



COMMANDING OFFICER

References:

- A. QR&O: Vol 1 Chapter 4, Section 5.
- B. General Patterson “Kingston’s Own, The Princess of Wales’ Own Regiment”.

GENERAL

1. The duties and responsibilities of the Commanding Officer (CO) of a Regiment are well detailed throughout numerous regulations within the Canadian Forces including ref A. It is not the intent of Regimental Standing Orders to dictate to the Commanding Officer his official duties or legal obligations under the Queen’s Regulations and Orders. The intent here is simply to articulate some of the Regimental expectations and quirks that have grown around the appointment of Commanding Officer within the Princess of Wales’ Own Regiment.

HISTORY

2. From the earliest recordings of Standing Orders of the 14th Battalion, Volunteer Militia Rifles of Canada, command has always been the responsibility of our CO. “The Lieutenant-Colonel will command at all times when present, will be an ex-officio member of all committees, all reports must be made to him and through him must pass all correspondence of a public nature.”

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3. The Commanding Officer has ultimate authority over the unit, and is usually given wide latitude to run the unit, within the bounds of military law. In this respect, the Commanding Officer has significant responsibilities (for example, use of force, finances, equipment, and the Geneva Convention), duties (to higher authorities, mission effectiveness, and duty of care to personnel), and powers (for example, discipline and punishment of personnel within the limits of military law).

GENERAL DUTIES

4. The Commanding Officer is responsible for the whole of the organization and safety of the unit, but detailed distribution of work among the subordinates is left, substantially, to the CO’s discretion. Unless otherwise provided in QR&O, the CO may allot to his officers all matters of routine or of minor administration. He will retain for himself:

- a. Matters of general organization and policy;
- b. Matters of training and operations;
- c. Important matters requiring personal attention; and,
- d. The general control and supervision of the various duties allotted to others.

5. The CO is responsible for the adherence of all members of the Unit to the Regimental Standing Orders.



6. The CO keeps the Regimental Adjutant informed of all matters of a Regimental nature.
7. The CO will instill in all ranks the Regimental spirit and be careful to discourage any feelings between the components of the Regiment beyond that of friendly rivalry.

REGIMENTAL DUTIES

8. In addition to the duties expected of the Commanding Officer of any Regiment, the Commanding Officer of the Princess of Wales' Own Regiment can also expect to be responsible for the following duties:
 - a. The Commanding Officer shall fill the role as head of the Regimental Family;
 - b. Fill the appointment as Parade Commander for the City's Civic Ceremony of Remembrance;
 - c. Be and an advocate of the unit in the community;
 - d. Provide guidance, support, and assistance to all affiliated Cadet Corps; and,
 - e. Other duties as befitting the command.

PRIVILEGES

9. It is the privilege of the Commanding Officer to address a formed parade with the cautionary words of command "Princess of Wales' Own Regiment", rather than battalion or parade as would appropriate for any other officer or NCO addressing a parade.

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT

10. Commanding Officers are listed on the web site (<http://pwor.ca/pwor/commanding-officers/>) the official name of the Regiment as commanded by each of them respectively. Rank abbreviations, LtCol for Lieutenant-Colonel versus LCol are listed as was appropriate for the time period. Bt LtCol refers to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, or holding that rank while so employed. The current serving Commanding Officer (2018) is Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Taylor.

The Princess of Wales' Own Regiment