UNIFORM GUIDEBOOK

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

SEMPER FIDELIS

2013

This Uniform Guidebook was created by:
CPR – Department of Maryland

We would like to offer a special acknowledgement to Lou Calleja of the Dept of Florida who created a similar presentation that was the inspiration for this version.

Information contained within was obtained from multiple sources including the National Bylaws & Administrative Procedures, Enclosure 3 (Reprinted Feb 2013)
UNDRESS UNIFORM
Short and Long Sleeve Shirts

With this uniform you may wear either blue trousers with the NCO red stripe or the optional black trousers. Other parts of the uniform are:

- Standard Cover
- Devil Dog collar, if authorized (optional)
- Name Tag (optional)
- White Short Sleeve shirt, with military creases (to be Airline pilot style with two (2) pockets with button down flaps and shoulder epaulets)
- MCL sunburst insignias on collar, centered ½ “ inside the collar tip, with wings on the emblem parallel to the deck
- Shoulder patches as authorized (USA Flag or MODD)
- MCL ribbons or DoD authorized ribbons, wings, badges (MCL and DoD cannot be mixed)
  No medals can be worn on this uniform
- If the long sleeve shirt is worn, a black tie, with the MC or MCL gold tie bar shall be part of the uniform (No open collar).
- Trousers, blue dress (with NCO red stripe) with belt, MC khaki web, with web belt brass buckle
- Shoes, black, plain toe (Military style, highly glossed)
- Socks, black

- OPTIONAL: Black Dress trousers with black leather belt and square gold buckle with MC emblem.

- Additional Female Undress Uniform Options:
  Please see Enclosure 3 of the National Bylaws & Administrative Procedures.
CAUSAL UNIFORM
MALE / FEMALE

- Standard cover
- Marine of the Year Medallion or Devil Dog collar, if authorized.
- White shirt (No button down collars and no sunburst insignias).
- Black tie, with MC or MCL gold tie bar
- Blazer, red, with two (2) MCL buttons on front and three (3) MCL buttons on each sleeve cuff
- MCL Crest or MCL authorized plastic pocket name badge
- Lapel pins (Max of two) Optional
- Trousers, black, dress
- Black belt leather, with MC emblem on square gold buckle or Gold MC Ratchet Belt
- Shoes, black, plain toe (Military style, highly glossed)
- Socks, black
- Optional: A black leather dress belt may be worn as a substitute to the black leather belt with MC emblem on square gold buckle. (The black leather belt with a ratcheting gold MC emblem buckle is an approved optional dress belt).
- One, two or three large (Standard) MCL Medals or DoD Medals may be worn centered over the left breast pocket of the MCL red blazer uniform.
- Sunburst insignias are not worn on the shirt collar and the MC dress blue trousers are not worn with the casual uniform.

Additional Female Undress Uniform Options:
- Tie, black, cross over (USMC style)
- Skirt, black, straight (length should be 1-2” below knees)
- Shoes, plain closed toe, pumps (worn with skirt only)
- Hose, nylon, black (worn with pumps only)
- Earrings, (optional) Small white pearl type OR gold ball, not to exceed 9mm. When worn, earrings will fit tight against the ear and will not extend below the ear lobe.
FORMAL UNIFORM

- Standard cover (recommended not worn at indoor formal events or ceremonies)
- Marine of the Year Medallion or Devil Dog collar, if authorized
- Military bow tie, black
- White shirt, formal (Standard collar) pleated front (No ruffles)
- Gold cuff links and gold studs
- Cummerbund, gold or gold vest front (Only approved design)
- Trousers, SNCO evening dress, with NCO Red stripe OR Trouser, black tux or trousers, black, with black dress belt.
- MCL Red Evening Dress jacket, with MCL buttons, gold waist chain, and sunburst insignias at locating holes in jacket collar.
- Lapel pins, (optional)
- Shoes, black plain toe (Military style, highly glossed)
- Socks, black
- Miniature medals, wings, badges

- OPTIONAL: The Red Blazer may be worn as an option to the Red Evening Dress Jacket with formal dress uniform.

- If the Red Blazer option is chosen, the following applies:
  - The blue dress trousers, with red NCO stripe cannot be worn
  - The MCL crest is optional if miniature medals are worn
  - Medals may be worn per paragraph (s) I, II & III of enclosure three (3) uniform code.

