SANDHURST 17

COMPETITION MANUAL

1. SITUATION

a. General. In 1967, the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) presented USMA with a British Officer’s sword. The intent was for the sword to be the prize for a competition, the aim of which was to promote military excellence among the Corps of Cadets. The original mission statement read as follows - “To provide the Corps of Cadets with a challenging and rewarding regimental skills competition, which will enhance professional development and military excellence in selected Soldier skills.” The competition has evolved to incorporate teams from sister academies, ROTC, USMMA and foreign academies. The Sandhurst 17 Competition will be conducted at West Point 07-08 APR 17. The competition is sponsored by the Department of Military Instruction (DMI). MAJ Luis Vega is the Officer in Charge (OIC) responsible for the event. The Commandant of The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst will be invited as the principal guest to view the competition and assist in the presentation of the awards.

b. Team Eligibility/ Participation/ Composition.

(1) The following have been invited to participate in the Sandhurst 17 Competition:

(a) 38 x USCC Teams - one team per Company plus the Black and Gold teams.
(b) 8 x ROTC Teams (as selected by Cadet Command).
(c) 1 x USNA Team.
(d) 1 x USAFA Team.
(e) 1 x USCGA Team.
(f) 2 x Teams from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (United Kingdom).
(g) 1 x Team from the Royal Military College (Canada).
(h) 1 x Team from the Royal Military College, Duntroon (Australia).
(i) 1 x Team from the “Escuela Militar” (Chile).
(j) 1 x Team from the National Defense Academy (Japan).
(k) 1 x Team from the Latvian Military Academy (Latvia).
(l) 1 x Team from the “Chulachomklao” Royal Military Academy (Thailand).
(m) 1 x Team from the “Offizierschule des Heeres” (Germany).
(n) 1 x Team from the “Escuela Militar de Cadetes” (Colombia).
(o) 1 x Team from the “Heroico Colegio Militar” (Mexico).
(p) 1 x Team from the Korean Military Academy (Korea).
(2) **Composition.**

(a) Each team will consist of 9 cadets at least one of whom must be female and are authorized 2 alternates (see rules and intent in 1.(2).(c)).

(b) All cadets may volunteer to take part in Sandhurst 17. There are no restrictions on the number of times a cadet can compete during their 47 month experience.

(c) **Alternates.** Each team may have up to a maximum of 2 alternates, at least one of whom is to be female. Alternates will be issued equipment and will train with their respective team. Alternates who do not compete either because they are not selected or because they are injured (that includes injured squad members) will receive intramural credit. If a casualty causes the loss of a squad member it will be possible to replace the individual at any time without incurring a penalty, as long as the injury is ratified by a medical expert. Any participant removed without an injury or if the injury is deemed negligible by the medical expert that team will incur a penalty. **External teams are to ensure that they arrive with no more than two alternates per squad, at least one of whom is to be female.**

(3) **Language.** English will be used for all instructions and correspondence. Translators are permitted throughout the competition for external teams whose country's language is not English. This team member will be additional to the 9 person squad and will run with the team, although will not assist in any other way other than in translation.

c. **Directing Staff and Committees/ Support Personnel - Participation and Responsibilities.**

(1) **Sandhurst Director.** COL Jonathan Neumann (x8723); jonathan.neumann@usma.edu

(2) **Sandhurst Deputy Director.** LTC Aaron Barreda (x0258); aaron.barreda@usma.edu

(3) **Sandhurst OIC.** MAJ Luis Vega (x3494); luis.vega2@usma.edu

(4) **Sandhurst 2IC.** CPT Philip Anderson (x8701); philip.anderson@usma.edu

(5) **Sandhurst S4.** MAJ John Peyerl (x3593); john.peyerl@usma.edu

(6) **Sandhurst Cadet IC.** Cadet Timothy Mclaughlin; timothy.mclaughlin@usma.edu

(7) **Site Committees/ Support Personnel.** Sandhurst Sites/ Support Personnel will be drawn from DMI/USCC. Sites will be manned by nominated cadets. DMI OIC and 2IC will provide advice and supervision to cadets as required.

(8) **Sandhurst Team Liaisons.** External teams will be assigned cadet liaisons. Teams will meet their liaisons during the external team recon on 2FEB17. Liaisons will be authorized to submit support requests or requests for information on the behalf of the teams they are assigned. Cadet liaisons will be 2nd Class or higher. Specific requirements and roles for each team liaison will be identified during the external team recon.

