



### **Color Guard Policy for Nebraska State Fair Celebration Parades**

A committee of representatives from the Nebraska State Fair (NSF), the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), various Veteran services organizations, and U.S. Military Veterans developed these Color Guard protocols based on information outlined on The Daily Flag website, [www.thedailyflag.com](http://www.thedailyflag.com)

Color Guards are welcome to participate in any of the eleven (11) NSF Celebration Parades. The NSF will invite one (1) color guard to be the lead color guard for each of the eleven (11) NSF Celebration Parades, including the NSF Celebration Parade, with a salute to Veterans.

#### **Protocol for the daily NSF Celebration Parades:**

After the invited lead color guard, any additional color guards, that pre-register\*\* to participate in the daily NSF Celebration Parades, will be placed after the invited lead color guard, and intermixed with the other parade entries. After the invited lead color guard, registered color guards with military association will be ordered next. The order of military color guards will be according to the date of their congressional charters\*. Color guards associated with Veterans organizations will be ordered after those with military association, and according to their individual date of charter. Color guards that are not of military/Veteran association will be placed after color guards with military/Veteran association, and ordered according to their date of charter. Color guards that do not pre-register will be placed behind the last pre-registered color guard, regardless of military association or date of charter. Again, in the daily NSF Celebration Parades, after the invited lead color guard, all pre-registered color guards will be intermixed with the other parade entries.

#### **Protocol for the NSF Celebration Parade, with a salute to Veterans:**

All pre-registered\*\* Veteran or military related parade entries will be placed at the beginning of the parade. Any registered motorcycle associations, including but not limited to, the American Legion Riders and the Patriot Guard Riders, will follow the Veteran/military related parade entries. Because the parade is also the NSF Celebration Parade, there will be entries that are of a "Fair" nature, or a nature unassociated with Veteran/military associations. These entries will follow the motorcycle associations. The antique tractors will be the final element of the parade. If you do not pre-register for the day, you may be placed before or in between any of the Nebraska State Fair pre-registered parade entries.

After the invited lead color guard, any additional color guards, that pre-register\*\* to participate in the parade, will be placed after the invited lead color guard, in groups of 3-4 color guards. These groups will be intermixed within the Veteran/military related parade entries. After the lead color guard, registered color guards with military association will be ordered next. The order of military color guards will be according to the date of their congressional charters\*. \*. Color guards associated with Veterans organizations will be ordered after those with military association, and according to their individual date

of charter. Color guards that are not of military/Veteran association will be placed after color guards with military/Veteran association, and ordered according to their date of charter. Color guards that do not pre-register will be placed behind the last pre-registered color guard, regardless of military association or date of charter. Again, after the invited lead color guard, all pre-registered color guard will be placed in groups of 3-4 color guards, ordered according to the outlined protocol, and intermixed within the Veteran/military related parade entries. The invited lead color guard will be the only color guard at the very front of the parade.

\*Military congressional dates of charter are as follows: U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard

\*\*With all NSF Celebration Parades, pre-registration is required for participation. The NSF will make every attempt to accommodate walk-up, day-of parade entries, but the protocol outlined above will not apply to these entries, whether a color guard or other parade entry. In the NSF Celebration Parade, with a salute to Veterans, walk-up/day-of entries will be placed at the end of their corresponding category (Veteran/military entries, motorcycle entries, "Fair" entries, antique tractors). Walk-up/day-of color guard entries will be placed in the last group of color guards. For all other NSF Celebration Parades, walk-up/day-of entries, including color guards, will be placed at the end of the parade, before the antique tractors.