

Suggested Outline for a Yacht Club Sundown Ceremony

Following is a suggested for a Sundown Ceremony. Your club may make any additions or deletions it wishes. As the name implies, this ceremony is performed to coincide with sunset and once the flag is lowered it is retired for the evening following the ceremony.

Bugle call "Assembly" is played signaling the ceremony will take place in five minutes. This may be preceded by a cannon salute.) This is the signal for members and guests to assemble around the flagpole for the Sundown Ceremony.

- Welcome by Commodore
- Invocation by Chaplain
- Speech delivered by a club officer, member or special guest.
- Adjutant calls: "Attention to Colors" "Hand Salute" or, "Present Arms" and those in uniform salute.
- The cannon is fired and the National Anthem is played as the flag is lowered by the Color Guard. The lowering of the flag should finish at the same time of the last note of the music.
- Adjutant calls: "Ready, To," or "Order, Arms". Salutes are dropped.
- Flag is folded by Color Guard and presented to the Commodore.
- The cannon is fired and Retreat is played.
- Adjutant calls: "Company, Dismissed."
- All participants return to clubhouse.

Notes: Participants in uniform normally proceed to and depart from the flagpole in a group while others gather on the other side of the flagpole.

Those who are going to handle the flag (Color Guard and the Commodore) should be wearing gloves.

After the flag is folded, the Captain of the Color Guard presents it to the Commodore, who salutes the flag before it is presented. The Captain of the Color Guard, holding the flag, does not return the salute but passes the flag to the Commodore. After the flag is passed, the Captain of the Color Guard salutes but the salute is not returned by the Commodore holding the flag.