

SINGAPORE ARMS AND FLAG AND NATIONAL ANTHEM
ACT
(CHAPTER 296, SECTION 2)

SINGAPORE ARMS AND FLAG AND NATIONAL ANTHEM
RULES

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[1st January 2004]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation

1. These Rules may be cited as the Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem Rules.

Definitions

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“Arms” means the national coat of arms or State Crest of Singapore, which is depicted and described in the First Schedule;

“authorised officer” means any public officer authorised in writing by the Minister to exercise the powers conferred, and to perform the duties imposed, on an authorised officer under these Rules;

“display”, in relation to the Flag, includes —

- (a) exhibiting, flying or hanging the Flag; or
- (b) printing, painting or placing of an image of the Flag on any surface;

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

“Flag” means the national flag of Singapore, which is depicted and described in the Second Schedule;

“Government department” means any department or office of the Executive, Legislative or Judicial branch of the Government;

“image”, in relation to the Flag, means —

- (a) any picture or visual image (whether electronically generated or otherwise) of the Flag; or
- (b) any other such picture or visual image that so nearly resembles the Flag as to be capable of being mistaken for the Flag;

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

“National Anthem” means the national anthem of Singapore, the music score for the official arrangement and the official lyrics of which are set out in the Third Schedule;

“perform”, in relation to the National Anthem, includes playing a recording of the National Anthem.

PART II

USE AND DISPLAY OF ARMS

Restricted use of Arms

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), no person shall, without the prior written permission of the Minister or any authorised officer —

- (a) print, publish, manufacture, sell, offer for sale or exhibit for sale;
- (b) cause to be printed, published, manufactured, sold, offered for sale or exhibited for sale;
- (c) send, distribute or deliver to, or serve on, any other person; or
- (d) cause to be sent, distributed or delivered to, or served on, any other person,

any writing, material or object in or on which appears the Arms or any token, insignia, emblem or other thing that so nearly resembles the Arms as to be capable of being mistaken for the Arms.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), no person shall, without the prior written permission of the Minister or any authorised officer, use or apply the Arms on any writing, material or object.

(3) This rule shall not prohibit —

- (a) the display of the Arms by any Government department on or within the premises of any building owned by the Government or occupied by one or more Government departments; or
- (b) the use or application of the Arms on any writing, material or object produced or commissioned by any Government department, or any public officer, for the purposes of the Government.

PART III

USE AND DISPLAY OF FLAG

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Respect for Flag

4.—(1) No person shall treat the Flag with disrespect.

(2) No person in possession of the Flag shall allow or cause the Flag to touch the floor or ground, even when lowering the Flag from a staff or flagpole.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Display of Flag outside buildings

5.—(1) When the Flag is displayed outside a building, it shall be displayed on or in front of the building.

(2) At any time other than during the period referred to in paragraph (3), when the Flag is displayed outside a building or in an open space —

- (a) it shall be flown from a flagpole; and
- (b) it shall not be flown at night unless it is properly illuminated.

(3) At any time during the period beginning 1st July and ending on 30th September of each year, or the period between 25 April 2020 and 30 June 2020 (both dates inclusive), when the Flag is displayed outside a building or in an open space —

- (a) it may, but need not, be flown from a flagpole; and
- (b) it may be displayed at night without being properly illuminated.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

[S 317/2020 wef 25/04/2020]

Flying or display of Flag on vehicles, vessels and aircraft

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), the Flag shall not be displayed on any motor vehicle except —

- (a) on a motor vehicle in which —
 - (i) the President is travelling; or
 - (ii) any Minister is travelling on official business; or
- (b) in such circumstances as may be approved by the Minister, being circumstances wherein there is no disrespect for the Flag.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the Flag shall not be displayed on any vessel or aircraft except —

- (a) on a Government vessel or aircraft;
- (b) on such other vessel or aircraft as may be authorised under any written law to display the Flag; or
- (c) in such circumstances as may be approved by the Minister, being circumstances wherein there is no disrespect for the Flag.

(3) During the period beginning 1st July and ending on 30th September of each year, any person may, without the need for the approval of the Minister under paragraph (1)(b) or (2)(c), display the Flag on any vehicle (other than a hearse), vessel or aircraft except

that he shall do so in a manner that does not give rise to any disrespect to the Flag.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Manner of display of Flag

7.—(1) Subject to international practice, the Flag shall take precedence over all other flags when displayed in Singapore.

(2) When the Flag is displayed with any other flag or flags, the Flag shall be displayed prominently, in the position of honour and, where practicable, above all other flags.

(3) When raised or carried in a procession with any other flag or flags, the Flag shall be raised or carried —

(a) in front of the other flag or flags in a single file, or in the position of honour if the other flag or flags are carried side-by-side with the Flag; and

(b) high on the right shoulder of the standard bearer.

(4) The Flag shall not be displayed below any other flag, emblem or object.

(5) When the Flag is displayed on a platform or stage, the Flag shall —

(a) be above all decorations;

(b) subject to sub-paragraph (c), be behind and above any person speaking from the platform or stage; and

(c) if displayed from a staff standing on the platform or stage, be on the right side of any person speaking from the platform or stage.

(6) The Flag shall not be displayed or carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

(7) When the Flag is hung —

(a) the Flag shall be hung against a vertical wall or other vertical flat surface; and

(b) the crescent and stars shall be on the top left position as seen by any spectator facing the Flag and the wall or surface, as the case may be.

(8) The Flag shall not be dipped in salute to any person or thing.

