



GET INVOLVED

No. 7 (CITY OF HAMILTON) SQUADRON,
AIR TRAINING CORPS

HAMILTON AIR CADETS



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OUR AIMS AND VISION

AIMS

To foster a spirit of adventure and teamwork, and to develop those qualities of mind and body essential for good citizens and leaders.

To provide challenging and disciplined training activities, which will be useful in either Service or civilian life.

To promote an awareness of the Armed Forces, and the role they play in the community.

VISION

Preparing New Zealand's successful leaders of tomorrow.

MISSION

To develop and enable self-disciplined, confident, and responsible young New Zealanders.



CORE VALUES

Courage – Confronting challenges, both physical and moral, to overcome and adversity.

Commitment – Being reliable and loyally serving and supporting the New Zealand Cadet Forces, local communities, and New Zealand.

Comradeship – Looking out for each other, having respect for all, and championing the benefits of friendship, teamwork, and diversity.

Integrity – Having self-discipline and always being honest, trustworthy, and responsible.



BACKGROUND

The Air Training Corps was formed during World War II and had its beginning in the United Kingdom. It served as a pre-entry training course for prospective Royal Air Force and Commonwealth Air Force recruits. Since 1941 it has undergone various changes with differing ideas right up until today. We are partially funded by the New Zealand Defence Force but the bulk of funding comes through fundraising and Cadet Fees.

The Air Training Corps is one of the finest youth organisations in New Zealand with an outstanding tradition of over 80 years. This tradition is maintained by male and female cadets from 13 years (Year 9) to 20 years of age, serving in 49 town units from Kaitaia to Invercargill. The total strength of the Air Training Corps is around 1900 cadets, 200 officers, and 130 supplementary staff.



OUR ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING

CAMPS AND TRAMPS



- Bushcraft Training Camps
- Tramping activities/Daywalks
- Team building activities
- Barrack Camp/Boot Camp
- Multi-Day Exercises

FLYING



- Flying Courses
- Day Flights
- Flight Navigation
- Aircraft Familiarisation
- Flying Camp

COMMUNITY EVENTS



- ANZAC Day
- Poppy Day
- Armistice Day
- Fundraising Exercises
- Assisting other Community Groups

FIREARMS SAFETY AND SHOOTING



- Target Shooting Practice
- .22 Marlin XT Rifles
- Supervised training
- Firearms Safety Training
- Competitions

DRILL (MARCHING)



- Parade Nights
- Community Events
- Courses
- Camps

LEADERSHIP TRAINING



- Courses
- Camps
- Confidence building
- Knowledge and Skill building

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

HEADQUARTERS NZCF



The New Zealand Cadet Forces (NZCF) structure is broken down to three main areas, with an overall command located in Trentham. In Hamilton, we are part what we call the Northern Area.

There are around 100 NZCF units throughout the country, answering to HQNZCF. These units are either units of the Sea Cadet Corps (SCC), New Zealand Cadet Corps (Army Cadets, NZCC), or the Air Training Corps (ATC).

OUR UNIT

No. 7 (CITY OF HAMILTON) SQUADRON, AIR TRAINING CORPS

HAMILTON AIR CADETS

Our unit has a very long official title, so we also have the short version. We are just one of multiple units of the ATC around New Zealand. This unit has been around since 1941!



Flight Lieutenant (FLTLT) Wesley Wright-St Clair, NZCF Cadet Unit Commander

OTHER STAFF

Adjutant (Admin)
Training Officer
Flight Commander
Stores Officer
Media Officer
Squadron Warrant Officer

OFFCDT Suhani Vakil
FGOFF Ben Greenwood
PLTOFF Luzahn Ridl
Mr Wesley "Possum" Hallam
OFFCDT Dane Ridl
CDTW/O Austen Plimmer

SECTIONS

Each cadet with No. 7 SQN ATC is posted to a section shortly after they join. These sections compete in an annual points competition, with one of our more senior cadets leading each section.

For cadets to get the most out of this organisation, we encourage self-preparation. It's up to them to motivate their own future. We expect our cadets to take responsibility for themselves rather than letting their parents do this for them.



PARADE NIGHTS

We parade on Wednesday nights from 1820hrs (6:20pm) until 2100hrs (9pm), during school terms. If a cadet is on duties, they may be required to leave a little bit later (2115hrs / 9:15pm). A normal parade night consists of two lesson periods, a briefing/break period, and a parade at the beginning and end of the night.

These nights are where the bulk of our training is undertaken. Our camps are an opportunity to put practice into play. So, it's important that, to get everything out of cadets, the cadet is coming to as many parade nights and activities that they can.

