**3rde BDE Operation Order 23-XX Ranger Buddy Challenge (RBC)**

**References:**

a. USAIS PAM 350-6, MARCH 21

b. MOI 28th Annual Ranger Buddy Competition

**Time Zone Used Throughout the OPORD**: Romeo (R) (Central Daylight Time)

**Task Organization**:

3rd ROTC Brigade

The University of Kansas Army ROTC (+)

Kansas State University

University of Missouri Kansas City

**1. Situation**

a. Area of Interest. The area of interest is Lawrence, KS. Lawrence, KS, is a city with a population of 96,892 people located in the northwest corner of Kansas along the Kansas River and Interstate 70. The city is host to the University of Kansas and has one hospital, Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

b. Area of Operations (AO). RBC Operations occur on biking/hiking trails as well as paved roads from Sesquicentennial Point, Lawrence, KS. The northern boundary of the AO is Clinton Parkway and N 1415 Rd. The southern boundary of the AO is Clinton Lake and W 27th St. The western boundary is Clinton State Park Archery Range. The eastern boundary is Kansas Highway 10. The route starts at Sesquicentennial Pont and goes around the park crosses E 900th Rd and circles around at Clinton State Park. The route is fairly flat mostly on paved surfaces. The terrain varies from open grassy fields to dense vegetation.

(1) Terrain. Consists of rolling hills, steep bluffs, densely wooded areas, valleys, creeks, dirt paths with rocks, roots and foliage, paved roads and bike paths.

(2) Weather. RBC is an outdoor event. The weather in the Lawrence area during the first week of April is historically mild with a chance of rain. The historic average high is 63°F with the average historic low of 41°F.

c. Enemy Forces. N/A

d. Friendly Forces. N/A

e. Interagency, Intergovernmental, and Nongovernmental Organizations. The University of Kansas Army ROTC is a key part of KU and the Lawrence community and as such will work in close coordination with community partners. All Cadets will follow ordinances and laws associated with Douglas County and the City of Lawrence, enforced by the Douglas County Sheriff and Lawrence Police Department. Additionally, The University of Kansas Army ROTC is working directly with Lawrence Parks and Recreation and Kansas Department of Wildlife to ensure the land is reserved and ready to host the event.

f. Civil Considerations. Cadets traversing the RBC course will remain considerate to all civilian drivers and pedestrians. Cadets will not stray from the designated path. Cadets and Cadre will be considerate of the publicly and privately owned course. Garbage from snacks will be stored on cadets during the duration of the ruck, littering will not be tolerated.

**2. Mission.** 3rd Brigade conducts Ranger Buddy Challenge under the direction of the University of Kansas, Jayhawk Battalion, IVO Sesquicentennial Point from **080600-1830APR23** to physically and mentally challenge competitors, build confidence, and build Esprit de Corps and networks across cadet command.

**3. Execution**.

* 1. Commander’s Intent. Safely conduct a rigorous competition to test Cadet critical thinking, physical endurance, mental toughness and teamwork.

(1) Key Tasks:

(a)Safely conduct approximately a 9–12 mile foot march and conduct three lanes that test technical proficiency in common Army tasks.

(b) Participating programs develop a robust training plan to ensure competitors arrived acclimated prepared for extremely physical competition

(c) Coordinate for overlapping medical support and develop thorough accountability mechanisms to ensure any injuries are detected and attended to as early as possible.

(d) Ensure RBC is complete before hours of darkness IOT mitigate safety concerns.

(2) End State: Cadets safely conduct RBC and recognized for their achievements prior to departing back to their programs.

* 1. Concept of Operations. This operation is conducted in five phases. Phase I- Planning and Preparation, Phase II- X Mile foot march, Phase III-Tactical Lanes, Phase IV- 5K Buddy Run, Phase V- Award Ceremony, Recovery, and Release. Decisive to this operation is execution of tasks during Phase III, Tactical Lanes. Tactical lanes are decisive because these operations are the most resource intensive and require the most staff to execute.
     1. **Phase I**-**Planning and Preparation**. Critical resourcing will occur in Phase I prior to **03MAR23.** On 03MAR23, KU hosts the final resource meeting via MS Teams.
     2. **Phase II**- **X Mile Foot March** which begins with the establishment of the foot march course on **080500APR23**. During this phase, Cadets travel between 9-12 miles. Cadets remain within 5 Meters of their Ranger Buddy for the duration of the foot march. Cadets are ranked in the order they cross the finish line. There is no time standard for completion of the X Mile foot march.
     3. **Phase III- Tactical Lanes** Includes execution of three tactical lanes. These lanes include 15 basic Soldier tasks and battle drills. These lanes begin with the completion of the X Mile Foot March. Tasks are physical in nature and are derived from Expert Infantry Badge, reference **Attachment 1 USAIS PAM 350-6, MARCH 21**. Cadets are given a set amount of time based on their competition category. Cadets complete as many tasks as possible to standard within the given time. The best score for correctly preformed tasks wins the Tactical Lane challenge.
     4. **Phase IV-5 K Buddy Run**. This phase occurs when time elapses on the Tactical Lanes. Cadets complete the 5K buddy run while remaining within 5 Meters of their partner. Cadets will be ranked in order of their completion, fastest time results in the best score.
     5. **Phase V- Award Ceremony, Recovery, Release.** This operation occurs upon completion of the final team crossing the finish line to the 5K. This phase occurs at **081800APR23**. The top three teams from every category (Male, Female, and Co-ed) are awarded trophies and or plaques. The best overall ROTC program receives a trophy.
  2. Scheme of Movement and Maneuver

(1) Phase 1-Planning and Preparation: This phase began on 01DEC22. Critical to this phase is the registration of teams. Registration window opens on **12JAN23**. During this phase ROTC Battalions register their teams through the attached [website](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SmOMOnxSuFCAQg2Fjq8l8pSHmA5JhyBkTWCSpKLDxuE/edit). Team registrations/ confirmations is discussed during IPR’s. Registration closes on **03APR22**. Also during this phase, KU hosts IPR’s via MS Teams. The first IPR occurs **12JAN23**. A final resourcing meeting will occur **NLT 03MAR23.** Resourcing occurs at KU with all requests going through the BDE S4. On **06APR23**, KU conducts an event RXL/ Station verification with non-participating cadets and assisting Universities. SMSI and PMS certify all lanes. Changes to the event following certification are announced at the Coaches Meeting on **071800APR23**. On **070830-1800APR23**, participants pick up packets from the University of Kansas Army ROTC. 1520 Summerfield Hall, Lawrence KS 66045 (top floor). Participating Teams may receive complimentary lodging at Kansas National Guard Lawrence Armory. Schools will coordinate with CPT Roberts, Ty POC. Following packet pick-up, coaches (a minimum of one representative per school) will attend a coaches meeting **071800APR23**. Following the coaches meeting, teams are provided with dinner or are dismissed to enjoy the local cuisine. The University of Kansas and 3rd Brigade provide dinner at the National Guard Armory from 1900-2100. If teams wish to be dismissed to dine out, the meal is at their own expense; 3rd BDE will not fund multiple venues. Teams wishing to depart immediately following the competition must clear the armory prior to arrival to Sesquicentennial Point. POC for close out at the armory is CPT Roberts. If teams do not clear the armory, they are removed from the competition and will not be allowed to continue until CPT Roberts has cleared them.

(2) Phase 2-X-Mile Foot March: This phase begins at **080430APR23** with the establishment of the TF CP at Sesquicentennial Point. NLT **080500APR23** all checkpoints report establishment. Female and coed teams start X-mile **NLT 080600APR23**. Male teams start X-mile **NLT 080930APR23**. Teams must get their rucksack weighed prior to the start of the x-mile event. Weights are taken at the TF CP one and a half to a half hour prior to the event. The route begins at Sesquicentennial Point and traverse across Clinton Lake State Park. There are four waterpoints along the course. Reference **ANNEX C**. Road guards are placed at E 900th Road. Participants exercise caution while traveling along roads as some traffic may exist. There are three medics assisting during the road march. One at the CP, one at the turn around, and one in a trail vehicle. This phase ends when the final team completes the road march and returned to the CP. This phase overlaps with the next phase.

