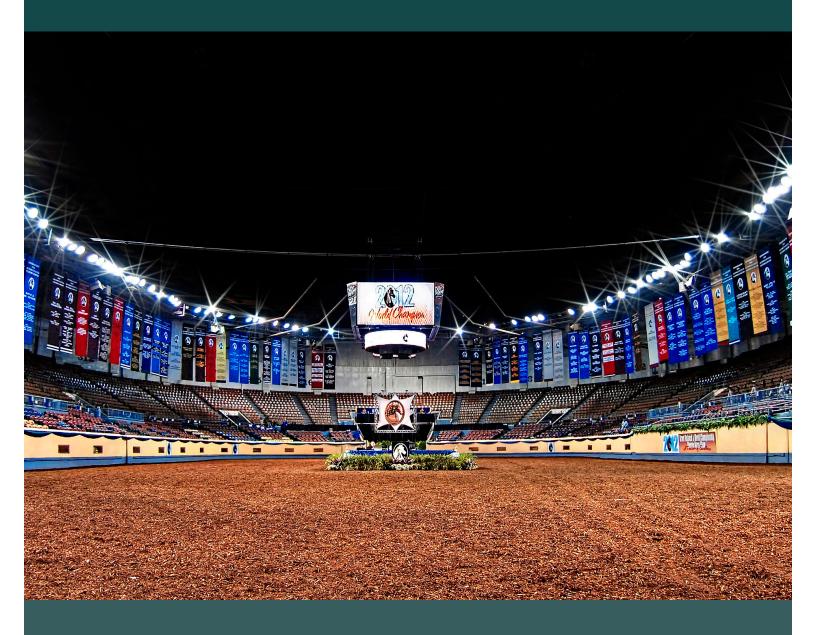
UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

SAMPLE INCIDENT RESPONSE RESOURCE GUIDE





INTRODUCTION

The United States Equestrian Federation ("US Equestrian") Incident Response Resource Guide has been designed to provide general guidelines for managing serious incidents in the unfortunate event that one occurs at a US Equestrian Licensed Competition. Most organizers of US Equestrian Licensed Competitions have comprehensive protocols in place for the occurrence of a serious incident but others may find this useful in developing more comprehensive procedures.

This Resource Guide has been written as generically as possible; therefore, not all of its contents will apply to every US Equestrian Licensed Competition organizer. The Recognized Affiliate for your breed or discipline may have resources that are specific to such breed or discipline competitions and may be more useful. References to US Equestrian's rules are cited throughout this Resource Guide. Those rules can be found at www.usef.org

Disclaimer: This Resource Guide is provided solely as an informational and educational service to US Equestrian Licensed Competition organizers. All policies, procedures, and protocols are the responsibility of the individual organizer. US Equestrian is concerned about the safety of all equine and human participants. US Equestrian cannot and does not accept responsibility for the content of any information or material provided. This Resource Guide is not intended to nor does it constitute legal advice or legal opinions and should not be relied upon as legal advice or opinion. By using this Resource Guide you agree to this disclaimer and recognize that it may be necessary to seek the advice of an attorney licensed to practice in the appropriate jurisdiction.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. Introduction
- II. Before the Competition:
 - a. Safety Coordinator
 - b. Medical Planning
 - c. Accident Preparedness Plan (APP)
 - d. Incident Management Team (IMT)
 - e. Pre-Competition Meetings
 - f. Competition Grounds
 - g. Communications
 - h. First Aid Care
 - i. Severe Weather Plan
 - j. Stabling
- III. During the Incident:
 - a. Implement appropriate crisis procedure
 - i. Human Injury:
 - 1. Fatality or Serious Injury
 - 2. Concussion
 - 3. Minor Injury
 - ii. Equine Injury
 - 1. Fatality or Collapse
 - 2. Serious or Minor Injury
- IV. After the Incident:
 - a. Contact US Equestrian
 - b. Resume Competition
 - c. Release Press Statement
 - d. Confidentiality
 - e. Witness Statements
 - f. Video/Photographs
- V. Appendix
 - a. Sample Accident Preparedness Plan
 - b. Sample Contact Lists
 - c. Sample Statements
 - d. Media Hot Topic Questions & Answers
 - e. Summary Crisis Procedures
 - f. Resources

CONTENTS

I. Introduction

Under GR1211, US Equestrian requires that all Licensed Competitions must have in place an Accident Preparedness Plan (APP) and ensure all competition staff as well as the Steward or Technical Delegate are advised of the APP. This resource guide enumerates some of US Equestrian rules and expectations of Licensed Competitions in the event of a crisis, including the preparation of an APP, as well as provides Competition Management with additional crisis management resources. As it applies to this resource guide, a crisis may be defined as any equine or human fatality, collapse, or serious and/or life threatening injury that takes place on the competition grounds. The information in this resource guide is comprehensive, but is not intended to be exhaustive. Utilize the enclosed materials as appropriate for your Licensed Competition at your own discretion and judgment. In no way does this document supersede rules of organizations, such as US Equestrian rules, state, regional, or local ordinances covering EMS providers, or otherwise.

The information and sample documents in this resource guide are offered solely as an informational and educational service to US Equestrian Competition Managers. The content is not intended to provide nor does it constitute legal advice or legal opinions and should not be relied upon as legal advice or opinion. These materials are intended, but not promised or guaranteed to be current, complete, or up-to-date and users should be aware that the content and specific US Equestrian rule and any laws cited are subject to change. The publication and/or use of the information does not create or constitute and attorney-client relationship and the information and sample documents should not be relied upon or used in transactions without first seeking the advice of an attorney licensed to practice in the appropriate jurisdiction.

II. Before the Competition:

a. Safety Coordinator

All US Equestrian Licensed Competitions are required to designate a Safety Coordinator, see GR1211.6. The Safety Coordinator is responsible for establishing and coordinating the medical and veterinary services required throughout the competition.

b. Medical Planning

Ensure that you know the applicable rules. All US Equestrian Licensed Competitions are required to have present Qualified Medical Personnel with no other duties. Qualified Medical Personnel must have available appropriate medical equipment, as required by their certifying State or EMS Region, during all scheduled performances at the competition and during all paid scheduled schooling sessions over fences, including one day prior to the start of the competition if applicable, under GR1211.5. Each Licensed Competition must also comply with any applicable State, County, Regional, or Local laws, which may vary depending on the number of participants and spectators. It is the responsibility of each Competition Management to know and adhere to any such local laws. Any special safety rules or guidelines particular to the host facility or venue should be published.

i. Qualified Medical Personnel

US Equestrian defines Qualified Medical Personnel as a currently certified or licensed EMT, or Paramedic, Certified First Responder, or a Physician or Nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care, who is currently certified or licensed in their profession under applicable law where the competition is held. An exception to this definition exists in Eventing, please see EV113.5. A Physician or Nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care is a Physician or Nurse who is currently certified in Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS), Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS), Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS). Any other comparable certification requires review and written approval by US Equestrian prior to the start of competition. It is strongly recommended that EMTs and/or Paramedics be used to fill this position. Medical personnel must not exceed the scope of their practice.

ii. Ambulances and Rescue Vehicles

Under GR1211.5, an ambulance must be on the competition grounds or on call during all scheduled performances at the competition and during all paid scheduled schooling sessions over fences, including one (1) day prior to the start of the competition if applicable.

iii. Helicopters

In remote areas helicopters may be the quickest means of transport and can be contacted to respond by your stand-by EMS crew when needed. Consult with the EMS providers for their protocols and need for helicopters.

iv. Veterinarians and Farriers

Depending on your entry numbers from the previous year, you may be required to have a veterinarian present on the grounds under GR1211.4. Each breed and discipline has different requirements under the rules, please see the relevant breed/discipline rules for your Licensed Competition. Competitions that are not required to have a qualified veterinarian present throughout the competition must have a written agreement with a veterinarian to be on call.

A farrier must be on the grounds or on call at all competitions under GR1211.7. Please see the relevant breed/discipline rules for your Licensed Competition.

Coverage Plan: Your local EMS provider can provide assistance in formulating a coverage plan. Once you have determined your coverage needs and/or requirements in accordance with the applicable US Equestrian rules and all applicable laws, the appropriate agency should be contacted for assistance. Contract with your Emergency Medical Services, Veterinarian, and Farrier who will be at the show grounds or on call during your Licensed Competition.

c. Accident Preparedness Plan

Under GR1211, all Licensed Competitions must have in place prior to the start of the competition, an APP. In accordance with US Equestrian rules and the Competition's APP, Competition Management must make the necessary arrangements for an ambulance to be on the grounds or on call. Competition Management is further responsible for ensuring that all competition Licensed Officials and competition staff are advised of the APP and that it is distributed accordingly. The APP must be given to the Steward or Technical Delegate prior to the start of the competition. The Steward or Technical Delegate must submit a copy of the APP to US Equestrian along with his/her Steward or Technical Delegate report. The APP should be a concise and easy-to-follow resource for use during a crisis. The names/phone numbers of relevant emergency contacts, as well as the address & directions to the facility are essential. The plan should also cover a basic procedure for who to contact and what actions to take while waiting for the emergency responders to arrive. A sample template of an APP may be found attached as Appendix A. This template should be altered to best suit your competition's needs and includes a list of some important points to consider when drafting your APP.

d. Incident Management Team

Competition Management should organize a group of officials and staff members who will be responsible for organizing and overseeing the response during and after a crisis occurs. This group of individuals should be designated based on their skills and responsibilities in response to a crisis, not by rank alone. Consider having the following positions on your IMT:

- · Someone to direct the entire team and ensure that the proper response is carried out;
- Someone to record any actions of the group and the response itself and provide any resources needed by the team;
- Someone designated as the only authorized representative to contact US Equestrian and address the public and media regarding the crisis;
- · Someone to direct the medical response to any human injuries;
- · Someone to direct the veterinary response to any equine injuries; and
- Hospital liaison to assist family with communications and in managing the situation.

In order to respond efficiently and effectively to a crisis, it is recommended that a secure location that is equipped to handle the direction of an incident response be designated by Competition Management.

e. Pre-Competition Meetings

Competition Management should host a pre-competition meeting to review and practice the APP with all staff and competition Licensed Officials, including the Steward and/or Technical Delegate. After the pre-competition meeting, the APP should be posted in a prominent place for referral.

f. Competition Grounds

Discuss with your Technical Delegate, Steward, EMS personnel, and Veterinarian the layout of the show grounds – paying particular attention to the need to get an ambulance or other equipment into the accident scene.

i. Maps

A map of the location of the facility, as well as a detailed map of the facility itself should be posted and available during the competition. Maps to the nearest Equine Emergency Clinic and local hospitals will also be important in a crisis.

ii. GPS Coordinates

GPS coordinates are needed in case a helicopter response is needed and will also make it easier for other EMS personnel to locate the facility.

g. Communications

Walkie-talkies, cellular phones, or PA systems are common means to summon your EMS crew. Talk to your Announcer regarding emergency plans, he may be needed to coordinate a response.

i. Contact Information

Make a phone number list of all of the officials, the competition office, EMS, Show Organizer, Announcer, Veterinarian, and any other numbers that may need to be contacted to manage a crisis. Sample contact lists can be found attached as Appendix B.

ii. Crisis Communication Plan

Prior to the start of competition, the crisis communication plan should be understood by all appropriate members of staff. Every attempt should be made to ensure the integrity of the process and the privacy and safety of all staff, riders, grooms, and owners. US Equestrian asks that all involved in a crisis refrain from making comments to the media or through social networking until an official response has been released. Sample press statements and Media hot topic questions and answers can be found attached as Appendix C and D.

h. First Aid Care

Provide First Aid stations for competitors to seek medical attention for minor injuries.

