Precision Maneuvering Clinic (PMC) Quality Assurance: Practice Sessions and Check Rides

When teaching PMC, instructors are expected to provide precise demonstrations with no mistakes. This means demonstrations are smooth and head turns are big without hitting a cone, putting a foot down or crossing an exercise boundary.

Practice Sessions

Unpaid range practice sessions have been approved by the training manager and course sponsors. Instructors are expected to practice enough to keep their skills sharp and demonstrations precise. It is recommended that instructors practice at least 3 hours a month.

During practice sessions, sponsors require the range be coned or flagged off for safety. Sponsors also require that no instructor practices alone. PMC instructors should coordinate to practice together. If no other PMC instructor is available, it is permissible to practice with another instructor who has completed PMC. If no other instructor is available, it is permissible to bring an adult spectator (to observe only).

Interns should attend as many practice sessions as possible before their first assignment, and must pass a check ride before providing demonstrations to students.

Check Rides

The purpose of the intern check ride is to ensure PMC demonstrations are precise with no mistakes.

Any PMC instructor can conduct a check ride, but ideally it is a mentor. The mentor should use the check ride form to record performance.

During a check ride, PMC interns are allowed three attempts at each PMC Level 1 exercise. Interns must perform each exercise twice without hitting a cone, putting a foot down or crossing boundary. Smoothness and head turns are evaluated and coached but not graded for the purposes of the check ride. Exercises can be performed in any order.

- The 360 Keyhole should be performed once in each direction.
- The Iron Cross should be performed once in each direction, once using the teardrop technique.
- In Left and Right Pullouts (Ex. 2), one pullout should be an instantaneous stop.
- The S-Turn (Ex. 1) should be set at the 24-foot marks.

If an intern performs each exercise correctly twice, there's no need for a third attempt. If an intern fails a check ride, they should complete another practice session before trying again.