



# **Ceremonial For The British Brigade**

**Updated 15 September 2017**

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*Adjutant-General*



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Thirteenth Edition  
2017



## FORWARD

### CEREMONIAL FOR THE BRITISH BRIGADE

“The finest edge is made with the blunt whetstone”  
(John Lyly: Euphues 1579)

A Ceremonial parade, impeccably performed, can never fail to be a source of inspiration to those who watch it or take part in it. It is the noblest and proudest form of drill. Based on the ‘blunt whetstone’ of drill instruction to recruits it was for many hundreds of years the foundation of battle discipline in all Armies. Vegetius, in AD 378, wrote, ‘troops who march in an irregular and disorderly manner are always in great danger of being defeated.’

Today, once the elements of discipline have been instilled through drill on the parade square, it develops, naturally, into various forms of crew drill, gun drill and battle drill, but the aim of discipline remains unchanged. This aim is the conquest of fear. Drill helps to achieve this because when it is carried out men tend to lose their individuality and are unified into a group under obedience to orders.

If men are to give of their best in war they must be united. Discipline seeks through drill to instill into all ranks this sense of unity, by requiring them to obey orders as one man. A Ceremonial parade, moreover, provides an occasion for men to express pride in their performance, pride in their Regiment or Corps and pride in the profession of Arm.

(sgd) Alexander of Tunis, F.M.



## Crown Field Force

On January 1998 the Board of Officers voted to separate the operation of the Corporation known as the British Brigade, Inc. from the Crown field force that had previously operated under that title as well.

Henceforth the British Brigade, Inc. will be the corporate body chartered under the New York State Board of Regents and will continue to operate as it has in the past. It will, under the direction of its board of officers, continue to be the senior corporate body and ultimate authority in all matters.

The field force, however, will now operate under the following operational structure.

From now on, due to the use of three brigades with the British Brigade, the command will be referred to as “The Army.” The three brigades will continue as before.

### **Army Command Structure**

**Brigadier**—Senior Field officer (CEO British Brigade, Inc.) elected by the British Brigade, Inc. board of officers

**Field Commander.** The Brigadier will appoint an operations officer to study the scenario and site to assist the Brigadier in the day’s action.

**Lt. Colonels** (3) one for each brigade, appointed for a one year term by the Brigadier.

**Brigade Majors** (3) to assist in operation of that brigade. One year term. Will act as second in command of that brigade on absence of Lt. Colonel, have the rank of Captain and will also be senior administrative officer of that brigade.

The Officers above are in the chain of command and as such source of orders and information for the army.

### **Staff**

**Adjutant General; Colonel**—Senior Army Administrative officer (2IC)

**Quartermaster General; Lt. Colonel**—Senior officer for Army camp. (3IC)

**Provost Marshall**—Senior Safety Officer for Army. Has command over-ride in all safety issues.

**ADCs** (3) one for each Lt. Colonel. This position is that of aide to Lt. Colonels but also a training position for junior officers for future staff positions. ADCs will, after Brigade

duties, report to Army Adjutant General in a staff officer mentor system. Details to follow.

**Serjeant Major of the Army.** Senior Army NCO, directly responsible to Adjutant General.

**Brigade Serjeants Major (3)** one per brigade.

**Drum Major of the Army.** Senior Musician of the Army.

### **Routine Standing Orders**

RSOs—A list of Standing Orders is being created to allow the Army to function more efficiently and in a more military manners. This will include, but is by no means limited to, the following

- How brigades and Army are formed for parade.
- A standard format (blocks of content) for orders of the day at each event. This would include a standard schedule that would be deviated from only in exceptional circumstances.
- The regular duties that come with any officer's and senior NCO's Army or Brigade appointment. Duty assignments outside of these regular ones that an officer may be given in response to circumstances at specific events.
- Training duties.
- The basic military courtesies to be observed by all members of our organization.
- Detailed instructions for colour ceremonies etc.

Suggestions welcome. A book will be printed upon completion.

The above changes are not cosmetic. It is the desire of the Board of Officers to see that the operation of the Army, at events, is more efficient and conducted in a military manner. More importantly, a soldier or officer will have the opportunity to learn his duties before he gets on the he field and to study for future promotion to higher levels of command. It will take an effort one everyone's part to see that this goal is carried out.

### **Officer's Meetings**

There will be two categories of officer's formal meetings described in the standing orders.

- Officer's Meetings will be assembly of all the appointed officers and NCOs of the Army. These will not be frequent but should be held at the beginning of the event to make everyone aware of who is in attendance at the event.
- Orders Groups will be held at the Army, Brigade and regimental level to ensure that orders are effectively passed



down the chain of command to every soldier and campfollower. The first of these (Saturday morning at each event) will be held at a regularly scheduled time. Note: two small but efficient meetings will take no more time than one mass meeting.

- Army O Groups—Consisting of the Brigadier, the Field Commander, and the three Lt. Cols. will be held at the discretion of the Brigadier. These will be command meetings intended to formulate and pass along the days' or battles key orders.

- Brigade O Groups will include the Lt. Col., the Brigade Major and the officers and senior NCOs of each regiment.

- Regimental O Groups will include the regimental officers and NCOs.

*Administrative meetings can be held at any time necessary.*

### **Brigade Formation**

At all Army events each brigade will form independently under its own command structure at a designated location. For formal parades, a standard method of forming the brigades will be observed. [See The Formation of the Army & Colour Ceremony on page 9.] This is to ensure a uniform appearance when the brigades assemble on the Army parade. This is where safety checks will be made on all weapons (safety checks on regimental level should have already occurred.) Brigade commanders will, of course, retain the right to organize their brigade into the most efficient fire and maneuver formed possible with the men at hand when the parade will immediately precede to a combat action. But the formation must be done in a standardized way. i.e., Regimental officers in a set position, the Brigade commander in a certain place, etc.

When the brigade is formed it will be marched to the Army parade and be presented to the Adj. Gen. ready for the day's activities. All officers will be in their assigned standard positions prior to arrival at the Army formation.

Brigade drills will be a regular occurrence at all events. These and other Brigade duties will be issued as written orders at the Army and Brigade Orders Groups so that all officers are aware of the schedule for the day.

### **Army Formations**

When the Brigades have formed activities will commence at once. All orders will have been issued at the appropriate Orders Group.

Army parade activities, such as the Colour ceremony are our show pieces. Everyone will be aware of his duties prior to the parade as these will be detailed in the Routine Standing Orders.

Army formations will include but not be limited to the following:

Morning formation—at which each brigade Colonel will parade his troops and report his active strength to the AG.

Colour Ceremony—will follow a set routine as per RSOs and will be available on paper so that each officer his and his men's positions and evolutions.

Brigade reviews—to allow an opportunity to evaluate the abilities of the brigades, they will be required to perform brigade maneuvers and firings for the Brigadier and his staff. This may include inter Brigade war games.

Pre Battle Formation. The orders passed down through the Orders groups will ensure all members of each brigade have been advised of the scenario and hoped for outcome, prior to this parade. This will not be an opportunity to have the men stand in the sun while the entire plan is laid out for the first time.

Note: As "O Groups" is a modern term, suggestions are requested for an appropriate period alternative.

## **2017 Brigade & Army Officers**

### Corporate Board Officers:

Brigadier - James McGaughy  
Deputy Commander—Mark Hagenbuch  
(Malcolm MacWilliam )  
Paymaster—Richard E Amsterdam  
Secretary—Lester McIntosh

### Appointed British Brigade Staff:

Adjutant General—Richard E Amsterdam  
Deputy Adjutant General—Dan McMahon  
Quartermaster General—Peter Ferwerda  
Deputy Quartermaster General—William Johnson  
Judge Advocate General—Thomas Villardi  
Deputy Judge Advocate General—Michael Pollok  
Master Gunner—Lester McIntosh  
Master of Horse—Jess Philips  
Inspector General—Bill Moss  
Indian Department—Pete Brevik  
Deputy Inspector General—Eric Schnitzer  
Brigade Chaplain—Stephen Belyea  
Deputy Chaplain—Malcolm MacWilliam  
Senior Drum Major—Joseph Siegel  
ADC—Ken Seigel  
ADC—Michael Grenier



## How To Survive Extreme Heat Under Military Conditions

The temperatures at the May '98 Lancaster, Pennsylvania event spiked into the 'nineties and by the second day when the British Brigade turned out for the event, humidity had soared to the range of unbearable. There were several casualties in our ranks that day. Cases of heat prostration and heat stroke. Ask anyone who has experienced this trouble, and you know it can be serious. It can also be avoided.

Heat stroke is largely the result of dehydration—lack of water in the system. The primary causes of dehydration are sweating and the consumption of alcohol.

First, understand that you are going to perspire. Sweating is good. But the fluid must be replaced. So drink water. Not soft drinks. Water. At least 17 to 20 oz before the battles.

Second, if you party too hard the night before, take extra precautions.

1. Eat a good breakfast.
2. Drink fruit juice to replace some of the Vitamin C the alcohol has depleted.
3. Avoid drinking soft drinks, especially those with caffeine
4. Drink water. Lots and lots of water

Heat has always been a battlefield enemy. Reenactors don't have the risk of live ammunition but we do have the risks posed by heat. Pay attention. Take precautions. If you start feeling sick during an event, whether on parade or in battle, don't hesitate to fall out - and seek help.

