



# Participant Acknowledgement Form

## Personal Info

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate your sex/gender:**

Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate your age:**

12-13 : \_\_\_\_\_ 14-15 : \_\_\_\_\_ 16-17 : \_\_\_\_\_ 18-20 : \_\_\_\_\_ 21+ : \_\_\_\_\_

## Participation Requirements

All Institute participants must be 14 years of age or older. Participants 12 or 13 years of age may participate as musicians or non-combatants, as long as a parent or guardian is also participating. Those participating as soldiers must be able to handle their issued firearms safely and show physical ability to effectively participate in military maneuvers. Anyone who is unable to do so will be reassigned to a non-combat role. Those participating as musicians must first audition with the Institute to show proficiency in their chosen instrument.

## Theatrical Nature of Events

Due to the theatrical nature of our program, and to preserve the accuracy of our historical presentation, roles in the program may need to be cast according to appearance and/or gender. Visible tattoos and/or piercings on the hands, neck, face, nose, or head are not permitted, nor are hair colors that are not of a natural human hair color. Tattoos, piercings, and unnatural hair colors must be removed/covered up in order to preserve our historical re-creation. This is not meant to be discriminatory, but this policy is designed to provide a clear picture of what life was like in the mid-1800's.

Note: If a female participant would like to participate as a soldier, we ask that she contact the Institute to discuss the steps needed to make an accurate portrayal of this historical occurrence.

## Allergy Accommodation

Please list on the lines below any food allergies or allergies to textiles that you may have. We will do our best to work with you to accommodate your needs.

Note: If you have any allergies to medications, please make sure to note them on your medical paperwork.

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## Equipment Care

Participants are expected to take care of their issued clothing and equipment. Minor wear and tear is understandable. If something breaks, just let us know! We are more than happy to help with repairs and will replace anything that can't be immediately repaired. However, participants who cause damage to equipment due to negligence or recklessness will be charged the full cost of the equipment for damage.

## Know Before You Go

A Texas Civil War Living History Institute event is an immersive historical adventure that strives to create conditions as similar as possible to America in the 1860's, while still maintaining a safe and healthy environment. This experience can become challenging at times, and we recommend that participants reconsider their involvement if:

- You have difficulties with camping or sleeping out-of-doors
- You have concerns about handling fully functional firearms and ammunition
- You feel uncomfortable around live animals such as horses and mules
- You have health conditions that may be aggravated by extremes of weather or physical exertion
- You feel uncomfortable in loud, stressful situations
- You are not able to carry up to 40 lbs of equipment or meet the physical demands of combat scenarios, including marching a few miles, jogging, sprinting, laying down, and handling a firearm in a safe manner throughout

Please also know that most of our events are also attended by other living history clubs and organizations, who the Institute has no control over. For the best experience possible, and for your safety, please remain with the Institute's unit(s) at all times.

## Military Environment

The Institute's primary historical portrayal is that of a Civil War military unit. Participants will be expected to, as we like to say, "play the game". This includes following the legitimate orders of a superior officer, saluting officers and NCO's, completing all the duties each soldier is required to perform, and sharing in the camp duties with the rest of your unit. This is all a part of the show. That also means that you can expect nothing but respect and firm guidance from your superiors, who are trained to be servant minded and good teachers above all else.

## Doing Your Part

As a part of your historical experience, you will be expected to share in the daily duties around the camp. This includes gathering wood for the fires, collecting water, policing trash, assisting with meal preparation and clean up, as well as various other military duties beyond drilling and preparing for battle. Officers and sergeants will endeavor to assign these duties equally, and when everyone pitches in, everyone's experience is enhanced.

One of the most important duties is the cleaning of weapons. A clean weapon is a safe weapon. Black powder fowls rifle barrels, and uncleaned firearms are prone to dangerous misfires and malfunctions. Every soldier will be taught how to properly clean their firearm, and will be expected to clean it after every firing.

Finally, soldiers are expected to remain at an event until all weapons are clean and the entire Institute camp is taken down and packed up. We understand that everyone is ready to get home and get clean and rested, but the more we work together to pack up, the faster everyone can get home. We appreciate our soldier's hard work in supporting the Institute, and more importantly, their comrades.

## Participant Acknowledgement

I, the undersigned, do acknowledge my understanding of the above state policies and practices of the Texas Civil War Living History Institute, and agree to abide by them as a condition of my participation.

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Participant Signature

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Parent or Guardian Signature (if participant is a minor)