i. Severe Weather Plan

US Equestrian recommends that when a severe weather warning has been issued, or at the sighting of lighting, the hearing of thunder, or the sighting of other severe weather (such as a funnel cloud, blizzard, etc.), the competition be stopped until at least 30 minutes have passed without severe weather. Should your competition be stopped for lightning, all participants should take shelter in a large enclosed structure if possible or in fully enclosed vehicles and stay away from metal or conducting surfaces.

j. Stabling

- **i. On-site Stabling** for any stabling provided on the grounds, ensure you have the contact information for the personnel who are responsible for it. For permanent stabling, this would be the individual responsible for regular maintenance. For temporary stabling, this would be the vendor who provided it.
- ii. Off-site Stabling ensure that you have the contact information for the personnel who are responsible for the off-site stables and/or stabling site(s).
- iii. Relocation Stabling Competition Management must have an isolation protocol in place prior to the start of competition.

III. During the Incident:

a. Implement the appropriate crisis procedure. Severity of each instance will vary and should be handled accordingly. A summary can be found attached and may be distributed to staff and licensed officials to ensure proper procedures are followed.

i. Human Injuries

- 1. Fatality or Serious Injury defined as a concussion and/or compound fracture of weight-bearing bones (i.e. hips, legs, spine) or life-altering injury.
- Dispatch Responders call all appropriate emergency personnel to the scene
- Secure the scene
 - ♦ Crowd Control keep the area clear of everyone except emergency personnel

- ♦ Secure Horse(s) catch any loose horses
- ◊ Place Screens screens should be placed around the rider who is receiving treatment
- Hold (stop) Competition activities around the vicinity of the accident should be held until the scene is secured and the injured
 or deceased person is removed. Determine if it is necessary to halt activities in other competition areas if all medical resources
 are committed to the incident.
- Contact US Equestrian and submit appropriate Accident/Injury Report Forms

2. Concussion or Possible Head Injury

- Dispatch Responders call all appropriate emergency personnel to the scene
- · Secure the scene
 - ◊ Crowd Control keep the area clear of everyone except emergency personnel
 - ♦ Secure Horse(s) catch any loose horses
- Determination of Head Injury/Concussion According to US Equestrian rules, in the event of a fall/accident where the competitor is apparently unconscious or concussed, he is precluded from competing until evaluated by Qualified Medical Personnel. If he refuses to be evaluated or if Qualified Medical Personnel determine that a competitor has sustained unconsciousness or a concussion, he must be precluded from competing until cleared to compete in accordance with US Equestrian rules for returning to competition
- Submit appropriate Accident/Injury Report Forms to US Equestrian

3. Minor injuries, commonly treated with First Aid Care

- Dispatch Responders call all appropriate emergency personnel to the scene, if necessary
- Provide Treatment treat the injury as appropriate at the competition
- Further Treatment if further treatment is necessary, send rider to nearest hospital
- Submit appropriate Accident/Injury Report Forms to US Equestrian

ii. Equine Injuries

1. Equine Fatality or Equine Collapse

- Dispatch Responders call all appropriate emergency personnel and veterinarians to the scene
- Secure the scene
 - ◊ Crowd Control keep the area clear of everyone except emergency and veterinarian personnel
 - ♦ Place Screens screens should be placed around the horse that is receiving treatment
- Hold (stop) Competition activities around the vicinity of the accident should be held until the scene is secured and the injured
 or deceased horse is removed
- Contact US Equestrian in accordance with the rules In the instance of an Equine Fatality or Collapse, US Equestrian may request that the treating veterinarian take blood samples from the injured horse for analysis.
- Submit appropriate Equine Accident/Injury Report Forms to US Equestrian.
- Removal of Injured or Deceased Horse from Competition Grounds
 - ♦ Equine Necropsy If applicable
 - Removal Services Some states regulate the way in which bodies of deceased horses may be handled or processed.

2. Serious Injuries or Minor Injuries

- Dispatch Responders call all appropriate emergency personnel and veterinarians to the scene
- Secure the scene
 - ◊ Crowd Control keep the area clear of everyone except emergency and veterinarian personnel
 - ♦ Place Screens –screens should be placed around the horse that is receiving treatment
- Provide Treatment veterinarians should treat the injury appropriately
- Further Treatment and Transport if necessary, the horse should be transported to the designated veterinary hospital.
- Submit appropriate Equine Accident/Injury Report Forms to US Equestrian.

