

CATHEDRAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL SAFETY POLICY

Prior to any training the Cathedral City Police Department safety policy shall be read to all students participating in the training. They are as follows:

- Students will be asked to identify any injuries or pre-existing medical restrictions that will affect their ability to participate.
- Instructors will demonstrate an attitude of safety at all times.
- Any injuries during the class shall be reported immediately.
- Location of the restroom facilities, the first aid station, and drinking water.
- The primary instructor for training shall brief the class on medical procedures to include the location of the First-Aid kit and the location and directions to the nearest hospital.
- All instructors are First-Aid / CPR certified.
- All instructors will have on hand a cellular phone and a land line telephone approximately 100 feet away from the training room to notify the necessary resources.
- Range instructors will evaluate any student injuries to determine the severity of the injury. Any student with a minor injury will be treated at the range with first aid kit unless further medical treatment is deemed necessary. Students with moderate injuries will be sent to either an urgent care or the local emergency room depending on the type of injury and if an urgent care is operating based on the time of day. For any serious injuries either of the two local hospitals will be utilized based on the discretion of the ambulance service. If a student needs to be transported to the hospital for a serious injury the range's local ambulance service will be the used. The two regional hospitals include Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs and Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage.
- The training area shall remain accessible to fire, rescue, and other emergency vehicles.
- Instructors shall ensure there is ample staging and stand down areas that provide water, rest rooms, and First-Aid.
- The instructors will be responsible to ensure that the safety policy is followed.

INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TO STUDENT RATIOS

Presenters shall establish the appropriate instruction staff-to-student ratios for each manipulative skills training category they are certified to present. The purpose of establishing Instruction staff-to-student ratios is to ensure an adequate level of supervision. Instruction staff-to-student ratios are not intended to be absolute and may differ depending on the particular training experience.

EMERGENCY AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

In the event of an injury during training, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. Officers are told to report all injuries to the instructor immediately.
2. Officers are told to report all safety hazards to the instructor immediately.
3. In the event of an injury, the following actions shall be taken as necessary:
 - a. Render first aid and/or CPR.
 - b. Obtain appropriate medical assistance. In all cases where a student loses consciousness, an evaluation shall be sought from a competent medical authority before the student is allowed to return to training.
 - c. Notify administration or watch commander.
 - d. Investigate and complete an injury on duty report using the appropriate reporting forms or protocols specific to the Cathedral City Police Department.
 - e. Students who sustain an injury which requires treatment by a physician must obtain a medical release before they will be allowed to resume training.
4. Injuries will be evaluated by range staff to determine the severity of the injury. Appropriate medical treatment will be sought depending on how serious the injury is. A specific handheld radio, cell phone, marked unit and range staff member designated for medical transport are present at all trainings.

Serious Student Injuries - Students will be transported to either local hospital:

Desert Regional Medical Center - 1150 N. Indian Canyon, Palm Springs, CA 92262

Emergency dept. direct line: (760) 323-6251 Hours of operation – 24 hours, 7 days a week

Eisenhower Memorial Hospital - 39000 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 - Emergency dept.

direct line: (760) 340-3911 Hours of operation – 24 hours, 7 days a week

Moderate Student Injuries

Eisenhower Urgent Care – 67555 E Palm Canyon Dr. Suite C112, Cathedral City, CA 92234 - (760) 773-1680 - Hours of operation: Monday thru Friday, 0800 – 1700

Eisenhower Memorial Hospital - 39000 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 - Emergency dept.

direct line: (760) 340-3911 Hours of operation – 24 hours, 7 days a week

Minor Student Injuries

Initial minor injuries will be treated by the Range staff utilizing the First Aid kit located in designated safety zone. Students who sustain a minor injury will be evaluated and the injury documented by the instructor, then forwarded to the training coordinator. Should the student require/desire medical attention in furtherance of the First Aid administered, the staff will utilize the following medical facility:

Eisenhower Urgent Care – 67555 E Palm Canyon Dr. Suite C112, Cathedral City, CA 92234 - (760) 773-1680 - Hours of operation: Monday thru Friday, 0800 – 1700

CATHEDRAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

FIREARMS /TACTICAL RIFLE COURSE COURSE SPECIFIC SAFETY POLICY

A copy of the general and course specific safety policies will be provided to each instructor and officer. The instructor will discuss and review the firearms safety rules with the officers in attendance.

