

TACTICAL RESCUE CHALLENGE® | OFFICIAL COMPETITION RULES

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1. OVERVIEW

Teams participating in the Tactical Rescue Challenge® (TRC) will face a series of events, drills, and scenarios requiring tactical, rescue, medical, firearms, fitness, problem-solving, and teamwork skills. The competition is intentionally physically and mentally demanding. Competitors should be prepared for prolonged physical exertion while performing complex tasks under stress, fatigue, time constraints, and changing operational conditions.

TRC events may include, but are not limited to:

- TCCC/TECC concepts and phases of care; casualty rescue, movement, and extraction techniques; and basic K9 TCCC/TECC concepts.
- Law enforcement and military tactical skills, tactical rescue operations, operational fitness, water operations, rescue swimming, and problem-solving under stress.
- Safe and effective employment of firearms, chemical agents, smoke, and distraction devices.
- Use of required personal protective equipment (PPE), including respiratory protection and gas masks, and decontamination procedures.
- Other tactical, medical, rescue, and physical challenges established by the TRC Director.

2. DEFINITIONS AND ROLES

COMPETITOR DEFINITIONS

Competitor: An individual participating as a member of a registered team.

Team: Two competitors participating as one competitive unit on behalf of an agency, department, military organization, or approved ad hoc group.

Team Leader: The team's designated representative and primary liaison with TRC staff for administrative matters, questions, protests, and appeals.

TRC STAFF AND OFFICIALS

TRC Director: The individual with overall authority for the Tactical Rescue Challenge®. The TRC Director is responsible for the planning, administration, safety, operation, and overall management of the competition. The TRC Director has final authority regarding competition operations, rule interpretations, event modifications, penalties, scoring disputes, disqualifications, and all matters affecting the safe and successful conduct of the Tactical Rescue Challenge®.

Operations Director: Coordinates the logistical and administrative operations of the Tactical Rescue Challenge®. Oversees volunteer coordination, equipment and supply management, competitor registration support, venue setup, and operational problem-solving while serving as the primary operational support to the TRC Director.

Competition Scoring Director: Responsible for the administration and oversight of the official competition scoring system, electronic scoring platforms, competitor registration, scoring tablets, score verification, results management, and publication of official event and overall competition results. Serves as the primary technical authority for all competition scoring operations and reports directly to the TRC Director.

TRC Event Coordinator: Responsible for coordinating, conducting, and managing assigned competition events. Duties include competitor and staff briefings, event setup, staff assignments, safety oversight, event boundaries, judging, timing, scoring oversight, and the overall execution of the event in accordance with TRC rules and procedures.

Range Safety Officer (RSO): Responsible for the safe operation and conduct of all firearms activities during assigned events. The Range Safety Officer issues all firearms range commands, directs competitors through the course of fire, ensures compliance with all firearms safety requirements, maintains control of the firing line, and, in most firearms events, operates the official shot timer or stopwatch used to record competitor times.

Event Support Staff: Individuals assigned to assist with the safe and efficient operation of the competition. Responsibilities may include judging, scoring, safety, logistics, event setup and reset, equipment management, administration, instruction, competitor support, and other operational duties as assigned by the TRC Director or TRC Event Coordinator.

Tactical Physician / Medical Director: A licensed physician or designated medical professional with appropriate tactical, military, rescue, or emergency medical experience responsible for providing medical oversight, consultation, emergency care, competitor evaluation, and medical guidance throughout the competition. The Tactical Physician or Medical Director may recommend or direct the removal of a competitor from participation when a medical or safety concern exists.

3. OVERALL SAFETY

The safety of competitors, staff, observers, host facilities, and the public is the highest priority of the Tactical Rescue Challenge® and takes precedence over scoring, event completion, scheduling, or competitive outcome.

- Competition and training locations will be controlled, marked, or restricted as necessary. Event-specific PPE and safety requirements will be briefed before participation.
- TRC staff will continuously monitor activities and may intervene, stop an event, redirect a competitor, or take other reasonable action necessary for safety.
- Any competitor or staff member may identify an unsafe condition and call for an event to stop. No competitor will be penalized solely for making a good-faith safety notification.
- The TRC Director or Event Coordinator may modify procedures, boundaries, equipment requirements, schedules, or formats when necessary for safety, weather, facility limitations, equipment failure, medical emergencies, fairness, or successful continuation of the competition.
- Unsafe conduct may result in correction, event stoppage, time penalty, DNF, removal from an event, or disqualification. Repeated unsafe conduct may result in removal from the competition.

