

JLAB 2019 JROTC UNIT BEST PRACTICE

<u>Date:</u> May 13, 2019	<u>School:</u> Greenwood High School	<u>School Address:</u> 1816 Cokesbury Rd Greenwood SC, 29649-9112
<u>JROTC Unit Name:</u> Greenwood High School 50th Screaming Eagle Battalion	<u>Unit Telephone Number:</u> (864) 941-3488	<u>Unit Email Address:</u> Laymonc@gwd50
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<u>JROTC Unit Best Practice (one per form only):</u> Squad Leader Qualification		
<p><u>Discussion</u> (The who, what, when, where and how of the Best Practice, e.g., components of the function, organization (staff responsibilities, command and control), resources needed (money, people, supplies, transportation, and equipment) timeline from planning to completion, etc.):</p> <p>Background: Few years ago, LET 3's and 4's that held Squad Leader positions did not have the ability to teach LET 1's basic Drill and Ceremony. Our previous AI did not thoroughly or efficiently teach our cadets the basics of Drill. It caused us to become confused and less educated in Drill and Ceremony. Which resulted our cadets to have a lack of confidence and motivation. Later on, we received a new AI and gained more knowledge of what Drill and Ceremony actually is. Where our unit even expanded up to Platoon and Company Drill. After, our current AI instructed most of the time. It soon came to the question of: "How are we going to use our current Squad Leaders to train incoming LET 1's to become Squad Leaders?" Our unit needed a program to teach incoming LET 1's what it means to be in a Squad Leader position and how it involves with our Chain of Command. We then came up with The Squad Leader Qualification that consists of four phases each cadets goes through:</p> <p>Phase I: Being Taught and Learning- Like all beginners of any sort of function you would have to learn the basics from an experienced member.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Current Squad Leaders (LET 3's and up who have already qualified as a Squad Leader) teach Basic Drill and Ceremony to their new squad members by using the <i>Three Methods of Teaching</i>. <p>Squad Leaders use the <i>Three Methods of Teaching</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Step by Step2. Talk through it		

3. By the numbers to sync up. (If necessary)

- **Squad Leaders first introduce Stationary Drill (what is the preparatory command , what is the command of execution, the position of attention, How to Salute, resting movements, and facing movements) They then continue to practice in order to understand and attain what is learned that Drill day.**
- **We then use a Stationary Drill Assessment after each LET 1 has got their practices in, and are ready to be evaluated. Each LET 1 is then evaluated on what they have learned so far about Drill and Ceremony.**

This serves the purpose of:

- **If the Squad Leader has thoroughly and efficiently taught their Squad members (while also fixing mistakes and preventing habits of doing a movement wrong.)**
- **The LET 1 is capable to carry out the movement correctly**
- **The Chain of Command is aware of who needs more assistance/practice and or if they are ready to move forward with Marching**

See Attached Stationary Drill Evaluation Sheet

Phase II: Marching and Conducting Drill as part of a Squad as a Squad Member- After completing Phase I of Learning about Stationary Drill. LET 1's are then ready to march.

- **Current Squad members first inform their Squad Members about the Basics of Marching such as what foot you step off with, arm swing, and pace.**

Squad Leaders have used the method:

- **One by One Marching- Each squad member marches one by one and their squad leader corrects each cadet if they're doing something incorrectly - or - The Squad Leader marches the squad like normal and corrects them if needed**

After Squad Leaders have taught their Squad Members how to march correctly, they then introduce squad members about column movements, flank movements and rear- march (How the movements called, how the movement is carried out, which foot to pivot on, where or how do i swing my arms)

- Squad Members and or LET 1's continue to practice while combining Stationary Drill and Marching to attain what is taught

Phase III: Learning and Executing Drill Evaluation- After completing phase II of being taught about Stationary Drill and How to March each LET 1 is now prepared to be evaluated.

