Annex D  Medical Services

Recommendations for Medical Services at FEI Competitions

1  Medical Attendance at Event

The on-site provision of medical care must be available during the hours of the Competition and must include the training areas, stables and on-site accommodation.

First aid must also be provided for spectators during the hours of Competition.

A qualified physician with Advanced Trauma Life Support certification (“ATLS”), a paramedic with Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or International Trauma Life Support (“ITLS”) certification, or a nurse with Trauma Nurse Core Curriculum (“TNCC”) or the equivalent of any of the above in the country in which the Event takes place (hereinafter a “Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist”) must have credentials allowing access to the entire facility at all times including the stable area and finish area during Competition.

2  Chief Medical Officer

A Chief Medical Officer, suitably experienced and with local knowledge must be appointed well in advance, to act in liaison with the Organising Committee and the emergency services for the adequate provision of medical resources.

A meeting of medical officers or delegates should be held at the Cross Country venue to familiarise them with the Event plan and services available by the host physicians or the Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist in case of emergency.

A list of phone numbers of medical officers for each team should be obtained at every Competition.

For teams with no physician, the physiotherapist, or trainer, or lay person designated as a contact in the Event of a medical emergency should give a contact phone number to the host physicians or the Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist.

3  Cross Country and Jumping Test

During the Cross Country and Jumping Test, a fully equipped Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist with trauma and resuscitation skills must be available on site and must have the capability of rapid deployment to any part of the arena or course in adverse conditions.

Radio communication must be made available to alert the emergency services and a telephone line or cell phone must be reserved for immediate communication with the designated accident and emergency hospital.

The Cross Country Test will require Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist. The required number will depend on the layout of the courses and the accessibility of the site. However, there must be at least one Pre-Hospital Trauma Care Specialist present throughout all the tests.

A Medical Centre or ambulance should be established on site during Competition hours for the treatment of minor ailments and for the observation and initial treatment of serious injuries or illness.

Rapid routes for access and departure must be prepared and safeguarded for the expeditious transfer of the seriously injured to the hospital.

Depending on the access to the site and the distance to hospital, helicopter evacuation may be required. A suitable landing area should be provided for the helicopter ambulance.

If an Athlete falls at a Competition, he will not be allowed to continue without a medical assessment, even if the Athlete has no obvious injury. Frustrated Athletes who fall and then refuse medical attention create an issue for the host medical service providers.

Athletes have the right to refuse treatment, but not the right to compete with injuries that may be undetected.
Annex D.1  EA CNC/CCN Medical and Veterinary Services

8. MEDICAL

- A first aid service must be present at all times.
- Emergency vehicles must be able to access all parts of the venue.

Cross Country Test

- An ambulance (or paramedic equivalent) MUST be present during the cross-country test.
- A Doctor SHOULD be present during the cross-country tests.
- If the ambulance (or paramedic equivalent) is not on the ground, then the event must be halted.

Jumping Test

- A Doctor (with an appropriately equipped first aid service) and/or a fully equipped emergency ambulance (or paramedic equivalent) should be present during the jumping test.

The EA Branch or its representative (i.e. the Technical Delegate) may vary these requirements in exceptional circumstances.

9. VETERINARY

- A Veterinary Surgeon must be present during the jumping and cross-country tests.
- A Veterinary Surgeon must be available on call for the duration of the event.
- The EA Branch or its representative (e.g. the Technical Delegate) may vary these requirements in exceptional circumstances.
- Should there be no Veterinary Surgeon present, all athletes should be informed before they compete.

Destruction of Severely Injured Horses

If a horse is so severely injured that on humanitarian grounds it ought to be destroyed, the following procedure will apply:

- If the owner or his authorised representative is present, his agreement will first be obtained by the official Veterinary Surgeon.
- If the owner or his representative is not available, the Technical Delegate, acting on the advice of the official Veterinary Surgeon, may order the destruction of the horse.

Communication

Organisers must arrange adequate communication involving all emergency services and key officials.

Athlete Fitness & Medical card

It is compulsory that athletes, during the Cross-Country Test, carry visibly on their person a medical card including any relevant medical history of serious illness, injury (particularly to the head), tetanus immunity status, drug allergies, current medication and blood group. Each athlete should also provide the contact numbers of two persons close to kin at this time.

Athletes are responsible to record all injuries on the Medical card.

Examination after a fall - Medical Fitness

If there is any doubt in regard to fitness to compete the Ground Jury or Technical Delegate may eliminate the athlete at its discretion.

A veterinarian and/or an Official Medical Officer as appropriate should examine all horses and athletes that have a fall during training or competition before they either take part in another test, event or leave the competition site.

Control of Medication of Horses and Athletes

The Control of Medication of Horses must be conducted in accordance with the FEI General Regulations and FEI Veterinary Regulations, and the Equestrian Australia National Medication Control Policy and EADMC Rules.

The Control of Medication of Athletes must be conducted in accordance with the FEI General Regulations Article 145, the Australian Sports Doping Agency (ASDA) and the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA).

Athletes are responsible for knowing what constitutes an anti-doping violation and the substances and methods which have been included on the prohibited list. Athletes may be required to complete and submit a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application before participating in events.

Some substances included in the list of prohibited substances are used to treat medical conditions frequently encountered. For these substances no TUE is required, instead a Declaration of Use (DoU) must be submitted by the athlete.