



ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

DADDYS GARDEN MAIN ROAD, KAMMASANDRA,
ELECTRONIC CITY POST, BANGALORE 560100

THE BHARAT SCOUT AND GUIDE

HAND SIGNS

Simple Troop formations are necessary to orderliness and smartness and for getting the Patrols lined up quickly for games and projects. These formations call for the Scout type of drill, using silent hand signals

Silent Signals for Troop Formations

The arm signals for Troop formations are intended to facilitate preparations for unified group action when the noise and the fury of the elements prevail. These signals are given by the senior Patrol Leader or whoever is designated as drill master.

The intelligent leaders should not limit himself to the use of signals suggested. Conditions like terrain, weather, kind of emergency, physical conditions of the Scouts, and the like, should enable him to determine more practical uses of signals.

Herewith are brief descriptions and some uses of the arm signals:

-  **PATROL LEADER**
-  **ASST. PATROL LEADER**
-  **PATROL MEMBERS**
-  **SCOUT MASTER**

STRAIGHT LINE FORMATION/ SINGLE RANK FORMATION (TROOP LINE)



Extended both arms horizontally, parallel to the line he wishes the troop to take, palms turned front if he wants Patrols in front of him, palms turned back if he wants patrols behind him.



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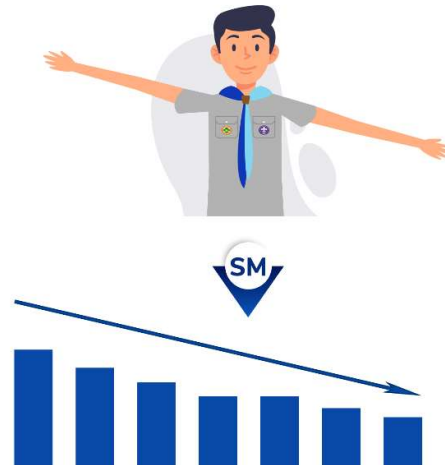
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How to Execute: Patrol Leaders take up positions in front at center of their Patrols. Patrols fall in line two paces behind their Leaders, with two paces interval between patrols. Assistant Patrol Leaders stay at extreme right of Patrol, the other members on his left. The line dresses right without command.

Uses: For general line-up, for inspection in meeting room, also in preparing to move the Troop across a wide area

HEIGHT ORDER FORMATION



Extended both arms horizontally, arms slanted to the way and order commander wants.

How to Execute: Patrols fall in, in a single line according to the slanted line commander makes. The tallest person leads the line and go to the side which the commander's arm is raised. Members fall in according to the height order in combination with the slanted line.

Uses: For general line-up, for inspection in meeting room, also in preparing to move the Troop across a wide area

PARALLEL FORMATION (PATROL FILES)



Arms forward at shoulder height, palms facing inward, fingers pointing front.

How to Execute: Patrol Leaders take positions two paces apart, their members fall in behind them

Uses: For relays, general briefings and other games

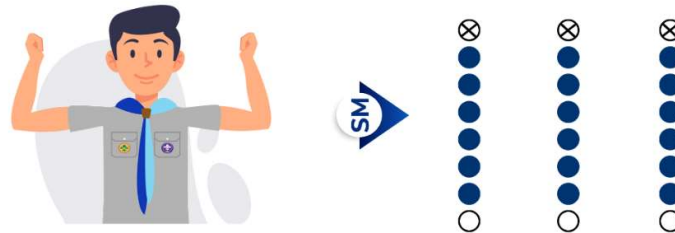


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OPEN COLUMN FORMATION



Both arms extended sideward but bent at right angles at elbows, closed fists are extended toward the sky.

How to Execute: Patrols fall in, one behind the other, dressing immediately on the front patrol and on the right. A distance equal to the length of each Patrol should be left between it and the Patrol in front of it.

Patrol Leaders take two paces in front of the center of their Patrols.

When the Open Columns is commanded, If 3 Patrols are formed line by line:

- Last Patrol should move 2 steps to the back
- Second patrol should move 1 step to the back
- First Patrol doesn't move

When 7 Patrols are formed

- 7th (Last) Patrol should take 6 steps to the back
- 6th Patrol should take 5 steps to the back
- 5th Patrol should take 4 steps to the back
- 4th Patrol should take 3 steps to the back
- 3rd Patrol should take 2 steps to the back
- 2nd Patrol should take 1 step to the back
- 1st Patrol does not move

Uses: For inspection and parade formation.

CLOSED COLUMN FORMATION



Same as for open column of Patrols, except that closed fists are extended toward the sky.



