



HORSE TRIALS CRISIS PLAN

Prepared by the USEA Safety Committee

This plan is a guideline to assist organizers in developing a crisis plan for implementation at their competition.

This plan coordinates the management of an incident involving a serious human or equine injury or fatality. A predetermined radio code shall be given to alert the appropriate personnel of the situation.

Duties

1. Control will notify the Crisis Team (CT) that should consist of the Technical Delegate (TD), Ground Jury President (GJP), Safety Coordinator (SC), Veterinarian (DVM) and Organizer's Representative (OR). The CT shall respond to the accident site or a designated area for the appropriate instructions or mobilization.
2. SC will discuss situation with EMS and/or Veterinary personnel as appropriate and report back to the CT. SC will direct or augment medical efforts. DVM will direct or augment veterinary efforts.
3. OR (upon consultation with CT) should designate a representative to accompany injured rider to hospital for assistance and communications back to the CT as appropriate. This may include assisting hospital personnel in notifying family members or obtaining data from event information.
4. In the event of a human fatality, the OR (upon consultation with the CT) will designate one person to coordinate communications with law enforcement representatives and/or the coroner.
5. In the event of an equine fatality, the DVM will enact plan for transport of horse to designated facility for necropsy and report to CT.
6. For security and confidentiality, limited discussion of the incident will take place on the Radio. Any communication about the incident should be done in person or by telephone. If the accident involves a fatality, it is very important that this not be publicly reported until the proper time as determined by the CT.
7. Upon the direction of the CT, no statements shall be made to the press or at the competition unless approved by GJP and TD. OR shall designate an area for questions/answers and press conference if indicated.
8. Per USEA Crisis Plan, reports shall be completed by the CT using the appropriate member(s) as resources and faxed to USEA Office.
9. Chief Executive Officer, Jo Whitehouse should be contacted as soon as possible with appropriate details and she will communicate with Safety Chair, Jennifer Bodtmann or vice-versa.

Emergency Response

1. Control will direct communications and response as appropriate and fence reporting will continue for other horses on course. Per communications with TD and GJP, Controller will begin holding procedures if necessary. Control may utilize secondary frequency for incident communications.
2. Announcer will inform the public that there is a hold on course, but not go into any details. Time should be filled with interviews, etc. In special circumstances such as ambulance response on property, horse trailer responding for evacuation of horse or medical helicopter landing, Announcer and Control may have to coordinate evacuation of the necessary areas including securing of horses by direction of the SC.
3. Control will ascertain from SC as to status of medical personnel on site and from DVM regarding Veterinary personnel and if hold is necessary until back up coverage is in place. TD and GJP shall be advised as soon as possible.
4. After consultation with GJP and TD, Control will begin procedures for resuming competition at the appropriate time.

Action at Fence

1. Screens should be placed around an accident while any treatment is taking place.
2. Crowds should be kept a safe distance from accident.
3. Take rider or horse into ambulance as quickly as possible, subject to EMS or DVM advice. The course should be cleared as soon as possible to continue the competition.
4. Fence repair crews shall dictate repair of fence. GJP and TD with advice from CT shall determine if fence should be removed from course. OR will obtain necessary equipment and supplies for use by fence repair.
5. Fence judges may need to be replaced. If so, they should be taken to an area where they will be required to give statements. Any other experienced equestrian people who witnessed the accident will also be asked to make statements. The fence judges may need counseling or assistance following a serious accident, even some months later. OR shall utilize replacement fence judges.

6. EMS and other medical personnel may be restricted by HIPAA regulations for release of medical information. Obtain all available information as possible and refer to the appropriate agency on incident reports. Limited information is better than no information at all. OR and SC should discuss this with EMS personnel prior to the event for streamlining of communications following the incident.

CRISIS TEAM

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Radio Frequency</u>	<u>Cellular</u>
Technical Delegate			
Ground Jury President			
Ground Jury Member			
Ground Jury Member			
Safety Coordinator			
Veterinarian			
Organizers Representative			
Announcer			
Controller			