

# COMSTOCK CIVIL WAR REENACTORS SAFETY STANDARDS – PROCEDURES

The purpose of this document is to provide an awareness of general and specific Safety Standards governing the portrayal of a lifestyle and activities, which are inherently and potentially dangerous to each person participating in or viewing battle or camp life reenactments. Safety for yourself and all others is our first and foremost priority.

All participants in CCWR events must first complete and pass a safety test. Each Brigade Commander, Confederate, Union and Civilian are required by CCWR Bylaws to keep the safety tests of all participants of their respective Company, Brigade, or Corps, signed, dated, and filed for easy access and reference. Anyone, including minors twelve (12) years of age or older accompanied by a parent or guardian, participating on the field must first pass the safety test.

The Safety Committee consists of the Brigade Commanders. Field enforcement of safety rules will be handled by the Safety Committee and assigned Safety Deputies.

Brigade Commanders have overall responsibility for safety enforcement at events with all members and participants subject to their orders on safety matters. Infractions will be dealt with tiered discipline depending on the severity of the infraction beginning with the Commanding Officer.

Ultimately, YOU are responsible for your own safety.

It will be the responsibility of parents to supervise and care for their own child or children at all times, unless they have been sponsored; in which case, that Sponsor, acting as guardian, will take responsibility.

Prior to all battles, a roster shall be presented to the Brigade Commander (respective to that Brigade) which will indicate current membership in the CCWR, or valid membership in another Re-Enacting club, or approval for walk-on participation for this event.

All rules and regulations of the Host Park and recreation districts, property owners, &c., will be obeyed without question, but are subject to negotiation and amendment to coordinate with the rules and regulations of the Comstock Civil War ReEnactors prior to the scheduled event or activity. See your Brigade Commander for negotiated amendments.

In the event of an actual injury, first aid is to be quickly administered, with the least amount of attention drawn as possible. The term "MEDIC" is reserved for real, actual emergencies only. Do not move the seriously injured!

# COMSTOCK CIVIL WAR REENACTORS

## SAFETY STANDARDS – PROCEDURES

To avoid unnecessary conflict, at no time will any person pick up another person's weapon without prior permission of said person. The only exception will be if it is evident that the weapon was lost or misplaced. The weapon should then be turned into the company headquarters, Brigade Commanders, or Owner.

Skirmishes, battles, and raids are prohibited at public events except when coordinated between Brigade Commanders, Company Commanders, and the site host. At backcountry events, raids may be expected 24 hours a day.

Colors or Standards must be given up, as part of a battle scenario, only if the bearer is "killed" or "captured" on the battlefield. Prior notification and approval of Company Commanders is necessary, as is the safe and immediate return of said Colors and/or Standards after "RECALL" has been sounded.

The Safety Marshal shall attend all Officers Calls prior to every battle to identify the scope and dimensions of the battlefield. The Safety Marshal shall brief the Deputy Marshals to ensure everyone is aware of the scope and dimensions of the field of battle.

The Narrator will have use of the sound system, if applicable, so he/she can explain to the audience our safety rules; especially battlefield restrictions and the handling of loose cartridges and caps that they may find.

Combatants may enter the field only from designated staging areas once the battle has begun.

### Artillery

Before each battle, Battery Commanders must inspect participating artillery from the opposing side. Each artillery piece must successfully pass the safety inspection before being allowed to fire in any event.

Each artillery piece must have a certificate of inspection.

# COMSTOCK CIVIL WAR REENACTORS SAFETY STANDARDS – PROCEDURES

## CAVALRY & HORSES

Each Brigade (Union and Confederate) will have a Company Commander for the Cavalry Unit. The Company Commander is responsible for enforcing all CCWR Bylaw requirements for cavalry and horsemen within the Brigade. The Company Commander may designate an Evaluator to test and certify the qualifications of horses and their rider/handlers. The Company Commander must meet the necessary qualifications as an Evaluator and have a minimum of one (1) year experience in mounted cavalry leadership and knowledge of 19th century tactics.

Horses may only be handled by the horse's owner or person(s) designated by the owner.

Unruly or uncontrollable horses will be removed from the battlefield or event at the discretion of the Brigade Commander and or the Company Commander over the Cavalry unit.

Due to the dangers involved and the unpredictable nature of a "runaway" horse, no one is to approach a "runaway" unless specifically instructed to do so by the cavalry commander on site.

The owner of a horse or person(s) designated by the owner is legally responsible for the actions of that horse, even if another person rides that horse, unless other arrangements have been made through liability contracts or written rental/leasing agreements.

A "quick-release" knot will be used to tie horses by the halter lead. Horses shall never be tied by the reins; link-straps shall be fixed to the halter, not the bit.

All Mounted Evaluator(s) for the CCWR shall be appointed by the Cavalry Company Commander, and be knowledgeable on horse safety, horse training, riding, and trooper instruction.

Qualified Evaluators' names shall be submitted to the CCWR Board to be kept on file. Any Evaluator shall report to the CCWR Brigade Commanders and Cavalry Company Commander any dangerous practices, equipment, horses, or riders/handlers observed.

A horse will be allowed on a battlefield only if that horse and its rider have TOGETHER successfully completed a CCWR mounted skills evaluation administered by the Cavalry Company Commander or his designated Evaluator.