



Policy Name:	TRAINING STANDARDS – USE OF FORCE		
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RELATED POLICIES

OP 2.1 *Use of Force*

1. PURPOSE

1.1. To ensure that all sworn Surrey Police Service (SPS) Members comply with the British Columbia *Provincial Policing Standards* (BCPPS) regarding use of force qualification for Firearms, intermediate weapons, physical control, and Crisis Intervention and De-escalation techniques and training.

2. SCOPE

2.1. This policy applies to all SPS Members.

3. POLICY

3.1. The BCPPS establish the qualifying standards for Firearms, intermediate weapons, and use of force models and techniques for all police organizations in British Columbia.

3.2. Members authorized to carry and use one or more Firearms (e.g., pistol, carbine, shotgun, rifles, and launcher) must be qualified in its/their use annually.

3.3. Members authorized to carry and use the Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) must recertify in its use annually.

3.4. Members must pass the Qualification Standard for the use of Vascular Neck Restraint (VNR) annually.

3.5. Members must pass the Qualification Standard for oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray and baton every three (3) years.

- 3.6. Members must pass the Qualification Standard for the use of Restraints every three (3) years.
- 3.7. Members authorized to carry and use a Firearm must pass the Qualification Standard for Crisis Intervention and De-escalation (CID) Training course every three (3) years.
- 3.8. The SPS will follow the Canadian National Use of Force Framework (NUFF) for use of force training.

4. PROCEDURE

Firearms

- 4.1. Only Members who have been trained and qualified by a Firearms instructor certified by the B.C. Police Academy or other recognized instructor training as the discretion of the of the Chief Constable, and who have demonstrated proficiency in the use of any SPS authorized Firearm shall be authorized to carry and use the Firearms.
- 4.2. For the pistol, Members must pass the BC Pistol Qualification as set out in the *BC Provincial Policing Standards*.
- 4.3. Upon receiving Firearms training, the Member will be given three attempts to pass the Qualification Standard. If the Member fails to pass the Qualification Standard after three attempts, they will be deemed non-deployable and must return on another day and re-test on the entire qualification course of fire.
- 4.4. For the carbine, shotgun, rifle, and launcher, Members must pass the SPS Qualification Standard as set out by the Operational Skills Unit.
- 4.5. Members who fail to qualify on any of these other Firearms continue to be operationally deployable. However, they cannot carry or use the associated Firearm until they have passed the associated SPS Qualification Standard.
- 4.6. Members are prohibited from carrying or using any other Firearms unless authorized by the Chief Constable.
- 4.7. Members are required to maintain their SPS Firearm qualifications when on secondment to another police agency and are also required to qualify and maintain their qualifications on any Firearms issued by that police agency.
- 4.8. Only ammunition issued by the Operational Skills Unit is to be used in SPS issued and approved Firearms.
- 4.9. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that written records are maintained of the Firearms qualification test completed by each Member including:

- i. the date;
- ii. the identity of the Member;
- iii. the testing conducted and the testing results; and
- iv. the name of the qualifying instructor.

4.10. The Operational Skills Unit will maintain a current record of:

- i. Firearms including respective serial numbers;
- ii. to whom the Firearm is issued;
- iii. Firearms currently stored and available for issue to new Members or as temporary replacements for Firearms needing repair or seized for investigative reasons; and
- iv. all temporarily issued Firearms.

4.11. Any Member authorized to carry and use a Firearm must comply with BCPPS CID Training.

4.12. Members are required to qualify annually with their Firearms. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that written records are maintained documenting the requalification date and status, and the type of Firearm, including make and model.

4.13. Any Member authorized to carry and use a Firearm is required, every three (3) years at a minimum articulate to the satisfaction of a use-of-force instructor as to when lethal force is justified; complete practice training, as determined by the SPS, regarding Firearms tactics and use-of-force decision making, as well as shooting at distances of 25 metres and greater.

4.14. Members will at all times and without exception obey the instructions of the Firearm Instructors while at a Firearms range, including the instructions on the use of safety equipment.

4.15. At the discretion of the Firearm Instructors, Members may discharge previously issued ammunition during qualification, and new ammunition may be issued to Members immediately following qualification.

Intermediate Weapons

4.16. The Operational Skills Unit is responsible for ensuring training and that every Member authorized to carry and use a specific intermediate weapon has successfully qualified to do so.

4.17. Any Member authorized to begin training as a CEW operator must:

- i. successfully complete provincially approved training in Crisis Intervention and De-escalation within the previous three years; and
- ii. meet the selection criteria established by the CEW operator training.

4.18. Members may only carry and use the following, if qualified every three (3) years or as otherwise required by the BCPPS:

- i. oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray;
- ii. Extended Range Impact Weapons; and
- iii. impact weapons.

4.19. The Operational Skills Unit must maintain an up-to-date inventory of all SPS authorized Extended Range Impact Weapons, CEW and CEW probe cartridges.

4.20. The Operational Skills Unit must ensure that any Member authorized to carry and use a CEW is recertified by reviewing the topics contained in BC's CEW Operator Training course, or other provincially-approved training for CEW operators, and passing the final assessment or a provincially-approved equivalent of the final assessment:

- i. At least once each year; and
- ii. Any time a police force determines, for any reason, that a CEW operator has not operated a CEW in accordance with any of the BC *Provincial Policing Standards*.

4.21. Members whose CEW certification has lapsed must not use the CEW operationally until the recertification training has been completed.

4.22. WorkSafe BC regulations prohibit employees voluntarily being subject to application of the CEW, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray or impact weapons, and no SPS volunteer or Member of the public is to be permitted to participate in voluntary exposure to the same, except when inert application of the weapons is authorized for training purposes.

