

HISTORIC DANIEL LADY FARM
EVENT RULES AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Revised July 15, 2020

SAFETY

Each Company, Battalion/Regiment, Brigade, Division and Army will appoint a designated Safety Officer to ensure general safety and weapons safety rules are followed by all participants. Each Safety Officer will be supervised and report to the next higher level. The Army Headquarters' Safety Officer will file a report with the GBPA Medical Command at the daily briefing.

COVID 19 REGULATIONS

We take the health and safety of our all participants -- vendors, reenactors, spectators, staff and volunteers—very seriously. As a result, we have developed the following **COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures* (SOP)** for events based on CDC and Pennsylvania Government guidelines. These serve three main purposes:

1. To prevent transmission of disease.
2. To comply with or accommodate governmental emergency COVID-19 orders, guidelines and recommendations.
3. To allow spectators and reenactors alike to feel comfortable with participating in a Daniel Lady Farm Event.

We hope to be able to resume hosting more traditional Civil War events in the not too distant future, but we need your help to prepare for that. Commanding officers and field staff at all levels should reinforce these precautions with all event unit members, both prior to and at the beginning of the event.

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as social distancing, handwashing, staying home when sick), and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles in disease prevention. It is especially important for units to adhere to mask and social distancing recommendations when visiting or mixing with units and friends from different localities and states.

This SOP seeks to mitigate these identified risks and reflect the guidance from the PA Department of Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and recommendations from several campground and RV organizations.

Promoting Behaviors that Reduce COVID-19 Spread

GBPA is implementing several of these CDC recommended strategies to encourage behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19.

***for the full COVID-19 recommendations with information links, visit gbpa.org.**

Staying Home when Appropriate.

All reenactors and event participants including vendors, staff and visitors who are sick or have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should stay home. Reenactors who must stay home due to illness or COVID-19 exposure may opt to transfer their reservation fee to another GBPA event, receive a refund, or donate their fee to Daniel Lady Farm preservation.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette.

Reinforce the importance of frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer should be used. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or a shirt/uniform sleeve. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash (not reused) and hands washed immediately or use hand sanitizer. Consider bringing hand sanitizer for group use and small bottles for personal use.

Cloth Face Coverings.

Face coverings should be worn by event participants as feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Bring a mask for personal use – or a bandana if preferred -- especially when away from the unit campsite when social distancing may become difficult -- like visiting other units, the farm's historic buildings, or public areas, food concessions, sutlers, or living history (LH) areas. Under PA COVID-19 emergency orders issued on July 1st, wearing masks is required when visiting the farm's historic buildings, food concessions, sutlers and other vendors, riding transportation (including farm wagons) or whenever social distancing is difficult. There is a general exception for people with health problems that make wearing masks especially difficult, or children under 2 years old.

Food Concessions and Sutlers/Vendors

Concession staff must follow procedures and guidance by the PA Department of Health and CDC including wearing masks when preparing food or dealing with the public. Set up should allow for social distancing in cooperation with the GBPA. Masks are required for all PA businesses and their customers unless there is a medical exemption or for children under the age of 2. Vendors should be familiar with PA rules, guidance for business and restaurants, as well as mask and social distancing orders and guidelines.

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/business-guidance/> <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/restaurant-industry-guidance/>

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/20200701-SOH-Universal-Face-Coverings-Order.pdf>

In cooperation with the GBPA, concessions and vendors should be prepared to manage visitor traffic patterns and set limits on occupancy to allow for social distancing. All vendors and concession must have a visible hand sanitizer dispenser available for public use. Vendors should consider offering personal size hand sanitizer available for sale.

Honor Social Distancing with at least 6 feet separation as a norm, with more distance for living history presentations.

- Reduce risk factors in campsites.
 - To the extent feasible, follow the camping guidelines at GBPA.org.

