

7TH Michigan Military Committee

The 7th Michigan Military Committee is composed of all Corporate Members and Associate Members who portray a generic infantry impression. The members of the Military Committee constitute the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated). The reactivated 7th Michigan is composed of privates and noncommissioned and commissioned officers. Noncommissioned and commissioned officers are elected annually. Each member of the reactivated 7th Michigan is expected to acquire all the necessary uniform, accouterments and weapons requirements and to become well versed in the various period drills, mannerisms and etiquette appropriate for their rank. All new members are strongly urged to acquire the basic uniform, weapons and accouterments as expeditiously as possible. A period of two years is generally allowed for privates to obtain the required equipment. The 7th Michigan Vol. Inf. Co B, Inc. does have a few items of equipment available for loan to new members during their initial two year membership period.

The organization, composition and responsibilities of the Military Committee are presented in Section I - III and the rules, regulations and guidelines of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated) are presented in Section IV below.

I. COMPOSITION

- A. Chairman - Appointed by the President with concurrence by the Board of Directors.
- B. Executive Council (See Section II).
- C. Jackson Military Event Subcommittee (See Section III).
- D. 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B - reactivated (See Section IV).
- E. Membership - All Corporate Members and Associate Members who portray a generic Infantry impression.

II. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- A. Composition - Military Committee Chairman ¹, Captain, Lieutenant, 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sgts, all Cpls, Fife and Drum Representative, Living History Representative, Commissary Representative, Quartermaster and Jackson Military Events Subcommittee Chairs.
- B. Responsibilities:
 - 1. Developing and maintaining of daily military schedules at 7th Michigan hosted events,
 - 2. Assuring adherence to daily military schedules by 7th Michigan troops at non-7th Michigan hosted events,
 - 3. Training of new and drilling of existing 7th Michigan troops,
 - 4. Representing, as well as possible given the level of troop participation, correct period military portrayals at parades, color guards and other formal ceremonies,
 - 5. Encouraging greater adherence to first-person portrayals by 7th Michigan troops at 7th Michigan hosted and non-hosted events,

¹ The Chairman of the Military Committee can be the commissioned officers, or any of the non-commissioned officers

6. Assuring that all 7th Michigan military members' modern anachronisms are either out of sight or out of the military camp,
7. Coordinating all military and non-military portrayals and activities which take place within the military camp,
8. Providing guidance to members regarding rules, regulations, guidelines, uniforms, weapons, and accouterment requirements (See Section IV-A),
9. Providing for yearly elections of 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (Reactivated) Infantry impressions (See Section IV-B),
10. Assuring that all Jackson Military Event Subcommittees' responsibilities are fulfilled,
11. Providing for periodic review and amendment to the rules, regulations and guidelines governing the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated). All changes to the rules, regulations and guidelines shall require an affirmative vote of 51% of the Executive Council and concurrence by the Board of Directors, and
12. Other responsibilities as are assigned by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

III. JACKSON MILITARY EVENT SUBCOMMITTEES

A. Composition:

1. USA Camps and Police Tent Subcommittee,
2. Modern Camping Troop Detail Subcommittee,
3. Other Subcommittees as created by the Executive Council of the Military Committee or by the direction of the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

B. Responsibilities may include but are not limited to:

1. Design and layout of Union Camp and operation of Union Police Tent,
2. Assuring that all reenactor weapons are inspected,
3. Arranging for and assuring that the battlefield is secured before, during and after the battle, and is policed after the battle,
4. Assuring the participation of the 7th Michigan "modern camping" troops in military activities (drills, camp life and details),
5. Assuring that the Camp Mess has enough "VOLUNTEERS"
6. Assuring that the Union Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery Camps are cleaned up, and
7. Other responsibilities as are assigned by the Executive Council of the Military Committee.