UNIFORM

A large part of our training especially around self-discipline, is uniform. All of the uniform is provided to you, with the exception of shoes, socks, and underwear. As a cadet, it's very important you maintain it, and also meet our dress requirements with regards to grooming. Uniform is to be returned upon resignation.

Until you have a uniform, please come in your school uniform. If your school does not have a uniform, you may attend in tidy civilian attire (collared shirt, trousers, covered shoes).

GROOMING STANDARDS

MALES

- Clean Shaven (no facial hair)
- Short hair off the collar and ears (no mullets or ponytails)
- Socks need to be black or navy blue

FEMALES

- Hair tied up neatly in a bun
- For less formal occasions and while out "in the field", a braid is permitted
- If hair is short, it needs to be off the collar
- Only jewellery allowed is a stud in each ear lobe
- Socks need to be black or navy blue
- Makeup is not to be excessive
- No nail polish

Please note that we make allowances for cultural, medical or religious reasons (such as taonga, medical alert bracelets etc), however permission must be sought from the Cadet Unit Commander, and for us to put on our records.

UNIT SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Each unit is responsible for having a Unit Support Committee (USC). These committees are required for us to function. They are responsible for managing our funding and assisting with our activities. A close parallel to compare to is that of a Board of Trustees at a School.

Every parent of a cadet is automatically a member of the USC. Meetings are held each month on a date set by the USC Executive. If you are interested in helping out, please let the unit know.

7 SQN USC EXECUTIVE TEAM

Chairperson	Mr Peter Spicer
Secretary	Mrs Alicia Lowen
Treasurer	Mr Steven Mundy

COSTS AND COMMITMENT

The biggest cost to cadets is time. For people who don't have much spare time, then cadets might not be for you.

- Occasionally, our cadets will be selected to attend NZCF Courses. These take up the most time of all the activities we offer (around a week in length during school holidays).
- Camps, community events, and training days also take time from your weekends.

COSTS AND COMMITMENT

Below is a summary of the costs expected activities a cadet may undertake with us. We do our best to subsidise these events where we can. Our Officer, Supplementary Staff, and USC are all volunteers, and all our income is spent on the cadets and building.

A list of approximate costs are below:

- **Initial Enlistment Fee:** \$75.00 (Covers servicing of uniform, refundable upon discharge)
- **Term Fees:** \$85.00 (first term of enlistment is free)
- **Expected cost of most camps:** \$60.00 - \$80.00
- **Weekend Flying Activities and Camps:** \$80.00 - \$150.00
- **NZCF Area and National Courses (other than National Aviation Courses):** FREE

Payments are made out to:

AIR TRAINING CORPS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND NO 7 HAMILTON
TSB
15-3972-0131551-000

Please add your cadet's name in the "code" or "reference" section when making a payment.

Please note we have a lot of items in our unit stores available for loan. So, for camps and events please see us first before you go and purchase things brand new!

As we are charitable organisation, if you would like to see more details of where your money goes, please ask. We do our best to minimise the costs, but we are always open to new ideas. Please contact our USC at usc.7sqn@cadetforces.org.nz if you are interested or have an idea.

THE REWARDS

Moving forward within the NZCF and No. 7 SQN ATC can be very rewarding for both Cadets and Officers.

PROMOTION

As part of the promotion process, your Cadet will attend a leadership course. They will spend a week on a NZDF base learning how to lead and also deliver presentations/lessons. Once complete the cadet will normally be issued more responsibility within the unit. These courses give them the skills required to carry out those duties. They will also then be placed in charge of a group of cadets and expected to look after this group during the year.



AWARDS

No. 7 SQN ATC has a number of trophies of which are awarded each year for a range of achievements. Cadets are recognised for these during our end of year parades and dinner. Please ask a staff member for a full list of trophies and their requirements to achieve them.

BADGES

No. 7 SQN ATC has a number of badges of which are awarded each year in recognition of training. Please note that awarding of these badges is not an automatic right; cadets must earn them. Please ask a staff member for a full list of badges and their requirements to achieve them.