(3) Phase 3-Tactical Lane: This phase begins **08 0700 APR 22** with the establishment of the three tactical lanes. Critical to this phase is completion of as many tactical tasks as possible within the allotted time. Each team receives two attempts at any single task. If a team is unsuccessful after two attempts, the team will be told to continue to the next task and receive a no-go. During this phase, cadets will move to any of the three colored lane start points and begin completing the tasks. Red lanes consist of SPOT report which is performed using binoculars and RT 1523 AESIP radio in a tactical scenario. Additionally, Cadets test on assembly and disassembly of M4, M249, M240. Last, Cadets complete the Ammo Can Carry. The TF lead on this lane is UMKC/ MO-West. White lane consists of first aid of a fracture, control bleeding, prevent shock, casualty evacuation carries, and requesting MEDEVAC using a RT 1523 AESIP radio. The TF lead on this lane is the University of Kansas. Blue Lane consists of range card, navigation symbols and graphics, identify and employ hand grenades, protect yourself from CBRN attack, and CBRN supply carry. The TF lead for this lane is Kansas State. All three lanes occur IVO Sesquicentennial Point. Reference **ANNEX C**. This phase ends when time expires. Time allotted for each of the teams are 6 hours for the female teams, 5.5 hours for Co-ed teams, and 4.5 hours for the male teams. The time for these lanes begins 1 hour after the start of the road march. The team with the most correctly performed tasks is the winner of this event. Ties are decided by time and then the least number of events attempted twice.

(4) Phase 4-5K Buddy Run: This phase begins with the completion of the tactical lanes completion by the Female or Coed Team. Critical to this phase is the completion of the run by all three categories of teams. Reference **ANNEX C**. Two medics support this event. One is located at the CP; the other is positioned at the turn around point or 1.5 miles into the run. Each team must complete a mystery event before completing the 5K run. Failure to complete the mystery event results in disqualification of a team. The mystery event is announced during the coaches meeting. This phase ends when all teams cross the finish line near the CP and times are recorded.

(5) Phase 5- Awards Ceremony, Recovery, Release: This phase begins after all personnel have completed the 5K Buddy Run event. Anticipated start time is **081830APR23.** During this phase, distinguished quests are allowed to make remarks. Following remarks, LTC Finch, University of Kansas PMS, will award the top 3 teams from each category and the top school. Schools are dismissed upon completion of the ceremony to return to the armory or return to their host schools.

* 1. Tasks to Staff.

(a) BDE S3

(1) Establish the BDE IPR through MS teams in accordance with IPR schedule to validate planning azimuth, resource shortfalls, and provide brigade assistance.

(2) Provide one staff representative to assist operations in Task Force TOC.

(b) BDE S4

(1) Provide one member of staff to attend IPR’s and assist with resourcing the training event.

(2) Process CC 112s submitted from program.

(3) Provide one staff representative to assist with local purchases during week of event.

(c) BDE Nurses

(1) Provide a Nurse to serve in the TOC and establish and run a casualty collection point (CCP).

(d) BDE RMID

(1) Provide one staff representative to assist with social media posts.

c. Tasks to Subordinate Units.

(a) The University of Kansas

(1) Plan and execute RBC in conjunction with the 3rd BDE.

(b) University of Missouri Kansas City and Missouri West

(1) Provide 1 Cadre OIC and 12 x Cadets or Cadre to run Red Lanes for the event.

(2) Coordinate for supply with the University of Kanas during IPR’s.

(c) Kansas State University

(1) Provide 1 Cadre OIC and 12 x Cadets or Cadre to run Red Lanes for the event.

(2) Coordinate for supply with the University of Kanas during IPR’s.

d. Coordinating Instructions.

