheets at the awards ceremony which held during Coronation.

Declaration

- A declaration is a written explanation of why a Drill Team member is unable to fully participate in the Team's performance. For example: Susie Rainbow broke her arm and is unable to perform the full range of arm movements.
- The declaration should contain the Drill Team member's name, Assembly, and the reason for her inability to participate fully in the Drill Team's performance.
- Declarations should be submitted to the Drill Director at the pre-competition meeting. The Drill Director will inform the judges of any declarations.

Saturday morning practice

- Each Drill Team is allotted time to complete two run through including entrance and exit of the Drill Team.
- While Drill Teams do not have to practice in their uniforms, one of the two practices must include all other components of their show including flag lifts, tosses, props and equipment.

Presentation of the American Flag

- Prior to the Drill Competition, the Drill Team Captains will assemble in the Grand West to present the American Flag. The Drill Director will work with the Captains to ensure that the American Flag is presented properly.

Team Retreat

- At the end of the Competition, the Drill Director will instruct the participating Teams and Drill Instructors to line-up outside the Grand West entrance of the Grand Assembly Room.
- All Teams will parade around the Assembly Room as instructed by the Drill Director

Drill Team Structure

Class of Competition

There are currently four classes of competition:

- Class A: 10-29 Drill Team members
- Class B: 5-9 Drill Team members
- Class C: 2-4 Drill Team members
- Novice: Any number of Drill Team members. A Drill Team may compete in Novice Class for a total of two years. Any Drill Team having already completed in Novice Class may not enter competition as Novice unless they have been absent from the Drill Competition for two or more years. Participation in Novice Class is optional.
- Any changes in an Assembly's Class of Competition between the submission of the entry form and Grand Assembly competition will be handled on an individual basis by the Drill Director and Assistant Drill Director.

Captains

- Drill Teams can have a maximum of three commanding officers for their show. One of the commanding officers is designated Head Captain.

Equipment

Flags

- Each flag is comprised of two pieces: the flag pole and the silk. All flag poles must have a protective covering on both ends of the pole to prevent damage and injury.
- The designated number of flags that can be in active use (i.e. not grounded) at the same time during a Drill Team's show depends on a Drill Team's Class. Class A can have a maximum of 6 flags, Class B can have maximum of 4 flags and Class C can have a maximum of 2 flags. Novice class is not permitted to have flags.
- Except for Novice Class, each Drill Team is permitted a maximum of two different flag poles to be used during the Drill Show. This means that Class A can have a total of 12 flag poles, Class B can have a total of 8 flag poles, and Class C can have a total of 4 flag poles. However, there can only be one flag pole change per show. A flag pole is considered "changed" when a flag pole is grounded and another flag pole is picked up and in active use.
- A Drill Team may use a cover to switch silks during the Drill Show, however this is only permitted for one set of flag poles and the cover must be secured by a Drill Team member or grounded.
- In total, a Drill Team may only have 3 flag looks per Drill Show: 1 flag pole change and one silk change to one set of flag poles.
- Flags can be no more than 50% dark colors.

- The American Flag cannot be used during a Drill Team's show and only during the Retreat or as instructed by the Drill Director
- Drill Teams may use ribbon flags with wooden poles not to exceed 12 inches in place of flags. Ribbon flags adhere to the same rule as flags.

Props

- Large, rigid, or floor size props are not permitted in any part of the Drill performance.
- There is no limit to the number of non-rigid props used by a Drill Team.
- Hand flags are considered props.

Uniforms

- Uniforms must be in accordance with the Rainbow Dress Code and must be either a dress or a skirt. Dress and skirts cannot be shorter than 2 inches above the middle of the Drill Team Member's knee cap. While denim skirts are allowed, they are not preferred
- Accessories including hats and gloves can be dark colors. All accessories must be carried onto the competition floor by the Drill Team Member
- The Rainbow Emblem and the current Grand Worthy Advisor's pin must be displayed on each Drill Team Member uniform in a prominent place. Assemblies can either use the Rainbow Patch or the Rainbow Emblem can be embroidered/ silkscreened/ printed directly onto the uniforms.
- All uniforms and accessories must be approved by the Drill Director. It is recommended that an Assembly get the Drill Director's approval prior to purchasing new uniforms or accessories.
- Depending on its use, items like hats can be both props and uniform accessories.

