

# MIDDLE EAST REGION

## Cadet Competition Operations Plan

**25 – 27 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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Activity Director  
Lt Col Phyllis Griffin, CAP

24 AUGUST 2015

# NOTICE

The National Cadet Competition has been revamped completely for 2015. There will be Core (required) and Elective events. Please go to the CAP national website and read CAPP 52-4 ([PDF link](#)) for a detailed explanation of the new rules.

Middle East Region will be using the new format. Our electives this year will be Jeopardy! and Speeches.

Please bear with us as we transition to the new format and please provide feedback on what you and your team thinks of the changes.

This Op Plan is designed with 2 teams from each wing. The schedule can and will be changed to accommodate the number of teams that register for the competition.

This op plan and all competition updates will always be available on the region web site at <https://mer.cap.gov/cadetcomp>

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## 2015 Middle East Region Cadet Competition Operations Plan

### **GENERAL:**

**Name:** Middle East Region Cadet Competition

**Place:** Fort Pickett, Virginia

**Dates:** 25 – 27 September 2015

### **ATTENDEES:**

There will be two Cadet Competition Teams representing their home wing, two Senior Member escorts per team, judges, various wing and region representatives, as well as family and friend observers.

### **MISSION:**

The Middle East Region, Civil Air Patrol will hold a Region Cadet Competition. MER CAP will conduct the competition. The mission is to provide a venue that will foster teamwork, competition, integrity, and pride, and provide a learning opportunity for all participants. The outcome will be to select the best teams from the seven-state Middle East Region to attend the National Cadet Competition to be held at Maxwell AFB in Alabama from Dec 29, 2015 – Jan 2, 2016.

### **FEES:**

A fee of \$30.00 per participant (including escorts, helpers and any CAP observers who are staying in the barracks and eating meals) will be charged for the competition costs. Checks should be made payable to MER CAP and will be turned in when the teams in-process at Fort Pickett on 25 September 2015.

### **REGION HEADQUARTERS RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Middle East Region Headquarters, in conjunction with MELR, CAP-USAF, and USAFR personnel will provide the following:

1. Development of a competitive scenario as outlined in CAPP 52-4 and any future instructions by National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol.
2. Facilities and items needed for the competition.
3. Written exam testing area.
4. Measured venue for the mile run (NOTE: a shuttle run will *not* be conducted, per NHQ guidance on avoiding the use of shuttle run).
5. An outdoor flagpole or suitable replacement indoors.
6. An indoor ceremonial area for indoor presentation of the colors. We will supply both an American flag with pole and a CAP flag with pole. All teams will use the same flag and poles.
7. A United States flag for use during the Outdoor Presentation.
8. Adequate housing and messing as well as an award area.
9. Judges, judging equipment, scoring sheets, written exam, and panel quiz questions.
10. Trophies, ribbons and certificates for competition teams.

### **PARTICIPATING WING RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Each wing team is limited to two competition teams consisting of six cadets of any grade and two senior member escorts. See CAPP 52-4 for more detail.
2. Send your Wing's rosters of participants to [pgriffin212@verizon.net](mailto:pgriffin212@verizon.net) by September 18. Included in the e-mail should be team number (1 or 2), unit charter numbers, names, and CAPIDs for all team members and escorts.
3. Any team substitutions must be noted to Lt Col Griffin as early as possible.
4. Each team member must have upon arrival a completed CAPF 31 (Application for CAP Encampment or Special Activity) and CAPF 161 (Emergency Information) upon arrival. See <http://capmembers.com/pubs> for forms.
5. Provide two approved status senior member escorts per team that will properly supervise their team. If the team has both male and female members, it must have a male and female escort. If it is an all male team, at least one of the escorts must be male. If the team is all female, at least one of the escorts must be female. The two senior member escorts must be 21 years of age or older (exceptions to this must be approved by the director of the region competition). At least one of the escorts must have a CAP Driver License.

6. Responsible for the behavior of their attendees (participants, escorts, and observers).
7. Responsible for their own transportation to, from and during the competition.
8. Ensure the team is on time for all events.
9. Ensure team wears the appropriate uniform for events.
10. Cooperate fully with the judges.

