Mechanics of Arrest

The Explorer should be able to demonstrate and know when to use appropriate strategies of defense (Use of Force is a prerequisite for this section).

**Identify and demonstrate the three basic concepts of weaponless strategies.**

To review Force Options:
- Professional Presence - entering into a scene
- Verbal Communications - words, language
- Weaponless Strategies - takedowns, come-a-long, etc
- Weapons Strategies - Chemical/Electrical Means (mace, stun gun), Baton or Impact Weapons
- Deadly Force

- **Self-Control** - The police role in physical arrest is essentially to protect the public and to take the violator into custody. It is important for the officer to maintain physical and emotional control in order to ensure the safety of the officer, the arrestee, and the public.
- **Balance** - Mental balance consists of being prepared to first, control your own emotional and physical self, and then to restrain the violator and, ultimately, the situation, not allowing the emotional level to overcome your self-control and balance. Physical balance is the position that allows you the ability to move while maintaining balance, strength, and advantage. Proper positioning includes staying just outside the suspect’s reach but where you can view everything, with your gun side away from the suspect and with a balanced stance.
- **Awareness** - Observe the entire situation and be aware of where the suspect’s hands are, weapons, associates or relatives of the suspect, escape routes for the suspect, and your own footing.

  **Professional Stance and Verbal Communication need to be present during all demonstrations**

- Cultural awareness
- Verbal persuasion

**Principles of Self-Defense:**
- Prevention - be aware of potential dangers; avoid overextending yourself; maintain the proper distance to allow yourself adequate reaction time.
- If attacked, move out of the line of force rather than try to stop the force.

**Identify and demonstrate appropriate strategies of weaponless defense.**

**Weaponless Strategies:**
- Touching
- Joint-locking
- Pressure points
- Hand strikes/foot strikes
- Blocks
  - Hands
  - Arms
  - Legs

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*Make it very clear to the Explorer that these defense strategies are being taught for use during Explorer training and Competitions only. They must understand the injuries that can be caused if these strategies are used in inappropriate ways or while unsupervised. Examples of inappropriate uses are: practicing on friends or family members at home or school, practicing on other Explorers outside of Post training exercises and using them as a means to intimidate others.*
The Explorer should develop a basic understanding and application of the physical process of arrest.

Officer discretion in arrest/non-arrest situation (CCP Sec. 14.06(b))

Risk factors and appropriate response:
- Suspect's mental attitude/behavioral disorders
- Time and location
- Intoxication
- Spectator’s supportive attitude toward subject
- Officer attitude

Describe and analyze the advantages of the various methods of approaching, confronting and interviewing the suspect.

Direct approach (on foot):
- Advantage - observe all movements
- Disadvantage - lose surprise element and vulnerable to resistance

Rear approach (on foot):
- Advantages- surprise; reduces probability of direct attack
- Disadvantage - may provoke physical response in defense of him/her self

Side approach (on foot):
- Advantage - suspect off balance
- Disadvantage - cannot observe all movement; reduces surprise

Two officers (on foot):
- Visual contact with each other
- Approach should be spread in V formation
- Plan confrontation
- Communicate
- One officer in charge
- Side officer keep hands free, gun away from suspect, observe suspect hands.

Interviewing subject(s):
Position, one officer-
- Observe all of the subject's actions
- Gun side away from subject
- Non-restricted physical position to allow movement
- Hands free of unnecessary items

Position, two officers-
- Same as one officer
- V position
- One officer in command

Physical contact - Position:
- To side or rear of subject when possible
- Subject should be off balance
- Keep subject verbally informed of your actions and expectations
Frisk, if justified, for:
- Weapons
- Officer and/or public safety
- One officer vs. two officers
- Stress safety

**Stress pat down vs. search**

**Arrest:**
Advise subject what the arrest is for in clear language. Subjects may resist officers because they don’t understand the nature of the arrest.

| Utilize this information in every role-play possible to give Explorers practice in the various methods of approaching and confronting suspects. |

**Explain and demonstrate proper means of applying handcuffs (See illustrations at the end of this section).**

**Stress safety throughout**

**Positions:**
- Standing
- Sitting
- Prone
- Kneeling

**One suspect**
- Hands to rear
- Palms out
- Keyhole up
- Handcuffs double-locked
- In an emergency, apply in any manner possible

**Two suspects and one set of handcuffs:**
- Right hand to right hand
- Left hand to left hand
- This procedure causes them difficulty in running

**Two suspects and two sets of handcuffs:**
- Hands to rear
- Arms inter-locking
- Palms out
- Keyhole up
- Handcuffs double-locked

**Handcuffs are a temporary restraining device only!**

Provide opportunity for Explorer to practice proper procedures of handcuffing on other Explorers
Explain and demonstrate proper procedures for physical search of suspect.

Stress safety throughout

Open area search:
- From the rear
- Watch the arms
- One holding suspect's waistband from rear
- Search with free hand

Prone Search
- Face down
- Arms extended outward
- Legs spread

Kneeling Search
- On knees
- Legs crossed
- Hands behind head
- Fingers laced
- Back arched

Note: Let hands do the searching. Officers' eyes should be on subject to observe any type of overt movement. The primary advantage of holding suspect's waistband from the rear is officer safety. Should suspect attempt resistance, he/she may be pulled backward or pushed forward, giving the officer an opportunity to step away.

Provide opportunity for Explorer to practice proper procedures of searching on other Explorers

| Wall search: | Most authorities agree that the wall search is a high-risk technique. |

Explain and demonstrate proper procedures when escorting and transporting suspects.

Suspect(s) are to be handcuffed at all times in every situation, as outlined below.

