



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
101 BUCHANAN ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21402-5100

COMDTMIDNINST 3591.1A
7/PRODEV
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COMDTMIDN INSTRUCTION 3591.1A

From: Commandant of Midshipmen

Subj: U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY SMALL ARMS MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3591.1E, Small Arms Training and Qualification, Paragraph 7
(b) Chief of Bureau of Navigation ltr Flt. Tr. A5-6(4)/OL11 of 21 May 1929
(c) NAVSEAINST 8370.2A, Small Arms and Weapons Management Policy and Guidance Manual, Section III, Paragraph 3-800

1. Purpose. To state the policy and define the scope of small arms training at the United States Naval Academy (USNA) and to assign responsibilities to ensure support for the various marksmanship programs.

2. Cancellation: USNAINST 3591.1

3. Background. One of the most basic professional military skills required of Naval and Marine Corps officers is the safe and effective use of small arms. Reference (a) clearly states the intentions of the Chief of Naval Operations to support small arms marksmanship from basic training through the most advanced competitions for security of Department of Defense ships, aircraft, facilities, material, and safety of personnel. USNA supports those goals and believes future officers should maintain personal proficiency in the use of firearms. Further, they should also be qualified to promote and evaluate small arms training in the fleet. It is also recognized that advanced small arms qualification and competition programs place mental pressures on the individual similar to those experienced in combat situations, and serve as a breeding ground for future skilled small arms instructors, coaches, and program managers for the naval service. In view of this, USNA conducts a multi-level small arms program to enhance midshipmen military

knowledge and competitive spirit, as well as providing necessary future basic weapons-handling expertise to the fleet.

4. Discussion. USNA marksmanship programs can be generally divided into three categories:

a. Basic Training: The basic marksmanship training program is intended to educate every midshipman in the basic use of small arms per reference (a). This program will be designed and conducted to ensure each midshipman has the capability of safely and effectively using small arms to protect life and government property in combat and security situations. All fourth class midshipmen will have the opportunity to qualify with a minimum marksman score during their plebe summer training curriculum. The other opportunity for midshipmen to exercise their marksmanship skill sets is during the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) rifle and pistol matches/qualification as established by reference (b). During this match/qualification, voluntary first class midshipmen may participate and receive trophy rifles for first through third place with both the service rifle and service pistol.

b. Advanced Training: Advanced marksmanship training is designed for midshipmen to develop and increase their personal knowledge of small arms marksmanship above the basic level and to compete. These individuals will provide a high level of expertise to advance Naval Academy and fleet small arms programs. The advanced marksmanship programs include the Varsity Rifle team (Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA) sponsored), International Pistol club (Physical Education/Athletics sponsored), Combat Arms team, High Power Rifle team, and the Trap and Skeet team. These advanced shooting teams train and compete on collegiate, national, and international levels.

c. Commandant of Midshipmen Approved Training: This category includes the Infantry Skills team (IST), Semper Fi club, and any other Commandant-directed training or competitions. The IST trains exclusively to compete in the annual Sandhurst Competition held at the United States Military Academy in April. Semper Fi club supports the United States Marine Corps training pipeline. Shooting skill sets are incorporated into their training plans and evolutions.

5. Assignment of Responsibility

a. The Commandant of Midshipmen is responsible for:

(1) Coordinating practice periods and movement orders/excusal lists and as requested from the various program sponsors (responsible officer: Midshipmen Activities Officer and Movement Officer).

(2) Maintaining the records of midshipmen qualifications and awards in midshipmen personnel records (responsible officer: Midshipmen Personnel Officer and Company Officers).

(3) Coordinating fourth class regiment marksmanship training and maintaining associated records.

c. The Director, Division of Professional Development is responsible for:

(1) Budgeting for travel, per diem, registration fees, and equipment to support the midshipmen High-Power Rifle, Combat Arms, and Trap and Skeet teams year round, as well as both the Varsity Rifle and International Pistol team during those periods when they are out of season, and therefore not under the direction of NAAA.

(2) Coordinating the SECNAV Trophy Competition and maintaining associated records.

(3) Maintaining and scheduling the outdoor rifle and pistol ranges to support basic, advanced, and Commandant-approved training programs.

(4) Designate Range Safety Officers to conduct midshipmen marksmanship training programs on the outdoor shooting facilities, per reference (a).

(5) Acquiring and storing government-issue small arms and ammunition for midshipmen programs and assisting the advanced programs' officer representatives and coaches in obtaining government-owned small arms and equipment to support marksmanship programs.

(6) Budgeting for all range equipment, targets, government weapons' spare parts and materials necessary for maintenance of the outdoor ranges and shooting programs.

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(7) Making available gun-smithing services, functional testing, and accuracy testing for government and NAAA-owned small arms used by midshipmen for training and/or competition.

(8) Scheduling and providing water transportation.

(9) Messing when requested for marksmanship programs.

d. The First Lieutenant, Bancroft Hall, is responsible for:

(1) Maintaining the indoor ranges of USNA and coordinating normal maintenance and repairs with the Public Works Department.

(2) Holding required inventories per reference (c) of the government-owned small arms used and/or stored on the indoor ranges.

(3) Budgeting for all equipment not directly related to shooting used on the Bancroft Hall indoor ranges (e.g., lockers, furniture, carpet, vacuum cleaners, etc.)

e. Officer Representative and Coaches of Naval Academy Small Arms Programs are responsible for:

(1) Coordinating the practice periods, movement orders, budget, supply requests, and any other pertinent aspect of their individual programs with the applicable addressees.

(2) Ensuring qualified midshipmen members of their programs will be available to provide expertise/coaching for the Secretary of the Navy competitions and/or conduct standard midshipmen small arms training programs, as necessary.

6. Action. The Marksmanship Training Unit Officer is responsible for the annual review and update of this instruction.



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