## **ESCORTS**

1. Will provide supervision to ensure that all cadets and senior members reflect well upon their unit, wing, region and CAP in general.
2. Assist teams with meeting their schedules and other needs.
3. Escorts will be in the same uniform as the cadets. When the team is in blues, the escorts will be in either the blue uniform or the white aviator shirt and gray slacks.

## **OBSERVERS:**

No accommodations are being planned for observers, however there MAY be room for some observers in the barracks. Those observers/assistants staying in the barracks will pay the same \$30 fee as participants and must be CAP members. Observers who are CAP senior members can be billeted elsewhere on base if they wish, contingent on availability. Contact Fort Pickett billeting at 434-292-2443. All cadet observers must be supervised and will stay in the barracks.

## **MEALS:**

To accommodate the schedule, teams will eat in the rotation order of the competition. All meals on Saturday are provided and will be at the Admin building or dining facility near the barracks. See schedules in the attachments for rotations.

## **BILLETING:**

1. Base billeting will be provided for each team and their escorts as well as MER staff. All participating teams **WILL** stay in the barracks provided by MER CAP.
2. Billeting will be in open-bay barracks.
3. Each person will bring a sleeping bag or sheets, towels and washcloths as linens will not be issued.

## **TRANSPORTATION:**

1. Wings will provide each team with transportation to and from the competition.
2. Non-CAP members will not be allowed to ride in CAP vehicles.

## **OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES:**

1. All fees must be paid upon arrival at Fort Pickett. Checks should be made payable to MER CAP. Cash is acceptable but there will be no credit card payments.
2. Fort Pickett is a Virginia National Guard base located near Blackstone, Virginia. Each Wing will prepare a roster for their respective teams, listing all team members and escorts and CAP member observers. Include name, unit, CAPID and hometown for all. This list should be e-mailed to Lt Col Griffin (pgriffin212@verizon.net) by September 18, 2015.
3. A check out procedure will be established to verify that the barracks are left clean and in good condition. **NO TEAM WILL LEAVE FORT PICKETT UNTIL THE BARRACKS AREA HAS BEEN INSPECTED BY FORT PICKETT TROOP SUPPORT ON SUNDAY MORNING.** Any damage to a room or dorm area will be the financial responsibility of the cadet, senior member, observer, and the respective wing that occupied that area. It is ALWAYS best to leave an area in BETTER condition than you found it. Let's do our best to be welcomed back.

## **REGISTRATION:**

1. Registration/check-in will take place beginning at 1500 hours on Friday 25 September at Fort Pickett. Report to the Admin Building. As soon as we know which buildings we have, we will announce them. We will also have signs posted. Our buildings are usually located on West Parade Street. Take Military Road to West Parade Street and make a right turn. We will have signs out by the building. This building may change when we arrive so look for the signs.
2. All paperwork and fees will be verified at this time. Anyone not in possession of a valid CAP membership card or proof of membership will not be allowed to participate.
3. Teams will report to registration before going to the barracks.

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Cell phones will be the primary means of communication. A list of staff phone numbers will be given at the team in-brief on Friday evening. Teams are to supply a phone number to staff to be used to contact the team if necessary.

Lt Col Griffin's cell phone number is 443-562-6461; Lt Col Brodsky's cell phone number is 571-334-7396.

## **AWARDS:**

Awards will be similar to those outlined in the CAPP 52-4. An Awards Ceremony will be held after the completion of the competition on Saturday evening.

## **COMPETITION EVENTS:**

1. The events and scoring are outlined in CAPP 52-4. The following events will be held for each competition. You will be notified of any additions or changes. Each team will compete in the Core Events and each team is entitled to one slot in each Elective Event.

### Core Events

Written Exam  
Cadet Physical Fitness Test  
Uniform Inspection  
    Uniform Preparation  
    Spot Inspection  
Indoor Posting (4 cadets)  
Outdoor Posting (4 cadets)  
Team Leadership Problem

### Elective Events

Cadet Jeopardy!  
    All-ranks class  
    Newcomer class  
Public Speaking  
    Extemporaneous  
    Impromptu

