

PARENT HANDBOOK

287 Beaumont Spitfire RCACS

2018 -2019

WHERE AND WHEN

This is a year of change for the Beaumont air cadets.

We meet Wednesday nights at the CCBCC (Beaumont Community Centre

1815hrs (6:15pm) Cadets are to arrive.

2100hrs (9:00pm) Closing parade begins.
Please come in to the gym to hear the announcements.

2120hrs (9:20pm) Dismissal. **Cadets must be picked up at this time.** We must wait outside until you arrive to collect your child.

COMMUNICATION

Website: www.287aircadets.ca

The website home page and calendar are the primary method for distributing information about events and announcements. Check it often to ensure that you have the most up-to-date information. You can email us using the Contact tab.

Phone number: 780-239-6700

This is a cellular phone and it may not be answered. Please leave a message. Cadets who will miss a parade night or weekend activity are expected to call this number to let us know they will not be attending.

Emails

Emails are sent regarding events or requests for assistance. If you think you are missing emails, use the website to let us know or check with the office to ensure we have your correct address.

Phone calls

Your child should be receiving a weekly phone call from a senior cadet. This call is to ensure that each cadet has the appropriate information for upcoming activities. Cadets who are not receiving calls should speak to their flight NCO's.

On occasion you may receive a phone call from a staff member or a member of the parent committee.

COMMANDING OFFICER PARADES

(CO's Parade)

This parade is held on the first parade night of the month. Promotions, awards and recognitions take place. It is appreciated if the parents, guardians and family attend and celebrate the cadets' accomplishments.

Start times will be announced on the website.

PARENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Parent Committee holds a monthly meeting following the CO's Parade. If a special meeting is required, notice will be given on the website and through email.

Monthly meetings include items such as budget, fundraising, upcoming activities, Air Cadet League items, etc.

These meetings are a good opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions, please plan to attend!

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE PARENTS

- **Teach** your child to wash, iron and hang up the cadet uniform. Please **do not do** their uniform for them. We will teach them how to do their boots.
- Attend the CO's parade and closing parades, if possible
- Attend the Parent Committee Meeting
- Volunteer for activities when help is needed. In order to work directly with the cadets parents must be screened. This has become standard with all youth organizations. There is no cost to have the screening done. Once you have been screened you are automatically a member of the Air Cadet League of Canada.
- Help with fund raising.
- Take your questions to the parent committee chairperson. If they cannot answer they can direct you to someone who can.

UNIFORM CARE

The cadet uniform is designed to be easy to care for. All clothing is machine washable, with the exception of the wedge (head dress) and tie which must be dry cleaned or spot cleaned.

When ironing the uniform, cadets should use a pressing cloth and steam.

If uniform parts need to be exchanged, please make sure they are laundered before they are returned. Any dirty items will not be accepted for exchange.

MANDATORY TRAINING

Cadets must make an effort to attend all mandatory events. Training that is missed must be made up on alternate dates/times in order to pass their level and be eligible for promotion.

All Wednesday evenings mandatory, as well as 9 weekend activities which we have tried to distribute evenly throughout the year:

Gliding – 16 September

Fall Field Training Exercise – 5 - 7 October

Community Service – 20 October

Remembrance Day – 11 November

Sports Day – 23 February

Sports Day – 9 March

Gliding – 11 May

Gliding – 12 May

Spring Field Training Exercise – 17 – 19 May

Air Skills Day – 25 May

Annual Ceremonial Review Parade – 8 Jun

OPTIONAL TRAINING AND TEAMS

We provide a variety of additional opportunities for your child to participate in, including sports teams, marksmanship, biathlon, effective speaking, ground school, tours and parades, etc.

If your child tries out for and is selected to be a member of a team, they are expected to be available to attend practices and the competitions.

COSTS

There are no membership or registration fees for cadets. The military pays for uniforms, training aids, mandatory weekend events and summer training.

The expectation is for the parents to help out with volunteering with fund raising, at least 3 events.

The only cost is to maintain the standards - Haircuts, shoe polish & cloth and a lint brush. Kiwi cloths & shoe polish are available for sale at the canteen. The canteen also sells snacks and drinks on parade nights.

If the squadron plans a weekend recreational trip, there may be a fee for your cadet to attend.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising covers approximately 75% of the money used to run the squadron. The Parent Committee raises the money for the facilities that we parade in and any weekend events that are not mandatory.

Events that we have scheduled and expect help with are:

Ritchie Bros.

We clean the auction rings the days of the auctions. We earn approximately \$1700 to \$2500 per event. The more people that come out to help clean the faster the evening goes.

Raffles

The first one is a Celebration baskets. The second one is still being decided on. One year we did an entertainment basket - gift cards for any activity, movie tickets, popcorn, pop, DVD's. Both of these baskets are put together with contributions from the parents.

13 Oct 2018, 19 Jan, and 27 Apr 2019 - Bottle Drives

We need parents to drive the cadets around Beaumont and return the bottles to the depot. We also need some parents to work at the bottle depot sorting and helping out.