## Pathfinders e-Honours Semaphore Code + Morse Code

Manuel Vieira



## Requirements:

1. Do one of the following:
a. Send and receive by International Morse Code at the rate of three words per minute using flashlight, whistle, mirror, buzzer, or key. (Five-letter words, minimum of 20 words.)
b. Send and receive by semaphore code at the rate of seven words per minute using semaphore flags. (Five-letter words, minimum of 20 words.)
c. Send and receive by International Morse Code at the rate of three words per minute using wigwag flags. (Five-letter words, minimum of 20 words.)

## Short history of Communications.

Since there is people in the planet, there is communication. In fact, the Creator communicated with Adam and Eve...talking with them, explaining and giving instructions. Then the humanity, besides talking, used signs and equipment to help get in touch with others, using flags and, lights, smoke, whistle and others sounds are a way to communicate with others

Flag semaphore handheld version is used as a optical communication or telegraph on land communications but specially between ship-to-ship or ship-to-shore when the distances were not too great and

On this Pathfinders e-Honour, the element Semaphore, we will use two small poles with square coloured flags, holds in different positions to signal all letters of the alphabet and the numbers.


Semaphore is any equipment used for visual signalling by means of flags, lights, or mechanically moving arms which are used to represent letters or numbers.



Semaphore flags system used to communicate between ships



Smoke system to communicate messages

We need two teams of, preferably, 2 persons each.

Two persons are the flag-person - One is the transmitter of the sign letters/numbers and another is the receiver the sign letters/ numbers.

It would be good that each of the flag-persons have an assistant or a sort of secretary to read and/or to register them.

The flag-person holds one pole in each hand, and extends each arm being each possible position separated by $45^{\circ}$, in the specific positions we will learn in a moment.

The semaphore letters almost follows the perfect alphabet sequence, EXCEPT only 3 letters. The letters $\mathrm{J}, \mathrm{V}$, and Y , break the pattern. We present them here in alphabetical order, and then again by position in a series of circles.

## The CIRCLES are:

## A, H, O, T, Numerals, $\mathbf{W}$ and $\mathbf{Z}$

The circle A includes the letters or numbers - double function: A or \#1, B or \#2,
C or \#3,
D or \# 4,
E or \#5,
F or \# 6,
G or \# 7 .

The circle H includes letters or numbers: H or \#8, I or \#9, (not J) K or \#0-zero, L, M, N.
The circle 0 includes the letters: $\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{P}, \mathrm{Q}, \mathrm{R}, \mathrm{S}$.
The circle T includes the letters: T, U, (not V) Y, and the position of Error/ Delete/Cancel
The circle Numerals includes: The Numeral position. It means that from that sign on, all signs are numbers until the transmitter shows the letter J ; Naturally it includes the letter J , which has also the function to inform that from it on the sign are letters, plus it includes the letter $\mathbf{V}$.
The Circle W includes the letters: W and X.
The Circle Z, includes only itself, the letter Z.


This is the position of rest and ready to transmit or to receive messages


Call of ATTENTION. By doing this we call the attention of the other team for the following message


Position of acknowledge. Means YES, I got or I understand the letter transmitted

The circle A includes the letters or numbers - double function:
A or \#1, B or \#2, C or \#3, D or \#4, E or \#5, F or \# 6, G or \# 7 .
Xi




Letter D (it is also number 4)




Letter G (it is also number 7)

The circle H includes the letters or numbers - double function:
H or \#8, I or \#9, (not J) K or \#0-zero, L, M, N.
(The letter $\mathbf{J}$ is in another circle)

$$
7
$$



Letter I (is is also the number 9)


Letter K (it is also number 0-zero)




Letter $\mathbf{N}$

The circle O includes the letters:

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\mathbf{O}, \quad \mathbf{P}, \quad \mathbf{Q}, \quad \mathbf{R}, \quad \mathbf{S} .
$$



Letter 0


Letter P (P of Potato)


Letter Q


Letter R (R of Redeemer)


Letter S

The circle T includes the letters:

T, U, (not V) Y, and the position/sign of Error/ Delete/Cancel


Letter T


Letter U


Letter $\mathbf{Y}$


Position: Delete, Cancel, Error (don't mix with letter L)


## The circle Numerals includes 3 positions/signs:

-The position Numerals, it means that from that sign on, all positions/signs are numbers until the transmitter shows the letter J;
-The position of the letter $\mathbf{J}$ - this position $\mathbf{J}$ has a double functions. The function of letter $\mathbf{J}$ and, if we have been transmitting numbers, from it -J - are letters -no more numbers.
-The position of the letter $\mathbf{V}$.


Position Numerals. From now on, all positions/signs are NUMBERS


Letter J (J of Jacket; also, from now on, all positions/signs are LETTERS


Letter V

# The Circle W includes only two letters: 

W and X




Letter X (don’t mix with letter I)

## Finally

The Circle Z, includes only itself, the letter Z

$$
i
$$

## Morse Code

Morse code is a method used in telecommunication to encode text characters as standardized sequences of two different signal durations, called dots (........) and dashes ( - - - - ) also called dits and dahs. Morse code is named after Samuel Morse, an inventor of the telegraph.

## The Morse Code started to be transmitted by a Morse Key



Today, besides the Morse Key, we can use various devices to transmite Morse code signs like: Whistle; Flashlight-Torch; Buzzer; Semaphore Flags or other flags and...with your Phone with a Morse App.


By flashing short amounts of light = dots - dits -or - longer amounts of light = dashes - dahs. Attention not using strong lights in a short distance.


Short sounds or short buzzes means = dots - dits -or - longer sounds or buzzes are = dashes - dahs. Attention (not) using the whistle in the bush!


Using Semaphore flags to
transmitte Morse Code