- Each cadet is put in a Squad Leaders position and follows a Drill Sequence. This sequences puts each LET 1 to the test of their Command Voice, Military Bearing, and What they know and have learned about Drill and Ceremony from their current Squad Leader to become a Squad Leader:
See attached Drill Sequence of the Squad Leader Drill Evaluation sheet

LET 1's prepare by the following:

1. Memorizing the Sequence
 2. Practicing Command Voice (By using their diaphragm and not their throat) and Testing Military Bearing
 3. Practices by Marching a Squad
(Optional Method- Shadow Boxing- Each Cadet individually goes through the sequence themselves and reaches out to their Squad Leader if needed assistance)
- When the LET 1 is confident and prepared enough to be tested. They must be loud and distinct, maintain Military Bearing, has correctly followed and executed the sequence, and must pass with a passing grade of (70% or Higher)

LET 1's also have the opportunity to also earn The Squad Leader Qualification Ribbon. By meeting the following requirements:

- To qualify for the Ribbon you **MUST MAINTAIN** Military Bearing and Command Voice throughout the whole sequence.
- Has correctly followed and executed the sequence (little to no sequence violations)
- Must score a 93% or higher on evaluation

Phase IV: Learning to Instruct- Once LET 1's have qualified and passed the Squad Leader evaluation they now have the opportunity to instruct and become a Squad Leader. This year we've come up with methods and teachings of our own such as:

- 1. Instructing with Upperclassmen-** Without any guidance from anyone they take charge as leaders by teaching us Drill movements.
 - Upperclassmen play a role and act as if they are inexperienced and are new to Drill and Ceremony
- 2. Leadership Action Courses-** Cadets have the opportunity to also show more of their leadership abilities through the challenges of Leadership Action Courses our AI assigns for Drill Days.
- 3. Pursuing the position of Squad Leader that following semester**
 - The Cadet takes the Role as a Squad Leader during In-Ranks, PT, Marching as a Company or Platoon, etc.

The results of the Cadet Instructing is extremely helpful. It also serves more to apply what is learned hands on with activities and for more experience. This prepares the cadet for the next school year to teach incoming cadets and will definitely help when the cadet wants to pursue higher leadership positions.

Conclusion: Cadets know what they're actually doing and are fully educated about Drill and Ceremony it was also successful for our Chain of Command. We also gain further knowledge about each individuals leadership potential and they even know more about themselves as well. Cadets tended to have a boost in confidence and were also more motivated. When given the opportunity to lead they also did what is expected and or more as cadets. Each school year we always use our Best Practice of the Squad Leader Qualification and it has never failed for our unit. We tend to continue this Best Practice for the many years of incoming cadets and or our unit. We hope this would help out and become a success for other JROTC units as well.

We all do some things better than others. Likewise, some JROTC units are better at some things than other JROTC units. We call those Best Practices. We think that the "best" best practices come from the best units. If your unit's day-to-day performance is a reflection of your accomplishments on JLAB Level I and Level II, and we think that it is, then we believe your unit to be among the best. We want you to tell us

about your best practice(s). Complete and submit this form on one or more of your unit's best practices. Use a separate form for each Best Practice. Be detailed in your report so that the other 3,400+ JROTC units in the country with whom we will share it can read and execute it without questions! This report form is designed to expand as you type. It should accommodate your report without attachments. Should that not be the case, submit your report(s) in a format that works for you. Please name your file with your school name.

Below is a non-all-inclusive list of possible unit best practices.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Academic Team ● Drill Team ● Orienteering Team ● Raider Challenge Team ● Rifle Team ● Color Guard ● Marksmanship Training ● Awards Ceremony ● Awards support from outside organizations ● Cadet retention in JROTC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fundraising ● Leadership Team ● JCLC ● Service Learning/Community Service ● Military Ball ● Cadet Commander and Staff Organization and Functions ● Cadet Scholarships ● Technology support of unit from school and community ● Educational and Orientation Trips ● Cadet Challenge |
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THIS IS NOT A GRADED ASSIGNMENT BUT IT IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR TEAM TO COMPETE IN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.