# Military Courtesies

## ADDRESSING - (under arms)

Private to N.C.O.	Musket held across body
Private to Comm. Off.	Recover
N.C.O. to Comm. Off.	Recover
N.C.O. to Private	Musket held across body
Comm. Off. to N.C.O., Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
Comm. Off. to Major or above	Recover
S.M. to Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to Comm. Off.	Recover

## PASSING - (under arms)

Private to N.C.O.	nothing
Private to Comm. Off.	Advance Arms
N.C.O. to Comm. Off., S.M.	Advance Arms
N.C.O. to Private	nothing
Comm. Off. to N.C.O., Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
Comm. Off. to Major or above	Advance Arms
S.M. to N.C.O. to Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to Comm. Off.	Recover

## ADDRESSING - (without arms)

Private to N.C.O.	Position of Attention
Private to Comm. Off., S.M.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
N.C.O. to Comm. Off., S.M.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
N.C.O. to Private	nothing
Comm. Off. to N.C.O., Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
Comm. Off. to Major or above	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to N.C.O. to Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to Comm. Off.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat

## PASSING - (without arms)

Private to N.C.O.	nothing
Private to Comm. Off., S.M.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
N.C.O. to Comm. Off., S.M.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
N.C.O. to Private	nothing
Comm. Off. to N.C.O., Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
Comm. Off. to Major or above	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to N.C.O. to Private	Hand Salute/Tip Hat
S.M. to Comm. Off.	Hand Salute/Tip Hat

Note: for S.M. read D.M., F.M., Q.M.S.

All officers from Colonels to Lieutenants must be saluted when they are on duty as signified by the wearing of a gorget.

General Officers, Quartermasters, Adjutant Generals and Aides-de-camp to a General Officer do not wear gorgets and should be saluted at all times.

## **Inspection Rules for British Brigade Events.**

1. All regiments/companies are to be inspected in the morning preceding the General Assembly of the Army. This inspection should take place in the company street or nearby; inspection carried out by the ranking NCO or CO of the regiment/company. The following items should be part but not necessarily all of the inspection:

- a. poise firelock – lock is tightly seated in stock, flint is tight in jaws, pan is clean, flashguard is tight, hammerstall is present, all parts of lock are workable, touch hole should be clear
- b. secure firelock – point musket muzzle to ground to make sure that no loose powder is in breech
- c. search firelock- ramrod is inserted to breech and “pinged” to make sure musket is completely cleared of debris, button on ramrod can be inspected to make sure it comes out clean
- d. hang firelock – musket trigger is hung on the finger to make sure musket cannot go off “half cock”
- e. cartridge inspection – to make sure that all cartridges are in line with British Brigade guidelines
- f. uniform and accoutrement inspection – congruent with regiment/company standards, proper footwear, 18th century eye glasses, no facial hair (as in British Brigade guidelines), full canteens.

2. General Assembly of the Army occurs. Brigade Sjt. Majors assemble their regiments into the 3 Brigades (Union, County, Provincial) overseen by the Army Sjt. Major. At least two inspectors have already been assigned to each Brigade beforehand by the Army Sjt. Major and approved by the Inspector General and Brigadier. These inspectors are recruited from the corps of Staff Officers, retired Sjts, or anyone that has been instructed in the inspection process and approved by the IG and Brigadier. Under the “watchful eye” of IG, the soldiers of all three Brigades are simultaneously inspected by the two or more approved inspectors for each Brigade. This process should take no more than 10 minutes. Inspectors will inspect each regiment/company for the preceding items under Number 1 above except for items b, e and f. The ASM and deputy IG will spot check each regiment/company for letters e and f; opening selected cartridge boxes and scrutinizing footwear, canteens, etc.

NOTE: This is a Sjt's parade, no officers on the field other than those approved as inspectors or given special permission by the ASM.

3. If any infractions are found by the assigned inspectors or by the ASM or Deputy IG, the ranking NCO is notified along with the regiment/company CO and the IG. That infraction must then be corrected before the soldier goes into the field and that approval is given by the ASM and/or Deputy IG who notifies the IG that said infraction has been corrected and the soldier is allowed to participate in the field event.

4. Upon completion of the Army Inspection, ASM orders the Army to "shoulder arms" and the Army is turned over to the Adjutant General.

NOTE: Once the Army is assembled by the ASM and 3 BSMs the process of inspection should only take 10 mins. However, unforeseen circumstances can occur which could prolong the process. If the ASM deems that the inspection process has exceeded the 10 minutes beyond what can be accepted, circumstances that have prolonged the inspection can be taken off the assembly field to be corrected so that the remainder of the Army is not detained longer than necessary.

5. On the second day of a Brigade event, regiment/company ranking NCO or CO should conduct an inspection in the company street or nearby as outlined in Number 1 above. No Army inspection will be conducted (unless deemed necessary by the Brigadier). However, the BSMs, ASM and Deputy IG have the authority to check with any or all regiments/companies before the General Assembly to discern that those inspections have occurred.



## **The Formation of the Army & Colour Ceremony.**

The Adjutant-General, the Serjeant Major of the Army and the Drum Major of the Army will chose an appropriate parade ground for the Army formation on Saturday morning. They will pace out the parade ground and mark the parade so that each of the three Brigades can be marched to their exact formation point. The Serjeant Major of the Army will select sites for the individual Brigade formations and will select a Brigade Serjeant Major for each Brigade.

The music of the Army is massed in position on the Army Parade Grounds. They are assembled there by playing of “Drummer’s Call” fifteen minutes before the time set for Army Assembly by the Adjutant-General.

“Assembly” is then played by the massed music and each Brigade assembles at close order in two ranks on its own parade ground under command of its Brigade Serjeant Major. Officers will report to the Army parade ground. If a colour ceremony is scheduled, the Colour Ensigns with Colours and their escorting Grenadiers (or soldiers) report to the Drum Major of the Army at the left of the Army Parade Ground when Drummers Call is played.

Once the Brigades are in order, they will be marched onto the Army Parade Ground to the following tunes and in the following order.

Union Brigade: “Men of Harlech”

County Brigade: “British Grenadiers”

Provincial Brigade: ”Minstrel Boy”

The massed music will play these tunes until each Brigade is halted in place.

The Drum Major of the Army appoints a Senior Drummer to take command of the Massed Music in his absence and organizes the Escort to the Colours which is assembled to the left rear of the line. (up a street if possible) That is: All Color Ensigns with Colors, 2 Grenadiers per Regt (with Colors), Drum Major with Drummers and Fifers.

The officers will form three files facing the Army, one file for

each of the Brigades each file facing its own Brigade and positioned directly in front of the right side of its Brigade. The lead officer in each file is the officer who will be on the left hand side of his Brigade, the last officer the one who will be the right hand side of his Brigade, all other officers should position themselves in their proper order.

As each Brigade forms up on the Army Parade its Brigade Serjeant Major will immediately give the command for the Brigade to Open Ranks. The Serjeants and the rear-rank troops face to the right about, the rear-ranks march back three paces and the serjeants march back seven paces before performing another right about face to the front. The Serjeants move to the centre of their company or section. The interval of two paces between each Company is maintained. The Serjeants will be to the rear of the company, four paces behind the rear rank. Each Brigade Serjeant Major will position himself four paces in front of his Brigade facing front. The Serjeant Major of the Army will ask for brigade returns and each Brigade Serjeant Major will report.

The Serjeant Major of the Army will inspect the troops. Upon conclusion of inspection he will turn the parade over to the Adjutant-General ( a Colonel) who will be in command of the Army Formation at this point.

The Colonel will give the command, “fall in the officers...quick march.” Each file of officers will march directly towards the right hand file man of their Brigade. The column of officers will make a right turn four paces in front of their Brigade and continue to march until the lead officer is in his proper position. Each officer will halt at his proper position. They will stand fast until the Colonel gives the order to face front. Each Brigade Commander should be positioned four paces in front of the line of officers, centered on his Brigade facing front.

All orders will be given by the Colonel to the Army formation. **No orders are to be repeated by the officers.** In order to prevent command confusion between the individual “Brigades” and the “British Brigade” all commands by the Colonel will be preceded by “Crown Forces.” If there is to be a Colour Ceremony the Escort to the Colours should at this point be in position: Colours two by two in front of the Officer line, Musicians between Officers and First Rank, Grenadiers between First and Second ranks.

The Colonel will order the Parade to Fix Bayonets. He will then give the command “March on the Colours.” The senior commissioned officer in the Escort will reply “Sir.” The music and escort stands fast. The Colonel orders “Officers Stand Fast, remainder Present Arms.” All rankers and NCOs will come to the Present. **Officers will not change positions.**

The Colonel will give the command to the Army to face to the left. At this point the senior commissioned officer in the Escort orders the Escort to the Colours to advance at slow march. The Colonel will then give the command to the Army to face front.

Officers will salute when the Colours approach within 6 paces. They remain at Present until the Colours have passed (6 paces). As the Colour Ensigns and Grenadiers reach their Regiments they wheel into line until only the music is left. Music continues around the line and into place. Note: when the Colours march past each Brigade, the Brigade Commander should order his Brigade to “Shoulder Arms.” Should a Review of the Troops be scheduled it will take place at this point.

Before the colours are fallen into the Battalion’s line or at any time the colours are not on the parade with the troops, the dressing is always to the right. When the colours are on parade dressing is on the colours.

Please note that in the 18th century colours were always marched-on in pairs in each regiment. Kings, or First Colour on the right, Regimental or Second Colour on the left. The colours, when marched onto the parade will form in their proper regiments. An appropriate space must be left for this.

There will be times when the Army must fall-in at once. The music will beat “To Arms” and all officers (and colours) and men will fall-in, in close order, on the Army Parade Ground in close order. Officers will be in ranks in their normal positions.

Officers who carry only swords should become familiar with the Officer’s Sword Drill which can be found on page 13.



## Officer's Sword Drill

### In Formation –Before Falling In Of Officers

#### DRAW SWORDS

1. Place right hand upon sword hilt.
2. Draw swords until the right hand is parallel to the ground.
3. Remove the sword and come to the ADVANCE, using the left hand to steady the sword.
4. Return the left arm to the left side.

#### RETURN SWORD

1. Place point of sword into scabbard, helping locate position with the left hand, with eyes front.
2. After the COs nod, return the sword.
3. Return the right arm to the right side.

#### FALL IN THE OFFICERS... QUICK MARCH (from SUPPORT)

1. Officers come to the Advance, using left hand for support at the command FALL IN THE OFFICERS.
2. Officers march to their positions in ranks and wait for the command to face front.

#### BATTALION WILL OPEN RANKS, REAR RANK TAKE OPEN DISTANCE... QUICK MARCH

1. March forward 4 paces and halt.
2. Come to the SUPPORT on the command TO THE FRONT FACE.

#### PRESENT ARMS from ADVANCE (3 counts)

##### PRESENT ARMS

1. Bring the sword to RECOVER.
2. Wait for one count.
3. Bring the sword straight down to the right side, bending the right elbow without moving the upper portion of the right arm.

#### SHOULDER FIRELOCKS from Present (3 counts)

##### SHOULDER FIRELOCKS

1. Return sword to the RECOVER.
2. Return sword to the ADVANCE using the left hand to steady sword.
3. Return the left arm to the left side.

#### OFFICERS TAKE POST IN THE REAR OF THE BATTALION... QUICK MARCH

- 1.2. On the command ... BATTALION, officers on the right wing of the battalion face to the right, those on the left wing to the

left, the Adjutant faces about all while coming to the RECOVER. [Bring up sword and step back, then turn.] Then come to the ADVANCE.

- 3.- At the command QUICK MARCH all march through the intervals on the outward flanks of their companies, proceed four paces beyond the line of Serjeants, wheel towards the center, and when they have divided the ground in the rear of their companies, halt facing and dressing on the colours..
4. On the command TO THE FRONT FACE all face to the front and then come to the SUPPORT.

#### OFFICERS TAKE POST IN THE FRONT OF THE BATTALION ... QUICK MARCH

1. On the command ... BATTALION, all officers face outward from the the center, coming to RECOVER. Then come to the ADVANCE.
2. On the command QUICK MARCH the officers march to their normal open order posts, passing around the outward flanks of their companies, and halt facing and dressing on the colours.
3. At the command TO THE FRONT FACE all offices face to the front and then come to the SUPPORT.

#### BATTALION WILL CLOSE RANKS, REAR RANK TAKE CLOSE DISTANCE ... QUICK MARCH

- 1-3. All officers face about and come to the RECOVER on the command DISTANCE [Bring up sword and step back, then right about.] Then come to the ADVANCE.
4. At the command QUICK MARCH all march to their close order position in the front rank and halt.
- 5-7. At the command To the FRONT FACE all face to the front.

#### ORDER ARMS from ADVANCE (3 counts)

1. From the ADVANCE, bring sword to RECOVER.
2. Lower right arm turning hand to the left at the same time. (Counter-clockwise). The guard should be facing to the right. The point of the sword is between the feet.
3. Place the left hand upon the right.

#### ADVANCE ARMS from Order (3 counts)

#### OFFICERS ADVANCE SWORDS

1. Bring the sword to the RECOVER.
2. Come to the ADVANCE, using left arm to steady sword
3. Return the left arm to the left side.

#### REST ON YOUR ARMS REVERSED (MOURN ARM) from

Present (5 counts).

### MOURN ARMS

1. Return the sword to the RECOVER.
2. Turn the sword over to the front by lowering the sword in an arc in front of the body through six counts, with the sword horizontal with the ground at count 3. At count 4 rotate the right hand so that the handle of the sword is pointing to the right. At the count of 6 the point should be resting on the ground between the feet with the sword hilt in front of the centre of the body, right elbow up.
3. Place the left hand upon the right hand, elbows up.
4. Slowly lower the elbows.
5. Slowly lower the chin onto the breast.

### PRESENT ARMS from Mourn Arms (3 counts)

1. Bring the sword to the RECOVER.
2. Wait for one count.
3. Bring the sword straight down to the right side, bending the right elbow without moving the upper portion of the right arm.

### REVERSE ARMS from ADVANCE (3 counts)

#### REVERSE ARMS

1. After the above command, wait for one second.
2. Wait for a second count.
3. On the third count, bring the sword under the right arm, by swinging the point of the sword through an arc to the left in front of the body with the handle of the sword pointing up as the point passes beneath the left arm. At the same time, throw the left hand behind your back, taking hold of the sword near the point.

### SHOULDER FIRELOCKS from Reverse (3 counts)

1. After the above command, wait for one count.
2. Bring the sword from under your arm arcing the sword upwards toward the left and return the sword to the ADVANCE using the left hand to steady the sword.
3. Return the left arm to the left side.





## The Army List - 2017

### OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH BRIGADE

#### Commander (Brigadier)

Major James McGaughey  
2463 Cheyenne Drive  
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#### Executive Secretary

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#### Judge Advocate General

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### STAFF OFFICERS

#### Quarter Master General

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#### Master Gunner

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#### Master of Horse

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#### Master of Engineers

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#### Inspector General

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#### Chaplain

Lt. Stephen Belyea  
11 Westland Ave  
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## **Past Commanders**

Major Michael Grenier (2008-2014)

Major Don Beale (1992-2007)

Major Ken Siegel (1984-1992)

## **TRUSTEES (22)**

Paul O'Shaughnessy, Chairman

Ken Siegel

Don F. Beale (NY)

Richard E. Amsterdam

Michael Grenier (NY)

James Corbett (NY)

Bill DiFrenza (NY)

Peter Ford (NY)

Paul Loane

Hella Beale (NY)

Michael Meyerdierks

Tom Vilardi

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## **British Brigade Safety Regulations**

1. All members of THE BRITISH BRIGADE will read this safety manual and will certify that they have done so by signing the attached form stating that they have read the regulations, that they understand them, and that they commit to abide by them.

The signed forms will be retained by unit commanders. Unit commanders will certify at each event that all members attending that event have read and signed for these safety regulations.

2. **SAFETY OFFICERS:** First and foremost, all members of THE BRITISH BRIGADE are safety officers and are responsible for their own safety and the safety of those about them. All members are expected to refuse an unsafe direction and to initiate a halt to activities when an unsafe condition is observed.

In addition, there shall be three formally appointed senior safety officers for each BRITISH BRIGADE event. These are the PROVOST, responsible for infantry, the MASTER GUNNER, responsible for artillery, and the MASTER OF HORSE, responsible for all mounted personnel and horses. These three positions shall be elected annually at THE BRITISH BRIGADE Commanders' Meeting held in January. If one or more of these officers are not at an event, the Adjutant General shall appoint a proxy. The chief safety officer is at all times the Officer Commanding THE BRITISH BRIGADE at an event. Every member of THE BRITISH BRIGADE is responsible for safety on and off the battlefield.

In addition, every member unit is required to have a unit Safety Officer. This individual is thoroughly knowledgeable of the BRITISH BRIGADE SAFETY REGULATIONS. This individual is directly responsible for the weapons and/or Artillery piece and how they are used by the members of their own unit. This individual is answerable to the BRITISH BRIGADE for any compromise or violation of these SAFETY REGULATIONS, and has signed a statement declaring such.

3. **RESPONSE TO UNSAFE ACTS:** Any participant who violates these articles or who otherwise poses a danger to our members will be expelled from the event at the discretion of the Chief Safety Officer or the PROVOST. Any unsafe action during a tactical demonstration will result in suspension of the demonstration until the problem has been resolved. Any unit commander may call for suspension of activities. Persistently unsafe people will be permanently barred from future attendance of events.

4. **INVITED UNITS: THE BRITISH BRIGADE**, in order to control the safety of any public event we sponsor, will not hold open events or invite organizations whose safety practices are unknown to us. Applicant units may be invited to events, and placed under the authority of their sponsoring organization. Safety officers will be appointed to remain with the unit and control its actions, until such time as it has demonstrated securely its understanding and complete adherence to our safety policies.

Fortunately, most of the time that **THE BRITISH BRIGADE** fields, it is opposing **THE CONTINENTAL LINE**. When performing tactical battlefield demonstrations with either **THE CONTINENTAL LINE** or the **BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION** the American forces can be depended upon to have safety standards, command, and control equal to **THE BRITISH BRIGADE**. Whenever **THE BRITISH BRIGADE** participates in an event not controlled by **THE BRITISH BRIGADE**, **THE CONTINENTAL LINE**, or **THE BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**, it shall be the responsibility of **THE BRITISH BRIGADE** safety officers to ensure that the opposing forces have read these safety regulations and have signed the agreement that they are aware of and intend to adhere to these safety regulations.

5. **CAMP SAFETY:**

a. **Camp Kitchens.** The camp kitchen areas shall be separate from the company and officer streets. At least 10 yards will separate the boundaries of the kitchen and remainder of the camp. Fire pits shall be dug only in the designated kitchen area, and only where indicated by the Quartermaster General. Fires may be built only in these pits. (At some sites, heavily insulated raised platforms may be established rather than pits.) A fire must never be placed closer than 20 feet from any tent (flies excepted). Tents may be set up in the kitchen area for storage of supplies, but may not be used for sleeping quarters. Fire pits shall be filled in and returned at the conclusion of an event. Turf is to be stored face down and kept moist for return to original position. An area five feet around will be clear of combustibles at each firepit. Depending on weather and dryness, the Quartermaster General may increase the area to be cleared. Fires will be no larger than is necessary for cooking, though they may be used as gathering and social areas after meal times. No member of the public shall be allowed within 10 yards of a firepit. If a rope barrier is not provided, create your own between your fire and the public. Use a table, bench, firewood, cooking equipment or anything else at hand to create a physical or

at least psychological barrier. Remember, not all of our visitors are mental giants. (Have you ever been asked, “Is that a real fire?”) No soldier carrying powder will be allowed within the boundaries of the camp kitchen area.

b. **Kitchen Fire Safety:** Every fire must always be attended by an adult. A bucket full of water, a wool blanket, and a shovel must be kept at each fire. The water in the bucket is not be used for any purpose but extinguishing fire. Children may not start or tend fires (fetching wood is permitted). Persons tending fires should always have another adult present in case of an emergency. Persons working with an open fire should wear tightly woven garments of wool or linen, since these are least likely to flare up or burn vigorously. Children are never to run through or play in any location where fires are present (remember, a major cause of child mortality in the 18th century was death by burns). Do not allow young children to use knives or sharp instruments in your kitchen or working area.