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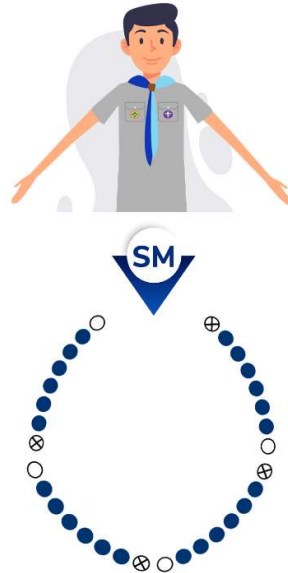
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How to Execute: Patrols fall in, in a single line. Patrols observe same order of sequence as in Troop Line, though Patrol Leaders fall in on the right of their patrols. Arms distance must be the correct space in between the patrols.

Uses: For Flag Ceremonies and Awarding Ceremonies.

HORSE SHOE FORMATION



The Patrols are lined up to the shape of a horse shoe. The Duty Patrol leads the horse shoe and formed at the top right of the horse shoe.

How to Execute: Commander/Duty Patrol Leader stands in front of the flag where he wants to conduct facing the back to the flag. The hands are raised to the sides making a 60 Degree angle, palms stretched, facing outwards, fingers pointing to the ground/position where the horse shoe formation starts and end. The Commander then perfects the shape formation. Patrols fall in, in a single line to the shape of a horse shoe. Patrols take a double arm gap between Patrols and arm gaps between members. The commander/Duty Patrol Leader is stood in the place where the horse shoe shape has an opening.

Uses: For Flag Ceremonies and Awarding Ceremonies.

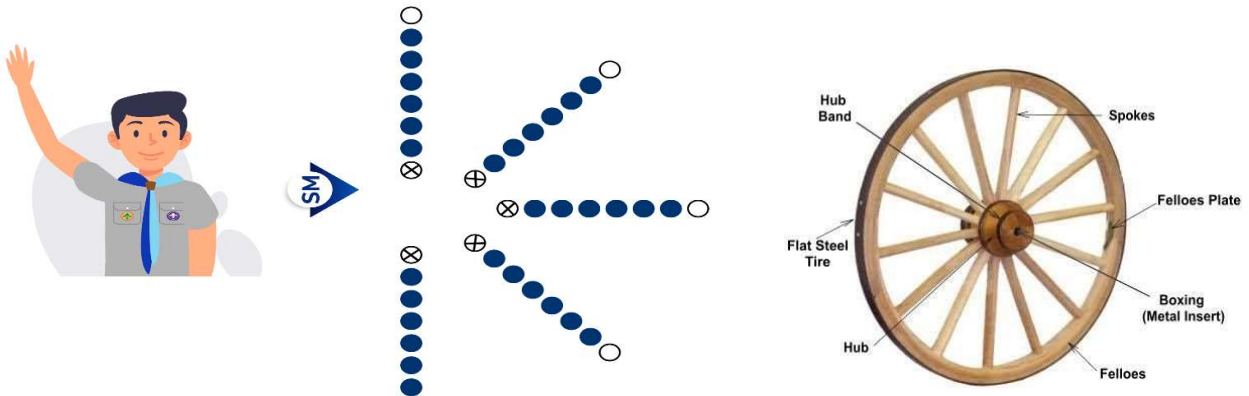


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CART WHEEL FORMATION



Patrols are lined up in Parallel Formation but in the shape of Cartwheel Spokes. This Formation is very common in Camporees/ Jamborees where Sub Camp Rallies are concerned.

How to Execute: Commander raises his arm and stretch the arm and the fingers making the gap in-between the fingers visible. This indicates that a Cart Wheel Formation should be initiated.

Uses: For Flag Ceremonies, Awarding Ceremonies, briefing of a project.

CIRCLE FORMATION



One arm is extended, fists closed and rotated backwards making a shape of a circle.

How to Execute: Patrol form a complete circle around the Leader in same order as in Council formation.

Uses: For Ceremonies and circle games.



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BOX FORMATION



Both arms extended sideward but bent at right angles at elbows, palms open facing the head.

How to Execute: Patrols fall in, in a single line. Patrols observe same order of sequence as in Troop Line, though Patrol Leaders fall in on the right of their patrols

Uses: For Flag Ceremonies and Awarding Ceremonies.

Hand Signals-which can also be made by Patrol Leaders with their Patrol flags when necessary.

Hand waved several times across the face from side to side, or flag waved horizontally from side to side opposite the face means “No”, “Never mind”, “As you were”.

1. Hand or flag held high, and waved very slowly from side to side, at full extent of arm means “Extend”, “Go farther out”, “Scatter”.
2. Hand or flag held high, and waved quickly from side to side at full extent of arm means “Close in”, “Rally”, “Come here”.
3. Hand or flag pointing in any direction, means “Go in that direction”.
4. Clenched hand or flag jumped rapidly up and down several times means “Run”.
5. Hand or flag held straight up over head, means “Stop”, “Halt”