2. **MISSION:** Design and execute a squad level military skills competition focused on individual and team military skills at the United States Military Academy and associated training area on 07-08 APR 17 in order to provide the Corps of Cadets and visiting teams with a challenging and rewarding experience which reinforces military science instruction and training pushing competitors to achieve military excellence in their chosen profession.

DMI 6 Intent:

**Purpose:** To inspire the Corps of Cadets and visiting competitors to achieve military excellence in their chosen profession through a rigorous, physical, mental, and leadership challenge that is reflective of combat operations in terms of tempo and tasks.

**Key Tasks:**

(1) Ensure safe and efficient execution of Sandhurst 17 by identifying participants and support personnel and integrating USCC to ensure that visiting teams are given an opportunity to acclimatize / train prior to the competition and have the required equipment to participate.
(2) Conduct thorough coordination across the USCC staff to ensure that all logistic, administrative and hosting requirements are complete.

(3) Provide opportunities to develop a better appreciation of inter-service, inter-commissioning source, and foreign military capabilities, build stronger bonds between services, other commissioning sources, and foreign academies, and foreign armies.

(4) Showcase the USMA to external competitors, spectators and media.

Endstate:

(1) Sandhurst 17 is professionally run and completed to standard.

(2) All teams safely and successfully compete in challenging military skills competition in order to enhance USCC excellence in CST 2017.

(3) Cadets of all teams inspired about the profession of arms and strengthened in their foundational military skills in preparation for future military service.

(4) USCC has a better understanding of foreign military capabilities and established stronger bonds between US coalition partners, foreign academies, and foreign armies.

3. EXECUTION

a. Concept of Operations/Outline of Competition. Each USMA company, and invited external teams, will provide one 9 member squad (with exception of RMAS who provide 2 x teams), which will perform a series of military tasks in accordance with the competition orders over a partly prescribed route. Competition results will be determined in accordance with the scoring criteria laid down by each event of the competition.

b. Core Skills. Suggested training guidance can be found in the Competition Warning Order (Annex A). This Annex also includes any specific skill sets that the Cadets will require in order to compete in the competition. Details of the sites will be briefed to the participants as they arrive at them via a 5 paragraph OPORD contained on a briefing board.

c. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Timings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ser</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>SEPT 16</td>
<td>USCC Training Starts</td>
<td>BTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>02 – 03 FEB 17</td>
<td>External Team Reconnaissance</td>
<td>DMI SANDHURST OIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>05FEB17</td>
<td>External Team Equipment / Weapon support request complete</td>
<td>Team Managers / SANDHURST S4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>01APR17</td>
<td>USCC Training Complete</td>
<td>BTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>021000-1900APR17</td>
<td>External Teams arrive USMA</td>
<td>Team Managers / BTD LNOs</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>03APR17</td>
<td>Modern War Institute Conference</td>
<td>DMI MWI</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>031200APR17</td>
<td>OOM Draw</td>
<td>USMA 1st CPT</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>040700APR17</td>
<td>Issue of Equipment / Weapons to External Teams</td>
<td>Sandhurst CIC</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>04 – 07APR17</td>
<td>External Team Training Week</td>
<td>Sandhurst 2IC</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>061600APR17</td>
<td>SANDHURST 17 SQD LDR Briefing</td>
<td>Sandhurst OIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>0708APR17</td>
<td>SANDHURST 17 Competition</td>
<td>DMI</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>081200APR17</td>
<td>SANDHURST 17 Team Social</td>
<td>BTD</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>081430APR17</td>
<td>SANDHURST 17 Awards Ceremony</td>
<td>USCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>09APR17</td>
<td>External Teams hand back equipment and depart</td>
<td>Team Managers / BTD LNOs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) External Team RECON – 02-03 FEB 17. Each external team is invited to attend the External Team Recon. Details can be found in Annex B.

(3) External Teams Arrival.

(a) All External Teams are to report to USMA not before 020100APR17 and NLT 021900APR17. NO ARRIVAL CAN BE ACCOMMODATED BEFORE THIS DATE.
(b) Each external team will be given a West Point host company. Hosting company responsibilities can be found at Annex C.

(4) **Squad Order of Movement (OOM) Draw** – 031200APR17. The OOM for the 2017 Sandhurst Competition will be announced at lunch in the Cadet Mess Hall. This draw will determine the start times for each team.