c. **Personal Fire Emergencies:** Use the “Stop, Drop and Roll” technique as advocated by fire safety authorities, if your clothing catches fire. If someone near you catches fire, help them to “Stop, Drop and Roll”, and smother their clothing with a wool blanket. In the event of a clothing fire, send a third party to summon medical aid. If a person with burn injuries goes into shock, have them lie down, elevate their feet, keep them warm, shade them from the sun, and do not handle the burned areas or attempt further treatment unless you are an EMT, nurse or physician (who is both qualified and aware of the potential liability).

d. **Tent Fire Safety:** No lit candles are permitted in a soldier’s or wedge tent unless the tent is free of straw, or the candle is securely mounted in an enclosed metal lantern that has a door with a fastening mechanism.

e. **Tent Fire Emergencies:** In the event of a tent fire, immediately determine if anyone is in the burning ten ... at the same time raise the cry of “Fire, Fire!”, to summon aid. If the fire seems likely to spread down a row of tents, move a few tents away from the one on fire and collapse a tent to slow the fire’s progress. Knock out the upright poles to collapse a tent quickly. Collapse more than one tent if needed.

f. **Animals:** Animals in camp are the sole responsibility of the owners. This includes dogs as well as horses and any other animals. Dogs shall be kept on a leash at all times. Horses, when not being ridden or led by their riders, shall be kept in the Horse

Park, securely tethered or corralled. No person not involved as a part of an event with horses may enter the Horse Park. No members of the public shall at any time be allowed inside the Horse Park.

g. Artillery Park: Artillery ammunition shall be kept in the Artillery Park, in fire *resistant* containers, and under constant guard. No one who is not a member of an artillery unit shall come within 10 yards of an artillery ammunition storage or loading area. There shall be no fire pits within 40 yards of an Artillery Park.

h. Individual Ammunition: Individual cartridge pouches, or infantry until ammunition containers, shall never be left unattended by individual soldiers unless under the supervision of a designated until sentry. Loose powder is forbidden in the camp. All loading of cartridges must be done away from the event location. In May of 1985 (at a non-British Brigade event) a novice loading in camp blew up his cartridge box, fortunately hurting no one else. Load where you have full control, plenty of time, and are not subjected to the errors of others. Do it at home before you come. If loading is allowed at an event, it will be only at a selected and secured location designated by the PROVOST in consultation with the QuarterMaster General. Loading will be supervised by the PROVOST or a designee from his staff. No person not authorized to handle weapons as part of their role may load cartridges or carry ammunition.

i. There shall be no discharge of weapons inside the camp. Flashing pans is permitted if done under the supervision of a noncommissioned or commissioned officer. Test firing or training firing must be done only in a selected and secured location designated by the PROVOST in consultation with the QuarterMaster General, and with the concurrence of the Chief Safety Officer as to time and volume. No loaded weapons shall be carried inside the camp. (The sole exception to this policy will be at those times that the camp itself is intentionally included as a part of the tactical demonstration scenario, and prearranged with the site coordinators). Sentries inside the camp shall not carry loaded weapons. Sentries posted outside the camp may carry loaded weapons at the discretion of the Chief Safety Officer, with the concurrence of the site coordinators.

j. There shall be no bayonets fixed, or unsheathed swords carried, or polearms carried in any way except in a vertical position in the camp. Sentries are the sole exception to this rule, and they SHALL have bayonets fixed.



k. Live cartridges will not be exposed to any member of the public, whether they are smoking or not. If you wish to display a cartridge for interpretive purposes, it must be a “dummy”, filled with sand or other inert powder substitute.

l. Throwing of knives, hatchets, axes, or other weapons for sport or competition may be done within the boundaries of the camp. At some events, it may not be permitted at all. If it is permitted, with site coordinator concurrence, a location shall be selected by the PROVOST in consultation with the Quartermaster General with a clear background. No members of the public will be allowed within 30 years of any such activities.

m. Children are a part of any encampment. Minor children, meaning anyone not yet eighteen years of age, are the responsibility of parents or legal guardians. In the absence of either, the commanding officer of the unit to which they belong shall be considered to be in loco parentis both factually and legally. This specifically includes soldiers who are under eighteen. Although children are expected to act like children, and it is hoped, to have fun, they may not be permitted to run wild through the camp. Furthermore, adult members of THE BRITISH BRIGADE have the right NOT to be bothered by other people’s children. Children in camp are expected to be dressed authentically and also to act the same way.

## 6. HANDLING OF INDIVIDUAL FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

Black Powder is the most fickle and dangerous of all propellants. Do not let familiarity breed contempt for it. It must be treated with the greatest respect. A spark or static charge from plastic clothing, from someone else’s discharge, or struck off of loading equipment will ignite it with potentially disastrous results. The enviable safety record of the British Brigade and other highly-trained, seasoned reenactment units is due solely to their great care in handling weapons and charges. Read the following material carefully and live by it. Remember that it is not comprehensive, and that your good sense must be added to these rules gained by past experience.

a. Ramrods will be carried but may not be drawn and used. No charges are ever to be rammed down when loading. This is to instill confidence in both the opposition and the public that nothing except raw black powder is being placed into the muzzle. Those on the other end of the discharge must be absolutely confident that nothing is coming their way except some flame and

smoke.

b. Cartridge paper is never to be put into the muzzle even when not ramming. This action would defeat the purpose of not ramming. No material other than paper may be used for musket cartridges. Cartridges may be sealed by twisting, gluing, or waxing. No staples or other solid closures may ever be used.

c. Loading will not be done on the march, no matter what the reason or temptation. Loading will only be done when the unit is at a full halt for that purpose.

d. In the event that a weapon does not fire when the trigger is pulled off, the weapon is to be kept pointed downfield for a minimum of 10 seconds. It may be reprimed, however, no further powder may be poured down the barrel. An unfired musket may not be cleared by firing it after dispersal. All muskets are to be cleared by dumping contents and opening pans at final formation. Safety officers are to inspect all arms before dismissal.

e. All muskets should be kept well-cleaned and oiled. They should be kept in complete and thorough repair. Every weapon should be able to be held on the safety or half-cock position without firing when a normal amount of pressure is applied to the trigger. A recommended musket inspection checklist is attached as an appendix.

f. No loose powder may be carried on the battlefield in horns, priming horns, or any other container except pre-made cartridges of proper pattern and construction. Cartridges may only be carried in approved cartridge boxes or metal storage containers. They may never be carried loose on oneself. Although powder horns and flasks may be carried as appropriate, they must be empty and they may not be used.

g. Under certain conditions, with certain powders, there is a slight possibility that a spark may remain in the bore, and this is the reason you are always advised to keep the muzzle away from your face, and from your mates, when pouring in the charge.

h. Occasionally, troops will be told to order their firelocks while loaded. It is imperative, especially if given a “rest” command, that they not place their hands over the muzzle of the barrel.

i. Only Eighteenth Century, replica, flintlock weapons of a type actually used by the unit being portrayed may be carried and fired. All muskets or rifles must have flash guards and frizzen covers. All artillery pieces, especially iron tubes, must be properly sleeved.

- j. At some events, sponsors have a requirement that a 45 degree angle be maintained. Troops must be instructed and drill before the tactical to maintain this angle. 90 degrees is vertical, and 45 degrees is halfway to vertical. This is the minimum elevation that will be used at these sites. Frequently this is necessary because we are a firing towards the public or with them in close proximity to our flanks and we want to instill confidence in them.
- k. 100 grains is the maximum charge for a Brown Bess musket. Heavily loaded cartridges are dangerous due to noise production (which doesn't hurt your ears, it is the guy next to you or in front of you that suffers), are unnecessary for effect, and produce an elongated, dangerous flame. The situation compounds when a double charge is inadvertently loaded. (Purposeful loading of doubles for effect is absolutely forbidden and will result in expulsion of anyone known to do it.)
- l. No loose ball of any type or ball-loaded cartridges of any type may be carried on their person for any reason.
- m. If so ordered, troops may have to retain the paper cartridge after pouring powder down the muzzle. In this case, these empty rolls shall be placed in a haversack or pocket.
- n. Only two types of weapons may be fired by member units: muzzle loading black powder flintlocks, and full-scale muzzle loading cannons. Pistols may NOT be fired in demonstrations except by Mounted Troops with approval of the Field Commander and the Master of Horse.
- o. Only two types of weapon demonstrations are permitted. These are "individual Demonstrations" and "Tactical Demonstrations." Each may be performed only following all the safety regulations listed for their type. Individual demonstrations are demonstrations during which a single weapon is loaded and fired by a member or, in the case of a cannon, a crew of members. "Tactical Demonstrations" are those during which two or more weapons are loaded and fired under simulated battle conditions. This includes, but is not limited to, reenactments in which opposing forces face each other.

## 7. TACTICALS

- a. THE BRITISH BRIGADE does not engage in physical combat. Participants are not to, at any time, with any object, or with hands, touch any member of the opposing forces. The sole

exception is that mounted troops may cross swords with other mounted troops when called for in the scenario. There may be no simulated bayoneting of wounded, mock hand-to-hand combat, or any other actions which result in physical contact.

b. THE BRITISH BRIGADE frequently fields with bayonets fixed. All member units of THE BRITISH BRIGADE are expected to be able to maneuver and fire, in double rank, with bayonets fixed. However, if in the opinion of a commander or Safety Officer a unit is not capable of doing this safely, or if a unit is not comfortable with doing this, it will not fix bayonets on the battlefield. There are occasions and circumstances in which bayonets will not be fixed and these include:

..... Whenever the conditions of the ground, due to weather or terrain, would make it dangerous

..... When storming a wall which is too high to easily step over, climbing ladders, riding in wagons or in boats.

.....If the agreed upon scenario specifically prohibits it.

