

147th Gettysburg Confederate Artillery Rules and Regulations

General Regulations

1. *No Mountain Howitzers or any type of fractional scale guns. Only guns employing 57" wheel carriages as a standard mount (i.e. #1 and #2 carriages)*
2. *Upon arrival, all guns must be reported to the Artillery Corps HQ to receive further inspection information and gun park placement.*
3. **Absolutely no rolling of rounds on site.** *All rounds are to be pre-rolled and placed in a secure ammunition box. The ammunition box must have a working lock and will be checked by the Safety Officer.*
4. *All rounds are to be made of only black powder contained within a properly formed aluminum foil casing. Absolutely no flour or other foreign materials are to be added to or in addition to any round (only black powder). No plastic bags or wrap will be allowed. The Safety Officer will inspect round construction.*
5. *Up to four (4) ounces of gun powder for each inch of bore will be allowed. (Example: 3" bore allows 12 oz. or less of gunpowder).*
6. *A three-minute rule will be in effect. This means you must wait three minutes before a round is seated to the breach after firing the previous round.*
7. *All guns, limbers, and ammunition boxes will be inspected and approved by appointed Safety Officer before being allowed to participate. Safety Officer must witness crew participation in drill, including a miss fire, before the crew will be allowed to participate in any battles. Positions 1 through 4 must be at least 16 years of age. Proof of age may be requested!*
8. *All vents must meet safety regulation measurement requirements and must be brushed after each firing.*

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9. *Flags will be limited to one (1) flag per four-gun battery. Flags can be rotated for each battle. Battalion Commanders will assign the flag rotations.*
10. *Absolutely no rank higher than Captain unless approved by Chief of Artillery. This is to make our battalions more historically correct and to follow the proper chain of command.*
11. *No accoutrements (canteen, haversack, etc.) will be worn by cannoneers on positions one (1) through four (4). Store such items at the limber for easy access. The Gunner may have an unloaded side arm, which must be inspected by the Safety Officer prior to taking the field. Commanders and gunners are expected to give the gun crews ample opportunity to form at the limber for water and rest during the battle or drills. Use common sense but do not endanger the health of the participants.*
12. *Handling misfires: After the third misfire the vent and barrel must be properly flushed and unloaded through the muzzle (no fourth attempts). If any misfired primer tube (first or second attempts) cannot be accounted for, the barrel must be flushed and unloaded through the muzzle. No re-ramming misfired rounds. The only time a round can be re-rammed is when #3 discovers the round is not properly seated BEFORE it is fired the first time. If it becomes necessary that you must unload through the muzzle for any reason, a safety officer must be present during the procedure. Misfired primers must be removed from the field in a safe receptacle.*
13. *All firearms (long guns or side arms) are to be inspected by the Safety Officer prior to each engagement.*
14. *Failure to comply with rules may result in removal from the field and subsequent loss of bounty.*

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Safety Inspection Points

1. *Bore and vent must be clean and clear of all foreign matter before the event.*
2. *Check and tighten all bolts on gun carriage, especially the cheek and chin bolts.*
3. *Make sure the trunnion caps and pins are tight and held properly in place by cotter pins or other acceptable fastener.*
4. *Use a strong vent brush with new bronze, brass, or copper bristles.*
5. *Vent pick should have a sharp point to assure a good puncture of the round to prevent a misfire and also should be clean of all gunpowder.*
6. *Use a period type lanyard that is in good condition and constructed of a non-elastic material. It is highly recommended there be at least one spare lanyard available in the limber.*
7. *The ammunition box should be clean and free of all loose gunpowder and primers are to be stored in a separate container securely away from the rounds.*
8. *Make sure you have a workable and strong lock to secure the ammunition box. A period lock would be preferable.*
9. *Heavy leather “welder style” gauntlets (gloves) in good condition and period uniform jackets for use by #1 and #2 positions are required. Doeskin or thin leather gloves are not acceptable at this event.*
10. *Period thumb-stall for #3 position should be in good clean condition capable of securing the vent as required.*

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11. *Proper sponge head material should be in good condition and secured to the sponge head securely. The sponge head should fit the bore in a manner that creates a proper vacuum when extracted (not too loose, nor too tight).*
12. *Check and sharpen your worm to make sure it can remove the spent tin foil. The worm head should be securely tightened to the wooden shaft and the prongs properly angled out beyond the surface of the worm coil.*
13. *All leather accoutrements are to be free of gunpowder and in good working condition.*
14. *Vent flushing apparatus (syringe, pressurized extinguisher, etc.) should be available in the event a round needs to be flushed in the barrel.*
15. *Acceptable drill styles are NCWAA or USFAA.*

Helpful Hints:

1. *Bring necessary tow bars or other apparatus to tow your gun and limber from the Artillery Park to the battle site. Designated tow vehicles will be assigned and parking passes will be distributed for these vehicles.*
2. *Always use fresh and professionally made primers to prevent misfires.*
3. *Have an extra water container available to aid you if there is a situation that requires extra water. Extra water may be necessary for the “unloading through the muzzle drill” and may also be useful for cleaning the piece after the battle is over. If visible, the container needs to be period correct on the field (Wood, metal or canvas) or must be properly covered during the event.*
4. *Long needle nose pliers should be available in your limber for use during the misfire drill.*

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5. *Have the necessary chocks to chock both your gun wheels and limber wheels.*
6. *It is suggested that you bring an extra worm, sponge, rammers and other items in case of equipment failure.*
7. *Rank for a gun crew should be assigned historically. A Corporal or Sergeant should be the Gunner. All other positions should be privates.*
8. *If you have a physical condition that may require special attention or may affect the outcome of possible emergency treatment during the event, it is recommended you notify your commanding officer or someone who would be with you on the field of such condition in advance of taking the field.*

Unit commander's or representative's acknowledgement these rules have been read and understood:

Unit name _____

Commander's name (print) _____

Commander's signature _____ Date _____