All range sessions will be held at the Palm Springs Gun Club, located at 27555 Rio Del Sol, Thousand Palms, CA. Prior to use, the Cathedral City Police Dept instructor or their designee will inspect the range facility for any safety hazards.

Prior to the start of class, the firearms instructors will conduct a pre-training safety inspection of all firearms and safety equipment to be used during training or testing. Prior to active live fire training or testing, the primary firearms instructor will discuss the four firearms safety rules at the beginning of each class session. All officers are responsible for adhering to all safety rules during firearms training.

All officers shall receive orientation training on the principles of firearms safety, cleaning procedures, disassembly, reassembly, safety inspections, and fundamental marksmanship skills prior to live fire training sessions.

All officers, Cathedral City PD staff and firearms instructors shall abide by the following four firearms safety rules at all times:

- 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.**
- 2. Do not allow your muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to destroy.**
- 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned and you've made the conscious decision to shoot.**
- 4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.**

When conducting firearms training, the following rules shall be adhered to:

1. Prior to being issued a firearm, the officers shall have received the CCPD Firearms lecture on firearms safety. This training shall include proper firearms inspection procedures to determine whether or not a firearm is in a "safe" condition and the procedures to render a firearm "safe" if it is loaded.
2. Prior to any firearm being issued to an officer, the Cathedral City PD staff member or firearms instructor will verify the status of each firearm. The Cathedral City PD staff member or firearms instructor shall visually and physically check each firearm by locking the bolt of the firearm in the "open" position, thoroughly check the chamber and magazine to verify there is no ammunition in the firearm.

3. If the firearms training requires the use of magazines, each magazine shall be inspected by an Cathedral City PD staff member or their designee to ensure the magazine followers are visible and there is no ammunition in the magazines. The magazine inspection will be performed prior to the magazines being issued to an officer.
4. Immediately upon receipt of a firearm from an Cathedral City PD staff member or firearms instructor, each officer shall visually and physically verify the status of the firearm by insuring the bolt is open, the magazine well is empty, and the chamber is clear to ensure there is no ammunition in the firearm.

Officers are responsible for reading, understanding, and complying with the following Range Safety Rules.

1. Always adhere to the four basic firearms safety rules.
 - **Treat all guns as if they are loaded.**
 - **Do not allow your muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to destroy.**
 - **Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned and you've made the conscious decision to shoot.**
 - **Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.**
2. Always wash hands thoroughly after shooting any firearm to remove any lead residue.
3. Any behavior deemed unsafe by a firearms instructor or Cathedral City PD staff member will be grounds for removal from the range and no credit given for that training day.
4. Ballistic vests shall be worn at all times by officers on the range.
5. Never load any firearm on the firing line unless commanded to do so by a firearms instructor. Loading magazines is permissible behind the firing line.
6. Never dry practice behind the firing line unless you are training with a firearms instructor.
7. Never talk to anyone on the firing line, unless you are instructing, being instructed, or working as a range staff member.
8. In case of a firearm malfunction, keep the firearm pointed down-range, clear the malfunction and continue the course of fire.
9. Always keep the muzzle pointed down-range and never load a firearm unless the muzzle is pointed down range.
10. Never lay a firearm down without unloading it and locking the bolt in the "open" position.
11. Looking through the chamber, visually check the barrel of a firearm for any obstruction before firing.
12. While on the firing line all handguns shall remain in the holster and snapped until instructed by a firearms instructor to remove the firearm.

