



# Small Arms Demonstration Checklist

Park: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weapons Demonstrated: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety Supervisor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Safety Assistant(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*(include specific roles and duties assigned to each)*

## Before

- The piece has been inspected, inside and out. Bore is clean of foreign material.
- The Small Arms Inspection Checklist has been completed for each weapon to be used during the demonstration.
- A minimum of two demonstrators are required to safely conduct a firing demonstration – one to demonstrate the weapon and the other to call commands and provide crowd control.
- The demonstrator has all the equipment needed for the demonstration (weapon, cartridge box, cap box, etc.).
- The demonstrator is not encumbered by superfluous equipment.
- All demonstrators are trained to react properly to a misfire or other unscheduled event.
- Misfire equipment is in place at the demonstration area.
- The demonstration area is safe for the size of the audience and demonstration.
- The demonstration area is clearly defined and marked.
- Physical barriers between the visitors and the demonstration area are in place.
- Visitors have a good field of vision of the demonstration area.
- Conditions are not too dry or windy to risk a range fire from the muzzle blast.
- First Aid Kit and emergency communications are available.
- All demonstrators have the responsibility to stop the demonstration if an unsafe situation develops.
- No bullets, musket balls, projectiles, or loading blocks will be carried AT ANY TIME during an event or demonstration.
- Sales of black powder are not permitted.

## Small Arms Demonstration Checklist

### During

- Demonstrators are not permitted to fire their weapons in the encampments or along marching routes without prior approval from park staff.
- Pyrodex or other synthetic black powders are not permitted in Florida Park Service events or demonstrations.
- Powder will only be carried in the form of cartridges, and all cartridges should be made prior to the event or demonstration.
- Unless otherwise specified for a specific event or demonstration, reenactors should not bring powder or cartridges to an event or demonstration. Appropriate supplies will be provided.

#### DEMONSTRATION AREA SAFETY:

- Alcoholic beverages will not be consumed during normal park operating hours. Any person under the influence will be removed.
- The demonstrator approaches the demonstration area carrying the firearm in a safe and military fashion.
- At no time are there any parts of the demonstrator's body placed in a hazardous position in relation to the firearm.
- In the event of a misfire or other unscheduled event the demonstrator reacts properly.
- If a weapon misfires, explain the misfire procedure to the visitors, and keep them at a safe distance until the weapon is discharged or rendered safe.
- Park visitors are not permitted to handle any edged weapons. Park visitors are not permitted to handle any weapon or equipment containing black powder.
- Never allow loose powder in the event or demonstration area.
- To protect against flash burns, all demonstrators must wear long-sleeved, natural fiber or animal skin clothing.
- Before firing, warn the visitors of the loud noise, and caution visitors with hearing aids and small children to cover their ears.
- The demonstration area shall be safe for the size of the event of demonstration. **All events or demonstrations where weapons are fired will follow the *Primitive Weapons Range Diagram, Small Arms Range Diagram, Artillery Range Diagram, or Opposing Troops Range Diagram* as appropriate.**
- All firing will be done at an elevated angle. Never aim a weapon directly at another person.

## Small Arms Demonstration Checklist

- Each unit commander is responsible for the conduct of all reenactors in the unit. (This includes women and children). The unit commander is responsible for making sure that the reenactors are aware of the safety rules and that they understand and abide by them.

### GENERAL SMALL ARMS SAFETY:

- Wadding or ramming is not permitted except in the use of handguns.
  - Torn or damaged small arms cartridges will not be used.
  - When loading small arms, hold the cartridge with the thumb and index finger. Pour the powder into the muzzle at an angle, keeping you hand away from the muzzle.
  - Multiple loading is not permitted.
  - All small arms demonstrators must follow the *Table of Maximum Loads*. FFF (3F) and FFFFg (4F) powder is not permitted.
  - Edged weapons may be carried but will not be unsheathed at any time without direct command of an officer. The command will only be given with prior approval of the park staff.
  - Only officers, NCOs and MOUNTED cavalymen may carry pistols or revolvers. Do not fire pistols or revolvers directly at any person.
  - All events or demonstrations where weapons are fired will follow the *Primitive Weapons Range Diagram, Small Arms Range Diagram, Artillery Range Diagram, or Opposing Troops Range Diagram* as appropriate.**
  - If attempts fail to correct a small arms misfire, small arms will be removed from the area.
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- The demonstrator maintains military bearing and leaves the area carrying the firearm safely and in a military fashion.
  - The demonstration area is policed for dropped cartridges, cartridge papers, etc.
  - Any remaining cartridges are returned to the proper storage facility.
  - The piece is cleaned, dried and oiled. The piece is returned to the storage facility.

After