



COMDTINST 3590.1A

APR 23 2013

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 3590.1A

Subj: COMPETITIVE MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Ordnance Manual, COMDTINST M8000.2 (series)
(b) Civilian Marksmanship Program Rulebook

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction contains the policies that govern the roles and responsibilities associated with the Coast Guard's Competition Marksmanship Program.
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard unit commanders, commanding officers, officers in charge, deputy/assistant commandants, and chiefs of headquarters staff elements, with the exception of the Coast Guard Academy shall comply with the provisions of this Instruction. The policies included in the Instruction do not apply to the Coast Guard Academy cadet shooting teams when competing in intercollegiate and Civilian Marksmanship Program shooting matches. The Academy is required to follow policies in reference (a) and Coast Guard Academy Superintendent Instructions.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. Competitive Marksmanship Program, COMDTINST 3590.1 is hereby cancelled.
4. MAJOR CHANGES. None.
5. BACKGROUND. The Coast Guard does not formally participate in Competitive Marksmanship Matches sponsored by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), the National Rifle Association (NRA), or the Department of Defense (DOD). Coast Guard personnel however, are encouraged to represent the service in Excellence in Competition point events to enhance marksmanship and overall weapons proficiency. The Coast Guard provides limited support to service members interested in competing in such events.
6. REQUEST FOR CHANGES. Recommendations for changes or improvements should be submitted by memorandum to Commandant (CG-721).
7. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it

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itself a rule. It is intended to provide operational guidance for Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.

8. POLICY.

- a. Competition regulations. All personnel participating in match competitions will follow the guidelines outlined in reference (b). If reference (b) conflicts with policies found in reference (a), reference (a) takes precedence.
- b. Match firearms. Coast Guard owned match firearms are available for use by Coast Guard personnel. Issuance of match firearms will be based on availability. Individuals requesting match firearms shall submit a memorandum to Small Arms Repair Facility (SARF) through their chain of command and COMDT (CG-721). COMDT (CG-721) will authorize SARF to approve or disapprove the request and submit a reply to the originator.
 - (1) Individuals requesting match firearms shall have command endorsement for issuance of a match firearm. Commands shall ensure members are in compliance with the Coast Guard Policy on the Possession of Firearms and/or Ammunition by Coast Guard Personnel, COMDTINST 10100.1 (series).
 - (2) Any match firearm that is not being used shall be returned to SARF for use at other units. Units are responsible for ensuring that members are actively participating in sanctioned CMP, NRA, or DOD competitions. If a member is not competing at least semi-annually, they are to be considered inactive and their firearms shall be turned in for reissue.
 - (3) Firearms issued to individuals will be assigned to their unit's Coast Guard Asset Verification List.
- c. Funding. Coast Guard funding to support marksmanship competitions is not authorized. All costs accrued including match fees, lodging, travel costs, and the procurement of ammunition by the members participating will be at their own expense. Members are authorized to procure and use commercial ammunition in Coast Guard owned match firearms. Purchased ammunition must be produced by a reputable, major manufacturer. Personally re-loaded ammunition shall not be fired through Coast Guard owned firearms. Units are authorized to issue permissive orders for events at commanding officer's discretion.
- d. Transportation. During the transportation of Coast Guard owned match firearms, personnel shall ensure a copy of the Requisition and Invoice/Shipping Document, DD-1149, issuing the firearm to them is maintained with the firearm at all times. In addition:
 - (1) If travelling by commercial airlines for a competition, personnel shall follow TSA regulations and policy requirements for transporting firearms and ammunition via commercial airlines.
 - (2) Personnel are authorized to transport Coast Guard owned match firearms to competitions in privately owned vehicles, as long as the security measures listed in Paragraph 8.e.(3).(a) through (f) of this Instruction are met.

- e. Security. Coast Guard owned match firearms may be stored in unit's armory or in member's private residence.
- (1) If personnel wish to check their issued firearm out from the unit armory, the unit's Weapons Petty Officer or Gunner's Mate shall issue the firearm to the individual on a DD-1149 for no more than 90 consecutive days and then a new DD-1149 needs to be completed.
 - (2) Members issued Coast Guard owned match firearms must make the weapon available no less than on a monthly basis to the unit's Weapons Petty Officer or Gunner's Mate for serial number verification.
 - (3) When firearms are signed out of the unit armory, the following provisions shall be adhered to at all times:
 - (a) Each Coast Guard owned match firearm shall be issued a safety locking device (e.g. cable lock, trigger lock, etc.). Safety locking devices shall be installed when firearms are not in use and not secured in a safe, lockbox, or small arms rack.
 - (b) If match firearms are stored in the home, they must be secured in a lockbox/gun safe that is not easily moved (e.g. bolted in place or the lockbox/safe must weigh over 150 lbs).
 - (c) When transporting match firearms to competitions, they must be in a fixed mounted lockbox/arms rack. The lockbox/arms rack shall be mounted in the trunk or cargo area covered from view. The lock box/arms rack must be of sufficient size to hold all Coast Guard owned firearms being transported.
 - (d) Arms racks shall be fastened to the vehicle with bolts. Racks utilizing hinged locking bars shall have the hinge pins peened or welded to prevent removal. Arms racks shall be checked quarterly to ensure the weapon fits into the rack and cannot be removed while it is locked.
 - (e) Arms racks shall be locked with high security locks or padlocks having steel shackles and bodies.
 - (f) Firearms may be stored in vehicle lockboxes/arms racks while attending multiday competitions.
 - (g) All personnel in possession of Coast Guard owned match firearms are required to sign Administrative Remarks, CG-3307 entry stating they are in compliance with the provisions listed in Paragraph 8.e.(3) (a) through (f) of this Instruction.
- f. Repair and maintenance. Personnel shall not modify, add accessories to, convert to another caliber, or alter in any way a Coast Guard owned match firearm without prior written authorization from COMDT (CG-721).
- (1) Match firearms that need repairs shall be sent to SARF via the unit's servicing FORCECOM Armory.

