

Color Corps Drill Manual  
General Information



## Purpose of the Color Corps of the Fourth Degree

The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to encourage active Catholic citizenship and foster the spirit of patriotism in members and the community at large.

The Color Corps members exemplify all the principles of our Order:

- **Charity** - by the gift of their time and energies necessary to practice, perfect and perform the ceremonials and sword drill;
- **Unity** – by the united efforts of Sir Knights to practice and perfect a coordinated drill for the good of the Church and the Order;
- **Fraternity** – by expressing an “Esprit de Corps,” sharing a common desire for drill excellence and camaraderie; and
- **Patriotism** – by performing precision drill as a salute to God and to country and visually exhibiting a love for both.

## Color Corps Description

The **Color Corps (C.C.)** has two sub-groups, the **Color Guard (C.G.)** and the **Honor Guard (H.G.)**. The Color Guard consists of the flag bearers and at least two members of the Honor Guard who escort the colors. The Honor Guard consists of members of the Color Corps who have mastered the Manual of the Sword.

In many assemblies, all members of the Color Corps belong to the Honor Guard. This should be kept in mind when following the procedures in this manual.

The public appearance of Fourth Degree Knights as a Color Corps at religious and civic functions is an important activity for each assembly. They add dignity and the pride of Church and country to any event. By these public demonstrations their loyalties bring credit to themselves and to the Knights of Columbus.

## Abbreviation Guide of the Fourth Degree

Supreme Master	S.M.	Color Corps Commander	C.C.C.
Vice Supreme Master	V.S.M.	Color Corps	C.C.
Master of the District	M.F.D.	Color Guard	C.G.
Marshal	M.	Honor Guard	H.G.
Faithful Navigator	F.N.		

## Color Corps Regulations

Every assembly should organize and maintain a Fourth Degree Color Corps under the supervision and direction of the Master of the District. Such bodies may participate in Installation of Officers, Fourth Degree Exemplifications, religious and public functions and parades and other functions, with consent of the Master of the District.

The training and activities of an assembly's Color Corps should be coordinated and directed by a Color Corps Commander (C.C.C.) to be appointed by the Faithful Navigator.

It is important to remember that when individual members of the Color Corps appear at public functions they are not only representing themselves, but also their assembly and the entire Order of the Knights of Columbus. Their conduct and appearance should reflect this at all times. The regulations for the Color Corps (C.C.) apply to the following:

1. Color Corps (C.C.): A Fourth Degree Knight, who has been trained and possesses the official regalia, in good repair, is eligible to participate in C.C. functions.
2. The assembly will have a Color Corps Commander (C.C.C.) appointed by the Faithful Navigator (F.N.) for a term not to exceed that of the F.N. The C.C.C. is responsible for securing his own sword, service baldric and gloves.
3. Expenses incurred by the C.C. are the responsibility of the assembly and are not chargeable to the fund of the District Master (M.F.D.).
4. The M.F.D. must contact the Ordinary of the Diocese as to his wishes pertaining to the C.C. in liturgical events. The pastor of a church must also be consulted, and his approval obtained, before any function can take place in his parish. **Please note: the policies as approved by the Ordinary for the C.C. will ALWAYS take precedence.**
5. The Marshal (M.) is the Commander in charge at any district or provincial event where he is acting on behalf of the M.F.D.
6. The Color Corps may not cross district lines except with the approval of the M.F.D.s involved and have received approval of the Vice Supreme Master (V.S.M.). For a multi-assembly function, when all C.C. members are invited to participate, the M.F.D., through his M., will be in charge.
7. For Supreme Council functions, where C.C. members come from Orderwide jurisdictions, the C.C. will be under the direction of the host V.S.M with support from the hosting M.F.D. and his M.

Additionally, the Board of Directors has adopted personal appearance guidelines, for Supreme Council events which must be adhered to by each member.

8. The assembly C.C. may perform at any internal or external function in its designated service area and shall be under the direction of the assemblies F.N. through the C.C.C.

## Official Regalia of the Fourth Degree

### Official Regalia Dress – Members

The officially designated Fourth Degree member regalia dress is set forth in the Laws of the Fourth Degree (Article XI, “Official Dress and Regalia,” Sections 38 and 40); and is as follows:

- Navy Blue Blazer with Fourth Degree Emblem Crest and Knights of Columbus Emblem of the Order buttons
- Official Fourth Degree Gray trousers
- Official Fourth Degree Necktie
- Official Fourth Degree Black Beret with Fourth Degree metal badge
- Plain White Dress Shirt with button cuff (no French cuffs – no button down collar shirts)
- Plain Black trouser belt
- Black Socks and Plain Black Shoes
- Official Fourth Degree Lapel Pin (#PG-113)
- Past and Former Miniature Medals of Office



## Official Regalia Dress – Color Corps

The Knights of Columbus Color Corps official regalia dress is the same as the official regalia dress of a member, with the addition of the following:

- Service Baldric, together with a sword, worn over the blazer front from the right shoulder to the left hip. When a sword is not permitted for any reason the Service Baldric shall be worn nevertheless.
- White gloves
- Color bearers wear a color-bearer harness and the Service Baldric with no sword

### Meetings and Functions:

When a Fourth Degree member attends an official function of the Order where Fourth Degree dress is required (whether member regalia or Color Corps regalia), he may wear the current medal of his office around his neck, Assembly, Council, State Council, Supreme Council or Supreme Assembly.

