

# 2022 U.S. ARMY NATIONAL RAIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS

## STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES

### 15 MAY 2022 – REVISION #1



<http://raider.thenationals.net>

*THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVAMPED FROM PAST YEARS – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!*

**Event Manager: Sports Network International**  
388 Muddy Creek Lane Ormond Beach, Florida 32174  
Toll-free) 800/327-9311 / E-mail) [raider@thenationals.net](mailto:raider@thenationals.net)  
<http://raider.thenationals.net>

**Competition Site: Gerald I. Lawhorn Scouting Base**  
1166 Dripping Rock Rd. Molena, GA 30258

For all site questions, please contact SNI

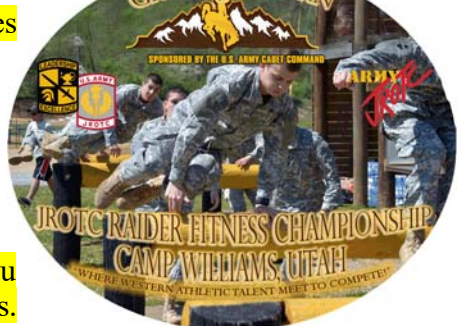
<http://www.flintrivercouncil.org/sitecore/content/Council095/Camp.aspx>

**NOTE:** YELLOW areas are changes OR points of emphasis for 2022

## 1) GENERAL OVERVIEW

- a. Congratulations and thank you for preparing for the U.S. Army Raider Nationals! This SOP will allow you to review all rules & procedures needed to compete safely & effectively within the arduous events of Raider! The “Raider Nationals” showcase Army Raider talent and provide all cadets with an opportunity to compete against the best Army JROTC teams in the nation in a first-class environment. The Raider Nationals are designated by the USACC as the official **Army JROTC Raider Championship** and are fully sponsored by the **U.S. Army Cadet Command**.
- b. **General entry into the Raider Nationals weekend BEGINS ANNUALLY ON 1 JUNE for most all schools.** All JROTC units wishing to obtain a competition slot should register to attend as soon as they know they are planning to compete! Registration is done on-line from the event website. When the competition slots are filled, the event is full. We cannot save any slots for any school for any reason so please do not ask! Your school registration **IS NOT SOLIDIFIED** until the FEE and PPWK are completed, submitted and received by SNI – not simply registering!
- c. The Army JROTC National Raider Championships are to be held throughout the day on Saturday, **5 November** and Sunday morning, **6 November, 2022** at the **Gerald I. Lawhorn Scouting Base**, Molena, Georgia. The general directions & park layout for the Raider Nationals will be posted to the official website for download/review, along with all other required paperwork & spectator info.
- d. The Raider Nationals event will maintain only the most competitive **ARMY JROTC** units & Army JROTC cadets in good standing and school eligibility. Those non-Army units, as well as JV teams or “B” level teams are encouraged to register and compete within the **All-Service Raider Challenge Championships** held the day prior to the Army Nationals.
- e. The early event registration will begin in the afternoon on Friday, **4 November** at the Raider Nationals HQ Building. The event registration will again occur in the morning of the competition at the same facility. The event Commander’s Call is held across the street under the pavilion.
- f. As stated above, the Raider weekend will maintain a smaller, all-service competition held on Friday. This event, the all-service **Raider Challenge**, will be designed for Raider programs from all services, as well as smaller Army programs, However ALL CADETS COMPETING IN THE ARMY RAIDER NATIONALS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE to compete in this Army Championship event as well. (NOTE: schools with “JV” or “B” cadet teams NOT COMPETING during the Army Championships should compete in this Raider Challenge event).
- g. **OVERNIGHT CAMPING IS ALLOWED & ENCOURAGED AT THE SCOUTING CAMP.** While camping is highly encouraged, hotels are just 15-20 minutes away from the venue but fill quickly. Schools may attend the Army Raider Nationals as a “commuter school” (driving in to compete w/o camping), or by camping at the venue. As stated, the facility has unlimited camping for those with their own tents but pre-existing tents ARE limited. Full details on camping and campsites in general is found later in this document under Section 9, “**CAMPING DETAILED INFORMATION**”.

## 2. TEAM COMPOSITION & ENTRY RULES

- a. **The event will be limited to 75 teams every year.** event spaces fill up quickly. For teams in the Western United States, the **Great Western JROTC Raider Fitness Championship** (<https://thenationals.net/raiderwest-main.htm>) is a single day event held on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at Camp Williams, just outside Salt Lake City in southern Utah. The event will have limited entries in the first year as a showcase event but we welcome your entry into an event much closer to home. Should you wish to attend, review the website then contact SNI for entry details.
- 
- b. Competition Team Rules: **EVERY TEAM IN EVERY DIVISION** will consist of 10-14 members but only 10 participate in each event, with the four cadets maximum considered “event alternates”. Every team event will require 10 cadets and these can be comprised of any combination of your 12 person team. NOTE: Smart mixed teams have both a male and female alternate if possible, just in case!
- c. **MIXED TEAMS** must have a minimum of **FOUR** females in every event and no more than NINE females total performing. Increased numbers of females are not generally recommended as you will be competing against teams that are made up with 6 males and 4 females in each event and this may place your team at a disadvantage. **MALE TEAMS** are generally comprised of all male members, however due to injury or personal preference; the team may contain females in any quantity. **FEMALE TEAMS** are just that, teams comprised solely of female team members.
- d. Cadets will substitute only within the team they are assigned. Male team members cannot substitute onto the Mixed Team, etc. Substitutions can be done **ONLY** prior to the start of an event and can be done for any reason. You do not have to go through a medic, nor does it have to be a medical need. You have a 12-member team to form your best 10 Raiders in any/every event.
- e. Schools may enter ONE complete raider team into EACH of the three competition divisions, **providing that no individual cadet competes for more than one team**. This rule allows any school to initially enter up to THREE complete teams, *but NO individual cadet may compete on both the male (or female) and Mixed Team*. Select schools may add a 2<sup>nd</sup> team within a division. MOST 2<sup>nd</sup> units in the same division are required to enter the **All-Service Raider Challenge** held the day prior.
- f. **Raider Policy on Transgender Student-Athlete Participation:** The rule on this is very simple. The Raider Nationals are forced to follow the guidance of the U.S. Army Cadet Command. This guidance simply states that we will follow the rules of the school district where the competing team comes from. If the districts recognize someone to be a gender different than their born gender, SNI will as well. Therefore, to ensure no issues come up the day of the competition that could possibly single-out or embarrass a competing cadet, we strongly urge Army Raider coaches to reach out to SNI in advance so we can ensure the judges are fully trained and briefed on how to handle this situation.

## 3. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS *(schedule final one week prior):*

- **04 November:** Early school registration at **Lawhorn Scout Base** Scoring HQ (afternoon).
- **05 November:** Final school registration at **Lawhorn Scout Base** Scoring HQ (early morning).
- *(NOTE: No school may compete WITHOUT going through event registration!)*
- **05 November;** Rotation of all Team Events will begin just after sunrise.
- **06 November;** Awards Ceremony begins after the Ultimate Raider event in the grass Grand Pavilion area (note: inside the Grand Pavilion is the INCLEMENT WEATHER LOCATION).



FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, THE TENTATIVE WEEKEND SCHEDULE IS FOUND ON-LINE AT THE OFFICIAL EVENT WEBSITE. THE **FINAL EVENT SCHEDULE** IS POSTED **ONE WEEK PRIOR** WITH MINOR TIME ADJUSTMENTS.