Walking
- One officer, one suspect:
  - Officer to the rear and side of suspect with gun side away
  - Holding waistband or belt between cuffed hands vs. holding arm

- One officer, two suspects:
  - Officer to rear

- Two officers, one suspect:
  - To rear of suspect
  - One officer on either side
  - One officer holding either arm

- Two officers, two suspects:
  - To rear of suspects
  - One officer on either side of suspects
  - Holding waistband or belt between cuffed hands vs. holding arm

Transporting

Texas Association of Police Explorers
Texas Explorer's Guide to Law Enforcement Training
www.TexasPoliceExplorers.com
- **One officer, one suspect:**
  - Right front seat, if no cage
  - Seat belt fastened
  - Door locked
  - Officer place his/her gun on left side

- **Two officers, one suspect:**
  - Right rear seat, if no cage
  - Officer, left rear seat, if no cage
  - Seat belt fastened
  - Door locked
  - Officers place their guns on left side

- **Two officers, two suspects:**
  - Rear right and center rear seat, if no cage
  - Officer left rear seat, if no cage
  - Door locked
  - Officers should place weapons on left side, if no cage

Provide opportunity for Explorer to practice proper escorting and transporting procedures

*Demonstrate the ability to effect an arrest.*

Principles:
- Keep prisoner in sight
- Maintain control
- Handcuffing
- Transporting

Be sure that all Explorers can effectively demonstrate procedures in effecting an arrest
Handcuffing Techniques

Step#1
Handcuffs should be “loaded” in the cuff case with both keyholes facing out and the movable part of the handcuff facing toward the violator.

The non-gun hand should be holding the handcuffs. The Explorer should grab the violator’s right hand and cuff with the Explorers left hand.

Step #2
The Explorer should turn the violators wrist so that the palm of the violators hand is facing away from the violators body. The handcuffs should be pushed on in one quick motion.

Explorers can use the left hand index finger to protect the violator from pain or bruising when pushing the handcuff on.

Step #3
Using your index finger on the left hand, close and tighten the handcuff. Always retain control of the violator’s right hand with your right hand. Should the violator start to resist, the Explorer will be in perfect position to move into an arm bar.
**Step #4**

Switching hands, repeat the process on the violator’s left hand. The handcuffs will always be in proper position with the key holes up on the left hand if the right hand was cuffed properly.

Fast and proper handcuffing will not allow time for the violator to become angry and start to resist.

**Step #5**

When finished both handcuffs should have the keyholes up. The violator’s palms should be facing away from her body.

**Step #6**

Double lock the handcuffs. This will prevent the cuffs from tightening when the violator sits down in the patrol car.

Hold the violator’s hand in a secure manner when double locking the handcuffs. Remember, the violator may resist at anytime and you should always be prepared to react.
Felony Arrest / Takedown of Suspect

Step #1
Command suspect to get her hands up and get down on her knees. Explorers should have already determined whom the arrest officer and who the cover officer should be before a scenario begins.

Step #2
Command the suspect to get down on her belly and put her arms out to the side with palms up.

Command the suspect to cross her right leg over her left (if the arrest is going to take place on the right side).

Step #3
Arresting Explorer should move in and take the suspects right arm and do an arm bar. Kneel down over the suspect with her arm between your legs. DO NOT lean on the suspect with your knees. The suspect will not be able to breath if you do. Only lean on the suspect if the suspect resists. The arm bar should eliminate any resistance.
**Step #4**

Hand cuff the suspect, but do not let go of the arm bar position. If the suspect uncrosses her legs and the arresting officer does not see it, the cover officer should alert the arresting officer.

Order the suspect into compliance. Use the arm bar for pain compliance if needed.

**Step #5**

Command the suspect to bring the other arm back. Maintain the original arm bar so the suspect will not resist, then handcuff the suspect.

When finished cuffing, the hand position and cuff position should be in the same position as a normal misdemeanor.
Pat down Search Techniques

Command the suspect to place her hands on her head and interlock her fingers.

Always pat down from behind. Use your position to your advantage. A lot of suspects attempt to flee at this point in a pat down.

The searching Explorer should grab the suspect’s hands with one hand using the friction between the suspect’s fingers to lock the hands in position. Once this is done, the searching Explorer can search that side of the suspect’s body with the free hand. The changes hands and do the other side.

If contraband is found, secure it in your pocket or pass it to the cover officer. Don’t let go of the suspect while doing this!

Remember to handcuff properly. Do not try to cuff while the suspect has her hands on top of her head.
Position the suspect so that you have the advantage. Often, in close situations like this, the cover officer will be holstered and prepared to lay hands on the suspect as well.

Remember,
Just because you saw it on T.V. does not make it right!

If needed, have the suspect get down on her knees to do the search. Never over reach and lose your balance or command position.
Another Felony Arrest Technique

**Step #1**
Giving the same commands to the suspect as the previous felony arrests, order the suspect to raise her leg. The arresting Explorer then advances and places the leg on her thigh securing it. The suspect will not be able to kick the Explorer off if done properly.

This technique is best used with alone and the scene is not secure. The Explorer can still draw a gun from this position while maintaining control over the suspect.

**Step #2**
Cuff the suspect just as you would with misdemeanor handcuffing techniques.

**Step #3**
Always maintain pressure on the suspects leg. Command the suspect to bring the other arm back. Do not over reach and loose you balance.
Step #4
Secure the handcuffs and double lock them.

Search Your Arrestee
If arrested on the ground, search on the ground. This is not a pat down. Do a complete and thorough search of the arrestee. Even search the arrestee’s shoes. If possible, have a girl search girls and boys search boys. Do not fail to search because of gender differences.