



Irish Pony Club Medical Plan

It is the responsibility of the Organizer to have the appropriate medical cover for the type of event, taking into account the number of participants and spectators.

The Organizer should carry out a written Risk Assessment.

Medical Cover should be arranged according to Minimum First Aid cover at Irish Pony Club Competitions.

The organizer should prepare a **Medical Officer's Pack** in advance of the competition, to include:

- Injury Report Forms
- Concussion Forms
- Relevant Emergency Phone Numbers (ambulance, hospital, chief steward, organizer, safety officer)
- Competition Programme with Planned Times
- Map of the Cross-Country Course where Applicable

At the Competition:

- Ensure adequate communications (radio/mobile phone) between medical personnel and between Organizer and medical personnel.
- The procedure for contacting the emergency services must be agreed with the Medical Provider.
- Appropriate emergency telephone numbers should be listed and a copy supplied to the secretary's office.
- The appropriate Accident Forms must be completed and returned to HQ in the event of an accident.
- A copy of the Evidence of Insurance should be displayed.

Basic Standards of Medical Care:

- The ambulance must be able to reach all parts of the ground where the activity is taking place. This may mean that a Four-Wheel Drive vehicle is required, particularly if there are any concerns around ground conditions. A Four-Wheel Drive vehicle must be capable of transporting an injured person on a stretcher that can be securely fastened i.e. the vehicle must be either purpose built or specially adapted for the purpose of transporting injured people. If the ambulance is required to leave the ground for any reason (e.g. to transport a seriously injured person to hospital), the type of activity that requires the presence of an ambulance must stop unless there is another ambulance with suitably qualified personnel on the ground.
- The doctor or paramedic must have access to standard resuscitation drugs and analgesia that can be given without authorisation. The reason for having personnel present who are trained to a higher standard than an EMT is so that additional care

can be provided that may be lifesaving. These personnel should also be capable of providing care and advice to competitors with suspected concussion.

- Fence judges at cross country events should be asked to make a note of any loss of consciousness, whether a competitor is slow to get up or seems unsteady on their feet, as these signs may be an indication of head injury or concussion. If possible, on the day, the Appointed Person or First Aid Provider should have the opportunity to talk to the fence judges at the briefing.
- Concussion – in the event of concussion, which may occur without loss of consciousness, riders are not allowed to ride again and an examination by a doctor is advisable, immediately at the competition or following transfer to hospital. These riders or their parents/guardians (if under 18), should be issued with a concussion advice form by the Medical Officer.
- Any competitor who has a fall should see the medical personnel on the day and be passed fit to ride if he/she wishes to ride again at the same competition.

Action list for doctors/ambulance personnel on arrival/during event:

- Report arrival immediately to Organizer.
- Inspect and collect Medical Officer's pack.
- Drive around the site, including cross country, if applicable, checking locations, access to arenas and fences.
- Decide strategic placement of personnel/vehicles.
- Agree incident procedures with Doctor, Chief Steward and radio control
- Try to be aware of the Chief Steward's whereabouts.
- Contact local hospital, if necessary
- Check riders who report after falling.

The Doctor's vehicle and at least one ambulance should be able to reach all parts of the site, therefore, these vehicles should be Four Wheel Drive.

If the ambulance is required to leave the site to transport a casualty, the Medical Officer and Chief Steward must be informed and the competition may be suspended.

This document should have an annual review.

Date of next review January 2021.