2. **Written exam for MER.** Will consist of 70 multiple-choice questions. Location is the dining facility. Time allowed is 70 minutes. These sources are:
  - (1) Leadership requirements in Phases I and II of the cadet program (32 questions; 4 per chapter)
  - (2) Aerospace education requirements in Phases I and II of the cadet program (30 questions; 5 per module)
  - (3) Drill questions (5) from AFMAN 36-2203, Chapters 1-4
  - (4) Aerospace and CAP-related current events of national significance (3 questions).
3. **CPFT (Cadet Physical Fitness Test).** All cadets will wear appropriate PT clothing for the mile run. There will be no pacing or music allowed. Individuals who cannot run will be penalized according to CAPP 52-4. **ALL SPECTATORS MUST STAY IN THE DESIGNATED SPECTATOR AREA FOR THE DURATION OF THE CPFT. TEAMS WHOSE SPECTATORS VIOLATE THIS RULE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.** CPFT will take place at the stadium track.

#### **4. Inspection.**

a. Spot Inspection: At a predetermined time, unknown to the teams; two cadets from each team will be randomly selected to participate in a spot inspection of uniform wear.

b. Uniform Preparations: Two cadets from each team will be selected at random to participate in the uniform preparation. These two cadets work together on a single dossier listing a hypothetical cadet's grade and accomplishments. Their task is to select the necessary insignia from the assortment provided to them and place correctly on the uniform. Additionally, cadets will be evaluated on their ability to shine shoes, iron and otherwise prepare that uniform within 30 minutes.

**5. Indoor Posting.** This event consists of three main components: planning, posting and retrieval. Any cadet, regardless of age, may compete in the indoor posting. This event runs as prescribed in CAPP 52-4 with one modification: cadets have a five (5) minute time limit during the planning stage of the event.

a. Team composition: Color guards will consist of four cadets (two flag carriers and two guards), assigned by the team. The two cadets who are not participating on the Indoor Posting must participate on the Outdoor Posting.

b. This event is conducted in the standard short-sleeve blues service uniform. Ascots, helmets, gloves, bloused boots, leggings, service caps, and service coats will not be worn.

**6. Outdoor Posting:** This event is modeled on the reveille and retreat ceremonies (see AFMAN 36-2203, P7c) on a simulated national day of mourning, requiring the flag to fly at half staff. This event consists of five main components: planning, raising, lowering, folding and presentation. Any cadet, regardless of grade, may compete in this event.

a. Team composition: This event involves four cadets, though only three participate in the raising portion. The two cadets who do not participate in the Outdoor Posting must compete in the Indoor Posting.

b. The five components are outlined in CAPP 52-4.

**7. Team Leadership Problem:** The TLP is a specially designed puzzle or game that test a team's ability to collectively analyze a problem, creatively imagine a solution, communicate and collaborate as a team. TLPs are not announced prior to the competition. Team should expect a TLP similar to those published in the Learn to Lead Activity Guide or the encampment program web site (<http://capmembers.com/encampment>).

**8. Public Speaking:** This event is divided into two portions, a prepared speech, prepared by the cadet prior to arrival at the competition, and an impromptu speech, prepared by the cadet at the activity on short notice.



a. Prepared speech: Cadets will have 8-10 minutes to deliver a persuasive talk, taking a stand on any subject that can reasonably be related to CAP – leadership, aerospace, military service, ethics, volunteerism, etc. Cadets are urged to review Learn to Lead Chapter 8 during their preparations.

b. Impromptu: Cadets will have 10 minutes to prepare an impromptu talk of 2-3 minutes in duration. The challenge will simulate a realistic question a VIP guest might ask during a visit with cadets. Speech topics are assigned randomly. Cadets will be provided an index card and pen for note taking and may refer to the card during their talk.

c. Report-In: There is no formal report-in for this event. Each participating cadet will be called to the podium. A few moments will be granted to cue visual aids (if needed) and then the chief judge will signal for the cadet to begin. Cadets will identify themselves by grade, first and last name, and team name before proceeding to the main portion of their presentation.

d. Conclusion Process: Cadets indicate their talk has concluded by saying, “That concludes my talk. Do you have any questions or remarks?” A brief Q&A with the judges will follow and when completed, the judges will dismiss the cadet, and the cadet exits the presentation area. If the cadet’s prepared speech runs over 11 minutes, the judges may direct the cadet to halt.

e. Scoring: The two portions of the event – the prepared speech and the impromptu speech are scored separately, each using its own rubric, available in Appendix 3. The prepared speech is weighed more heavily, with 100 possible points, versus the impromptu speech with 60 possible points. Those two scores will be added together to produce a single score for each cadet. That sum is used to determine final rank order.

