



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES**  
NATIONAL CONTESTS COMMITTEE



J. ROBERT BRADY, CHAIRMAN  
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Thank you for your request for contest information.  
When you have made your decision as to which contests  
you will enter, complete the Application For Entry and  
forward to the Chairman, J. R. Brady by fax, e-mail or  
mail.

You can, also, request from the Chairman at that time,  
rules for contests that you may require.

VFW National Contests Committee



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES  
NATIONAL CONTESTS COMMITTEE**



**NATIONAL CONTESTS COMMITTEE**

J. ROBERT BRADY, CHAIRMAN  
319 Tadmar Avenue  
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Phone: 412-366-4115  
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TO: VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION CONTESTS  
FROM: J. Robert Brady, Chairman  
VFW National Contests Committee  
SUBJECT: 2010 VFW National Contests & Patriotic Rally  
PLACE **INDIANA CONVENTION CENTER**  
100 S. Capitol, Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana – Hall G for Field Contests.  
DATE: AUGUST 23, 24 and 25, 2010

So that you might begin making your plans for our Contests and Patriotic Rally, we are advising that our contest schedule is as follows. **NO APPLICATION FEE REQUIRED. NOTE: Application deadline August 1, 2010 For Field Contestants**

**MONDAY, August 23, 2010 -- 8:00 AM Starting Time.**

JUNIOR ROTC COLOR GUARDS – Exhibition Drill/VFW Rules-Male, Female or Mixed  
JUNIOR ROTC ARMED DRILL TEAMS –Exhibition Drill/VFW Rules-Male, Female or Mixed  
JUNIOR UNARMED DRILL TEAMS -- Exhibition Drill/VFW Rules-Male, Female or Mixed  
JUNIOR DRILL TEAMS—**Non-JROTC** – High Schools, Organized Drill Teams & Majorette Corps

**TUESDAY, August 24, 2010 -- 8:00 AM Starting Time.**

SENIOR MEN'S VFW COLOR GUARDS COMPETITION  
SENIOR LADIES VFW/AUXILIARY COLOR GUARDS  
JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CONTEST - Male  
JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CONTEST – Female  
JUNIOR DUET RIFLE COMPETITION (Male, Female or Mixed)

**PATRIOTIC RALLY and PRESENTATION OF AWARDS** by COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, Thomas J. Tradewell, Sr. and Ladies Auxiliary President, Jan Tittle to those first place winners of the Field Contests and the Patriotic Rally.

**WEDNESDAY, August 25, 2010**

VFW NATIONAL RITUALISTIC CONTEST – 1:00 PM

**NOTE: Schedule will be sent after August 3, 2010, along with your starting times and list of units in your contest. Will also include contest site if there is a change from Hall G.**

LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR BEING WITH US IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

**FOR CONTEST RULES AND APPLICATION VISIT OUR WEB SITE  
[WWW.VFW.ORG](http://WWW.VFW.ORG) and click on the National Convention icon.**



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES**  
NATIONAL CONVENTION COMPETITION  
**JROTC RIFLE DRILL TEAM CONTEST**  
**Junior Boys – Junior Girls**



**SUPERVISION:** This contest will be held under the supervision of the National Contests Supervisory Committee

**TIME AND PLACE:** This contest will be held in the Convention City starting at a time to be designated by the NCSC in a separate designated area. The contest area shall be a field ten (100) feet wide by one hundred (100) feet in length, with outside boundaries clearly marked.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any Department, Council or Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may enter a Junior Rifle Drill Team by officially sponsoring same, provided that these Rifle Drill Teams have been officially and formally recognized as such at least ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the National Convention. No member may compete with more than one organization. No Rifle Drill Team may receive financial assistance not available to all participants from either the NCSC or local Convention Committee and be eligible to compete in this contest for prizes or awards. Local sponsored Rifle Drill Teams will be eligible to compete provided they meet the requirements of these rules and regulations. **NOTE:** Proof of recognition and sponsorship must be made available to the NCSC upon request. All teams must have a minimum of eight (8) members exclusive of Drill Masters or Commanders.

“Contestants may be Male, Female or Mixed. No more than two (2) teams, in any combination, will be allowed”.

**Junior Boys-Junior Girls- Eligibility Requirements:** Any member may compete during his entire 21<sup>st</sup> year and may continue to be eligible to compete even if he reaches age 22 during the current competing year (competing year meaning September 1 to September 1, i.e., member reaches age 22 on July 1 that member would be eligible to compete until September 1 of that same calendar year). Each team must be sponsored by a Post, Auxiliary, Council or Department of the VFW. No member shall compete with more than one such team. All teams must have a minimum of six (6) members exclusive of Drill Masters or Commanders.

**JUDGES:** Six (6) judges shall be provided as follows:  
Inspection.....One judge  
General Effect..... Two judges  
Marching and Maneuvering(one equip-one M&M)..Two judges  
Timing & Penalties.....One judge

**POINTS:** Scoring will be determined as follows:  
Inspection.....Penalty Caption  
Performance..... 10 Points  
Showmanship..... 15 Points  
Repertoire.....25 Points  
Total General Effect... 50 Points  
Equipment--Marching & Maneuvering..... 50 Points  
**Total**.....100 Points

Flag code and rule violations will be a penalty caption.

**UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:** The style and color of the uniform shall be optional with each unit, provided they are within the dignity and propriety of semi-military units. “If a Color Guard is used; it must be comprised of the National Colors and guard, with weapon. If, however, the VFW Flag is added to the Color Guard, the VFW Flag is not to be used as a working silk with a penalty to be assessed of one (1) point for each offense”. Additional flags and/or weapons may be carried. **NOTE:** The number of working silks cannot exceed the number of working rifles. Every member must carry one and only one piece of equipment into the competing area. (Including the CO’S and Drill Masters.) Use of streamers on rifles and flags are optional. **Minimum Weapons:** Six (6) rifles plus any authorized weapons carried by the CO’S or Drill Masters. If a color guard were used, one additional weapon would be required in the color guard. (American Flag Section)

**RIFLES** are defined as weapons to be primarily fired from the shoulder, and which conform to the design of the military rifles, past or present. Simulated rifles are defined as devices constructed so as to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past or present.

**SIDE ARMS** are defined those weapons which are hand held and hand fired, which conform in outward appearance to the foregoing.

**SABERS** (swords) are defined as those weapons which are designed to be hand held, for cutting thrusting or slashing an enemy, with a curved (saber) blade or straight (sword) blade with one or both edges sharpened and a minimum of 24 inches in blade length.

**CADENCE** shall be optional with each unit.

**CONDUCT OF DRILL TEAM:** Time and judging (including Flag Code judging) will start with the first step of the unit proper after the commanding officer salutes to acknowledge that the unit is ready to compete. The Commander shall be considered a member of the unit proper for timing purposes only. Each unit, with all competing personnel, shall compete for not less than six (6)minutes nor more than eight (8) minutes. All field judging will cease with the six (6) minute signal. All maneuvering will cease when the maxi-

imum time of eight (8)minutes is reached. General Effect judging will continue until the obvious end of the unit’s performance or until the eight (8) minutes time signal. After the six (6) minute signal, the unit will have the option of: (a) Exiting over the finish line.

- (b) Utilizing a reentry.
- (c) Concluding their program on the field. (All members of the unit may take position on the field

prior to the commencement of timing and judging and the unit may conclude their program on the field.)

Each unit shall enter the field over the starting line and leave the field over the finish line. See diagram below.

After stepping onto the field, all boundary lines shall be enforced.

There are no required maneuvers. Each unit may execute any appropriate maneuvers which are intended to generate effect.

Grounding of equipment is allowed; however, it is not permissible to throw or thrust equipment into the ground. Grounding of equipment is interpreted to mean the placement of equipment in such a manner that it is out of the possession of the bearer and could remain so without danger of its moving or changing position indefinitely. Grounding time will not exceed a total of one (1) minute.

**MUSIC:** The use of taped music or drums, and/or woodwinds, and/or brass instruments in any combination is optional. Percussion instruments to be limited to those approved. Musical personnel shall be positioned outside of the competing area and shall not maneuver during the unit's performance on the competing area. Proficiency of playing shall not be judged.

**PENALTIES:** A unit violating any time requirements shall be penalized two tenths of a point for each six (6) seconds or fraction thereof.

Failure of any unit to report to the ready line at the stipulated time shall be penalized one half point for each five (5) minutes or fraction thereof.

A unit violating any rule, or part of a rule, or violating any tradition, custom or breach of contest etiquette for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each such violation, not less than one-tenth of a point nor more than disqualification, at the discretion of the contest director.

A major flag code violation (i.e., National Color to the left of, or behind any other flag) shall be assessed a one point penalty.

The penalty for dropped equipment or item of uniform shall be one tenth of a point. The penalty for retrieving dropped item of uniform shall be an additional one tenth of a point penalty. A member dropping his piece of equipment may retrieve it without assessment of an additional penalty or a non-competing unit designated person may return or replace identical equipment to its bearer without assessment of additional penalty for retrieving equipment.

Boundary line violations shall be one tenth of a point per person, per infraction.

**PRIZES:** See prize list.

## OVERALL VIEW

**Size of surface 100' x 100'**

**Timing 6 to 8 Minutes**

**Warning signal at 6 minutes**

**All maneuvering must cease  
at 8 minutes**

**After 6 minute signal unit can  
Exit over Finish Line**

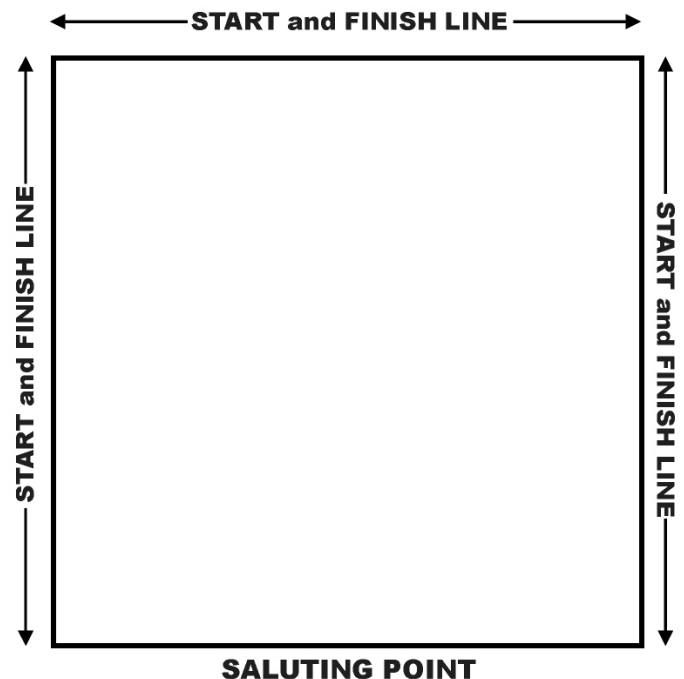
**Utilize re-entry**

**Conclude program on field**

**Special Note**

**Unit may set-up on field prior to start of  
Timing and Judging and may conclude  
on the field.**

**T. & J. will start with 1<sup>st</sup> step of unit  
proper after ready (set-up).**





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
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NATIONAL CONVENTION COMPETITION  
**NATIONAL CONTEST COMMITTEE**



## **CONTEST RULES**

### **JUNIOR DRILL TEAMS-NON-JROTC**

**ELIGIBILITY:** High School Drill Teams and VFW Organized Junior Drill Teams.  
“Contestants may be Male, Female or Mixed. No more than two (2) teams, in any combination, will be allowed.”

