

CADET UNIFORM POLICY

(Revised September 2009)

Sarasota Military Academy is, as the name implies, an institution where military traditions and customs are an important part of the academic experience. Cadets enrolled in JROTC will be furnished with uniforms at no cost, but they are required to wear and care for the uniforms properly. The uniform will be worn in accordance with the standards outlined in U.S. Army Cadet Command Regulation 145-2. When the uniform is worn, it will be worn completely and not mixed with civilian clothing or without required items such as belts, neck tabs, nametags, etc...The uniform will always be worn during regular school hours, unless permission is given by your JROTC instructor for exceptional circumstances.

Cadets and parents must understand that this is a US Army uniform, as modified, and **must be worn with proper respect**. Cadets may not play sports while in the Class B uniform, nor may they engage in any conduct that would bring embarrassment or disgrace to the uniform or the Army. Further, the uniform may not be worn to promote political causes or at partisan political organizations' events. You may not wear the Class B uniform while performing fund-raising activities.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF UNIFORM ITEMS

Standards to be met while in uniform include maintaining the uniform in a clean and serviceable condition. The shirts may be washed, dried, and ironed (sizing/starch is recommended). Trousers and slacks **MUST BE DRY CLEANED** and may not be washed. Shoes should be cleaned/shined with Windex spray or furniture polish spray (such as Pledge). Dirt can be removed from the side edge with a small brush (put some black shoe polish on it to restore the color of the shoe edge, as dirt and dust collect there). Only calf-length black socks may be worn with the Class B Uniform.

After initial issue of all uniforms and hemming of both pairs of pants, it is the parents'/cadet's responsibility to properly maintain the uniforms. This includes dry cleaning, sewing on lost buttons, necessary mending, replacement of broken zippers, and repair of torn/loose hems. Only when a cadet outgrows an issued uniform item will he/she have the item replaced at no cost.

MALE HAIRCUT AND SHAVING STANDARDS

Males are not required to have military haircuts; however, male cadets must keep their hair trimmed so as to present a neat appearance and so that the bulk is not excessive. Further, the hair must not touch the ears or the collar of the Class B shirt. In any case, the length cannot exceed 2 inches. Also, inappropriate styles that result in shaved portions of the scalp (other than the neckline) or designs cut into the hair are prohibited. The beret must sit naturally on the head. Males will be clean-shaven; however, they may have sideburns. If worn, sideburns will not extend below the **bottom of the ear opening**. Mustaches are permitted; if worn, males will keep mustaches neatly trimmed, tapered, and tidy. No portion of the mustache will cover the upper lip line or extend sideways beyond the corners of the mouth.

FEMALE HAIR STANDARDS

Many female hairstyles are acceptable, as long as they are neat and conservative. Extreme, eccentric, or trendy haircuts or hairstyles are not authorized. If cadets use dyes, tints or bleaches, they must choose those that result in natural hair colors. Additionally, females will ensure that hair is neatly groomed, that the length and bulk of the hair are not excessive, and that the hair does not present a ragged, unkempt, or extreme appearance. Females may wear braids as long as the braided style is conservative, the braids lie closely on the head, and any hair-holding devices comply with the standards below.

Hair will not fall over the eyebrows or extend below the bottom edge of the collar. Long hair that falls naturally below the bottom edge of the collar, to include braids, will be **neatly and inconspicuously fastened or pinned**, so no free-hanging hair is visible. Styles that are lopsided or distinctly unbalanced are prohibited. Pony tails, pig tails, or braids that are not secured to the head (allowing hair to hang freely), widely spaced individual hanging locks, and other extreme styles that protrude from the head are prohibited. Females will ensure that hairstyles do not interfere with proper wear of the beret.

Hair-holding devices are authorized only for the purpose of securing the hair. **Cadets will not place hair-holding devices in the hair for decorative purposes.** All hair-holding devices must be plain and of a color as close to the cadet's hair as is possible or clear (e.g., a blonde may wear brown or clear hair-holding devices). Authorized devices include, but are not limited to, barrettes, combs, pins, clips, or elastic bands. Devices that are conspicuous, excessive, or decorative are prohibited. Some examples of prohibited devices include, but are not limited to, "scrunchies," beads, bows, claw-clips, headbands, and barrettes with butterflies, flowers, sparkles, gems, or scalloped edges or in colors not closely matching the hair.

