

**U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS**  
**SMALL ARMS TRAINING POLICY**  
**30 Aug 2004**

**I. AUTHORIZATION**

The NSCC/NLCC Small Arms Training Policy is authorized by NSCC Action Letter 6-00.

**II. OBJECTIVE**

Firearms training and qualification is a critical aspect of military training. Sea Cadets are required to know the fundamentals of military small arms as found in Chapter 11 (Small Arms) of the Basic Military Requirements - NAVEDTRA 14325. The objective of this policy is to insure that all small arms training conducted by NSCC personnel is conducted in a safe and efficient manner. A checklist and safety lesson plan is provided as part of, and in support of, this NSCC Small Arms Training Policy.

**III. SAFETY**

Safety SHALL always be paramount to any Small Arms training conducted by the NSCC. When League Cadets are included in small arms training, their age, physical ability and physical size will be taken into consideration when selecting the type of firearm to be used in the live fire training.

Prior to conducting live fire training, all personnel, including all adult escort officers and volunteer range personnel shall be present for a firearms safety briefing. This briefing shall cover the Cardinal Rules of Firearms Safety (in the checklist), basic firearms nomenclature, range commands and rules, fundamentals of marksmanship. Every effort should be made to familiarize the shooters with the type of firearm to be used in the training prior to going to the firing line. A roster of all attendees will be maintained.

Prior to conducting live fire training, the officer in charge will complete the Range Operations Checklist. As stated in the directions on how to use the checklist, special attention is to be paid to any "NO" answer. "No" answers are potential safety hazards. Every effort is to be made to rectify "No" answers or to implement a corrective action.

The Officer in Charge shall insure that all ammunition used in NSCC Small Arms Training is of the proper caliber and type for the firearm and range facility being used.

Compliance with all federal, state and local firearms laws is required. All personnel are reminded that the 1996 Lautenberg Amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968 (18 USC 922) prohibits access to firearms by people convicted of domestic violence, including military and law enforcement personnel.

#### **IV. OFFICER IN CHARGE / RANGE MASTER QUALIFICATIONS**

The Officer in Charge (Range Master) of any NSCC small arms training shall be a qualified firearms instructor. The term “Qualified Instructor” shall be defined as follows: an adult holding a valid certification as

- Basic Pistol, Shotgun, Rifle or Personal Protection Instructor rating as certified by the National Rifle Association;
- Training Counselor or Coach as certified by the National Rifle Association;
- Firearms Instructor or Instructor Trainer as certified by a federal, state or municipal law enforcement training agency or POST;
- Small Arms instructor as certified by a branch of the U.S. armed forces.

All training shall be under the direct supervision of a qualified firearms instructor.

#### **V. RANGE OFFICERS / COACHES**

Wherever possible, Range Officers and Coaches should be experienced shooters or instructors. Supervision shall be on a 1:1 ratio – one coach for each shooter.

Foreseeing that inexperienced adults may be called into service to coach shooters, every adult must attend the firearms safety & marksmanship fundamentals briefing prior to reporting to the range. Inexperienced coaches/range officers should be cautioned that it may be better to remain silent than to unwittingly induce poor habits in a cadet. The level of participation of a coach will be up to the Officer in Charge after evaluating the coach/range officers experience and capabilities. Remember - “Adult” does not necessarily mean qualified or experienced in this type of training.

#### **VI. TARGETS**

Targets will be NRA or MILSPEC and appropriate to the type of firearm course of fire and shooting distance. Paper bullseye type targets are the preferred type for ease of scoring. Use of human silhouette targets is prohibited.

#### **VII. QUALIFICATION vs. TRAINING**

NSCC and NLCC personnel are authorized to qualify for the NSCC Marksmanship Ribbon. The criterion for this ribbon is outlined in the NSCC Awards Manual.

Briefly, the shooter will qualify under the guidelines of the governing body (NRA, etc.) Any time a shooter attempts a “qualification” score, the type of target, number of rounds, time limits and range (distance) requirements must be in accordance with the regulations of the governing body. When conducting “training”, these requirements may be relaxed to achieve the training goals.

#### **VIII. TYPES OF SMALL ARMS TRAINING**

Small arms training need not be limited to small bore rimfire rifle. Handgun training may be conducted at a suitable facility . The use of devices to ensure the muzzle of the handgun is always points down range is strongly recommended. Indoor shooting ranges with lane partitions or sheets of plywood with a square shooting port cut in it may be suitable for this. Military service rifle training is authorized if the shooting range will support this type of firearm.

## **IX. RANGE FACILITIES**

Training shall be conducted on approved ranges. If using private property, the consent of the landowner must be obtained. In all cases, the Range Master shall ensure that an adequate backstop for the type of ammunition is present and in good condition. If shooting indoors, the Range Master will insure that the ventilation system is operable and adequate for the type of shooting planned.

## **X. PROHIBITED TRAINING**

Paint ball is not authorized for training. Use of airsoft type weapons are not authorized for any type of training. The act of firing any type of projectile at or towards another person is forbidden in the course of NSCC training.