

Hello everyone, welcome and thank you for participating in this training!
I will try to cover most of the important details in this email but I'm sure you will see several more messages from us in the future.

PPE:

Helmets and puncture resistant boots are required, knee pads, elbow pads and safety glasses are optional but suggested. MUTC is as close to real world as it gets. Literally, we may be training on rubble that was previously a wall the day before. To ensure safety, we will conduct a walk thru with your k9 group leader before you train at each site.

Training Venues:

This workshop will utilize multiple areas for a variety of scenarios that can be customized to fit the individual needs of each canine/handler. We will begin each morning with a 08:30 briefing then travel to sites at 09:00-12:00 for operational field exercises. All sites MUST be cleared from 12:00-13:00 for lunch break. Field Ops will resume from 13:00-16:00. Workshop concludes each day at 16:00. However, we have evening events (such as a complimentary first aid class) that will be occurring at the conclusion of workshop hours. **BE AWARE:** these after hour events are independent option that are not structured or managed by workshop staff. Each handler is responsible for individual training at the nightly events.

Things to bring:

Family Service Radios- you may want to use these within your group. Just an option if you have them but not a necessity

Raingear- we will train in all aspects of weather unless it is a safety risk.

Water/Drinks-for you and your K9s. You will travel via your personal vehicle between stations so coolers are suggested. For those flying, let me know and we can make alternate accommodations for your travel.

Barracks-Cabins have bunk beds but you must provide your own linens (towels, sheets, sleeping bags, pillows) Again, those flying, we can assist with this. If K9s are allowed on bed please cover with a sheet, plastic, or both. Please be respectful to our host and strive to keep the beds clean. All canines are required to be crated inside the barracks.

Flashlights/headlamps- Light sources and extra batteries are advised due to low-zero visibility in some areas.

Health Records: please bring veterinary history of your canine and advise of any particular handler health concerns we should be aware of.

Drivers License- Task Force or photo ID is not an acceptable form of identification to gain base entry. It is mandatory to present DL at site gate. If this is a problem for anyone let please let us know in advance

Long line- Some scenarios will include multi-story searches with short or missing walls. These are optional for your group but all K9s must be on leash if you participate.

Portable lawn chairs:

Will be helpful at many locations.

Things to know:

DO NOT DEVIATE OUTSIDE DESIGNATED TRAINING AREAS. We are guests of a military training facility that allows the use of both simulated and live ammunition. To ensure safety, it is imperative each participant remains within assigned groups and areas.

You will receive handler packets upon your arrival. These will include hospital and veterinary information and procedures.

*FYI, MUTC does staff an on-site fire department.

Upon arrival

Please immediately complete check in for room assignment, sign waivers and release of liability forms etc.

IMPORTANT: WE HAVE SWITCHED LODGING FROM CAMP HOLLAND TO BARRACKS. You will receive detailed instructions to locate check in site in a future email or from the attendant at MUTC guard shack.

Thursday April 8th-Check In is at 16:00 Meet and Greet Dinner is at 18:00. Safety brief is at 19:00 (please be present for brief)

Workshop opens Thursday morning at 08:30

Meals:

Still in the planning process but hoping to provide meals via a private vendor at a rate of \$5.00-\$10.00 per meal. Please bring correct change if you wish to participate. In future updates, we will post a menu and establish a head count for our provider. Additionally, Soldiers Pizza/Deli is located on base and is usually open for business. Also, Pizza Hut will deliver to base but orders must be placed the previous night and picked up from drivers at the Guard Shack. Feel free to bring snacks or food. Base store should have ice to replenish coolers. If you wish to dine off base multiple restaurants are within a 20 minute drive. Walmart is also within close proximity.

As our count down nears, check our website (canineconnectionllc.com) for updates and helpful information. We are very excited to host this event and look forward to seeing each of you.

Debbie Triplett
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