(5) **Competitors’ Instructions** – 061600APR17. All squad leaders will receive the Competition instructions at the same time in Washington Hall 5300. This moment signifies the start of the competition. Squad leaders, translators, and cadet liaisons are the only authorized attendees. Upon receipt of the instructions, competitors are restricted from receiving any assistance outside of their squad.

(6) **Sandhurst External Team Training Week**. Details of the layout and training opportunities are in Annex D. Each external team will at least be afforded the opportunity to:

(a) Understand the standards and conduct required of the USCC.

(b) Acclimatize and familiarize themselves with the terrain.

(c) Integrate USCC personnel (i.e., cadet liaisons).

(d) Gain accountability for and prepare USMA-issued equipment.

(e) Understand US Army range procedures.

(f) Confirm weapons zero.

(g) Receive exposure and training on skill sets not achievable at home locations.

(7) **Inspection and Validation**. 30MAR-01APR 17 will be Sandhurst Lane Validation period for all Site Staff, during which time the Director of DMI will conduct his full inspection. The intent is to maximize the time available, but reduce unnecessary practice and rehearsal. Site ready times will therefore be staggered and details will be given in a separate OPORD published nearer the event. No practicing teams will be allowed on the course during the validation period. Validation will serve as a full dress rehearsal for each event.

(8) **Start & Finish Points**. The Start Point, Reporting Area and Finish Point are explained in Annex E.

(9) **Sandhurst Route Card**.

(a) This will be the primary means of recording both points and penalties on sites and the overall time taken for the course.

(b) The route card will be issued to teams on 06 APR 17. They will then be responsible for carrying it until it is handed in to the Finish Point OIC.

(c) A lost Route Card or one damaged beyond legibility will result in the loss of scores completed up to that point.

(10) **Competition Timeline**. A detailed timeline for the competition is in Annex F.

(11) **Penalties**. Each site will have its own penalties associated with it and Squad Leaders will be briefed on these penalties in the coordinating instructions of each site 5 paragraph fragmentary orders. The following are Sandhurst 17 generic rules and penalties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ser</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>Time penalty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>Incorrect Team Composition</td>
<td>Disqualification</td>
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<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>Tampering with Check-Points</td>
<td>Disqualification</td>
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<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>Loss of Sensitive Item (Weapon or Radio)</td>
<td>Disqualification</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>Receiving physical assistance / aid from outside of the Sandhurst Staff (not including immediate first aid)</td>
<td>Disqualification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e)</td>
<td>Loss of any equipment</td>
<td>Disqualification</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Negligent Discharge of weapon  Disqualification
7. Failure to visit any site or attempt a task  Disqualification
8. Lost/ illegible Route Card  Loss of scores up to the point of error occurring
9. Unsportsmanlike Conduct  Assessed by Committee
10. Exceeding 50m separation all members of the squad (all must remain in a 50m ‘bubble’)  Assessed by Committee
11. Reporting to the Start Point late  Penalty added to overall time for day two.

(12) Challenges/ Protests

(a) Challenge Committee. All challenges will be reviewed at each event by the event OIC. Challenges will need to be raised before any team departs an event. Any upheld challenge will be reviewed at the end of each day by DMI 6 in committee in order to adjust points awarded. **DMI 6 will have the final say in matters pertaining to challenges.**

(b) Challenges. If a squad leader wishes to challenge an individual site score, or a decision made by the Site OIC/CIC, they should do it at the conclusion of the execution of the event.

(i) Challenge format is to consist of the following: Who is making the challenge, where the issue occurred, when the issue occurred, what is the issue being protested, why the team has mounted a challenge and what is the desired outcome, The OIC who will have observed the team during execution will decide if the challenge is upheld. He will then record that the challenge is upheld and recommend a resolution to DMI-6 at the Challenge Committee to be held at the end of the day’s activities.

(ii) No video, spectator input or other form of evidence will be considered after the decision is made.

(iii) Once the OIC has decided if a challenge is upheld or rejected the Squad Leader will immediately return to his squad to continue the execution of the competition.

(c) If the protest is upheld by the Challenge Committee, the score will be replaced by the average score for that event; if rejected, an unsportsmanlike penalty will be awarded.

(13) Assistance to Competitors. Once a squad begins the Start Point procedures they may not receive any further physical support (including refreshments), training, mentorship, or advise from anyone outside that squad. Water resupply will be located at intervals throughout the course. Verbal encouragement is permitted and the team management cannot follow the squads along the route. Once at an event the team management must move to the designated spectator areas. All areas used on the West Point Training Area are off limits to spectators with the exception of those events listed on the Sandhurst web page with the exception of those VIPs and staff that have the correct vehicle passes. Communication devices such as mobile phones and radios are **not to be used to pass information to the squads, either by squads themselves or by their supporters.** Squads will be disqualified for unlawful assistance.