- To the fullest extent possible Quartermasters should allow for spacing tents 6 feet apart and provide for additional space between units/companies.
- Reenactment camps are closed to ticket holding visitors during event hours (not including family, etc.). However units are encouraged to schedule living history presentations for the public in areas set aside for that purpose.
- Living history demonstrations should especially keep extra distance from visitors especially if not using a mask. Use visual barriers to remind guests of distance (not unlike the procedures often used with LH programs on the Gettysburg National Military Park). Be prepared to accommodate visitor traffic patterns that allows for distancing. No food sharing with visitors except as food concession. No “please touch” artifacts. Adaptations of these guidelines may be worked out the event staff.
- We recommend no shoulder-to-shoulder formations in march, dress parade, or inspections – especially when masks are not being worn. March in “Route Step” with social distancing. Keep social distancing during parade and inspection formations.
- We recommend no Civil War battle firing lines without social distancing; use skirmish lines and similar forms of attack. Use scenarios that make this more feasible and historically accurate.
- Artillery & Cavalry: watch your distances as feasible.
- Command meetings should require social distancing and encourage masks.

Use of face masks and social distancing are interrelated strategies to reduce disease transmission. Face coverings may be challenging for reenactors in settings such as in camp and reenactment scenarios making social distancing more important. Special consideration must be given to planning skirmish scenarios and military maneuvers to honor guidelines and to protect fellow reenactors and visitors.

Unit Liability Insurance Policy

All units must send into the GBPA two weeks prior to the event your certificate of insurance in the amount of \$1M naming GBPA as an additional insured.

Security

Gettysburg has been the target of several threats in recent years. The GBPA takes all threats seriously. The GBPA’s Daniel Lady Farm will not be host to any protests, demonstrations or counter demonstrations, nor be used as a staging area or home base for such activities. The GBPA is a private, non-profit, charitable corporation and its properties may not be used for any purpose which has not been approved.

General Safety Rules and Recommendations

Weapons Safety inspection will be conducted prior to each battle and a written report will be verified and signed off by each Safety Officer at the previously mentioned levels: The Commanding Federal and Confederate General or their designees will make the final signoffs for their respective armies. This document will be retained by the respective General.

Each Company Safety Officer will have their Company snap a cap to insure the weapons are clear prior to taking the Battlefield.

All Reenactors participating in the field must affiliate with a unit to participate. The command staff will attempt to assign individuals registering without a unit affiliation to units but this does not guarantee acceptance by that unit. It is the individual's responsibility to affiliate and if no recognized unit is found the individual will not be able to participate. Affiliation means that the unit or individual will be under the control of, camp with, be inspected by and fall in for battle with that recognized unit. The event Commanders and organizers will make the final determination if a registration is accepted.

All safety regulations will be strictly enforced through appropriate safety personnel. Any violation of these rules will be grounds for an individual or unit to be removed from the field.

Anyone under the age of 13 will not be permitted on the Battlefield. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

No one under the age of 16 will be permitted to carry a rifle on the field.

No projectiles, bullets, musket balls, or loading blocks will be carried at any time at the scene of an event.

Opposing troops will not advance within 25 yards of another unit at any time during this event. Exceptions will only occur if they have been carefully planned prior to the event and approved by the Overall Commander.

All firing will be done at an elevated angle. Never aim a weapon directly at another person.

There will be no weapons fired in the bivouac or encampment area or along routes of march without prior approval or direction of the Company Safety Officer. **Infractions will result in expulsion of the individual and/or unit.** All cartridges must be made up prior to the event. In the case of a prolonged event or unexpected firing activities, cartridges may be made at a designated safety area only, not in camp or near exposed flames or visitor's cigarettes. No staples will be used in any cartridge. Nails, vent picks, etc. should be kept out of the cartridge box to avoid accidentally dropping any of these objects into a muzzle.

