

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

1. GENERAL: The 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Brigade will sponsor the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Sapper Competition (BSC) from 21-23 April 2015. The competition is a six phase, multi-day event that will test the mental and physical stamina, as well as the tactical and technical skills of the participants.

### 2. CONCEPT:

a. Units will select teams to serve as their representatives in the competition. Officers and enlisted personnel, that have no adverse actions pending, may compete. Two person teams comprised of personnel in the grades of E4 and above. Army or Marine Engineer MOS competitors, must consist of at least one team member who is a graduate of the Sapper Leader Course. All teams must furnish letter of preparedness signed by first LTC in Chain of Command. Competitors must report NLT 19 April prior to the competition for in-processing and in-brief. Any unit desiring an exception to the established eligibility must submit exceptions through the Engineer Regimental Command Sergeant Major. Registration forms must be complete and submitted to the Sapper Leader Course email at: [usarmy.leonardwood.engineer-schl.mbx.1st169thsapperldrsrcs@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.leonardwood.engineer-schl.mbx.1st169thsapperldrsrcs@mail.mil) All teams all welcome, however USAES reserves the right to limit the number of teams submitted from units if necessary.

b. A competition overview slide is available for all competitors:  
<http://www.wood.army.mil/sapper/BSC/supporting%20documents/page-events.htm>

c. Awards will be presented at two functions during the annual SELC event: The AEA Luncheon and the Regimental Ball.

### 3. REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:

a. Teams will report NLT 191200APR15 in duty uniform with all records and equipment at the TA 160 PT Bubble behind the SLC barracks located on the corner of Kansas Ave and Alabama Ave.

b. Meals will be provided. Temporary meal cards will be issued for the DFAC and MREs will be provided for competitors for the duration of the competition.

c. Competitors must possess the following paperwork to in-process and compete:

(1) TDY orders. Ensure orders read "TDY, attached to Sapper Leader Course for the period 19-24 April 15 to participate in the Best Sapper Competition and return." Units assigned to Ft. Leonard Wood do not need attachment orders.

(2) Record Brief – ORB or ERB

(3) Complete Health Records including: Ranger/Airborne qualified physical examination dated within last 6 months from competition start date; dental memorandum stating that a current panorex is on file and the soldier is a class 1 or 2 dental.

(4) Letter of preparedness signed by the first LTC in the chain of command.

d. Teams are allowed to billet/mess at the Sapper Leader Course NET 151300APR2015.

#### 4. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

a. The Best Sapper Competition is a military competition. In an effort to reduce unit and individual cost, the SLC recommends that teams train at home station utilizing military issued equipment (see packing list for authorized civilian/locally purchased items).

b. Participants will not modify their TA-50 or uniforms in any way that gives the participant a competitive advantage. All equipment is subject to inspection prior to and during the competition. All questions on equipment modification should be directed to the Sapper Leader Course prior to the competition report date for approval. If modifications are not cleared through the Sapper Leader Course prior to the competition report date, and said modification is deemed to give a team a competitive advantage, that team will be required to acquire standard TA-50 without the assistance of the Sapper Leader Course or risk being disqualified from the competition.

-An example of a modification that would give a competitor a competitive advantage is using off the shelf shoulder straps and/or kidney pads on your ALICE pack instead of army issued items.

-An example of a modification that would not give a participant a competitive advantage is adding buckles to the straps on the ALICE pack.

c. The SLC can secure sensitive items or personal equipment with prior coordination. POC is Sapper Leader Course Ops, (573) 596-0823.

d. Competitors will be able to store personal items in the SLC Billets over the course of the competition.

e. Standards for all events will be taken from applicable Army Field Manuals. See the competition overview slide for applicable manuals.

f. Sapper Leader Course instructors will provide familiarization training for events tested in the competition that are not adequately covered in Army Field Manuals.

g. A zero range will be conducted on Day 0 (20 APR) of the competition for competitors to confirm and/or zero their assigned weapons. (It is recommended that competitors arrive with weapons already zeroed)

h. Competing teams must submit names and biography forms (example) of competitors NLT 01 APR 15 to Sapper Operations, Sapper Leader Course, ATTN: ATZE-DEE (Best Sapper) or e-mail [usarmy.leonardwood.engineer-schl.mbx.1st169thsapperldrtrs@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.leonardwood.engineer-schl.mbx.1st169thsapperldrtrs@mail.mil)

i. After the competition in-brief, the loss of one team member will result in elimination of that team from the competition.