**NOTE: NO SCHOOL IS ALLOWED TO BE ON THE CAMPSITE PRIOR TO 9AM ON THE THURSDAY BEFORE THE EVENT.** A few schools have made their excursion to the Raider Nationals event a mini-JCLC arriving even before Sports Network International arrives to host the event! This can no longer be done. Please adjust your plans to ensure you **DO NOT** arrive before this permitted day and time.

- a. Schools will be permitted into the Camp HQ building, **3-4 total people per school maximum**. A sign-in sheet will be posted outside and registering schools will be permitted to enter, register and leave then the next school will be called. Hand sanitizer is available at the HQ building.
- b. The week prior to the event, schools will be emailed with the team competition schedule, with any late breaking event info & emphasis.

#### 4. COMPETITION EVENTS & GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. All Raider Nationals events are governed under this SOP and the guidelines of the U.S. Army manuals referenced herein. These manuals are gained here: <http://raider.thenationals.net>.
- b. History dictates Fall weather will likely be gorgeous. Nothing but lightning or other dangerous conditions will delay a team event. Teams must prepare for every type of weather condition.
- c. The competition will maintain an ON-LINE COMMANDER'S CALL ZOOM CONFERENCE the week prior to the event. The Commander's Call will be designed to cover the biggest competition and safety aspects of the event. IT WILL NOT be a review of items plainly gained from this SOP).
- d. The competition utilizes a "shotgun start"; therefore all events start across the facility at roughly the same time. The Ultimate Raider event and the closing awards ceremony happens on Sunday.
- e. The Army Raider Nationals are comprised of FIVE total events. These events are designed to test your cadets' physically as well as their ability to work as a team. Teams must enter and score in all five events in their division to be eligible for the overall title. The event overviews are as follows:
  1. **Physical Team Test (PTT):** (Annex 14-A, PTT): 10 TEAM MEMBERS; The PTT will consist of numerous items that require individual and team agility, strength, balance and stamina.
  2. **Rope Bridge:** (Annex 14-B, Rope Bridge): 10 TEAM MEMBERS: Standard one rope bridge according to this SOP and FM 3-97.61 (Military Mountaineering). Rope length must be **at least 150'**; low stretch ropes (Kermantle) may be used (NOTE: **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR OWN ROPE** or make arrangements to borrow a rope from another team).
  3. **Cross Country Rescue:** (Annex 14-C, Cross Country Rescue): 10 TEAM MEMBERS: The event will be cross country run carrying rucksacks and one weighted stretcher.
  4. **Raider Gauntlet:** (Annex 11-4, Raider Gauntlet): 10 TEAM MEMBERS: Team maneuvers carrying rucksacks and crates through roughly 1 mile of woodsy terrain while overcoming numerous technical obstacles that require great teamwork & strategy to complete.
  5. **5-Kilometer Team Mountain Run:** (Annex 14-E, 5K Team Run): 10 TEAM MEMBERS for this event. Team runs together without gear of any kind. Team runs to halfway point, entire team gets a turn-around marker, and then the team retraces their path and ends at the starting point. Team must all be within the 10-yard box at the completion to finish without penalty.

*NOTE: Other meets may use many other events within their Raider competitions. This is the beauty of Raider that it can be tailored to meet the wants of attending schools. Schools are cautioned that the USACC has limitations on what JUNIOR ROTC Raider is supposed to be all about (it is NOT a mini-Ranger event). Those hosting Raider should ensure their events meet USACC Guidelines.*
- f. Along with these five team events, the "Ultimate Raider" competition is held for the single best male & female cadet from each SCHOOL. Details on all events are found later in this document.
- g. All schools MUST check the SOP Update/Clarifications page on the Raider Nationals website throughout the Fall. Major and minor changes and general event news will be posted there first.
- h. AGAIN WE STRESS TO ENSURE TEAMS USE PROPER TECHNIQUE in coming down off any/all walls. **Hang and drop remains the standard in use for all team events at the Raider Nationals. ONLY during the ultimate Raider competition are individuals authorized to execute any other form of departure from the wall.** This is only because these cadets are designed to be your most athletic, most skilled and most heavily practiced cadets on your team.

- i. Any cadet who curses or utilizes other unsportsmanlike acts may subject their team to a penalty in any event. Acting in this manner is unbecoming a JROTC Raider cadet or coach.
- j. A team can finish an event with just 9 cadets without a DQ (one gets injured in route). See event score sheets for exact penalty. Teams competing with eight or fewer cadets, or those teams who compete with incorrect gender configurations will still be disqualified (receive a last place finish with a 99 minute time and/or a zero score depending on the event). A team DISQUALIFIED in any event renders them INELIGIBLE to compete for the overall title in that division.
- k. The event SOP often refers to wearing the ACU uniform for many events. It should be understood that it is NOT required to wear either the pistol belt OR a canteen. Teams are ENCOURAGED to bring canteens or water bottles with them during ANY event they feel it may be needed (i.e., 5K run, Gauntlet, CCR, etc.). Teams may make water available to their teams during any event as well.

## 5. SAFETY WHILE AT RAIDER

- a. SNI views the safety of Raider competitors and spectators as paramount. For the general health & safety of everyone involved, all teams should be aware of ready areas and other prep situations to maintain distance from other teams and spectators where possible.
- b. Having people in positions of authority that have been doing these events for decades of practical Raider competitions with high school JROTC cadets is hugely beneficial. While the manual was never written as a competition manual AND it was never written for teams of high school cadets, we adhere closely where applicable and only deviations outlined herein are permissible. To that end, SNI has plenty of wise heads on the course to ensure compliance within all rules and regulations.
- c. Cadre are responsible to ensure a continuous, rigorous safety program is in place for your team. **NEVER HAS THIS BEEN MORE IMPORTANT!** This begins with discussions on hand washing, hydration, reporting all injuries, checking for fevers, campfire safety and the like. All units are required to read the [SNI Raider Risk Overview](https://thenationals.net/raider-Risk_Overview.pdf) ([https://thenationals.net/raider-Risk\\_Overview.pdf](https://thenationals.net/raider-Risk_Overview.pdf)).
- d. CDC no longer recommends checking temperatures of competing cadets. Also items that were previously “sprayed down” between teams will not be for this year and beyond However, it is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that teams maintain hand sanitizer and take time out to wash their hands after every competition at the Raider Nationals. Should any cadet feel unwell during the day, isolation is till the best medicine regardless of the type of sickness maintained.
- e. As the Event Director for the Raider Nationals, Sports Network International (SNI) maintains sole judgment pertaining to competition items in consultation with the USACC. All decisions made by SNI regarding rules, procedures or other matters are final. All competitors, instructors, and supporters are subject to comply with all of the rules & procedures of this SOP and of the Raider Nationals. Any items not specifically covered by your service manual(s) or by this document are enforced at the sole determination of the SNI Judging Director. If you have any questions regarding this event, please ask either via phone or email Sports Network International in advance.
- f. On-site medical support via a medic and/or ambulance. **This support is designed for urgent medical need only.** Teams are STRONGLY encouraged to bring basic first aid materials with them on the bus and to keep these items handy at all times during the Raider Weekend (including bringing this medic bag to every site where your cadets gather), Additionally for back-up, SNI maintains a well-stocked medical bag filled with “bump, bruise & cut” items (located at the Event HQ).
- a. A Composite Risk Management Worksheet will be completed for all of the events by the Event OIC. Weather will determine special daily risk assessments and changes to events for safety reasons.