Maximum musket or rifle cartridges will follow the Table of Maximum Loads. Only FFg or FFFg black powder will be used. **NO** Pyrodex. **NO** FFFFg (4F) powder will be used except by artillery units for priming. Cartridge paper will not be placed in the barrel and **NO** wadding or ramming will be permitted except in the use of handguns. Absolutely **NO** wonder wads, Cream of Wheat is recommended. Multiple loading is not permitted.

Cartridges **will not** be carried anywhere on the person except in a hard cartridge box unless they are securely wrapped in paper in lots of ten and carried in a secure location.

Powder will only be carried in the form of cartridges.

Ramrods can be carried but are not to be drawn and used under any circumstance, unless otherwise directed by the Company Safety Officer for safety checks.

Unit formations will be held previous to each battle, where weapons, accouterments and cartridges will be inspected. Those failing this inspection will not be allowed to carry the failing firearms onto the field.

A full safety inspection should be held by each unit commander prior to its arrival at this event. Likewise at the end of each Battle all weapons will be discharged then the Company Commander will snap a cap to insure all weapons are clear prior to departing the Battlefield.

Each unit commander is responsible for the conduct of his men, women and children. The commander is responsible to make sure that his personnel and those assigned to him are aware of the safety rules and that they abide by them.

Infantry Weapons

3 band muskets preferred; correct 2 banders allowed only by prior written approval from the commanding General of the appropriate army subject to supporting historical documentation.

NO non-period weapons. NO civilian weapons including concealed carry without the expressed, written permission of the GBPA i.e. authorized Event Security.

Side arms carried ONLY by officers.

Ramrods are not to be drawn on the field with the exception of Safety personnel clearing a weapon behind the firing line.

Bayonets are not to be fixed on the field. Scabbards must have appropriate tips.

NO sheath knives will be carried on the field.

POWDER CHARGES limited to a maximum of 70 grains for .54 - .58 caliber and 90 grains for .69 caliber, 60 grains for carbines, 14 and 30 grains for .36 and .44 caliber pistols, respectively.

No weapons are to be discharged within 25 yards of the "enemy"; remember to always elevate when firing.

No weapons are to be discharged within camp boundaries with the exception of weapons inspection under supervision of the unit safety officer or commanding officer.

No live ammunition is allowed on the reenactment site. LEAVE IT AT HOME!

No Tompions may be taken to the field.

No “Wonder Wads” are to be used in any weapon

Cavalry/Horse Requirements

ALL equestrian issues will fall under the purview of the appropriate Federal or Confederate Army Commanders and their Cavalry commander to include Cavalry, Staff, Mounted Artillery and Civilian.

All horses brought to the site are required to have a current Coggins certificate. Coggins checks will be completed at GBPA Registration. Registration will have a list of Horses with current Coggins on file with the GBPA. If your horse is on file, you will be able to proceed to camp. If not, be sure to bring physical copies for inspection. Horses should be trained to gunfire and battle BEFORE THE EVENT. Do not bring untrained horses to the event.

Do not bring a sick horse to the event. If your horse begins to show signs of illness, you must remove the horse from the property as quickly as possible. Alert your commander who will contact event staff if there is any assistance needed from organizers. Commanders will also have been given the name of the vet on call. If you need vet assistance before removing a sick horse from the property, take the horse a safe distance from all other horses until it can be assessed. This applies to sick horses—not those injured, experiencing suspected colic, etc.

Under no circumstances will horses be billeted or camped in any area other than the appropriate and assigned reenactor camps where amenities, shade, water and hay are supplied. Horses camping in the parking lots or any unauthorized areas is strictly forbidden and will result in the expulsion from the event.

Water troughs for horses will be located in Cavalry camps. There will be an attached red bucket. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are horses allowed to drink directly from the common trough. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should personal buckets be dipped into the common trough. Only the red buckets should be used to dispense water from the common trough.

Horses WILL NOT be ridden or led through the infantry camps, artillery camps and sutler areas or in spectator areas.