IV. After the Incident:

a. Contact US Equestrian

If a crisis occurs during regular business hours, please call US Equestrian at (859) 258-2472. If a crisis occurs at night or on the weekend, please contact US Equestrian at (859) 312-5186. Any incident that results in an injury, must be recorded on US Equestrian Accident/Injury Report Form and submitted by the Steward or Technical Delegate along with his official competition report. If

the crisis involves a serious injury, fatality, or a possible head injury, it must be reported to US Equestrian office as soon as possible and followed by the appropriate Report Form filed with US Equestrian in accordance with the rules. Competition Steward/TD must report all equine collapses to Competition Management and US Equestrian within one hour of notification and subsequently file the appropriate Report Form with US Equestrian within 24 hours.

b. Resume Competition

If and when possible resume the competition.

c. Release Press Statement

All competitions are advised to contact US Equestrian's Communications Department to coordinate an appropriate release statement. Sample press release statements can found attached as Appendix C, as well as sample responses to commonly asked questions. In the event of a human or equine serious injury or fatality, US Equestrian recommends that Competition Management issue its statement on social media or its website within a timely manner, ideally on within the same day as the incident. Once Competition Management choose to release a statement, it should refrain from posting any other content on social media for 24 hours, out of respect for those involved in the incident.

d. Confidentiality

All individuals involved in crisis management at a Licensed Competition are expected to keep all information regarding the incident, any investigation, and individuals or horses involved in the incident strictly confidential. Competition staff and US Equestrian Licensed Officials are to limit all discussions regarding the incident to as needed with people who need to know the information. Under no circumstances should any information regarding an incident be posted on social media.

e. Witness Statements

It is very important to gather all witness names and contact numbers and provide these to US Equestrian, as soon as possible.

f. Video/Photographs

All video footage and photographs of the accident, if available, need to be preserved for any US Equestrian investigation. These should not be shared with anyone outside of US Equestrian.

SUMMARY CRISIS PROCEDURES

Human Injuries

- Fatality or Serious Injury
 - · Dispatch Responders
 - · Secure the scene
 - Crowd Control
 - Secure Horse(s)
 - · Place Screens
 - · Hold (stop) Competition
 - · Contact US Equestrian
 - · Submit Report Form

• Concussion or Possible Head Injury

- · Dispatch Responders
- · Secure the scene
 - Crowd Control
 - · Secure Horse(s)
- · Determination of Head Injury/Possible Concussion
- · Submit Report Form

Minor injuries, commonly treated with First Aid Care

- · Dispatch Responders
- · Provide Treatment
- · Further Treatment
- Submit Report Form

Equine Injuries

- · Equine Fatality or Equine Collapse
 - · Dispatch Responders
 - · Secure the scene
 - · Crowd Control
 - · Place Screens
 - · Hold (stop) Competition
 - · Contact US Equestrian
 - Removal of Injured or Deceased Horse from Competition Grounds
 - · Equine Necropsy
 - · Removal Services
 - · Submit Report Form

• Serious Injuries or Minor Injuries

- · Dispatch Responders
- · Secure the scene
 - Crowd Control
 - Place Screens
- · Provide Treatment
- · Further Treatment and Transport
- · Submit Report Form

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Title	Name	Radio Channel	Cellular
Medical Personnel/EMS			
Show Manager			
Safety Coordinator			
Show Office			
Veterinarian			
Vet Hospital			
Steward /Technical Delegate			

APPENDIX A

SAMPLE ACCIDENT PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Please remember that this sample accident preparedness plan is a guide only to help you develop a plan to suit your own competition in accordance with GR1211.5. Please note that this plan should be amended to suit any breed/discipline competition and is not intended to be applied without considering the specific needs of your competition. We would also recommend that you show your plan to the health care professionals who will be at your competition and/or the local fire department and/or police department to see if they have suggestions regarding your plan as it relates to your specific competition and area.