13. Never fire a succeeding shot following a malfunction of a cartridge, wait until a firearms instructor has examined the firearm. In the case of defective “squib” cartridge, the report will not be normal. The gun will be pointed towards the target area for a period of ten seconds to allow for the possibility of a delayed fire. At such time, the gun should be unloaded, and the muzzle checked for obstructions.
 14. Never approach the target area until receiving a voice command from a firearms instructor.
 15. Never permit the muzzle of a firearm to touch the ground. If the muzzle touches the ground, do not fire the firearm until the barrel has been checked for dirt or debris obstructions. Only a firearms instructor is authorized to check the end of the barrel.
 16. Never handle, point, or look over the sights of any firearms handed to you without first opening the action of the firearm and checking the chamber to be sure it is not loaded. Always check the firearm twice; the first time to see if it is unloaded and the second time to verify you were right the first time.
 17. ALL officers shall wear their ballistic vest, eye and ear protection while at a range facility.
 18. Officers will never carry any handgun while cocked (exception-1911 style caliber handgun).
 19. All firearms safety rules must be strictly adhered to and will be always enforced. To help prevent accidents and/or injuries the strictest discipline will be maintained by all officers at all times while on the firing ranges. Careless behavior and/or failure to follow directions of any type will not be tolerated during firearms training. Any Cathedral City PD staff member, firearms instructor, or range staff member can remove an officer from the firing line or the range itself for any unsafe practices or violations of firearms safety rules and guidelines.
 20. Any “horse play,” practical jokes, or other immature/inappropriate behavior deemed so by an Cathedral City PD staff member, firearms instructor or range staff will be grounds for removal from the range.
 21. Officers not participating in training shall be separated from those officers involved in the training and under the supervision of an instructor.
- A. All firearms instructors shall have completed a 40-hour POST certified Firearms Instructor course. All rifle instructors shall have completed a POST certified Rifle Instructor Course.
- B. While conducting live fire range exercises, the firearms instructor staff to student ratio shall not exceed four “active” students per firearms instructor.
- C. During live fire exercises, a specific safe area shall be designated by the firearms instructor for non-shooting officers. The safe area shall be sufficient distance away from the live fire shooting area to provide a wide margin of safety. Cathedral City PD staff and officers shall wear eye and ear protection while engaged in shooting or while in the immediate vicinity of the firing line.
- D. Officers shall be given an orientation on the prescribed courses of fire and given the opportunity to practice each course of fire prior to testing. Officers shall be notified, in advance, when they will be testing for firearms qualification.

E. Cathedral City PD staff and officers shall adhere to all rules governing the safe operation of firearms training pursuant to Cathedral City Police Department Procedures and the California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training “Guidelines for Student Safety in Certified Courses.”

F. Any safety concerns identified by an officer shall be immediately brought to the attention of any Cathedral City PD staff member or firearms instructor.

FACILITIES

The principal Cathedral City PD range is located 27555 Rio Del Sol, Thousand Palms, CA.

1. The shooting lanes are level dirt surface.
2. The range has a designated safe zone with tables and chairs for officers located well behind the 50-yard line to receive instruction, eat lunch and clean firearms.
3. The range has bottled drinking water and portable restrooms which are located in the safe zone.
4. The firearms instructors bring their cell phones to all range days.
5. The range is not equipped with lighting for night time shooting, target assessment confirmed by range staff only and assure all personnel are off the firing line.
6. A portable first aid/trauma kit is maintained on site.
7. The range is located in a secure and isolated area, free from pedestrians, onlookers and outside distractions. The range is on private property and is gated and always locked. Signs will be posted that range is in use on an A-frame stand.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Officers are required to wear their ballistic vests, eye and ear protection at each range training session.
2. Officers are told to bring sun block, insect repellant, their uniform ball cap, over the ankle boots, jackets, adequate drinking water, and a lunch.
3. All firearms will either be loaded and unloaded on the firing line or at the designated loading and unloading containment box(s) at the range.
4. Cathedral City PD staff is responsible for issuing ammunition for each of the range training sessions.
5. All weapons will be inspected by range staff prior to training.
6. If steel targets are used at a range, they must be at a minimum of 10 yards for handgun and 25 yards for rifle, away from the firing line and angled away from the shooter to reduce risk of ricochets.
7. Eye protection and rubber gloves are required while disassembling and cleaning firearms.

INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TO STUDENT RATIOS

The instructor to student ratios for firearms classes is one instructor to four shooting students on a static firing line.

SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES

The specific safety rules for firearms live-fire training are listed in the beginning of this document:

1. All officers will be made familiar with the four basic range safety rules at the beginning of each range session
 - **Treat all guns as if they are loaded.**
 - **Do not allow your muzzle to cover anything you are not willing to destroy.**
 - **Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are aligned and you've made the conscious decision to shoot.**
 - **Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.**
2. All officers are taught Cathedral City PD range procedures and firearms safety rules.
3. Before any Cathedral City PD firearm is issued to an officer, each firearm is inspected by a POST certified firearms instructor to insure there is no ammunition in the firearm.
4. Whether driving personal or department vehicles it is required that the students/officers obey all laws when traveling to or from the range. While driving on the un-paved road to the range site, no unsafe driving or speeds above 10 mph will be tolerated.
5. The gate to the range will be kept closed and latched except when a vehicle is entering or leaving the range property.
6. As facilities are limited at the range it is recommended that students/officers bring their own water and food, especially if the weather is warm. Evenings can be cold; appropriate clothing is recommended.
7. While on the Department's range, all students/officers will comply with the Department's range rules and no horse play will be tolerated. Safety is the top concern.
8. Instructors will be equipped with a whistle. The students/officers will stop all activity whenever a whistle is blown.
9. No weapons will be loaded without the knowledge of the instructor. Weapons will only be loaded when directed by the instructor.
10. Officers shall be instructed to wash hands, face, clothing upon completion of training session.

EMERGENCY AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

In the event of an injury during firearms training, the following procedures shall be followed:

5. Officers are told to report all injuries to the instructor immediately.
6. Officers are told to report all safety hazards to the instructor immediately.
7. In the event of an injury, the following actions shall be taken as necessary:
 - a. Render first aid and/or CPR.

- b. Obtain appropriate medical assistance. In all cases where a student loses consciousness, an evaluation shall be sought from a competent medical authority before the student is allowed to return to training.
 - c. Notify administration or watch commander.
 - d. Investigate and complete an injury on duty report using the appropriate reporting forms or protocols specific to the Cathedral City Police Department.
 - e. Students who sustain an injury which requires treatment by a physician must obtain a medical release before they will be allowed to resume training.
8. Injuries will be evaluated by range staff to determine the severity of the injury. Appropriate medical treatment will be sought depending on how serious the injury is. A specific handheld radio, cell phone, marked unit and range staff member designated for medical transport are present at any range training.
- 9.

Serious Student Injuries - Students will be transported to either local hospital:

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I have read and understand the General and Course Specific Safety Policies for firearms training. I agree to abide by these safety rules during all Cathedral City Police Departments training.

Print Name	Signed	Officer ID#	Date
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Cathedral City Police Department Training Division
POST Rifle Course

Course Title/ Course Number: Firearms/Tactical Rifle, course # 32075

Course Hours: 16

Course goal: To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a Rifle.

Audience: Sworn Peace Officers, including Level I and Level II Reserve Officers who are being introduced to a rifle and will qualify and carry it on duty in the scope of their employment.

Note: Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training mandate to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

Course Objectives: Under the supervision of a qualified instructor, and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

- I. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
- II. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
- III. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
- IV. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
- V. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.
- VI. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

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POST Rifle Course

REQUIRED CONTENT

Commission Regulation 1081

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) Skill Development and Qualification

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Introduction and Orientation
 - A. Instructor Introductions
 - B. Class and Instructors Critique Distribution
 - C. Distribute Materials
 - D. General Safety Plan Review and Waiver Signing
- II. Laws and Agency Policy
 - A. Penal Code section 32610(b)
 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
 - B. Penal Code section 33220(b)
 1. Training requirement
 - C. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies
 1. Use of Force options
 2. Department Policy
 - D. Law Update
 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 2. Graham vs. Conner
- III. Safety and Range Rules
 - A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.

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POST Rifle Course

4. Always be sure of your target and beyond.

B. Range Rules

1. After weapons have been grounded, and the line has been called safe by an instructor do not touch the weapon until all students are back from their targets, and the instructor has given the okay.
2. If a problem arises on the line, raise your non-gun-hand to summon an instructor.

IV. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities

A. Nomenclature

1. Front and Rear Sights
2. Bolt Catch
3. Magazine Release
4. Safety/Selector
5. Magazine
6. Sling and Sling Attachments

B. Specifications

1. Type of Weapon
2. Barrel Length
3. Overall Length
4. Caliber
5. Magazine Capacity
6. Weight (empty)
7. Type of Sights
8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity

C. Capabilities

1. Maximum Range
2. Maximum Effective Range
3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
4. Full/Semi-Automatic

V. Firearm Care, Disassembly/Assembly, and Maintenance

- A. Refer to the manufacturer's care and operation manual.

