

Section 1.0 – Use of Force	Page 1 of 8
Sub Section 1.2 – Intermediate Weapons and Restraints	Effective: January 30, 2012
Subject 1.2.2 – Intermediate Weapons	Revised: February 27, 2020, and January 18, 2021

Definitions

"Director" – the Director of police services referred to in section 39 (1) of the *Police Act*.

"Conducted Energy Weapon" or "CEW" – a weapon designed to use a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person, or to generate compliance through pain.

"Intermediate Weapon" – a device intended or designed to be used as a weapon, but for which the use is not intended or likely to cause serious injury or death. Impact weapons, aerosols and Conducted Energy Weapons fall within this category. Intermediate Weapons may also be referred to as less-lethal weapons.

"Officer" - a constable appointed under the *Police Act* or an enforcement Officer appointed under s. 18.1 of the *Police Act*.

Standards

The chief constable, chief officer, or commissioner:

Approved Intermediate Weapons

- (1) Must ensure that the only Intermediate Weapons carried or used by Officers of their police force have been approved by the Director (see also *BCPPS 1.3.2 Approved CEW Models*). See APPENDIX "A" for a list of approved Intermediate Weapons, their descriptions, and approved specifications.

Maintenance of Intermediate Weapons

- (2.1) Must ensure that each Intermediate Weapon in the inventory of their police force is maintained in good working order.
- (2.2) Must ensure that each Intermediate Weapon is securely stored when not in use.

Training, qualification, and requalification

- (3) Must ensure an Officer successfully completes a training course required by the chief constable, chief officer or commissioner and is qualified to use an Intermediate Weapon before the Officer may be authorized to carry and use that weapon under Standard (1) above (see also *BCPPS 3.2.1 CEW Operator Training*).
- (4) Must ensure any Officer authorized to carry and use an Intermediate Weapon under Standard (1) above is requalified to use that weapon at least once every three years unless otherwise required by *BCPPS* dealing specifically with that Intermediate Weapon (see also *BCPPS 3.2.1 CEW Operator Training*).
- (5) Must ensure that written records are maintained of the Intermediate Weapons training and requalification courses completed by each Officer in the police force.

Off duty carrying of Intermediate Weapons

- (5.1) Must ensure that Officers carry their issued Intermediate Weapons only when on assigned duty, unless otherwise authorized in writing or described in policy.

Policies and procedures

- (6) Must ensure policies and procedures are consistent with these *BC Provincial Policing Standards*.

Section 1.0 – Use of Force	Page 3 of 8
Sub Section 1.2 – Intermediate Weapons and Restraints	Effective: January 18, 2021 Revised: n/a
Subject 1.2.2 – Intermediate Weapons – Appendix ‘A’	

Appendix “A” for BCPPS 1.2.2 Intermediate Weapons

List of Approved Intermediate Weapons

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INTERMEDIATE WEAPON	DESCRIPTION	APPROVED SPECIFICATIONS
<p>Baton (Expandable/Collapsible and Straight)</p>	<p>An expandable/collapsible baton is a cylindrical club with a cylindrical outer shaft containing telescoping inner shafts that lock into each other when expanded. One end section has a foam or similar grip surface. The last section has a weighted cap at the striking tip. The sections open with manual or centrifugal force and lock together with a friction lock or locking collars at each joint. The sections release with either a spring-loaded button or by manually generated downward force, striking the tip on a hard surface. It is carried in a scabbard on the belt of police Officers and used as a compliance tool and defensive weapon by police Officers.</p> <p>A straight baton is a one-piece cylindrical club that is carried as a compliance tool and defensive weapon by police Officers.</p>	<p>Approved models of expandable/collapsible and straight batons are fabricated from metal or other rigid material and are available in lengths of between 12 to 36 inches (30 to 100 cm).</p>
<p>Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW)</p>	<p>A weapon that when discharged uses a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person, or to generate compliance through pain.</p>	<p>BCPPS 1.3.2 identifies specific CEW models approved for use by police in British Columbia.</p> <p>Approved CEW models can attach one cartridge only, have a single horizontal laser sight, fixed rear and front mechanical sights, and an ambidextrous safety switch.</p> <p>Approved CEW models fire two probes by expelling compressed nitrogen capsules, from a single use detachable cartridge which are attached by up to 25 feet (7.62 meters) of conductive wires. The top probe travels</p>

