



The Small Arms School Corps

NEWSLETTER

Editorial by the Commanding Officer

This is the first opportunity I have had to communicate with you in the newsletter as CO. I truly believe that communication is critical in our small, but influential Band of Brothers and is an essential component in building on the Esprit de Corps seed I have sewn. I therefore encourage you all to maintain and strengthen the lines of communication between yourselves and HQ SASC. We always want to hear from you!

We recently welcomed a bunch of new candidates into the Corps and they are now finding their feet in their new roles at IBS and SWS. As I write this, the next batch are busy proving their worth to QMSI Black in the hope of being badged later in the year. We wish them well. Numbers for the next course are looking good, but as ever we need to actively recruit whenever we spot talent. Poach first, seek forgiveness later!

Another positive is the proposed change to the handling room in the weapon collection. The current set up, whilst adequate, requires some innovation to accommodate the ever-growing numbers of officers and soldiers that benefit from it. A plan is afoot to change the location of the handling room and with it the space and facilities available to deliver NSPLW instruction. More to follow on this as the project unfolds.

On a not so positive note is the standard of RASPs that are being submitted to RAUs. There are critical mistakes being made in these documents which demonstrates a lack of diligent planning from my

perspective. In many cases, it is just plain laziness on the part of the author. We all know that a strong RASP supports a strong exercise and the same can be said of the opposite. As a Corps we need to grip this and grip it fast. Whenever you have contact with these documents, take the opportunity to advise and assist wherever you can to ensure we help to raise the standard. Where you identify failings, you have a duty to call it out. That can put you in a difficult position sometimes and the manner in which you highlight the failing is critical. We are not "range police", but we are the recognised SMEs in this field and we have a responsibility to do the right thing. If you are met with resistance, then speak to the HQ direct and you will get the top cover you need. I am quite happy to have the conversation with the unit CO or indeed higher if required. I look to you all to do this in whatever role you are currently in.

I will finish by saying that I am reminded daily of the work you all do and the impact that you have on the training conducted out there across Defence. I am incredibly proud of you all and all that you do. Do not rest on your laurels though. Challenge the norm, push the boundaries of what can be achieved where you can, and always look to help and assist those planning and conducting training to help them achieve more than what they ever thought possible.

Train hard – Train safe

Key Dates

SASC Professional Update and Ladies Dinner Night

Thu 18 Apr 20 Infantry Battle School, Brecon.
Returns are to be submitted
NLT 20 Mar 20

QMSI Course 2020

13 – 18 Sept 20 HQ SASC Warminster

Defence Operational Shooting Competition (DefOSC) 2020

7 – 12 Jun	International Team Practice
13 Jun	Rehearsals Day
14 – 17 Jun	Army operational Shooting Competition (AOSC)
18 Jun	The Methuen Cup / Corps Methuen BBQ
19 – 21 Jun	Army Reserve Operational Shooting Competition
22 – 23 Jun	Inter Services and International Competition
21 – 25 Sep	Tri-Service Sniper Competition (TSSC)

Combat Pre LECAB dates

26 – 29 Apr 20	Inf - Warminster
18-21 May 20	RAC - Bovington
21-24 Jun 20	Inf - Warminster

Combat LECAB

26-31 Jul 20 (TBC) Warminster

Officers and SMIs Study Period

Thu 10 Sep 20 Fleet

Officers Supper Night

24/31 Oct 20 (TBC) Infantry Mess, Warminster

HQ SASC

This April will see Capt N Guerin assume the appointment of Adjutant, taking over from A/Maj G Dobbs

SO2 Training Update

Electronic RASP: As all of you are aware, the electronic RASP (eRASP) was taken off line in Apr 19, this was due to several issues outside the control of HQ SASC. SO2 SASC and QMSI Dale (from a user perspective) have been working with Army Headquarters to come up with a solution and reinstate the eRASP. The target date for implementation is Apr 20 and providing there are no issues, it will become mandatory again from Jun 20. This will be preceded by a Defence Instruction Notice, to allow any planning in the system to be honoured.

