

PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

Sit-in



Background

FPU-members must be able to deal with passive resistance techniques used by demonstrators. Also known as the « sit in », this popular way of demonstrating aims at pushing unprepared police officers into an excessive use of force in the presence of Medias. Sit-ins have also involved into a more prepared and strong resistance.

Aim

To enable FPU members to manage peaceful resistance in a professional way.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this module the students will be able to:

- Apply appropriate tactical methodology
- Apply appropriate techniques.

Training sequence

The material in this module is designed to be delivered over one 50 minute classroom based theory lessons followed by 7 hours of practice, which should include at least one hour for assessment. This is on the assumption that the students have received no previous training in this subject.

Duration

Minimum Session time	Lecture/Presentation	Question/Assessment	Session Activities
8 hours	50 mins	10 mins	7 hours
Additional Options	Mission Specific	Optional film	Optional activity

Methodology

This module contains one PowerPoint theory presentation to explain and show the various tactics and techniques. However, the majority of this module should be taught in a practical manner using the format:

- Explanation by the instructor
- Demonstration by the instructor

- Imitation/execution by the students (with instructor correcting where necessary)
- Practice by the students until the technique is perfected

At the end of the final stage the instructor will be able to assess if the student is competent in the technique having carried out continuous assessment throughout the preceding lessons.

The instructor should inform participants of the content, format and timing. Knowing what to expect, participants can improve their ability to focus on the subject and benefit better from the session.

- Theory of sit in (50 minute classroom lesson) = lesson 1
- Practice (7 hours of practical lessons) = lesson 2

The practice should be carried out over a number of days and the instructors should be aware that the physically demanding nature of deploying the FPU in Public Order Management techniques must be carefully managed so that the students do not get fatigued as this is likely to lead to injury.

A number of the practical periods should be conducted in the form of exercises which should be carried out in as realistic situation as possible with the use of other officers acting at 'Mob crowd'

When training a full FPU it is recommended that this module is taught to at least 2 platoons and then additional practice time is given to bring the whole FPU together for co-ordinated training.

Instructors are encouraged to add practical examples and mission specific information related to the specific deployment of participants, if known.

Instructor Profile

This module is best presented by an instructor who has practical experience in Public Order Management in peacekeeping operations and who could share his/her experience with the group. They must be practiced and skilled to be able to demonstrate the technique correctly. If there is more than one instructor, at least one should have practical experience as Public Order Management trainer in either domestic policing or a peacekeeping mission.

Instructor Preparations

Required Readings

- DPKO Policy on Formed Police Units in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
- FPU Training Handbook
- Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials
- DUF and SOPs

General Preparations

Equipment:

1. Computer and PowerPoint slides
2. Projector and Screen
3. Full public Order management equipment for each officer for the practical section of the training.
4. Vehicles
5. For the practice of the techniques, a mock crowd should be used in order to bring in realism, intensity, and evolving constraints.

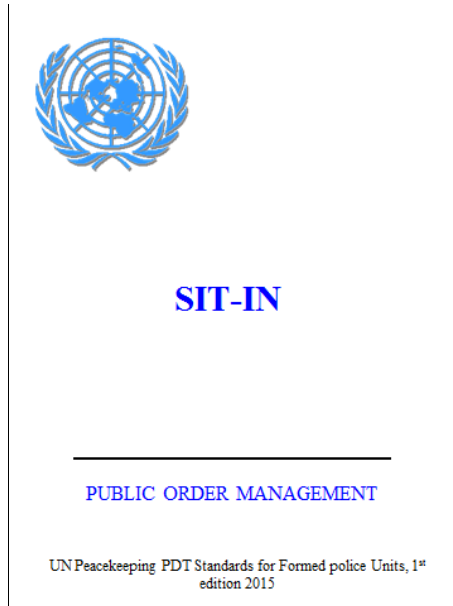
Training Area:

The initial lesson should be carried out in the classroom. Once the basic tactics have been grasped by the students, the FPU will need to practice their tactics in a more urban situation. For this purpose a 'ghost town' or public order village is ideal.

