



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY  
COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN  
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-5100

COMDTMIDNINST 5400.7A

OPS  
31 OCT 03

COMDTMIDNINST INSTRUCTION 5400.7A

Subj: BELL RINGING INSTRUCTION

1. Purpose. To provide instructional guidelines for Bell Ringing Ceremonies.
2. Background. Bell Ringing Ceremonies are a Naval Academy tradition. These ceremonies celebrate victories over Army.
3. Cancellation. This instruction supercedes COMDTMIDNINST 5400.7.
4. Ceremonies. The following are guidelines for the various Bell Ringing Ceremonies:

a. Varsity Football

(1) A bell ringing evolution will commemorate a varsity football victory over Army.

(a) The Officer of the Watch (OOW) will be tasked to ring the ENTERPRISE bell every 15 minutes on the quarter hour to commence as soon as the result of the Army/Navy football game is known. The bell will be rung until 0900 the next day (Sunday) and will secure during church services. At 1200 on Sunday, the bell will again be rung every 15 minutes on the quarter hour until 2000.

(b) At 2000, formation will be held in Tecumseh Court for the ringing of the Japanese Bell, to commence at 2005.

(c) Each of the following people will ring the Navy football score on the Japanese Bell in the following order:

1. Football team captains
2. Varsity football head coach
3. Superintendent
4. Commandant
5. Athletic Director

COMDTMIDNINST 5400.7A  
31 OCT 03

(d) The following people will then ring the Japanese bell once each in the following order:

1. Officer and faculty representatives
2. Each football team member

(2) If there is not a Navy varsity football game victory over Army, no Japanese Bell ringing of any kind will occur.

b. Fall Season Sports

(1) A bell ringing ceremony will commemorate a season victory (winning the majority of the fall season sports) over Army, held in Tecumseh Court. The fall bell ringing ceremony will be held on the Monday following the Army/Navy varsity football game in lieu of noon meal formation. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be rescheduled for second semester.

(a) Each of the following people will ring the ENTERPRISE Bell the number of varsity season victories over Army in the following order:

1. Superintendent
2. Commandant
3. Athletic Director
4. All victorious team captains
5. All victorious team coaches

(b) The ENTERPRISE Bell will remain open until evening colors for all members of the Naval Academy Family to ring.

(2) If a majority of victories are not obtained during the fall season, the bell ringing ceremony will be deferred until the Winter/Spring bell ringing. Those fall sports teams who defeated Army will participate in the Winter/Spring bell ringing.

c. Winter/Spring Season Sports

(1) A Winter/Spring bell ringing ceremony will be held to commemorate victories over Army.

(a) Each of the following people will ring the ENTERPRISE Bell the number of varsity season victories over Army in the following order:

1. Superintendent
2. Commandant
3. Athletic Director
4. All victorious team captains
5. All victorious team coaches

(b) The ENTERPRISE Bell will remain open until evening colors for all members of the Naval Academy Family to ring.

(2) The Winter/Spring bell ringing ceremony will be held during Commissioning Week. The ceremony will celebrate any varsity sport that defeated Army but did not participate in the Fall season bell ringing ceremony.

4. Action. All ceremonies will be facilitated by the Midshipman Activities Officer and coordinated by the Brigade Operations Officer.

  
CHARLES J. LEIDIG

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