(9) In this rule, unless the context otherwise requires —

“flag” means any flag that is not the national flag of another State;

“position of honour”, in relation to the display of the Flag side-by-side with, and at the same level as, any other flag or flags, means —

(a) the left as seen by any spectator facing —

(i) the Flag and the other flag or flags; or

(ii) the building on which, or in front of which, the Flag and the other flag or flags are flown; or

(b) where the Flag and the other flag or flags are carried in a procession, the right as seen by the standard bearers.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Damaged Flag

8. No person shall display, or cause to be displayed, any Flag that is damaged or not in a proper and clean condition.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Use of Flag

9.—(1) No person shall use or apply the Flag or any image thereof —

(a) for any commercial purpose;

(b) as a means, or for the purpose, of any advertisement; or

(c) as or as part of any furnishing, decoration, covering or receptacle,

except in such circumstances as may be approved by the Minister, being circumstances wherein there is no disrespect for the Flag.

(2) No person shall use or apply the Flag or any image thereof as or as part of any trademark.

(3) No person shall use or display the Flag or any image thereof at any private funeral, wake, memorial service or other funerary rite, ceremony or procession except in such circumstances as may be approved by the Minister, being circumstances wherein there is no disrespect for the Flag.

[S 117/2008 wef 05/03/2008]

(4) Subject to paragraph (5), no person shall use or apply the Flag or any image thereof as or as part of any costume or attire except in such circumstances as may be approved by the Minister, being circumstances wherein there is no disrespect for the Flag.

(5) During the period beginning 1st July and ending on 30th September of each year, any person may, without the need for the approval of the Minister under paragraph (4), incorporate the Flag or an image thereof as part of any costume or attire except that he shall do so in a manner that does not give rise to any disrespect to the Flag.

(6) Subject to paragraph (7), no person shall produce or display any flag which bears any graphics or word superimposed on the design of the Flag.

(7) Paragraph (6) shall not apply to the production by or on behalf of, or the display by, any Government department of its flag.

(8) In this rule, “receptacle” includes a paper, plastic and refuse bag.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

Lowering to half-mast

10.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Flag shall be flown at full mast.

(2) The Flag may be lowered to half-mast in the event of the death of an important personage or mourning affecting the nation.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

PART IV

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Occasions for performing National Anthem

11.—(1) The National Anthem shall be performed when the President receives a general salute.

(2) The National Anthem may be performed or sung on any appropriate occasion.

Respect for National Anthem

12. When the National Anthem is performed or sung, every person present shall stand up as a mark of respect.

Musical arrangements of National Anthem

13.—(1) Any person performing or singing the National Anthem shall perform or sing the National Anthem according to the official arrangement in the Third Schedule or any other arrangement permitted under paragraph (2).

(2) The National Anthem may be rearranged in any manner that is in keeping with the dignity due to the National Anthem, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the National Anthem shall not be incorporated into any other composition or medley; and
 - (b) every arrangement of the National Anthem shall accurately reflect the complete tune and the complete official lyrics of the National Anthem.
- (3) Any person who sings the National Anthem —
- (a) shall follow the official lyrics in the Third Schedule; and
 - (b) shall not sing any translation of those lyrics.

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS

Penalties

14.—(1) Any person who knowingly contravenes rule 3(1) or (2) in relation to the Arms shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

(2) Any person who knowingly —

(a) does any act in relation to the Flag in contravention of any of the provisions of rule 5, 6, 7, 9(1), (2), (3) or (4) or 10(1);
or

(b) contravenes rule 8 or 9(6) in relation to the Flag,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

(3) Any person who knowingly performs or sings the National Anthem in contravention of rule 13(1) or (3) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

(4) Any person, who without reasonable excuse, contravenes rule 4 or 12 shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

[S 377/2007 wef 16/07/2007]

FIRST SCHEDULE

Rule 2

NATIONAL COAT OF ARMS OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SCHEDULE — *continued*

The National Coat of Arms of Singapore or State Crest consists of a shield on which is emblazoned a white crescent moon and 5 white stars against a red background. Supporting the shield shall be a lion on the left and a tiger on the right. Below the shield shall be a banner with the words “Majulah Singapura” inscribed on it.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Rule 2

NATIONAL FLAG

SECOND SCHEDULE — *continued*

The National Flag consists of 2 equal horizontal sections, red above white. In the upper left canton is a white crescent moon beside 5 white stars arranged in a circle. The red colour symbolises universal brotherhood and equality of man. The white colour signifies pervading and everlasting purity and virtue. The crescent moon represents a young nation on the ascendant, and the 5 stars stand for the nation's ideals of democracy, peace, progress, justice and equality.

THIRD SCHEDULE

Rules 2 and 13(1) and (3)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THIRD SCHEDULE — *continued*

MAJULAH SINGAPURA

Mari kita rakyat Singapura
Sama-sama menuju bahagia
Cita-cita kita yang mulia
Berjaya Singapura

Marilah kita bersatu
Dengan semangat yang baru
Semua kita berseru
Majulah Singapura
Majulah Singapura

[G.N. No. S 650/2003]

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
SINGAPORE ARMS AND FLAG AND NATIONAL ANTHEM
RULES
(CHAPTER 296, R 1)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem Rules. It is not part of these Rules.

1. G. N. No. S 650/2003 — Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem Rules 2003

(G. N. No. S 1/2004 — Corrigenda)

Date of commencement : 1 January 2004

2. 2004 Revised Edition — Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem Rules

Date of operation : 31 December 2004

3. G. N. No. S 377/2007 — Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem (Amendment) Rules 2007

Date of commencement : 16 July 2007

4. G. N. No. S 117/2008 — Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem (Amendment) Rules 2008

Date of commencement : 5 March 2008

5. G. N. No. S 317/2020 — Singapore Arms and Flag and National Anthem (Amendment) Rules 2020

Date of commencement : 25 April 2020