		<p>horizontally in line with the laser sight while the bottom probe travels downward at an eight-degree angle to the intended target.</p> <p>Approved CEW models can also be deployed in direct contact with the intended subject, with the cartridge on or removed.</p> <p>The electrical output of approved CEW models must be within the parameters contained in Appendix "A", attached to BCPPS 1.3.5 CEW Testing.</p>
<p>Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) or Pepper Spray</p>	<p>Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray is an oily organic resin derived from the fruit of plants in the Capsicum genus, such as chilli peppers. When the plants are finely ground, capsicum oleoresin is formed after the extraction process of capsaicin using organic solvents such as ethanol. This agent can be delivered in many forms.</p>	<p>Approved deployment forms of OC weapons include:</p> <p>Blast Dispersion Cartridge: Delivers a cloud of micro pulverized OC powder.</p> <p>Micro pulverized Dust Disbursement Device/Ferret: Are free from the effects of fire, concussion, or fragmentation. Can be thrown, launched, or air-dropped and has a variable expulsion delay mechanism, which, when fired, drives a piston forcing the micro pulverized capsaicin dust payload through a machined discharge port. These forms are also capable of penetrating structures.</p> <p>Aerosol Projector: Contains a substance enclosed under pressure and able to be released as a fine spray, typically by means of a propellant gas.</p> <p>Fog: A spray pattern that is denser than aerosol.</p> <p>Pepper Foam: A uniquely formulated OC solution in which the OC is encapsulated with a surfactant, giving it a rigid jet foam dispersion.</p>

<p>CS or Tear Gas</p>	<p>CS is the common name for orthochlorbenzalmalononitrile, a fine white powder, about the consistency of talcum powder, and it must be spread with some type of dispersing agent. CS Gas is commonly referred to as "Tear Gas".</p>	<p>Blast Dispersion Cartridge: Designed to deliver a cloud of micro pulverized CS "tear gas" irritant powder.</p> <p>Mulcropulverized Dust Disbursement Device/Ferret: Are free from the effects of fire, concussion, or fragmentation. Can be thrown, launched, or air-dropped and has a variable expulsion delay mechanism, which, when fired, drives a piston which forces the micro pulverized capsaicin dust payload through a machined discharge port. These forms are also capable of penetrating structures.</p> <p>Aerosol: A substance enclosed under pressure and able to be released as a fine spray, typically by means of a propellant gas.</p> <p>Fog: A spray pattern that is denser than aerosol.</p>
<p>Less-lethal Disbursement Device</p>	<p>Less-lethal Disbursement Devices are most commonly used in tactical or crowd management situations and are designed with indoor/outdoor operations in mind. They are most effective when used in confined areas and close to the target area to minimize the risks to all parties through pain compliance, temporary discomfort and/or incapacitation of potentially violent or dangerous subjects. Less-lethal Disbursement Devices can discharge small rubber or plastic pellets, irritant gasses (OS, CS), or smoke.</p> <p>Disbursement Devices can be hand thrown, launched, or</p>	<p>Approved models may have a body composed either of sheet steel with emission holes on the top and bottom capable of discharging OC/CS irritants, or smoke (available in many colours), or a rubber body containing a fuse, a separating fuse body, a black powder separation charge, a pressed black powder delay, a bursting charge of flash powder, or rubber pellets.</p> <p>Approved launchers include an attachment to 12 gauge, 37- or 40-mm launchers.</p> <p>Approved "Gas Injector Units" attach to the end of a ram bar at the front of a tactical vehicle and are designed to penetrate the surface of a structure with a steel jackhammer "needle" and inject agents, including smoke, into a structure.</p>