One of the key outputs of the eRASP is the ability for the chain of command conduct assurance of individual levels of experience, providing those appointing exercise staff evidence on which to base their decisions and more importantly that the chain of command is involved in the planning process. This is something that HQ SASC and HQ DIO have been asked to investigate, due to the poor standards of RASPs that are currently being produced, as mentioned by the Commanding Officer.

SO2 SASC will maintain authoring rights for the eRASP content which will enable the App to be updated as and when publications are amended.

Publications: Training Publications hosted on the British Army electronic Battle Box (BAeBB) can now be amended through the link in each publication. This acts as both a filter and a way of recording what has been amended and why. As most of you should be aware the practice of composite lessons has been stopped. As a result, all weapon training publications have been amended to read the following in the introduction:

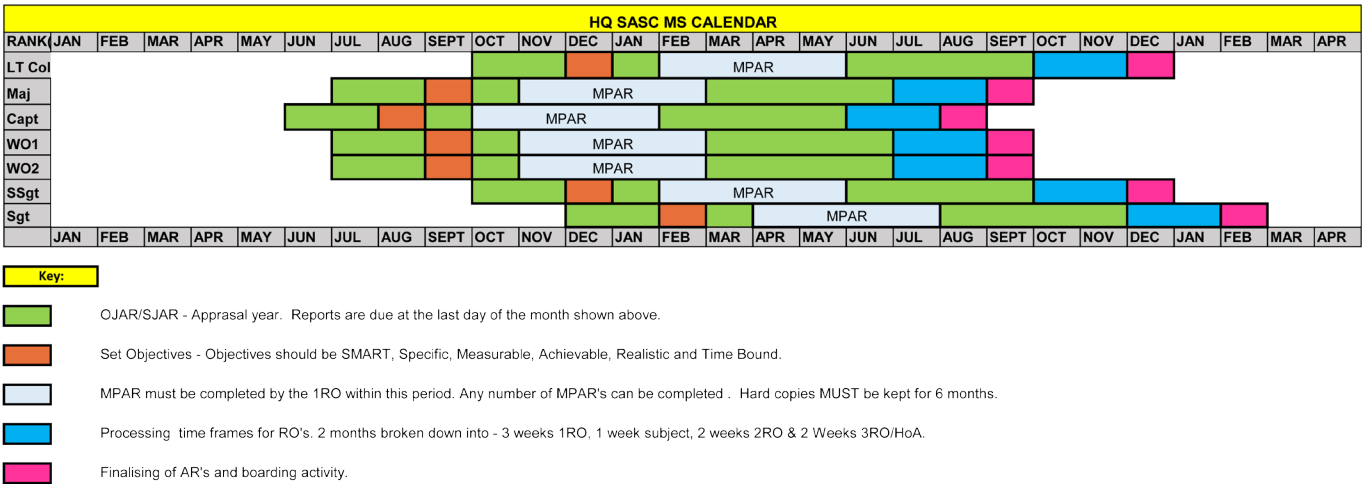
Instructional Techniques
Skill at Arms Instructors are taught how to deliver lessons on a qualifying course. They will have an understanding of those basic instructional techniques required to deliver SAA training. However, very rarely will a squad of soldiers all have the same learning style. It is therefore essential that the instructor has the skills and experience to be able to adapt their instructional methods to cater for the needs of those being trained. The guiding principle is that all subject matter must be delivered regardless of the level of experience and/or previous knowledge of the student.

There is of course latitude in the methods which can be employed by the instructor to deliver this matter, but ultimately the lesson must deliver and practice the students on the detail contained within the lesson in accordance with the Learning Specifications (LSPECs) for that lesson.

Instructors are not permitted to omit detail or adapt drills to save time. Instructors should always consult the chain of command if there is any doubt as to what is required.

MS Calendar Check

All SASC Maj, Capt, WO1 and WO2 should have now been issued their MPAR. Those still to receive are to engage with their 1RO at the soonest instant. If not already done so, please ensure that personal objectives have been updated on JPA, to allow them to populate future OJAR / SJAR. APC will return any AR to the CoC if they do not have personal objectives listed.