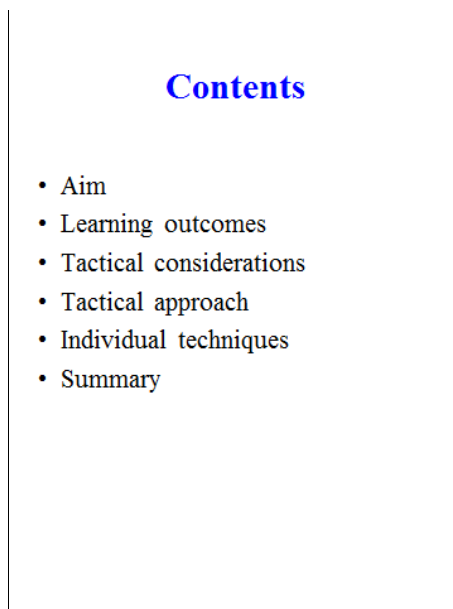
Session notes

Lesson 1 – Sit-in (theory)

Contents:



Slide 1



Slide 2

Aim

To enable FPU members to manage peaceful resistance in a professional way

Slide 3

Learning outcomes

At the end of this module, the students will be able to:

- Apply appropriate tactical approach
- Apply appropriate techniques

Slide 4

Tactical considerations

- Legal status : authorized/illegal demonstration
- Mission : arrest, move away or secure
- Size, intent, attitude, composition, position and equipment of the crowd and the « sit in »
- Unit equipment and strength (ex :bolt cutter for chained demonstrators, need for specific vehicle to transport arrested demonstrators)
- Presence / type of medias
- Environment : open or enclosed area
- Timing: estimation of the time needed to assess the feasibility of the operation within the given time limits

Slide 5

The passive resistance way of demonstrating is a battle of image. Demonstrators will use the presence of Media and especially the television reporters in attempts to appear as victims of a repressive State embodied by its Police.

A well disciplined unit with a high degree of self control and respect for the protestors will gather far greater attention from the media than the demonstrators themselves. This approach will instill some degree of fear or curiosity to the crowd in regards to the units ability to react with force if the situation arose.

The environment in which the sit in is taking place needs to be evaluated and considered in the event reinforcement are required and time is of the essence. Protestor tactics are constantly evolving with the increase in chaining or locking oneself to each other or a fixed object, this tactic is used to delay the movement as well as police units responding. It is important to consider specific tools and other resources at hand to quickly deal with and extract the demonstrator while taking every safety precaution to prevent injury to both parties.

Tactical approach

- Observation (environment and demonstrators)
- Liaison with local authorities and security forces
- Negotiation/identification of a leader
- Warnings
- Methodology/intervention

Slide 6

Consequently, after assessing the situation from a distance, the officer in charge of the tactic will approach the sit in area and try to negotiate a voluntary departure of the demonstrators. This very important phase has to be done with polite and peaceful manners without any aggressiveness or useless demonstration of force. The officer in charge of the tactic can be accompanied by one or two platoon leaders who will take the opportunity to discreetly recce the immediate environment. This first contact aims at showing the peaceful intentions of the police. It will also give the officer a precise idea of the composition of the crowd, the possible leaders, their type of influence over their companions, the general state of mind of the participants. According to the mission of the unit and the decision of the local authorities, limited time should be spent on this first part. This exchange is also necessary to collect the information needed and to assess the demands of the demonstrators.

In case of failure of the negotiations, warnings have to be made in a language understood by all demonstrators at least 3 times.

The FPU commander then decides for the intervention phase.

Methodology

- Isolation element fully equipped but low profile placed according to the type of environment: circle or cordon
- Arrest team in light equipment
- Collecting element in light equipment
- Reserve element fully equipped and positioned in a near but discreet place

Slide 7

The Unit commander will then position his four parts lay out. All foot maneuvers must be executed in order and without any hurry.

A first element will isolate the sit in area, preventing anybody from leaving the « sit in » area, or join in with the protesters. If no hostility is shown, the members of the isolating element shall be fully equipped but in a low profile attitude: baton and helmet at belt, shields in stand by position. Nevertheless, police officers have to be equipped according to the situation upon discretion of the FPU commander.

If the sit in is installed in an open area the isolating element will encircle the demonstrators, remaining at a distance of 3 meters. Placed an officer every few meters according to the available manpower and the size of the sit in, they will alternately face the inside or the outside of the circle, each team under the supervision of its team leader. The mission of those facing the sit in will be preventing any participant to leave the place freely. Those facing outside the circle will have to prevent any additional demonstrator to join the sit in.

If the sit in takes place in an enclosed area the isolating element, equipped as previously mentioned, will set up a cordon between the « sit in » demonstrators and the rest of the crowd or on a limit beyond which demonstrators will be accepted. In this case the minimum distance between the cordon and the sit in will also be of 3 meters.

The second part of the lay out consists of an arrest element carrying neither helmet nor baton or shield. Organized in buddy pairs, they will be placed just outside the isolating element in two lines. Upon order of the officer in charge, they will enter the circle in pair, remove or help remove one protester and, still in buddy team, hand him/her over to the collecting element just outside the circle. They will then queue

again behind the other arrest element and so on and so forth.

The third part consists of collection elements whose members carry no shield and have helmets and batons at belt. Placed in lines of buddy pairs just outside the isolating element, a few meters away from the arrest element, they are tasked to take the arrested demonstrator and take them away. According to the orders they may be dispersed from the area or taken to a place where they will be searched and identified prior to being transported to the police station.

The fourth and last element, the reserve element will consist of fully equipped officers, helmets on, ready to intervene upon order. They will be kept at the ready close by. The ideal position should conceal the unit from the media and protesters.

When all the four elements are in position the operation will start taking all the necessary time. The sit in management is a very long process. The required time is hard to assess but a unit commander is more likely to proceed and succeed with sufficient time. Subsequently organized relief teams for the arrest element must be planned accordingly. The officer in charge must always keep in mind that speed is his worst enemy in such operations.

Preparation phase

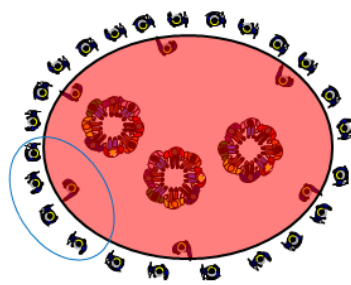
- Preparation of an area dedicated to the body search of arrested demonstrators
- Preparation of the collection of identities
- Preparation of medical kit
- Positioning of the transport vehicles
- Organization of the shuttle to and with the police station
- Beginning of the operation

Slide 8

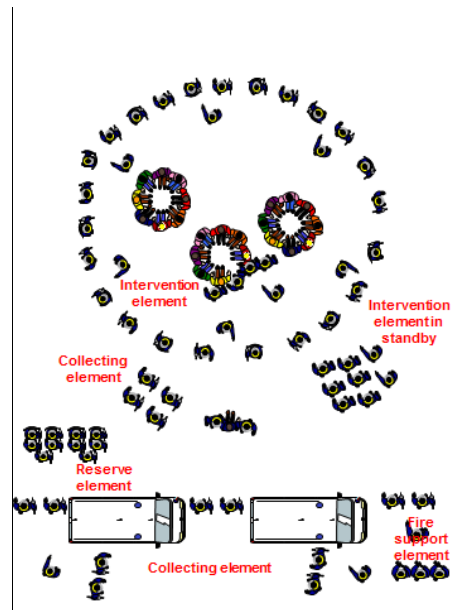
Tactical approach and methodology

Slide 9

Isolating a sit-in in an open area



The aim of isolating the area is to avoid than other demonstrators or the one already evacuated step inside the perimeter.



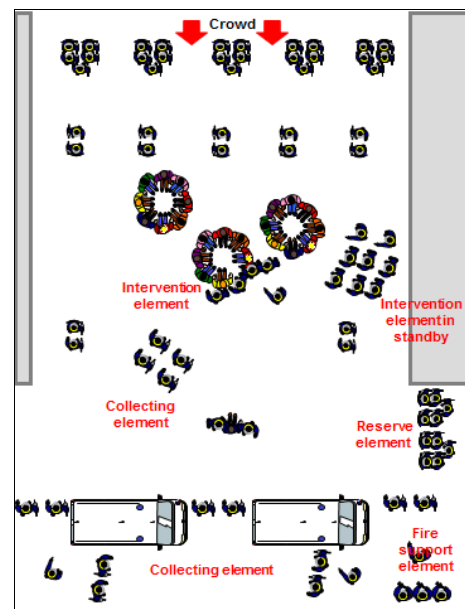
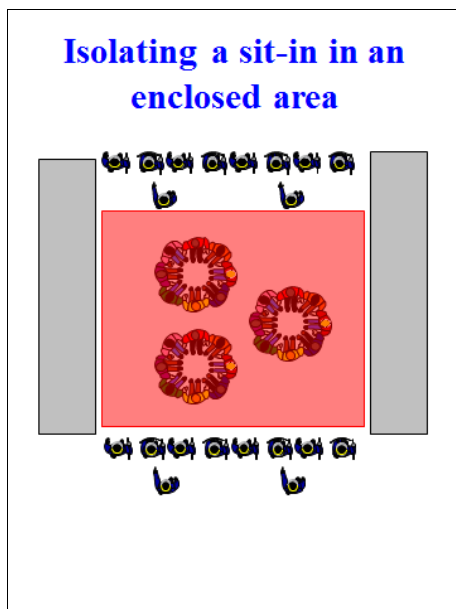
Slides 10 and 11

The isolating elements are under the authority of one officer who will command team leaders. The OIC will command their team and control that the shield and baton holders alternate along the line, with one facing the inside and one the outside alternately. The mission of all elements facing outside is to give alert if any additional demonstrator approaches and more broadly to prevent anybody from entering the circle. The mission of the elements facing inside is to prevent any demonstrator to leave freely the circle and alert if the lifting of sit in demonstrators turns bad.

If all of a sudden the attitude of the sit in protestors turns aggressive or violent in nature then the officer in charge of the isolating element will regroup his elements to face the demonstrators. If any of the arrest team members are blocked by the demonstrators he will immediately try to set them free. Then once the reserve element arrives on the spot, the officer of the isolating element, under the latter's protection will equip fully his men to quickly reinforce the position.

If only one or a few demonstrators become aggressive, the officer in charge of the isolating element will try to continue the maneuver, making sure his elements don't get overwhelmed and become the target or focus of the demonstration.

The level of violent resistance beyond which the lifting techniques can no longer be applied safely by the arrest elements will be assessed by the officer in charge of the tactic present on the spot.



Slides 12 and 13

In an enclosed area the isolating element will concentrate only where needed to separate sit in demonstrators from the rest of the crowd and prevent them from leaving freely the spot.

No matter how numerous the sit in demonstrators are, they will be removed from the circle one at a time. Lifting more than one at a time inside the isolating circle would no doubt bring confusion and chaos that would benefit the opponents.

Secondly, there must be absolutely no hurry in the practice of technique and in the movements of personal especially inside the isolated zone.

The strategy of demonstrators generally welcomes excessive use of force, they will act accordingly, feigning huge pain when barely touched and benefit from the media

exposure. Officers should anticipate such predictable behaviors and remember there rules of engagement and practice discipline and common sense.

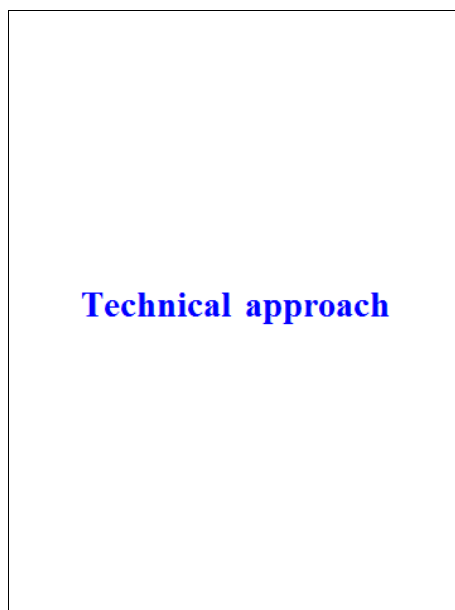
As shown on the enclosed area diagram the isolating cordon facing the crowd can be doubled with a less robust line of buddy teams facing the sit in.

The handover of a demonstrator between an arrest buddy team and a collect buddy team will always occur outside the circle.

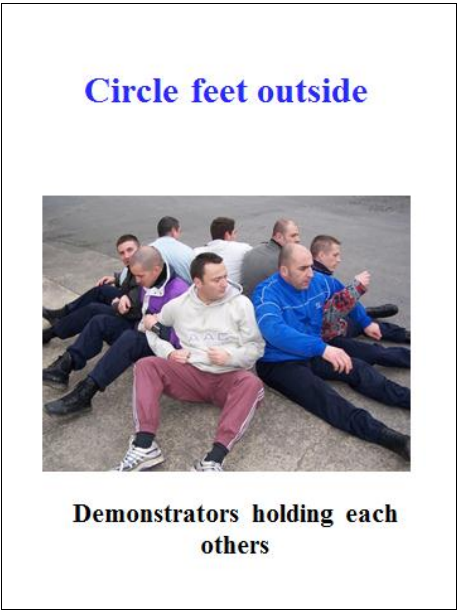
For each ring of sit in demonstrator, the tactic officer in charge will indicate to the arrest buddy team the potential weakest demonstrator from whom they will start. The first pair will move the weak demonstrator's neighbors aside and then the second pair will lift him. The first buddy team will remain in position, each of them applying a control technique on the protestor they previously moved aside, thus preventing the chain to reform as a ring. Then they will both wait for another buddy pair to assist them. The next coming buddy pairs will alternately assist the element on one end of the chain then for the next buddy team the one on the other end of the chain. From then on every pair will split: one element moves the next demonstrator aside and stays there while the other one lifts the first demonstrator in line forming a new pair with the arrest element who had previously stayed.

The tactic officer will keep in mind that arrest elements cannot stay endlessly squatting down or bending down applying a control technique on a demonstrator.

He is also the one responsible for the legality and behavior of the arrest teams work and hence can also decide to send a second team to assist the preceding one if needed.



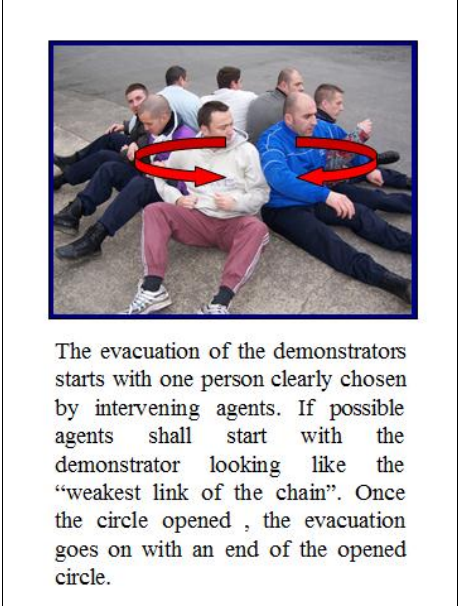
Slide 14



Slide 15

Slide 15 illustrates the case of demonstrators holding each other, feet outside of the circle.

In this situation, the technical approach is describes in the slides 16 to 19.

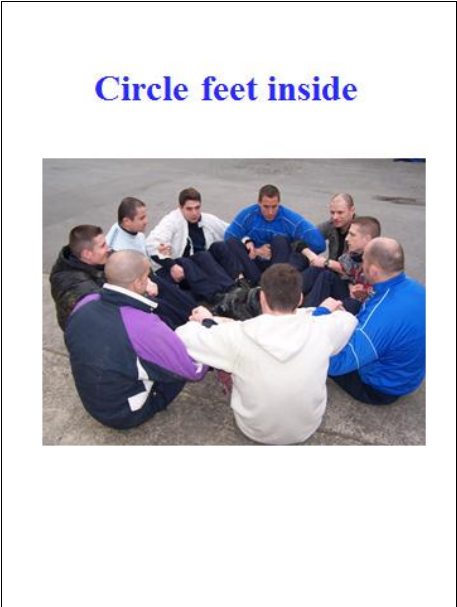




Slides 16 to 19

Circle with demonstrators' feet outside: the first intervening elements will push with their own leg against the legs of the demonstrators to move them aside in order to avoid any kick later. Then, each agent applies the technique as shown on the picture: external arm slipping under the demonstrator's arm and up to join both hands palms inside. By pushing back the demonstrator's arm and twist it upward it will create a painful shoulder lock that will force the demonstrator to stand up.

The officer in charge of pushing the next in line will push the subject's head aside to avoid any head strike and will place him in an uncomfortable position. This will help continue the movement while pulling the demonstrator's arm to break the link with the one currently being removed.



Slide 20

Slide 20 illustrates the case of demonstrators holding each other, feet outside of the circle.

In this situation, the technical approach is describes in the slides 21 to 25.





