

# Ben Newton Memorial Civil War Event -- May 2, 3, 4, 2008

## Rules & Regulations

Dear Participant,

The Civil War reenactment at Newtown Battlefield State Park has grown from a little event to one of the finest in New York State. The re-enactors have made this possible and we wish to thank all of those who have helped us in the past. Please read our guidelines and rules. These are for increased safety, and the benefit of the re-enactors who have been loyal to the hobby of re-enacting and those who wish to see history portrayed in an authentic way. Re-enactors, who travel long distances, deserve to find an authentic event.

The Native American Village is off limits during this event except for guided tours.

### **PARKING AND TRAFFIC**

1. No vehicles, other than event/park vehicles are allowed to use the Main road, through the battlefield and camps after 9 AM Saturday to 4 PM on Sunday. If you arrive after 9 AM on Saturday, plan to walk your gear in.
2. **If you plan on leaving the park during the event, you need to park on the service road.** No parking will be allowed at the Native American Village. Additional parking will be on one side only of the road heading to North Park and in North Park, however vehicles parked here will remain here until pack up time on Sunday afternoon.
3. All cars must be moved by 9 AM Saturday morning to the parking areas.
4. **Your parking permit must be filled out and displayed in the dash of your car, as soon as you leave registration.**
5. After you have registered, you will move your vehicle to be unloaded at your chosen place of camping. Once you have finished unloading your gear from vehicle, **you must move it to one of the designated parking areas immediately**, to reduce congestion on the main road between the battlefield and the camps, to allow others a place to park and unload. **This will be enforced.** Likewise, on Sunday, once your gear is loaded in your vehicle, you must move it from this main road again, immediately. **On Friday night, no vehicles will be allowed to remain on this road overnight.**

### **REGISTRATION**

All Re-enactors must stop at registration upon arriving at the event, before moving to the camps. If you arrive after registration closes on Thursday or Friday night, you must register first thing the next morning.

Registration will close at noon on Saturday. If you are unable to make it to the event before noon, you must make arrangements with Cheryl Fedorchak (607-797-6473) [cwbuffjf@juno.com](mailto:cwbuffjf@juno.com).

\*\*Registrations postmarked after April 15th will be charged the walk-on fee when unit members register.

### **BREAKFAST**

Due to the increased cost of hosting the Sunday morning breakfast, breakfast will only be served to preregistered units. Units/individuals will be issued the tickets upon arrival at registration based on the number of breakfasts requested on the area on the registration form.

### **CANDLELIGHT TOUR SCENARIOS - 8 PM to 11:30 PM (approximate hours)**

1. Please register all Candlelight Tour Scenarios with the registration tent to help prevent duplication of scenarios and to receive information regarding the scenarios. There is a slight change in procedure this year.
2. No drunken or fighting scenes please. No drinking of alcoholic beverages allowed during public hours. Persons who become disruptive and unruly during the event or Candlelight Tours may be subject to expulsion from the event and future events.
3. If you are not participating in the Candlelight Tours, please have respect for others around you, and keep your voices down while tours are going through. No persons allowed in camp during the Tours unless in Period Dress.

## WEAPONS & BATTLEFIELD RULES

**Due to the laws of New York State parks and Recreation, no loaded revolvers will be allowed on site during the event, and subsequently, no discharging of revolvers allowed during battles.**

1. **No one under 16 will carry weapons on the field.** No one under 16 allowed on the field unless as a functional musician and with field commander permission. Persons under 16 are not to be involved in the active fighting. Any under age person will be asked to leave the field. Failure to comply may cause your unit to be asked to leave.
2. Muskets should be Springfield or Enfield 3 banders. Two band rifles will only be used at the discretion of the field commanders, and only used in the front ranks. No non-period weapons will be accepted. No Shotguns. Officers, Cavalry, or Artillery NCOs only will carry pistol. No individual will be allowed more than 2 pistols.
3. No unit may fix bayonets on the field with the exception of stacking arms. This rule is not flexible. No use of ramrods on the field is permitted. No tampions permitted at any time. Weapons will not be grounded, period.
4. Cartridges will be of proper loads. 60 grains max for rifles, 25 grains max for pistols. Paper should be of proper color, no newspaper etc. No staples, or tape. Cartridges may be inspected at any time; failure to comply may result in you and your unit's expulsion from this event and future events. No live rounds period.
5. Unit commanders are responsible for their units conduct on the field, and will be held accountable. All soldiers taking the field will do so with a filled canteen.
6. No unscripted hand to hand combat or taking of flags, unless prearranged
7. No more than one National and one battle flag permitted on the field per battalion.
8. No unit suicide charges will be permitted.
9. No vulgarities on the field or in camp. The public is close all the time.
10. **Artillery: Due to the laws of New York State Parks and Recreation, there will be a 5 minute delay between discharges of artillery pieces.**
  - a. **No one under the age of 16** is permitted to work on or around the field pieces
  - b. Will use proper signals for misfires etc.
  - c. Will not fire on troops when in a danger zone
  - d. No smoking within 30 yards of the guns or their ammunition chests.
  - e. Proper firing devices will be used, no cigars, etc. If this is observed you will be asked to leave the event.
  - f. No false signs of misfires etc. (This has been done in the past)
  - g. Artillery certification must be presented if asked for by the Commanding officers or the Safety officers.

