

CANADIAN
ARMED FORCES



Canada

CAFSAC

Canadian Armed Forces
Small Arms Concentration



"Aiming" for the top spot! Shooters from across the CAF will test their marksmanship skills at this year's CAFSAC. For more details, follow us on Facebook.



National
Defence

Défense
nationale



The aim of CAFSAC is to improve marksmanship and small arms proficiency thereby increasing the operational effectiveness of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). This is achieved by providing a training platform in a national level concentration that enables the development of a cadre of credible marksmanship experts. Upon returning to their units, CAFSAC participants use their expertise to develop other members' marksmanship skills, thereby increasing the unit's overall and operational readiness.

CAFSAC

Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Concentration



Source: Aviator Desirée T. Bourdon, CFJC

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

An important aspect of CAFSAC is professional development. All competitors attend training sessions to further develop their knowledge of marksmanship and enhance their coaching abilities. The sessions focus on advanced coaching techniques. Past sessions have included:

- The psychology of shooting;
- Motivation techniques by Jody Mitic, author of *Unflinching: The Making of a Canadian Sniper*;
- Presentations by the top female military rifle shooter in Canada;
- Presentations by previous Queen's Medalists;
- International military teams and Canadian police forces sharing best practices for shooting and coaching techniques;
- Presentations by Canadian Rangers; and
- The 2nd Canadian Division mobile small arms trainer.

OPERATIONALIZATION OF SHOOTING

To keep CAFSAC relevant to the current operational environments and needs of the CAF:

- Matches are updated annually and all have an operational focus;
- Participants wear environmental uniforms and full fighting order. This includes tactical vests or approved load carriage systems, fragmentation vests, training plates, ballistic eyewear and helmets;
- Gas masks are worn during one of the dynamic matches during a simulated CBRN attack; and
- Three dynamic ranges test shooting accuracy, tactical acumen and cognitive ability under stressful conditions (speed).



Source: DND-MDN, Canada

CAFSAC

Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Concentration



MATCH SUMMARY - CAFSAC 2018

MATCH	NAME	EXPLANATION
PRACTICE	CONTROLLED PRACTICE – Service Rifle	Review safety protocols and practice of firing positions, movements and other requirements to ensure shooters understand match requirements. Starts at the 300 m mark, rundown to 50 m, firing weapon from various firing positions and at targets exposed for varying duration.
PRACTICE	CONTROLLED PRACTICE – Service Pistol	Starts at the 25 m mark, move to 10 m, and firing weapon from various firing positions, changing magazines and firing at multiple target types.
PRACTICE	CONTROLLED PRACTICE – Light Machine Gun	Starts at the 200 m mark, rundown to 50 m, firing weapon from various firing positions and firing at multiple target types.
M11	NORMANDY – Service Rifle	Starts at the 200 m mark, rundown to 100 m, firing weapon while changing firing position, and firing at multiple moving targets.



Source: Corporal Jax Kennedy, CFJIC

MATCH	NAME	EXPLANATION
M12	DEFENCE OF CANADA – Service Rifle	Starts at the 100 m mark, rundown to 50 m, firing weapon from various firing positions at moving targets exposed for short durations.
M13	VIMY – Service Rifle	Starts at the 300 m mark, rundown to 100 m, firing weapon from various firing positions at targets exposed for varying durations.
M14	PURSUIT TO MONS – Service Rifle	Starts at the 500 m mark, rundown to 100 m, and firing weapon from various firing positions at static and moving targets, exposed for varying duration.
M15	QUEEN'S MEDAL FOR CHAMPION SHOT – Service Rifle	Starts at the 500 m mark, rundown to 100 m, and firing weapon from various firing positions at static and moving targets, exposed for varying duration.
M16	CANADIAN RANGER OPEN – Service Rifle	Match designed by Canadian Rangers National Authority to meet Ranger-specific training. Starts at the 100 m mark, move to 25 m, various firing positions, at operationally relevant moving targets.
M17	INTERNATIONAL MATCH (STAGE I) – Service Rifle	Team starts at the 400 m mark, rundown to 100 m, firing weapon from various firing positions and target.
M18	INTERNATIONAL MATCH (STAGE II) – Service Rifle	Team starts at the 500 m mark, rundown to 100 m, firing weapon from various firing positions and targets.
M19	MILITARY BIATHLON – Service Rifle and Service Pistol	Approx. 7 km course with various activity stations (jerry can carry, casualty drag, etc.). Service Rifle and Service Pistol engagement on various targets exposed for varying duration.
M20	BARRICADE ENGAGEMENT – Service Pistol	Starts at the 100 m mark, move to 75 m, firing at targets from various firing positions with multiple types of barricades.

