

# *His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot in America, Inc.*

## **SAFETY REGULATIONS**

Instructions: Read the information below and provide required signatures as indicated. The form can be printed and mailed or emailed to: Major Michael Graves, 6 Diane Lane, Chelmsford, MA 01824: [adjutant@redcoat.org](mailto:adjutant@redcoat.org)

Applicants under the age of 18 require the signature of a Parent or Legal Guardian.

**His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot, in America, (The Regiment)** is dedicated to the authentic reproduction of an 18th century British regiment. This quest for authenticity, however, is seconded to safety considerations. The following guidelines, therefore, are intended to maintain our impeccable safety record, and to insure the safety of our members and the public.

The Regiment portrays a military organization, and as part of this portrayal, "Officers " and "Non- Commissioned Officers," ("NCOs"), will issue "commands" and give "orders." These commands and orders, however, are similar to lines in a theatrical production. First and foremost, all members of The Regiment are responsible for their own safety and the safety of those about them. All members are expected to refuse an unsafe direction and to initiate a halt to activities when an unsafe condition is observed. Accordingly, if following the direction of an Officer or NCO would compromise safety, each member has an affirmative duty to point out the danger, and has complete discretion to fall out of ranks.

**Each year, before the beginning of each season or upon joining the Regiment, all members of The Regiment** shall read these Safety Regulations and certify that they have done so by signing the form stating that they have read the document in its entirety, that they understand them, and that they commit to abide by them. The following safety provisions are to be followed by every member of The Regiment. These rules, however, are not comprehensive, and may be superseded by safety rules specific to a particular event. Remember that your good sense must be your guide at all times.

### **SAFETY REGULATIONS** (updated 22 August 2018)

All members should be aware of all local, state, and federal laws concerning the transportation and possession of their muskets.

Members must never bring a weapon into ranks that has not been officially sanctioned by The Regiment.

At NO time is a member of The Regiment to surrender control of a musket to a member of the public. Likewise, edged weapons must remain under control of the member.

At NO time will any member of the public be allowed to fire a weapon.

Members shall never demonstrate the firing sequence of their musket if the musket has recently been fired and not yet cleaned.

Members must take special care that their muskets are placed in a safe location while at an event attended by the public.

Rammers will be carried, but they may not be drawn or used when firing with live cartridges. Hammerstalls must be employed when the musket is in a non-firing sequence.

A functioning flash guard shall always be employed.

No alcoholic beverages should be consumed by anyone employing a firearm.

No loose ball, or ball-loaded cartridges of any type, may be carried when live firing is involved.

No cartridge shall be fastened with anything that may fall into the barrel while firing. (e.g. a staple).

Members shall never discard cartridges that contain any amount of black powder. Before discarding, every member must ensure that the powder has been thoroughly removed from the cartridge.

If so ordered, troops may have to retain their empty paper cartridges after firing. If this is the case, these empty rolls shall be placed in the haversack or coat pocket.

When the event is finished, all members must return all unused powder. Powder shall not be carried unless it is housed in an appropriate powder chest.

No "hand-to-hand" combat shall be portrayed unless it is part of a scripted scenario.

No "bayonetting" is permitted unless it is part of a scripted scenario.

Weapons may not be fired when opposing forces are closer than 40 yards. In all circumstances, the barrels of the muskets must be elevated over the heads of the opposing forces.

No member shall walk or march in front, or within the “muzzle cone”, of a loaded or “hot” artillery piece (gun). A minimum distance of 100 yards should be maintained from an opposing artillery piece. A loaded gun can be distinguished as follows:

- A gun about to be fired: Gunners holding implements straight up into the air.
- A gun that has misfired (***gun still is loaded***): Crossed implements resting on the end of the barrel.

No artillery piece shall be overrun as part of a battle scenario until such time as it has been unloaded and deemed safe. This can be distinguished by the rammer being left inside the barrel of the gun and the gunners lying “wounded” under and around the piece.

No member's musket shall be loaded during a bayonet charge. If a charge is ordered, and the musket is loaded, it should immediately be brought to the “secure” position and dumped of the charge.

When the musket does not fire, there is always the possibility that a “hang fire” may cause the musket to discharge a few seconds later. Therefore, in the event that the musket does not discharge, keep the piece pointed at the ground, or at a safe direction, while the musket is either re-primed or the barrel emptied.

When the musket is loaded, and an order is given to “order firelocks,” it is imperative that members do not place their hands over the muzzle of the barrel. It is always inappropriate to place one's hand over the muzzle of the barrel at any time.

Before appearing in ranks, each member should inspect his own musket, running the rammer down the barrel, making sure the rammer “pings,” indicating a clean barrel. Remember, each man is responsible for the safety of his musket.

No weapon should fire when pressure is applied to the trigger while the musket is at the “half cock” position.

No member shall appear in ranks with a musket that he feels is unsafe. All muskets must be well cleaned, oiled, and kept in complete and thorough repair.

The signal to cease-fire is communicated by a hat held atop either a pole-arm or sword, or by the cease-fire beat of the drum. (All members must become familiar with this drumbeat.) When a ceasefire is sounded, all members must immediately cease firing and come to the shoulder position.

Muskets and cartridges boxes shall never be brought into the kitchen area

The kitchen area shall never be left unattended during public hours or if the campfire is burning.

The last person(s) to leave the kitchen area is responsible for making sure the campfire and all lamps/candles have been extinguished.

### **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge that I have received a copy of and read the Safety Regulations of His Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Foot, in America; that I fully comprehend their meaning and importance; that I will follow the directions of any appointed Safety Officer; and that I will comply with these regulations fully, in letter and in spirit. I further recognize my own responsibility to ensure safety at events, and I will not hesitate to prevent or stop any unsafe action.

### **OFFICIAL SIGNATURES (*signature of parent/guardian required for members under the age of 18*)**

**Member/GUARDIAN:** If signing electronically, I understand and agree that entering my name below constitutes my official signature.                     YES                     NO

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address for confirmation \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received by Adjutant: \_\_\_\_\_