4. TEAMS AND COMPETITOR REQUIREMENTS

- A team consists of two competitors. Substitution after competition begins is permitted only for injury, illness, or extraordinary circumstances and requires approval of the TRC Director, with medical consultation when appropriate.
- Teams must be registered before competition and all applicable fees must be paid or otherwise approved by the TRC Director.
- All competitors and other direct participants must complete all required waivers, releases, acknowledgments, and registration documents before participating in any TRC activity. No person may participate without completing the required documentation.
- Teams must report to designated staging or start locations when scheduled or called. Failure to report may result in a penalty, DNF, or disqualification unless exigent circumstances are promptly reported by the Team Leader and accepted by the TRC Director.
- Both competitors must participate in and complete required events unless otherwise specified. Failure to complete an event may result in a DNF.
- Either competitor may request that the team abort an event. Unless extraordinary circumstances are approved by the TRC Director, the team may not restart or resume the event.
- Only equipment, medical supplies, weapons, ammunition, and event materials authorized for that event may be used. Unauthorized equipment may result in a penalty, DNF, or disqualification depending on the circumstances and advantage obtained.
- Competitors should wear agency-approved uniforms. Mixed-agency or ad hoc teams shall wear attire suitable for tactical operations and should be generally uniform in appearance.
- Competitors are responsible for arriving with all required personal equipment in safe, serviceable condition. TRC staff may inspect and prohibit unsafe, damaged, or unauthorized equipment.

5. COMPETITION OPERATIONS

- The competition will occur on the officially posted date or dates. Reporting times, Team Leader briefings, start times, staging procedures, and movement schedules will be published or communicated before competition and may be changed when necessary.
- At least one representative from each team must attend every mandatory Team Leader meeting and competition briefing. Teams are responsible for all information provided during those meetings and briefings.
- Each event may have a maximum allowable time. When the maximum time is reached, the Event Coordinator may terminate the attempt and direct the team to the appropriate staging or recovery area.
- Team order, event rotation, starting sequence, and scheduling will be determined by the TRC Director or designee.

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- Out-of-bounds areas and event boundaries may be established by cones, tape, barricades, marked lines, physical structures, signage, or verbal instructions. Competitors are responsible for understanding and complying with those boundaries.
- Events, event order, start times, locations, equipment requirements, and procedures are subject to change due to safety, weather, facility restrictions, equipment failure, medical emergencies, operational requirements, or other unforeseen circumstances.

6. VEHICLE OPERATIONS SAFETY

- Only a designated non-competitor TRC staff member, generally a law enforcement officer or other approved driver, may operate a vehicle used during an event.
- Vehicles will not move until doors are closed and the Event Coordinator or designee authorizes movement.
- No person may exit a vehicle until it is fully stopped and the driver or Event Coordinator authorizes exit.
- For events involving firearms from or around a stationary or moving vehicle, competitors must follow all commands regarding loading, target engagement, movement, and making weapon systems safe.
- All additional firearms requirements for vehicle-based shooting are governed by the Tactical Rescue Challenge® Official Firearms Rules and Scoring Manual and the event briefing.

7. FORCE-ON-FORCE AND SCENARIO SAFETY

- No live firearms, live magazines, or live ammunition are permitted in designated force-on-force or scenario training areas unless specifically authorized for site security or another controlled purpose.
- Before entering a scenario area, live firearms, live magazines, live ammunition, knives, OC, Tasers, impact weapons, and similar prohibited items must be secured as directed. Competitors, staff, instructors, role players, and equipment may be checked or searched before entry.
- Competitors will inspect and clear their own weapon systems as directed. Team Leaders and TRC staff may conduct additional verification before entry.
- When directed, rifles will be configured with approved force-on-force conversion components. Competitors must bring any required components identified in pre-event instructions.
- TRC instructors or designated staff will control approved force-on-force ammunition and confirm that weapon systems are properly configured before use.
- Where an event requires movement through an area with a rifle lacking an operational bolt carrier group or otherwise rendered incapable of firing, competitors will follow the Event Coordinator's instructions. Persons or areas identified as off-limits are not part of the scenario and shall not be engaged.
- All required force-on-force PPE must remain properly worn until TRC staff specifically authorize its removal.
- Competitors shall avoid firing force-on-force projectiles within five feet of a subject unless the Event Coordinator provides a different event-specific safety standard based on the approved equipment and protective systems in use.
- For designated scenarios, competitors may be required to use their own gas masks as face protection. All event-specific PPE instructions remain mandatory.

8. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, QUESTIONS, AND APPEALS

- The Team Leader is the sole official representative of the team for questions, penalties, scoring disputes, and appeals during the competition.
- Questions regarding a penalty or decision must be presented professionally to the Event Coordinator within 10 minutes after the team completes the event. The Event Coordinator will respond as soon as reasonably practical, with the goal of responding within 10 minutes when operational conditions allow.
- The Team Leader may appeal the Event Coordinator's decision to the TRC Director within 10 minutes of receiving that decision.
- The decision of the TRC Director is final.
- Arguing with staff, abusive conduct, threats, intimidation, deliberate disruption, or continued unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. Depending on severity, the TRC Director may issue a warning, assess a 30-second penalty, assess additional 30-second penalties for continued misconduct, or remove an individual or team from the competition.
- Nothing in this section prevents any person from immediately reporting a legitimate safety concern.

9. PROPERTY, FACILITIES, AND EVENT EQUIPMENT

- Competitors, staff, and spectators shall treat host facilities, buildings, vehicles, ranges, training aids, equipment, and surrounding property respectfully.
- No person may intentionally damage, misuse, alter, remove, or destroy property unless the action is specifically required and authorized as part of an event.
- Any damage must be reported immediately to the Event Coordinator or TRC staff. Intentional, reckless, or unauthorized damage may result in penalties, disqualification, removal from the competition, and responsibility for repair or replacement costs.
- Teams must remove personal equipment, trash, ammunition packaging, medical training materials, and other debris from staging and competition areas when directed.

10. COMPETITION INTEGRITY AND OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

- Once a team begins an event, competitors may not receive unauthorized coaching, information, equipment, or physical assistance from spectators, other teams, or unauthorized personnel.
- Cheating, intentional misrepresentation, manipulation of scoring, tampering with equipment or targets, or any deliberate attempt to gain an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in penalties, DNF, or disqualification.
- Teams that have completed an event shall not intentionally provide protected event details, solutions, target locations, scenario information, or other information that would create an unfair advantage for teams that have not completed the event.

11. MEDICAL AUTHORITY

- Competitor health and safety take priority over competition results.
- The TRC Director, Event Coordinator, designated medical personnel, or Tactical Physician/Medical Director may stop a competitor's participation when a reasonable safety or medical concern exists.
- A competitor may be required to undergo medical evaluation before continuing. Medical restrictions or removals issued for safety reasons must be followed.
- Any competitor substitution following injury or illness requires approval of the TRC Director, with consultation from designated medical personnel when appropriate.

12. ALTERNATE INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN UNARMED TEAM MEMBER

A team may have a maximum of one member whose normal agency or occupational role is unarmed. When applicable:

- The unarmed member may be required to carry a rifle or training weapon for event consistency, as directed by the Event Coordinator.
- The unarmed member shall comply with applicable agency policy and event instructions regarding exposure to risk, including remaining behind the last appropriate point of cover or concealment until conditions permit movement forward.
- Event-specific instructions will govern any required firearms or force-on-force participation.
- The unarmed member must still wear all other required uniforms and personal protective equipment (PPE).

13. ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND IMPAIRMENT

- Alcohol is prohibited at the competition for competitors and spectators.
- No competitor may participate while impaired by alcohol, illegal drugs, misuse of medication, or any substance that may negatively affect safe performance or judgment.
- Any person reasonably believed to be impaired may be removed from the competition area or prohibited from participating at the discretion of the TRC Director.

14. FIREARMS RULES AND SCORING ADDENDUM

All firearms-specific safety requirements, range procedures, range commands, shooting boundaries, target engagement requirements, target scoring, penalties, and related competition procedures are governed by the separate Tactical Rescue Challenge® Official Firearms Rules and Scoring Manual.

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The Tactical Rescue Challenge® Official Firearms Rules and Scoring Manual is incorporated into these Official Competition Rules as an addendum and applies to all firearms-related portions of the Tactical Rescue Challenge®. Competitors are responsible for understanding and complying with both documents, together with all event-specific briefings and lawful safety commands.

Force-on-force and scenario-area safety requirements contained in these Official Competition Rules remain applicable in addition to any relevant provisions of the firearms addendum.

15. FINAL AUTHORITY AND RULE MODIFICATIONS

The TRC Director and staff strive to provide a safe, fair, and consistent competition for all teams. Competition-wide modifications to these rules will be communicated before implementation when reasonably practical and will be applied consistently to affected teams.

The TRC Director retains final authority to interpret these rules, resolve disputes, modify or cancel events, assess penalties, order a DNF, disqualify competitors or teams, and take other reasonable action necessary for safety, fairness, and successful operation of the Tactical Rescue Challenge®.