



HIS MAJESTY'S
TENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT
AMERICAN CONTINGENT

Safety Regulations

His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot, American Contingent (The Regiment) is dedicated to the authentic reproduction of an 18th century British regiment. This quest for authenticity, however, is seconded to safety considerations. The following guidelines, therefore, are intended to maintain our impeccable safety record, and to insure the safety of our members and the public.

The Regiment portrays a military organization, and as part of this portrayal, "Officers" and "Non-Commissioned Officers," ("NCOs"), will issue "commands" and give "orders." These commands and orders, however, are similar to lines in a theatrical production. First and foremost, all members of The Regiment are responsible for their own safety and the safety of those about them. All members are expected to refuse an unsafe direction and to initiate a halt to activities when an unsafe condition is observed. Accordingly, if following the direction of an Officer or NCO would compromise safety, each member has an affirmative duty to point out the danger, and has complete discretion to fall out of ranks.

All members of The Regiment will read these Safety Regulations and will certify that they have done so by signing the form stating that they have read the regulations, that they understand them, and that they commit to abide by them. The following safety provisions should be followed by every member of The Regiment. These rules, however, are not comprehensive, and your good sense must be your guide at all times.

All members should be aware of all local, state, and federal laws concerning the transportation and possession of their muskets.

Members must never bring a weapon into ranks that has not been officially sanctioned by The Regiment.

At NO time is a member of The Regiment to surrender control of a musket to a member of the public. Likewise, edged weapons must remain under control of the member.

At NO time will any member of the public be allowed to fire a weapon.

Members shall never demonstrate the firing sequence of their musket if the musket has recently been fired and not yet cleaned.

Members must take special care that their muskets are placed in a safe location while at an event attended by the public.

Rammers will be carried, but they may not be drawn or used when firing with live cartridges.

Hammerstalls must be employed when the musket is in a non-firing sequence.

A functioning flash guard shall always be employed.

No alcoholic beverages should be consumed by anyone employing a firearm.

No loose ball, or ball-loaded cartridges of any type, may be carried when live firing is involved.

No cartridge shall be fastened with anything that may fall into the barrel while firing. (e.g. a staple).

Members shall never discard cartridges that contain any amount of black powder. Before discarding, every member must ensure that the powder has been thoroughly removed from the cartridge.

If so ordered, troops may have to retain their empty paper cartridges after firing. If this is the case, these empty rolls shall be placed in the haversack or coat pocket.

When the event is finished, all members must return all unused powder. Powder shall not be carried unless it is housed in an appropriate powder chest.

No "hand-to-hand" combat shall be portrayed unless it is part of a scripted battle.

No "bayonetting" of "wounded" re-enactors is permitted.

Weapons may not be fired when opposing forces are closer than 40 yards. In all circumstances, the barrels of the muskets must be elevated over the heads of the opposing forces.

If an artillery piece (gun) is to be overrun according to a scenario, the gunners shall indicate that the piece is unloaded and safe by leaving the rammer inside the barrel of the cannon, while the gunners lie "wounded" under and around the piece.

No member should ever walk or march in front of a "hot" gun. That is, loaded and ready to fire. When a gun has crossed rammers resting on the end of its barrel is must be considered "hot."

No member should be loaded during a bayonet charge. If a charge is ordered, and the member is loaded, he should immediately dump the charge.

When the musket does not fire, there is always the possibility that a "hang fire" may cause the musket to discharge a few seconds later. Therefore, in the event that the musket does not discharge, keep the piece pointed at the ground, or at a safe direction, while the musket is either re-primed or the barrel emptied.

When the musket is loaded, and an order is given to "order firelocks," it is imperative that members do not place their hands over the muzzle of the barrel. It is *always* inappropriate for a member to place his hand over the muzzle of the barrel at any time.

Before appearing in ranks, each member should inspect his own musket, running the rammer down the barrel, making sure the rammer "pings," indicating a clean barrel. Remember, each man is responsible for the safety of his musket.

No weapon should fire when pressure is applied to the trigger while the musket is at the "half cock" position.

No member shall appear in ranks with a musket that he feels is unsafe. All muskets must be well-cleaned, oiled, and kept in complete and thorough repair.

The signal to cease-fire is communicated by a hat held atop either a pole-arm or sword, or by the cease-fire beat of the drum. (All members must become familiar with this drum beat.) When a cease-fire is sounded, all members must immediately cease firing and come to the shoulder position.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

I _____
(print full name) acknowledge that I have read the Safety Regulations of His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot, American Contingent, and that I fully comprehend their meaning and importance, and that I will comply with them fully, to the letter and in spirit. I will follow the directions of any Safety Officer appointed. I recognize my own responsibility to ensure safety at events, and I will not hesitate to prevent or stop any unsafe action.

(signature)

(date)

(witness)