



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
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CCO 3574.3
MTD 2B

SEP 19 2022

COMBAT CENTER ORDER 3574.3

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR RECREATIONAL FIRING

Ref: (a) MCO 3570.1C
(b) MCO 5580.2B
(c) CCO 1630.6D
(d) CCO 5530.14A
(e) CCO 3500.4M

Encl: (1) Range Safety Regulations
(2) Hold Harmless Agreement

1. Situation. Per references, this Order provides the Commanding General, Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC), Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) with a designated area to authorize recreational firing under a safe and controlled environment at the Formal Marksmanship Training Center (FMTC) range complex.

2. Mission. To promulgate policies, standards, and procedures for conducting recreational firing at the FMTC range complex.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent

(a) Recreational firing conducted at the FMTC range complex is designed to allow personnel a safe, practical and common area to familiarize themselves and become proficient with privately owned firearms.

(b) Marines participating in a recreational firing program are also excellent candidates and/or supporters for the Marine Corps Marksmanship Program.

(2) Concept of Operations. Requirements for utilizing the firing ranges are kept at an absolute minimum in order to encourage their use. This provides an approved, monitored live-fire facility in lieu of other federal lands where more stringent restrictions apply or unauthorized areas where the safety of the user and/or the surrounding community could be jeopardized.

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SEP 19 2022

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) There will be strict adherence to the safety and procedural guidelines contained in the references and enclosures of this Order. Failure to acknowledge these regulations by signature or to follow these regulations in practice, will forfeit range use privileges.

(2) Use of any range at the FMTC Range Complex is restricted to the following personnel:

(a) Active duty and retired members of the United States Armed Forces.

(b) Authorized dependents (age 12 years or older) of active duty or retired personnel, accompanied by their sponsor. There shall be no more than two firing guests per military sponsor.

(c) MCAGCC Department of Defense employees, and local, state, and federal law enforcement personnel.

(d) Those personnel specifically authorized by the Commanding General or the Range Gunner.

(3) Registration of anyone who requests to recreational fire will be conducted at Range Operations, building 2143 located on Rifle Range Road. FMTC may be contacted at (760) 830-6700 or (760) 830-6789. Individuals must have in their possession a valid military identification card, or a sponsor with valid military identification card. Shooters must know, and certify in writing, the condition/serviceability of their weapons/ammunition. Technical assistance may be obtained from the Headquarters Battalion/RTE armorers located at building 2144 and who may be contacted at (760) 830-4683 in order to determine serviceability. However, overall responsibility lies with the sponsor and/or shooter.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Firing Schedule. Firing may be conducted during daylight hours during scheduled recreational firing on the second and fourth Fridays of every month from 1500 to 1700, or when the ranges are not utilized for training on weekdays only. To avoid range operation conflicts, all requests for range usage during normal training/maintenance or after usage hours will be approved by the Range Gunner or his designated representative at least 72 hours in advance.

(2) Requirements. When entering the Range Complex to fire, all shooters will check-in with the FMTC Range Chief, fill out the range usage logbook, sign a Range Safety Regulation acknowledgement form utilizing enclosure (1), and sign a Hold Harmless Agreement utilizing enclosure (2). FMTC personnel will be present on the range during all recreational firing to ensure proper use of the range and conduct of the participants. Improper range usage will be corrected immediately. Any violation of the Range Safety Regulations will terminate recreational firing for that individual for the remainder of that firing day. The violation and the corrective action taken will be annotated in the FMTC safety log. Repeat offenders will have their recreational firing privileges revoked at the discretion of the Range Gunner.

SEP 19 2022

(3) Responsibilities. The Range Gunner or his designated representative will be present on the range during all recreational firing to ensure proper control of the firing line and the required actions are adhered to by the shooters and observers.

(a) In the event of an accident or injury involving a shooter or spectator participating in recreational firing, immediate notification will be made to the Range Gunner or FMTC duty personnel. FMTC personnel will summon emergency services via the Range Control Facility, call sign "BEARMAT". First aid/assistance is rendered utilizing the first aid kit maintained at the firing line.

(b) It is the responsibility of the shooter to comply with the provisions of reference (c) regarding the transportation of privately owned weapons aboard MCAGCC. Weapons brought aboard the Combat Center for recreational firing must leave the Combat Center immediately upon completion of that firing.

(c) The serviceability, safety, and security of the personal weapons and ammunition used is solely the responsibility of the shooter. Range personnel/armorers can perform simple inspections but in no way does this inspection certify the weapons and/or ammunition are completely safe to fire.

(d) Issues regarding range operations, range condition, or range police will be brought to the attention of the Range Gunner or Range Chief immediately.

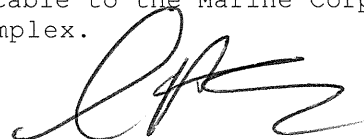
(4) Changes. Recommendations for changes to this Order should be submitted to the Assistant Chief of Staff, MAGTF Training Directorate (G-3/G-5/G-7).

4. Administration and Logistics. Electronic versions of the Combat Center Orders can be found at: <https://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Resource-Management-Directorate/Adjutant-Office/Orders/>.

5. Command and Signal

a. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.

b. Command. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Total Force and personnel using the FMTC range complex.



