

NEWPORT BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
TACTICAL RIFLE
COURSE NUMBER: 6830-32075
16 HOUR COURSE
REVISED: DECEMBER 2, 2020

Purpose: To provide students with the information and hands-on experience needed to effectively use a rifle. Successful completion of this course satisfies the legislative training required to possess short barrel rifles as specified in Penal Code section 33220(b) and the Commission training requirement to possess long barrel rifles as specified in Commission Regulation 1081.

Tactical Firearms Minimum Topics / Exercises:

- (1) Law Update
- (2) Review of Use of Force Issues, Agency Policies, and Mission
- (3) Safety Issues
- (4) Nomenclature, Specifications, and Capabilities
- (5) Firearm Care, Breakdown, and Cleaning
- (6) Tactical Considerations
- (7) Skill Development and Qualification

Course Objective

Under the supervision of a qualified instructor, and using an approved law enforcement rifle, each student will:

1. Demonstrate their understanding of the Four Basic Safety Rules for handling firearms.
2. Demonstrate the ability to field strip the weapon and to properly clean and maintain it.
3. Be provided with and demonstrate understanding of the agency policy regarding the use of firearms.
4. Demonstrate the ability to properly load, unload, and fire the weapon and to clear malfunctions that might occur with the weapon.
5. Demonstrate the ability to apply the fundamentals for rifle marksmanship to fire accurately from the prone, kneeling, sitting and standing positions.
6. Demonstrate proficiency with the weapon and obtain agency qualification.

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- I. Laws and Agency Policy
 - A. Penal Code section 32610(b)
 - 1. Possession of Within Scope of Employment
 - B. Penal Code section 33220(b)
 - 1. Training requirement
 - C. Agency Firearms Use and Use of Force Policies and Patrol Rifle policies
 - 1. Use of Force options
 - 2. Department Policy NBPB Sections 300, 312 and 432
 - D. Law Update
 - 1. Tennessee vs. Garner
 - 2. Graham vs. Conner
 - E. Class discussion regarding AB 392, SB 230 and PC 832a

- II. Safety and Range Rules
 - A. The Four Basic Safety Rules include
 - 1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
 - 2. Never point the muzzle at anything you are not willing to destroy.
 - 3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.
 - 4. Always be sure of your target and beyond.
 - B. Range Rules
 - 1. After weapons have been grounded, and the line has been called safe by an instructor do not touch the weapon until all students are back from their targets, and the instructor has given the okay.
 - 2. If a problem arises on the line, raise your non-gun-hand to summon an instructor.
 - 3. No loaded weapons behind the firing line – NO EXCEPTIONS
 - 4. Do not load any weapons on the firing line until instructed to do so

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III. Nomenclature, Specifications and Capabilities

A. Nomenclature

1. Front and Rear Sights
2. Reflex sight
3. Bolt Catch
4. Charging handle
3. Magazine Release
4. Safety/Selector
5. Magazine
6. Sling and Sling Attachments
7. Weapon light

B. Specifications

1. Type of Weapon
2. Barrel Length
3. Overall Length
4. Caliber
5. Magazine Capacity
6. Weight (empty)
7. Type of Sights – Trijicon/Aimpoint – Iron sights
8. Approximate Muzzle Velocity

C. Capabilities

1. Maximum Range
2. Maximum Effective Range
3. Penetration of Soft Body Armor
4. Full/Semi-Automatic

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- IV. Firearm Care, Disassembly/Assembly, and Maintenance
 - A. Rifle inspection – start of duty shift.
 - 1. “Patrol Ready” condition
 - 2. Clear and dry fire using clearing barrels
 - 3. Inspection of ammo, magazines and action
 - B. Disassembly/Assembly
 - 1. Receiver pin removal
 - 2. Bolt/charging handle
 - 3. Firing pin and hammer
 - C. Maintenance/care
 - 1. Proper cleaning
 - 2. Lubrication
 - 3. Weapon light battery replacement
 - 4. Any damaged/non-functioning weapons will be serviced only by Rangemaster prior to being placed in service.

- V. Basic Shooting Skills
 - A. Stance/Position
 - 1. Standing
 - 2. Kneeling
 - 3. Sitting
 - 4. Prone
 - 5. Shooting from behind cover
 - B. Sight Alignment/Picture
 - 1. Proper use of department issued reflex sights (Trijicon or Aim Point)
 - 2. Sight Alignment / Paralax
 - 3. Top of front sight post centered in the rear peep / Red or yellow dot
 - 4. 100 percent focus is on the top edge of the front sight post. The rear peep and target are blurred.
 - 5. Instructor will illustrate proper sight alignment
 - C. Sight Picture
 - 1. Defined as the relationship of sight alignment to the target.
 - 2. Understanding sight zero (50 yards) at range and close quarters.

