

**THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA
ONTARIO DIVISION.**

**PIPING THE SIDE
NAVY LEAGUE CADET CORPS**

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this order is to give direction in:
 - 1.1.1 - composition of the piping party
 - 1.1.2 - positioning of the piping party
 - 1.1.3 - method and duration of the pipe
 - 1.1.4 - and to whom the salute (pipe) shall be given

HISTORY

- 2.1 Piping was originally a series of special notes sounded by the boatswain (Bosun) when an Officer or dignitary was conveyed on board ship from jetty or ship's boat.
- 2.2 A Bosun's chair or breech was used sometimes. If ladies were invited on board a barrel was utilized. This was carried out by a series of elaborate commands with the pipe.
- 2.3 As time passed these elaborate procedures became redundant. Now ladders with upper and lower platforms are used. Piping the side however, has remained, although in a different form.
- 2.4 Today in the Canadian Navy, when a visitor is piped on board or ashore, a salute of twelve (12) seconds duration is sounded. This comprises a four (4) second low pitch, a four (4) second high pitch and a four (4) second low pitch.

DURATION

- 3.1 For the purpose of the Navy League the duration of the pipe will be twelve (12) seconds, as above, and carried out as in No.5

VISITORS LIST

- 4.1 Most navies, who salute visitors arriving or departing a ship, have a strictly adhered to list of dignitaries entitled to this salute.
- 4.2 The Navy League list is based upon the Canadian Navy list with some minor changes. This list is as follows:
 - 4.2.1 Her Majesty the Queen

- 4.2.2 His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, when in Naval uniform.
- 4.2.3 Members of the Royal Family of the rank of Captain (N) and above when in Naval uniform.
- 4.2.4 The Governor General of Canada and Lieutenant-Governors of Provinces when in Canadian Forces uniform.
- 4.2.5 Canadian Naval Officers with the rank of Commodore and above when in uniform.
- 4.2.6 Flag Officers and Commodores of Commonwealth navies when in uniform.
- 4.2.7 All Canadian Navy Officers in uniform holding an appointment in command of a formation or group of ships or an officer in command of a single ship.
- 4.2.8 All Navy League Area Officers, including the Commander Ontario Division and Division Training Officer and Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Area Officers, when in uniform.
- 4.2.9 All Navy League Cadet and Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Commanding Officers when in uniform.
- 4.2.10 All naval officers of other than Commonwealth Nations when in uniform.
- 4.2.11 Visiting dignitaries at the Commanding Officer's discretion.

4.3 The above list is to be strictly adhered to.

COMPOSITION

- 5.1 A side party could differ in size from ship to ship. The following is an example of a side party.
 - 5.1.1 one (1) to three (3) pipers
 - 5.1.2 one (1) petty officer or leading cadet
 - 5.1.3 one (1) officer of the day/watch

POSITIONING

- 6.1 The petty officer (or leading cadet) and the pipers are to stand in a line on the starboard side of the brow. The senior most piper is to be inboard of the petty officer (or leading cadet) and decreasing in rank inboard.
- 6.2 The Officer of the Day/Watch is to be positioned on the port side of the brow facing the pipers.
- 6.3 If the Commanding Officer or Executive Officer is to greet the visitor, then they are to stand from two (2) to two and one half (2 1/2) meters from the edge of the brow facing outboard.
- 6.4 If a band and/or guard are paraded, then they are to fall in where most suitable facing outboard, with the guard foremost.

PROCEDURE.

- 7.1 As the visitor draws near the front of the gangway area, whether in a vehicle or on foot, the "still" is piped if the visitor is entitled in accordance with the visitors list.
- 7.2 During the actual piping, the petty officer (or leading cadet) salutes if they are not actually piping. The officer of the day/watch salutes, as do any uniformed greeters. The pipers do not salute.
- 7.3 As the visitor steps across the area in front of the brow, the side is piped if the visitor is entitled in accordance with the visitors list.
- 7.4 When the visitor has crossed the brow and when the pipe has been completed, the guard is brought to the "present" and the band plays the appropriate musical salute.
- 7.5 On the completion of the salute the guard is to be returned to the order and reported to the visitor (unless they are junior to the host officer, in which case the guard will not be reported to them).
- 7.6 The visitor's retinue then comes on board. After the official party has had sufficient time to retire from the brow area, the "carry on" is sounded.
- 7.7 The side is piped when the visitor arrives and again when they depart.