DEFENCE FORCE CAREERS AND REFERENCES

The NZCF has strong ties to the NZDF. We are a great introduction to Military life and provide excellent references for many different job aspirations. A large number of our members also go onto to join the Royal New Zealand Navy, New Zealand Army, or the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

COMMON FORMS AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS

NZCF 2A	Cadet Joining Terms and Conditions
NZCF 2	Cadet Enrolment Form
NZCF 23	Cadet Record of Service
NZCF 3822	A small booklet version of the Cadet Record of Service. It must be carried by the cadet to all activities and exercises, especially to visits to NZDF bases. Once issued, it is important that the parents of the cadet, a witness, and the cadet themselves sign it.
NZCF 7	The NZCF Security Vetting Form. All adults in regular contact with cadets under 18 must undergo a vetting process that includes NZ Police and Security checks, in line with NZ law.
NZPVS	The NZ Police Vetting form. This is used in conjunction with the NZCF 7 to complete vetting of adult volunteers.

Cadets will also be expected to apply for activities (other than parade nights) on the online cadet database system known as CadetNet.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If I join, will I have to go to War?

Absolutely not.

When do I get my uniform?

We generally issue a uniform in-between four weeks to a term after being in cadets. This is to allow those that are undecided if cadets is right for them to make their decision after having participated and not have to worry about returning uniform.

Do I have to attend every event?

It is recommended to attend as much as you can to get the full experience of what cadets has to offer. We understand that sometimes things are unavoidable, and so we are often able to accommodate occasional absences, though it is highly recommended that all of our major camps are attended each year.

What if I move away to another town/city?

You can transfer to another unit if you are moving or feel they are more of what you are into. Come and talk to our staff if you are planning on moving.

How long does it take until I move up?

You can expect to be a cadet for around two years before moving to a new rank. You will move up a training year each year so long as you pass your assessments. Please note that promotion is not an automatic right; it must be earned.

I'm being bullied or don't feel safe at cadets. What can I do?

The NZCF takes anti-bullying very seriously. If you feel unsafe or are getting bullied, please contact the staff immediately.

How do I get involved with the Unit Support Committee?

All parents are automatically members of the USC and can attend any parade night in this capacity. Our USC also have monthly meetings which are advertised on our private Facebook page and start at 1900hrs on Thursday nights.

What will I be doing in the Unit Support Committee?

Our USC is a vital component and mostly assist with our camps and activities. They are responsible for logistics, camp food, managing the unit's finances and organising fundraising. If this is something you think you could help with, please come along and offer your support.

OTHER INFORMATION

GLOSSARY

SQNLDR	Squadron Leader	ADJ	Adjutant
FLTLT	Flight Lieutenant	TO	Training Officer
FGOFF	Flying Officer	NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer
PLTOFF	Pilot Officer	RNZN	Royal New Zealand Navy
OFFCDT	Officer Cadet	RNZAF	Royal New Zealand Air Force
SWO	Squadron Warrant Officer	NZDF	New Zealand Defence Force
W/O	Warrant Officer	NZCF	New Zealand Cadet Forces
F/S	Flight Sergeant	SCC	Sea Cadet Corps
SGT	Sergeant	NZCC	New Zealand Cadet Corps
CPL	Corporal	ATC	Air Training Corps
LAC	Leading Air Cadet	SQN	Squadron
CDT	Cadet	USC	Unit Support Committee
CDTUT	Cadet Under Training	HQNZCF	Headquarters NZCF
SUPPSTAFF	Supplementary Staff	ATCANZ	ATC Association of NZ
CUCDR	Cadet Unit Commander	CWD	Cadet Working Dress
FLTCDR	Flight Commander		

SAFETY AND PRIVACY

In the NZCF, Safety and Privacy are very important. To ease your mind, please see the below:

- All of our volunteers are Police and Security vetted before being allowed to assist with Cadets.
- All activities are documented and risk management /assessment is undertaken to identify and manage any hazards.
- A trained officer will be present at every activity. They also hold a duty of care for your child whilst they are under their control, of which is legally binding and breaches are taken very seriously.
- Contact details for Cadets are taken to every activity.
- A Privacy Statement is available upon request and is attached to the Cadet Enrolment Form.

CONTACTING US / MORE INFORMATION

It is very important as an organisation to stay in touch. We have two Facebook pages (one public, one private for internal communications) and it is likely that during your child's time in the unit they will be published on Social Media.

If you see a post that you feel is unfair, portrays your child negatively, or you simply do not want it online, please send us a private message via the forum in which it is present on and we will remove it.

General enquiries

7sqn@cadetforces.org.nz

Duty Phone

027 776 4636

Website

<https://7squadron.org.nz/>

USC related enquires, such as finances

usc.7sqn@cadetforces.org.nz

Public Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/7SqnAirCadets>

Private Facebook Page (for internal communications)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7sqnparentsandcadetsforum/>

Cadet Unit Commander

cucdr.7sqn@cadetforces.org.nz

