

150TH ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF WILSON'S CREEK WEAPONS POLICY

The following policy will be adopted by the overall Confederate Command staff for the 150th Anniversary Battle of Wilson's Creek, August 11-14, 2011.

In order to allow for those participants who so desire to carry weapons that would be more historically authentic for the reenactment of this particular battle the Confederate Command has authorized the use of the following weapons and accompanying policies regarding said weapons.

1. All normally acceptable 2 and 3 Band muskets normally allowed.
2. Flintlocks
3. Shotguns will full length barrels (no coach shotguns or dismounted weapons)
4. Though historically accurate, pistols of any kind **MAY NOT** be carried by any person within the infantry ranks except line officers at the discretion of the Battalion commander.

FLINTLOCKS

The following policy will apply specifically to Flintlock weaponry.

1. Due to the inherent danger of powder burns from the flash pans of a flintlock weapon, all persons carrying Flintlocks will necessarily be grouped together in a company or battalion of their own within each respective command.
2. The commanders of this company or battalion will take due care in ensuring that the use of Flintlock weapons does not endanger the operator of the weapon or any person in close proximity to the operator of the weapon.
3. Flintlocks **may never be loaded from powder flasks or horns**, rolled cartridges only.
4. Charges for Flintlocks must be made up in paper cartridges that conform to the period.
5. Cartridges must be made prior to the battle and will contain no more powder than prescribed for the weapon.
6. A flash guard must be correctly fixed to the weapon.
7. A leather hammer stall must be fixed to the weapon.
8. A proper bayonet must correctly match the weapon.
9. Rammers may not be pulled by anyone, at anytime.
10. An event staff member, or his appointed military inspecting officer prior to taking the field will inspect ALL Flintlock weapons. Any weapon failing inspection must be corrected before the end of formation, or will be immediately dismissed and will not be able to take part in the scenario.
11. All other firearms rules, regulations, and policies apply to flintlock weapons.
12. If the use of Flintlock weapons becomes dangerous or uncontrolled upon the field the use of Flintlock weapons will be discontinued for the duration of the event.

SHOTGUNS

Since many members of the Missouri State Guard were equipped with weaponry of all sorts and caliber, the use of shotguns in an infantry line will be approved for use at this event with the following stipulations.

1. Shotguns used within the infantry lines will possess a full length barrel.
2. Shotguns will be of the percussion cap style.
3. Operators of shotguns will be placed in the front rank in order to maintain safe firing practices and protect the other members of the company.
4. Shotguns may function within a company of normally useable 2 and 3 band weaponry.
5. If the use of a shotgun within the ranks presents itself as endangering the operator or those in close proximity of the operator, the use of the shotgun will be discontinued for the remainder of the event.
6. All other rules and guidelines of firearm operations will be enforced.
7. It is the duty and responsibility of the company commander, within whose ranks the shotguns are in operation, to ensure the safety of all participants.

It is hopeful that this modification of policies regarding acceptable firearms will allow for a more historical representation of the weaponry present at this event. If a Company, Battalion or Brigade commander so desires not to have this weaponry within their ranks, said commander should be willing to allow those persons in possession of the above mentioned weaponry to be appropriately placed in order to allow for the use of the weapon.

By Order of the Commanding General,
Gen. Joe Way,
Cleburne's Division,
Blue Gray Alliance