Title	Name	Radio Channel	Cellular
Medical Personnel/EMS			
Show Manager			
Safety Coordinator			
Show Office			
Veterinarian			
Vet Hospital			
Steward /Technical Delegate			
The address of the competition of petition facility name for identific Directions to competition facility:	ation or the location. Use the	address to identify the location.	ress City, and State). Do not use the com

In the event that there is an emergency the call to 911 is to be placed from the Horse Show Office using a landline. Preferably the call is to be made by the medical personnel, Competition Management or the Safety Coordinator. The EMT will be provided with confirmation that the call has been made and given ETA of ambulance by caller.

Exhibitors are asked to not make 911 calls using their cell phones.

In the case of human accident:

- 1. Do not move the patient. Emergency personnel will evaluate patient and determine status upon arrival.
- Call for the all appropriate emergency personnel and/or Veterinarian and TD or Steward; give location of accident site.
- 3. Secure any loose horses and control the crowd.
- 4. If required, call 911 and have available the patient's sex, age, nature of injury, and current condition.
- 5. If necessary, place screens around the injured individual for privacy.
- 6. Send a member of competition staff to the facility entrance to direct emergency vehicles to accident site and ask the driver not to use lights or sirens (due to the danger of spooking other horses).
- 7. If required, ring crew and/or other competition staff should clear all obstacles and make the area accessible for ambulance and necessary personnel.
- 8. Hold competition until all emergency vehicles have departed, medical debris is cleared by ring crew, ring has been dragged to clear any areas marked by responding vehicles, and the competition staff has resumed their appropriate positions.
- 9. In the event of a serious accident or fatality, the Steward /TD must call US Equestrian at (859) 258-2472 or (859) 312-5186.

- 10. In the event of a possible head injury, competitor must not continue in competition until cleared by a licensed physician.
- 11. Steward/TD and Medical Personnel must complete US Equestrian Accident/Injury Report Form and submit it to US Equestrian.

In the case of an equine accident:

- 1. Secure any loose horses.
- 2. Call for the Veterinarian and TD or Steward; give location of accident site. The Veterinarian will determine the status of the horse.
- 3. Secure any loose horses and control the crowd.
- 4. If necessary, place screens around the injured horse for privacy.
- 5. If transport to emergency veterinary clinic is required, call specified veterinary hospital and notify them of incoming patient, have the horses age, nature of injury, and current condition available (it is best for the veterinarian make this call, if possible).
- 6. Organize transport of horse to specified veterinary hospital.
- 7. If required, ring crew and/or other competition staff should clear all obstacles and make the area accessible for equine transport and necessary treating personnel.
- 8. Hold competition until all emergency vehicles have departed, medical debris is cleared by ring crew, ring has been dragged to clear any areas marked by responding vehicles, and the competition staff has resumed their appropriate positions.
- 9. In the event of a serious accident, collapse or fatality, the Steward /TD must call US Equestrian at (859) 258-2472 or (859) 312-5186.
- 10. Steward/TD and Veterinarian must complete US Equestrian Collapse/Injury Report Form and submit to US Equestrian.

APPENDIX B SAMPLE CONTACT LISTS

Incident Management Team (Activated in the event of a Crisis)

Name	Radio Channel	Cellular

Title	Name	Radio Channel	Cellular
Competition Organizer/Manager			
Safety Coordinator			
Show Office/Secretary			
Event Security			
Medical Personnel/EMS			
Cross Country Organizer			
Chief Course Builder			
Announcer			
Steward or TD			
Ground Jury President			
Ground Jury Member			
Ground Jury Member			
Appeal Committee			
Course Designer			
Veterinarian			
Other			

APPENDIX C SAMPLE STATEMENTS

Please contact US Equestrian's Communications Department to coordinate the release of any statements.

<u>In any incident involving a minor, no personal information (name, age, hometown, etc.) should be included in a statement or released to the press.</u>

In the case of an injury to a rider:

This (MORNING/AFTERNOON/EVENING), (FIRST AND LAST NAMES) suffered (DIAGNOSIS) while competing at (EVENT) in (LOCATION). He/She was riding (HORSE NAME) when (DESCRIPTION OF ACT). The horse is (STATUS OF HORSE). We wish (FIRST NAME) a speedy recovery.