..... and, Any other circumstances deemed significant by the Safety Officers. In all cases, the bayonets shall only be fixed upon the specific order of the Officer in Command of THE BRITISH BRIGADE at an event, and then only by those units specifically so ordered. Whenever bayonets are fixed all member of THE BRITISH BRIGADE must be constantly aware of where the bayonet is pointing and what is near that point. All of the above apply equally to swords and pole arms. Hatchets or axes may NEVER be unsheathed on a battlefield.

c. Although pistols may be carried on the battlefield by anyone whose role would realistically have permitted it, the only persons who may load and use pistol are MOUNTED troops, and then only from horseback. Mounted troops may use light wadding to keep pistols loaded when in their pistol buckets. However, when discharging pistols they must always be aimed upwards at a forty-five degree angle.

d. Artillery shall follow all safety regulations as laid down by THE BRITISH BRIGADE (*see Section 10 and 11*). Artillery shall not fire when opposing forces, or anyone else is within 50 yards of the muzzle of the piece and within its cone of danger; an arc extending at a 45-degree angle to each side of the piece. When artillery is being attacked and is obviously either in accordance with a scenario, or due to a tactical maneuver about to be overrun, safety immediately becomes the responsibility of the gunners. If

the piece is loaded, and opposing forces are either unaware or dumb enough not to care, Gunner #3 (Ram and Sponge) and Gunner #4 (Worm and Loader) will step back until they are even with the wheel hubs and cross their implements over the center of the gun tube. This is a signal that the piece is loaded. This is the same procedure that will be used in the event of a misfire (*see Section 11*).

If the piece is to be overrun, in according to a scenario, the gunners shall indicate that the piece is unloaded and safe by having a *Gunner depress the barrel*.

***No loaded Artillery piece shall ever be moved.***

No captured gun may be served by anyone except its own crew.

e. Weapons may not be fired when opposing forces are closer than 40 yards. When opposing forces do get close, officers shall order their troops to elevate over the opposing forces heads. Whenever a weapon misfires, if it cannot be made to fire on the next round, the soldier shall fall out behind the lines to make repairs. Whenever a unit is closing with, or being closed with by opposing forces, for any reasons, once the opposing force is within 10 yards all the weapons shall be brought to the vertical and shall remain there until either the opposing force is passed through, passes through, or, if an error has been made, the mess is sorted out. This is of particular importance when a bayonet charge is being driven home, as we have done in accordance with scenarios, and which has been done to us. If it looks like someone has made a stupid mistake, stop, come to the shoulder, and stand there until whatever genius in command that caused the problem gets it fixed. The common sense of each participant is required to get us out of the messes the commanders occasionally get us into.

f. THE SIGNAL TO CEASE FIRE IS THE CEASE FIRE BEAT OF THE DRUM TO WHICH ALL TROOPS ARE TRAINED, OR A HAT HELD ON TOP OF A SWORD OR POLEARM. WHENEVER THE CEASE FIRE BEAT IS HEARD, OR THE HAT ON TOP OF A SWORD OR POLEARM IS SEEN, EVERYONE STOPS, SHOULDERS ARMS, AND WAITS FOR ORDERS. The "Cease Fire" beat will be reviewed for all troops at the first formation at each event.

g. An individual who operates a muzzleloaded black powder weapon in a Tactical Demonstration must be trained and the weapon inspected prior to use by a Safety Officer. A unit participating in a Tactical Demonstration (including reenactments) must

have present, during the demonstration, at least one member who is a Safety Officer.

## 8. CEREMONY

Three volleys will always be fired at closed ranks, and with the muskets elevated 45 degrees.

## 9. INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATIONS

1. The only weapons authorized for Individual Demonstrations are muzzleloaded black powder shoulder arms. These include flintlock muskets, rifles, musketoons, and carbines. Pistols may be demonstrated only by Mounted Troops.

2. A minimum of two members must be present for an Individual Demonstration/ One to operate the weapon and another to provide crowd control and watch for safety. Either member may address the public. Each must be at least 16 years old. All Individual Demonstrations must have prior approval of a Safety Officer.

3. The Individual Demonstration must be held in an area as detailed in the appended diagram (page 11).

4. The weapon being demonstrated is subject to inspection by a Safety Officer using the appending checklist.

5. Blank charges are not to exceed the maximum load designated in the appended Table of Maximum Loads (page 8) for the particular weapon used.

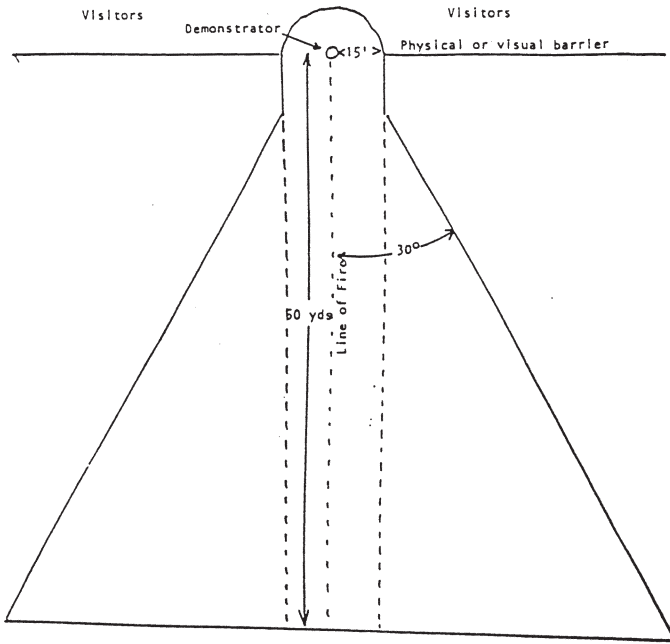
6. Wadding is permitted for Individual Demonstrations but NOT in Tactical Demonstrations.

8. The demonstrator must carry cartridges in an authentic leather or leather and wood block cartridge box, worn well around on the he right hip. The demonstrator must take care that the flap is kept down except when the cartridge is being withdrawn. Extreme care must be taken when carrying a belly box.

9. Rifles may be loaded with powder from horns, however, the powder of the main charge must first be poured into a powder measure conforming to the Table of Maximum Loads, then poured into the muzzle. The main charge must never be poured directly from the horn into the barrel. Riflemen must carry loose powder in a well maintained horn that is kept stoppered.

10. When loading and firing, the demonstrator will follow the correct manual for the type of weapon being fired. Riflemen who do not have a prescribed manual will follow safe procedures.

# Individual Demonstration Range



11. It is the responsibility of then non-shooting demonstrator to see that the shooter observes correct loading and firing procedures.

12. At NO time is the demonstrator to surrender control of the weapon to a member of the public. A visitor may feel the heft of the weapon while the demonstrator holds the sling. Likewise, edged weapons must remain under control of the demonstrator.

13. Tomahawk and knife throwing demonstrations are permitted under supervision of the Safety Officer. The Artillery range will be the safety standard.

**At NO time will any member of the public be allowed to fire a weapon and at no time will a demonstrator carry live ammunition.**

## 10. ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS

Cannons are extremely dangerous to load and fire. Cannons may be demonstrated by members only under the direct supervision of the Gun Commander and only with express permission of the Master Gunner. The Safety Officer and Gun Commander for each crew should be one in the same.

1. Ideally a cannon crew will have six (6) or more members, but no gun will be operated with less than four (4). The members of the crew are:

The Gun Commander – This man has overall command of the gun and crew. He is responsible for giving commands and assuring the crewmembers execute their duties correctly and safely. He does not normally take part in any of the loading or firing activities. If he does serve the gun, he will only serve as Gunner #1.

Gunner #1 (*Man who fires the piece*) the man in this position is to maintain the lintstock and to touch off the charge when ordered by the Gun Commander

Gunner #2 (Vent Tender) this man stops (tends) the vent to be sure NO air escapes during worming, sponging and loading. He picks open the charge with a *brass* priming wire and *primes* the piece. This man must have a leather thumbstall to protect his thumb from the heat of the gun while tending the piece, and should always be manned by an experienced Artillerist.

Gunner #3 (Ram & Sponge) This man sponges the piece and rams home the cartridge. He must always be sure the sponge is in good condition and that there is water in the artillery bucket. This



man **may** wear heavy-duty welder's gloves for protection while performing his duties. ***This position is the most dangerous position on the crew. This Gunner must exercise extreme caution at all times.*** Like **Gunner #2**, this position should always be served by an experienced crewmember.

Gunner #4 (Worm and Loader) this man's job is to extract the spent cartridge casing (search the piece), and to place the new round in the muzzle for **Gunner #3** to ram. (**load** the piece).

Gunners #3 and #4 will alternately worm and sponge the piece 2 times after it is fired. If Gunner #4 extracts remnants of the old cartridge, he will continue to worm the piece until it is clear. Then Gunner #3 will sponge the piece again.

Gunner #5 (Powder Handler) This man's job is to remove the powder box to a secure position before the piece is **loaded and** fired and to bring each round forward to **Gunner #4** for loading. He is responsible for manning and guarding the powder box at all times.

Gunner #6 (Powder Handler) this man is charged with the security of the powder box at all times.

Any additional Gunners perform duties as assigned (pulling the gun, relieving casualties during tactical demonstrations, etc.)

In case of a four-man crew, Gunner #4 will double as #5. Gunner #4 should never carry extra rounds in the pass-box, as he will be close to the piece when it fires. ***No rounds are to be kept in the gun (lockers or side boxes) when firing. Rounds must be kept in a removable ammunition box.***

2. Cannons used in firing demonstrations must be full-scale reproductions and must conform to the specifications in the Cannon Inspection Checklist.

3. All drill performed by the Artillery crew are subject to the approval of the **Master Gunner or his designee** using the Artillery Checklist.

4. Ammunition for artillery is to be prepared off-site of the demonstration or in an approved laboratory **under the supervision of the Master Gunner or his designee**. Cartridges are to be made of at least 3 thicknesses of heavy gauge aluminum foil made around a former of a width corresponding to the bore of the Gun they are to be used with. Powder charges shall NOT exceed the specifications in the appended Table of Maximum Loads.