All horses will be dismounted prior to entering any authorized camp area and led to the designated picket area. With the exception of designated combat areas, absolutely no mounted individual will allow a horse to enter a camp area above the gait of a controlled walk.

No person under the age of 16 will mount a horse as a combatant or serve in a mounted capacity with the exception of qualified riders serving as functional musicians. Determination of a qualified rider will be made by the respective Cavalry Commander.

Horses will be ridden on event grounds only by troopers or staff. Spectators, children, and visitors will absolutely not be allowed to mount any horse. Horses will NOT be permitted on the Battlefield during any on-field event.

Period civilians wishing to portray a mounted impression will apply to the appropriate Cavalry Commander who will then determine the qualifications of the rider(s) and will also determine when and where they may ride. Mounted cavalry escort may be required at the discretion of the Cavalry Commander. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Violators will be expelled from the event.

Stallions will not be permitted on the event site.

Hay will be supplied and distributed for each horse, for the entire event, at the cavalry registration area when the horse is registered at the rate of one bale per day per horse.

Artillery

Artillery units will adhere to Standard Operating Procedures and safety rules as per the NCWAA manual and will be under the command and direction of the appropriate Artillery Commander.

All pieces will be inspected by the Artillery Safety Officer.

Additional Guidelines

All event participants will carry a FULL CANTEEN at all times. Any participant, Generals to Privates, without a full canteen may be ordered from the field by any Medical or Safety Officer. Participant will comply without argument or be subject to being expelled from the event.

NO PETS will be allowed at this event under any circumstances.

No General Officers will be allowed on the field without prior approval.

All reenactors must meet accepted standards for authenticity. In case of dispute all decisions will be made by the respective commanders.

Note to new reenactors and people wanting to become reenactors: Unfortunately we cannot be a clearing house for new reenactors and are not able to refer you to specific groups. We can refer you to periodicals such as The Civil War News, Camp Chase Gazette and Civil War Courier for notices from units seeking new members. Going to numerous civil war websites and chat rooms would be another good source for reenactor information. The best option may be to go to some smaller reenactments or living history demonstrations and talk to unit members. Reenactors are normally very gracious in sharing their knowledge and experience. We strongly recommend that if you have not previously been a reenactor, an event of this scope should probably not be your first event.

Banners and flags on public display must be period-correct and used in their historic context.

Camp Safety

The GBPA provides wood, water and porta-pots for your convenience. Please respect these amenities by not wasting wood or water and leaving the porta-pot in an acceptable condition as you exit.

Company streets must be kept clear of all obstructions, camp gear and furniture. The company streets will be used for formations, troop movements and provide emergency access to the camps. Fire pits must be at the top and bottom of the tent rows with enough room to allow passage even if a crowd is around the fire pit.

Fire pits may be dug with the sod reserved for replacement when the fire pit is filled. All dug fire pits will be filled prior to the breaking of camp at the end of the event. No trash is to be burned in the fire pit. This includes empty or full cans or bottles. Straw and hay and other flammable substances are to be stored well away from any fire pit.

Mounted personnel are not authorized to travel through infantry camps. If, for some reason, this cannot be avoided, the mounted soldier should dismount and lead his mount until clear of the camp.

Vehicles are to be removed from the camp area after they are unloaded and moved to the designated parking area. Vehicles are not allowed in camp except when specifically authorized during an emergency situation. Vehicles are allowed in camps after the event based upon posted rules of the event.

At the conclusion of each event, trash and unburned firewood shall be gathered and deposited in designated areas. All unburned firewood shall be returned to the wood pile.

NO flames any kind (including smoking) in buildings, nor campfires, candles or flame lanterns within 100 feet of any building.

NO Alcoholic Beverages. NO Loud or Abusive Language.

Additions to this SOP be made as necessary, or modified or superseded by guidance from the PA Department of Health or the CDC. Additional details on the event and this SOP will be available from GBPA Vice President Kirk Davis and his event staff. If you have any questions, contact us at info@GBPA.org. "