IV. 7TH MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, COMPANY B. (Reactivated)

A. Rules, Regulations and Guidelines

1. The 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated) shall be composed of a Captain, Lieutenant, 1st Sgt., 2nd Sgt., 3rd Sgt., a minimum of 3 Cpls and a maximum of six Cpls, Privates, Field Music (Fife and Drum Corps.) and any other Infantry impressions so designated and approved by the Executive Council of the Military Committee.

2. All new Members and Associate Members of the Corporation who desire to portray a generic infantry impression shall be given the rank of Private.
3. The impressions of Captain, Lieutenant, 1st Sgt., 2nd Sgt, 3rd Sgt, Corporal; and other generic Infantry impressions approved by the Executive Council shall be elected. Only those elected shall be authorized to wear the appropriate rank unless brevetted to do so by the Captain.
4. All members of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated) shall be required to obtain the uniform, weapon, accouterments and equipment per their impression as outlined in Section IV-C.
5. All military rules, regulations, drills protocol, etc. shall adhere as close as possible to those outlined in the following documents:
 - U.S. Army Regulations (1861)
 - U.S. Army Regulations (1863)
 - Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics, Vol. 1 and 2.*
 - Coupees (1863)*
 - Casey's Infantry Tactics*
6. The Captain shall have the power to brevet up to the rank of Lieutenant.
7. Command of the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company B (reactivated) at all Corporate attended events and activities shall vest in the Captain or in his absence, the highest ranking elected or brevetted officer or NCO present.
8. The Captain may request, but shall not be able to require, any Officer or NCO to reduce his elected rank at an event where a preponderance of that rank is present.
9. Rank above that elected may be worn at events with the prior approval of the Executive Council of the Military Committee.

B. Annual Elections

1. The Infantry impressions to be elected annually are: Captain, Lieutenant, 1st Sgt., 2nd Sgt, 3rd Sgt and Cpl (3 to 6) and other impressions as are deemed needed by the Executive Council of the Military Committee.
2. The meeting for election of Infantry impressions shall take place at a place and time determined by the Executive Council. A notice providing the date, place and time shall be provided to all members of the Military Committee by means of either the Corporation's newsletter or by special notice at least 1 month prior to the proposed meeting date. The preferable time for the election would be at the general members meeting in October of each year.
3. A quorum for the meeting shall be constituted by the presence of the Military Committee Chairman or his designee and whoever else is present from the noticed membership of the Military Committee.
4. Qualified electors shall be Corporate Members and Associate Members who portray a generic Infantry impression. Qualified electors must be present to vote.
5. All nominations shall be made from the floor.
6. Nominees for an Infantry impression shall have been a member or associate member of the Corporation for at least one year prior to the date of the election.
7. Terms of the elected Infantry impressions shall be from January 1 to December 31 or until a duly noticed election is held.

8. Elected Infantry impressions may be vacated voluntarily by submittal of a written letter of resignation to the Chairman of the Military Committee.
9. Individuals holding an elected Infantry impression may be removed with cause by 3/4 vote of the Executive Council of the Military Committee.
10. Elected Infantry impressions vacated during the year may be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment by the Executive Council of the Military Committee.

C. Basic Uniform, Rifle and Accouterments, and Equipage requirements: (See Figure 1 at the end of this chapter for photographs of the major items listed below. These items may be purchased new or used. See Chapter 8 for Sutler Listings.

PRIVATE

Uniform:

- Forage cap (dark-blue)
- Jefferson booties (i.e. brogans) or period-looking (black) shoes or boots
- Suspenders (called braces)
- Wool (dark-blue) four-button sack coat (lining optional)
- Wool (sky-blue kersey) pants
- Wool or cotton shirt (recommend 2 pair at least, military or civilian pattern)
- Wool socks (recommend 2 pair at least)

Rifle and Accoutrements:

- Blank cartridges for .58 caliber rifle (authentically rolled)
- Leather (black) cap box
- Leather (black) cartridge box sling with brass round "Eagle" plate
- Leather (black) cartridge box with tins and brass oval "U.S." plate
- Leather (black) waist belt with brass oval "U.S." buckle
- Rifle percussion caps
- Rifle with leather sling, bayonet, and bayonet scabbard
 - Springfield three-banded percussion rifle .58 caliber (preferred)
 - or**
 - Enfield three-banded percussion rifle .577 caliber