VI. Basic Shooting Skills

A. Stance/Position

1. Standing

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2. Kneeling
 3. Sitting
 4. Prone
- B. Sight Alignment/Picture
1. Sight Alignment
 2. Top of front sight post centered in the rear peep.
 3. 100 percent focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear peep and target are blurred.
 4. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment.
- C. Sight Picture
1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.
- D. Trigger Control
1. Emphasize that this is the single most important element.
 2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made.
- E. Grip/Stock Weld
- F. Breathing
1. Breath must be held at the moment the shot is made.
 2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
 3. Holding breath too long will cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot must be made before this happens.
- G. Follow Through
1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.
- VII. Clearing Malfunctions and Stoppages
- A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun
- B. Failure to fire
1. “Tap, Rack, Assess”
 - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

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2. Stove pipe
 - a. Tilt rifle so that ejection port faces the ground
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
3. Feed way stoppages
 - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
 - b. Remove the magazine from the weapon
 1. Discard magazine
 - c. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber
 - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
 - e. Chamber a round
 - f. Obtain sight picture
 - g. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

VIII. Tactical Considerations

- A. Based on agency guidelines and training
- B. Physical environment
- C. Be aware of cover and concealment
- D. Rifle caliber rounds will penetrate soft body armor... (yours or theirs!).
- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain safe distances to adversaries.
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased effective range over the service shotgun and handgun.
- G. The Patrol Rifle affords more accuracy than a service shotgun with a rifled slug.
- H. The Patrol Rifle is easier to load and re-load than a service shotgun.
- I. The Patrol Rifle has a larger ammunition capacity than a service shotgun.

IX. Shooting Decision

- A. Know your abilities and limitations, and those of your weapon.
- B. Exercise fire discipline within agency guidelines and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws.

X. Skill Development

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
 1. Dry firing is defined as cocking an unloaded weapon and dropping the hammer by pulling the trigger.
 2. Done for the purpose of trigger control and practicing new skills.
 3. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 4. Students will ensure no live ammunition is present during dry firing.

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5. Students will dry fire in each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
- B. Live Firing Exercises
1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 2. Live ammunition is utilized
 3. Students will live fire in each position
 4. Students will live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.

1. Malfunction Drills

Teaching Points: If the student is at some distance and/or behind cover, then the below method may be appropriate. If at close distance, then transitioning to handgun is probably a good option rather than trying to clear the malfunction.

- Analogy: Similar to actions taken to clear a handgun
- Recognize weapon failure & transition if in direct contact
- Immediate action (weapon is kept tight into the shoulder) - “Tap, Rack, Roll to Right, Assess”
 - Tap magazine with support hand
 - Rack bolt with support hand
 - Roll weapon to right to allow gravity to assist
 - Assess
- Weapon should be kept parallel to the ground and shooters should be focused on their environment

2. Double feed clearing

Malfunction drill, may be run either live fire or dry fire on either day.

- Double Feeds
 - Recognize weapon failure & transition if in direct contact
 - Immediate Action—Tap, Rack, Roll to Right
 - Weapon still does not function
 - Lock bolt to rear

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- Remove magazine
- Insert finger into magazine well to remove any rounds that are stuck
- Rack the bolt two to three times
- Insert fresh magazine
- Let bolt go forward (do not ride the bolt or charging handle)

3. Stance Drill

Teaching Points: First, to make sure students understand the importance of properly loading their magazines. When loaded to full capacity most magazines will not properly seat into the magazine well with the bolt in the closed position. Second is to give the students a “hands on” learning experience regarding the importance of a proper firing position.

- Have the students let their bolts go forward (closed bolt)
- Once this is done have them try to seat the magazine into the magazine well. (If they have fully loaded it, most mags won't seat.)
- Have the students properly load from an open bolt. **Individually** with an instructor coaching each student, have them go through a half magazine on full auto. The coach has to be close enough to each student to immediately correct any safety errors during this drill.

4. Tactical Reload Lecture and Drill

Teaching Point:

If possible, a “tac reload” should be carried out behind cover and/or in the presence of a cover officer.