The evacuation of the demonstrators starts with one person clearly chosen by intervening agents. If possible agents shall start with the demonstrator looking like the “weakest link of the chain”. Once the circle opened , the evacuation goes on with an end of the opened circle.



Slides 21 to 25

When demonstrators are sitting with feet inside a different technique is require. The removal will start with the weakest demonstrator. Make a back lateral approach, squatting active guard, the agent’s inside back upper arm will push the demonstrator’s head aside in order to avoid any head strike but also to stretch his position. In the meantime, the agent’s outside arm slips from above the demonstrator’s arm down towards his back and pulls back. At the same time the agent’s inside knee applies firmly against the demonstrator’s muscle located in the middle of his back on each side of the spine. This pressure on the back muscle creates a pain that will force the demonstrator to release the locking of his arms.

Once this technique is applied on both sides of the protester, when he's completely released, he will be dragged a few paces away and applied any technique of control of a standing demonstrator.

The line



The evacuation of demonstrators starts with one end of the line.



Slides 26 to 29

Same techniques as the ones used for the circle with feet inside

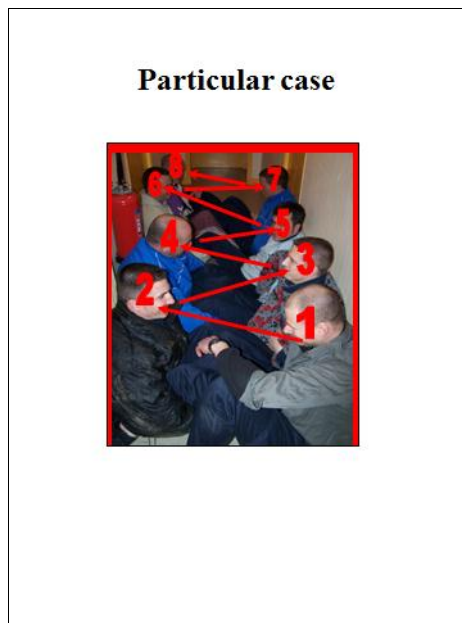
The line against a wall



The evacuation of the demonstrators starts with one end of the line.



Slides 30 to 34



Slide 35

In the case of staggered lines facing each other in an enclosed area, agents shall use the technique of the line against a wall alternating one line after the other.

Key points

Tactical:

- Weak point identification
- Work in buddy team
- Alternation work on both ends of the line of demonstrators
- Only one demonstrator removed at a time

Technical:

- Active guard (legs)
- Protection against kicks / head butts
- No haste

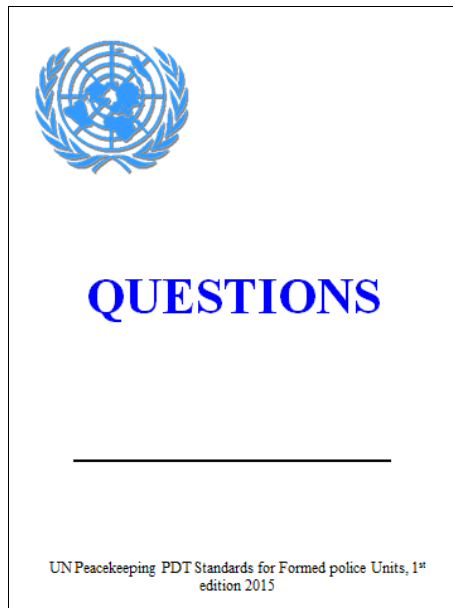
Slide 36

Summary

- Learning outcomes
- Tactical considerations
- Tactical approach
- Individual techniques

Slide 37

The officers should be given a summary of the key points of the lesson before being asked if they have any questions.



Slide 38

Lesson 2 – Sit-in (practical element)

There are seven hours of practice recommended for this subject which should be carried out at the discretion of the instructor. The practice should be in a realistic situation such as a public order village or 'ghost town' and a 'mob' crowd should be available to act in an appropriate manner where necessary armed with soft balls or similar projectiles.

The director of the exercise must assign one of the instructors to lead the mob crowd, in order to keep the exercise interactive and provide some security.

A security officer is assigned the specific duty to check all security related matters before, during and after the exercises.

A first aid kit must be kept on site with a qualified officer assigned to take care of the medical emergencies. All injuries have to be reported to the exercise director asap.