NCSA Activity Director Cadet Safety and Risk Management

Cadet Protection

NCSAs must comply with all Cadet Protection regulations outlined in CAPR 60-2 and Cadet Programs regulations outlined in CAPR 60-1. Additionally, the Activity Director and Deputy Director are required to complete CPP Advanced. Cadet protection incidents range from boundary concerns, violations of standards of practice (cadet protection violations), and reasonable suspicions of abuse or neglect. Reporting requirements differ by jurisdiction, but all CAP adult leaders are mandated reporters to CAP. Given the varied home wings of participants in NCSAs, CPP incidents should be reported to the program manager(s) promptly for visibility, support and coordination. Due to the short time frame of activities (1-2 weeks), prompt reporting and action is imperative in not only keep our cadets safe, but maintaining high program quality overall.

Required Staff Training (RST)

RST is required for any program lasting four nights or longer in duration (CAPR 60-1 Chapter 8). All activity staff members are required to complete the RST online modules in Absorb in eServices prior to arriving at the activity. An in-person RST session should cover relevant activity- and location-specific topics. See CAPP 60-72 Required Staff Training for current guidance on submitting in-person RST participant reports.

Safety

NCSAs must follow all safety guidance within CAPR 60-2 and CAPR 160-1. Each program should complete a CAPF 160 Deliberate Risk Assessment and submit it to your assigned NCSA Coordinator and Activities Safety Program Manager Damen Therkildsen no later than October 15 (for winter activities) and Feb 1 (for summer activities), respectively. See Activity Safety Resources for guidance and supporting materials.

Refer to CAPP 160-3 for guidance on activity specific safety considerations. Use the Deliberate Risk Assessment Guide as you fill out your CAPF 160. High Adventure Activities (HAAs) must be submitted to your assigned NCSA Coordinator and Activities Safety for review and approval.

Obstacle Course/LRC Safety Guidance

Safety staff should do a walkthrough of all activities (especially HAAs) to identify and mitigate any safety hazards, assess height or age-appropriate issues with obstacles, pre-treat for any insect issues, and ensure all necessary equipment is viable and activity ready.

Challenge Activities (CA) and High Adventure Activities (HAAs) are regulated within CAPR 60-2 section 2.7. Table 2.5 indicates that an obstacle course with a fall of greater than 6 feet is a High Adventure Activity. The regulation requires you to utilize the Girl Scout Safety Checkpoints for required safety gear.

The Checkpoints, however, do not address an obstacle course, such as CAP uses. Until updated guidance can be added to CAPR 60-2, the helmet requirement for obstacle elements with a 6-foot

fall or greater (obstacle course, leadership reaction course, low ropes, etc.) is a Union of International Alpine Association (UIAA) approved climbing helmet. If an approved helmet is not available from CAP or the host facility, that obstacle(s) cannot be utilized.

Cadet Medication Management

NCSAs must follow the most recent medication management policies outlined in CAPR 60-2 Cadet Protection Program, CAPR 160-1 Civil Air Patrol Safety Risk Management Program, and CAPP 79-10 Cadet Medication Best Practices, including any applicable updates or changes.

Cadet Health and Well-being

While there are no NCSA-specific policies related to cadet health and well-being in CAP regulations, the standards outlined in CAPR 60-1, 9.4.5. Personal Needs should serve as the baseline for cadet wellness and daily schedule design. Although the academic and leadership expectations at NCSAs may differ from encampment, cadets' health and readiness to learn remain a priority and should be protected through responsible scheduling. NCSA programs are expected to provide cadets with the same minimum time allowances for meals, sleep, personal care, and free time as required for encampment participants.