Flag Bearer Duties

1. Responsible for placing of the flags at the meeting
2. Responsible for knowing the American and 4H Pledge.
3. Responsible for leading group in the American or 4H Pledge.
4. American Pledge always goes first, then 4H Pledge
5. Leading of the American or 4H Pledge
6. Ask everyone to please stand
7. Ask everyone to please remove hats
8. Ask everyone to please join you in the American or 4H Pledge
9. Turn to flag and begin the American or 4H Pledge
10. After both pledges are done, tell everyone they may be seated
11. Attitude while leading the pledge
12. Always be respectful to the flags
13. Maintain silence except when reciting American or 4H Pledge

**Showing Respect for American and 4-H Flags**

**Citizenship**- Citizenship is one of the Six Pillars of Character that 4-H members strive to develop. Citizenship means being committed to the welfare of your community, state, country, or world. Showing proper respect for the flag of the United States of America, the flag of the State of Ohio and the 4-H flag is part of citizenship. The other five Pillars of Character, from the Josephson Institute of Ethics, are Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, and Caring.

Displaying Flags at a Meeting When the right and the 4-H flag on the left. Those facing the president see the American flag on their left. American flag and the 4-H flag are placed on a table at a club meeting, the American flag is always on the president’s.

Pledging to the Flags After the president calls the meeting to order, the first items on the agenda of a 4-H meeting should be the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge. Everyone should stand and face the flags for the pledges.

**The Pledge of Allegiance**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Please note the punctuation. Learn to pledge allegiance without pausing between the words “Nation” and “under” and teach others to do the same. When pledging allegiance, you should stand tall and face the flag with your right hand over your heart. Hats should always be removed during pledges.

**The 4-H Pledge**

I pledge My head to clearer thinking, My heart to greater loyalty, My hands to larger service, and My Health to better living For my club, my community, my country and my world.

Many 4-H members forget the “and” before “my Health to better living.” Practice saying the 4-H pledge correctly and teach others to do the same. When saying the 4-H pledge, members stand straight and tall with their arms at their sides. They raise their right hand to their forehead when they say, “I pledge my head to clearer thinking.” They lower their right hand to their heart when saying, “my heart to greater loyalty.” Their arms are slightly bent with palms up when saying, “my hands to larger service.” They stand with their arms at their sides for the conclusion of the pledge, “and my health to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.”