

## Spouse Events and Information

To help you better understand the structure of this course, we have included some key information.

**What is the Captain's Career Course?** The Aviation Officer Captain's Career Course (AVC3) is a mandatory professional school required by the Army as part of developing into a company commanding officer.

**What is an SGL?** The Small Group Leader (SGL) is company grade qualified. He/she was selected for this nominative assignment based on performance and success as a company commander. The SGL has several roles. First, he/she is responsible and accountable for all the members of the team-as is the case for any first line supervisor in all military organizations. Second, he/she is a mentor, here to provide guidance and examples for your spouses. Third, the SGL facilitates the small group instruction, not by teaching (though SGLs do teach some blocks of instruction) but rather ensuring that Officers in Training (OIT) are teaching each other proper doctrine and meeting prescribed standards.

**What is a Team?** The AVC3 class consists of approximately 65 students. The students are broken up into small groups called teams. Your spouse's team will consist of approximately 16 students and he/she will remain with that team for the duration of the course.

**What should I expect at the Icebreaker?** This event is designed to allow socialization between the permanent party members of AVC3, the commander, SGLs and their spouses and the students and their spouses (you!). Dress is casual for this event.

**What should I expect at the FRG Brunch?** This event is designed to give you some resources to be able to effectively lead an FRG. It is geared toward soldiers who have not yet had a command, and their spouses. There will be a general presentation and then small group break-outs where you will have a chance to ask some senior soldiers and spouses any and all questions pertaining to FRG. Your children are welcome at this event and the dress is casual. Children have been allowed at this event in the past, but generally it's more difficult with children to be able to get the most out of this experience, so we encourage hourly care for this event or finding an appropriate sitter.

**What should I expect at the Commanding General Spouse's Coffee?** The coffee is an event hosted at the General's residence. We meet in the parking lot 15 minutes prior to the event and then walk down the steps to the back door together after everyone has arrived. After eating and socialization there will be a time where Mrs. Gayler facilitates discussion on a myriad of topics (in past coffees we have discussed the perks and pitfalls of different duty stations, more FRG tips, schools on post, how Fort Rucker can serve you better, etc). The discussion tends to be really informative. Dress is business casual (no jeans!). Your soldier will have the morning off to be able to watch your children (if you have any) while you attend this event.

**What should I expect at the Military Ball?** The ball is a mandatory event for all students and is encouraged for the spouses as well. It is a formal event requiring formal evening attire (dress blues for soldiers and evening gown for female spouses or suit for male spouses). The ball will have a short official program, dinner, and a guest speaker. There is generally no dancing at this ball, but often there is live music. Typically held at the Enterprise Country Club.

**What should I expect at the Graduation?** The graduation ceremony is another mandatory event for all students. It is held at the Aviation Museum, and students are required to wear dress blue uniforms. Spouses typically wear business casual or dresses for this event. There is a short official ceremony with a guest speaker and then a presentation of completion certificates to each student.