

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	4/1/2026	5/22/2025	

Extraordinary Change Reason

Currently, shows are using 911 services without providing advanced notice to EMS providers.

Rule Change Intent

As currently written the rules require that an ambulance be on call or on site, however, many shows are utilizing 911 services if ambulance support is needed. This change clarifies the ambulance coverage requirements for USEF licensed and endorsed events. For events that are not using an onsite ambulance or contracted on-call ambulance service and are instead relying on calling 911 for ambulance services in an emergency, they must provide formal notice to local EMS providers of the event that will occur, along with key information that is critical for emergency response. The EMS communication checklist of information, which must be communicated to the local EMS in advance of an event, will be posted on the USEF website.

Proponent Details

Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

GR847 Use of Qualified Medical Personnel

2. ***One of the following requirements must be satisfied*** during all scheduled performances at all competitions and during all paid scheduled schooling sessions over fences, including ~~one~~ 4 day prior to the start of the competition, if applicable. ~~Exception: Endurance Competitions.~~ ***Ambulance***

requirements:

- a. An ambulance must be ***contracted to be*** on the competition grounds or on call ***through written agreement, or***
- b. ***The local EMS providers must be provided notice through the EMS Communication Checklist that the competition is taking place. The EMS Communication Checklist can be found on the Federation website. If local EMS providers are utilized, the details of the notice to local EMS must be documented in the Steward's or TD report, including the date and time of the call, name of the individual who called, and information communicated to the local EMS provider.***

EMS Required Communication Checklist

This is a template of Key Emergency Action Protocol Information for the safety coordinator to communicate to local EMS when an event will be relying on calling 911 for EMS services, and no ambulance services will be on site for the event. Contact the non-emergency number for the local EMS provider that covers the competition site 1 week prior to the event start date as well as on the first day of competition (including any licensed schooling days) to provide this information. Please work with the competition officials to determine what information should be communicated for your specific event as competition circumstances vary widely.

- **Name and description of the equestrian event**
- **Event dates (start to end)**
- **Location address:** Event address and geographic coordinates or closest major intersection, including venue open access points for emergency services that can fit emergency vehicle size
- **Provide a map of the competition course** (if applicable, i.e., endurance race or cross-country course)
- **Emergency cell phone contact** for safety coordinator and a second contact (i.e., show manager)
- **Approximate number of competitors and spectators** anticipated at the event and the age range (i.e., children to elderly)
- **Terrain, vehicular access considerations, environmental hazards (water obstacles, ditches)**
- What qualified medical personnel (QMP) will be on site?
- Ask EMS, is there additional information that you need from us regarding the equestrian event?

The safety coordinator must document on the Steward or TD report submitted to USEF the caller name, the EMS station call recipient's name and their contact number, and the dates contacted.

Equestrian event specific factors to communicate to EMS:

- Communicate that there are horses throughout the event grounds and that horses may spook or run when reacting to sirens or emergency vehicle lights. Emergency vehicles should turn off emergency lights and sirens when entering the venue grounds. Note to EMS that there may be horses, riders, and horse trailers in parking lots and throughout the venue and to drive slowly and cautiously around animals.
- If the event features a cross country or endurance course, communicate that the course may not be accessible fully by emergency vehicle and that the EMS may need to travel by foot with portable medical gear, gator, ATV, or by golf cart.
- Ensure that designated access point gates for emergency vehicles are unlocked or will have personnel controlling access during the event and that the gates are wide (at least 20 feet) and tall (at least 13 feet) enough for ambulance vehicle entry/egress clearance.
- Note presence of water jumps at the event if applicable. Note the presence of cattle or other animals if applicable. If there is a cross country or a driving course, please note the possible need

for a fire department excavator if a horse is down or rider is trapped. That would be communicated at the time of an incident if one occurs. Cross country course sites should have a tractor with sling and chainsaws on site to disassemble obstacles if needed.

- Helicopter instructions--Specify the landing zone (LZ) location by geocoordinates and nearest landmarks. Describe any hazards (trees, power lines, buildings) and terrain (flat preferred, note presence of slopes or hills) near the landing zone. LZ should be well away from live animals and away from piles of dirt/loose footing or sand/debris that may fly into the air when the helicopter lands. Generally requires a 75' X 75' area clear of obstacles during the day and a 100' X 100' area clear of obstacles at night.

Competition Communication with EMS

Caller Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Date and Time of Phone Call: _____

EMS Station Call Recipient's Name: _____

EMS Station Call Recipient's Phone Number: _____

EMS Communication Details

Competition Dates: _____

Estimated Daily Start and End Times: _____

Competition Name: _____

Address of Facility: _____

Competition Manager Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Safety Coordinator Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Approximate Number of Competitors/Spectators Present: _____

Approximate Age Range of Competitors/Spectators Present: _____

Event Type (Eventing, Dress age, etc.): _____

Competition Terrain/Environmental Hazards(Water obstacles, ditches, etc.):

Number and Type of Qualified Medical Personnel Present at Competition:
