

# BATON / IMPACT WEAPONS UPDATE

POST OUTLINE

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Course Title: Baton / Impact Weapons Update

**COURSE GOAL:** The course will provide the trainee with minimum topics of instruction in the use of impact weapons. The trainee will develop tactical knowledge and skills, and recognize that the baton is an intermediate weapon that offers a means of controlling a non-compliant suspect safely and effectively.

The course consists of a hands-on / practical skills impact weapons training for in-service peace officers. The course includes instruction in the use of impact weapons used by peace officers, including straight baton, side handle baton, expandable batons, and emergency impact weapons.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of this course, the student will know:

1. The Peace Officers legal authority for use of an impact weapon as a defense weapon, including department policy.
2. Conditions when the use of an impact weapon by a peace officer is justified.
3. Appropriate target areas on a suspect's body that can be effective in gaining compliance.
4. The areas of a suspect's body that should be avoided to protect against grave injury to the suspect.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate:

1. A minimum standard of performance in the use of an impact weapon with every technique and exercise presented.
2. Appropriate decision making and use of force.
3. The need for escalation and de-escalation of force.

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COURSE CONTENT: ..... 4:00 HOURS

1. INTRODUCTION..... 5:00
2. USE OF FORCE AND LEGAL ISSUES .....25:00
3. GUIDELINES FOR USE OF AN IMPACT WEAPON ..... 15:00
4. TARGET AND NON-TARGET AREAS ..... 15:00
5. WARM UP AND STRETCH .....30:00
6. DRAW AND CARRY .....30:00
7. JABS AND CLOSED FORMAT STRIKES .....30:00
8. ZONE AND OPEN FORMAT STRIKES .....30:00
9. PROFICIENCY DRILLS AND TESTING .....60:00

## HOURLY DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE MODULE III - ARREST AND CONTROL

0000 – 0005	Introduction Safety Orientation Explain testing	Force Options Instructor
0005 – 0030	Use of force/Legal issues Types of Impact Weapons Department Policy	Force Options Instructor
0030 – 0045	Guidelines for use of an impact weapon Justification for use	Force Options Instructor
0045 – 0060	Target Areas and Areas to Avoid Zone Concept	Force Options Instructor
0060 – 0130	Warm up and Stretch Footwork Review	Force Options Instructor
0130 – 0200	Draw and Carry	Force Options Instructor
0200 – 0230	Jabs and Closed Format Strikes	Force Options Instructor
0230 – 0300	Zone and Open Format Strikes	Force Options Instructor
0300 – 0400	Proficiency Drills and Testing	Force Options Instructor

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**TOPIC:** BATON / IMPACT WEAPONS UPDATE

**TIME FRAME:** 4:00

**LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:** II

**BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:**

*Condition:* Given a class activity and practical examination.

*Behavior:* The student will demonstrate a practical working knowledge of impact weapons techniques, and related issues.

*Standard:* Minimum standards of performance will be evaluated by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each learned technique and exercise. If the trainee fails to meet minimum standards, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** Safety equipment (handcuffs, duty belt, etc.), mats, water, first aid kit, telephone (or police radio) service, impact weapons

**REFERENCES:** Law Enforcement Reasonable Force Options, Rod Sanford, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, 1999  
  
Basic Course Workbook Series, Learning Domain 33, California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training, Version 1, 1998

## I. INTRODUCTION

III (a,b)

- A. Instructor introduction, Registration, Orientation
- B. Course objectives and overview
- C. Exercises
- D. Evaluation and testing

## II. USE OF FORCE AND LEGAL ISSUES

III (g,j)

- A. Impact weapons are used:
  - 1. to overcome resistance, effect an arrest, and/ or prevent escape
  - 2. when acting in self defense
  - 3. to defend or protect in certain tactical situations
- B. Defined in 12020 pc as deadly weapon:
  - 1. Peace officers must use it defensively
  - 2. Authorized to use it to
    - a) protect property
    - b) in self-defense
    - c) in defense of others
- C. Types of impact weapons
  - 1. Straight baton
    - a) Wood, wood polymer, or metal
    - b) Long shaft
    - c) Short shaft
    - d) Grommet

- e) butt end
  - f) tip end
  - 2. Side-handle baton
    - a) Long shaft
    - b) Short shaft
    - c) Yawara handle
    - d) Yawara Tip
    - e) Butt end
    - f) tip end
  - 3. Expandable
  - 4. Long batons
  - 5. Emergency/temporary impact weapons
    - a) Personal Body Weapons
    - b) flashlights
    - c) ticket book
    - d) anything else not originally intended to be an impact weapon
- D. Department Policy
- (1) (read and give overview of department policy on impact weapons.)*
- E. Unlawful Use by an officer:
- 1. An Officer must NEVER:
    - a) use to punish a suspect
    - b) beat a suspect into submission
  - 2. Legal consequences

- a) 149 PC- Public officer assaulting a person under color of authority
- b) 245 PC- ADW or force likely to create great bodily injury

## F. Case Law

- 1. Graham v. Connor
- 2. Forrester v. San Diego
- 3. Long Beach v. Long Beach POA
- 4. Deorle v. Rutherford

## G. Documenting use of force

- a) Department reporting requirements
- b) Detailed and specific

## III. GUIDELINES FOR USE OF IMPACT WEAPON

III (g)

### A. Start with verbal commands (when possible)

- 1. continue verbal commands during encounter
- 2. display of impact weapon may be enough to gain compliance
- 3. Re-evaluate for escalation or de-escalation as situation changes

### B. Justification for use may include:

- 1. Size of suspect v. size of officer
- 2. Officer reasonably believes he/she cannot overcome non-compliance by using lesser level of force.
- 3. Suspect exhibits a trained fighting skill
- 4. Multiple suspects
- 5. Control needed for tactical considerations
- 6. Crowd control or riot situation

## IV. TARGET AND AREAS TO AVOID

III (g)

## A. Zone Concept

1. Zone One – Midsection: shoulders to belt line, including the wrists and hands.
2. Zone Two – Lower body, upper leg to feet.
3. Zone Three – Downward strikes, targeting raised fists and clavicle
4. Zone Four – Upward strikes, raised fists (fighting stance)

## B. Areas to Avoid/ Unintended Target areas

1. An impact weapon can cause grave injury and/ or death if used on certain areas of the body.
  - a) Training and caution must be used to avoid areas that are vulnerable.
  - b) Unless an officer can justify lethal force, these areas should not be specifically targeted.
2. Areas to avoid include:
  - a) Head
    - (1) *potential to cause grave injury or death*
  - b) Throat and neck
    - (1) *fractured airway structure may cause swelling and suffocation*
    - (2) *ruptured arteries in neck can cause death*
    - (3) *damage carotid sheath or vagus nerve*
  - c) Groin
    - (1) *may cause serious injury to the reproductive organs and/ or subsequent shock may cause death*
  - d) Spine
    - (1) *fractured vertebra or spinal cord may cause paralysis or death*

e) Kidneys

*(1) may cause serious kidney damage because it is not well protected*

## V. WARM UP AND STRETCH

III (a,b,h,i,k)

### A. Warm up

1. Discuss safety hazards
  - a) Identify potential for injuries
2. Footwork review
  - a) Position of interview
  - b) On-guard position/ Baton ready position
  - c) Forward shuffle
  - d) Rear shuffle
  - e) Shuffle left
  - f) Shuffle right
  - g) Shuffle pivot

## VI. DRAW AND CARRY

III (b,e,h,i)

### A. Proper grip

1. in and out of the ring

### B. Draws

1. cross draw
2. power draw
3. support hand draw
4. rear draw



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## C. Carries

1. basic position/ low ready
2. arm tuck position
3. ready to strike

## VII. Strikes

III (b,e,d,h,i)

### A. Zones 1 & 2 strikes

1. with footwork

### B. Zones 3 & 4 strikes

1. with footwork

### C. Front and rear jab

1. with footwork

### D. Power chop

1. with footwork

## IX. Proficiency Drills/Testing

III (b,c,d,e,f,h,i)

### A. In formation, moving with footwork

### C. On air shields

### D. sustained endurance drill

1. simulated foot pursuit and/ or prolonged altercation
2. using air shields to simulate multiple suspects and/ or FIST suit