



State of California – Military Department  
California Cadet Corps

# CURRICULUM ON MILITARY SUBJECTS

Strand M13: Marksmanship

Level 11

This Strand is composed of the following components:

- A. Firearms Safety
- B. Rifle Marksmanship Fundamentals
- C. **Competitive Marksmanship**



M13/C: Competitive  
Marksmanship

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## C. Competitive Marksmanship

**Standard #1: Students gain identity and belonging as a cadet while developing self-control, respect, discipline, and confidence.**

### Objectives

**DESIRED OUTCOME (Leadership)**

*Cadets are able to safely participate in a rifle marksmanship competition as part of a rifle team.*

Plan of Action:

1. Explain the benefits of marksmanship competition.
2. Explain how a cadet is able to compete as a member of a rifle team.
3. Identify the rules that govern rifle matches.
4. Explain the California Cadet Corps State Rifle Championship Match program.

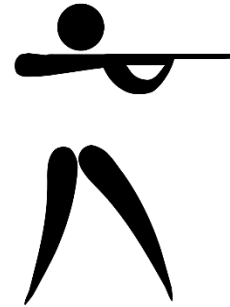
### C1. Why Competitive Marksmanship?

For those Cadet Corps programs that embrace Marksmanship as part of their curriculum, the next step after teaching the fundamentals and giving cadets the opportunity to familiarize and qualify is to sponsor a rifle team. Competitive marksmanship is one of the oldest traditions in the California Cadet Corps, and was the most significant state activity for many years.

As stated in CR 3-17, the purpose of the California Cadet Corps Competitive Rifle Marksmanship program is to afford cadets an opportunity to further develop the safe handling of firearms, marksmanship ability, engage in an internationally recognized sport, and practice those essential qualities of team leadership, sportsmanship, fair play and self-discipline.

Shooting gives an individual a venue to build their skills, develop self-discipline, focus, precision, and attention to detail. It's a sport where an individual can succeed both on their own and as a member of a team. Shooting with both air rifles and smallbore rifles is a precision sport that offers continuous challenge, and offers success to both men and women equally.

Shooting was one of the original nine events at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. It has grown into a category including over fifteen events in both men's and women's categories.



### C2. How to Compete

It is fairly easy to compete in marksmanship events, both in and outside of the Cadet Corps. Cadets are authorized and encouraged to enroll in National Rifle Association (NRA) Junior Rifle Clubs, Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), 4-H Club, Boy Scout, American Legion, etc. programs that may be available near where they live.

Cadets can form a rifle team within their Cadet Corp unit, and can compete at brigade or state level matches. When offered, the Cadet Corps recognizes two divisions - Senior Division for 9<sup>th</sup> graders and above, and Junior Division for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and below.

The competitive marksmanship program has diminished over recent years, but is available if cadets want to revive it. Shooting is a popular sport within several schools in the Cadet Corps, and putting together a competition is fairly easy, and supported at state level. If you want to train or compete outside your local unit, contact the State S3 and request that a state championship competition be sponsored.

State competitions generally consist of teams of 5 cadets competing against teams from other schools. Awards include the Governor Goodwin J. Knight Marksmanship Award for the three senior division cadets firing the highest individual aggregate scores during the state championships, the Brigadier General Carter C. Speed Marksmanship Award for the three junior division cadets firing the highest individual aggregate scores during the state championships, and the Dion O'Sullivan Marksmanship Award for the three teams firing the highest team aggregate scores during the state championships.

### C3. Rifle Matches

In general, California Cadet Corps rifle matches use NRA or CMP competition rules, depending on the type of rifles used in the competition (NRA for smallbore rifles, CMP for air rifles). CACC rifle matches may be supervised by a CACC adult member experienced in shooting. If the match is sanctioned by the NRA or CMP, the supervising adult must meet the requirements established by those organizations.