CAFSAC

Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Concentration



MATCH SUMMARY - CAFSAC 2018

MATCH	NAME	EXPLANATION
M21	FALAISE POCKET – Service Pistol	Starts at the 25 m mark, move to 10 m, firing weapon from various firing positions, changing magazines and firing at targets exposed for varying duration.
M22	CAEN – Service Pistol	Starts at 20 m mark, move Service Pistol to 10 m mark, firing weapon from various firing positions, at four different targets.
M23	ORTONA – Service Pistol	Starts at the 30 m mark, move to 10 m, firing weapon from various firing positions using dominate and weak hand, at targets exposed for varying duration.
M24/M26	DYNAMIC MATCHES – Service Pistol	Three separate operationally relevant matches, occurring in a mock building. Scenario and layout change annually. Includes a “two way” range using simulation.
M31	SOLDIER’S CUP – Service Rifle and Light Machine Gun	March approximately 3 km, complete obstacle course and live fire section attack.
M32	ASSAULT GROUP and CAUSALITY EVACUATION	From 100 m mark to 300 m casualty evacuation. 300 m – 200 m obstacle run down, with multiple targets at 200 m.
M33	ASSAULT GROUP and COUNTER ATTACK – Light Machine Gun and Service Rifle	March 1 km, from 300 m mark, rundown to 100 m, firing weapon from various firing positions at various targets.
M34	SECTION CQB – Service Rifle and Service Pistol	Starts at the 25 m mark, move to 10 m, transition from Service Rifle to Service Pistol, firing weapon from various firing positions, at multiple targets.
M37	FALLING PLATES – Service Rifle	Teams are divided into heats. Starting at the 300 m mark, rundown to 200 m, teams must drop all team targets as quickly as possible.

MATCH	NAME	EXPLANATION
M38	FALLING PLATES – Service Pistol	Teams are divided into heats. Starting at the 50 m mark, rundown to 15 m, teams must drop all team targets as quickly as possible.
M41	MONT DES CATS – Light Machine Gun	Starts at the 200 m mark, rundown to 50 m, firing at multiple target types.
M42	THE SOMME – Light Machine Gun	Starts at the 400 m mark, rundown to 100 m firing at multiple target types.
M43	THE SCHELDT – Light Machine Gun	Starts at the 500 m mark, rundown to 25 m, firing at multiple exposure types.
M50	NIGHT SHOOT – Service Rifle	Starts at the 100 m mark, moving to 50 m, firing weapon from various firing positions at various types of targets using night vision equipment.



Source: Corporal Jax Kennedy, CFJIC

CAFSAC

Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Concentration



Source: Aviator Desiree T. Bourdon, CFJIC

MILITARY BIATHLON

This is a test of skill, stamina and teamwork. The fully kitted participants move between ranges and activity stations along a 7 km course, engaging targets at various distances, using both service rifle and service pistol. Activities include moving full ammunition cans and dragging a casualty. This challenge is hard core!

BARRICADE ENGAGEMENT

In combat, shooting positions are never ideal. The barricade consists of a wooden "door" with slots and circles cut in at various heights—not quite high enough for one position; not quite low enough for another. The shooter must adapt their position to engage various targets. It feels awkward and takes focus to get the rounds on the target.

THE CANADIAN ARMY SKILL AT ARMS MEETING

These four shoots belong to the Army Commander. Eight and four person teams take part in a grueling series of challenges based on operational skills. Only the best trained and fittest soldiers need apply!

THE NIGHT SHOOT

CAFSAC tests shooters in various light conditions. The night shoot gets participants out of their comfort zone and replicates night operations.

THE QUEEN'S MEDAL FOR CHAMPION SHOT

The Queen's Medal is awarded to the member of the Regular Force and the member of the Reserve Force or Royal Canadian Mounted Police who has shot the highest score in the qualifying matches at CAFSAC.

The Captain Shannon Wills Trophy is awarded to the member of the Canadian Rangers with the highest score in the Canadian Ranger Open Match. The recipient of this trophy is presented with a specially-designed shooting medal.



Source: Aviator Desiree T. Bourdon, CFJIC

The Champions are "chaired" off the range by Private Reid (right), a piper from the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa. Corporal David Ferguson (pictured left) is chaired off the range after winning the Queen's Medal for Champion Shot for the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves on 15 September 2017.



Source: Aviator Desiree T. Bourdon, CFJIC

Private Johnathan Sobczak is chaired off the range as the Canadian Armed Forces winner of the Queen's Medal for Champion Shot on 15 September 2017.



Source: Aviator Desiree T. Bourdon, CFJIC

Master Corporal Samuel Coquyt is chaired off the range as the Canadian Ranger winner of the Queen's Medal for Champion Shot on 15 September 2017.



The Canadian Rangers are armed to deal with wild animals. Bear targets have been incorporated into Canadian Ranger matches to simulate realistic conditions.

Les Rangers canadiens sont armés pour faire face aux animaux sauvages. Les Rangers canadiens tirent sur des cibles d'ours qui permettent de simuler des conditions réalistes.