**ADJUDICATION:** Judging will be based on:

1. Performance
2. Showmanship
3. General Effect

**UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT:** The style and color of the uniform shall be optional with each unit, provided they are within the dignity and propriety of an organized drill team. All teams must have a minimum of eight (8) members. Rifles, silks, pom-poms and batons and any other equipment that a unit may use to add to their overall performance will be permitted as long as it conforms to the dignity and propriety of the unit. The use of taped music or drums is optional.

**TIME LIMIT/SIZE OF FIELD:** Each team will compete for not less than six (6) minutes or more than eight (8) minutes. A six (6) minute signal will be given and all maneuvering will cease when the maximum time of eight (8) minutes is reached. The contest area will be 100' wide by 100' in length with outside boundaries marked.

**CONDUCT OF CONTESTANTS:** There are no required maneuvers. Each unit may execute any appropriate maneuvers, which are intended to generate general effect and showmanship. Each unit shall enter the field over the start line at one end of the field and exit over the finish line at the opposite end of the field. The start and finish line shall also extend along the backside of the field.



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**INDIVIDUAL RIFLE COMPETITION – Requirements and Rules**

**ELIGIBILITY** – Each JROTC Unit may enter two contestants, either male or female.

**ADJUDICATION** – Judging will be based on:

1. Precision of required manual.
2. Precision and general effect of free-style manual.

**UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT** – Uniform shall be the full uniform with head gear optional. Since rifle selection is at the discretion of the individual unit, judges will score the performance without regard to the size and weight of the rifle used. Each weapon has both advantages and disadvantages when compared to the other weapons; therefore, judging will emphasize how well a particular maneuver is performed and concentrate on the execution and not concern itself with trying to apply some formula for adjustment of weapon.

**TIME LIMIT** – One (1) minute for the required manual and two (2) to three (3) minutes for free style. Time shall commence on the rendering of the rifle salute at order, and end with the about face, to the rear, etc., at the completion of the free style manual. Penalty of one (1) point for each 30 seconds for under or over time.

**CONDUCT OF CONTESTANT** - Contestant must begin the required manual from trial arms. Competition will consist of two (2) parts – required manual and free style. The required manual will be performed in accordance with instruction in IDR, commensurate with weapon used. Contest required manual in the following order: *ENTER AT TRIAL, ORDER ARMS, RIFLE SALUTE AT ORDER, PORT, INSPECTION, PORT, LEFT SHOULDER, PORT, PRESENT, RIGHT SHOULDER, RIFLE SALUTE AT RIGHT SHOULDER, PARADE REST.*

**FREE STYLE** – Contestant may execute any manual, prescribed or original at his or her discretion. **NOTE:** The contestant may not take more than one (1) step in any direction from his or her starting point. The contestant may leave the competitive area at any appropriate weapon carry.



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**DUET RIFLE COMPETITION**

**ELIGIBILITY:** Each JROTC Unit may enter (2) two Duet Teams. Contestants may be male, female, or mixed.

**ADJUDICATION:** Judging will be based on:

1. Performance
2. Showmanship
3. General Effect

**UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT:** Uniform shall be the full uniform with headgear. Since rifle selection is at the discretion of the individual unit, judges will score the performance without regard to the size and weight of the rifle used. Each weapon has both advantages and disadvantages when compared to other weapons, therefore judging will emphasize how well a particular maneuver is performed and concentrated on the execution and not concern itself with trying to apply some formula for adjustment of weapon variations.

**TIME LIMIT/SIZE OF FIELD:** Each duet unit will compete for not less than three (3) minutes and not more than five (5) minutes. Time and judging will start with the first step of the unit after saluting to acknowledge the unit is ready to compete. Time and judging cease when the contestants step over the finish line. Penalty one (1) point for each thirty (30) seconds for under time. Size of field is 50 feet by 50 feet. Boundary line violations shall be one (1) point for each infraction.

**CONDUCT OF CONTESTANTS:** There are no required maneuvers. Each unit may execute any appropriate maneuvers, which are intended to generate general effect and showmanship. Each unit shall enter the field over the start at one end of the field and exit over the finish line at the opposite end of the field, the start and finish line shall also extend along the backside of the field.





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES**  
NATIONAL CONVENTION COMPETITION  
**JROTC COLOR GUARD CONTEST**



**SUPERVISION:** Such competition shall be under the supervision of the National Contests Supervisory Committee. All interpretations and rulings made by the Supervisory Committee are made within the framework of the National rules. These rules properly mandated by the National Executive Committee are not subject to review; correction or waiver is made by the National Executive Committee, constituted, in proper session.

**TIME AND PLACE:** The contest will be held in the National Convention city starting at a time to be designated by the NCSC. The contest will be held on a surface 40' x 60'.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Only Junior Color Guards composed of boys and/or girls under 21 years of age as of September 1, shall be permitted to compete. Such contest shall be open to all units composed of not less than four nor more than twenty-one members, including Commanding Officers, Buglers and/or Drummers, not to exceed a total of four. The use of recorded music is optional. "Contestants may be Male, Female or Mixed. No more than two (2) teams, in any combination, will be allowed."