JEWELRY STANDARDS

While in Class B uniform, females may wear one small (no more than ¼" in diameter) stud-type earring in each ear. The earring can only be worn in the ear lobe (if there are multiple piercings, the earring must be worn in the lowest piercing). Earrings may be gold, silver, white pearl, or diamond. Hoop style or dangling earrings are not authorized. Males are not authorized to wear earrings while in uniform.

Additionally, face piercing of any type (nose, eyebrow, lip, tongue, etc.) is strictly prohibited for all cadets. **Cadets who get new piercings during the school year that are not in compliance with the uniform policy will be asked to remove the stud(s) immediately; they cannot be covered up by Band-Aids, etc...If you desire to get a piercing that is not authorized in uniform, we suggest you get it during the summer months, so it has time to heal and doesn't necessitate a stud earring to keep it open.**

Both males and females may wear necklaces IF they are **not visible** in Class B uniform. No bracelets are allowed while in uniform. Both males and females may wear one ring per hand and a wrist watch. Jewelry should not be gaudy, as this detracts from the appearance of the uniform.

FEMALE COSMETIC AND NAILPOLISH STANDARDS

Females may wear cosmetics and nail polish if they are conservative and complement the uniform and their complexion. Eccentric, exaggerated, or trendy cosmetic styles and colors are inappropriate with the uniform and are prohibited. Some examples of extreme lipstick and nail polish colors include, but are not limited to, purple, gold, silver, blue, black, white, red, khaki, camouflage colors, fluorescent colors, glitter, and painted designs. Nails are to be neatly trimmed and not to exceed ½” to the tip of the finger.

BLACK JROTC JACKET

The Black JROTC jacket is the ONLY jacket that may be worn with the Army Class B or SMA Polo Uniform. **The jacket may NOT be worn with civilian clothes or PT uniform.** When worn, the jacket will be zipped up in front, and both sleeves will be worn down. You will be directed when wear of the jacket is mandatory at formations (during the colder months), and when the jacket may no longer be worn at formations. No other civilian clothing articles may be worn under the JROTC jacket if they are visible. **“Hoodies” are prohibited**, as the hoods are impossible to properly hide underneath the JROTC jacket. During formation, plain black gloves may be worn with the jacket when the weather dictates.

BERETS

You must use a disposable razor to shave the fuzz off of your beret. It will then need to be shaped. This is done by getting it wet, forming it to your head, and molding it into the proper shape. We’ll show you how to do this in class, but you will be expected to continue the work at home until your beret is to standard.

MEDALS AND RIBBONS

As you start to earn ribbons and/or medals, be advised that you can’t wear them together; you wear EITHER your medals OR your ribbons, but NOT BOTH.

SMA POLO UNIFORM STANDARDS

On Fridays, cadets have an option to wear the polo uniform, consisting of the SMA polo shirt, navy blue pants or shorts, blue belt, and sneakers (**not boat shoes, boots, or dress shoes**) with **white, ankle-high socks (must be visible)**. The polo shirt and belt must be purchased at Children’s World. **The sneakers cannot be excessive in style or color.** The same rules regarding the wearing of jewelry, make-up, nail polish, and hair devices apply with the SMA polo uniform as with the Army Class B uniform; however, female cadets may wear their hair down when in the SMA polo uniform on Fridays. **If the polo uniform is worn on any other day but Friday, with permission for exceptional circumstances, female cadets may NOT wear their hair down. Open-toe shoes are prohibited on campus at all times.**

The proper wear of the SMA polo uniform is governed by SMA. The proper wear of Army uniforms (where, when, and how) is governed by the United States Army.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of the uniform policy will result in lowering of the JROTC grade, disciplinary action, and/or loss of the privilege of wearing the polo uniform on Fridays. If a cadet is missing a uniform item, they will be required to buy/rent the item at the school store or have the item brought to them at school. If a student does not have money to pay for the necessary rental or purchase, a signed "I.O.U" will be required, and this debt will have to be paid prior to the end of each quarter, along with any other fees owed for books, etc...

REMEMBER:
***YOU WEAR A MODIFIED VERSION
OF THE UNIFORM OF THE
UNITED STATES ARMY***



***WEAR IT WITH
PRIDE and RESPECT!***

(If not for yourself, then for the Soldiers who deserve your respect!)