4.23. An extended range impact weapon operator training course may only be taught by a certified instructor, who has been certified by a recognized training institution approved by the Deputy Chief Constable.

4.24. CEW operator training courses may only be taught by a certified use-of-force instructor or equivalent, as per the BCPPS.

4.25. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that written records are maintained, documenting the training, requalification courses completed and certification status of each Member of the SPS for extended range impact weapon and other intermediate weapons, including CEWs.

4.26. The Operational Skills Unit is responsible for internal CEW incident monitoring that includes:

- i. ensuring that, for every CEW use of force incident there is both an operational CEW download report and a use of force report;
- ii. accounting for any discrepancies between the operational CEW download report and the use of force report;

- iii. ensuring that for each CEW there is, at minimum, an annual administrative download conducted and that a record of that downloaded data is maintained on file;
- iv. on at least a quarterly basis conducting an internal review of CEW controls and the use of CEWs by Members to determine compliance with the BCPPS and the SPS's policies and procedures, and to identify potential training or policy development issues; and examining and documenting, both at the Member level and for the police force overall:
 - a) the circumstances and manner in which CEWs are being used (e.g., imminent bodily harm threshold, number and duration of cycles); and
 - b) the reporting of CEW use by Members.

4.27. The Operational Skills Unit must submit annually a written report to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Surrey Police Board that must include:

- i. aggregate counts of CEW displays and operational discharges; and,
- ii. a summary of the quarterly reviews conducted as per Monitoring and Review above.

Crisis Intervention

4.28. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that all Members authorized to carry and use a Firearm have successfully completed BC's Crisis Intervention and De-escalation (CID) Training course, or other provincially-approved training in crisis intervention and de-escalation.

4.29. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that all Members authorized to carry and use a Firearm who have completed the CID Training course, or other provincially-approved training in crisis intervention and de-escalation, have updated their skills by successfully completing a provincially-approved training course once every three years.

4.30. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that written records are maintained of the CID training completed by each SPS Member.

Restraints

4.31. The Operational Skills Unit is responsible for ensuring training and that every Member authorized to carry and use a Restraint specified in BCPPS 1.2.3. Appendix "A" has successfully qualified to do so.

4.32. Members qualified to carry and use a Restraint must requalify every three (3) years.

4.33. The Operational Skills Unit will ensure that written records are maintained of the Restraint training and requalification courses completed by SPS Members.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

“BCPPS” means the British Columbia *Provincial Policing Standards* issued pursuant to the *Police Act*.

“Conducted Energy Weapon” or “CEW” means a weapon designed to use a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person, or to generate compliance through pain.

“Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation” or “CID” means verbal and non-verbal communication techniques applied to seek to prevent the requirement to use force.

“Disposable Restraint Device” means designed to be a back-up Handcuffs and a fast means of securing prisoners in a mass arrest situation. These one-time use Handcuffs can be made from various materials and are disposable after one use as they must be cut from the subject’s wrists using an appropriate cutting tool.

“Extended Range Impact Weapons” (also includes Kinetic Energy Impact Projectile) means a device firing a special projectile designed to gain compliance, overcome resistance, or prevent serious Injury or death. It includes flexible or non-flexible projectiles, which are intended to gain compliance or incapacitate a subject through pain compliance, with a reduced potential for causing death or serious Injury when properly used.

“Firearm” means a barrelled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other projectile can be discharged and that is capable of causing serious bodily harm or death to a person.

“Handcuffs” means Restraint devices designed to secure an individual's wrists in proximity to each other. Comprised of two ring-shaped cuffs, linked together by a short chain. Each cuff has a rotating arm which engages with a ratchet that prevents it from being opened once closed around a person’s wrist. Once applied, the cuff can only be removed by key.

“Intermediate Weapon” or “Less Lethal Weapon” means a weapon whose normal use is not intended or likely to cause serious Injury or death, including Extended Range Impact Weapons, aerosols, and Conducted Energy Weapons.

“Less Lethal Force” means a degree of force, including the use of intermediate weapons, which is not intended or likely to cause serious Injury or death.

“Member” means a sworn Police Officer appointed by the Surrey Police Board.

“NCO” means non-commissioned officer and includes the rank of Sergeant and Staff Sergeant or a Member acting in that role.

“Physical (Hard and Soft) Control Tactics” means techniques of applying force to control a person without use of a weapon, with soft tactics (e.g., Restraint techniques, joint locks, non-resistant Handcuffing) intended to control a person’s behavior with a lower probability of causing Injury, and hard tactics (e.g., empty hand strikes/punches, kicks) intended to stop a person’s behaviour and having a higher probability of causing Injury.

“Restraint” means any mechanical device or system that when used in its ordinary and intended manner restricts the normal physical activity or range of motion of an individual in part or in whole.

“Spit Hood/Mask” means a device intended to cover the mouth, face and sometimes the head of a restrained person in order to prevent them spitting bodily fluids at or biting others.

“Supervisor” means a Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Inspector, Superintendent, Deputy Chief Constable, Chief Constable, and any other person acting in a supervisory capacity who is accountable for a particular area or shift on behalf of SPS.

“Vascular Neck Restraint” means a physical control technique which applies compression of the vascular tissue along the lateral aspects of the neck, which results in temporary decreased cerebral blood flow, and may result in temporary loss of consciousness.

APPENDIX B: REFERENCES

British Columbia *Provincial Policing Standards*

BC Ministry of Justice SBOR Provincial Reporting Requirements – FAQs (January 1, 2014)

BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Letter on Use of Force Reporting and SBOR Evaluation Report (July 7, 2011)

Criminal Code, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-46

National Use of Force Framework (NUFF) and Crisis-Intervention and De-escalation Techniques Model

Police Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 367

Subject Behaviour Officer Response Reporting Lesson Plan – Justice Institute of British Columbia (May 2009)