D. A. SUGGS
Chief of Staff

Distribution: A

SEP 19 2022

RANGE SAFETY REGULATIONSTHE FOUR SAFETY RULES

1. Treat every weapon as if it were loaded
2. Never point a weapon at anything that you do not intend to shoot.
3. Keep finger straight and off the trigger until you are ready to fire.
4. Keep weapon on safe until you intend to fire.

THE CONDITION CODES

CONDITION 1: Magazine inserted/cylinder loaded, round in chamber, bolt forward/action closed safety on.

CONDITION 2: N/A

CONDITION 3: Magazine inserted, chamber empty, bolt forward/action closed safety on.

CONDITION 4: Magazine removed/cylinder unloaded, chamber empty, bolt forward, action closed safety on.

GENERAL RULES

All personnel will comply with these rules. There are no exceptions!

All shooters must check in with FMTC duty personnel, read/sign range safety regulations, acknowledgement form, and a hold harmless agreement prior to shooting.

Prior to firing, raise the red range flag at the rear of the respective range.

Prior to firing, ensure the first aid kit is on hand.

No shooter will handle weapons or ammunition while under the influence of any type of judgment-influencing substance (drugs, medication or alcohol). NO ALCOHOL IS ALLOWED at this range facility at any time.

Down-range personnel will maintain radio contact with the range house at all times. There will be a non-shooter maintaining radio at all times (this requires 2 people on the pistol range and 4 people on the rifle range). The non-shooter will be in control of the line/pits. All radio transmissions will be sent on Channel 2 unless otherwise directed.

Hearing protection is mandatory for all personnel while firing is in progress. (On the line and in the pits). Eye protection is highly encouraged.

Shooters must ensure their ammunition is compatible with the weapon being used.

All weapons and ammunition are subject to inspection by range personnel prior to and during recreational firing.

Shooters must know how to clear their weapon on command.

Shooters supply their own target materials.

Only paper, cardboard, or coroplast targets will be utilized during recreational firing. NO GLASS CONTAINERS of any type are allowed at this facility.

SEP 19 2022

Weapons will not be handled in any way while personnel are down range. The weapons will be holstered, benched or cased unloaded with actions open until the down range area is clear.

Weapons leaving the firing line will be unloaded and have their actions open or be condition 4 (unloaded, action closed and on safe) and cased.

Anyone observing an unsafe condition will call CEASE FIRE! Upon hearing "cease fire" all shooters will make a condition 4 weapon and wait for further instructions. The cease fire will remain in effect until the condition is corrected.

Upon completion of firing, lower and stow range flag.

Shooters are responsible for range police upon completion of firing.

Range personnel may deny use of the range facility for recreational firing to any person failing to follow these regulations.

RIFLE LINE

When the rifle range is utilized, positive radio communications will be maintained between line, pits, and range personnel at all times.

The red pit flags will be raised at both ends of the pits and the firing line while firing is in progress.

Do not move between the target carriages while they are in operation.

Personnel will not expose themselves or place any equipment above the catwalk overhang while firing is in progress.

Firing of weapons or snapping in while in the pit area is prohibited.

No foreign material, other than pasties and spotters, will be placed on the targets.

Personnel will not take POV's to the pits at any time.

The 600 and 1000 yard lines will only be scheduled for use in advance by the Range Safety Officer.

I hereby declare that I understand and will comply with these range regulations and that, to the best of my knowledge, the weapon(s) and ammunition I am using are safe and functional.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Range Gunner/FMTC Chief: _____

SEP 19 2022

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

Range Facility Usage

Range Requested: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

1. I, _____, in consideration for being permitted to use the range facilities at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center for recreational shooting, and as a condition precedent thereto, do hereby expressly agree to hold harmless the United States Government (hereinafter 'the Government'), its agencies and instrumentalities against:

a. All suits, actions, claims, demands, or costs of any kind to which the Government, its agencies and instrumentalities may be subject by reason of damage or injury (including death) to the property or person of anyone, whomsoever they may be, arising or resulting at any time or place from any operations hereafter performed either by the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, its agents, employees, or subcontractors in providing access to, and use of, the range facilities for recreational shooting. This includes any and all losses, liabilities, damages, claims, fines, causes of action deficiencies, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation expenses) based upon, arising out of, or otherwise related to the recreational use of the shooting range.

b Any and all liabilities, damages, claims, fines, causes of action, including but not limited to negligence, gross negligence, deficiencies, costs and expenses based upon, arising out of, or otherwise related to the use of the shooting range, including but not limited to the loss of any personally owned property used or brought to the shooting range.

c. The undersigned hereby waives any and all claims which, but for this waiver, it may have, or which it may hereafter acquire, against the Government, arising out of the operations described above.

2. I also fully understand that by being permitted to use the range facility that no warranty or representation is made that the facility is safe or suitable for the purpose of recreational shooting.

3. I also understand that I am responsible for the police (clean up) of my area, and that only paper targets will be used for shooting. I am aware that no glass, cans, or metal can be used, and if so, it will result in revocation of my privileges at this facility.

Signature

SEP 19 2022

PARENTAL AGREEMENT

I, _____, the parent/guardian of the child whose signature appears above, have read and fully understand this hold harmless agreement. In consideration for allowing my child to participate in activities at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center range on _____, I agree for myself, my child and for any representatives, successors, or assigns of either of us, to the terms of this hold harmless agreement.

_____ will be supervising my child during this activity.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Address

Signature of Witness