

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Manual

NSCC/NLCC UNIFORM REGULATIONS

NSCPUB 500
OCTOBER 2011



National Headquarters – 2300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 200, Arlington, Virginia 22201-5424
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CHAPTER TWO

GROOMING STANDARDS

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2200 PERSONAL APPEARANCE

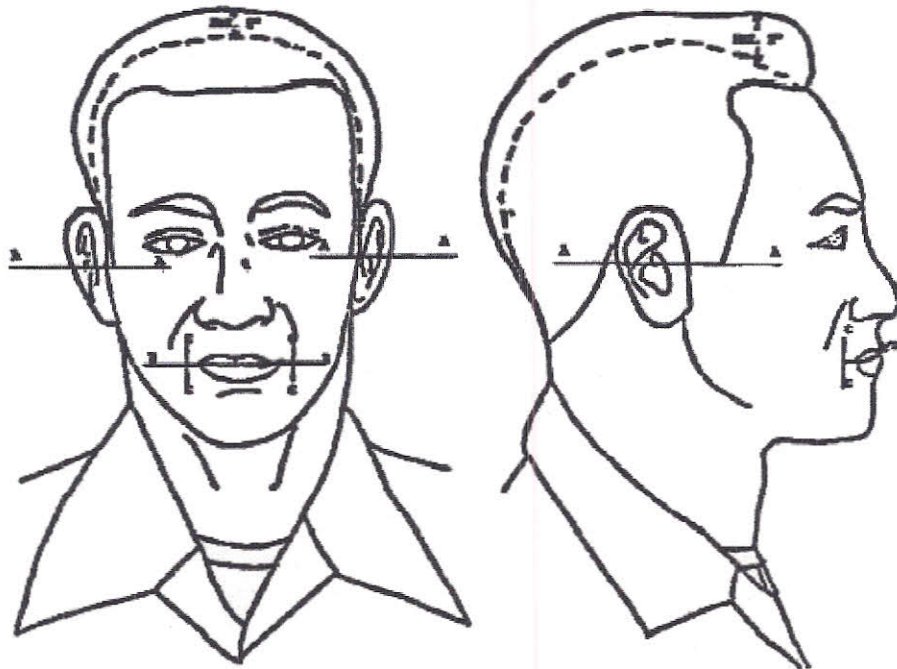
2201 **GENERAL.** Hair, grooming, and personal appearance while in uniform shall present a neat and professional appearance. Because it is impossible to provide examples of every appropriate or unacceptable hairstyle or of "conservative" or "eccentric" grooming and personal appearance, the good judgment of leaders at all levels is the key to enforcement of NSCC grooming policy.

2202 HAIR

1. Males

- a. **General.** Hair will be neat, clean and present a well-groomed appearance. Hair above the ears and around the neck shall be tapered from the lower natural hairline upwards at least 3/4 inch and outward no greater than 3/4 inch to blend with the hairstyle. Hair on the back of the neck may not touch the collar. The "blocked neckline" is permitted as long as a tapered appearance is maintained. Hair shall be no longer than 4 inches and groomed so that it does not touch the ears or collar, extend below the eyebrows when headgear is removed, show below the front edge of the headgear, nor interfere with the proper wearing of military headgear. Bulk of the hair shall not exceed 2 inches. Bulk is defined as the distance that the mass of hair protrudes from the scalp when groomed (as opposed to the length of the hair). Hair coloring must look natural and complement the individual. Faddish styles and outrageous multicolored hair are not authorized. The primary consideration remains a neatly groomed appearance for the hairstyle and the type of hair that the individual has, with 4 inches length and 2-inch bulk the maximum under any circumstances.
- b. **Bulk.** Military headgear shall fit properly and in no case shall the bulk or length of hair interfere with the proper wearing of any military headgear.
- c. **Taper.** The unique quality and texture of curled, kinked, waved and straight hair is recognized, and in some cases the 3/4-inch taper at the back of the neck may be difficult to attain. In those cases, hair must present a graduated appearance and may combine the taper with a line at the back of the neck.

- d. Part. One (cut, clipped or shaved) natural, narrow, fore-and-aft part is authorized.
- e. Styles. Varying hair styles, including afro, are permitted provided these styles meet the criteria of maximum length and bulk, tapered neck and sides, and do not interfere with the proper wearing of military headgear. Plaited or braided hair shall not be worn while in uniform. Faddish and outrageous multi-color hair is not authorized. Exaggerated styles, including those with excessive fullness or extreme height, are not authorized.
- f. Sideburns. Sideburns (if worn) shall be neatly trimmed and tapered in the same manner as the haircut. Sideburns shall not extend below a point level with the middle of the ear, shall be even width (not flared) and shall end with a clean-shaven horizontal line. "Muttonchops," "ship's captain" or similar grooming modes are considered to be merely elongated sideburns and thus are not authorized.



