

# ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING FORT BLISS – COMMANDER’S CUP INTRAMURAL SPORTS PROGRAM 2024

**REFERENCES:** AR 215-1 Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Non-Appropriated Fund Instrumentalities (24 September 2010)

**PURPOSE:** To provide policy and procedural guidance for the conduct of the Fort Bliss active-duty intramural sports program (Commander’s Cup).

## **PROGRAM**

**OBJECTIVE:** Support soldier morale, improve unit cohesion, promote esprit de corps and physical fitness through recreational sports competition.

## **COMMANDER’S CUP**

**COMPETITION:** The Commander’s Cup competition is made up of 8 team and individual sports throughout the year. These sports start in January and run through the calendar year. Commander’s Cup trophies are awarded annually to the organization earning the most Commanders’ Cup Points in both A and AA divisions.

## **COMMANDER’S CUP DIVISIONS:**

### **AA Division**

1/1 AD  
2/1 AD  
3/1 AD  
CAB 1AD  
1AD SUS  
32 AAMDC/11 ADA

### **A Division**

1 AD HHBN	1 AD DIVARTY
528 HC	93 MP
86 ESB	44 CHEM
5 AR	GARRISON
JMC	JTF-N
WBAMC	DENTAC
204 MI	USANCOL-CoE
7 ASOS	DESERT DEFENDER

**ALL OTHER TENANT UNITS ASSIGNED TO FORT BLISS**

**COMMANDER'S  
CUP POINTS:**

**Participation Points will be awarded as follows:**

(1) Team Sports – Organizations will receive 10-pts for each team who participates in league play. Up to a maximum of 50-pts, awarded per MSC for a team sport.

(2) Individual Sports – Organizations will receive points as follows:

**Running Events**

1-25 participants = 10-pts  
26-75 participants = 20-pts  
76-150 participants = 30-pts  
151-250 participants = 40-pts  
251+ participants = 50-pts

**Swim Meet**

1-10 participants = 10-pts  
11-20 participants = 20-pts  
21-30 participants = 30-pts  
31-40 participants = 40-pts  
41+ participants = 50-pts

**Championship Points will be awarded as follows:**

Post Champion = 50-pts  
Post Runner-Up = 25-pts  
Third Place = 15-pts

To determine Post Champion for team and individual sports with multiple classifications points internal to the event will be awarded as follows:

First Place = 7-pts  
Second Place = 5-pts  
Third Place = 3-pts

These place points will be totaled and the Post Champion will be the overall point winner. In case of a tie, championship points will be awarded to all MSC's involved. For example, two BDEs tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place each will receive 50-pts.

**GENERAL:**

Commanders are encouraged to support the sports program to the fullest extent possible. The Army IMCOM/MWR Sports program is the one of the priority Quality of Life (QoL) activities for soldiers, which directly supports readiness and is therefore considered mission essential. In addition, sports provide an adjunct to physical training thereby maximizing physical activity by military personnel.

Each MSC is strongly encouraged to assign an individual as the Athletic & Recreation (A&R) Representative (Preferably an action officer within the S-3 Shop).

During regular season play, each MSC/tenant unit can submit as many teams as they wish. The league coordinators have the authority to invoke registration caps if they deem necessary.

Each team sport (basketball, softball, soccer, etc.) will include a regular season league play, followed by a post championship tournament. The structure of each league will be determined by number of teams. For most sports leagues, teams will be divided evenly into conferences and will play a round robin format. Depending on the number of participating unit teams, most post championship tournaments will be a single elimination bracket tournament.

**LEAGUE**

**DIRECTIVE:**

This MOI will be published on the MWR Sports Website. League Sports Coordinators may also publish a supplement to this MOI, specific to their respective league. The league Sports Coordinator will set the dates for the respective league championships. Competition during the league and post championship tournaments is allowed on scheduled dates only. All participants during the league or post championship tournament will compete under the same conditions.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Active-duty military personnel assigned or attached to Fort Bliss on official orders are eligible to participate in Commander's Cup competitions.

All units in the Fort Bliss military community (company, battery, and detachments) are eligible to enter an unlimited number of teams, as long as all members are assigned or attached through official orders.

Unit level competition will be limited to regular Tables of Organization and Equipment/Tables of Distribution and Allowances (TOE/TDA) companies, batteries, troops, and equivalent sized units. Exception to this policy is soccer, golf, runs, and swim meet.

