



Charleston County Sheriff's Office Policy and Procedures Manual

Sheriff Carl Ritchie

18-03 Exercise and Recreation

- ☐ NEW
- ☒ REVISED
- ☒ REVIEWED

ACA Standards Reference: 5-ALDF-4C-40; 5C-01; 02; 03; 04; 05; 2E-21, 22, 24; 6B-05
CALEA Standards Reference:
NCCHC Standards Reference:
SCLEA Standards Reference:
SC Minimum Standards: 2035; 2014-28

This policy dated 1/29/2025 replaces prior policies cited above and supersedes all previously issued directives.

I. Purpose:

To establish procedures that provides opportunities for all inmates to participate in daily leisure time activities and recreation outside their cell or outdoors.

II. Policy:

Inmates at the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center (SACDC) will be offered a variety of daily leisure time activities and recreation outside their cell or outdoors, when weather permits.

(Ref: SC Min. 2035; 5-ALDF-4C-40)

III. Definitions:

A. For purposes of this procedure, the word "deputy" applies to all agency employees with a certification classification of Class I, Class II, Class III, or Reserve Deputy, as defined by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.

The following terms are used interchangeably; however, they carry guidance to specific employees based on usage of the term:

1. Deputy, deputy sheriff, detention deputy, sworn employee, uniformed sworn employee, sworn administrative employee, and
2. civilian, non-sworn employee.

B. *Employee*: When used without further clarification, the term employee is inclusive of all agency members (sworn and non-sworn).

IV. Procedure:

A. General Recreation Privileges:

General population inmates have access to exercise opportunities, including at least one hour of physical exercise per day outside their cell and outdoors, weather permitting. Detention deputies will strictly enforce all inmate rules and regulations during recreational activities and any violation(s) will be subjected to disciplinary action; any disciplinary actions taken must be documented in an *Incident Report* and submitted through the chain-of-command.

(Ref: SC Min. 2035; 5-ALDF-5C-01, 03, 04)

1. The SACDC will supply inmates with recreational items. Detention deputies will inspect all recreational items belonging to the SACDC before they are issued to an inmate. Once the item(s) have been inspected for any damage, the detention deputy will sign an item out to the inmate by utilizing the *Recreation Rules and Acknowledgement Form* and ensure this same inmate returns the item that they signed out. Once the item has been returned, the detention deputy will inspect it for any damage. If the item is damaged the deputy shall notify their supervisor so that a replacement item may be ordered for the unit. If the item has been intentionally damaged by an inmate the deputy shall complete an *Incident Report* and submit the same through the chain-of-command for proper discipline.
2. Indoor recreation is available daily during scheduled recreation times.
 - a. Before and after any recreation period, an inspection of the day room will be completed and recorded in the Jail Management System (JMS) log.
 - b. Sufficient space shall be available to permit both individual and group activities.
 - c. Each dayroom is equipped with televisions and tables for games such as: dominoes, checkers, and chess.
 - d. The Detention Deputies have control of the remote control in all units, with the exception of the Character Based Units (CBU). Deputies also control channel selection and volume control.
 - e. Inmates will be allowed to remain in their cells/bunk areas if they so desire.
 - f. While in the dayroom area of the housing units, inmates will be permitted to participate in leisure time activities, as well as daily exercise such as walking or jogging in place. Physical exercise, such as sit-ups or push-ups, etc., is to be done in the recreation yards ("rec yard"). While exercising on the rec yard inmates are allowed to have their uniform unbuttoned to the waist, as long as a T-shirt is worn. Before inmates exit the rec yard they must be fully dressed.

(Ref: 5-ALDF-5C-02)

- Issued: 1/29/2025

and shall forward the same through their chain-of-command.

5. Recreation shall be conducted as outlined below:

a. A Tower Podular Housing Units:

- i. Inmate recreation in the podular housing units is structured to a specific schedule due to the security level of the inmates housed in these units.
- ii. Recreation periods are alternated between separate floors/sides to ensure fairness. Only one floor/side is permitted to be out during a recreation period. Inmates are only allowed to have recreation with the floor/side that they are housed. All recreation will be conducted in the designated areas (i.e., dayroom, recreation yard). At no time will inmates be allowed to congregate or be within eighteen inches of, hanging on, or leaning on the railings.

Note: In a housing unit with a population of sixty-four or less, inmates may all participate in recreation together unless there are compelling reasons to segregate an individual or part of the population. If segregation is necessary, the unit detention deputy shall notify their supervisor and make note in the Jail Management System (JMS).

- iii. Morning recreation is from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Afternoon recreation is from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Evening recreation is from 8:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m.

Note: Recreation is subject to change due to emergencies and/or unforeseen circumstances.

b. Open Bay Housing Units:

- i. Recreation times in open bay housing units are not on a specific rotation and all inmates may be on recreation at the same time.
- ii. The lights will be turned on upon arrival of breakfast trays to the housing unit and remain on until the

completion of evening recreation at 11:30pm.

iii. Recreation times will take place:

- a. Between the completion of the breakfast meal and the beginning of the mid-day meal;
- b. following the completion of the mid-day count and afternoon lock-down beginning at 5:00 p.m.; and
- c. between the completion of the evening meal and the beginning of the shower cleaning at 11:30 p.m.

B. Special Management Units:

Inmates housed in administrative segregation, disciplinary segregation, and protective custody will be permitted to participate in recreational activities in accordance with established guidelines.

(Ref: SC Min. 2035, 5-ALDF-2E-22, 5-ALDF-5C-04)

1. Inmates in special management units will be allowed one hour outside of their cell, or outdoors, weather permitting, each day, seven days per week, for leisure time and/or physical activity, absent safety and security concerns. (Ref: SC Min. 2035, 5-ALDF-2E-22)
2. Inmates may not be denied outdoor recreation unless a restriction of privileges through the disciplinary process exists, or without clear documentation of a potential danger to the safety and security of the facility. Any such denials must be documented in the Jail Management System (JMS) and explain the reason for the restriction.
3. Post-Conviction Inmates from the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) shall not be given recreation privileges during the first seventy-two (72) hours of their detention. Privileges will commence after seventy-two (72) hours unless safety and security issues arise. Any such concerns shall be documented in the Jail Management System (JMS) detailing the reason for denial of recreation privileges. (Ref: SC Min. 2035(a))
4. Inmates housed in special management units may request tablets from the housing unit detention deputy as outlined in Tablet Usage Policy. If an inmate destroys or damages a tablet, their privileges will be restricted. The housing unit detention deputy will enter a status flag NT (No Tablet) into the inmate's record on the Jail Management

System.

(Ref: 5-ALDF-2E-21, 24)

5. All special needs inmates (i.e., mental health, medical, and inmates with disabilities) will be afforded the opportunity to participate in recreational activities in accordance with their ability and personal safety.
(Ref: 5-ALDF-6B-05)