**JUDGES:** Six judges, plus a timekeeper shall be provided; an inspection judge, two general effect judges and two marching and maneuvering judges, and the NCSC shall select 1 penalty judge. All judges will adhere to the Regulations for Competing Musical and Drill Units.

**POINTS:** Color Guards will be judged on the following points:

Inspection.....	A penalty caption
Marching and Maneuvering Equipment .....	25
Execution.....	25
General Effect.....	Repertoire.....25
	Performance Effectiveness.....10
	Showmanship.....15

**UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:** The style and color of uniforms shall be optional with each Color Guard. Minimum equipment shall consist of the U.S. Colors, flag of the sponsor and proper arms; (2 rifles, or simulated rifles; 2 side arms, or 2 sabers, or and combination thereof) to guard the Colors. Simulated rifles are to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past or present. Sight and sling are optional. In addition to these two arms, Commander may carry side arm or saber. Each Color Guard shall carry its own colors and standards. Optional equipment for carrying or use of may be all or any of the following; additional flags, other arms (not to exceed 8 in any combination, including the Commander's) bugles and/or drums. Judges shall penalize for improper

carrying or using optional equipment. Buglers and/or Drummers shall be judged on the proficiency of the 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' x 5'. NO FLAG SHALL BE LARGER IN SIZE THAN THE U.S. COLORS. MINIMUM LENGTH OF SABER AND/OR SWORD BLADES – 24".

**CADENCE:** Cadence shall be optional with each unit.

**CONDUCT OF THE COLOR GUARD:**

- (a) Each unit shall be on the field not less than four minutes nor more than six minutes. A warning signal will be given at the expiration of four minutes.
- (b) Each unit shall enter the field over the starting line and leave over the finish line. The saluting point shall be the center of that sideline of the field front. The use of colors must be with dignity and propriety.
- (c) Each unit must execute in front of the saluting point in any order two (2) of the following:
  1. March past the saluting point at a company front and salute while marching (the placement of the Commanding Officer or officers shall be at the discretion of the unit).
  2. Presentation of Colors.
  3. Post and retrieve all participating colors and standards. Proper salutes to be rendered in accordance with the current FM-22-5, in executing the above requirements.

Colors and standards shall remain posted not more than sixty seconds. Timing will start with the posting of the first flag and end with the retrieving of the last flag, if flags are not posted and retrieved simultaneously. The U.S. Colors are to be posted to the right of the saluting point (to the right of the official receiving the salute.) The Colors shall be properly guarded during maneuvers if the guard is within 3 paces of the Colors. Colors must be guarded at all times except while posted.

- (d) A unit may execute any other appropriate maneuvers. (Ammunition shall not 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, Buglers and/or Drummers shall be judged as part of the Unit Proper.
- (g) Following inspection, the Color Guard shall not break ranks prior to competing.



- (h) Each Color Guard shall be subject to the rulings of the NCSC 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 Lines).

**PENALTIES:**

- (a) A unit violating any time requirement shall be penalized one point for each thirty seconds, or fraction thereof, over maximum or under a minimum requirement
- (b) The failure of any unit to report at the inspection line ready for inspection at the time 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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 National Contest Committee.
- (e) Any infraction of flag etiquette shall be penalized 2 points for each offense.

