

28. Flag Protocol

Purpose

This protocol provides guidance on the display of flags to leaders and executive teams of programs implemented at Lord Somers Camp by Lord Somers Camp and Power House (LSC&PH).

A detailed national guidance document on the flying and handling of flags in Australia is shown at (<https://www.dpmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/australian-flags-excerpt.pdf>). Details shown in that document are not repeated here.

Scope

This protocol applies to all people who work, volunteer, are members of, or represent Lord Somers Camp and Power House.

Definitions

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| Employee | Any person employed by Lord Somers Camp and Power House. |
| Executive Team | The leadership team for a specific LSC&PH program or activity. Specific members /roles of an Executive Team are at the discretion of the Program or Activity Leader. |
| Leader | Any person (paid or unpaid) over the age of 18 who is responsible for the control and safety of members /volunteers placed in their care whilst holding a formal position in Lord Somers Camp and Power House. A leader could include but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Leaders • Deputy Camp Leaders • Executive Officers • Programs Leader • Slushie King and Slushee Queen • Heads of Departments |
| LSC&PH Management Team | Persons employed by Lord Somers Camp and Power House, holding positions of management including: Chief Executive Officer, Camp Manager, Programs and Activities Manager. |
| Member | Any person who has a current membership subscription to LSC&PH, |

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| | including various life memberships, term membership or honorary life membership. |
| Participant | Any person who attends an LSC&PH program as a participant or a grouper. |
| Volunteers | Any non-member who attends LSC&PH activities as a member of the camp's staff under the direction of a Camp Leader. |

Responsibilities

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| Executive teams and employees | Ensuring that this protocol is communicated and applied within their programs and activities. |
| Volunteers, members, and participants | Follow all reasonable instructions from LSC&PH employees to ensure that this Protocol is followed. |

Procedures

Table of precedence of flags

Within Australia there is a seniority of flags according to their category. This follows accepted international practice.

Category 1 – National Flags

The Australian Flag is the senior flag. National flags of other countries follow the Australian Flag in alphabetical order as registered, in the English language, with the United Nations.

Category 2 – State and Territory Flags

The flag of the State or Territory in which the event is being held would normally be flown. Where other State flags are also flown, they follow the order as displayed in the Australian Coat of Arms followed by the Territory flags in alphabetical order. The order is:

- New South Wales
- Victoria
- Queensland

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- South Australia
- Western Australia
- Tasmania
- Australian Capital Territory
- Northern Territory

Category 3 - Official Flags/ Ensigns as set out in the Flags Act 1953

There are two official flags, namely

- Australian Aboriginal Flag
- Torres Strait Islander Flag

They are of equal seniority.

There is a set of Australian Defence Force ensigns which are flown in the following order after the Official Flags:

- Australian Defence Force Ensign
- White Ensign
- RAAF Ensign

(There is no special Army Ensign. The Army is charged with the defence of the Australian National Flag)

Category 4 – Other Flags and Pennants

These would include government agencies (e.g. Police, Customs, Municipalities etc), private organisations and causes. There is no order of precedence, and they would be flown in accordance with the relevance of the organisation to the host body. Examples would include Scouts, Lord Somers Camp and Power House, United Nations and Pride Flag.

It should be noted that there is no requirement to fly a particular flag, or any flag, from each category. The Official Flags is a case in point.

Flags at the Somers campsite

There are three flagpoles at the Somers Camp. The seniority of these poles is the centre pole (which is taller than the other two), followed by the flagpole nearest to the mess hut with the junior pole being

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the one nearest to the grouper huts.

The flags available at Somers are:

- Category 1 - Australian Flag
- Category 2 - Victorian Flag
- Category 3 - Australian Aboriginal Flag
Torres Strait Islander Flag
- Category 4 - Lord Somers Camp and Power House Flag
Lord and Lady Somers Camp Grouper Flags
Slushie/ee Flag
Old Victorian Governor's Flag
Pride Flag
United Nations Flag
Other program or organisational Flags

Whilst not mandated, executive team leaders implementing camps at Lord Somers Camp are strongly encouraged to use the centre flagpole for the Australian flag and rotate flags from other Categories based on the requirements or themes of the specific camp.

Leaders are encouraged to provide context to camp participants about the significance of specific flags being flown at a particular camp.

Number of flag poles

It is considered that maintaining the existing number of flag poles at camp is sufficient and leaders can rotate flags as required during specific camps. This will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Storage of flags

Flags should be secured stored in the Lord Somers Camp Executive Hut.

Other relevant policies and protocols

- Nil

This protocol will be reviewed every three years by the Programs and Activities Committee or sooner if

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warranted by internal or external events or changes.

Changes to the protocol will be recommended by the Programs and Activities Committee to the CEO.