Participation with one company level team renders the individual ineligible to participate with another company team during the current season. Participants who change units during the season will still be considered part of the original company they started the season with or they have the option to play for new unit. If they decide to play for new unit they cannot switch back to previous unit/team.

EXCEPTIONS: Participants will have been assigned or attached by orders to the unit he/she represents before the start of the season, unless:

(1) The individual is a member of an inactivated or reorganized unit, has transferred to a newly activated or reorganized unit, or has transferred from one major command to another.

(2) Exempt are personnel who are on rehabilitative transfer as stated in orders IAW AR 635-200. These soldiers may participate even if transferred subsequent to the beginning of the season.

(3) In the event a unit does not have enough interested individuals to field a team for a particular sports season, personnel from that particular unit may still participate by submitting a written request of release from the Commander or First Sergeant to their unit's League Coordinator. The soldiers will be placed in a player's pool and assigned to teams at the discretion of the League Coordinator. Priority will be to place the players within their battalion and brigade. Any team picking up more than two players from the players pool, will be ineligible for the post playoffs. If placed on another team, their Commander or First Sergeant must sign a memorandum releasing them to play for another company. The receiving company Commander or First Sergeant must sign a memorandum acknowledging that they accept the player onto their company team.

Unit team representative (POC or Coach), unit commanders, League Coordinators, and the Sports Coordinator will ensure all players meet the eligibility requirements.

Player Eligibility: If any player fails to meet the eligibility requirements, the individual or team contested will be declared a forfeit and a win awarded to the opponent (individual or team).

Each participating team will be authorized one coach. The coach will be designated on all rosters. The coach is not eligible to participate as a player when a full roster of players exists for competition. If the actual

number of players present is less than maximum number authorized, then the coach may participate.

**ENTRIES:**

Units may enter one or more teams in their respective intramural division by submitting a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** to the League Sports Coordinator. The unit A&R Representative, or coach/POC, will provide a copy of the **roster** to the League Coordinator before the first game. Rosters must include members' first and last names and a phone number of the coach or representative of the team. The Commander/First Sergeant of the unit must sign rosters. Players will only play on one of the unit teams. If one of the teams drops out of the league, soldiers that have participated with that team may NOT play with any other team that season.

Units are authorized to drop or add players to their roster at will. However, it is the responsibility of the coach/POC or the unit A&R Representative to inform the League Coordinator, or Intramural Coordinator of roster changes prior to added players actually participating in a scheduled game.

Units must submit their **final** team roster prior to league championship. Players can no longer be added or dropped after league championship tournament play begins. Exception will be considered on an individual bases. Extenuating circumstances must be present to be considered for exception to the roster provision.

**ESTABLISHMENT  
OF LEAGUES:**

Units are authorized to form intramural teams at company/battery/troop level for the following sports:

Team Sports – Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, and Flag Football.

Units are authorized to form BDE/BN level teams for the following sports:

Team Sports – Soccer and Golf.

Individual Sports – 5K and 10K Runs, 10 Mile Qualifier, and Swim Meet.

**AWARDS:**

The Sports Office will issue awards to units for teams and individuals competing under the following guidelines:

- (1) All Commander's Cup intramural sporting events will receive awards.
- (2) Awards are not limited to the aforementioned sports only. If interest and participation warrant the conduct of other sports events, the

Sports Office may have the resources to administer additional activities.

- (3) The awards allocated for the unit level intramural sports program will be presented to the championship team of a particular sports season. Team and individual awards are presented to the first and second place finishers only.
- (4) The Sports Office will determine the number of individual awards. This information will be published prior to the start of any Championship or Tournaments in the supplement to this MOI.

**RULE BOOKS:**

The following is a list of rulebooks used for officiating the Fort Bliss Intramural Sports Program:

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) Flag Football – T.A.A.F. | (2) Basketball – NCAA           |
| (3) Volleyball – USVBA       | (4) Slow Pitch Softball – USSSA |
| (5) Golf – USGA              | (6) Soccer – IFAB               |

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**Participating Units**

- (1) It is the responsibility of the unit Commander to appoint the coach of his/her unit team. Selected personnel should have working knowledge of the sport they will coach.
- (2) One coach, or A&R Representative, must attend all pre-season coaching clinics conducted by the Sports Office. Commanders are urged to promote maximum participation at the pre-season sports clinics.
- (3) Coaches and/or A&R Representatives are responsible for the conduct of their teams. Personnel in charge must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. When the conduct of team members is in question, the burden of resolving the issue rests on the coach and or the A&R Representative. If the coach and/or A&R Representative cannot rectify the situation, the official and/or sports staff will take appropriate actions as set forth in the official rule book in use and this MOI or any subsequent sport specific MOI. Coaches, A&R Representatives, and officials should work closely together to keep the contest under control.
- (4) Unit commanders will use all available media to motivate maximum participation and stimulate spectator interest for the Intramural Program.
- (5) S-1's will ensure commanders appoint an officer and/or one NCO to serve as the unit (battalion and/or company) A&R Representative.