**PRIZES:** See current prize list.

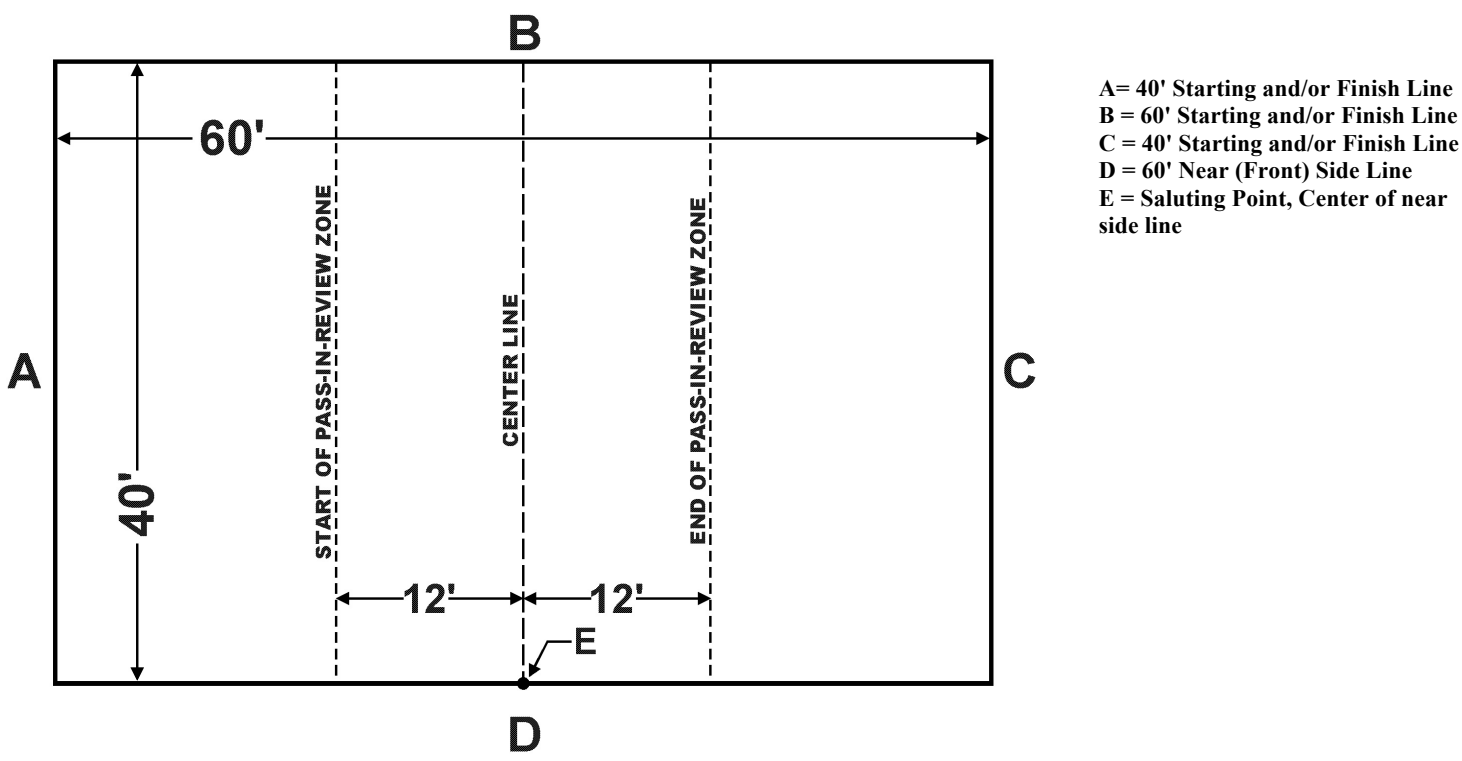
**OVERALL VIEW**

**Size of Surface 40' X 60'**

**Timing 4 to 6 Minutes**  
**\*Warning Signal at 4 minutes**

**Post and Retrieve Timing**  
**\*Start - 1<sup>st</sup> Flag**  
**\*End - Last Flag**

**Competition Time**  
**\*Start - 1<sup>st</sup> Step - Member of Unit Proper**  
**\*End - Last member of Unit Proper crosses finish line**





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES**  
NATIONAL CONVENTION COMPETITION  
JROTC UNARMED DRILL TEAMS



**SUPERVISION:** This contest will be held under the supervision of the National Contests Supervisory Committee

**TIME AND PLACE:** This contest will be held in the Convention City starting at a time to be designated by the NCSC in a separate designated area. The contest area shall be a field ten (100) feet wide by one hundred (100) feet in length, with outside boundaries clearly marked.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any Department, Council, Post or Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States may enter a Junior Drill Team by officially sponsoring same, provided that these Drill Teams have been officially and formally recognized as such at least ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the National Convention. No member may compete with more than one organization. No Drill Team may receive financial assistance not available to all participants from either the NCSC or local Convention Committee shall be eligible to compete in this contest for prizes or awards. Local sponsored Drill Teams will be eligible to compete provided they meet the requirements of these rules and regulations. NOTE: Proof of recognition and sponsorship must be made available to the NCSC upon request. All teams must have a minimum of eight (8) members exclusive of Drill Masters or Commanders.

“Contestants may be Male, Female or Mixed. No more than two (2) teams, in any combination, will be allowed”.

**Requirements:** (Non-Rifle) Age Eligibility: Any member may compete during the entire 21<sup>st</sup> year and may continue to be eligible to compete even if members reaches age 22 during the current competing year (competing year meaning September 1 to September 1, i.e., member reaches age 22 on July 1 that member would be eligible to compete until September 1 of that same calendar year).

**JUDGES:** Six (6) judges shall be provided as follows:

- Inspection.....One judge
- General Effect..... Two judges
- Marching and Maneuvering.....Two judges
- Timing & Penalties.....One judge

**POINTS:** Scoring will be determined as follows:

- Inspection.....Penalty Caption
- Performance.....10 Points
- Showmanship.....15 Points
- Repertoire.....25 Points
- Total General Effect... 50 Points
- Marching & Maneuvering..... 50 Points

**Total.....100 Points**

Flag code and rule violations will be a penalty caption.

**UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:** The style and color of the uniform shall be optional with each unit, provided they are within the dignity and propriety of semi-military units. “If a Color Guard is used; it must be comprised of the National Colors and guard, with weapon. If, however, the

VFW Flag is added to the Color Guard, the VFW Flag is not to be used as a working silk with a penalty to be assessed of one (1) point for each offense”.

**RIFLES** are defined herein as weapons to be primarily fired from the shoulder, and which conform to the design of the military rifles, past or present. Simulated rifles are defined as devices constructed so as to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past or present.

**SIDE ARMS** are defined those weapons which are hand held and hand fired, which conform in outward appearance to the foregoing.

**SABERS** (swords) are defined as those weapons which are designed to be hand held, for cutting thrusting or slashing an enemy, with a curved (saber) blade or straight (sword) blade with one or both edges sharpened and a minimum of 24 inches in blade length.

**CADENCE** shall be optional with each unit.

**CONDUCT OF DRILL TEAM:** Time and judging (including Flag Code judging) will start with the first step of the unit proper after the commanding officer salutes to acknowledge that the unit is ready to compete. The Commander(s) shall not be considered members of the unit proper for timing purposes only. Each unit, with all competing personnel, shall compete for not less than six(6)minutes nor more than eight(8) minutes. All field judging will cease with the six (6)minute signal. All maneuvering will cease when the maximum time of eight(8)minutes is reached. General Effect judging will continue until the obvious end of the unit’s performance or until the eight(8) minutes time signal.

After the six(6) minute signal, the unit will have the option of:

- (a) Exiting over the finish line.
- (b) Utilizing a reentry.
- (c) Concluding their program on the field. (All members of the unit may take position on the field prior to the commencement of timing and judging and the unit may conclude their program on the field.)

Each unit shall enter the field over the starting line and leave the field over the finish line.