5. Demonstrations will be held in an area that conforms to the appended Range Diagram for Cannon Firing (page 12).

6. ALL FIRING SHALL BE WITH A LINTSTOCK AND SLOW MATCH. **Tubes** are preferred, black powder priming **is** acceptable. PORT-FIRES WILL NOT BE USED.

#### TACTICAL DEMONSTRATION

Tactical Demonstrations are inherently more dangerous than Individual Demonstrations for several reasons;

1. The number of demonstrators involved,
2. The close proximity of demonstrators to each other,
3. In the case of reenactments, the fact weapons are being discharged at opposing forces,
4. The greater difficulty in observing safety violations

To assure maximum safety for demonstrators and visitors, the following standards will govern Tactical Demonstrations;

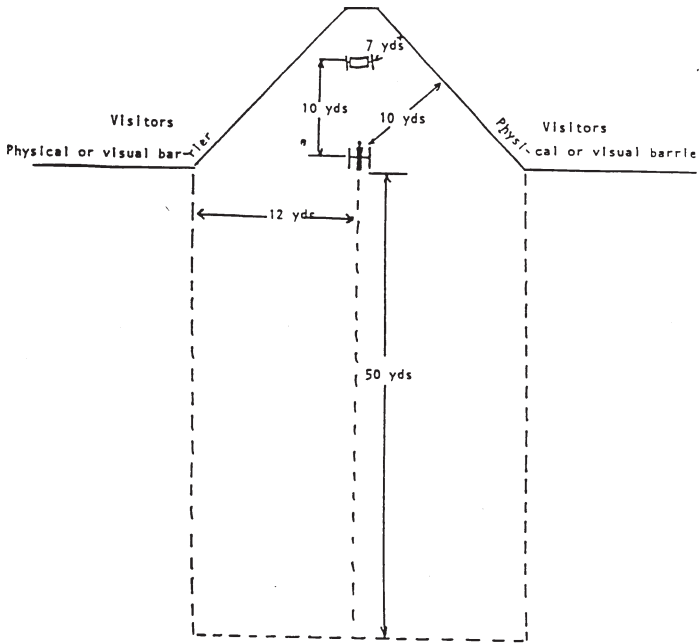
1. Participants in the Tactical Demonstrations shall be limited to members of the Continental Line.
2. Shooters must be at least 16 years old.
3. Each unit shall have at least one member who has been appointed as a Safety Officer.
4. Weapons, ammunition, containers and weapon drill are subject to inspection by a Safety Officer.

#### ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION CHECKLIST

Before:

1. The Gun has been inspected, and bore is clean of any foreign material.

# Artillery Demonstration Range



2. The carriage is in good condition and all keys are secure.
3. The accessory equipment is in good condition—sponge-head in good repair, rammer and sponge head secure on staff, etc.
4. Sponge head fits bore snugly but not too tight.
5. Ammunition boxes are clean and free of loose powder.
6. Necessary equipment is on hand to handle a misfire.
7. The required number of personnel are on hand to fire the piece.
8. The Gun is situated safely in relation to the public.

During:

1. The crew is following the approved manual with each person where they are supposed to be at any given moment.
2. The sponge is adequately damp but not soaking wet.
3. ***The Rammer may wear gauntlets***, but they should not be so stiff and heavy as to cause fumbling.
4. The sponge head does not contact the ground at any time as to prevent grass or sand etc. from sticking to it.
5. If there is a misfire, it is handled safely and properly (*see Section 11*).

After:

1. After firing, the piece is ***wormed, washed out and dried***.
2. All weapons, explosives, and accessory pieces are accounted for.
3. The demonstration area is inspected carefully for smoldering residue.
4. The sponge head is thoroughly rinsed out and dried.
5. All remaining cartridges are promptly returned to the proper storage areas.
6. The Gun is secured and equipment stored properly.

## 11. ARTILLERY MISFIRE DRILL

While Artillery misfires are rare, they do occur. The proper handling of a misfire either during a demonstration or tactical scenario is as follows:

1. After a misfire has occurred and all members of the immediate crew have been advised of the situation, Gunners 3 & 4 (Sponge – Ram and Worm- Load) shall take up positions in line with the wheel hubs of the cannon carriage. They shall then hold their respective implements over the top of the tube so as to form

an “X” in the air over the tube, taking care to be well in front of the touchhole and back from the muzzle. While this occurs, the remaining crew are to be ordered by the Gun Commander to fall in on the trails of the gun. Also during this time, any adjacent gun crews and infantry must be advised of the situation.

2. The gun must stand for at least three (3) minutes, after which time the Gun Commander, and only the Gun Commander, may attempt to re-pick the cartridge and re-prime. It is at the Gun Commander’s discretion as to when the #3 and #4 Gunners may lower their implements and fall in on the trails of the gun with the rest of the gun crew. During this period of time it is **EXCEEDINGLY** important that the Gun Commander and all members of the crew be vigilant about the situation around them. **ALL UNITS APPROACHING THE GUN MUST BE MADE AWARE OF THE SITUATION.**

3. After the required 3 minutes has elapsed, the gun may be fired. After a successful firing, the members of the crew may retake their positions on the gun and rejoin the action.

4. In the unlikely event of a second misfire, the gun will be removed from action for the remainder of the day. Once again, Gunners #3 and #4 are to move to the hub and cross implements over the tube while the rest of the crew assembles at the trails. After waiting 3 minutes, the Gun Commander, and only the Gun Commander, will swamp the vent by pouring water (either from a canteen or the Artillery bucket) into the vent. After this has been accomplished, Gunners #3 and #4 will resume their positions on the front of the gun. Gunner # 4 will pick up the Artillery bucket with the wad hook and hold it up in front of the muzzle of the gun, being careful that his hands, arms and body remain well away from the front of the muzzle. Gunner #3 will then carefully use the end of the rammer staff to tip the bucket up so that the water flows into the barrel of the gun, swamping the charge. Gunner #4 will also be careful to keep his hands, arms and body well away from the muzzle of the gun. After allowing the water to stand for 5 minutes in the tube and touch hole, the Gun Commander, and only the Gun Commander, will use the wad hook to carefully break the cartridge and extract the contents, which should be placed in the Artillery bucket. Any water remaining in the bucket may be used to further pacify the gun.

**NOTE: AT NO TIME DURING THIS PROCEDURE IS THE GUN TO BE MOVED!**

## 12. FIRST AID AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION:

- a. If a member collapses from heat or from undetermined cause:
  - 1) Loosen, unbutton or untie any garment about the neck.
  - 11) Untie and loosen their stays or unbutton their waistcoat, but do not remove the garment completely or loosen it very abruptly. Work slowly and gently.
  - iii) Summon medical aid without delay. Shade the victim from the sun while waiting
  - iv) Summon on-site family, relatives or friends to determine if the victim is taking a special medication. Examine victim's neck and wrists for a Medical Identification emblem.
- b. Make it your business to inform friends and associates of any special medical conditions in your family. If a member of your family has a serious reaction to insect stings, contact your family doctor to obtain a special kit for treatment. Immediate treatment by a family member can save a life.
- c. Do not park your car in tall grass if the engine has been running for more than a few minutes. Catalytic converters become red-hot. A grass fire can destroy your vehicle, inconvenience your mates and cause loss to the site owner.

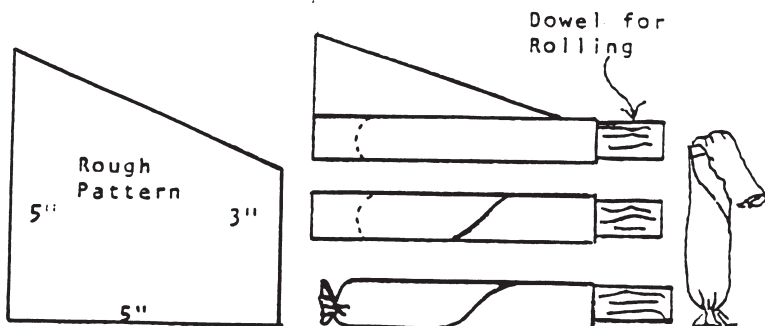
## APPENDIX 1

### Cartridges:

- a) Muskets: Blank cartridges will be of paper, rolled in an 18th Century manner, glued or tied, without staples.

The paper used in blank cartridges must be heavy enough to resist accidental ignition by a stray spark.

- b) Rifles: Blank cartridges, the same as for muskets.
- c) Not acceptable: Plastic tubes or any other containers as blank cartridges for any firearm.



d) Recommended Powder Charges: All charges are black powder only and are to be used only in firearms which are in good condition. Use the lowest load which produces a satisfactory report. (See the table at the end of this appendix.)

#### Artillery Cartridges:

e) Artillery: Blank cartridges will be of aluminum foil, rolled and formed as shown in the following drawings.

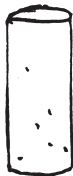
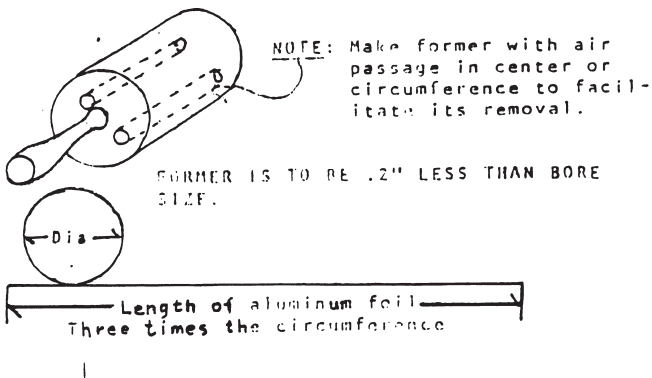
Prepare a wooden former as shown (.2" smaller than the bore) and form the cartridge using aluminum foil 3 times the length of the circumference of the former. Roll it upon the former, fold one end closed and hit that end on a hard surface to lock the fold. Remove the former, fill with the recommended powder charge and fold closed.