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- D. Trigger Control
 - 1. Emphasize that this is the single most important element.
 - 2. Shooter must apply gradual pressure on the trigger for a surprise trigger break so as to not disturb sight alignment when the shot is made.
- E. Grip/Stock Weld
 - 1. Two handed manipulation
 - 2. Benefits of reflex sight with cheek/stock weld
- F. Breathing
 - 1. Breath must be held at the moment the shot is made.
 - 2. Breathing while firing will cause vertical stringing of shots.
 - 3. Holding breath too long will cause vision to blur and muscles to tremble, so the shot must be made before this happens.
- G. Follow Through
 - 1. Maintain all the elements throughout the shot.
 - 2. Both eyes open and assess
- VI. Clearing Malfunctions and Stoppages
 - A. In close quarter confrontations, consider immediate transition to the handgun.
 - 1. Call "ZERO" and engage threat.
 - 2. Assess need to maintain transition or correct stoppage/malfunction.
 - B. Failure to fire.
 - 1. "Tap, Rack, Assess"
 - a. Seat magazine by hitting it with heel of hand
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

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2. Stove pipe
 - a. Tilt rifle so that ejection port faces the ground
 - b. Pull bolt to rear and release
 - c. Obtain sight picture
 - d. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary
3. Feed way stoppages
 - a. Lock the bolt to the rear
 - b. Remove the magazine from the weapon – discard magazine
 - c. Clear live rounds from the receiver and chamber
 - d. Insert a fresh loaded magazine
 - e. Chamber a round
 - f. Obtain sight picture
 - g. Assess if follow-up shots are necessary

VII. Tactical Considerations

- A. When to deploy the rifle
 1. Newport Beach Police Department Policy guidelines
 2. Situation encountered
- B. Physical environment
 1. Range to suspect(s)
 2. Weapons/type and location of call
 3. Presence of bystanders
- C. Cover and concealment
 1. Special considerations for the rifle round's penetration
 2. Officer and suspect cover limitations
- D. Rifle caliber rounds penetration capabilities – body armor
 1. Limitations of soft body armor
 2. Supplemental rifle plates

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- E. The Patrol Rifle affords the opportunity to maintain safe distances to adversaries
 - 1. Know your abilities
 - 2. Accuracy of the rifle
- F. The Patrol Rifle affords an increased capability over shotgun and handgun
 - 1. Increased range and accuracy
 - 2. Greater magazine capacity
 - 3. Easier to load than shotgun

VIII. Shooting Decision

- A. Know your abilities, limitations and those of your weapon
 - 1. Accuracy/speed based on training. Be smooth and accurate
 - 2. Rifle excellent for longer range problems but has limitations in close quarters
 - 3. Are you able to sling weapon to go hands on or need arrest team?
- B. Exercise fire discipline within agency policy and the parameters of applicable State and Federal laws
- C. Engage to stop the threat and assess
 - 1. Understand the reality of “sympathetic fire”
 - 2. Engage only when YOU perceive the threat
 - 3. We are accountable for all rounds sent down range

IX. Skill Development

- A. Dry Firing Exercises
 - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 - 2. Dry fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
- B. Live Firing Exercises
 - 1. Done on the range under the direct supervision of the instructors.
 - 2. Live fire each position (standing, kneeling, sitting, and prone).
 - 3. Live fire at various distances based on agency mission and environment.
 - 4. Live fire at multiple targets.
 - 5. Precision shooting exercises.

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6. Reloading and firing exercises.
7. Failure drills and handgun utilization.
8. Malfunction exercises.
9. Move and fire exercises.
10. Close quarter tactical shooting.

X. Qualification / testing

- A. Qualification – done on the range under supervision of Rangemaster/Instructors
 1. Safe rifle handling/manipulation skills - pass/fail
 2. Accuracy on target at 10 (standing), 25 (standing and kneeling) and 50 yard ranges (prone) - pass/fail
 3. Deploy patrol rifle from cover / car
 4. Conduct live fire and maneuver from cover to cover

Fails will be remediated until proficient or no credit will be given.