M4 Weapon specific points:

- Primary Mag Pouch philosophy for consistent magazine retrieval.
- Three Methods for right handed use of the M-4
 - Retention—Works best for left handed shooters, as well as shooters with small hands
 - Support hand removes old mag.
 - Shooter obtains a new mag and places it in the mag well using the “push/pull technique”
 - Side by Side

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- Shooter draws fresh mag out of pouch and brings it up to the weapon
- Keeping the index finger of the support hand between the new and old mag, shooter grasps mag in the weapon
- Shooter activates mag release using strong hand, removes old mag
- Shooter inserts new, using “push/pull” technique
- Depending upon the situation, shooter can either secure old mag in pocket or dump pouch, or continue to hold mag in their hand
- “L” Formation
 - Shooter draws fresh mag and brings it up to weapon
 - Shooter grasps the old mag while holding the new mag parallel to the ground
 - Shooter removes old mag by activating mag release and inserts new mag using “push/pull” technique
 - Depending upon the situation, shooter can either secure old mag in pocket or dump pouch, or continue to hold mag in their hand

5. Speed Reload Lecture & Drill

Teaching Point: Instruct students on how to reload their long guns when the weapons have been run dry. NOTE: Some students may use verbal communications similar to our “Team Reload” drill. This is not an appropriate technique for use when the student is holding an empty weapon.

M-4 rifle lecture & drill (Demo right and left handed)

- This is a case of the gun running “dry” due to multiple rounds being fired.
- Start with bolt locked to the rear and empty mag in M-4. Weapon stays in the shoulder throughout the reload, level with the ground. Students should keep their eyes down range as they carry out the reload.
- Emphasize proper magazine placement in mag pouches. Discuss proper staging of the mag in the mag pouch so that when drawn, the magazine is oriented and ready to immediately go into the magazine well.

This is analogous to positioning of handgun mags on a patrol handgun rig.

- Right handed shooter
 - Acquire fresh mag and bring it up to the magazine well.
 - Index finger of right hand activates mag release, dropping the used magazine to the ground
 - Insert fresh magazine with a “push/pull” motion.

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- Use palm of left hand to slap the bolt release, allowing the bolt to go forward
- Left handed shooter
 - Thumb of right hand activates mag release.
 - Remove the used magazine and just let it drop.
 - Acquire new magazine
 - Insert magazine with a “push/pull” motion
 - Either use left index finger to activate bolt catch, take left hand off pistol grip and slap the bolt catch with the palm or reach over the top with right hand and work bolt handle or bolt catch

Speed Reload Live Fire Drill.

- Instruct students to “open bolt” load the mag with _____ rounds into the weapon. Then let the bolt close.
- Brief the students that on the command of "Threat" they will fire
- _____ The need for a speed reload magazine exchange should be obvious, especially if they press the trigger and the gun does not fire or the hammer falls on an empty cylinder. They should then carry out a reload and complete the course of fire
 - Make sure students have their magazine pouches snapped down
 - Reemphasize the "primary magazine pouch" concept

6. Varied distances

Teaching Points: If the instructional intent is to do this with realistic distances, then the first two phases (Accelerated & Controlled pairs) should use paper targets only while the Dedicated Pair technique should be used on either paper or steel targets

- Accelerated pair philosophy—rapid immediate shots at close distance.
- Controlled pair philosophy—slight pause between each shot to re-acquire the front sight due to the fact that the shooter is at an intermediate distance from the suspect
- Dedicated pair philosophy—At longer distances, and preferably behind cover if possible, reacquire front sight after each shot for accurate hits.

These three trigger techniques are driven by the distance between the suspect and officer. Closer distances require quicker trigger control than farther away from the suspect. As distances increases, the need to focus on the basics becomes more important for accurate hits.

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7. Firing Positions.

SAFETY NOTES:

- Check for any pre-existing injury that might prevent students from participating or injure them if they try. Students with such problems should be told that they need only try the positions that they are comfortable with.
- Also, when using firing positions and they experience a malfunction—
—the students **will not** transition to handgun

Teaching Points:

- Emphasize shooters should
 - Firing positions are a tradeoff between mobility, stability and the ability to see down range. Great when standing but may be more diminished as we get lower to the ground.
 - Scan their environment both to the front and rear as they come out of a shooting position and their field of view changes
 - Shooters should remain aware of the muzzle of their weapon, which should be parallel to the ground and pointed downrange
- Kneeling
 - Single knee: Supported (“low”) and Unsupported (“high”) positions
 - Double Knee

8. Transition to sidearm

Teaching Points: This drill should be run dry fire first, then with long guns on “**Safe**”. Instill a combat mind set and make sure students do not automatically holster their handguns at the end of each drill. “Always holster reluctantly.”