(14) Inclement Weather. There will be no cancellations due to inclement weather and, with the exception of lack of visibility during marksmanship which has the ability to conduct re-shoots for teams affected, all events will proceed in accordance with the OOM directed by the draw.

(15) Risk Assessment/ Management.

(a) Safety and Medical. Competition safety is a prime concern. The rules have been written with safety in mind but common sense and caution are required at all times.

(b) Traffic Control. Parking within the Cantonment Area will be identified to visitors arriving at the USMA. On 08 APR 17 visitors are to report to the West Point visitors center in Highland falls to be granted access to West Point. Those visiting ranges on 07 APR 17 are to avoid parking on Route 293 and follow signs for designated parking areas. VIPs and team managers will be able to secure a vehicle pass through their Protocol (VIPS) or via their LNOs (managers) in order to gain freedom of access to events taking place on the training area.
Public Relations.

(a) There are three types of sites in the Sandhurst 17 competition: prohibited, restricted, and unrestricted.

(i) Prohibited sites are those with insufficient or unsafe access to visitors. The USCC Command Group, the Sandhurst Staff, Distinguished Visitors who have been provided with USMA escorts, and competitors are the only personnel authorized at prohibited sites; all other visitors are prohibited from visiting these sites.

(ii) Restricted sites are those with sufficient access but require additional information in order to assure the safety of competitors and visitors. All visitors, to include team managers, tactical officers, and squad alternates must visit the information center at Eisenhower Hall to receive the safety briefing and gain credentials prior to visiting a restricted site; those who do not display proper credentials will be removed from these sites.

(iii) Unrestricted sites are those with sufficient and safe access; no credentials are required at these sites. Visitors must stay within the identified viewing areas at the site and other than verbal encouragement have no additional contact with the team.

(b) There will be a Spectator Information Center at Eisenhower Hall in the USMA Cantonment Area throughout the competition that will give information regarding team’s location and progress.

(c) Two DMI officers, assisted by nominated cadets, will be responsible for general Public Relations within the Information Center.

(d) A Media Plan will be produced by USMA HQ that will include promotion of the event. External Teams are not to invite their own media to the competition without USMA approval. USMA will not permit any external media at the event but will promulgate footage recorded during the execution of the competition. Any further questions can be directed to the Sandhurst OIC.

Protocol Officer/ Escorts. All VIPs will be hosted by USMA Protocol and escorted by USMA personnel. Teams who are interested in VIPs attending the competition are to confirm attendance to Sandhurst OIC.

Scoring. Each event will develop an OML, points will be attached to that OML. The teams will be ranked in descending order according to event score (time or points) and afford a competition score based of their standing against the other teams. Day 2 is a race with the same total point value as Day 1. Marksmanship events are worth double points.

Awards. The following prizes will be awarded:

(a) Reginald E. Johnson Memorial Plaque the Sandhurst winner. To the squad (international or otherwise) with the highest overall score. In the event of a tie, the trophy will be awarded to the squad which had the best Marksmanship score.

(b) Tom Surdyke Leadership Award: To the Squad Leader (international or otherwise) with the highest overall Leadership score. The leadership of the Squads Leaders will be assessed in selected events. In the event of a tie, the trophy will be awarded to the squad which had the best overall score.

(c) The Sandhurst Trophy. To the USCC Regiment with the highest combined company squad results. In the event of a tie, the trophy will be awarded to the Regt which had the best Marksmanship score.

(d) The Sandhurst Regimental Streamers. Awarded to the 3rd, 2nd, 1st place USCC teams To the company in each Regiment with the highest overall score. In the event of a tie, the streamer will be awarded to the Companies which had the best Marksmanship score.

(e) The Sandhurst Patch. Bronze Standard Patches: 30% of the teams. Silver Standard Patches: 20% of the teams. Gold Standard Patches: Top 10% of the teams

(f) Marksmanship Streamer. To the squad (international or otherwise) with the highest overall score on Marksmanship. In the event of a tie, the squad with the highest overall competition score is the winner.
(g) **Navigational Streamer.** To the squad (international or otherwise) with the best overall time/score on Day 2 of the competition. In the event of a tie, the squad with the best overall Day 1 score will be the winner.