## 6. RAIDER PREPARATION – EVENT INTERRUPTION

- a. **ALL of the events are physically demanding, and stressful weather conditions (heat, cold, damp, etc.) can make this harder on your cadets than planned back home!** However, any team that has trained hard for several months and prepare themselves for these events will do just fine. Please remember to hydrate BEFORE the day of the competition – solid hydration starts 48 hours prior!
- b. **Instructors and their cadets ARE ENCOURAGED to recon any/all competition sites the day prior to their event** after the completion of the all-service Raider Challenge event ending in the early afternoon. Schools are allowed and encouraged to: 1) recon the site map to find the location of every event, as well as 2) walk the course(s) with an instructor to ensure all competing cadets are prepared for the layout and any obstacles they may face (NOTE: No running the course or rope bridge construction will be allowed on the actual course areas – this is a visual walk-through only). **DO NOT get in the way of All-Service teams competing on Friday during your course review.**
- c. As stated, cadets may not "practice" on the courses by any means. One exception to this will be the wall located at the CCR Course (available all-day Friday to sunset), and the Gauntlet Course (available after 2pm on Friday to sunset) and also for the Ultimate Raider competition Sunday morning. Because this item is difficult for all teams to prepare and practice for back home, all schools will be allowed to physically practice safely scaling the wall and dismounting on Friday on the time hacks listed above. **ONLY SCHOOLS WHO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE ADULT SUPERVISION & SPOTTERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PRACTICE - NO EXCEPTIONS!** Cadets found practicing at the wall by themselves without ADULT SUPERVISION will risk having their unit disqualified from the CCR competition and/or their Ultimate Raiders withdrawn from the event.
- d. No participant may leave any assigned racing area or “take a short cut” outside the marked racing area. Any cadet/team doing so and found to have gained an advantage by these actions will cause the team to receive a subjective penalty. If the shortcut was determined to be completely accidental, the penalty will be the estimated amount of seconds saved by going “off-course”, plus an additional 10%. If the short cut was determined to be intentional done, the team will likely be disqualified.
- e. **TWO cell phone contacts will be required PER SCHOOL to ensure in an emergency all schools can be reached in the fastest possible manner. “Shelter in Place”, “Take a Head Count” or other safety requests may be given in the event sudden bad weather, active shooter, abduction or other unlikely scenarios.**
- f. In the event of severe storms or lightning, competition will be immediately suspended (NOTE: not cancelled) at that point. Teams that are on the course will continue to completion unless directed otherwise by event officials. Judges, coaches, and ALL raider teams will move to the nearest safe area and wait for instructions. At that time, a weather decision will be made based on the best information available. **After a minimum 20 minute pause,** a weather decision will be made based on the best information available. If the competition must be ended, there rules apply:
  - i. Overall championship trophies will be presented and declared ONLY if all events have been held and all teams provided the ability to compete. If the event is cut short for any reason, event team trophies will be provided among those teams competing ONLY.
  - ii. Due to the nature of the event, all funds paid are non-refundable if for any reason the event is halted due to weather.



**NOTE: SNI reserves the right to cancel the Ultimate Raider competition and complete Saturday team events on Sunday morning if needed to complete suspended events.**

## 7. COSTS/PAPERWORK REQUIRED TO ATTEND:

- a. Schools gain information regarding the Raider Nationals from the Raider Nationals official website: <http://raider.thenationals.net>. Here you can learn everything about the event and then download needed materials to register your school to attend and compete. After registration, you will be emailed acceptance and then download all your competition paperwork from the website. The website is easily organized but internet access including working email is required to be able to attend the event.
- b. To attend, all schools submit required paperwork and pay a School Registration Fee of **\$200 per school** to enter the Raider Nationals. **This is a bump up from the \$150 level the event has been at for over a decade but costs are skyrocketing and this level still represents a great value for what you get at this competition.** This entry fee will allow a school to enter UP TO one team in each competition division (so long as no cadets cross over to compete in multiple divisions). Additionally, every cadet eligible to compete attends through the Team Package. The cost of the Team Package will **remain at just** \$15 per cadet. For this money, each cadet will receive a specially designed event medallion on a chest ribbon, custom event t-shirt (ordered to size), a beautiful 8" x 10" Raider team photo, and the ability to compete at the event. **THIS REGISTRATION FEE AND PER CADET FEE ARE REQUIRED COSTS (no exceptions) and are the only other required costs to attend.**
- c. Currently, the USACC plans to sponsor this event. In the past, this allowed the registration fee to be refunded. This is no longer the case. **PLEASE NOTE THAT WITH OR WITHOUT THE ARMY SPONSORSHIP, THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD!**
- d. Each Raider Team will provide the Covenant Not to Sue required of each cadet. Each School/Coach should make a duplicate copy of these forms and provide the original to the Meet Director and keep the copy of these forms for his/her records.
- e. Each cadet will receive a color-coded bracelet to identify which team they are eligible to compete with. Any school found using illegal cadets competing within BOTH a single-gender team AND mixed team may have their entire school removed from the Raider Nationals event without recourse, and likely WILL be placed on probation from attending the event in the future. It is the responsibility of every Raider instructor to stress to their cadet leaders the purpose and inflexibility of this reg!
- f. Each school is required to submit in advance all money/paperwork as required to be able to compete. There is no exception to this requirement. Schools should plan ahead for unit inspections, snow days or other items that can hamper the ability to meet payment and paperwork deadlines. Only a rare, unforeseen exception would allow a school to bring a non-essential item on arrival with pre-approval, so please plan your paperwork/finances accordingly.
- g. Once you have read this SOP and agree to all of its terms and conditions, you must electronically sign all of the required forms on-line. **No school or individual may compete in any facet of the Raider Nationals event without the proper submission of these forms and required funds.** If you have a question regarding any facet of the Raider Nationals, especially regarding the money and/or paperwork required, please call/email and ask BEFORE registering to attend the event. Competition spaces are very limited and we want to ensure all schools fully understand what they will need to do to attend BEFORE they go to the effort of registering. In most cases, the answer is maintained in print in this document. If you do not find the answer or you need a clarification, please feel free to call/e-mail Sports Network International at the numbers listed herein.
- h. PLEASE ensure you become VERY FAMILIAR with the dates and deadlines when money and/or paperwork submission is required. Ensure any unit inspections or other large-scale items do not interfere with your timely entry. **PLAN AHEAD!** Failure to submit these items when required can have your school dropped from the event and/or removed from camping. Little is more important!



