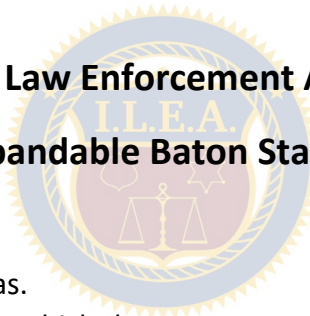


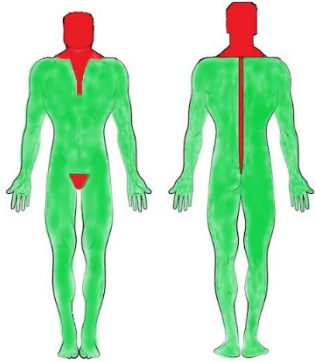
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Expandable Baton Standards



OBJECTIVES: The student will:

- Understand the five no target areas.
- Articulate the circumstances under which these areas may become target zones



- Head
- Neck
- Spine
- Sternum
- Groin

Intentionally targeting these areas would be justified during a deadly force situation.

DEPLOYING THE BATON IN CLOSED MODE.



OBJECTIVES: The student will demonstrate the following principles:

- Strong combat stance. Weight balanced evenly, feet shoulder width apart with the strong side/ weapon side leg back.
- Retrieve the baton without looking at the holster and draw to a ready position.
- Thumb on tip of baton.
- End cap pointing towards the threat.
- Verbalization and command presence as the student comes to the ready position.
- Baton over weapon side shoulder.

CLOSED MODE STRIKES.

OBJECTIVES: The student will show proficiency in the following techniques.

1. **Weapon side/ strong side closed mode strike:**-The baton is held in the weapon hand with a four fingered grip, the thumb is over the tip of the baton to prevent it from extending. The baton is held in the ready position, with the end cap pointing towards the threat. The strike comes down from the shoulder at a 45 degree angle. The officer uses the end cap as the striking surface stabbing the end cap into the desired target area. Officers should verbalize throughout the encounter telling the subject what they want them to do.



2. **Reaction side/ support side closed mode strike:**-The baton is held in the weapon hand with a full hand grip, thumb over the tip of the baton. The baton is high up on the reaction side shoulder with the end cap facing towards the threat. The strike is delivered at a downward 45 degree angle across the officer's body from reaction side to weapon side. The officer thrusts the end cap into the target area. Officers should verbalize throughout the encounter.



3. **Closed mode straight strike:**-The baton is held in the weapon hand with a full hand grip. The baton is held in the ready position up on the weapon side shoulder with the end cap pointing towards the threat. The thumb of the weapon hand comes off the tip and wraps around the fingers to protect it during the strike. The weapon hand has now made a fist around the baton. The officer strikes with their knuckles as if they were delivering a punch striking with the first two knuckles. The strike is delivered at a downward 45 degree angle and can be delivered with a vertical or horizontal fist.



OPENING THE EXPANDABLE BATON.

OBJECTIVES: The student will demonstrate the three modes of opening the baton and show proficiency in the below techniques:

To the sky:-The baton is drawn from the scabbard and held in a firm full hand grip with the weapon hand. The baton is forcefully flicked tip up towards the sky. The weapon arm should come to full extension. This should be a sharp swift movement with a flick of the wrist as the arm reaches full extension. The baton is then brought down to the weapon side shoulder, end cap facing towards the threat and the tip extending over the shoulder back behind the officer.



To the ground:-The baton is drawn from the scabbard and held in the weapon hand with a firm full hand grip. The baton is forcefully and purposefully flicked towards the ground with the weapon arm reaching full extension. The weapon arm continues past the body in a smooth circular motion and the extended baton comes to rest on the weapon side shoulder with the end cap towards the threat and the baton extended over the shoulder, tip pointing behind the officer.



During the strike:-The baton is drawn from the scabbard and held in the weapon hand with a firm full hand grip. The baton is brought up to the weapon side shoulder in the closed mode. The baton is forcefully brought down at a 45 degree angle in the same way as an open weapon side strike. The officer does not cover the tip with their thumb and instead allows the baton to come to full extension during the initial strike. The officer can then perform an open reaction side strike to return to the ready position.



OPEN MODE STRIKES.

OBJECTIVES: The student will show proficiency in the following techniques.

Open mode weapon side/ strong side strike:-The baton is held in the ready position resting on the weapon side shoulder with the end cap facing towards the threat and the tip extended behind the weapon side shoulder. The strike comes from the shoulder at a downward 45 degree angle. The strike is aimed for the center mass of the target area striking with the last three inches of the shaft.



Open mode reaction side/ support side strike:-The baton comes from the reaction side shoulder at a downward 45 degree angle across the officer's body. The strike ends on the weapon side with the end cap facing the threat and the tip extended behind the weapon side shoulder. The strike is delivered with the last three inches of the shaft avoiding the no target areas. This strike is also known as a clearance strike.



Open mode straight strike:-The baton is gripped in both hands, weapon hand on the handle reaction hand on the shaft both hands are palm down. The strike is delivered at a downward 45 degree angle. The shaft between the hands is used as the striking surface. This strike usually targets the lower abdomen with the goal of pushing an adversary back or crumpling them around their center.



Holstering the baton:-The baton should only be holstered if the threat has ceased or if the officer is transitioning to another tool. If the officer has a side break scabbard (holster) they can holster the baton in the open mode. The tip of the baton will extend out of the bottom of the scabbard, the officer can pull the baton up then out of the side break, quickly bringing the weapon back into the fight if needed. When closing a **friction lock** baton the officer should first bring the baton off their shoulder bringing the reaction hand up and under the baton. The baton is rotated so that the tip is down towards the ground. The officer holds the baton tip down in their weapon hand, reaction hand is up for defense, and eyes are on the subject and scanning for threats. The officer drops down to one knee driving the tip of the baton into an unforgiving surface to close the expandable baton. If the baton does not close the officer can tap the side of the baton on the ground then drive the tip into the ground again. The officer's eyes and reaction hand should be up the entire time that the baton is being collapsed and holstered. **Mechanical locking batons those with a push button to close should**

NOT be driven into the ground. Mechanical locking batons should be held in the weapon hand with the thumb pushing the button, the reaction hand can push the tip to collapse the baton. Mechanical locking batons can also be closed in the scabbard by depressing the button as the tip is pushed into the scabbard.



Holster and handcuff:-In order to show proficiency the officer must holster the baton and then handcuff a subject in either the kneeling or prone position. If the student has a side break baton they can holster the baton in the open mode. The student should demonstrate sound officer safety, keep their focus on the subject and keeping their reaction hand up for defense as they holster the baton.

Sparing a striking bag:-The student must show proficiency in each strike by free sparing against an opponent holding a striking bag. The student must show control by striking the correct areas and avoiding the no strike zones. The student must show proper stance and effective movement to maintain their balance as they strike the moving target. The student should spar the bag for at least thirty seconds. This drill can be done with a foam baton and an instructor in a red man suit. The drill can be done with a foam or real baton and an instructor holding an appropriate striking bag. If these options are not available the drill can be done with the student striking a free standing punching bag, however the student should also move around the bag to show proficient footwork.