**Saluting point**

After stepping onto the field, all boundary lines shall be enforced.

There are no required maneuvers. Each unit may execute any appropriate maneuvers which are intended to generate effect.

Grounding of equipment is allowed; however, it is not permissible to throw or thrust equipment onto the ground. Grounding of equipment is interpreted to mean the place-

ment of equipment in such a manner that it is out of the possession of the bearer and could remain so without danger of its moving or changing position indefinitely.

The authority adopted for flag etiquette shall be the "Competitive Flag Code".

**MUSIC:** The use of taped music or drums, and/or woodwinds, and/or brass instruments in any combination is optional. Percussion instruments to be limited to those approved. Musical personnel shall be positioned outside of the competing area and shall not maneuver during the unit's performance on the competing area. Proficiency of playing shall not be judged.

**PENALTIES:** A unit violating any time requirements shall be penalized two tenths of a point for each six (6) seconds or fraction thereof.

Failure of any unit to report to the ready line at the stipulated time shall be penalized one half point for each five (5) minutes or fraction thereof.

A unit violating any rule, or part of a rule, or violating any tradition, custom or breach of contest etiquette for which no specific penalty is provided, shall be penalized for each such violation, not less than one-tenth of a point nor more than disqualification, at the discretion of the contest director.

**PRIZES:** See prize list.

## **OVERALL VIEW**

**Size of surface 100' x 100'**

**Timing 6 to 8 Minutes**

**Warning signal at 6 minutes**

**All maneuvering must cease  
at 8 minutes**

**After 6 minute signal unit can  
Exit over Finish Line**

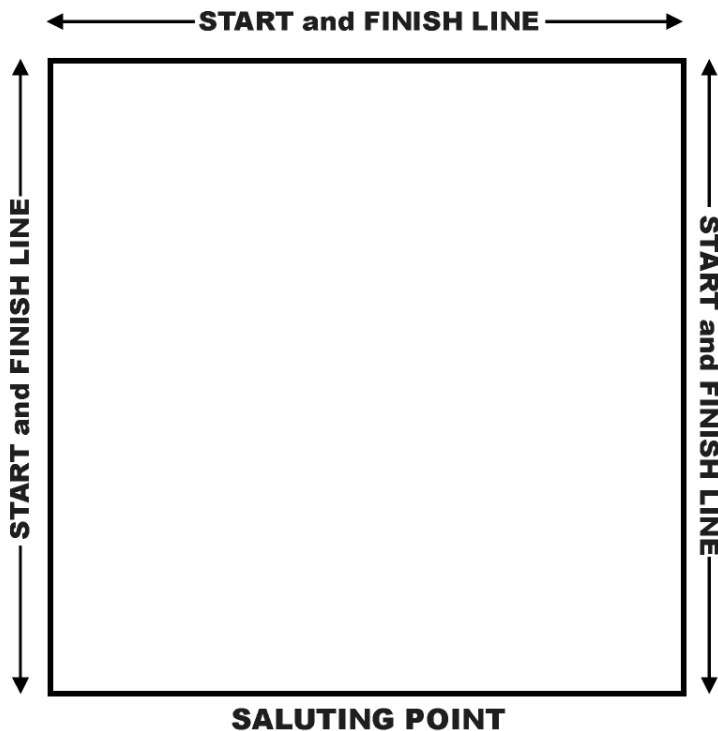
**Utilize re-entry**

**Conclude program on field**

**Special Note**

**Unit may set-up on field prior to start of  
Timing and Judging and may conclude  
on the field.**

**T. & J. will start with 1<sup>st</sup> step of unit  
proper after ready (set-up).**





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES**  
NATIONAL CONVENTION COMPETITION  
**SENIOR MEN AND SENIOR LADIES**  
**COLOR GUARDS CONTEST**



**SUPERVISION:** Such competition shall be under the supervision of the National Contests Supervisory Committee. All interpretations and rulings made by the Supervisory Committee are made within the framework of the National rules. These rules properly mandated by the National Executive Committee are not subject to review; correction or waiver is made by the National Executive Committee, constituted, in proper session.

**TIME AND PLACE:** The contest will be held in the National Convention city starting at a time to be designated by the NCSC. The contest will be held on a surface 40' x 60'.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This contest is open to Men and Women of certified or sponsored units of the VFW or Auxiliary. Eighty-(80) percent active membership of the VFW or Auxiliary is required for men and women classes. Membership cards must be submitted to a member of the NCSC if requested at the time of inspection. No guard may compete with neither less than four (4) members nor more than twenty-one (21) members, including Commanding Officers. NOTE: All competing members must carry a piece of equipment. The use of taped music or percussion and/or woodwinds and/or brass instruments in any combination not to exceed a total of six is optional. A unit's national colors must appear on the contest field with VFW standards. Any unit choosing the option of using non V.F.W. or Auxiliary members in their competition program, under the 80-20 percent rule, *must*, upon request, provide proof that the competitor(s) is 18 years of age or older at the time of the National Competition.

**JUDGES:** Six judges, plus a timekeeper shall be provided; an inspection judge, two general effect judges and two marching and maneuvering judges, and the NCSC shall select 1 penalty judge. All judges will adhere to the Regulations for Competing Musical and Drill Units.