## APPENDIX 2

### MUSKET INSPECTION CHECKLIST

#### Before Disassembly

The weapon is confirmed to be unloaded by springing the rammer. Your overall first impression is favorable.



1



2



3



4

### The Stock:

- ( ) No cracks or splits.
- ( ) Butt plate, trigger guard, etc., fit tightly.
- ( ) No burrs on butt plate or trigger guard screw heads that would snag clothing or hands.
- ( ) If band springs, they work smoothly (not bound by wood.)
- ( ) If pin-fastened, pins all there, tight, wood not splintered.
- ( ) No burns around the top of the lock
- ( ) Generally, no splinters or rough edges.
- ( ) Two-piece stocks have sections securely joined

### The Lock:

- ( ) Lock works smoothly.
- ( ) The hammer or cock fits rightly on the tumbler
- ( ) All the positions are firm and solid.
- ( ) The half-cock (safety) position works properly.
- ( ) When trigger pulled, it lets off smoothly without catching on half-cock
- ( ) Trigger pull is proper; not too heavy, not “hair” trigger
- ( ) If a set trigger, it is adjusted properly and works smoothly.
- ( ) Lock fits properly into the stock and snugly against the barrel.
- ( ) A flintlock’s cock screw works smoothly; jaws grip flint securely.
- ( ) There is proper leather or lead flint cap.
- ( ) The flint is in good condition and set at a proper angle.
- ( ) The frizzen spring of a flintlock is of the right tension.
- ( ) The frizzen is in good condition and not gouged.
- ( ) The pan of a flintlock is clean and in proper relationship to the touch-hole of the barrel.
- ( ) The musket has a well fitting and tight metal flashguard meeting Brigade specifications.

### The Barrel:

- ( ) Barrel fits the stock properly.



- ( ) Free from visible dents or cracks
- ( ) On flintlocks, the flint is not striking the barrel
- ( ) The muzzle is not dented or worn
- ( ) On flintlocks, the vent is clear and of an acceptable size.
- ( ) No signs of heavy corrosion around the vent
- ( ) The sights are complete and operable.
- ( ) The barrel bands hold the barrel securely.
- ( ) The ramrod is straight, fits the stock properly, and the threads at the lower end are clean and free of burrs.
- ( ) The musket bayonet lug is securely welded and the bayonet fits easily and latches with a positive twist lock.

### APPENDIX 3

#### MUSKET INSPECTION CHECKLIST

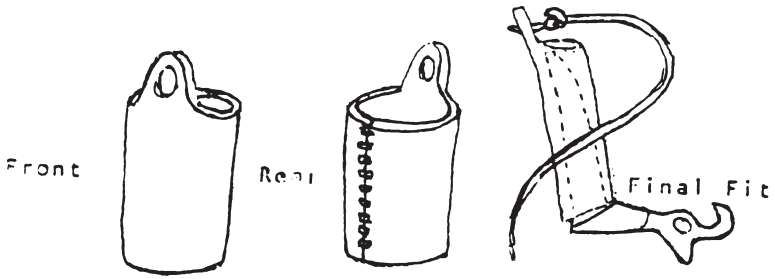
##### After Disassembly

##### The Stock:

- ( ) There are no shiny spots in the lock recess from rubbing by metal.
- ( ) Lock recess is clean and free of splinters.
- ( ) No splitting or cracking around the tang screw hole.
- ( ) The bed for the barrel is clean.
- ( ) Any ramrod spoon or spring works freely; its recess is clean.
- ( ) Any nose cap is securely fastened to the stock.
- ( ) Careful recheck of two-piece stock shows firm joint.

##### The Lock:

- ( ) All internal screws are tight.
- ( ) No internal parts are broken, cracked or chipped.
- ( ) The nose of the sear and the tumbler notches are sharp and in good condition.
- ( ) No signs of metal rubbing on the inside of the lockplate.
- ( ) On flintlocks, the frizzen fits down snugly on top of the pan.
- ( ) With hammer or cock fully forward, the mainspring does not disconnect from the tumbler nor does any part of it protrude



below the lockplate.

( ) All parts are clean and lightly oiled.

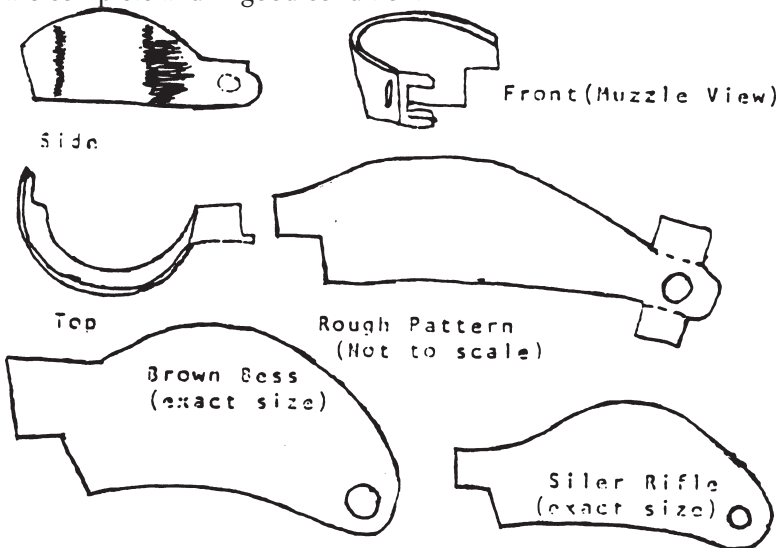
The Barrel:

( ) The breech plug is fully seated and properly aligned.

( ) On modern “patent breeches”, there is no indication of separation.

( ) Check the bore with lights and reflectors. It is clean and in good condition. A patch goes in smoothly and comes out clean.

( ) On pin-fastened pieces, all lugs under the barrel for the pin are complete and in good condition.



( ) The safety officers and site staff reports no problems in using the weapons.

#### APPENDIX 4

Hammerstalls (Frizzen covers): The purpose of the Hammerstall is

to prevent the flint from striking a spark should the arm be accidentally triggered. Every flintlock firearm used at a BRITISH BRIGADE event shall be equipped with a leather cover which is a friction fit over the frizzen, and the leather must be heavy enough to perform its intended function.

Flashguards: All flintlock firearms must be fitted with a metal flashguard heavy enough to withstand the vent blast without bending, and attached so that it cannot slip down and expose the vent.

It must keep all flash and powder particles from traveling more than one foot in a lateral direction. Material shall be at least 1/16 inch thick steel or brass, for muskets, rifles, and pistols.

## APPENDIX 5

### TABLE OF MAXIMUM LOADS

<b>Weapon Type</b>	<b>Caliber</b>	<b>Maximum load</b>
Grasshopper (Lt Infantry)	Lt 3 pounder*	8 ozs. Fg
Traveling/Galloper 3	Full 3 pounder*	10 ozs Fg
Traveling/Galloper 4	4 pounder*	10 ozs Fg
Light 6	6 pounder*	12 ozs. Fg
Howitzer	5.8 inch*	10 ozs. Fg

\* All cast iron tubes must be steel sleeved

## APPENDIX 6

### CANNON INSPECTION CHECKLIST

The Tube:

1. Tube is clean and free of rust or corrosion
2. No sign of external damage or strain.
3. Inside of tube is clean and relatively smooth.
4. No internal signs of damage (Bulges, pits, etc.).
5. No sign of corrosion damage at breach.
6. The vent is clear and of the acceptable size.
7. No signs of cracked or bending around the trunnions.

8. No signs of weakness at the chaplets on bronze tubes.

The Carriage:

1. Wheels are tight and free of rot and infestation.
2. The body of the carriage is free of rot and infestation.
3. No pieces or parts are missing, cracked, bent or broken.
4. Wheels move freely.
5. None of the iron work is loose.
6. Tube rotates freely on its trunnions.
7. Trunnion caps fit snugly and are properly keyed.
8. Lids of Ammunition boxes and limber chests fit snugly, and are free of loose powder.
9. Wheel hub does not gouge the end of the axletree.
10. Linch pin is not digging into the wheel hub.

Equipment:

1. All necessary equipment is present.
2. Sponge is in good condition and is fitted to the bore.
3. Rammer head is secure and free of cracks.
4. Small items are in good condition (linstock, thumstall, buckets, etc.)
5. Prongs of the worm are sharp and not bent.

The Gun Book is kept up to date.

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge that I have read the “British Brigade Safety Regulations”, that I fully comprehend their meaning and importance, and that I will comply with them fully, to the letter and in spirit. I will follow the directions of any British Brigade Safety Officer appointed. I recognize my own

responsibility to ensure safety at events, and I will not hesitate to  
\_\_\_\_\_  
prevent or stop an unsafe action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Regiment)

Original to be retained by unit commander of member's regiment.



## British Brigade Inspection Report

Unit Inspected:

Date:

Location/event:

Inspector's Name:

Inspection should be performed by three BB members in good standing. The lead inspector should have above average knowledge of the type of unit being inspected, and should be of the same arm of service (e.g., infantry inspecting an infantry unit, etc). The inspection will be conducted by examining the following areas:

1. Unit's small clothes (shirts, waistcoat, breeches)      Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_

Comments

2. Unit's Regimental Clothes                                      Pass \_\_\_                                      Fail \_\_\_

Comments

3. Accoutrements (haversack, canteen, box and belt)      Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_

Comments

4. Unit's Camp Impression                                      Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_ NA\_\_\_

Comments

5. Weapons    Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_

Comments

6. Other (artillery gun, implements, horse and tack, etc)  
    Pass \_\_\_ Fail \_\_\_

Comments

Signature of Sponsor Unit's Commander/President

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Signature of Officer commanding the applicant unit in the field (signature denotes the applicant unit was safe and followed commands in the field)

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Signature of the General Officer Commanding the event  
(signature denotes the unit was safe operating in the field and  
you received no complaints)

---

Inspector General's Signature (signature denotes you have  
received all inspection reports and concur the unit is ready for  
consideration as a full membership.)

