

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARTIAL ARTS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

THE BASIC SCHOOL

24191 GILBERT ROAD

QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134

STUDENT OUTLINE

ADMINISTER BELT RANKING ACHIEVMENT TEST

MAIB1045

MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTOR COURSE

M02MMET

APPROVED BY: Maj. Carter, C.T. DATE: 1 January 2020

LEARNING OBJECTIVESa. **TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

(1) Given a student to be tested and a performance evaluation checklist, conduct user belt certification to assess proficiency of the student's user level belt techniques and to ensure all discrepancies are identified and feedback is provided. (0916-INST-2055)

b. **ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

(1) Given exam materials, identify appropriate training area to ensure risk is mitigated and training is conducted properly. (0916-INST-2055a)

(2) Given a student to be tested and a performance evaluation checklist, conduct testing brief to ensure test procedures are adhered to. (0916-INST-2055b)

1. PREPARING TO TEST. Before conducting a belt test you will need to prepare the students, prepare the instructors, and prepare the testing area.

a. Prepare the Students. The instructor should set their students up for success before testing them for the next belt. This starts with teaching the proper EDIP's and tie-ins for the belt they are testing. You must also ensure the students have sufficient sustainment and practice prior to taking the test. You should be confident the students will all pass before you begin the test. If you are not, then continue to sustain with them to improve their proficiency prior to testing.

b. Prepare the Instructors. Before administering the belt test you must review the belt books prior to testing. Only the performance steps in the book are required during testing, and you cannot assume a step is required because you have always done it that way. You must always ask yourself "what does the book say". When multiple instructors will be testing, they should review the techniques together to ensure everyone is testing to the same standard.

c. Prepare the Testing Area. The MAI must prepare an appropriate area for the test. There are many places belt tests can be conducted, as long as the following criteria is met.

(1) Indoor Versus Outdoor. Indoor and outdoor testing areas both have their advantages and disadvantages, but neither

is preferred in every circumstance. Outdoor testing is usually easier to facilitate and more realistic. Indoor testing mitigates inclement weather and usually has less distractions. Regardless of where you conduct the test, you must always have a soft footed area clear of debris. Evaluate the areas available to you and determine which one is the most appropriate.

(2) Scheduling. You may need to schedule your testing area with your MCCS or your unit S-3. This is important because many MCMAP pits and mat rooms are heavily used and may not be available on short notice.

(3) Equipment. You must ensure all equipment needed to administer the test is available for the student. It is the instructor's responsibility to have all equipment on hand prior to conducting an evaluation. You may need to reserve or check out gear from your unit's supply or a local martial arts training facility.

(4) Distractions. The testing area should be free from distractions such as foot traffic and fellow Marines. No one other than the MAI/T and the testing partner should be present. The Marine being tested should be able to focus on the test without the added stress of distractions or onlookers.

(5) Sustainment Area. When testing multiple Marines, assign an area for the group to sustain while they are waiting to test. This area should be away from the testing area, preferably out of view. When a Marine is finished testing they may return to this area.

(6) Testing Rotation. An appropriate testing rotation must be established prior to conducting the test to ensure some students do not get an unfair advantage. The previous testing partner should never be the next Marine to test. Instead, both Marines can go back to sustainment, while two new Marines come to test; or, the Marine who completed the test can become the partner for the next Marine.

2. CONDUCTING THE TEST. Conducting a belt test includes: briefing, sustainment, evaluation, remediation, and possibly re-testing any failures.

a. Briefing. Instructors must ensure each student is briefed and given an opportunity to ask questions prior to administering a belt test. The brief will cover the student's role, administration, and evaluation.

(1) Student's Role. The Marine being tested must execute each technique and explain each tie-in without any assistance. The testing partner is not allowed to help the Marine being tested in any way. The partner will not talk, pick up weapons, or execute techniques except on the command of the Marine being tested. The student being tested is responsible for the actions of their testing partner. If either Marine cheats, both will fail the test.

(2) Administration. The instructor will brief the grading scale of the test. All Marines are required to achieve a 90% on sustainment in order to continue with the belt test. Users must achieve an 80% and MAIs and MAITs must achieve a 90% on the belt test.

(3) Evaluation. During this portion of the brief the instructor will explain how the student will be evaluated as described in the next three paragraphs.

b. Sustainment. The sustainment portion of the test will include five techniques from each previous belt level. They will be conducted in belt order: five tan, five gray, five green, etc. The sustainment portion should represent a variety of techniques from the different blocks within each belt. Tie-ins will not be used for sustainment. The students will not be told which techniques will be used to ensure they remain proficient at all techniques. Sustainment cards may be used, but should be periodically changed to prevent students from memorizing them. Remediation for sustainment techniques missed will be conducted before proceeding to the belt test. All Marines must achieve a 90% on sustainment in order to proceed to the evaluation.

c. Evaluation. The instructor should not expect what they think is "perfect", because every Marine will look a little different when executing techniques. Use the following guidelines to ensure all students are evaluated fairly.

(1) Testing Procedures. When testing, the MAI/T will go straight down the performance evaluation checklist, in order, using the exact verbiage given. Students will execute the technique no more than two times consecutively. If the technique is incorrect after the second opportunity, the instructor will make an annotation in the remediation column on the PECL.

(2) Testing Standards. The standard for each technique is the performance steps outlined in the belt books, and instructors cannot add or take away steps from any technique. The Marine must also demonstrate the proper principles and fundamentals associated with each technique. They should show proficiency, fluidity, intensity, and achieve the desired outcome for every technique. Marines should NOT execute techniques in a slow, step by step manner.

(3) Testing Tie-Ins. The tie-ins will be evaluated within each block of techniques as shown on the PECL. When evaluating tie-ins, the instructor is checking for a general understanding of the subject (rank appropriate).

d. Remediation. After completion of the entire test, the students will be given one final chance to remediate the techniques missed. The techniques the students performed incorrectly will not be disclosed until they are asked to perform that technique. The student will only be afforded one chance to perform the technique correctly at this time. If the technique is still performed incorrectly then you will mark fail on the PECL and show the student the proper technique.

e. Re-Testing. If a student fails the sustainment or the evaluation they will be allowed to re-test after a minimum of 24 hours. This is to give sufficient time for practice before testing again. The instructor should counsel the Marine and help them practice before the re-test.

3. COMMON MISTAKES. There are many ways an instructor can make mistakes when administering a belt test. These are a few of the common mistakes.

- a.** The partner becomes the next tester.
- b.** The brief is either incomplete or omitted.
- c.** The student is told to keep executing the technique "until I tell you to stop".
- d.** The instructor tells the student they are required to bring the gear.
- e.** Instructor conducts the remediation immediately after the technique, or not at all.

f. Other students or instructors (not supervising) watch the test.

g. Students are re-tested immediately or the same day.

h. The instructor gives hints to the student. This can be verbal or non-verbal such as emphasizing one word of the technique.

i. The instructor has impossible testing standards and fails nearly everyone they test to make themselves appear better, tougher, or to be holding a higher standard.

j. The instructor and the students train only to pass the test. If students are properly trained, they will perform well on the test.

REFERENCES:

Marine Corps Martial Arts Program,

MCO 1500.59_

Marine Corps Martial Arts, MCRP 3-02_