NOTE: By now we should be teaching the students after each repetition to communicate with their partners (“Partner, you OK”), with the suspect (“Don’t move!”) and with the team leader and/or Command Post.

- Basic elements of transitioning
 - Recognize condition of weapon and need to transition
 - Quickly remove strong hand from long gun and draw sidearm
 - As sidearm is being presented, guide long gun in a controlled descent, twisting the long gun inward, so the muzzle is pointing at the ground and the long gun is trapped against shooters chest.
 - Once the long gun is secured the shooter can use a two-hand grip on their sidearm

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9. Team Reloads

Teaching Points: This is an exercise in communication just as much as reloading. Also works on malfunction clearing problems.

- Definition of verbalizations “**COVER, COVERING, READY**”
 - “**COVER**”—The operator who needs to reload uses this word to alert their partner they need to reload
 - The shooter continues saying “cover” until they are acknowledged
 - “**COVERING**”—The operator who is answering the call of “Cover” uses this word to be acknowledged they are prepared to defend the person reloading
 - The operator providing cover should, if at all possible move into a position where they are in slight physical contact with the person they are defending but not in front of them.
 - “**READY**”—The operator who has successfully completed their reload or has cleared their malfunction, uses this word to alert the operator who is defending them that they are ready to stand
- Practical Application
 - Operator needing to reload or clear a malfunction calls for “**COVER**”
 - Operator who is able to answer the call and is prepared to defend their partner moves into position and answers “**COVERING**”
 - In tight hallways it may be necessary for the defending operator to come over the top of the operator reloading. If this occurs the defending operator should use their support hand to maintain contact with the kneeling operator to prohibit the kneeling operator from standing into their field of fire.
 - Operator conducting the reload or clearing the malfunction either remains standing or drops to one knee and deals with the problem, keeping the weapon firmly seated into the shoulder with the muzzle parallel to the ground while remaining aware of the direction of the muzzle and the environment
 - If kneeling, the operator who has reloaded or cleared the malfunction, and is prepared to resume the fight states “**READY**” before standing up.
 - Before standing, if appropriate scan your environment for new threats, including behind you (check six)

10. Drug & Armor Drills

Paper targets with “brain” targets to left & right of the head. (See sample below)

- **Teaching Points:** Head vs. Pelvic Girdle
 - Emphasize getting the hits.
- To get a good head shot, stress a “**mental downshift**” process where the students should get a “**hard focus**” on the front sight.

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- Also, stress the importance of adjusting point of aim to compensate both for the long gun's mechanical offset and the fact that it is sighted in for a greater distance than that currently between the student and the target.
- Head provides best chances of immediately stopping suspect.
 - Imagine an inverted triangle on the target's face
- First evolution commands: “**Head, Threat**” or “**Pelvic, Threat**”

At some point as the drills progress, the No Shoot cardboard people will be placed between the firing line and impact area by instructors. The line should first be unloaded and safe. Students will be instructed that if they do not have a shot, they are to announce NO SHOT as well as try to move to an angle where they may be able to take the shot. In addition, they must verbalize to the cardboard people telling them to get down or get out of the way.

11. Firing on the Move

Teaching Points: Run this drill dry fire until students have mastered the techniques at both paces. Emphasize that for the purposes of this drill, if the shooters experience a malfunction or run dry, they **will not stop** and must transition to their handguns while continuing to move forward or to the rear as appropriate. NOTE: All instructors on line for this drill.

- Two paces.
 - Slow and Deliberate
 - Dynamic
- Shooter moves at a controlled pace that allows them to successfully engage their target—Only move as fast as you can shoot accurately
- **Slow and Deliberate**
 - Heel to toe walk using the legs as shock absorbers
 - Shooters muzzle should be at low ready and the shooter should be actively searching for targets
 - Maintain alignment with shooters to left and right.
- **Dynamic**
 - Heel to toe walk using the legs as shock absorbers
 - Slightly faster than “Warrant Speed”
 - Shooters muzzle should be at low ready and the shooter should be actively searching for targets
 - Maintain alignment with shooters to left and right.

