



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NY 10996

MACC-O

21 September 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR United States Corps of Cadets, West Point, NY 10996-1692

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #5: Corps Alcohol and Drug Policy

1. Purpose. The purpose of this memorandum is to supplement the Corps alcohol policy as outlined in the *Standards of Cadet Conduct and Appearance*. This policy letter is punitive. Violations of the standards set herein are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 92, *Failure to Obey Order or Regulation*, and under the Cadet Disciplinary System under the provisions of Army Regulation 210-26, *United States Military Academy*, Chapter 6-17.

2. Privileges. All updated privileges may be found in Policy Letter # 3, *Cadet Eligibility for Privileges*. Privileges are only allowed for Cadets in "good standing" and are commensurate with rank.

(a) All Cadets. All Cadets must read the Corps alcohol policy detailed in the *Standards of Cadet Conduct and Appearance* and sign the online briefing certificate in CIS prior to the start of classes each year after being briefed on the standards, as well as attend all alcohol education briefings in accordance with the Alcohol Program Curriculum. All Cadet Privates and higher that are twenty-one years old and over must complete the "21st Birthday Dinner" training before they are authorized to drink alcohol at West Point. The "21st Birthday Dinner" can be completed before turning twenty-one; however underage consumption of alcohol is prohibited.

(b) Cadet Privates. Cadet Privates of legal age are only allowed to consume alcohol when on pass or leave and when outside of the West Point Military Reservation and the walking limits boundaries. The only exception to this policy is that all Cadet Privates over twenty-one years of age will conduct "21st Birthday Dinner" training and are permitted to consume alcohol during that training.

(c) Cadet Corporals. Cadet Corporals of legal age who have completed the "21st Birthday Dinner" training may consume alcohol at the West Point Club, Thayer Hotel, at tailgates, or at a unit/company event with the following conditions:

(1) Cadet Corporals are not authorized to consume alcohol from Sunday to Friday due to interference with Evening Study Period (ESP). Cadet Corporals are authorized to consume alcohol on Friday's on B Weekends.

MACC-O

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #5: Corps Alcohol and Drug Policy

(2) The uniform for Cadet Corporals drinking on-post is Cadet Casual. Cadet Corporals are authorized to drink on OPPs or walking privileges only in Cadet casual.

(d) Cadet Sergeants. Cadet Sergeants of legal age who have completed the "21st Birthday Dinner" training may consume alcohol at the West Point Club, Thayer Hotel, Golf Course, bowling center, Victor Constant Ski Lodge, sponsor's residence, at tailgates, or at a unit/company event. Cadet Sergeants may only consume alcohol at the First Class Club when authorized to visit or when attending a USCC-sponsored social function.

(e) Cadet Officers. Cadet Officers of legal age who have completed the "21st Birthday Dinner" training follow the same privileges as Cadet Sergeants except that they have free access to the First Class Club.

3. Uniform. The under three classes must wear the uniform of the day when attending tailgates or any sponsored or organized event on the West Point Military Reservation where alcohol is served or available. Firsties may wear civilian clothes at tailgates as long as the CAC is visibly displayed (i.e lanyard). Cadets may not wear their uniform in off-post establishments that primarily sell alcohol. If the off-post establishment sells alcohol and food, Cadets may not wear the uniform if their presence at the establishment is for the purpose of consuming alcohol, even if they are also consuming food.

4. Company Level Events. With prior approval from the Brigade Tactical Officer (BTO), alcoholic beverages are authorized to be served at on-post social functions involving only First and Second-Class Cadets. Only authorized Cadets who are at least twenty-one years of age and have completed 21st Birthday Training may consume alcohol. Non-alcoholic beverages must be available in sufficient quantities. One member of the Company TAC Team must be present for the entire function.

5. Alcohol Purchase. In conjunction with unit social functions, First and Second-Class Cadets who are at least twenty-one years old with prior written TAC Team approval, or in the presence of their TAC or TAC NCO, may purchase alcohol and non-alcoholic beverages in bulk quantities at the USMA Shoppette and the USMA Post Exchange. This may only occur if the company is unable to coordinate catering of the event with alcohol by DCA. No other purchase of take-out alcohol may be made from any establishment on-post. Unit social functions that include alcohol require the TAC's approval.

6. Prohibited Circumstances and Locations for Alcohol Possession and Consumption. Cadets may not possess or store alcoholic beverages in the barracks, any academic building, or privately owned vehicle (POV) parked on West Point grounds.

(a) All Cadets, regardless of rank or age, may not consume alcohol on any Trip Section or Army sponsored sporting event or club activity unless an Exception to Policy

MACC-O

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #5: Corps Alcohol and Drug Policy

Memo is granted. An Exception to Policy Memo must include control measures to support the event, in addition to the reasoning behind allowing alcohol on the Trip Section. Any Trip Section requesting an ETP requires BTO approval.

(b) Cadets may not consume alcoholic beverages prior to home varsity athletic games on the day of the game, regardless of whether the Cadet attends the game or not. No alcohol consumption is permitted at pre-game tailgates, unless an ETP is approved. The approval authority for ETPs is the BTO.

(c) Cadets may not consume alcohol for at least eight hours prior to assuming any duty (formation, class, parade, guard, duty officer, escort, athletic team, CCQ, usher, etc.).

(d) Cadets may not consume alcohol in any stadium or arena where an Army team, club, or trip section is competing or performing, unless specifically approved by exception by the Brigade Tactical Officer.

7. Drugs.


(a) Cadets will not consume or utilize prescription medications without proper authorization from the Brigade Surgeon or other proper military medical authority.

(b) Cadets will not misuse over the counter medications.

(c) Company TAC Teams will administer the company Drug Testing Program as defined in AR 600-85.

8. Punitive Measures. Under USCC Regulation 351-2, the Commandant retains original authority to adjudicate violations of the Corps Alcohol Policy and other alcohol-related incidents.

9. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Brigade Senior Enlisted Leader at 845-938-7904.


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