	<p>OC/CS irritant and smoke Disbursement Devices can also be inserted through structural barriers using a gas injector unit.</p>	
<p>Extended Range Impact Weapons/Kinetic Energy Impact Projectile</p>	<p>Extended Range Impact Weapon (ERIW): The ERIW consist of a device firing a special projectile designed to gain compliance, overcome resistance, or prevent serious injury or death.</p> <p>Kinetic Energy Impact Projectile (KEIP): Flexible or non-flexible projectiles, which are intended to gain compliance or incapacitate a subject through pain compliance, with a reduced potential for causing death or serious injury when properly used.</p>	<p>Approved models include multi or single-shot launchers in 12 gauge, 37 or 40mm capable of discharging the following approved munitions:</p> <p>"RUBBER & PLASTIC BULLETS or PELLET ROUNDS" are solid spherical, or cylindrical projectiles capable of being discharged from the 12 gauge, 37 or 40mm launchers, and fired as single shots or in groups of multiple projectiles. Approved projectiles are made of rubber, plastic, PVC, or composite materials.</p> <p>"SPONGE ROUNDS" are projectiles that limit penetration of the projectile into the skin by having a tip or nose that is slightly softer. Sponge rounds are constructed with a hard foam nose or attenuated energy (collapsing on impact) projectiles with a hollow nose and are available in 37 and 40mm sizes.</p> <p>"BEAN BAG ROUNDS" also known as flexible batons, are synthetic cloth bags made of cotton and Kevlar filled with small bird shot pellets. The bags are fitted into a plastic 12 GA cartridge and expand to shape when deployed presenting a consistent aerodynamic shape.</p>
<p>Pepper Ball</p>	<p>Pepper balls are a projectile filled with irritant compounds, launched from a device like a paintball gun. They are designed to create a cloud of irritant designed to affect the eyes, nose and throat of the people who are exposed to the</p>	<p>Approved models include multi-shot launchers similar to paintball guns, capable of discharging the following approved munitions:</p> <p>.68 calibre pellets with a semi-rigid breakable outer shell and are filled</p>

	<p>cloud. Pepperball projectiles can also be inert, in that there is no irritant dispersed.</p>	<p>with OC resin, CS powder, PAVA resin, water, or a liquid marking dye.</p> <p>.68 calibre window breaking pellets that are solid and not intended for use against humans.</p>
<p>Extended Range Launcher (gas and Disbursement Device) and Launching Cup Adapter with Launching Cartridge.</p>	<p>Such launchers are also often known as "gas guns" due to their original use by police for launching tear gas projectiles. Launching cup adapters with launching cartridges allow the long-range use of smoke, OC, and CS Disbursement Devices (which would normally be thrown) to be launched from the 37mm, 40mm launchers as well as 12-gauge shotguns.</p> <p>NOTE: "Disbursement Device" used in this context are all less-lethal munitions and not designed to cause death or dismemberment as in the primary function of military Disbursement Devices.</p>	<p>Approved models must be 12 gauge, 37 or 40mm launching systems for less-lethal ammunition. Launching cup adapters can be added to some of these launchers and with the use of a launching cartridge, Disbursement Devices can be deployed at greater distances.</p>
<p>Distraction Devices</p>	<p>A Flash Bang Diversionary Device (FBDD), also known as a Noise Flash Diversionary Device (NFDD) is a less-lethal explosive device used to temporarily disorient a subject's senses.</p>	<p>Approved models produce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a temporarily blinding flash of light not exceeding eight million candelas for ten milliseconds; and • a loud "bang" causing temporary disruption of hearing, not exceeding 175 decibels at five feet (1.5 meters). <p>Approved models are available in single use or reloadable devices with single or multiple blast capability.</p>