j. Visitors and unit supporters are highly encouraged to show support to the Regiment by observing the Best Sapper Competition. A visitor's center with event information will be located

in bldg 741, 1<sup>st</sup> EN BDE HQ CQ office, from 21APR15 – 23APR15. Transportation for visitors will be provided only for Day 1 of the competition (21 APR 2015). Transportation will pick up visitors at the Visitor Center and transport them to events.

k. Coaches/Trainers will not have access to SLC Cadre or operating facilities during the competition and are not authorized to attend competitor briefings. Coaches/ Trainers will be given set times upon arrival, prior to the competition, for when they can access their teams during competition execution. At no time will spectators engage the Sapper cadre or TOC personnel in any type of scoring or point discrepancies.

l. The land navigation and foot marching events are the most physically demanding and fatiguing events during the competition. We recommend foot marching and land navigation exercises at varying distances (up to 25 miles) carrying a 65lb rucksack in ACU, FLC, military issued boots, with an M4 rifle.

m. The basic competition uniform will consist of ACUs complete, boots, FLC, issued dummy weapon and rucksack. OCP uniforms are not authorized for use during the competition. See equipment list for authorized boots.

n. SLC cadre will control all clothing and equipment exchanges once the competition begins. Unauthorized receipt of any item from an outside source after the competition starts will result in the team's disqualification from the competition. Additionally, any team caught recovering cached items on the course will be immediately disqualified.

o. The top teams are expected to attend the Engineer Regimental Ball following the competition on 24 APR 2015. Uniform for the ball is ASUs, competitors need to arrive to the competition with their ASUs complete.

## 5. MEDICAL:

a. All over the counter medications (such as Motrin, Aspirin, etc.), are prohibited unless provided by SLC medical staff. Any nutritional/performance enhancing supplements are strictly forbidden during the competition. The medical director validates any/all prescription medication during in-processing.

b. Any type of dietary supplements are not authorized. These items will be collected during in-processing. Competitors are strongly encouraged to discontinue use of any dietary supplements well in advance of the competition.

c. Each team is encouraged to provide one medic (E-4 or higher) to work with Sapper cadre in support of the competition. If a unit or battalion is providing more than one team, one medic per 2 teams is encouraged. Please notify the SLC if your unit is able to provide additional medics. Supporting Medics must report NLT 19 APR 15 and upon reporting will be attached to Sapper medical staff for the duration of the competition. Billets will be provided.

## 6. EQUIPMENT LIST

a. The packing list may be modified before the competitors' report date. It is the competitors' responsibility to ensure they have the most up to date packing list on the SLCs public website at:

**<https://www.wood.army.mil/sapper/bsc>**

b. The following is the packing list for the competition: (Note: This is a minimum requirement, this packing list is not all inclusive, and items not listed are subject to approval.)

#### WORN

ID Tags w/chain

ID Card

ACU\* Blouse w/rank, nametape, US ARMY, unit patch, US flag

ACU\* Trouser

ACU Patrol Cap with Rank and Nametape

Belt (Army issue)

Tan T-shirt

Pair Wool Cushion Sole Socks - Black or OD

Army Boots, Tan\*\* (Hot Weather and/or Combat)

Knife or multi-tool w/blade less than 4 inches

Assigned M4/M16 weapon \*\*\*(only optics w/o magnification authorized [ie M68, EOTech])

Wristwatch, no GPS Capabilities

EyePro

FLC to include the following:

3-Ammo Pouches (enough for 6 magazines)

7-Magazines (30 round)

1-Lensatic Compass w/Pouch

1-IFAK complete

2-1 Quart Canteen (empty)