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## **Mounted Re-enactor Safety Guide**

Recognizing the specific nature of mounted demonstrations involving opposed forces, the following rules are an addendum to the “Continental Line – Safety Guide to Black Powder” of the Continental Line. Wherever those rules seem to conflict with the below rules, the below rules shall control.

In considering these Regulations, safety is primary. While experience has established that mounted demonstrations involving opposed forces may be executed in a safe and effective manner, no individual or unit should feel pressured to participate in any way that he, she or they believe would compromise the safety of themselves, their horses, any other person or animal, or the environment.

### 1. Roles and Responsibilities

#### **Horse Commander**

The overall field commander at a Continental Line sponsored event shall designate a commander for all mounted units. In addition to having command of all mounted units on the field, anyone accepting the role of Horse Commander shall be responsible for the following:

1. Examination of the event site to ensure its suitability and safety for horse use. Examination shall be either personally or by a competent representative with appropriate experience.
2. Advising event organizers and other leaders on the best possible use of mounted units.
3. Polling all registered mounted units previous to the event to assist the staff, sponsors and other leaders in planning for the appropriate number of horses to be present.
4. Acting as a contact person before, during and after the event for any horse-related concerns or questions.
5. Staying informed of all guidelines at the site affecting horse use.
6. Checking and verifying every horse on site for up-to-date Coggins tests, and any other site required tests.

7. The possession and dissemination of (where available) the name, phone number and other contact information for a local, on-call large animal veterinarian.
8. Coordination at each event with any other group's mounted reenactors (The British Brigade, the Brigade of the American Revolution, etc.), with whom the Continental Line's mounted reenactors may be working.

### **Unit Commanders**

1. It is required that Unit Commanders for mounted units hold drills before and during events and throughout the year with their men and horses equipped as they would be in a demonstration involving opposed forces.
2. If a Unit Commander believes that the action about to be taken on the field is outside of the capabilities of a member or horse within his/her unit, (s)he will prohibit that member from participating in the demonstration, until the Unit Commander is satisfied the member is competent to do so.
3. During a mounted action as part of a demonstration involving opposed forces, mounted units shall keep a 20-yard buffer zone from the public.

### **Individual Rider**

1. At all times a rider must be in control of his/her horse and alert to the situation and people around them. At no time will the rider surrender control of his/her horse except to another rider or designated horse handler.
2. No inexperienced riders shall field as determined by their Unit's Commander and Horse Commander. In case of a disagreement, the rider shall not take the field while mounted.
3. Riders are personally responsible for the safety and care of their horse(s). This responsibility remains with the Rider, and any horse handler designated by the Rider.

## 2. Site and Encampment Selection and Policing

### **Site Selection**

Site selection to accommodate cavalry must be based on the availability of open space for proper exercise, deployment, and picketing of horses. Dangerous holes and depressions must be located and either filled or clearly identified prior to an event.

### **Encampment Selection**

Encampments must be selected based upon space, shade, and water. Picket lines must be set up away from well-traveled roads or areas that will see a large amount of foot and vehicle traffic. Space must also be available to pull trailers into the encampment to off-load and on-load horses. There must also be additional space available to park the trailers after unloading. Shade is an essential piece of any cavalry encampment. It must provide a cool, restive and relatively insect free rest area for the horses as well as a place to string picket lines

Clean potable water is required at the rate of at least 15 gallons per day per horse. In very hot weather this number should be increased to 30 gallons. The camp must be as close to a water source as possible. A watering trough will not suffice as a water source. Watering troughs can transmit disease and are not sufficient. A good rule of thumb for the definition of “potable water” is water that can be consumed by people without illness.

### **Policing**

All units are responsible for policing their own camps. All picket lines are to be kept away from the public. Since the public may nevertheless come through horse camps, it is the responsibility of the horse owners and camp personnel to keep the public at a safe distance from the horses. The public should not be allowed to interact with the horses in camp unless the owner or designated horse handler is present, and permits the interaction. Horses should never be left unattended, whether on the picket line, in camp, or otherwise.

## 3. Standards for Horses, Training, and Equipment

### **Standards for Horses**

1. Only horses fit for service will be used at events. Horses that appear lame, sore, sick, undernourished, or exhausted will be determined unfit for service by the Horse Commander and will not be allowed to participate. In case of a disagreement by or among the Horse

Commander, the Unit Commander, the Rider and/or any other person, the horse shall not be allowed to participate. If the horse appears that it may be diseased the horse shall be removed from the premises.

2. A horse must be trained to tolerate and withstand disruptions including loud noises, shiny objects (sabers, bayonets, firearms, etc.), music, flags and other distractions, before taking the field. Any horse perceived to be uncontrollable must leave the field. In case there is a disagreement between or among the Rider, the Unit Commander and/or the Horse Commander as to the stability and temperament of the horse, the horse must leave the field.

### **Standards for Training**

It is the Unit Commander's responsibility to only permit those riders on the field who meet the proper level of skill in equitation, safety, health and otherwise. If the Unit Commander or an individual rider believes he/she is not ready or is incapable of participating in a particular action on the field (a charge, carousel, etc.) the Rider should withdraw and rejoin the formation after the action has been completed.

### **Standards for Equipment**

1. Tack should be well conditioned and maintained. Any mount or rider with cracked, torn, or moldy tack will not be allowed to participate on the field.
2. All saddles are to possess well-fitted stirrups and irons.
3. Sabers should have proper fitted scabbards and blunted edges.
4. Firearms should be well cleaned and maintained.
5. All carbines must possess a flash guard.
6. Frizzen covers for carbines shall be removed WHILE ON HORSEBACK (not while on foot). The cover is a safety hazard that may become tangled in the reigns and restrict control of the horse.
7. Carbines must have a proper bucket and/or carbine shoulder strap to be secured while not in use.

8. All pistols are to have accompanying holsters. At no time should a pistol be carried in a belt, haversack, valise, saddlebag or other receptacle.
9. Frizzen covers are not to be used on pistols. The cover is a safety hazard that may become tangled in the reins and restrict control of the horse.
10. Loose powder or powder in horns is not permissible to be carried by a person on horseback.

#### 4. Guidelines of Engagement

##### **Saber-to-Saber Combat**

Only well skilled and trained mounted reenactors shall participate in saber-to-saber contact between opposing bodies of horse. Proficiency is to be determined by the Unit Commander and/or the Horse Commander. In case of a disagreement, the person shall not engage in saber-to-saber contact.

**If a person does not wish to participate in saber-to-saber contact he/she should not draw a sword.** This will signal to the opposing force that they are not a participant, and should not be approached.

1. The instigator of the contact shall punch with his/her sword arm, keeping the point of the sword elevated as opposed to swinging a cut. The saber should be elevated 90 degrees from the riders forearm.
2. Opponents must avoid long melees. Riders should trade one or two strikes with an opponent and then move on.
3. Participants must **ALWAYS** make eye contact with their opponents before and during their strike(s).
4. At no time will the horse or rider be purposely targeted in any way.
5. The use of the point is prohibited. Sabers may never be lunged or thrust toward an opponent or horse.
6. Sabers may be pointed during a charge but must be returned to a ninety (90) degree angle at least 30 yards before contact with an opposing force.

7. If an opponent becomes unhorsed for any reason the melee will end immediately.
8. No firearms will be used during saber melees unless prescribed.

### **Firing from Horseback**

The loading and firing of pistols and carbines from horseback should follow the guidelines of any state or federal site the event happens to take place on as well as the guidelines outlined by the sponsor organization. In all cases, any existing site regulations shall control. In addition:

1. A firearm should never be pointed at a horse's head, and should never be discharged directly over a horse's head.
2. No firearm shall be discharged closer than 30 yards from any opposing force and will always be elevated 15 degrees above their heads.
3. No weapon will be fired in the direction of the public at a distance less than 30 yards and always elevated above their heads.

### **Tactics Regarding Ground Troops**

Limited exchange between cavalry and ground troops during tactical demonstrations is permissible under the following rules:

1. No force of cavalry will charge a force over six times its size.
2. Cavalry is not impervious to the fire of infantry and artillery. Cavalry must move or at least shield themselves behind ground troops, natural obstacles, etc. when in range and engaged by the other side.
3. If a body of cavalry approaches a body of infantry or artillery and receives a formed volley between the distances of 80 to 30 yards, the cavalry charge has been dispersed and the cavalry must honor the infantry's fire and retire.
4. If a body of cavalry charges a body of infantry or artillery and receives no formed volley from the infantry between the distances of 80 to 30 yards, the infantry has been broken by

charging cavalry and should honor this result and retire a short distance from its current position. It is best that the infantry DO NOT take casualties and leave fallen bodies during such a retirement, as prone individuals on the field may present a safety hazard.

5. Given the above guidelines, there is no need for cavalry to come closer than within 5 yards of opposing ground troops unless they are taking part in a pre-scripted scenario.
6. Cavalry may be closer than 5 yards when passing through allied troops.
7. **NEVER INTERACT WITH A LOADED CANNON. ALL UNIT COMMANDERS SHOULD REFERENCE THE CONTINENTAL LINE ARTILLERY SYMBOLS AND SIGNALS.**
8. **NEVER GET BETWEEN AN ARTILLERY PIECE AND ITS SOURCE OF AMMUNITION.**
9. **INDIVIDUAL RIDERS, OR GROUPS OF MOUNTED TROOPS, SHALL NOT GET AMONG [I.E., MIXED IN WITH] A BODY OF GROUND TROOPS; SHOULD MOUNTED TROOPS NEVERTHELESS FIND THEMSELVES AMONG GROUND TROOPS, THE INDIVIDUAL RIDER AND/OR MOUNTED TROOPS SHALL PROMPTLY WITHDRAW TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION.**

