

79th New York Cameron Highlanders

I _____ certify that I have read, understand and will comply with the safety rules that are listed below.

I understand that the weapons we use are real and are always potentially dangerous. I understand that the discharge of only powder can produce severe burns at close range. I will always assume a firearm is loaded and handle it as such. I agree to the following:

1. Firearms will only be discharged under command in company formation or in proper formation.
2. I will not discharge a firearm in camp or in the field without the authorization of an NCO, officer or the designated safety officer.
3. Unless otherwise directed, I will use only powder when firing. (Wadding and ramming may be used only on a directed basis). I will **never** use my ramrod in battle.
4. I will practice safe muzzle placement and ensure that my muzzle is not endangering a **file** mate or other comrade.
5. When firing from the rear rank, I will make certain that my musket is positioned so that the middle and rear bands are equally spaced over my front **file** mate's right shoulder. This is to ensure your muzzle and hammer is not too close to your file mate's ear when the musket is discharged.
6. I will maintain muzzle control at all times. I will never place my hand at any time over the muzzle of my musket, especially when at "Rest".
7. I will not fix bayonets unless ordered to do so. I will **never** fix my bayonet in a battle.
8. I will **never** discharge a firearm directly at an opposing re-enactor. I will practice elevated firing at all times. At distances of less than 10 - 15 yards, I will discharge my musket vertically in the air or I will not fire at all.
9. I will **never** engage in hand-to-hand combat unless it has been approved by an officer.
10. I will **never** attempt to capture an opposing unit's colors.
11. I will not carry on my person or my accouterments any form of firearm projectile unless as part of a formal historical presentation or a live **fire** demonstration under the proper safety procedures.
12. I will use no more than 60 grains of black powder cartridges except in a parade and then I shall use no more than 80 grains.
13. I will not smoke when making cartridges or be near any source of flame.
14. I will never staple the ends of cartridges.
15. I will keep my musket cleaned and maintained in good working order. I understand that when I am done firing for the day it is my job to clean my firearm.
16. I will keep my firearm in good mechanical condition and have an effective half cock position that will prevent releasing the hammer when the trigger is pulled.
17. I will ensure my musket is in proper working order before arriving at an event. I understand that if my musket does not pass inspection it will not be allowed to be **fired** during the event.
18. I will never take a hit with a loaded weapon.
19. I will never take a hit in front of artillery, even if the unit is inactive at that time. It may become active later.
20. I may use cotton for the ears as protection when firing is recommended and has historical precedent. Officers and NCO's will inform the company when firing is expected so individuals may take necessary steps if they so desire.
21. I will **never** allow spectators to handle a weapon or a bayonet.
22. I will not use drugs nor abuse alcohol at an event.
23. If I observe something that you feel is potentially unsafe, I will make an officer or NCO aware of this immediately.
24. I will inform an officer or NCO of any medical problem during an event. A buddy will be appointed to anyone with medical concerns.
25. I understand that intentional violation of these rules, or any safety rules posted by an event, may make me subject to being removed **from the field**.
26. If I am in doubt of **any safety** concern I will **STOP** and ask the safety officer, an NCO or an officer first.
27. I will not draw a **saber**, a sword or a knife on the **field** when confrontation is near or in any manner that could put anyone in danger.
28. I understand that the treatment of pistols as to inspection, cleanliness and other safety concerns are the same as muskets. Rifles will be inspected prior to each engagement and before leaving the field.
29. I will not bring any weapon onto the field other than those approved for re-enacting and those will be set up for reenacting purposes.
30. I will not get black powder from anyone other than a company NCO or officer or someone they so designate.

I certify my signature that I understand the above: _____

Dated: _____ Parent or Guardian: _____