2-1 Quart Canteen Cover

1-Canteen Cup

1-Whistle

1-Ear Protection with case

#### ITEMS IN ALICE PACK/MOLLE

1-Alice/MOLLE Pack LG

1-Alice/MOLLE Frame w/Straps and Kidney Pad

1- RT-1523E Radio with long whip antenna, short whip antenna, and extra hand microphone (Teams are highly encouraged to bring their own radios. However, if unavailable, SLC will provide. Teams needing radios must notify SLC NLT 01 APR 15)

2-ACU\* Blouse (with appropriate name tapes)

2-ACU\* Trousers

3-Pair Cushion Sole Socks

2-Tan T-shirt

1-Poncho, Individual, Camouflaged

- 1-ACU Patrol Cap with rank and name tape
- 1-Poncho Liner
- 1-Polypro Top (Gen III ECWCS Level 2 Top)
- 1-Pair Black Leather Work Gloves
- 1-Flashlight
- 1-Headlamp
- 1-Wet Weather Top or Gortex Top
- 1-2-Quart Canteen (empty)
- 1-2 Quart Cover w/GP Strap
- 1-Notebook with writing utensils
- 1-Waterproof Bag
- 1-Pair of Boots\*\* (Tan suede only)
- 1- Sleep System, Complete
- 1-Can, Foot Powder
- 2-MRE, (SLC will provide)
- 1- ACH, complete with cover
- 1-Pair Rappel Gloves (work gloves with liners are acceptable substitute)
- 1-Sling Rope (if unavailable at unit, SLC will provide)
- 2-Snaplink, Steel Oval (if unavailable at unit, SLC will provide)
- IBA w/ Both Sappi Plates (plate size must match vest size)
- 1-100 oz camelback
- 1-EyePro

**RECOMMENDED ITEMS:**

- Boot inserts (any type)
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Additional Wool Cushion Sole Socks (Black or OD)
- Tape
- 550 cord
- Running Shoes
- PT's
- Shower Shoes
- Additional T-Shirts/ACU's/Socks
- Hygiene Kit
- Field Jacket Liner
- Sapper Handbook (Highly recommended)
- Cell phone (May use in barracks area only during specified times by the competition cadre)

\*Competitors may NOT bring BDUs or OCP uniforms in lieu of ACUs. All competitors must have all appropriate uniform items specified in AR 670-1, to include ACU patrol cap, Tan t-shirt, belt (Rigger belts are authorized), ACU blouse and trousers, with tan suede boots.

\*\*Boots must be between 8 to 10 inches in height and made of tan flesh-side out cattlehide leather, with a plain toe and a soling system matching the color of the tan upper materials. Rubber and polyether polyurethane are the only outsole materials that are authorized. The soling

materials will not exceed two inches in height, when measured from the bottom of the outsole, and will not extend up the back of the heel or boot or over the top of the toe. The exterior of the boot upper will not contain mesh but will be constructed of either all leather or a combination of leather and nonmesh fabric. Rubber or pure polyether polyurethane soles are the only outsole material that currently meets the need for durability and traction on surfaces in multiple environments and temperature ranges. Other materials (that may be of a lighter weight) may have significant problems in these areas. If there are any questions regarding authorized boots please contact the Sapper Leader Course prior to 01 April 2015.

\*\*\*It is highly encouraged that competitors bring their assigned M4/M16 from their home unit. Arrangements for weapons from the Sapper Leader Course can be made on a case by case basis and must be coordinated for NLT 01 APR 2015. Any weapon provided by the Sapper Leader Course will be issued mechanically zeroed without optics. Any weapons brought from home station should be zeroed and will be limited to optics with no magnification. As part of Day 0, competitors will be given the opportunity to zero weapons issued from the Sapper Leader Course and confirm zero on weapons brought from home station. Competitors using weapons from SLC will be given 18 rounds to group and zero their weapons. Competitors using weapons from home station will be given 6 rounds to confirm their zero. Group and zero procedures will be conducted IAW FM 3-22.9.

\*\*\*\*The only authorized helmet for the competition is the issued Advanced Combat Helmet

NOTE: Any optional equipment noted during the initial inspection must also be present during the final inspection. ALICE packs are inventoried at the competition start, during, and finish. No items can be discarded if they become wet or damaged. Loss of any inspectable item will result in a significant loss of points (Map, overlay, protractor etc) or drop from competition. SLC will issue additional equipment as required.