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- **Tactical Withdrawal**
 - Team leader calls for a tactical withdrawal
 - Only one pace: slow and deliberate
 - Emphasize shooters need to check behind them before moving (“Check six”)
 - Maintain alignment with shooters to left and right.
- **Direct Movement Commands**
 - “Ready to Go”, “Standby”, “Move”
 - Instructor will initially use “Threat” or “Challenge”
 - Eventually allow students to shoot when they know they can get the hits without any commands from an instructor
 - Set up strobe lights for night shoot so that they simulate shots fired at the students. They have to ID the target and shoot accurately once this has happened.

12. Oblique Movement

(Use existing numbered targets from firing on the move drills)

Teaching Points: Add more realism to the training by forcing the students to change direction, identify their target(s) and close. Instructor acts as the student’s partner forcing them to start communicating with that officer, as well as the suspect and the team leader or command post as appropriate.

- Position the entire class on one side of the range in a single file, with the first shooter
-
- When the instructor calls out a number on one of the targets the shooter will advance on the target
- When the shooter feels they can accurately place rounds on the target
- Shooter will stop three feet from the target and communicate with their partner/instructor
- Drill will be run from both sides of the range, taking care to insure the shooters practice weapon safety at all times
- Remind the students that when they are at an angle from the target, the point of aim will be offset from the center of the target’s chest

13. Safety Circle

Dry Fire only – All Long guns and handguns unloaded and checked prior to start of drill.

Instructors inspect each student. Long guns will have Chamber Safes in place.

- A muzzle awareness philosophy applied to realistic environments with people all around rather than just the sterile range environment.
- Long gun positioned in the center of the body with the muzzle at “6 O’clock” and the stock at “12 O’clock”. This is a “neutral” position that allows movement of the weapon to either direction.
- First Dry Fire Drill: All students on line with weapons at “Low ready” position.

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- Instructors walk in front of students. As an instructor approached, the student should immediately use “safety circle” and then once the instructor has passed, snap back up to low ready.
- Second Dry Fire Drill:
 - Students on line and spaced out at double arms interval.
 - Lead instructor starts at one end of the line or the other and has students follow, weaving in and out of those on line. As the end of the line reaches a student, he or she joins in.
 - Process repeated from opposite end.

Wrap up by discussing the importance of using Safety Circle in a real tactical world. Then go into Static Turns

14. Static Turns

- After shooting each time, students will move laterally one target to their right (or left). The student at the end of the line will place long gun on “safe”, turn outboard (away from students) and tactically walk behind the line to the opposite end picking up the position vacated by the lateral movement. Each student is responsible for shooting on the correct target.
- Turn into “known territory” philosophy. Demonstrate the advantage of moving forward into known territory vs. pivoting backwards.
- A “centerline cut” technique will help bring the weapon up on center mass as well as provide better muzzle control. Demonstrate the difference between using a proper centerline cut and improper muzzle control while turning.
- Use M4 to demonstrate pendulum effect with long gun in the Safety Circle neutral position (6 & 12 O’clock)
 - Commands
 - “Look”
 - “Assess”
 - “Move”
 - “Threat” or “Challenge”
 - Dry fire and live fire drills
 - 90 Degree right
 - 90 Degree left
 - 180 Degree right
 - 180 Degree left
 - 180 Degree direction of choice
 - For the final 180-degree live fire drills, use no shoot targets or pieces of paper taped over the paper targets “guns” to make them no shoots.

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15. Qualification Course

<u>Yards</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Rounds & Reps</u>	<u>Seconds</u>
			3 x 2 (6)	15
			3 x 2 (6)	10
			2 x 2 (4)	10
			2 x 2 (4)	8
			2 x 1 (2)	10
			4 x1 (4)	15
			2 x 2 (4)	8
			3 x 2 (6)	4
			2+1 x 2 (6)	5
			2 x 1 (2)	8
			3 x 2 (6)	4

Max Score: 100 Passing Score: 80 Total Rounds: 50
Hits on a line score to the lower value.

Conclusion

1. Course Evaluation
2. Instructor Critiques
3. Certificates