Promotions & Conversions

Promotion to Major General

- Brig CS Collins DSO OBE

Promotion to Brigadier

- Col NJ Cowey MBE

Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel

- Maj (AIW) N Hirst

Conversion to Regular Commission (Late Entry)

- Maj (AIW) T Byrne
- Maj (AIW) G Smith

Promotion to Substantive Major

- Maj (AIW) S Dunn
- Maj (AIW) G Smith
- Capt (AIW) M West

Commissions

- WO1 (SMI) A Green
- WO1 (SMI) B Trainer

Promotion to WO1

- A/WO1 (SMI) J Smith
- WO2 (QMSI) N Farrer
- WO2 (CSM) S Muir
- WO2 (QMSI) J Norris
- WO2 (QMSI) D Pettersen
- WO2 (QMSI) R Wareing

Promotion to WO2

- A/WO2 (QMSI) AM Addison
- A/WO2 (QMSI) MJ Brown
- A/WO2 (QMSI) J Cooke
- A/WO2 (QMSI) S Crook
- A/WO2 (QMSI) JD Davies
- A/WO2 (QMSI) G Jones
- SSgt (SSI) GS Longstaff
- SSgt (SSI) M Richardson
- SSgt (SSI) GG Rowlands
- SSgt (SSI) BT Walker

Manning Figures – Feb 20

Lieutenant Colonel – 2

Major – 13

Captain – 16

Warrant Officer Class One – 15

Warrant Officer Class Two – 58 (Inc. Australian Exchange WO, IWD)

Staff Sergeant – 14

Sergeant – 27

ARTAT – 6

Total - 151

Key Areas: Points of Contact

RCMO (Soldiers):

WO1 (Corps SM) Dickson – greg.dickson278@mod.gov.uk (94381 2496)

Marksmanship:

Major (AIW) Harverson – ellis.harverson906@mod.gov.uk (94211 5251)

Management of lethal Risk:

Major (AIW) Byrne – trevor.byrne996@mod.gov.uk (94381 2366)

Instruction & Technology:

Major (AIW) Palmer – gary.palmer693@mod.gov.uk (94351 2507)

Defence Ordnance Safety Group:

Major (AIW) Watson – ray.watson133@mod.gov.uk (93523 5268)

Major (AIW) Renton – alan.renton820@mod.gov.uk

Contact Us

Corps Media



www.SASC-PastandPresent.com

The Past and Present web page is under review and overhaul. If you have any ideas as to what else the website should include, please send them into the Regt Secretary / Corps SM.

Official Facebook Page

The Official SASC Facebook page "Needs you". Corps headline stories are the focus, encouraging positive attention and increasing recruiting interest. British Army media are joint admin with the CO and Corps SM.

Over to you to share your stories and experiences (short paragraph with photos) when you are out delivering the SASC mission, UK and Overseas. Please send all media to the Corps SM by email, message or Messenger. They will be ratified prior to being posted on the Facebook page, so no requirement to worry about writing styles or grammar.

Corps Journal

This year all Corps Captain's and Warrant Officer Class One's are directed to write an article for the Man at Arms 2020. The articles are to be interesting, informative and should aim to update and educate the wider SASC cohort. Themes can include modern and upcoming initiatives, moving the Corps forward in times of change or any sporting or interesting pastime activities you are involved in.

Those outside the target audience who wish to submit an article are more than welcome to do so, provided it conforms to the guidance above.

The Corps SM is responsible for collating all Corps Journal articles. They are all to be in NLT 29 May 20. Send in the article narrative using Microsoft Word and videos/photos as a separate file.



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www.SASC-PastandPresent.com

Useful Links:

[SASC Sharepoint](#)

[AKX](#)

[BAeBB](#)

[The Safe System of
Training](#)

[The Centre for Army
Leadership \(CAL\)](#)

[MS Web](#)

[Ladies Dinner Night
Return - SP](#)



[Ladies Dinner Night
Return - Comrades /
Guests](#)