1. Uniform:

1. Worn:
   1. OCP top/ bottom (duty uniform)
   2. Patrol Cap (Cover)
   3. Boots
   4. Eye protection
   5. Gloves
   6. FLC- (2x 1 QT Canteens)
   7. Rubber Duck
   8. Ruck Sack
   9. Pen, Pencil, Paper
2. Rucksack: Must weigh 35 pounds excluding drinking water.

1. Rucksack is worn during X- mile Ruck March. Cadets will not wear rucksacks on tactical colored lanes or on the 5K Buddy Run. Competitors must carry their own equipment. Teams are disqualified if caught carrying their teammate’s equipment or out of prescribed uniform. Rucksacks are inspected randomly following completion of the 15K. Teams who do not have the appropriate weight will receive a No-go for the Ruck March.
2. Timeline:
3. IPR Schedule:

201000JAN23

101000FEB23

031000MAR23- Final Resource Meeting

311000MAR23- Final Conditions Check

1. Event Schedule: See MOI (para 3)

(c) Rules: See MOI (para 5)

1. Participants will register **NLT 03APR23**. Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SmOMOnxSuFCAQg2Fjq8l8pSHmA5JhyBkTWCSpKLDxuE/edit

**4. Sustainment.**

a. Logistics.

(1) Classes of Supply.

(a) Class I: Water is available at training site and along the route. Each Cadet must carry two canteens during the event.

071900APR23: Dinner catered at National Guard Armory

08APR23: Cadets receive breakfast meal and 1x MRE per competitor at TOC when signing in for X-Mile Road March. Cadets receive 1 boxed meal after completion of the competition.

(b) Class II: all supplies for event are purchased locally.

(c) Class III, V, VI: N/A

(d) Class IV: Barricades for the event are constructed on site or procured from range operations. Lumber is procured from a local vendor.

(e) Class VII: Weapons: 12xM4, 7xM249, 9xM240, 3xM2. Other items: 2x GP Medium, 1x Water buffalo, 3x M240 Tripods.

(f) Class VIII: Combat Lifesaver (CLS) Bag (for each 68W)

(2) Transportation. Host school provide transportation during RBC. No POV’s are allowed on the Ranger Buddy Competition Course.

(3) Services. None.

(4) Maintenance. N/A

b. Personnel support. None.

c. Health System Support. Medical Treatment: Self/Buddy aid. Medics and BDE Nurse are located at CP, Medic will be dispatched to provide aid for non-life-threatening injuries if necessary. Medical Evacuation: Casualty Collection Points (CCP) is located at CP. For medical emergencies call 911 to activate EMS. If non-life threatening, a CASEVAC to Lawrence Memorial Hospital emergency room located at 325 Maine Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

**5.** **Command and Signal.**

a. Command.

1. Location of Commander. The PMS of the University of Kansas is located in the CP, at Sesquicentennial Point.
2. Succession of Command.
   1. The OIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is CPT Travis J. Emery at [travis.emery@KU.edu](mailto:nicole.m.richter@ku.edu) or at 801-735-4553.
   2. The NCOIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is MSG Josh Geery at [joshua.d.geery@ku.edu](mailto:joshua.d.geery@ku.edu) or at 785-864-1111.
   3. Lodging POC is CPT Ty Roberts at 785.864.2057 or at ty.t.roberts@ku.edu

b. Control.

(1) Control Posts. N/A

(2) Reports (formats and times for submission). N/A.

c. Signal.

1. Primary POC for this ORDER is CPT Travis J. Emery at [travis.emery@ku.edu](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HsNtN6H0tpgGxTBBDkJXarkxTNDON5sl/edit) or at 801-735-4553
2. Reference **ANNEX C**
3. Primary means of communication. Cell Phone
4. Alternate. Group Chat
5. Contingency. Handheld radios

(4) Emergency. Runner

**ACKNOWLEDGE**:

**Lewis**

**COL**

**OFFICIAL:**

**Rutnarak**

**LTC**

**ANNEXES:**

ATTACHMENT 1: EIB Pamphlet 350-6, March 21 ATTACHMENT 2: RBC MOI

ANNEX A: TBP

ANNEX C: Concept of Operations Brief

ANNEX C: Execution Matrix



