

REGIMENTAL COMPETITIONS

There are two major Competitions at Denbury the Cobb Memorial Trophy and the SO-in-C's. These competitions are composed of several minor competitions, the difference being that in the Cobb Memorial Trophy entire troops take part in the minor competitions and gives points for Champion Troop. The SO-in-C's Trophy however is a competition where there is a team chosen to represent each troop in the minor competitions and the points gained by troops do not count towards Champion Troop

The Cobb Memorial Trophy comprises:

- (a) Commonwealth Trophy Race (b) Cross Country Race (c) Drill Competition
(d) Commanding Officer's Barrack Room Competition (e) PT Competition (f) Obstacle Race

(a) The Commonwealth Trophy Race is a map reading exercise across the moors. Each troop enters six five-man patrols who set off across the moors in different directions and check in at checkpoints formed roughly in a circle. The winning troop is decided by the times of the patrols in the troop added together and then dividing by the number of patrols in the troop.

(b) The Cross Country Race is held over four miles of road, rough track, grass fields and through two rivers. The number of people running, divided into the total of the places they came in and the winning troop is that with the lowest troop average, takes the marking.

(c) The Drill Competition is judged by four different stages. The first one is the inspection after that comes the rifle drill and the turnings at the halt, open order march, and saluting on the march.

(d) The Commanding Officer's Barrack Room Competition is judged by the cleanliness of the barrack rooms, lockers and kit. The most that each Barrack room can obtain is ten points making a maximum of thirty points per troop.

(e) The PT Competition is judged on the inspection of kit, which is a clean white PT vest, clean and pressed PT shorts, clean socks, and black shining PT shoes. After the teamwork in which the troop is divided into four teams for exercises then into groups for group activities. The first and second terms do four heaves on the beam the third and fourth terms go up and down the ropes twice; the fifth and sixth terms do two horizontal stride vaults over the box.

(f) The Obstacle Race is a race again between troops over the Camp Assault Course. The troops enter six patrols each and the time is taken of the first and last man of each patrol to complete the course, which consists of one net, than a jump, a gate vault, a catwalk, a log to run across, a five-foot wall, another two jumps, and after that a twelve-foot wall, and then the finish. The two times of each patrol are added together with the rest of the patrols and then divided by the number of patrols in the troop, to find the winning troop.

The Competitions in the **Signal Officer's Trophy** are as follows:

- (g) Boxing (h) Canoe Race (i) Athletic Standards (j) Pigeon Race (k) Shooting Competition.

(g) The Boxing Competition is also an inter-troop competition like every other competition. The only difference being that only the best boxers in the troops take part, and the winning troop is the one, which wins the most fights.

(h) The Canoe Race is held at Totnes on the River Dart. The course is about half-a-mile long and the number of canoes racing is six at a time.

(i) Athletic Standards are standards in which everybody has to take part. The standards are: 100 yards, 220 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards, 1 mile, javelin, discus, shot-put, high jump and the long jump. Each troop is given until about ten days before the end of each term to obtain as many standards as possible, then all the standards are added up, and the troop with the most standards is the winner.

(j) The Pigeon Race consists of one pigeon per troop trained and fed by the individual troops, and then they are all taken away to Taunton, and at a prearranged time they are let out. The first one home again wins the Competition.

(k) The Shooting Competition is a small bore competition of four parts: grouping, lying application, kneeling application and snap

All trophies awarded as at July 1963

- The 7th Signal Regiment Shield – Champion Troop runners up
- Signal Officers-in-Chief's Senior Trophy – The best troop at Sports and Activates
- Signal Officers-in-Chief's Junior Trophy – Runner up to above
- The Bengal Tiger – The Champion Squadron
- Commonwealth Division Trophy – Winners of the Adventure Training Competition
- Gregory Pennant – Best Patrol on Adventure Training
- Commanding Officer's Trophy – Junior Regimental Sergeant Major
- Commandant Training Brigade Trophy – Best Junior Leader
- Junior Award – Best Recruit of Junior Squadron

Extract from the Junior Mercury – Sep 59

COBB MEMORIAL TROPHY

A feature of the parade at the end of term was the presentation to the Regiment of the COBB Memorial Trophy by Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, GCMG, OBE, CB on behalf of ex-Boys.

This 2ft high silver Mercury commemorates the service given to the Corps by Lt Col FR Cobb, MC, Royal Signals.

In 1925 the Royal Signals Boys were concentrated into F Company at Catterick and for five years Maj Cobb commanded them. He was a gallant Regimental officer and a versatile sportsman. His appointment inaugurated the period when it was realised that ex-Boys are the backbone of the Corps.

It was intended that the trophy should be for Inter Troop Cross Country Running but the Regiment feels that it should be a Troop award taking into account all activities. The competition would count towards it, but so would individual achievements like promotions and good Outward Bound Course results, whilst a period of detention would be a setback for the Troop as well as for the individual. The Trophy Appeal Committee is considering this suggestion and the Regiment will be guided by its opinion.

The Regiment wishes to thank the subscribers for their generosity and will be proud to honour the memory of Lt Col Cobb.



The following troops won the Cobb Memorial Trophy – Champion Troop

Dec-59 White Swan Troop - JSSgt FE Worrall	Apr-60 Anzio Troop - JSgt TM Tracey
Jul-60 White Spear Troop - JSgt DG Edmond	Dec-60 White Spear Troop - JSgt BV Bourgoise
Apr-61 White Spear Troop - JSgt PE Livingston	Aug-61 White Spear Troop - JSgt JK Rodger
Dec-61 Kukri Troop - JSgt JS Beaumont	Apr-62 Kukri Troop - JSgt JM Smith
Jul-62 Kukri Troop - JSgt B Sharpe	Dec-62 Kukri Troop - JSgt M Campbell
Apr-63 Kukri Troop - JSgt RJ Joy	Jul-63 Iron Troop - JSgt JW Reid
Dec-63 Iron Troop - JSgt ID Turner	Apr-64 Iron Troop - JSgt JP Simpson
Aug-64 Iron Troop - JCpl BJ McDonough	Dec-64 Beaufighter Troop - JSgt Boughtflower
Apr-65 Beaufighter Troop - JSgt JR Hall	Aug-65 Beaufighter Troop - JSgt PJ Smith
Dec-65 Kukri Troop - JSgt L Webb	Apr-66 Kukri Troop - JSgt W Allen
Aug-66 Beaufighter Troop - JSgt G Simpson	Dec-66 White Spear Troop - JSgt SW Wright

This Trophy is now in Royal Signals Corps Property at Blandford Camp and according to the plate on the trophy it has never been presented anywhere since December 1966