----- INDICATES SCALP LINE. Sideburns shall not extend below a point level with the middle of the ear, as indicated by line "A". When a mustache is worn it shall not:

-- Go below a horizontal line extending across the corner of the mouth as indicated by line "B".

-- Extend more than 1/4 inch beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corners of the mouth as indicated by line "C".

-- Protrude below the lip line of the upper lip as indicated by line "D".

FIGURE 2-2-1 MALE GROOMING STANDARDS

2. Females

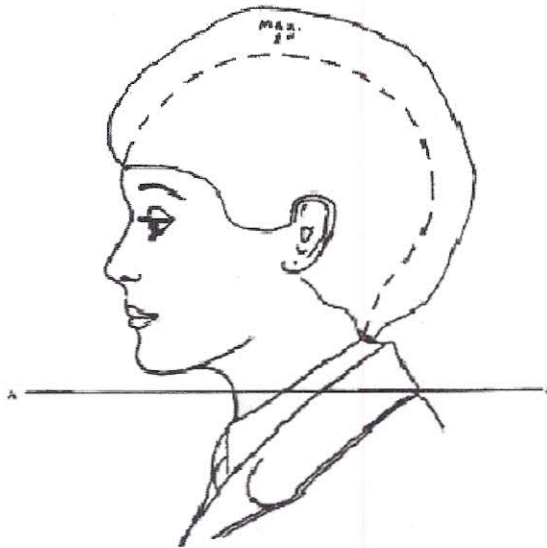
a. General. Hair will be clean and neatly arranged.

- 1) No outrageously multicolored or faddish hairstyles, to include shaved portions of the scalp (other than the neckline), or have designs cut or braided into the hair.
- 2) Hair coloring must look natural and complement the individual. Haircuts and styles shall present a balanced appearance. Lop-sided and extremely asymmetrical styles are not authorized.
- 3) Ponytails, pigtails, widely spaced individual hanging locks, and braids, which protrude from the head, are not authorized.
- 4) Multiple braids are authorized. Braided hairstyles shall be conservative and conform to the guidelines listed herein. When a hairstyle of multiple braids is worn, braids shall be of uniform dimensions, small in diameter (approx. 1/4 inch), and tightly interwoven to present a neat, professional, well-groomed appearance. Foreign material (i.e., beads, decorative items) shall not be braided into the hair. Short hair may be braided in symmetrical fore-and-aft rows (corn rowing), which minimize scalp exposure. Cornrow ends shall not protrude from the head, and shall be secured only with inconspicuous rubber bands that match the color of the hair.
- 5) Appropriateness of a hairstyle shall also be judged by its appearance when headgear is worn. All headgear shall fit snugly and comfortably around the largest part of the head without distortion or excessive gaps. Hair shall not show from under the front of the brim of the combination hat, garrison cap, ball caps, or 8-point utility covers. Hairstyles which do not allow headgear to be worn in this manner, or which interfere with the proper wear of protective masks or equipment are prohibited.
- 6) When in uniform, the hair may touch, but not fall below a horizontal line level with the lower edge of the back of the collar. With jumper uniforms, hair may extend a maximum of 1 1/2 inches below the top of the jumper collar.

- b. Bulk. Long hair, including braids, which fall below the lower edge of the collar shall be neatly and inconspicuously fastened, pinned, or secured to the head. No portion of the bulk of the hair as measured from the scalp will exceed approximately 2 inches.
- c. Hair Ornaments. Conspicuous rubber bands, pins or ornamentation of any kind is not authorized. A maximum of two small barrettes, combs or clips, similar to the hair color may be used in the hair. Additional bobby pins or rubber bands matching hair color may be used to hold hair in place, if necessary. Fabric elastics and colored rubber bands/pins are not authorized. Hair ornaments shall not present a safety or FOD (Foreign Object Damage) hazard. Hairnets shall not be worn unless authorized for a specific type of duty.



COVERED



UNCOVERED

----- INDICATES SCALP LINE. Hair shall not extend below a point level with the lower edge of the collar, as indicated by line "A".