**POINTS:** Color Guards will be judged on the following points:

Inspection.....	A penalty caption
Marching and Maneuvering Equipment .....	25
Execution.....	25
General Effect.....	Repertoire.....25
	Performance Effectiveness.....10
	Showmanship.....15

**UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:** The style and color of uniforms shall be optional with each Color Guard. Minimum

equipment shall consist of the U.S. Colors, flag of the sponsor and proper arms; (2 rifles, or simulated rifles; 2 side arms, or 2 sabers, or and combination thereof) to guard the Colors. Simulated rifles are to conform in outward appearance to military rifles, past or present. Sight and sling are optional. In addition to these two arms, Commander may carry side arm or saber. Each Color Guard shall carry its own colors and standards. Optional equipment for carrying or use of may be all or any of the following; additional flags, other arms (not to exceed 8 in any combination, including the Commander's) bugles and/or drums. Judges shall penalize for improper carrying or using optional equipment. Buglers and/or Drummers shall be judged on the proficiency of the 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' x 5'. NO FLAG SHALL BE LARGER IN SIZE THAN THE U.S. COLORS. MINIMUM LENGTH OF SABER AND/OR SWORD BLADES – 24".

**CADENCE:** Cadence shall be optional with each unit.

**CONDUCT OF THE COLOR GUARD:**

- (a) Each unit shall be on the field not less than four minutes nor more than six minutes. A warning signal will be given at the expiration of four minutes.
- (b) Each unit shall enter the field over the starting line and leave over the finish line. The saluting point shall be the center of that sideline of the field front. The use of colors must be with dignity and propriety.
- (c) Each unit must execute in front of the saluting point in any order two (2) of the following:

- 1. March past the saluting point at a company front and salute while marching (the placement of the Commanding Officer or officers shall be at the discretion of the unit).
- 2. Presentation of Colors.
- 3. Post and retrieve all participating colors and standards. Proper salutes to be rendered in accordance with the current FM-22-5, in executing the above requirements.

Colors and standards shall remain posted not more than sixty seconds. Timing will start with the posting of the first flag and end with the retrieving of the last flag, if flags are not posted and retrieved simultaneously. The U.S. Colors are to be posted to the right of the saluting point (to the right of the official receiving the salute.) The Colors shall be properly guarded during maneuvers if the guard is within 3 paces of the Colors. Colors must be guarded at all times except while posted.

- (d) A unit may execute any other appropriate maneuvers. (Ammunition shall not 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, Buglers and/or Drummers shall be judged as part of the Unit Proper.
- (g) Following inspection, the Color Guard shall not break ranks prior to competing.
- (h) Each Color Guard shall be subject to the rulings of the NCSC 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 Lines).

- one point nor more than disqualification, in the discretion of the National Contest Committee.
- (e) Any infraction of flag etiquette shall be penalized 2 points for each offense.

**PRIZES:** See current prize list.

**OVERALL VIEW**

**Size of Surface 40' X 60'**

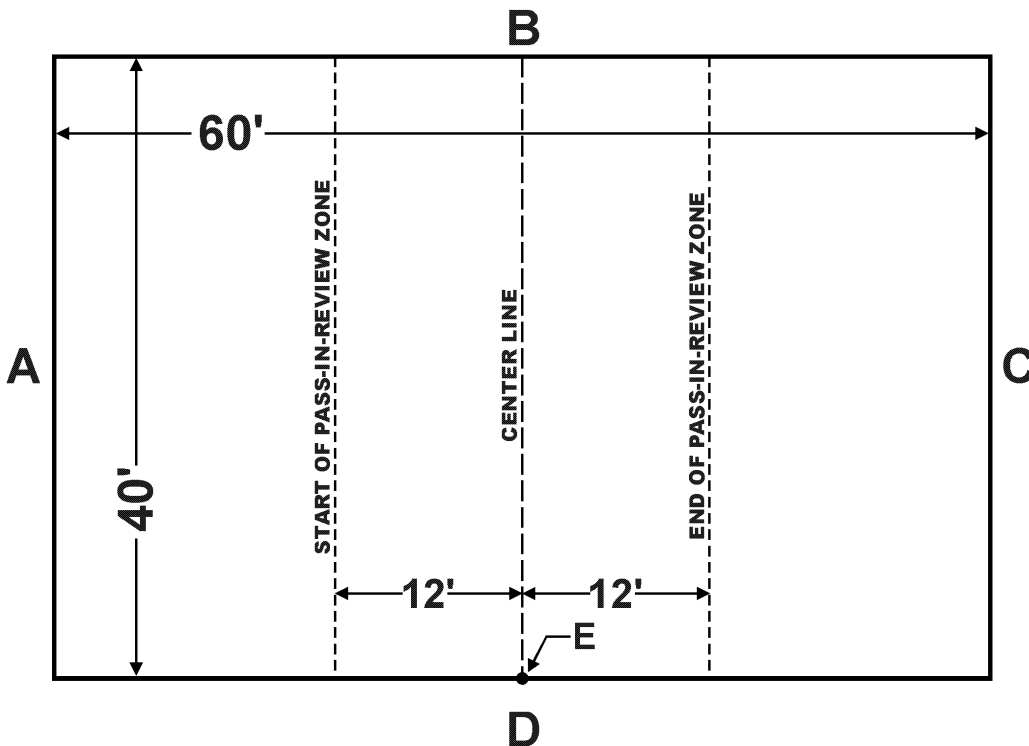
**Timing 4 to 6 Minutes**  
\*Warning Signal at 4 minutes

**Post and Retrieve Timing**  
\*Start - 1<sup>st</sup> Flag  
\*End - Last Flag

**Competition Time**  
\*Start - 1<sup>st</sup> Step - Member of Unit Proper  
\*End - Last member of Unit Proper crosses finish line

**PENALTIES:**

- (a) A unit violating any time requirement shall be penalized one point for each thirty seconds, or fraction thereof, over maximum or under a minimum requirement
- (b) The failure of any unit to report at the inspection line ready for inspection at the time 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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