## 8. FACILITY DETAILED INFORMATION:

- a. Gerald Lawhorn Scouting Base is a private Boy Scout facility and is rented by Sports Network Int'l exclusively for the Raider Nationals. Their hard work and support has made hosting this event on their facility possible. We ask that you respect all property, equipment & rules while attending. A complete list of camp rules will be furnished to all schools upon entry.
- b. This facility has been reviewed by the U.S. Army Cadet Command and found to be a superior facility for hosting the Raider Nationals. This is a main reason why the U.S. Army Cadet Command has selected the Raider Nationals to be the Official Service Championship of Army JROTC. The camp can get overwhelmed on "game days" with so many cadets and spectators on site, so please pay special attention to the rules and the bathroom signage regarding toilet flushing, gender, etc.
- c. The huge 2,400 acre scouting base maintains two sites adjacent to each other. **Camp Thunder** is the base area for the competition and has several hundred fixed campsites organized into small individual areas from 16 to 64. The **Flint River** is down the main road and also maintains fixed campsites in the same manner as Camp Thunder. **Those camping at Flint River will require ground transport to get to the adjacent competition areas.** Every named camping area has a fire pit available, showers, low-power electricity and toilet facilities with water close by (conditions and weather permitting).
- d. The Lawhorn facility proudly features a newly constructed indoor Dining Hall, Camp HQ, children play area (off-limits to cadets), no gate admission charge, and other fine amenities. All of these amenities make not only for a fantastic competition site, but a great site for those wishing to bring the family to watch.
- e. The facility provides both affordable pre-paid meals AND affordable concessions during the day of the event. Specific menus and prices are provided to teams in the month prior to the competition.
- f. **PAID SPECTATOR PARKING** will be in effect this year. DETAILS on this will be forwarded to all schools registering to attend the event. PLEASE urge your parents to carpool!
- g. Spectators are encouraged to bring their own chairs to comfortably view the events. The terrain is rugged so be prepared to walk a good distance from any parking areas to the event areas. Also, the facility is a scout camp and therefore is NOT in most ways handicap friendly.
- h. Numerous bathrooms with running water are available to fill canteens/water bottles across the camp. We STRONGLY URGE all units and spectators have personal water available constantly. Also, port-a-potties and fresh drinking water has been placed near the primitive camping areas for those overnight camping in those areas.
- i. Those wishing to see some photos of the Raider course can go here: <https://thenationals.net/raider-photos.htm>.
- j. Pre-paid meals for the schools will be made available if purchased in advance, as well as standard concessions on Saturday and light breakfast Sunday morning. We encourage all competitors and spectators to check out the concessions area for your food needs should you so desire. Basic snacks will be made available for purchase throughout the day of the competition, as well as competition T-shirts for spectators (limited availability). Additional vendors, as well as event sponsor displays will be on-hand to give the event a very lively appeal.
- k. Two-way radio communication is provided at each competition area, as well as between SNI, SNI senior judging officials, as well as specific event judges on many of the longer courses to ensure safe and effective medical requests and rule discussion. Additionally, these radios allow questions to be asked & answered on the spot should a team have an on-site situation arise that requires immediate feedback.



- l. Cellular service at the facility maintains a strong signal for those on both T-Mobile and Verizon. AT&T service is spotty but doable, especially for text messages (best reception is by the river near rope bridge! Sprint service is the weakest and had few areas where connection is available.
- m. Hotel billet options are listed for teams, parents and other non-campers roughly 20 to 60 minutes from the Thunder River BSC. These will be listed prominently on the Raider Nationals website.
- n. **You may not ride in the back of an open pick-up anywhere on the facility.** THIS IS A BIG DEAL ON THIS SITE. Ensure your shuttling of cadets does not include this method of transport. Also, please do not bring any dogs or other pets as they are not allowed. Service dogs of course are an exception. For complete Lawhorn Scouting Base Camp Rules (<https://thenationals.net/raider-camprules.pdf>).

## 9. CAMPING DETAILED INFORMATION

- a. Schools may attend the Raider Nationals with or without camping. As stated, the facility has unlimited camping for those with their own tents but pre-existing tents do exist but ARE limited. We STRONGLY ENCOURAGE ALL SCHOOLS to maintain transport on-site and have access to their own tents (especially all schools DRIVING to the event) as we cannot possibly have enough fixed tents for the 1,600 cadets and instructors expected to attend. With more and more schools FLYING to attend, ***these schools will have priority.***
- b. **The costs for camping will again be just \$5 per person, per night.** This is a great deal as the pre-set camping facilities are first-rate. **This cost is for ANYONE WITH YOUR GROUP staying overnight – parents, instructors, or other team followers.** This cost MUST be paid in advance therefore, it is vital all those who will be camping know EXACTLY how many people will be spending the night in their facility and pay the appropriate amount of money.
- c. Those entire teams attending with their own tents and staying in the primitive camping area(s) WILL ONLY PAY FOR CADETS AND INSTRUCTORS. Any parents staying with the team in their own tents **or vehicles** in these areas will sleep overnight at no charge.
- d. Most schools competing on Friday at the All-Service Raider Nationals staying just a single night may arrive anytime AFTER NOON on Thursday but must have their campsite vacated and general area cleaned immediately after their team events are done on Friday. Therefore, while Army Championship competing schools may come to the scouting base anytime, Schools MAY NOT begin their camp set-up until the awards ceremony begins for the All-Service teams. **Schools may then gain access to their campsite somewhere between 2pm & 3pm for the weekend.**
- e. **Schools attending with their own tents and staying in the primitive camping area(s) have the benefit of bringing RVs, 5<sup>th</sup> wheels and other larger vehicles into their camp area.** Parents bringing RVs or pull behind campers with other teams MUST CONTACT SNI IN ADVANCE as we have VERY LIMITED parking ability and want to ensure they have a space. This is not a campground and there are no hook-ups. **TEAMS MAY NOT HAVE COOKING/TENTING, ETC. SET-UP IN ANY OF THE PARKING AREAS!**
- f. Tents set-up throughout the facility are not climate controlled. Therefore, all schools planning to camp should watch the local weather forecasts for Molina/Thomaston, Georgia AND prepare to bring all items you may need to keep warm should the temperatures be exceedingly cold.
- g. Should pre-constructed tent areas fill, SNI may be forced to provide personal style temporary tents to complete needed camping assignments for attending schools. These will ONLY be used in case of a completely filled situation in both cabins and tents on site.
- h. “10-yarder” trash containers are available near the dining halls. Please ensure the trash in your camping area is collected and placed IN the metal dumpster (not simply bagged and left). This has NEVER been an issue as most teams leave the facility CLEANER than it was when they arrived!





- i. There are shower facilities available within an easy walk from every named camping site with HOT and COLD water (weather permitting). Please turn both the lights & water off every time you leave.
- j. All non-primitive campsites have low amp electric available. THIS ELECTRICITY CANNOT BE USED TO RUN **ANY FORM OF HEATER or HEATING ELEMENT COOKTOPS!** Do **NOT** bring or utilize any high-amp cookware or electric space heaters. Damage to the electrical system by those using space heaters and similar will be billed to your program.
- k. All camping assignments will be coordinated via Sports Network International in advance of the event. **Camp sites will be awarded largely considering the distance of travel for the attending team, with those FLYING gaining the priority as it is unreasonable to expect them to bring camping gear and ground transport.**
- l. Those looking to camp MUST note during Raider Nationals initial registration their desire to camp along with the following information: 1)Number of expected campers w/genders estimated, 2)Whether you will use your own tents AND 3)Whether you will have transportation with you on-site the entire time. **Camping facilities for those schools WITHOUT their own camping tents, gear or local transportation on-site will be limited as outlined above.** Therefore, for those schools looking to camp with the fixed tents, we STRONGLY ENCOURAGE you to register early.
- m. Cars/vans may be driven directly to the campsite to unload cadets, gear and other needed items. Vehicles should stay on the driving paths to ensure no damage occurs to septic fields which are located nearby and are nearly impossible to spot. All vehicles must then leave and park in the nearest labeled parking area during their stay.
- n. Historical weather patterns will likely allow the use of the fire pits on-site in each camping area. This call will be made the week prior by the camp officials and the local fire department.
- o. Full safety procedures regarding proper care and use of the fire pits, lanterns and other items are best found on the SNI website (<http://raider.thenationals.net>). **Schools should ensure ALL TRAVELING MEMBERS ATTENDING are FULLY BRIEFED and will CARRY THROUGH WITH ALL PROCEDURES CONTAINED HEREIN.** Full safety procedures are shown here: [https://thenationals.net/raider-fire\\_safety.htm](https://thenationals.net/raider-fire_safety.htm).