FIGURE 2-2-2 FEMALE GROOMING STANDARDS

- 2203 **SHAVING AND MUSTACHES**. Male cadets shall be clean-shaven. Discretion should be used with younger cadets or those with religious convictions. The wearing of mustaches and beards is not authorized for Sea Cadets. However, NSCC officers, midshipmen, and instructors may wear mustaches. They shall be kept neatly and closely trimmed and no portion of the mustache shall extend below the lip line of the upper lip. The wearing of a beard is not authorized unless required for a medical reason, in which case, a waiver must be approved by the Executive Director, who will provide the grooming standards if a waiver is granted. Refer to Section 2202.
- 2204 **HAIRPIECES**. Wigs or hairpieces shall be of good quality and fit, present a natural appearance and conform to the grooming standards set forth in these regulations. They shall not present a safety or FOD hazard.
1. **Males**. Hairpieces meeting male grooming standards are authorized for wear by NSCC officer, midshipmen, or instructor personnel while in uniform or duty status. Male cadets should only wear a hairpiece when it is a medical necessity.
 2. **Females**. Wigs or hairpieces meeting female grooming standards are authorized for wear by NSCC officer, midshipmen, or instructor personnel while in uniform or duty status. Female cadets should only wear a wig or hairpiece when it is a medical necessity.
- 2205 **COSMETICS**. Cosmetics shall be applied in good taste so that colors blend with natural skin tones and enhance natural features. Exaggerated or faddish cosmetic styles are not authorized. Lipstick colors shall be conservative and complement the individual. Long false eyelashes are not authorized. Male personnel are not authorized to wear cosmetics unless for medical reasons.
- 2206 **FINGERNAILS**
1. **Males**. Fingernails shall not extend past fingertips. They shall be kept clean.
 2. **Females**. Fingernails shall not exceed 1/4 inch measured from the fingertip. They shall be kept clean. Nail polish may be worn, but colors shall be conservative and complement the skin tone.
- 2207 **JEWELRY**
1. **Rings**. While in uniform, only one ring per hand is authorized, plus a wedding/engagement ring set. Rings are not authorized for wear on thumbs.
 2. **Earrings**
 - a. **Males**. Not authorized while in uniform. Additionally, earrings are not authorized in civilian attire when in a duty status or while aboard any ship, craft, aircraft, or in any military vehicle or within any base or other place under military jurisdiction.
 - b. **Females**. One earring per ear (centered on earlobe) may be worn while in uniform. Earrings shall be 4mm - 6mm ball (approximately 1/8 - 1/4 inch), plain with shiny or brushed matte finish, screw on or with posts. Gold for officers, midshipmen, instructors, and chief petty officers, and silver for NSCC/NLCC cadets PO1 and below.

3. **Body Piercing.** Not authorized while in uniform. No articles, other than earrings for women specified above, shall be attached to or through the ear, nose, or any other body part. Additionally, body piercing is not authorized in civilian attire when in a duty status or while in/aboard any ship, craft, aircraft, or in any military vehicle or within any base or other place under military jurisdiction.
4. **Necklaces/Choker.** While in uniform, only one single-strand necklace, conservative in nature, may be worn and shall not be visible; choker necklaces and necklaces that are the large multi-strand or gel-type branded collar variety are not authorized.
5. **Wristwatch/Bracelets.** While in uniform, only one of each may be worn. Ankle bracelets are not authorized while in uniform.

2208 **TATTOOS, BODY ART & BRANDING.** Tattoos/body art/brands located anywhere on the body that are prejudicial to good order, discipline, and morale or are of a nature to bring discredit upon the NSCC are prohibited. For example, tattoos/body art/brands that are obscene, sexually explicit, and or advocate discrimination based on sex, race, religion, ethnic, or national origin are prohibited. In addition, tattoos/body art/brands that symbolize affiliation with gangs, supremacist or extremist groups, or advocate illegal drug use are prohibited. Tattoos, body art, or brandings on cadet personnel are strictly prohibited.

2209 **MUTILATION.** Intentional mutilation of any part of the body is prohibited. Mutilation is defined as the intentional radical alteration of the body, head, face, or skin for the purpose of and or resulting in an abnormal appearance. Examples of mutilation include, but are not limited to: A split or forked tongue, foreign objects inserted under the skin to create a design or pattern, enlarged or stretched out holes in ears (other than a normal piercing), intentional scarring on neck, face, or scalp; or intentional burns creating a design or pattern. Personnel should not be allowed admittance to the NSCC with any form of body mutilation. NSCC personnel will be separated immediately for cause in all cases.

2210 **DENTAL ORNAMENTATION.** The use of gold, platinum, or other veneers or caps for purposes of dental ornamentation is prohibited. For purposes of this regulation, ornamentation is defined as decorative veneers or caps. Teeth, whether natural, capped, or veneered, will not be ornamented with designs, jewels, initials, etc.

2211 **WAIVERABLE CONDITIONS.** NSCC officer, midshipmen, or instructor applicants who have visible tattoos, body art, brandings or dental ornamentation that may be questionable, must request a waiver for enrollment purposes. Those adult members with authorized tattoos should limit their size to one per arm, and no larger than can be concealed by the flat of the hand.

2212 **NON-WAIVERABLE CONDITIONS.** All cases where visible tattoos, body art, or brandings are considered obscene, sexually explicit, and or advocate discrimination based on sex, race, religion, ethnic, or national origin are non-waiverable and member should not be enrolled in the NSCC program or separated for cause at the earliest opportunity.

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