Dec. 19, 2013

ARES Uniform

By definition, a uniform does not change in form or character; remaining the same in all cases and at all times. The ARES uniform is exactly *that*, and therefore should not be *customized.*
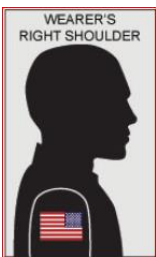
We don't need to make a "production" out of this, and there certainly won't be any inspections, but it has become necessary that we all follow a few rules when attaching patches and pins to our uniform shirts and safety vest.

Please follow these simple steps below when adding these items to your gear, so that we will all be identically attired, and display the flag correctly. We are following the *patriotic organization guidelines* of the Institute of Heraldry, Secretary of the Army. Citations are quoted below.

Nassau County ARES Standard for Uniform Shirt

Only 3 patches are to be worn. Only the correct U.S. Flag patch, the new Nassau County RACES patch and/or the Skywarn patch may be attached to the ARES uniform shirt. NO other patches or embroidered Logos of any kind are to be attached to the ARES uniform shirt.

American Flag Patch: Attach to Right Sleeve Only. Flag must be positioned so that the Union is to the right of the observer, to suggest that the flag is flying as the wearer moves forward.

 << Attach to RIGHT Sleeve of uniform shirt as shown.

New **NC RACES Patch:**   Attach to LEFT Sleeve, as high as practical. This patch will be available soon.

Skywarn Patch: Attach to Left Sleeve and *below* the new RACES patch if that is also worn.

ARES ID BADGE: Attach to RIGHT side of shirt, below the pocket flap.

 AN **ARRL Badge** which denotes your Call Sign and ARES Position may be worn with the ARES Photo ID attached immediately below it. Again, this should be positioned directly below the Right pocket flap.

 You can also wear one or both the ARRL and your Photo ID on a lanyard if you prefer.

U.S. Flag Lapel Pin: Worn on LEFT lapel only, above the heart.

RACES Pin, ARRL Pin, etc: RIGHT lapel.

One additional affiliation pin (*VEC, CERT, ARC, etc.)* may be worn on the LEFT breast pocket flap, closest to the shirt's buttons.

Custom Embroidery: You may have your name and call sign only embroidered in <u>gold-yellow thread</u> above the right breast pocket if so desired.
                DO ONLY: *Line 1:* First & Last Name.   *Line 2:* Call Sign.   <u>1.3cm height, Arial Font.</u>

Nassau County ARES Standard for Safety Vest

The purpose of the ARES Safety Vest is to provide as much protection as possible to the wearer. Attaching items to it subtracts from the available number of total square inches of visible reflective and safety material. Therefore:

U.S. FLAG Patch: Because of the existing ARES logo location, various pocket types and reflective stripes, it is difficult to *appropriately* position a flag patch on the ARES Safety Vest. Therefore, **we will *not* attach U.S. Flag patches** to our Safety Vests.

***New* RACES Patch:**   Lower Right Side of front of vest, as close to the zipper as practical.

Skywarn Patch: Lower Right Side of front of vest, as close to the zipper as practical. If you are also attaching a RACES patch, place the RACES patch closest to the zipper and the Skywarn patch next to it to the outside and on an even line.

ARES ID BADGE: Attach to RIGHT side of your vest, below the pocket as practical.

 AN ARRL Badge which denotes your Call Sign and ARES Position may be worn with the ARES Photo ID attached immediately below it. Again, this should be positioned directly below the Right pocket flap if possible.

You may also wear one or both the ARRL and your Photo ID on a lanyard if you prefer.

For reference, an IAH excerpt states:

- The U.S. Code states "no part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, <u>*and members of patriotic organizations.*</u> The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica should be worn on the left lapel near the heart."
- The U.S. Code does not address the positioning of the flag patch. It is appropriate to wear an American flag patch on the left or right sleeve. When worn on the left sleeve, the union would appear towards the front and the stripes would run horizontally toward the back. When worn on the right sleeve, it is considered proper to reverse the design so that the union is at the observer's right to suggest that the flag is flying in the breeze as the wearer moves forward.

http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/FAQs/Faqs.aspx