Equipage:

- Black-tarred haversack
- Canteen - U.S. issued (recommend plain-side or "bullseye" pattern, w/ brown or gray cover in
 - wool or jean-cloth)
- Eye-glass frames (period-looking) or contact lenses for those who wear glasses

Additional recommended items:

- Black-painted soft knapsack
- Casey's Infantry Tactics (School of the Soldier)*
- Period underwear (drawers)
- Pocket watch

Rain poncho
Rubber gum blanket
Shelter-half tent
Silverware (period-looking)
Tin cup
Tin frying pan
Tin mucket with cover
Tin plate
Wool Army blanket (gray or dark blue)
Wool (sky-blue kersey) infantry great coat
Wool or cotton vest (military or civilian pattern)

CORPORAL

Required:
Same as private PLUS,
Corporal chevrons,
Copy of *Hardee's U.S. Infantry Tactics* (1861),

Optional:
Same as private PLUS,
½" Corporal stripes on pants,

SERGEANT

Required:
Same as private PLUS,
Sergeant chevrons
Copy of *Hardee's U.S. Infantry* (1861),
Copy of *Coupee Field Manual* (1861),

Optional:
Same as private PLUS,
1½" Sergeant stripes on pants,
NCO sword and hanger,
NCO sash,
Pistol, holster and cartridge box,

CAPTAIN AND LIEUTENANT

Required:
Junior officer (single-breasted) dark-blue frock coat with Infantry "I" buttons,
Shoulder straps with light-blue field,
Dark-blue wool vest with infantry "I" buttons,
Dark-blue wool pants with light-blue piping, or sky blue wool pants with dark blue piping.
Period suspenders,

Gray wool socks,
Field officer's sash,
Kepi or bummer with embroidered bugle, or slouch hat, embroidered bugle and black and gold hat cord with gold acorns,
Jefferson or period boots,
Period cotton shirt,
1854 foot officer's sword with leather or metal scabbard,
Sword belt (full rig),
Gold sword knot,
U.S. canteen,
Black-tarred haversack,
Gauntlets (buff),
Copy of *Hardee's Rifle & Light Infantry Tactics* (1861).
Copy of *Coupee Field Manual* (1863),
Copy of 1861 or 1863 *U.S. Army Regulations*,
(Period frames or contact lenses for those who where glasses)

Optional:

Pistol, holster, cap box and cartridge box,
Trimmed Hardees hat,
White gloves,
Epaulets,
Dark-blue wool great coat,
Poncho,
Wool blanket,
Wall tent or 6' or 9' A-frame,
Tin cup, plate and silverware,
Period cookingwear,
Miscellaneous camp equipment.



1 – Waist belt, 2 – Cap box, 3 – Enfield bayonet, scabbard and frog, 4 – Enfield musket, 5 – Springfield bayonet, 6 – 1861 Springfield, 7 – Springfield bayonet and scabbard, 8 – US Belt buckle, 9 – Cartridge box and belt with breast plate.



1 – Wool blanket, 2 – Soft knapsack, 3 – Tarred haversack, 4 – Tin cup, 5 – Boiler, 6 – Tin can boiler, 7 – Canteen, 8 – Rubber poncho (folded in half), 9 – Woolen gloves, 10 – Tin plate, 11 – Utensils, 12 – Tooth brush, 13 – Tote bag for utensils.



1 – Slouch hat, 2 – brogans, 3 – braces, 4 – Sky-blue infantry trousers, 5 – Bummer, 6 – Handkerchief, 7 - Sack coat



1 – Cotton full button down shirt, 2 – Wool flannel shirt, 3 – Assorted sock styles, 4 – Cotton drawers (under wear), 5 – neck tie, 6 – Night cap