

CAVALRY REGULATIONS

The Cavalry Coordinator for the 32nd Annual Reenactment of the Battle of Olustee is Lt. Colonel Bob McLendon of the 2nd Florida Cavalry. Lt. Colonel McLendon will command the Federal cavalry, designate the Confederate commander, and coordinate all rules and regulations regarding safety regulations, equipment, and weapons inspections for all cavalry.

Your cooperation in adhering to the following regulations is appreciated.

1. In the interest of safety no shotguns will be allowed on the field.
2. Unruly and uncontrollable horses will be ordered from the field. No stallions allowed.
3. All participants will take proper care of their horses. Any abuse of horses will not be tolerated.
4. All mounted horsemen must be subordinate to a specific unit commander.
5. Cavalry shall advance as organized units utilizing proper cavalry drill tactics.
6. Mounted soldiers will not be allowed on the field except as mounted officers, staff or unit couriers, or as part of an organized mounted unit.
7. Unit commanders should ensure that cavalry under their commander follow specific scripted activity for the event.
8. At no time will cavalry be allowed to override infantry lines. Only if the infantry makes an opening through their lines should cavalry pass and then, only in organized columns and at a safe speed.
9. All activity should be restricted to a walk or trot in areas where there are “casualties.”
10. All close-contact fighting between cavalry and infantry or artillery will be coordinated and agreed upon between unit commanders prior to the battle. At no time will cavalry engage infantry with fixed bayonets.
11. Any firing of weapons will be done in a safe manner. No firing of weapons directly at another combatant, mounted or otherwise, will be done within 50 feet.
12. Revolvers will be loaded in a safe manner. No wax wadding. “Wonder wads” are strongly discouraged. No powder flasks will be allowed on the field.
13. No repeating carbines (Spencers, Henrys, etc.) will be allowed on the Confederate side as they were not used in the 1864 battle by Confederates.
14. All saber fighting will be performed above shoulder level and only after the participants have made eye contact and the activity is agreeable to both parties. Blade points will be kept above shoulder level when engaged with others. All interaction between sabers will be with the flat edge of the saber. No “hitting” with sabers. Blades will be dulled and badly nicked blades will not be allowed.
15. Remember, safety first! Always have respect for other combatants and their horses.
16. **Horses shall not be ridden within 100 feet of the spectator line at anytime.**

Cavalry Regulations – continued

17. Any altercation or dispute between individuals, on or off the field, will be handled in a gentlemanly manner. Allow time for cooler heads to prevail!

18. All participants must be inspected prior to the battle. The following rules will be **strictly enforced**.

Inspection will include:

- a. Firearms for tightness, broken parts, overall condition and obstructions.
- b. Saber hilts for tightness. No heavily nicked blades.
- c. Saddles, quarter straps, stirrup straps, etc., for weak leather.
- d. Pistol and carbine rounds.
- e. Only period saddles will be allowed. No modern saddles.
- f. **All** horse furniture and equipment must be correct military issue for the period. No “makeshift” or “rag-tag” equipment will be allowed.
- g. Curb bit with correct curb chain is mandatory. Any exception must be approved prior to the battle by the overall cavalry commander.
No hackamores.
- h. Lead straps are mandatory. For added safety, **surcingles are mandatory**.

19. **All** horses must have inspected in the Cavalry Camp and current Coggins verified. Any horse not inspected will not be allowed in the battle. All horses and riders must comply with Cavalry regulations.

20. **NO HORSES** are allowed within the sutler area. **Anyone riding a horse within the sutler area will be dismissed from the event!** Prior approval must be received from the Overall Cavalry Commander to utilize the primary road passing through sutler area.

21. **Dismounted Cavalry allowed by invitation only.** All other **DISMOUNTED CAVALRY** not entering the field mounted, **WILL NOT be allowed on the battlefield.**

22. **It is mandatory** that all cavalry be mounted and present at Sunday morning colors. Only those present at Sunday colors will be allowed in Sunday’s battle.

23. **At no time will cavalry enter the pyrotechnician’s designated area on the battlefield.**

Everyone is reminded of the potential danger that accompanies the use of horses. Every effort should be made to control horses within the camps and around the thousands of spectators who attend this event, as well as on the field. Unit commanders are expected to assist in the compliance of all rules and regulations by those under their command. Your cooperation in making this a safe and enjoyable event will be much appreciated. Remember, safety first!

For any questions regarding cavalry regulations, please contact;

Lt. Colonel Bob McLendon Telephone: (334) 484-8562 E-mail: captcav2nd@yahoo.com
1035-A South Brunidge Street
PMB 105
Troy, AL 36081