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- (2) If a match firearm is in need of repair during a competition, individuals are authorized to have other qualified/designated military service's armorer perform necessary repairs as long as there is no cost involved.
 - (3) Personnel who are issued a match firearm are responsible for cleaning and preventive maintenance of the firearm they are issued. Unit's Weapons Petty Officer or Gunner's Mate shall ensure required maintenance has been done when the match firearm is brought in for monthly serial number verification.
- g. Personally owned firearms. Personally owned firearms are authorized for match competition. Weapon requirements for use in competition can be found in reference (b). When using personally owned firearms, requirements in Paragraph 8.e.(3) (a) through (g) of this Instruction are not required. The Coast Guard is not liable for any damaged or stolen personal firearms used in competition.
- h. Awards and points. COMDT (CG-721) will maintain and issue competitive marksmanship badges. Members earning points in competition shall send a copy of the match results with the date, location, ranking, and number of points earned clearly illustrated to COMDT (CG-721) for verification. COMDT (CG-721) will validate and issue the appropriate badges and ribbon attachment via standard memorandum. It is the unit's responsibly to ensure the award is entered into the member's service record and Direct Access. Coast Guard members who previously earned leg points while serving in another branch of the Armed Service or as a civilian will have those points carried over to their Coast Guard total, but members must provide proper documentation for verification.
- (1) The Commandant awards the Distinguished Marksman or Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge, the highest awards for achievement in the field of service weapon competitive marksmanship awarded by the Coast Guard, on the basis of individual unassisted performance in recognized individual matches. The appropriate badge and miniature devices for attachment to the marksmanship ribbons will be awarded when an individual has earned a minimum of 30 points for excellence in competition in recognized matches. Credit points toward Distinguished Marksman and Distinguished Pistol Shot Badges will be awarded to the highest scoring 10% of all non distinguished participants in recognized matches. The points are awarded as follows:
 - (a) To the highest scoring 1/6th (of the 10%), 10 credit points. (Competition Gold)
 - (b) To the next highest scoring 1/3 (of the 10%), 8 credit points. (Competition Silver)
 - (c) To the remaining personnel (of the 10%), 6 credit points. (Competition Bronze)
 - (2) The Excellence in Competition Badges will be awarded as follows:
 - (a) A Bronze Badge will be awarded by the Commandant to Coast Guard personnel who earn their first credit points regardless of credit point value.
 - (b) A Silver Badge will be awarded by the Commandant to Coast Guard personnel who earn their second credit points regardless of credit point value.

- (c) Badges earned at the National Championships will be issued with the word “National” inscribed on them.
- (3) Replacement badges. Excellence in Competition badges are expensive and a controlled item that cannot be purchased on the open market. Badges can be replaced depending on the amount in stock. Members needing replacement badges or ribbon devices shall send a request memorandum to COMDT (CG-721) and justify the need for replacement. Members are encouraged to take care of badges they are issued and not assume they will automatically be issued a replacement.
 - (4) Matches recognized for award of Excellence in Competition Badges and credit points include:
 - (a) The U.S. Navy’s Atlantic and Pacific Fleet Competition (Excellence in Competition Rifle Match and Excellence in Competition Pistol Match).
 - (b) All Navy Competitions (Excellence in Competition Rifle Match and Excellence in Competition Pistol Match).
 - (c) Inter-service Competition (Excellence in Competition Rifle Match and Excellence in Competition Pistol Match).
 - (d) National matches (National Trophy Individual Rifle Matches and National Trophy Individual Pistol Matches).
 - (e) Major command championships of other services (Excellence in Competition Rifle Match and Excellence in Competition Pistol Match).
 - (f) National Rifle Association National Rifle and Pistol Championships.
 - (g) State Championships that include a specified Excellence in Competition match.
9. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. This Instruction has been thoroughly reviewed during the directives clearing process, and it has been determined there are no further records scheduling requirements, in accordance with Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C.3101 et seq., NARA requirements, and Information and Life Cycle Management Manual, COMDTINST M5212.12 (series).
10. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS. Environmental considerations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) were examined in the development of this Instruction. This Instruction includes preparation for guidance documents that implement, without substantive change, the applicable Commandant Instruction or other Federal agency regulations, procedures, manuals, and other guidance documents. It is categorically excluded from further NEPA analysis and documentation requirements under Categorical Exclusion (33) as published in Figure 2-1 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Implementing Procedures and Policy for Considering Environmental Impact, COMDTINST M16475.1 (series). An environmental checklist and Categorical Exclusion Determination (CED) are not required.

11. FORMS/REPORTS. The forms referenced in this Manual are available in USCG Electronic Forms on the Standard Workstation or on the Internet: <http://www.uscg.mil/forms/>; CGPortal at <https://cgportal2.uscg.mil/delivery/Satellite/uscg/References>; and Intranet at <http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/CGForms>.

MARK E BUTT /s/
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Assistant Commandant for Capability