**Control procedure for handling falls**

The Cross Country Controller (XCC) has developed this procedure to formalise the process associated with handling rider falls at fences to ensure consistency and clarity.

In the instance of a fall, fence judges have been instructed to radio in their location, that there has been a fall, and whether course is CLEAR or BLOCKED.

COURSE CLEAR

If the call is made that the course is clear then the course may remain open and the fence judge will be instructed to ensure a fall report is completed. The fence judge will be asked to advise the rider (if still there and able) to make their way back to the Doctor / medical crew and also that the horse must be checked by the Vet.

**N.B:** If a radio call is consequently made that medical or veterinary assistance *is* required despite the course being called clear, then depending on the area medical is required to attend (away from the course), the course ***may*** remain open (hot) unless requested be held by the Doctor, Technical Delegate or senior official. This is dependent on the ability for the medical crew to respond to another incident.

COURSE BLOCKED

If the call is made that the course is blocked, the start will be immediately be held, oncoming horses held at the closest appropriate stopping fence closest to the caller, and medical despatched.

The XC Coordinator or course crew if in the vicinity of the Medical tender vehicle, will lead them to the incident. The medical crew has been asked to confirm their arrival at the incident with control via radio so response time can be recorded.

When all horses on course have been held, and remaining horses after the point of the incident have completed the course, the XCC will declare the course COLD and hand over to the Technical Delegates and Ground Jury (and SIMP Personnel) to manage the situation.

\*\*Depending on where the incident occurs on course, and the ability to attend to *another* incident on course (a spare medical vehicle), riders *AFTER* the incident may be stopped and held for reasons of safety, viz; you can’t attend two falls with one medical crew!

The XCC will keep the fences updated with progress and ensure adequate warning for those in the warm up areas.

Horses Stopped on Course.

Stopping times for horses held on course will be radioed in by the fence judge and recorded by the XCC and relayed to scorers. TD’s may be required to oversee the restarting of held horses. Restart times for each held rider will be conveyed to the XCC once all have been restarted.

NO horses can be restarted until the XCC has given the authority to do so and this will only be given AFTER it is confirmed:

* with the CD that the course OK,
* that the medical provider is back in position, ready and able to respond,
* the fence judge is back in position and is ok to continue – (check with them),
* the TD is satisfied the area is safe,
* and lastly the Ground Jury (if present) is happy to continue.

Full Course Restart

The start and XC marshall will be updated and provided an estimated time for restart (may not be accurate) but NOT be given authority to recommence their starting sequence until the last horse held on course has been restarted – as the XCC cannot tell when this will be. Stick to that time if possible so be generous but realistic.

When the XCC gives authority to restart held horses, the course will be declared HOT by the XCC and open for competition.

Note

All officials are reminded that if driving to the scene of an incident, that they park well out of the way of the course and the fence, and to be aware of horses that may be still on course.