- Additional Female Formal Uniform Options:
  Please see Enclosure 3 of the National Bylaws & Administrative Procedures.
UNIFORMS OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Uniform Items

White Shirt
Field Scarf
Web Belt with Buckle
Shoulder Patch
Khaki / USMC

Military Bow Tie
Cummerbund
Gold Vest Front

Belt Buckle
Pin
Blazer Crest

Cuff Links
Blazer Buttons
Collar Ornaments
MARINE OF THE YEAR
MEDALLIONS

The National MOY Ribbon is White with Yellow Border

Distinguished Citizen Medal

Gold
Silver
Bronze

Distinguished Service Medal
MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS (MODD)
UNIFORM ITEMS

Cover Patch

Shirt Patch

DOG COLLARS

Pup

Devil Dog

Pedigree Devil Dog

Pack Dog of the Year

Pound Dog of the Year

Past Pack Leader

Past Pound Keeper
COVERS

Regular Member

Regular Member – FEMALE

Cover Strips

Associate Member
   Sunburst insignia instead of EGA

Cover Types

- **RED**: All members of the Marine Corps League. This is the Detachment Cover.
- **Red with Gold Crown**: Department Officers, elected or appointed
- **Gold**: National Officers, elected or appointed
- **White**: National Commandant
- **Gold with White Crown**: Past National Commandant’s
- **Gold with Black Crown**: Past Chief Devil Dogs (of the MODD)

**NOTE:**

ONLY the following members are authorized to wear their respective cover after their tour of duty is completed, with the years displayed for holding that office:

Past National Division Vice Commandants
Past National Executive Directors
Past National Directors of the Young Marines
Past Department Commandants
Past Pack Leaders (of the MODD)
Past Detachment Commandants

All other members will revert back to the appropriate cover for their current elected or appointed office, removing their prior officer identification strips.
Detachment Cover

↑↑ Standard Cover worn by ALL members of the MCL ↑↑

Department Officer Cover
or MODD Pack Officer Cover

National Officer Cover
or MODD Kennel Officer Cover

It is recommended that each local Detachment establish what the wording on their covers will be. For example, the Harford County Detachment 1198 voted at a regular meeting to approve the wording on their covers. If you cannot locate a local embroidery shop, you should order Covers directly from the MCL “Semper Fi Store” ALREADY EMBROIDERED.

Current OFFICE, LIFE or LIFE MEMBER can be worn on the Cover. You can use “Cap Strips” that are available from the MCL National “Semper Fi Store” or have it embroidered.

The Covers above where embroidered by MCL National HQ “Semper Fi Store”.

**Why should your Cover have your Detachment Name embroidered on it?**

1. Out in the community...Allows the public and prospective MCL Recruits to know who you are and where you are located. They may not have realized you’re located in their local community.

2. At a MCL Meeting other than your own Detachment...Allows other MCL members to identify where you’re from when you attend a MCL Convention or joint event with other MCL Detachment’s.

3. A great way to honor your namesake, if your Detachment is named for a deceased Marine.
# Marine Corps League Ribbons

**Shown in Order of Precedence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ribbon Description</th>
<th>Ribbon Description</th>
<th>Ribbon Description</th>
<th>Ribbon Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Citizen Gold</td>
<td>Distinguished Citizen Silver</td>
<td>Distinguished Citizen Bronze</td>
<td>Distinguished Service Bronze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Marine of the Year</td>
<td>Division Marine of the Year</td>
<td>Department Marine of the Year</td>
<td>Detachment Marine of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Recruiter Gold</td>
<td>National Recruiter Silver</td>
<td>National Recruiter Bronze</td>
<td>Past National Commandant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Staff Elected Silver</td>
<td>National Staff Appointed Bronze</td>
<td>Department Commandant</td>
<td>Department Staff Elected Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department Staff Appointed Bronze</td>
<td>Department Recruiter Silver</td>
<td>Detachment Commandant</td>
<td>Detachment Staff Elected Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detachment Staff Appointed Bronze</td>
<td>Detachment Recruiter Bronze</td>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>Board of Trustees Commendation—V. Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Meritorious Unit of Commendation</td>
<td>Department Meritorious Unit Commendation</td>
<td>Individual Meritorious Commendation</td>
<td>Kennel Dog of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Devil Dog Individual Commendation</td>
<td>Pack Dog of the Year</td>
<td>Pack Leader Commendation—Individual</td>
<td>Pound Dog of the Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pound Keeper Commendation—Individual</td>
<td>Past Chief Devil Dog</td>
<td>Pack Leader</td>
<td>Pound Keeper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps League Membership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*April 2013*
WHERE TO GET UNIFORMS

RED BLAZER
1. MCL National Headquarters
   “Semper Fi Store”
   8626 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22031
   Phone: 800-625-1775
   www.MCLeague.org

2. The Marine Shop – Quantico
   300 Potomac Avenue, Quantico, VA 22134
   Phone: 703-640-7195
   www.MarineShop.net
   On the website, look under “Uniform Accessories”.
   They have a section for the Marine Corps League.

RED MESS JACKET
The Marine Shop – Quantico
   • They also have special Dress Blue Trousers (no pockets).
   Formal MCL Uniform Accessories are available from the “Semper Fi Store”

WHITE AVIATOR SHIRT
Semper Fi Store OR...local Police/Fire Uniform store (depends on whether you want to iron in the creases each time you wear your shirt or buy a shirt with the creases stitched in)

BLACK MILITARY SHOES (aka Corframs)
The Marine Shop OR...a military base exchange store OR...Police/Fire Uniform store

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE ACCESSORIES
1. Semper Fi Store - Covers, patches, belts, pins, black trousers, ties, cap strips, etc
2. The Marine Shop – Dress Blue Trousers, military shoes, DoD Medals, etc

MARINE CORPS UNIFORM ITEMS
Dress Blue Trousers, DoD Medals, etc

1. Uniform Support Center Customer Support (Active, Reserve, Retired)
   Phone: 800-368-4088
   www.usmc-mccs.org They have a “Uniforms” section on their website.
   Uniform items are cheaper if ordered by an Active/Reserve/Retired Marine. We all have one of these in our Detachment. Get together with that Marine and place an order.
   OR...Visit your local Marine Corps Base Cash Sales
2. The Marine Shop – Quantico

Once a Marine, Always a Marine
Medals / Ribbons / Awards

What can a Detachment Commandant present under his authority?

Distinguished Citizen Medal – Bronze (or “Award” to non-MCL person)
Marine of the Year Detachment Medallion (on behalf of all Detachment MOY’s)
Distinguished Service Medal (or “Award” to non-MCL person)
Detachment Staff – Elected
Detachment Staff – Appointed
Detachment Recruiter Medal – Bronze
Membership Medal (for New or Charter Member)
Community Service / VAVS Service Ribbon
Community Service Ribbon (to JROTC cadet)
Community Service Ribbon (to Scout Leader)
Meritorious Individual Commendation Ribbon
Certificate of Appreciation
Honorary Membership
Good Citizenship Award (to Eagle Scout)
Certificate of Appreciation for Flying the US Flag
Life Membership Award Certificate

**********

Medals, Ribbons and Certificates can be purchased from the National MCL “Semper Fi Store”

OR

Purchase “Blank” MCL Certificates (Blank below the MCL SEAL) and print your own personalized version. They could include Detachment name, website, personalized verbiage, Cmdt Signature Line only, etc.

For more info contact Craig Reeling – Department of Maryland.

Info taken from National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures - Enclosure 4 (dated Feb 2013)

Dated: April 2013
Appropriate Wear of the USMC Uniform and Medals/Ribbons

1. Regulations governing the wear of uniforms by active duty/retired, former Marines and civilians serving with the Corps:

Chapter 11 MCO P1020.3G, Marine Corps Uniform Regulations (Source Document)
Basic guidance (Active Duty/Reservist/Retiree and Former Marines) –

1. **Grooming Standards.** Anyone who wears the Marine Corps Uniform must abide by the Marine Corps Grooming standards (paragraph 1004 and 8000.2 of the Uniform Regulations). Active duty/Reservists/Retirees and former Marines must also abide by the height and weight standards (paragraph 8000.2 of the Uniform Regulations).

2. **Wear of Proper Insignia and Awards.** When wearing a Marine Corps uniform you may only wear your current rank, or the rank that you left the service with and may only wear the awards you rate per your personnel records. No deviations of this policy are authorized.

3. **Activities where you may not wear the Uniform.** Paragraph 11002 of the Uniform Regulations provides a list of activities that you may not wear the uniform (i.e. to an event that brings discredit to the Corps, to events in support of political interests, private and/or commercial employment...).

4. **Retiree/Reservist Wear of Uniforms.** As a Retiree/Reservist you may wear the uniform for basically any event that you wore the uniform while on active duty.

5. **As a former Marine there are some restrictions:**
   - You must have served during a time of war (i.e. earned the National Defense Medal during your time in service) and received an honorable discharge to wear the uniform.

**Events you are restricted to wearing it to:**
- Military funerals, memorial services, weddings, and inaugurals.
- Parades on national or state holidays; or other parades or ceremonies of a patriotic character in which any active or reserve United States military unit are taking part. 'Wearing of the uniform or any part thereof at any other time or for any purpose is prohibited.'
- Recipients of the Medal of Honor may wear the Marine Corps uniforms at their pleasure except for those specific occasions listed in paragraph 11002 of the Uniform Regulations

2. **Awards Verification:**
   If you knowingly wear an award that you do not rate you can be prosecuted.
   If you need to verify what awards you rate contact the Navy Personnel Center at:
   - Navy Personnel Command
   - Retired Records Section (PERS 312D2)
   - 9700 Page Avenue Room 5409
   - St. Louis, MO 63132

3. **How to Report Violations:**
   If you have a question on how to properly wear a Marine Corps uniform please contact the Marine Corps Uniform Board at (703)432-4607. If you identify someone who is improperly wearing a Marine Corps uniform/awards/rank insignia, please contact the Inspector General for the Marine Corps at (703)614-1349 or the Uniform Board at the aforementioned phone number.