(h) **The Sandhurst 17 ROTC Streamers.** To the 1st, 2nd, 3rd placed ROTC. For the ROTC squads with the highest top three overall scores. In the event of any placement ties, the streamer will be awarded to the ROTC squads which had the best Marksmanship scores.

(i) **The Sandhurst 17 Non USMA / ROTC Streamers.** To the 1st, 2nd, 3rd placed Non USMA / ROTC squads. For the Non USMA / ROTC squads with the highest top three overall scores. In the event of any placement ties, the streamer will be awarded to the squads which had the best Marksmanship scores.

(20) **Awards Ceremony.** The Awards Ceremony will take place at 081430APR17 in front of Washington Hall. All cadets who participated in the competition will attend. The details for the formation/ceremony are at Annex G.

4. **SUSTAINMENT**

a. **International/External Teams.** All External teams will submit their initial request for support from USMA during the External Recon. There will be opportunity to refine the request through contact with their USMA liaison. Equipment issue will be on 04APR17.

b. **Feeding.** Sandhurst S4 is responsible for producing a feeding plan as follows:

   (1) **External Team Training Week (03-06 APR17)** – Feeding for all external teams (not including team management).

   (2) **All teams (including USCC)** – 07-08APR17.

   (3) **ROTC teams** will be expected to settle their feeding account prior to departing USMA.

c. **Weapons and ammunition.** International Teams are allowed to bring their own weapons systems to the USMA for the competition. 660 rounds of US standard 5.56mm ammunition will be available to each visiting team by the USMA. Teams bringing their own ammunition because of a requirement for different grade or caliber will bring the same quantity to allow for the External Training Week and execution of the competition. International Teams will coordinate the movement of weapons systems and ammunition to the USMA through their embassy. Weapons systems employed may not exceed 5.56mm caliber or not exceed the Surface Danger Zone of the NATO 5.56mm round’s ballistic performance in order to prevent the risk of fratricide. If teams encounter issues with the transportation of weapons then the USMA will make available M4s for visiting teams. Weapons used during SANDHURST 17 are to be equipped with iron sights. No team will be able to start the competition or the marksmanship competition with weapons equipped with any form of optical sight including non-magnifying or red-dot sights.

d. **Accommodation.**

   (1) **External Team Competitors.** External team competitors will be accommodated within their hosting company areas.

   (2) **External Team Managers.** External teams are responsible for booking and paying for their accommodation. External team managers will be oriented to the local hotels during the external team recon.

e. **Transport.**

   (1) **Airports.** Airports west of the Hudson River (Newark Liberty (EWR) and Stewart Newburgh (SWF) provide the easiest access to West Point. Access to West Point is challenging when arriving at airports east of the Hudson River (La Guardia and John F Kennedy).

   (2) **Onward Movement.** Teams are to ensure that they arrange to rent vehicles to move their team and equipment from all airports to West Point upon arrival. The vehicle will be required for movement between events during the External Team Training Week at the USMA (03-06 APR17). Teams will receive an opportunity to identify additional support requirements during the External Team Recon (02FEB17).
5. **COMMAND & SIGNAL**

a. **Control.**

(1) **TOC.** An Operations Center will be established at Eisenhower Hall in the USMA Cantonment Area. This site will be operational from 070830APR17 until 081200APR16. The competition director (DMI6), deputy director, OIC and 2IC will be mobile during the competition to assist with challenges and coordination.

(2) **Scoring Center.** The TOC will have a scoring center responsible for the receipt of Sandhurst Route Cards from the competing teams, compiling the results, and informing DMI6 of the competition outcomes and award winners. The Scoring Center will provide a ranking at the end of Day 1. They will provide a table of results to DMI6 for the awards ceremony NLT 081330APR16.

(3) **Radio.** Frequencies and call-signs will be issued during the external teams training week.

   (a) All sites and squads are to maintain and monitor their radio at all times.

   (b) Competing squads will be equipped with 1 x MACOM Radio that will be used to send reports and returns and provide a safety net.

   (c) Each Squad will be issued with a Soldier Monitoring System for real time tracking in the TOC. One member of the squad is to wear this and ensure it is functional at all times.

(4) **Updates.** Periodic updates to the information contained within this instruction will be made via the Sandhurst Website and Blog which can be reached via the following web-link:

    [http://www.usma.edu/dmi/SitePages/Sandhurst%20Competition.aspx](http://www.usma.edu/dmi/SitePages/Sandhurst%20Competition.aspx)