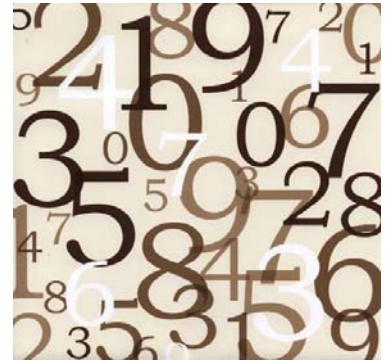
## 10. COMPETITION EVENTS & AWARDS

- a. The following events are counted towards a team's Overall Championship point totals: 1) **Physical Team Test (PTT); 2) Rope Bridge; 3) Cross Country Rescue; 4) Raider Gauntlet; and 5)5-Kilometer Team Run.** TEAMS MUST ENTER & GAIN A SCORE in every division team event to be eligible for the overall title.
- b. All teams are eligible to win team trophies within each specific event entered. Each Division and event will offer 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place team trophies (unless less than 10 entrants are in place in all events, whereby 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place will be awarded. The trophies will be spectacular. Along with Team Trophies, 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> Place OVERALL DIVISION trophies will be presented.
- c. ALSO, after review of Raider finishes now for over a decade, no other awards or recognition will be undertaken for smaller schools, schools attending from greater distances, etc. Both larger schools and smaller schools have shown solid finishes and therefore, they compete and win the trophies and awards prepared for the best schools to take home.
- d. Additionally, each SCHOOL will be eligible to enter TWO cadets maximum into the Ultimate Raider event (one male, one female). This event will be strictly for individual awards and will not factor into any team scoring. Top five male & female competitors will each receive chest medals.



## 11. EVENT SCORING & TIMING

- a. An official timekeeper will keep the official performance time at every event. All event timing will begin when the starter says “GO”. The time will not end until the last competing cadet AND ALL REQUIRED EQUIPMENT finalizes the task required.
- b. The overall team finish (for the crowning of Overall Championship and Overall Runner-up titles) within every division at the event is awarded based on a value earned through placements within each team event. A team’s placement in all team events will produce an overall placement point total. The lowest point value earned will be considered the highest finisher. Example as follows: a team earns: 1<sup>st</sup> place finish in PTT; 7<sup>th</sup> place in Rope Bridge; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Cross Country Rescue; and a 6<sup>th</sup> place Gauntlet; 3<sup>rd</sup> place 5-Kilometer Team Run. The aggregate value for this team would be computed as:  $1+7+3+6+3=20$ . Therefore, "20" would be the aggregate score regarding overall placements.
- c. There are NO ties at the Raider Nationals. The tie breaker for the overall trophies will be: 1) Team winning more events; 2) most team trophies earned; 3) Lowest time on the PTT event. The tie breaker for individual team events will be: 1) Team w/least penalty points, 2) Team competing EARLIEST in the day on the schedule in that event. SNI reserves the right to implement these tie breakers into similar but not exactly identical layouts in the spirit of the original rule to break any ties if still needed.



## 12. SCORESHEETS & SCORE TABULATION

- a. All event score sheets can be found in advance of the competition on the “Paperwork HQ” section of the event website. A complete scoring package maintaining all of the time/score sheets, as well as team placement information is designed to be available immediately following the Awards Ceremony (if time permits to prepare them for distribution) or they will be mailed to your team immediately following the event along with your team photos. Questions regarding Raider Nationals scoring are welcomed and addressed after you have received your completed score sheets.
- b. It should be noted that every score sheet will be double & even triple-checked where trophy placement is involved by SNI personnel using a computer program specially designed for the Raider Nationals Weekend by SNI.
- c. Each unit will be judged by the SAME JUDGES within each event where any subjectivity is in play. All judges' scoring & decisions are final.
- d. Teams should feel free to discuss items with judges that pertain to correct procedures, or to double check that correct timing or other issues were in play. If there is any concern in these areas however, do NOT belabor a point with a judge. If you have any question about proper procedures, scoring/timing, etc., these are handled by the Event Director located in the Event Headquarters as directed under protests within this manual.
- e. Any related questions from parents, cadets, or instructors regarding any portion of this competition should be directed to the Judging Director of the Raider Nationals at the Event HQ building on-site. Please keep in mind any questions, comments and criticisms that are best entertained at the event are those needing a timely response. The event is action packed and the ability to sit around and “shoot the breeze” about the future is rare. These discussions can often be best left to post-event phone calls, emails or after action reports which are greatly welcomed to make the event better for the future.



### 13. COMPETITION EVENT DETAILS - GENERAL

- a. The following items pertain to every event held at the Raider Nationals. All schools should review these items to ensure their team is in full compliance:
  1. Spectators or others should refrain from “coaching” the team and/or running with the team while they compete. This can interfere with a race official and cause the team to be penalized, especially finish line judges. Violation of this rule may cause the team to be disqualified/penalized. Teams MAY pre-position cadets on the course to encourage and/or watch their teammates so long as they are not obstructing any other teams performing.
  2. **Only competing team members may execute any aspect of the event(s).** Competing team members can assist each other in most events (NOTE, for safety no cadet can be truly CARRIED), but MAY NOT interfere with another team. Any such interference may result in a subjective time deduction from the offending team (up to and including disqualification) and possibly a time subtraction from the team interfered with.
  3. The course will be well marked with cones and engineer tape. Additionally, cadets/staff will be positioned along the route to ensure all teams are heading in the correct direction and following the rules. However, teams should review the route the day prior to ensure no confusion is present.
  4. Teams MAY NOT utilize any non-required tools in any event to include but not be limited to: ropes, chairs, steps, bags, headphones or other items – all courses must be completed without the aid of anything not available on the course. WATER BOTTLES are however strongly ENCOURAGED! Gloves are FULLY PERMITTED and ENCOURAGED in ALL raider events.
  5. All schools should ensure they do not run late to a competition area. Any team attending an area late without just cause may be subjectively penalized and/or removed from that segment of the competition (disqualified) at the discretion of the Competition Director.
  6. No schools live particularly close to the competition site, but it should be worth noting that **NO SCHOOL OR CADET IS PERMITTED TO PRACTICE ON ANY AREA OF THE LAWHORN SCOUTING FACILITY in the time leading up to or AFTER the event.** Anyone doing so will jeopardize having their entire school DQ’ed from the competition.
  7. All timed racing events will desire a clean start. If a team jumps the start early, a "false start penalty" will be assessed to those teams. No re-start will occur. All events will start with a judge stating, “GET SET, GO!” or similar. With this sound, time will start.
  8. Should any protest, dispute or appeal of a judge’s scoring/ruling or any other similar circumstance arise, SNI will decide the question/issue. No further appeal is available. Protests will be submitted either verbally or in writing to SNI at the Raider HQ within 30 minutes of the protested event/action occurring and only by a Cadre member from that school/team.
  9. Although discipline problems are not expected at a meet of this caliber, Sports Network International, Inc. as the Competition Director, reserves the right to remove any individual, group or entire unit from any event or the facility at any time for destructive, profane and/or immoral conduct, or any other actions unbecoming JROTC representatives or conduct detrimental to the overall Raider Nationals. These decisions are NOT subject to appeal.
  10. All Raider teams are expected to compete with honor befitting military JROTC cadets. Teams are expected to proactively come forward to admit guilt on any known rules violations they may incur. Teams are expected to tell the head official any cadet shortages or other known rule issues BEFORE competing in their assigned event. Failure to do this WILL JEOPARDIZE the ability of that team and that instructor to compete at the Raider Nationals in the future.
  11. **NO CADETS MAY “HURDLE” ANY VAULT!** All cadets must make supportive contact with the vault either with their hands or any other body part as they go over. Failure to follow this rule will result in a *penalty*. **This is a safety issue – train your cadets!**

## 14. COMPETITION EVENT DETAILS - SPECIFICS

### a. Physical Team Test (PTT)

#### 1) General Scenario:

- a. The PTT is the team event to test the strength, stamina, strategy, and endurance over a distance under ½ mile total using a variety of physical obstacles. To compete well, cadets must use teamwork and technique! The team score is the time it takes to complete the tasks, put all course items back in their starting positions, and finish the course.
- b. 10 members of the team must compete in the PTT. Time to complete the course will be kept and recorded for each team. Judges will be stationed along the route to ensure compliance with all rules.



