

FW: Cadet Activities - Direction and Guidance from RCSU Central for Remainder of Training Year 2021-2022

Jennifer Bennett <president@navyleagueon.ca>

Sun 2022-03-27 5:54 PM

Good afternoon all,

Sea Cadet Corps CO's have received updated guidance on Sea Cadet Training as per the e mail below. Note that the CAF still has restrictions for Cadet training that are more restrictive than the direction provided for Navy League Cadet Corps.

Updated National CJCR COVID-19 posture direction is anticipated to be released shortly but return to in-person training must be approved by RCSU(Central) and all cadet activities in Central Region must currently include the following measures:

- a. **Screening.** Prior to departing home for any in-person activity, all adult personnel and cadets must complete the Ontario COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> (regardless of screening result, anyone feeling unwell shall not attend an in-person activity);
- b. **Masks (indoors) are required** to be worn for all indoor activities with very limited exceptions (if a cadet or adult staff member reports that they cannot wear a mask due to health restrictions, their in-person participation will be restricted to virtual activities only):
 - (1) "indoors" includes vehicles, tents, shelters and any space enclosed by a roof and more than two walls;
 - (2) masks may be removed indoors while adhering to other Public Health Measures (PHM) when any individual is alone in the facility;
 - (3) masks may be removed by active participants in the cadet fitness assessment as long as enhanced distancing (3m) is maintained;
 - (4) masks may be removed on breaks for the purpose of eating and drinking with all seated and distanced 2m; and
 - (5) masks may be removed for playing wind/brass instruments, in accordance with the guidance on music training below.
- c. Masks (outdoors) are required to be worn outdoors whenever 2m distancing cannot be maintained;
- d. **Vaccination status:**
 - (1) all adult personnel (to include CIs and CJCR volunteers) must have attested to full vaccination status to participate at in-person cadet activities; and
 - (2) cadets do not require vaccination to participate in cc/sqn activities, except those activities conducted at a facility where the facility owner/operator requires users to be fully vaccinated. Canadian Cadet Organization members will comply with vaccination requirements that may be in place at federal or independent facilities, and provide proof of vaccination (QR code vaccine passport) as may be required by the facility operator. Proof is required upon each entry, and records of vaccine passports are not to be retained by the cc/sqn;
- e. **Occupancy limits.** Occupancy in buildings and in any room within a building is limited to a number that allows for 2m physical distancing to be maintained;
- f. **Physical distancing of 2m must be maintained** to the greatest extent possible;
- g. Avoid situations involving close contact, enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and any crowded spaces where many people gather;
- h. **Overnight training is not authorized** at the Corps level;
- i. **Transportation.** Due to the heightened risk travel poses, the following guidelines will be adhered to when cadets and staff are being transported by means other than a personal motor vehicle (PMV):

- (1) Non-medical masks (NMMs) shall be worn in all non-PMVs when there is more than one occupant in the vehicle;
- (2) additional alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) and disposable NMMs will be available on all vehicles used for the transportation of cadets and staff;
- (3) cadets and staff will sanitize hands and don NMMs (if not already donned) prior to loading vehicles and shall sanitize hands immediately after disembarking the vehicle and prior to removal of NMM;
- (4) meals/snacks should not be consumed in transit. If travelling over a meal hour, the trip should be planned so that the meal can be consumed outside the vehicle where physical distancing can be maintained;
- (5) vehicle loading capacity will be IAW existing policy direction under the authority of the providing support Base Commander for DND vehicles, and the supplying bus company / operating company for contracted / leased buses and coaches; and
- (6) DND/contracted vehicles used for passenger transportation will be cleaned / sanitized in accordance with the most stringent current guidance issued by either Transport Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Local Base Transportation section or applicable provincial / territorial health / transportation authority;

j. **Music Training may be approved for in-person delivery with the following restrictions:**

- (1) Outdoors. Where possible, band rehearsals should be conducted outdoors to provide maximum distancing and ventilation;
- (2) Indoors. When it is necessary to rehearse indoors, large spaces (i.e., arenas, drill halls, gyms, etc.) are preferred;
- (3) where smaller indoor spaces (i.e. classrooms) must be used, adequate air ventilation is required;
- (4) indoor rehearsals are limited to a maximum of 30 minutes per session. A session is a single period without breaks when musicians are meeting or playing their instruments in an individual location;
- (5) an break interval of a minimum 30 minutes duration must occur following any indoor rehearsal session before any subsequent session may be conducted. During this 30-minute break between sessions, all members must leave the room that was used, and allow for at least one complete air exchange cycle;
- (6) during rehearsals (both outdoor and indoor), a minimum physical distance of 3 metres must be maintained from any wind / brass instrument;
- (7) when establishing physical distancing, the size and 'bell orientation' of the instrument must be considered, as follows:
 - A. for instruments with forward facing bells, such as trumpet, trombone, saxophones, the minimum 3-metre distance is to be measured from the bell of the instrument; and
 - B. for larger instruments, such as tuba, baritone, bagpipes, more space may be required;
- (8) for indoor rehearsals, face masks are not required to be worn by musicians playing wind instruments once they are stationary and minimum physical distancing has been established. Those not playing wind instruments will still wear masks during indoor rehearsals;
- (9) mouthpieces are not to be shared and should be regularly cleaned and disinfected;
- (10) woodwind / bagpipe reeds and instrument cleaning supplies (i.e., swabs, pull-throughs, etc.) are not to be shared;
- (11) instruments should not be shared. If there is a need to transfer an instrument from one cadet to another, it must first be properly cleaned;
- (12) instrument spit valves are not to be drained onto the floor during an indoor rehearsal. To catch the contents of spit valves, disposable absorbent pads, towels or other receptacles must be used;
- (13) bell covers will be used on brass instruments; but
- (14) 'Bag Covers' with hand openings for wood wind instruments are not required.

From the Direction and Guidance below, here are some of the other highlights that are important to note for Branches:

- Overnight training for cadets is not authorized at this time and requests for overnight activities will not be approved at the Corps level for the remainder of training year up to 30 June 22.
- Where return to in-person training is authorized, Corps are encouraged to plan at least three single-day activities from their elementally defined ten supported days of mandatory / complementary training.
- Activities at Cadet Training Sites continue to be restricted. No Corps nautical training days / weekends are being scheduled at CNS in Spring 2022 (focus is on staff qualifications and currency)
- The following considerations shall be observed in planning of supported day activities:
 - a. activities should be planned within the local community or its immediate vicinity. Preference should remain parent drop-off / pick-up (one-way drive should not exceed 30-40 min), but busing is authorized (one-way drive time not to exceed 60-90 min);
 - b. lunch is authorized and may be provided in accordance with Area office Standard Operating Procedures (MREs are only authorized for designated activities);
 - c. where a supported full-day activity is scheduled into the evening, a supper meal may be authorized in addition to lunch;
 - d. field stores and other training equipment are available and approved IAW local Area office Standard Operating Procedures (subject to availability of supplies)
 - e. prioritize activities that are well-suited to be conducted within COVID-19 posture directives (outdoor activities continue to have lowest transmission risk);
 - f. choose activities that will be most engaging to cadets, will best meet the current needs of the cc/sqn to rebuild skills, confidence, and competencies necessary to regain peak effectiveness next fall (leadership, team-building, fitness, instructional techniques, etc.) and that may assist in attracting and retaining new cadets; and
 - g. pace yourselves (remember crawl, walk, run), and plan for a steady, progressive and sustainable return to training: now is not the time to burn out staff and/or senior cadets by trying to do too much.
- Optional training is authorized and requires in-person activity approval. No support is provided, but the same planning factors apply as identified above.
- LSA should be the first and preferred means to fund any optional training activity.
- **Fundraising with cadets and officers** is permitted, subject to new approval process provided in RCSU Direction on fundraising activities and approval process have been disseminated to CO's separately.
- RDA / NDA activities including the modified marksmanship competition series will continue. Other activities organized at the Area and Regional level, to include some CAF famil activities and ACAD, are also possible.
- **National Sea Cadet Regatta** - Intent remains to conduct additional sailing skill / racing skill / race coach development sessions in place of the provincial and national Sea cadet regattas (with the intent of fostering the skills and competencies necessary to return to the full provincial and national regatta format in summer 2023).
- There will be **no Band and Drill Competitions** this training year.
- The Col Perron fitness awards will not be presented this training year.
- **No recreational trips and no cadet international travel is authorized** this training year.

Canteens may be operated following local and / or Ontario PHMs and will be restricted to offering pre-packaged commercially prepared food and sundry items.

League / Branch volunteers are permitted to be in attendance at facilities during cadet activities (where permitted by respective League policy and subject to any restrictions the building owner / operator may have in place), but must be counted within any building / room capacity limit. **Note the supervision requirements for visitors and guests, and that only screened CAF members and approved CJCR volunteers may supervise cadets or be in contact with cadets without supervision.**

Visitors to in-person activities must be identified as part of the activity approval process and must follow the necessary Public Health Measures and wear non-medical masks, as required, to the same standard established for Canadian Cadet Organization personnel and cadets. Visitors must be escorted / under the supervision of a screened CAF member or approved CJCR volunteer.

Ceremonial Events - RCSU COs have the authority to approve ceremonial events. At this time, ceremonial events will only be considered on a case by case basis, and approval would be the exception. Further information will be provided when parades and ceremonies are more likely to receive approval. This does not preclude simple presentation of an award or promotion in front of a gathering of unit members, providing 2m physical distancing is maintained and masks are worn if indoors. Note that any family / friends that are not part of the cc/sqn would be visitors, and their attendance subject to facility access, capacity limits and adherence to Public Health Measures.

Questions should be addressed to the applicable Area OC, through Zone Training Officer, Division Area Representative, VP Sea Cadets, or our Division office.

We look forward to having our Sea Cadets safely return to in-person training!

Jennifer

Jennifer Bennett, CMM, CD

President

Ontario Division



Navy League of Canada

Email: president@navyleagueon.ca

www.navyleagueon.ca