Music

- Music must be in good taste and contain no offensive or suggestive language. Please be mindful of music editing and know that often "radio clean" versions of song simply replace offensive language with acceptable words however the Girls are still aware of the original offensive words and it could still be considered unsuitable for PA Rainbow. Similarly, please consider the semantic and contextual nature of a song and know that just because they lyrics themselves are clean, that does not mean the song itself is suitable for PA Rainbow.
- Contemporary religious music is permitted.
- Drill Teams must submit their music to the Light and Sound committee at the Saturday morning practice. Light and Sound will work with each Drill Team and the Drill Director to ensure that the music is ready for the Drill competition.
- If the music should malfunction during the Drill competition, the Drill Team Captain should halt the Drill Team and lead the Team off the Drill floor. The Drill Team will then reenter the competition without penalty and timing and judging will begin anew.

Music Submission

- If possible, music should be submitted prior to Grand Assembly to Ray Pfister (Email: armybugler@comcast.com)
- Files should be either MP3 or MP4. Please no Apple files. He will download music to his laptop and they will be ready for Saturday morning practice.

- If the team prefers to submit music on cd, please bring it to Light and Sound in the beginning of the week and not Saturday at practice.

Drill Competition Rules

Timing

- Class A, B, and C are allowed 10 minutes for their total performance. This includes entrance, Drill performance, and exit. Novice is allowed 8 minutes.
- Class A, B, and C must have all competing members within the boundary lines for a minimum of 7 minutes and a maximum of 8 minutes. Novice must have all competing members within the boundary lines for a minimum of 5 minutes and a maximum of 6 minutes. This time begins when the first member, excluding Drill Captains crosses the boundary line and ends when the last member, excluding the Drill Captains crosses the boundary line. Judges will signal the start and end of this time.
- Drill Captains may enter the Drill Floor before the members for the Captain Salute and may remain within the boundary lines after the members have exited the Drill Floor.

Entrance

- Each Drill Team should assemble in the Grand West using the three entrances at the time designated in the Pre-Competition meeting. After the performing Drill Team leaves the floor and while the judges are calculating their scores, the next Drill Team should move to the Grand West and prepare to enter the Grand Assembly Room for competition.
- Each Drill Team should enter the Grand Assembly Room and assemble on the starting line in the Grand West. Music or audible commands from the Captains maybe used to bring the Drill Team to the starting line. The entrance music and commands must cease before the start of the Drill Competition.
- Captains may cross the starting line in order to salute the Grand East and then return to the starting line in order to dress the Drill Team members. No other Drill Team member can participate in the salute or cross the starting line at this time.
- Captains may use flags in the salute but no other Drill Team member may participate in the salute.
- Once the Drill Team is properly dressed, the Captain should signal to Light and Sound that they are ready to being their drill.
- Drill Team members including Captains can only carry props, flags, hats, and gloves onto the competition floor.

Equipment Use

Flags

- While the Drill Team is preparing in the Grand West, designated Drill Team representatives may place flags, on the Drill Floor just inside the boundary line. Both the flag pole and the flag silk must be inside the boundary line. Boundary lines must remain visible and judges must be able to move along the Drill Floor.
- Drill Team representatives may remain on the Grand Floor outside the boundary lines in order to retrieve equipment that is dropped either in or out of bounds. They may not coach the Drill Team in any manner.
- A Drill Team member may retrieve a dropped flag only if she is remaining in the same position as when she dropped it. If she is moving, the Drill Team representative should pick up the equipment and return it to the designated Drill Team member. The only exception is during a flag toss and then the Drill Team member responsible for catching the flag is responsible for picking up the dropped flag.
- Flags should be grounded inside the boundary lines, as close to the boundary line as possible.
- Once a flag is grounded it cannot be returned to active use
- Silks and silks coverings can be grounded in a manner similar to the flags or as approved by the Drill Director

Props

- All props must be carried on to the Drill Floor by a Drill Team member. However, the Drill Team member that carries the prop onto the Drill Floor does not have to be the member who ultimately uses the prop.
- Props can be grounded in a manner similar to the flags or as approved by the Drill Director
- Only dropped flags can be returned to Drill Team members. Dropped props should be retrieved by the Drill Team representative and carried off the Drill Floor.