#### 2) Specific Details:

- a. The uniform for this event: ACU/BDU pants, t-shirt & boots. Jacket may be worn if weather dictates (team decides). No Athletic attire allowed.
- b. Each team will compete on the course by themselves to eliminate any interference. Well-prepared schools should be able to complete the course in less than 6 minutes. A team may be removed from the course at the 8-minute mark for failure to progress.
- c. The team will be assembled behind a starting line. The grader will command, “Get Set, GO!” or similar. The GO command will start the clock. At that point, the team begins the course.
- d. The course will consists of the following items in order over a roughly .35 mile course:
  - a. A 30- yard Water Can carry (15 cans ) & 60lb. Ammo Can carry ( cans).
  - b. A 42" Team Vault
  - c. Speed Agility Maze (a tight zig-zag maze accomplished in column formation)
  - d. **TWO**, 6', 30" diameter tunnel crawl
  - e. Agility tires placed on the ground in a staggered pattern
  - f. 250lb. weighted, 30' flat bottom canoe
  - g. **Tire Flip** / Turn Around Pole
- e. In event begins with all cadets crawling through a tunnel. Then running roughly 40 yards to then pick-up & carry 15 water cans and 5 ammo cans for 30 yards. The cadets then run roughly 60 yards and approach a 4' wide, 40" high vault. They must all go OVER the vault (Cannot “HURDLE”, i.e., jump over without supportive contact) any vault. Cadets then run 30 yards to reach and navigate through a serpentine maze designed in a back & forth pattern approximately 20 yards in length. This maze is accessed ONLY in column formation. Cadets then immediately navigate 8 staggered tires. Every cadet will ATTEMPT to run through the tires **placing one foot in each & every tire** (no penalty for stumbling or accidentally missing a tire so long as the attempt is made). Teams then run forward another 30 yards and reach the flat-bottomed canoe. **NEW THIS YEAR: the canoe can be moved using as many or as few cadets as your require!** It will maintain 250 lbs. of ballast placed in the center for all teams. The team will MOVE the canoe (note: push, pull, drag, your call) roughly 60' to the far marker (entire boat must CLEAR the marker). The boat is released and the cadets then run 30 yards to the Event Turn Around Point, circle this point **in either direction**, and run through the entire course in reverse (moving the canoe back, moving the water/ammo cans back, to the starting position where they were found) thereby completing the course.
- f. **NOTE: FEMALE TEAMS WILL CARRY the canoe obstacle during PTT! They WILL execute the tire flip at the turn-around point.**
- g. Unless otherwise specified, where course items need to be carried, they can be carried in any manner but not abused or thrown. Water & Ammo Cans MUST be placed upright as they were found upon placing to the ground. **FAILURE TO HAVE THEM STAY UPRIGHT could mean due care was NOT USED and a penalty could be enforced.**



## b. ROPE BRIDGE

### 1) General Scenario:

- a. Rope bridges will be constructed in accordance with the spirit and intent of a real rope bridge situation. SAFETY NOTE: When crossing our creek, a bowline over the head on the opposite shoulder **OR** snapped into the Swiss Seat is **required**. Also, a Swiss Seat OR Waist Harness are allowed.
- b. Two rope bridge sites will be used: a Male Division and a Female & Mixed Division will use the other. These two are directly next to each other in the same general location. Both will use a fixed tree on either side of a creek that is approximately 85' to 95' to the far side. This creek may be dry or may be waist deep, depending upon conditions. As the event nears, we will post this information for teams to best plan.
- c. All of the team members must start & complete the bridge construction and crossing to maintain no penalty. The uniform is: ACU/BDU pants, t-shirt & boots. Jacket may be worn if weather dictates.
- d. ALUMINUM snap links **ARE NOT AUTHORIZED** in transport tightening systems on the Rope Bridge (ONLY STEEL). These links ARE ALLOWED for the Swiss seat/harness used for individual cadets. There is no limit on the number of snap links used in the transport knot.
- e. Teams will use ONLY the rope as outlined and as many carabineers (i.e., "snap links") as they require to accomplish the task at hand. **Teams MAY use a bag to carry the rope if they wish.** Sticks or other items(s) not listed above may NOT be used at any time.
- f. All teams will provide ALL of their own rope bridge equipment. Teams may use any kind of rope they choose – BUT the rope **MUST BE 150'** minimum! (NOTE: **You must have YOUR OWN 150' ROPES or make arrangements to borrow a rope from another team.**)
- g. If the main rope bridge site cannot be used for any reason, an alternate site will be used. The alternative site will use PINE TREES at a reduced distance. All teams should be prepared for this scenario as a precaution. All other relevant rules for the Rope Bridge will remain in effect.



### 2) Specific Details:

- a. **Swiss seats and waist seats will be tied prior to reporting to the rope bridge site. Pre-done seats are fine.** The first and last team members can wear sling ropes properly tied around the waist (minimum two wraps around the waist secured with square knot and tied off with an overhand knot on each side of the square knot).
- b. No loops, bights, tape and/or pre-tied knots will be allowed on the rope. For safety reasons, ALL TEAMS will have their Swiss seats and ropes checked. Teams can use any/all team members to splay the rope for the judge but must execute this backlay / backcoil expeditiously just before their start. The rope/bag will be checked as well to begin the event before time even starts (ropes are coiled next to the near side anchor point – **those using a bag can place the rope back in the bag.** The judge can/will assist or may review the team back coiling/laying the rope on the ground.
- c. Upon arrival at the Start Point, the team will check-in and when told, ready the rope as listed above. On the command GO, the clock will start and all cadets will run forward roughly 20 yards from the starting line to the near side anchor point, and build their 1-rope bridge. The team will then cross the river as outlined within these regs and the military manual. Time runs until:
  - i. the entire team and all equipment are out of the water, across the river and on the far bank (to include the rope, bag (if used) carabineers, everything).
  - ii. all knots and snap-links are out of the rope
  - iii. the team has announced in a loud voice, "TIME!"
- d. The team with fastest time to include any penalty points added will be the winner.
- e. Please see the event score sheets for penalties and other limitations in play for this event.