- A = 40' Starting and/or Finish Line
- B = 60' Starting and/or Finish Line
- C = 40' Starting and/or Finish Line
- D = 60' Near (Front) Side Line
- E = Saluting Point, Center of near side line

**V.F.W.  
NATIONAL CONTESTS COMMITTEE**

**SCHEDULE OF VFW NATIONAL CONTESTS—  
PRIZES AND AWARDS**

**FIELD COMPETITION PRIZES**

**SENIOR MEN'S VFW COLOR GUARDS**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque & Gold Medals
2. 300.00 and Silver Medals
3. 200.00 and Bronze Medals
4. 100.00

**SENIOR LADIES VFW/AUXILIARLY COLOR GUARDS**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque & Gold Medals
2. 300.00 and Silver Medals
3. 200.00 and Bronze Medals
4. 100.00

**JUNIOR ROTC COLOR GUARDS – Exhibition**

**Drill/VFW Rules (Male,Female or Mixed)**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque & Gold Medals
2. 300.00 and Silver Medals
3. 200.00 and Bronze Medals
4. 125.00
5. 100.00

**JUNIOR DRILL TEAMS –Non-JROTC High Schools.**

**Organized Drill Teams & Majorette Corps**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque
2. 300.00 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Plaque
3. 200.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Plaque
4. 125.00
5. 100.00

**JUNIOR ROTC ARMED DRILLTEAMS—Exhibition**

**Drill/VFW Rules (Male,Female or Mixed)**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque & Gold Medals
2. 300.00 and Silver Medals
3. 200.00 and Bronze Medals
4. 125.00
5. 100.00

**JUNIOR UNARMED DRILL TEAMS – Exhibition**

**Drill/VFW Rules-Male,Female or Mixed**

1. \$500.00 and Championship Plaque
2. 300.00 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Plaque
3. 200.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Plaque
4. 125.00
5. 100.00

**JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CONTEST/VFW RULES-**

**MALE**

1. \$100.00 and Gold Medal
2. 75.00 and Silver Medal
3. 50.00 and Bronze Medal

**JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CONTEST/VFW RULES-**

**FEMALE**

1. \$100.00 and Gold Medal
2. 75.00 and Silver Medal
3. 50.00 and Bronze Medal

**DUET RIFLE COMPETITION**

1. \$200.00 and Gold Medals
2. 150.00 and Silver Medals
3. 100.00 and Bronze Medals

.....

**PATRIOTIC RALLY**

**COLOR GUARD CONTEST**

**BEST APPEARING SENIOR MEN'S VFW COLOR GUARD**

1. \$300.00 and Championship Plaque
2. 150.00
3. 100.00

**BEST APPEARING SENIOR LADIES VFW AUXILIARY COLOR GUARD**

1. \$300.00 and Championship Plaque
2. 150.00
3. 100.00

**SPECIAL AWARDS**

**PRESENTED BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

1. \*NATIONAL CHAMPION JROTC UNIT  
Championship Plaque
2. ALL GIRL JUNIOR ROTC UNIT with the highest score  
In our contest will be presented an ALL GIRL JUNIOR  
ROTC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PLAQUE.
3. SPECIAL JUDGES AWARD

.....

**NATIONAL RITUALISTIC TEAM AWARDS**

1. \$500.00 and Gold Medals and Championship Plaque
2. 300.00 and Silver Medals
3. 200.00 and Bronze Medals

**\*Note:** Scores for the All Girls Teams will not be used in our determining the National Champion JROTC Unit. Their scores are used to determine the All Girl JROTC National Champion.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES  
NATIONAL CONTESTS COMMITTEE



**VFW OFFICIAL APPLICATION FOR ENTRY**

_____	Information relating to a VFW Post, if applicable.
(Name of Unit)	
_____	_____
(Address of Unit)	VFW Post # (Name)
_____	_____
(City, State, Zip)	(Address)
_____	_____
(Phone Number)	(City, State, Zip Code)
_____	
(Cell and E-mail)	

***FIELD CONTEST***

- |                                                   |                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| _____ Senior VFW Color Guard                      | _____ Junior ROTC Armed Drill Teams              |
| _____ Senior Ladies VFW Auxiliary Color Guard     | _____ Exhibition Drill (Male, Female or Mixed)   |
| _____ Junior ROTC Color Guards                    | _____ Junior Individual Rifle Contest-(Male)     |
| _____ Junior Drill Teams- Non-JROTC-High Schools, | _____ Junior Individual Rifle Contest(Female)    |
| Organized Drill Teams & Majorette Corps           | _____ Duet Rifle Competition (Male,Female/Mixed) |
| _____ Junior ROTC Unarmed Drill Teams             |                                                  |

**VFW PATRIOTIC RALLY**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Best Appearing Senior VFW Color Guard  
\_\_\_\_\_ Best Appearing Senior Ladies VFW Auxiliary Color Guard

Department Commanders and Auxiliary Presidents and their Color Guards will be permitted to enter into the Convention Center. The only other Senior Color Guards permitted to take part are those that made application and took part in the Senior Color Guard Competition. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** All authorized Color Guards taking part are eligible for judging and prizes to be awarded by the Commander-in-Chief.

It is hereby certified that this unit complies with the rules and regulations prescribed by the National Contests Committee. Person in charge of unit to which all correspondence is to be sent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

**All entries to be forwarded to:**  
**J. Robert Brady, Chairman**  
**VFW National Contests Committee**  
**319 Tadmar Avenue**  
**Pittsburgh PA 15237 - 1821**  
**Phone: 412-366-4115**  
**Fax: 412-366-3117**  
**Email: vfwjrbrady@msn.com**