Commanders and coaches must inform the Sports Office of field training and schedule changes at least 24 hours prior to training.

### **Fort Bliss Sports Office**

- (1) Conduct the installation off-duty intramural sports program.
- (2) Provide league schedules to teams within the intramural program.
- (3) Schedule sports officials for all sports contests within the respective Intramural Sports program.
- (4) Post league/Commander's Cup standings on a regular basis.
- (5) Ensure an adequate playing area (i.e., softball field, flag football field or basketball court) is available and in a safe, playable condition.
- (6) Ensure that all fields are marked according to official rules.
- (7) Ensure required equipment (i.e., balls, flags, jerseys, etc.) are available at the scheduled contest sites.
- (8) Ensure that established safety measures within the sports program and the facilities under their supervision are maintained to the highest degree of military and professional standards.
- (9) Advertise, recruit, train and certify sports officials for competitions.

### **Unit Athletic and Recreation (A&R) Representatives**

- (1) Unit commanders are authorized to appoint an officer and one NCO to serve as A&R Representative.
- (2) The A&R Representative will act as liaison between the unit and the Intramural Coordinator.
- (3) The A&R Representative should advise and make recommendations to their commander on all matters pertaining to unit support, participation and motivation.
- (4) The A&R Representative should determine the needs of the soldiers within their unit.

(5) The A&R Representative must communicate effectively with their unit on all sports activities.

(6) The A&R Representative must coordinate with the sports staff on a regular basis on a wide range of topics, such as:

- I. Upcoming sports activities
- II. Game schedules
- III. Team Standings

(7) The A&R Representatives are responsible for attending scheduled meetings.

**POSTPONEMENTS:** Contests may be postponed, or canceled, due to military commitments, only if 50% of roster is affected (field exercises and military alerts). Company planned activities (GI parties, inspections, unit organization days, Hail and Farewell's) will be recognized as military commitments. Units must notify their respective League Coordinators of military commitments at time LOI is submitted. Postponed contests may be rescheduled.

**FORFEITS:** The scheduled starting time is considered forfeit time for all intramural, team and individual sports, unless otherwise stipulated in the specific sport MOI.

Every effort will be made to ensure that all scheduled contests are played.

If a team is dropped, or withdraws, from league play, all games played will stand. The remaining scheduled games may remain on the schedule and may be considered wins for those opponents, unless stipulated by the League Coordinator.

Teams which forfeit two games without notifying director, or contests, will be dropped from the league or tournament play.

Players of teams that have been dropped from the schedule due to forfeits are not eligible to participate with any other team during the remainder of that sport season. By doing so, will automatically disqualify current team from league and tournament play.

**PROTESTS:** A protest concerning **eligibility** must be submitted in writing to the League Coordinator by 1300 hours the following working day. A ruling will be decided before the team's next scheduled game.



## **CONDUCT:**

Any unsportsmanlike act such as verbal abuse, profanity, threats and fighting have no place in the Fort Bliss Sports Program, and will not be tolerated.

Units are required to assist the Sports Office in disciplining those who disrupt any sport competitions.

**Swearing and abusive remarks** directed towards opponents, officials, fans, or staff are behaviors which casts a negative atmosphere over intramural play and may lead to more serious problems. Officials will penalize such swearing and abusive remarks with an ejection from the game.

A player or coach being ejected from a game will result with a warning being filed. The second ejection in the season will result in a meeting with the Sports Coordinator for a possible suspension. The third ejection will result in an automatic expulsion from the league. **Player or coach that has been ejected must leave facility to include the parking lot.**

A player, coach, spectator or the entire team may be asked to leave the playing area if displaying unsportsmanlike conduct. Any contest may be forfeited by the administrator of the activity when a team, a team participant, captain or coach exhibits unsportsmanlike conduct or disruptive behavior during the contest. Team captains or coaches may be warned prior to forfeiting the contests; however, it will be at the discretion of the administrators to forfeit that contest if deemed necessary to avoid a violent confrontation. Players ejected for a first offense may be suspended indefinitely from participating in sports activities, depending on the severity of the offense.

