

Armor School Announces Sullivan Cup 2022

The Sullivan Cup, the competition for the title of “Best Armor Crew in the U.S. Army,” is slated April 24-May 6, 2022, at Fort Benning, GA. The competition is open to the public and is hosted by the Maneuver Center of Excellence, the U.S. Army Armor School and 316th Cavalry Brigade.

The event is held over a grueling 13-day period that rigorously tests U.S. Army Soldiers in physical fitness and gunnery skills, as well as tank and Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew tasks.

“This year’s competition promises to be a rigorous event experienced by the top qualified crews in the U.S. Army,” said BG Thomas M. Feltey, Chief of Armor/commandant of the U.S. Army Armor School, in announcing the competition. “The title of ‘most lethal tank and Bradley crew’ can be achieved only by two crews that demonstrate the highest excellence in their craft. Each armored/mechanized division throughout the Army will provide their best tank and scout Bradley crews to compete for the honor of this distinction. We look forward to hosting this world-class event.”



Figure 1. SPC Michael Adams, tank gunner, Company C, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, prepares to disassemble and reassemble a M240 machinegun as part of the gunnery-skills competition during the 2012 Sullivan Cup precision tank-gunnery competition at Fort Benning, GA. (Photo by SPC Brandon Bednarek, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division)

The competition was named for retired GEN Gordon R. Sullivan. GEN Sullivan was commissioned as an Armor officer and commanded many armor formations throughout his storied career. GEN Sullivan retired from the Army July 31, 1995, after more than 36 years of service, which culminated as the 32nd Chief of Staff. His commitment to the Armor Force exemplifies the spirit of our Armor Soldiers.

As the Chief of Staff of the Army, he created the vision and led the team that transitioned the Army from its Cold War posture. In August 1993, President Bill Clinton assigned the duties and responsibility of acting Secretary of the Army to GEN Sullivan, who continued to serve as Chief of Staff.

He is the co-author, with Michael V. Harper, of *Hope Is Not a Method* (Random House, 1996), which chronicles the enormous challenges encountered in transforming the post-Cold War Army through the lens of proven leadership principles and a commitment to shared values. He serves on the boards of several major corporations and is the chairman of the Board of Trustees of Norwich University; a director of the Institute of Defense Analyses; and the chairman emeritus of the Marshall Legacy Institute. GEN Sullivan is also the president and chief operating officer of the Association of the United States Army, headquartered in Arlington, VA. For his work with AUSA, he was awarded the prestigious Sylvanus Thayer Award by the U.S. Military Academy in 2003.

During his Army career, Sullivan also served as vice chief of staff; deputy chief of staff for operations and plans; commanding general, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Riley, KS; deputy commandant, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS; and assistant commandant, U.S. Army Armor School, Fort Knox, KY. His overseas assignments included four tours in Europe, two in Vietnam and one in Korea.



Figure 2. 1LT John Dupre, a tank commander with the North Carolina Army National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 252nd Armored Regiment, directs his crew's fire from the hatch of their M1A1 Abrams tank while engaging targets on the range during the GEN Gordon Sullivan Cup best-tank-crew competition at Fort Benning, GA, May 2, 2016. The Sullivan Cup tests tank crews from throughout the Army on everything from gunnery to mounted land navigation, maintenance and combat-casualty care in a variety of physically and mentally challenges to determine the Army's best armor crew. (U.S. Army photo by SFC Jon Soucy, National Guard Bureau)