- f. The only knots allowed on the near side anchor point will be:
  - i. **Anchor Point Knot** must be a round turn and two half-hitches (NOTE: half-hitches must be over all ropes next to anchor point)
  - ii. **Wireman's Knot** OR **Figure 8 Slip Knot** (no hybrid knots-use FM for correct techniques)
- g. The only knots allowed on the far side anchor point will be:
  - i. **Round Turn with TWO Half Hitches**
  - ii. **Tensionless Anchor** (minimum of FOUR wraps on anchor)
- h. Most Brigades nationally use a single snap link however 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade mandates two for their local competitions. USACC has authorized only one snap link is required at the Raider Nationals. Those choosing to use two snap links MUST use them with opposing gates.
- i. The manual lists "three people pull the rope". For this competition rope bridge, there is no limitation on the number of people that can pull the rope setting the transport rope.
- j. Quick release for the second half hitch is recommended on both sides but not required.
- k. End of the line bowline or figure 8 is used to attach the rope to the first person to cross the gorge/river and must be attached to the seat or waist rope with a snap link or bowline and/or figure 8 over the shoulder. (Loop is over both the head & shoulder and must be under the opposite arm).
- l. All cadets in all divisions all weekend will wear headgear while executing rope bridge. These helmets will be similar to those worn during rappelling. You can bring your own or we will have helmets available for use. No cadets may execute rope bridge without the use of a helmet. Helmets will be sprayed with disinfectant after each use.
- m. A rope bridge that fails will not be counted or scored and will disqualify that team from that segment of the event. Judges will notify the team immediately on a bad rope to end their effort and avoid injury. Judges may stop a team at ANY TIME if a faulty bridge constitutes a safety hazard.
- n. All cadets crossing the rope bridge must be hooked onto the rope and pull themselves across using their hands, feet or both. The snap link (steel or aluminum allowed for snapping cadets in for transport) when properly snapped on the rope is considered a safe transport system for the cadet. Therefore, the requirement of one hand/foot in contact with the rope at all times is negated.
- o. Cadets awaiting transport: The snap link is NOT above the rope OR open PRIOR TO THE FAR SIDE KNOT BEING COMPLETED. This reduces subjectivity. Teams have in the past had the snap link open hovering above the rope PRIOR to the NEAR side knot completed.
- p. Any "dead zone" or out of bounds area near the far side anchor tree will be clearly covered within the Commander's Call briefing and also by the on-site judge prior to your competition. These areas will be dictated by water depth and other factors not determined in advance.
- q. There is no requirement for the feet to be above the rope so there will not be a penalty if feet fall below the rope while crossing. See TC 3-97.61 Military Mountaineering (2012), chapter 7 fig 7-17.
- r. Teams are encouraged to inspect the Rope Bridge site to develop strategies and to plan safe execution. However, NO ROPE BRIDGES or simulations may be done on the competition area.
- s. **REMEMBER**, only three Raiders may be snapped into the rope at a time. A 1-minute deduction for EVERY violation on the score sheet will occur for teams who violate this safety measure.
- t. The maximum time a team will be permitted to complete the bridge is 8 MINUTES. At that point, the team will be given a DNF (did not finish) and a max time listed at 99:99 (tied for last). This is required because a team that COMPLETES a bridge in 7 minutes but maintains 2 minutes in penalties will finish ahead of these teams.



## c. CROSS COUNTRY RESCUE

### 1) General Scenario:

- a. Your team is “rescuing” a casualty with gear. The “rescue” course is roughly one mile in length through a wooded terrain with obstacles.



### 2) Specific Details:

- a. The course has been changed slightly in the past few years for safety and a better flow of traffic. Please read carefully and prepare.
- b. The team will select **SIX RUKS filled with sand each weighing 35lbs.** and wait behind the starting line. When the command of “GET SET, GO” is made or similar, all teams will immediately travel OVER an 8’ wall (NOTE, yes at the beginning). **TREAT THE BAGS like they have a \$1,000 radio inside.** You can DRAG this under the low crawl but if you drop it HARD at the 8’ wall or after, you may be penalized!
- c. After completing the wall, the team will pick-up and continue the course with all of the gear identified previously **as well as the simulated casualty. MALES TEAMS use a litter marked “M” (the 95lb.); MIXED and FEMALE TEAMS use the ones marked “F” (the 75lb.).** The team will then run down the hill and face a **steeped water/mud pit 40’ long tapered to 4’ deep of water & mud.** The team will set the liter and ruks **BESIDE** this mud low crawl in a designated area. The team will complete this obstacle, get their liter and ruks, then continue through the woods, run roughly 1 mile, then come to a 60’ low-crawl area near the end. They will complete the low-crawl area with all gear and run through the finish line. All cadets & gear must cross the line to stop the time clock and record a score.
- d. There is a right and left side of the low-crawl. Each “side” is roughly 8’-10’ wide. For fairness, **YOUR ENTIRE TEAM MAY ONLY USE ONE SIDE OF THE LOW CRAWL,** even if another team is not using the other.
- e. The low crawl is designed to be 18” high with metal rebar holding light criss-crossed tape and/or yellow rope. **THERE WILL BE NO SUBJECTIVE “FORM” REQUIRED IN THIS LOW-CRAWL AREA.** You may use any method you wish to move under the tape. You can TOUCH the tape accidentally BUT persistent contact means you are not low enough and your team may incur a penalty. Therefore, we would SUGGEST you get LOW, as well as drag both the litter & ruks. Again remember, you have a casualty! Do not BOUNCE the litter – drag it.
- f. Uniform: ACU/BDU pants, t-shirt and boots. Caps and jackets are not required. Jackets will be optional for team members in cold weather conditions. **STRONGLY SUGGEST YOU BRING EXTRA UNIFORM ITEMS.**
- g. **EQUIPMENT WILL NOT BE THROWN!** The Ruks will not be carried by or attached to the liter in any manner. Violators will be DQ’ed. The team can organize themselves in any manner to carry the litter and equipment. Equipment and litter can be exchanged along the route during the movement phase. You can have two, three, or four people carrying the litter. Distribution of equipment and number of raiders on the litter is up to the team.
- h. Please see the event score sheets for penalties and other limitations in play for this event.
- i. Spectators must be mindful to keep safe, social distancing guidelines in play. Spectators may ONLY be by the starting and finishing area. They may NOT wander into the woods and onto the course. And like Rope Bridge to assist in clearing congestion, parents should stay with their team and arrive / leave with the team.



- j. Cadets who **intentionally or simply without any reasonable care** rise to violate the low crawl standard in this obstacle may face an additional, subjective time penalty if they destroy, **dislodge** or gain advantage by this action in this area.
- k. The wall is a required component of the event. Failure to ATTEMPT this segment of the course is a disqualification. After attempting, a TEAM MAY ELECT and take the penalty and bypass the wall (10 minutes for an entire TEAM / 5 minutes for any one INDIVIDUAL). Judges can MANDATE a team or cadet bypass the wall if they feel he/she is a danger to themselves or others going over the wall.



## d. RAIDER GAUNTLET

### 1) General Scenario:

- a. Raider Gauntlet is now a one mile event through fairly level ground with numerous obstacles that require solid strategy to overcome. The team will select **FOUR rucksacks** (each filled with 35lbs. of sand) and TWO custom-built crates (Male crates are 60lbs./Female/Mixed crates are 40lbs). While Ruks DO go over the wall, **crates DO NOT go over the walls (crates are placed in an area NEAR the wall).** When the command of “GET SET, GO” is made or similar, teams will begin and time will start.
- b. **TREAT THE BAGS like they have a \$10,000 radio inside...**you can DRAG them through the obstacles but if you drop it HARD at the wall, vaults, etc. you will likely be penalized!
- c. The course starts with a **suspended radial tire obstacle** (all cadets and gear go THROUGH the 23” diameter tire – **DO NOT TOUCH** the metal cables above or below used to suspend the tire). All teams then face a **11’ wall obstacle TALLER THAN** the wall found on the CCR course. **All male teams will go over that wall with RUKS but the crates stay on the ground beside the wall. Mixed and Female teams will bypass this tall obstacle BUT ALL WILL DO the smaller 8’ wall to follow.** Strategy and teamwork are necessary to complete this obstacle. Ruks will not be dropped from the top of this obstacle. The cadets then face two, 30’ x 23” in diameter drainage tube obstacles that **all gear and cadets must go through.**
- d. The course is very well-marked and the final paths take the team to the finish line directly adjacent to the starting position. Judges are positioned throughout the course to ensure all teams complete the obstacles listed and stay on the course. The course will be tough with new obstacles shown on the website and pictured at: [www.thenationals.net/raider-photos.htm](http://www.thenationals.net/raider-photos.htm).
- e. As you can see from the link above, the course also maintains two galvanized steel drains. When a team approaches these drains, they may only use ONE SIDE and ONE DRAIN for all cadets and gear, regardless if another team is there using it or not for fairness.
- f. Team members may provide assistance to each other on any/all obstacles in any manner chosen by the teams. WALLS once scaled do not allow a cadet to go back around to help from the ground. The team does NOT have to remain together so plan how you can accomplish these tasks in the best & safest way possible using the personal strengths of your team members. HOWEVER, teams MUST know what side if the drain tubes they have used as all members MUST use the same side. Prior planning and team work will make your run successful on the new Gauntlet course!
- g. Uniform: ACU/BDU UNIFORM with boots. Jackets optional. Dress for weather conditions. BRING EXTRA UNIFORMS - YOU MAY GET WET AND MUDDY!
- i. Please see the event score sheets for penalties and other limitations in play for this event.
- j. **Parents spectating may ONLY be by the starting and finishing area. They may NOT wander into the woods and onto the course. This has proven problematic as they are often in the way of cadets and race officials as the course is far more “loose”. Teams MAY decide to place additional cadets on the course for safety and supervision of their competitors. Judges will assist these cadets in their placement during the event.**