**Other unsportsmanlike conduct penalties** will be penalized as directed below.

(1) Any player, coach, or spectator ejected or asked to leave the playing area (i.e., field, gymnasium, or court) must do so immediately. This person must leave the area "sight and sound." Failure to do so may cause the contest to be forfeited.

(2) Captains, coaches, or players removed from an Intramural contest by a sports official, a member of the sports staff, or any other person acting in an official capacity, are ineligible for further competition until the Intramural Coordinator or his/her designee has assessed the proper penalty for the ejection. In all cases, the minimum penalty of a one game

suspension will apply. A more severe penalty may be assessed if deemed necessary by the Intramural Coordinator.

Any team(s) or individual(s) involved in a fight will be disqualified for the remainder of the season.

Any coach, captain, or player who grabs, punches, pushes, elbows, kicks (or any similar behavior) a teammate, opponent, official or spectator will be ejected from the game and receive a mandatory two game suspension. The Intramural Coordinator may suspend for the remainder of the season or for one calendar year from the date of the incident the individual, depending on severity of incident.

Ejection penalties carry over from one sport season to another, as well as from regular season play to championships.

When actions dictate, the Sports Office will request, in writing, to the unit commander for the replacement of his or her coach.

**ALCOHOL &  
TOBACCO:**

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in or around the playing area. Contests may be forfeited if alcohol is present. Teams and individual team members may be barred from further competition for possessing alcoholic beverages or possessing a strong odor of alcohol on the breath during any altercation with the officials, team members or opponents.

Consumption or possession of beverages and food is strictly limited to the lobby of community gymnasiums. Tobacco products- including vape pens and e-cigarettes- are prohibited in all sports facilities. These items are prohibited from use in locker rooms, weight rooms, racquetball courts, viewing areas and main area of these facilities.

**FACILITIES &  
EQUIPMENT:**

The MWR Sports Office will provide the required sports equipment for each sport to be conducted. Sports equipment includes balls, nets, flags, etc.

Players will be responsible for wearing the proper footwear and athletic gear, to include shorts/pants without pockets or zippers, in order to participate.

The MWR Sports Office will coordinate facility and field maintenance requirements and ensure facilities are prepared for regularly scheduled competitions.

**ARMY TEN-MILER:**

The Army Ten-Miler team is considered a Fort Bliss sport. The team members will be selected based on the Commander's Cup Ten-Miler event. If a soldier is not available to attend the Commander's Cup Ten-Miler event because of a military commitment, the soldier may qualify for the team based on an official time from an MWR subsequent ATM Qualifier event. Every effort will be made to ensure the top runners from Fort Bliss are eligible to compete at the Army Ten-Miler in Washington D.C.

Male and Female runners with the top eight times will qualify for the Army Ten-Miler teams.

In lieu of physical training with their unit, the Ten-Miler teams will conduct morning training sessions.

MWR NAF funds will cover the registration expense for all 16 members (2x eight person teams) and all uniform expenses.

Due to limited funding, only the top 4 male and top 4 female runners will qualify for full TDY NAF funding. The other four members must fund their travel to/from Washington D.C.

**SPECIAL EVENTS/  
OPEN EVENTS:**

The Fort Bliss Sports Office will conduct special events throughout the calendar year. These events are not part of the Commander's Cup competition. These events include holiday tournaments, and running events.

Administrative details on how and where these events will be conducted will be established in a supplement to this MOI to be published prior to the tournament, meet or event.

Anyone 18 years and older is eligible to participate in Non-Commander's Cup Competitions. Picture IDs will be required for proof of eligibility at request of the League Coordinator.

Eligible players may play for only one team in a given season. Players will be considered part of the first team they play with in the regular season or first game of a tournament.

There are no unit restrictions relating to team composition in the leagues open to civilians or family members.

Rosters will be submitted for teams participating in the event or activity.

**ALL-ARMY SPORTS**  
**PROGRAM:**

The Fort Bliss Sports Office urges all commanders to designate individuals within their unit who have the athletic ability and military professionalism to apply for the All-Army Sports program.

The Fort Bliss Sports Office will lend technical assistance to all applicants.

The All-Army applicant must have credentials to support his/her application. Credentials may include newspaper articles, university level competition, awards, certificates, etc.

The Fort Bliss Sports staff will process and comment on all applications for All-Army status. Applications will be processed with Commander's concurrence.

**POC:**

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