**9. Cadet Jeopardy:** This event encourages academic excellence among individual cadets through rapid recall of leadership and aerospace knowledge.

a. Class of competitors: This event operates with two classes of competitors: an all-ranks class and a newcomer class for cadets who have ≤ 24 months of CAP experience. The two classes of competitors are scored separately. Each team may enter one cadet into each class.

b. Subject matter: For the all-ranks class, the subject matter includes Aerospace Dimensions, Learn to Lead Volumes 1, 2 and 3; CAPR 52-16; CAPP 52-15; cadet related topics from CAPM 39-1; and AFMAN 36-2203, chapters 1 through 4. For the newcomer class; the subject matter is limited to Aerospace Dimensions, modules 1, 2 and 3; Learn to Lead chapter 1 through 6; and general knowledge from the New Cadet Guide.

c. Set-up: For each round, up to four individual cadets compete against one another. NCC staff will ensure the four cadets are from four different teams, if logistically possible.

d. Questions & Answers: Following the “Jeopardy!” game show tradition, the questions are actually “answers” and participants must give their response in the form of a question, although no penalty is assessed for simply forgetting to phrase the response properly.

e. Game Board: The game board presents six topics with five “answers” under each. The answers vary in degree of difficulty and are worth 100, 200, 300, 400 or 500 points.

f. Rounds: The Gameplay Schematic is shown in Appendix 4.

g. Scoring: As progress through one or more points, they accumulate points. At the conclusion of the final round, each cadet’s total raw score (from all rounds) is converted to rank order points. It is conceivable that the cadet who wins Round 4 may finish with a lower total raw score than other cadets. Regardless, the Round 4 winner will automatically receive sufficient bonus points to place him or her ahead of all other competitors and receive 1 rank order point. Again, the two classes of competitors are scored as separate events.

10. **Schedules:** See Attachment 1 for Team Schedules. These are subject to change according to the number of teams participating. Times are approximate. When you finish an event, proceed to your next scheduled event. This will keep the schedule flowing.

11. **Behavior:** Any team, escorts, or observers who cause damage or present a harassing attitude will forfeit the right to participate further in the competition. If this happens after the competition is over, any trophies and/or winning status of that team will be removed and given to the next team in line. If, for some reason, there is only one team in that category, they will NOT be allowed to participate at NCC and all trophies (team and individual), certificates, ribbons and clasps will be confiscated. This is a good time to understand that ALL Wings are a team within Region. ALL Regions are a team within National. Each individual is responsible to the entire Civil Air Patrol organization.

## **JUDGES:**

1. **Judging Officials:** Judges have yet to be determined but will be drawn from MER region personnel, CAP-USAF, USAFR and other qualified individuals. There will be one chief judge selected for each event. Time-keepers and recorders will be assigned. The time-keeper is responsible for timing the timed events and notifying the chief judge of that time. The recorder is responsible for distributing and collecting the judges scoring sheets, for tabulating totals, and for ranking the teams at the end of the competitions. No relative of any team

member or anyone affiliated with a participating team member or unit will be selected to perform any of these duties. See CAPP 52-4 for details. **No one is allowed to discuss the competition with the judges other than Region Competition Designated Staff and team cadet commanders.**

2. **Judges Equipment and Tools:** Judges will be provided with clipboards, scoring sheets, answer keys, etc. Judges will have access to applicable regulations and manuals on site. For prior study, judges will be given CAPP 52-4.
3. Judges will also be familiar with AFR 50-14 (USAF Drill and Ceremonies Manual AFMAN 36-2203) and CAPP 52-4. These can be downloaded from the CAP National Headquarters Website (capmembers.com).
4. Any complaints about any events must be made in writing and submitted to Lt Col Griffin within 1 hour of completion of the event in question. Failure to follow this complaint procedure will result in the complaint being negated. The decision of the Project Officer regarding all complaints is final.

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. It is the responsibility of each team to be on time for each event.
2. Point of Contact for any questions:  
Lt Col Phyllis Griffin  
Activity Director  
443-562-6461 (Cell)  
E-mail: pgriffin212@verizon.net