## CAMPS

1. No "reserving" camp areas. Your unit must send an advance party to set up the tentage. No areas may be marked off or saved.
2. Wall and A tents will be located in the 'Garrison Camp'. Those who want to camp "campaign" style may camp elsewhere if desired, asked at registration.
3. Camps are under the direction of the overall commanders or field commanders. Or an individual they may appoint. These folks have final say in the camps.
4. Units with less than 10 members will be asked to share a company street and will be brigaded with those units. This will help to give a better camp impression and field impression.
5. Quiet hours are 12 AM each night. Please stay quiet after this time. Remember some reenactors have long drives ahead of them on Sunday.
6. In military camps there will be one fire pit per company street. All fire pits will have water buckets by them at all times. No trash is to be placed into the pits, and pits must be filled in before you leave camp Sunday.
7. No colors in the company streets. All colors will be placed on the officer's row. No national colors later than 1<sup>st</sup> National. No flags made of nylon, rayon, etc. will be used. If your unit does, be prepared to show proof of this fact. Camp commanders reserve the right to ask that non-period flags be removed.
8. Please protect your personal property. The event hosts or organizers are not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please keep your vehicles locked at all times.
9. **NO DRUGS OR EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION.** This will not be tolerated and will be turned over to the local authorities. Any infractions of this rule may result in the expulsion of you and your unit

from this and future events.

10. As straw is free, we ask that you use only ¼ bail per person. **Please gather your units' hay and straw into piles after the camps are torn down.**
11. All trash to be bagged and left at the roadside for collection.
12. Dogs must be kept under control, and on some sort of period leash.

## **AUTHENTICITY**

1. Authenticity will be enforced. We are here to educate the paying public and ourselves. Many reenactors and spectators come from long distances for this event and deserve to participate in an authentic environment. Non-authenticity will be asked to change into proper 19<sup>th</sup> century clothing. If they do not, they will be asked to leave the event. No one should be seen in the camps during public hours (including candle light tours), in sweat pants, jeans, etc. Event co-coordinators will appoint a person who will be the final say in matters concerning authenticity. They will be permitted to conduct walk through inspections. Persons with out of the norm impressions should bring documentation. Federal uniforms should be light or dark blue wool pants. Dark blue woollack, shell or frock coat. Proper headgear for your unit, no straw hats.
2. Confederate uniforms should be of gray or butternut wool. Jeans cloth or period cotton.
3. Shirts should be wool, cotton, or muslin. White or gray military issue, or civilian made calico or solid print. No plastic buttons. No t-shirts, modern flannel or other modern shirts will be permitted. Socks should be solid color wool or cotton. No athletic socks.
4. Footwear should be brogans, in a pinch, black desert or combat boots will be accepted, no metal eyelets.
5. Accouterments should be the usual leather gear. Cartridge box, waist belt, cap box, haversack, and canteen. Proper box and belt plates should be used. Suspenders should be proper period issue.
6. Eyewear should be as close to period as possible. No modern eyeglasses unless absolutely necessary. No sunglasses unless documented.
7. Camp equipment should be proper to the time period. No air mattress, sleeping bags, tarps or coolers should be visible.
8. If you smoke, please use a pipe or cigar. Cigarettes were considered feminine. No smoking in the ranks (unless given orders to smoke) or around the artillery. This has been witnessed in the past.
9. Civilians should be properly dressed at ALL TIMES. No hoop skirts around the fire. No nail polish, wristwatches, or 20<sup>th</sup> century makeup. Ladies hair should be confined in a snood, cap, hat, or bonnet. Adult women should have their arms, shoulders, chest and legs covered during the day. Proper footwear is expected.

## **DRESS PARADE AND DRILL**

Both Armies will conduct dress parade on both Saturday and Sunday in their designated areas. All units will participate in Dress Parade; failure to participate may exclude your unit from the battle scenarios. Drill will be held at the company level and at the battalion level. Failure to participate in drill may exclude your unit's participation in the battles. Units are required to drill for safety. Please discuss any questions/concerns with your Field Commander.

## **HORSES, DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS**

Horse must have proper paperwork – Coggins and Rabies.

Dogs must have proof of rabies or they will not be let into the event. All animals must have adequate food and water during the weekend. Owners must provide their own feed. Please keep the horses off the trails used by pedestrians.

As the event continues to grow, safety remains a key element in organizing and running an event. As event organizers, we are not willing take the risk associated with the carelessness and unsafe practices that occasionally arise at reenactments. Our guidelines are for the benefit of the re-enactors who have been loyal to the hobby of reenacting and those who wish to see history portrayed in an authentic way.

Thank you once again for you continued support and cooperation,  
**The Staff and Volunteers of the Chemung Valley Living History Center.**