Coaching

- There is no coaching from the sidelines including Drill Instructors, Drill Team representatives or anyone associated with the Drill Team.
- Coaching is defined as any signal, word, or motion which influences the performance of the team.

Judges

There are four judges:

- Marching and Maneuvering (M&M) judge: He/ She focuses on the movement of the individual member's feet and hands as well as their movements together as a cohesive Team across the Drill Floor. There is one M&M judge and he/ she is located on the Drill floor and moves with the Drill Team throughout their performance.
- General Effects (GE 1 and GE 2) judges: He/ She focuses on the overall look of the Drill Show. There are two GE judges, one in the North and one in the South. Both GE judges sit in an elevated area at approximately center of the Drill floor.
- Time and Penalties (T&P) judge: He/ She is responsible for the timing of each Team's performance, and will note boundary line infractions made by Drill Team members.

- Judging is executed by members of one or more recognized Judging Associations as selected by the Drill Director. The Drill Director also has the authority to approve or disapprove any member of the judges' panel selected for Grand Assembly, working with the judge's coordinator.
- No judge is permitted to be related to any Drill Team members or to any Drill Instructor.
- One of the above assigned judges will be designated as the Chief Judge. Final decisions to judging or rule related questions will be made jointly between the Chief Judge and the Drill Director.

Scoring

Teams will be judged on the following point basis:

- Marching and Maneuvering is a total of 50 points and a Drill Team is judged on the basis of one tenth (1/10) point deduction for each error. A continuing error will be deducted every eight (8) steps, or following a change of direction by an individual, rank, squad, or platoon.
- General Effect is a total of 50 points and is judged based on the overall look and feel of the performance.
- Timing and Penalties is based on penalty deduction for timing and boundary line infractions. Only the Time and Penalties judge assess these types of penalties. If the M&M or GE judges see an infraction of a rule, he/ she may note the infraction on his/ her score sheet, but this is only to inform the Drill Instructor.

- The M&M score and the averaged GE score are totaled for the gross score. All T&P penalties are deducted from the gross score in order to determine the final score. Any penalty noted on the score sheet must be approved and assessed by the Chief Judge prior to the public announcement of the final score.

Infraction

- Boundary line infractions are defined as any Drill Team member stepping on or over the boundary line at any point during the Drill Competition. The only exception is the Captains at the entrance and exit of the Drill Team from the Drill Floor. The boundary line infraction is assessed per individual and each boundary line infraction is a 1 point penalty. Equipment is considered out of bounds when the flag pole is placed over the boundary line. This does not include the silk.
- Stop time infractions are defined as any one Drill Team member with their feet stopped. No Drill Team should have more than 1½ minutes of stop time. Stop time starts with the first beat of the show music and will end when the last Drill Team member crosses the finish line, excluding Captains. Captains are not considered out of motion until the first member of the Drill Team steps over the starting line.
- Timing penalties are assessed for each violation of the time requirement. A timing penalty of 1 point will be assessed to a team for every 15 seconds over the Drill Teams designated time with a maximum of Y timing deductions.
- Dropped equipment penalties are assessed anytime a Drill Team member drops a piece of equipment. A dropped equipment penalty is 1/10 of a point penalty for each dropped item.

Awards

Class

- During Coronation, each Drill Team will be acknowledged in the Grand East and presented with their scores and judges tapes.

Captain of the Year

- Each year a committee of designated individuals selects an outstanding Team Captain or Captains to win the Captain of the Year award. This committee is selected by the Drill Director and its members may not be affiliated with any Drill Team.
- They will be acknowledged appropriately during Coronation.

Sportsmanship

- Each year the Drill Teams will vote for the Drill Team that best exemplifies the spirit of good sportsmanship during the year including Patton Campus and Grand Assembly.
- The voting is done by the Drill Team members and one vote per Drill Team will be collected no later than the Saturday evening banquet by the Drill Director or Assistant Drill Director.
- They will be acknowledged appropriately during Coronation.