Per CR 3-17, the following special rules will apply in conducting Rifle Matches:

- 1) Only rifles equipped with metallic sights as defined in NRA Rule 3.7 or as defined in National Standard Three Position Air Rifle Rules 4.3 shall be used (unless waived by the CACC XO)
- 2) Only standard velocity ammunition shall be used.
- 3) Only serial numbered targets provided by HQ CACC shall be used.
- 4) Time limits shall be in accordance with NRA or CMP Rules or Cadet Regulation 3-17, depending on which organization's rules the match is being fired using.
- 5) At the school level, teams may be of an unlimited size to provide for necessary substitutions. Entries on CACC Form 35, Official Scorecard, will be limited to not more than five cadets in state in person or postal rifle matches. The highest five scores fired will comprise the five-member team. Alternates, if not indicated on the CACC Form 35, will be automatically declared as the sixth highest score for the five-member team.
- 6) All cadets eligible under the provisions of this regulation who are not members of a school cadet rifle team may apply to compete in the State Rifle Matches if their school allows marksmanship participation.
- 7) Only official scorecards shall be used to report match scores. All targets will be maintained by the Brigade Advisor in the case of postal matches until the conclusion of the State Rifle Matches.
- 8) Claims concerning misplaced sighting shots will not be allowed after a competitor has fired more than one shot on the target. The Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of the match or his designated representative must be notified of any misplaced sighting shot which might be mistaken for a record shot.
- 9) Each competitor will be responsible for clearly recording his/her name, rank, school, relay and firing point number on his/her target.
- 10) Decisions of ties in the event that individuals or teams fire the same numerical score over the entire course will be ranked by applying the following in the order listed:
  - a) By the highest-ranking score in the Standing Position. If still tied;
  - b) By the highest-ranking score in the Kneeling Position. If still tied;
  - c) By the highest-ranking score in the Prone Position. If still tied;
  - d) By the greatest total number of Center Shots. If still tied;
  - e) By refiring the Standing Position, or ten prone shots for junior division postal matches.
- 11) Challenges may be made by the team coach, team captain, or in case of individual matches, by the competitor. Challenges will be made to the OIC of the match or his designated representative. The competitor and/or the team captain or team coach may be present when a target is rechecked. Rechecks will be made by the OIC or his designated representative, providing he has not previously scored or checked the target, or an NRA/CMP Official Referee.
- 12) Cadets must have earned at least a Marksman Qualification Badge to be eligible to compete at the State Rifle Matches.
- 13) The course of fire for State level Rifle Matches is a 3 x 10 course of fire (10 shots in each position, prone, standing and kneeling, fired in that order) unless otherwise directed in the Match Bulletin issued by HQ CACC.

14) The course of fire for Junior Division Rifle Matches is 30 shots in the prone position unless otherwise directed in the Match Bulletin issued by HQ CACC.

Not all rifle matches require travel or gathering competitors in one place. Postal Championships are conducted by teams who agree to follow the established match rules and conditions. The teams fire at their home location, and submit their targets/scores to a match supervisor who adjudicates the match from a remote location. An aggregate score of the matches fired will determine the State Rifle Postal Championships.

A commandant wishing to enter postal matches must request serial numbered targets from HQ CACC, specifying whether the matches will be smallbore rifle or air rifle. Scorecards (CACC Form 35) will be forwarded to arrive at HQ CACC not later than the dates published in the match circular/bulletin. All targets will be maintained by the Brigade Advisor for public inspection until the conclusion of the State Rifle Matches.

The State Championship Rifle Matches may be held annually at a location within the state. Participants must have qualified at least as Marksman on a CACC qualification course. The match will be announced by HQ CACC circular or WARNORD.

The California Cadet Corps will provide, within budgetary limitations, ammunition, awards, lodging, meals, targets and transportation. Shooting equipment such as spotting scopes, pads, etc., are generally not furnished by HQ CACC. A match fee may be assessed those individuals and teams attending.

The course of fire for the California Cadet Corps State Rifle Championships will depend in part upon availability of facilities and will be announced in the Match Bulletin.

All Competitors at the State Championship Matches, regardless of status, will shoot the same course of fire. The course of fire will be dependent upon available range facilities and announced in the Match Bulletin.

## References

National Rifle Association, (2019). *NRAExplore*. Retrieved from NRA Gun Safety Rules:  
<https://gunsafetyrules.nra.org/>

CMP. (2019). *CMP Safety*. Retrieved from Civilian Marksmanship Program: <http://thecmp.org/Safety/>

CMP Civilian Marksmanship Program. (2018). *2018-2020 National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle Rules*. CMP.

California Cadet Corps, (2019). *Cadet Regulation 3-17 Rifle Marksmanship*. CSLO: CACC.