## e. 5K TEAM MOUNTAIN RUN

### 1) General Scenario:

- a. 10-member teams will run as a team 3+ miles (5K). No gear of any kind is required to be carried by the team – this is a straight team run.
- b. The course is on a traffic free stretch of mountain path that includes a long uphill run and a relatively flat but rocky distance run. It is a straight run with no gear to carry. The course can be narrow in places. Therefore teams must be mindful that running in column formation WILL BE REQUIRED in parts of the course. Care should be taken because of uneven and rocky areas.
- c. The shell road can be a bit uneven and maintain some standing water depending on weather. **THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO RUN THIS COURSE IN BOOTS FOR ALL TEAMS & CADETS REGARDLESS OF WEATHER CONDITIONS. ADDITIONALLY THE RUNNING UNIFORM WILL BE BDU OR EQUIVALENT.** Please do not ask if there is any option for sneakers, running shoes or shorts – that call has been made at the highest levels. The shoes and uniform are part of the difficulty. Wear thick socks and PRACTICE running in this attire to have the greatest chance of a safe and successful event.
- d. The team will maintain a 2.5 kilometer turn-around point where all team members **MUST BE AMASSED AND COUNTED** before they will be given a marker that identifies the entire team as having reached the half-way point. ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST mass at the turn-around point TOGETHER before they can be given this marker. At that point, the entire team may complete the event. The time will stop when the last team member crosses the finish line with one member holding the marker. Failure to maintain the marker at the finish line MAY result in your team being disqualified from the event.
- e. As a reminder, teams MAY if they wish bring water bottles or similar – this is optional.



### 2) Specific Details:

- a. **THIS IS A TEAM MOUNTAIN RUN FOR UNITY AND SAFETY. THIS MEANS THE TEAM STARTS TOGETHER, REACHES THE HALF-WAY POINT TOGETHER, AND FINISHES THE RACE TOGETHER.** Each team MUST cross the finish line with ALL TEAM MEMBERS INSIDE THE 10-YARD BOX when the first cadet crosses the finish line! The zone will be clearly marked to denote this area. To ensure your team executes this correctly, many teams practice crossing the finish line HOLDING HANDS to reinforce to the cadets this requirement to be together. Teams failing to finish with all team members within this 10-meter zone will receive a 1-minute penalty. **Teams missing a cadet entirely and finishing with one less cadet will receive a 5-minute penalty.**
- b. It is REQUIRED that all team members run within eyeshot of each other during the 5K run. This is team run so there is NO ADVANTAGE to running ahead – stay with your team!
- c. No cadet may be carried or otherwise FULLY SUPPORTED by a team member. Helping is fine. Carrying an injured cadet is not permitted.
- d. Please see the event score sheets for penalties and other limitations in play for this event.
- e. Parents spectating may be “into the woods” but PLEASE do not interfere with other teams on the course. This has proven problematic in the past. Teams MAY decide to place additional cadets on the course for safety and supervision of their competitors. **THEY MAY NOT PACE THE TEAM AND RUN WITH THEM.** Judges will assist these cadets in their placement during the event.

## f. ULTIMATE RAIDER COMPETITION

### 1) General Scenario:

- a. For those schools with a truly amazing cadet or two who wish to test their individual prowess AND will be here on SUNDAY morning, the Raider weekend offers each SCHOOL one male and one female cadet to compete in the Ultimate Raider event. These cadets must be on your competing cadet roster to be eligible. This competition is strictly an individual event among the most elite individual cadets attending the Raider Nationals Weekend. The scores are not included into any team awards. The top five fastest male and female times will earn awards.
- b. The course will be roughly 1.55 miles in length with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile road run followed by a .8 mile run through the woods. It will be grueling and will test both the male & female cadets involved. The competition is designed to have clustered groups of roughly 12-15 cadets each leave the starting line together competing by time. The time will stop when the cadet hits the ground after scaling the wall.
- c. This is an individual competition; however cadets from the same school may be racing together. Cadets **may not assist other cadets** unless they feel a cadet may be in danger of injury. Failure to follow this procedure may result in a penalty up to and including disqualification.

### 2) Specific Details:

- a. The Ultimate Raider course begins with cadets running counterclockwise roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile on a flat, paved circle, then entering the woods to run the CCR course (without water, vaults and other obstacles). The event ends with cadets executing a low crawl area and then scaling an 8' wall (6' wall for female competitors with assisted step).
- b. ALL ENTRANTS leave the starting line carrying a standard Ruck (35 lbs.). MALES will maintain this ruck throughout the entire course, taking it off IMMEDIATELY before scaling the wall at the end. FEMALES will maintain this ruck ONLY on the initial counter-clockwise circle run. Female entrants will place the ruck in the designated drop area before entering the woods to complete the final section of the course. **All competitors ARE REQUIRED to wear BOOTS.**
- c. **NEW POINT OF EMPHASIS IN 2022 - ALL SELECTED CADETS MUST BE ABLE TO CLIMB THE WALL! DO NOT select cadets that cannot go over the wall unassisted! TRY THE WALL THE DAY PRIOR to ensure this safety condition can be met. Failure to do this will jeopardize your ability to enter cadets in the future.**
- d. Females will be allowed to use a small step to better scale the wall. Any cadet failing to progress after repeated attempts may be forced to wait for following traffic to have their shot. Also, SNI can MANDATE a cadet bypass the wall if they feel he/she is a danger to their self or others going over the wall, or if their continued attempts could hinder other cadets getting over the wall.
- e. Spectators are allowed on virtually all aspects of the course; however the course will be designed to allow maximum spectator viewing of both the starting and finishing portions of the race to allow all attendees to cheer on their finest cadets as they start and end the race.
- f. As stated above team members **MAY NOT ASSIST** another runner **in any manner** to include dragging, carrying, etc., unless they are doing this to prevent injury (i.e., assisting a runner from the middle of the running course, etc.). In no way should this assistance involve reducing a competitor's time. Failure to follow this procedure will result in a likely DQ penalty for both the assisted cadet and the cadet assisting the runner. However, SNI encourages ONE cadet to run **DIRECTLY BEHIND** their cadet for safety should they desire. However, they must be ever mindful to ensure they are out of the way of any other runners on the course.
- g. Failure to follow the course as laid out will be cause for a subjective time penalty or disqualification depending on the infraction.

All materials produced for the Raiders Nationals are the property of Sports Network International. The Event SOP and all other written materials may not be used or reproduced in whole or in part without the express written permission of Sports Network Int'l.