At a Fourth Degree exemplification the only lapel pin allowed is the Official Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Lapel Pin (#PG-113). For Fourth Degree exemplification attire for members, candidates and military, refer to Official Instructions.

A Former Supreme Director, Past State Deputy, Former Vice Supreme Master, Former District Master, Former District Deputy, Past Grand Knight or Past Faithful Navigator may wear their Past and Former Miniature Medal for offices held in accordance with the guidelines detailed in this manual and in the Protocol Handbook.

No other medals other than Papal Medals, may be worn, upon the Official Blazer.

A pocket name badge is not worn with Member or Color Corps regalia.



# Official Regalia Dress – Members

## Pictorial View



Blazer



Trousers



Necktie

Beret



4th Degree  
Lapel Pin  
(PG-113)

# Official Regalia Dress – Color Corps

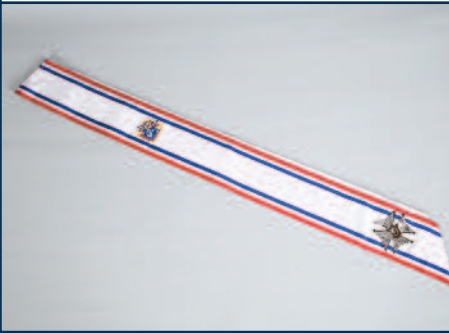
## Pictorial View



Flag Holder



Black Handled Sword with Scabbard



Service Baldric



Beret



White Gloves

## Official Colors of the Fourth Degree

The colors for the Fourth Degree Color Corps are set forth in the Laws of the Fourth Degree, Article XI, are designated to be worn directly behind the Fourth Degree Medal Badge affixed to the Official Color Corps beret, and colors are designated as follows:

### **Supreme Master & Former Supreme Master**

Dark Blue Cloth Backer Pantone # 19-4035 TC

### **Vice Supreme Master & Former Vice Supreme Master**

Light Blue Cloth Backer Pantone # 14-4313 TC

### **District Master & Former District Master**

Gold Cloth Backer Pantone # 13-0941 TC

### **Marshal**

Green Cloth Backer Pantone # 18-5315 TC

### **Faithful Navigator & Past Faithful Navigator**

White Cloth Backer Pantone # 11-0601 TC

### **Assembly Commander**

Purple Cloth Backer Pantone # 19-3542 TC

### **Member**

Black Beret with Fourth Degree Medal Badge with no backer

## Official Baldric Colors by Country

The Board of Directors recommended that the colors of the Fourth Degree Service Baldric designated for use by country be as follows:

- United States & Territories Red, White and Blue
- Canada Red and White
- Mexico Red, White and Green
- Philippines Blue, White and Red
- Cuba, Dominican Republic, Panama Red, White and Blue
- Guatemala Blue and White
- Poland White and Red
- Ukraine Light Blue and Yellow
- South Korea White, Red and Blue
- France Blue, White and Red



## Past and Former Miniature Medals

### Authorized Display of Miniature Medals on Regalia

1. Past and Former Miniature Medals of Office and their official order of precedence is detailed below. They shall be worn upon the blazer, centered on the left front panel between the lapel and the left armhole seam with the bottom edge of the Medal(s) 1/4 inch above the top of the pocket.
2. A maximum of four medals may be worn on a single row with the left edge of the holding bar aligned with the left edge of the pocket.
3. If a second (or multiple) row(s) of medals is worn, the bottom edge of the ribbons on the top row of medals will extend down to the top edge of the medals on the bottom row. When the upper row contains 4 medals the left edge of the holding bar will be aligned with the left edge of the pocket. When the upper row contains less than 4 medals it will be centered above the lower row (see pictured diagrams).

No medals of any other group or organization are allowed to be worn in regalia.

### Precedence of Miniature Medals of Office

The order of precedence for the wearing of Papal Orders and Knights of Columbus miniature medals is as follows:

Papal Orders, such as:

- Order of Pius IX
- Order of St. Gregory the Great
- Order of St. Sylvester
- Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre
- Sovereign Military Order of Malta

Knights of Columbus Officer Roles:

- Former Supreme Director
- Past State Deputy
- Former Vice Supreme Master
- Former District Master
- Former District Deputy
- Past Grand Knight
- Past Faithful Navigator

Others:

No other medal from any source, order, unit or division is allowed.

# Pictorial view of Precedence of Miniature Medals

[Note: The Medals of Office pictured in Diagrams #1-#7 show the order of precedence, with the highest office attained always nearer to the lapel. Papal Order medals that have been awarded are always given a higher precedence than the Knights of Columbus medals. The diagrams below show precedence without any Papal Order medals.]



Diagram 1  
Past Grand Knight



Diagram 2  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator



Diagram 3  
Former District Deputy  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator



Diagram 4  
Former District Master  
Former District Deputy  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator



Diagram 5  
Past State Deputy  
Former District Master  
Former District Deputy  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator



Diagram 6  
Past State Deputy  
Former Vice Supreme Master  
Former District Master  
Former District Deputy  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator



Diagram 7  
Papal Medal  
Past State Deputy  
Former Vice Supreme Master  
Former District Master  
Former District Deputy  
Past Grand Knight  
Past Faithful Navigator