In the case of an injury to a horse:

This (MORNING/AFTERNOON/EVENING), at (EVENT) in (LOCATION), a rider suffered a fall. The rider was not hurt in the fall but his/her horse was critically injured and was humanely euthanized at the site of the accident. The Competition Organizer extends its heart-felt condolences to the rider and the owners of this wonderful and courageous horse.

Rider Fatality Initial statement prior to next of kin being informed:

"A rider suffered a fatal injury but no further information will be released until the next of kin have been informed."

Rider Fatality	Holding Statement	This (MORNING/AFTERNOON/EVENING), an incident occurred involving (FIRST AND LAST NAMES) at (EVENT) in (LOCATION). We are investigating the matter and will provide more information when available.
	Final Statement	It is with the great sadness that (EVENT or EVENT MANAGEMENT GROUP) announces that (FIRST AND LAST NAMES) suffered a fatal accident while competing/spectating at the (EVENT) in (LOCATION) on (DATE). (FIRST NAME), aged (AGE) from (HOMETOWN) and horse (HORSE REGISTERED NAME), a (AGE)-year-old BREED/gelding/mare/stallion (DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT). He/She was transported to a local medical facility where he/she was pronounced dead by the attending physician. The (EVENT or EVENT MANAGEMENT GROUP) wishes to extend the deepest sympathy, on behalf of the entire sport, to the (LAST NAME) family and support team.
Horse Fatality	Holding Statement	This (MORNING/AFTERNOON/EVENING), an incident occurred involving (HORSE NAME) who was being ridden by (RIDER NAME at (EVENT) in (LOCATION). We are investigating the matter and will provide more information when available.
	Template Final State- ment	It is with great sadness that the (EVENT or EVENT MANAGEMENT GROUP) announces that (HORSE'S NAME), ridden by (RIDER NAME) and owned by (OWNER NAME) was humanely euthanized as a result of a fatal accident while competing on (DATE) [for organizers with multiple properties, should specify what (EVENT) in (LOCATION)] (HORSE'S NAME), a -year-old BREED gelding/mare/stallion (SELECT) (DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT/INJURY, eg: fell at fence 15 and suffered fatal injuries). (RIDER NAME) was uninjured/suffered minor injuries/suffered x injury.

APPENDIX D

SAMPLE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Cruelty

Q: There is a gathering opinion that these events are cruel to horses. Do you agree?

A: At every (Competition Management) competition, the maximum consideration is given to the safety and welfare of both horse and rider.

2. Bad Weather

Q: Do you think the event should have been stopped (sooner) because of the weather?

A: Conditions are constantly monitored by the Competition Management. Had the conditions been considered unsafe, the decision would have been made to halt the event immediately.

3. Money

Q: Isn't it fair to say you are more interested in money than the animals' welfare?

A: Absolutely not – welfare is paramount and would never be compromised for monetary wealth.

4. Danger

Q: Doesn't this incident prove that the sport is too dangerous?

A: Equestrian sports are a challenge to the combined skills of both horse and rider. To meet those challenges successfully requires the same input of patience and talent that is needed in any other sport.

5. Request for Detail

Q: What exactly happened out there? What caused the incident?

A: I don't have the full details at this time, the incident is currently under investigation.

Briefing of Riders

At the rider's briefing, they should be told simply how to cope with approaches by the media in adverse situations. A suggested response might be: "I cannot comment at the moment, but I understand all the facts are being gathered for a press statement by the competition's director/organizer."

APPENDIX F RESOURCES

General Equestrian Safety:

- American Association for Horsemanship Safety: http://horsemanshipsafety.com/
- Equestrian Medical Safety Association: http://www.emsaonline.net/
- Troxel Safety Center: http://www.troxelhelmets.com/safety/
- University of Kentucky's Saddle Up Safely Program: www.saddleupsafely.org
- University of Vermont's American Medical Equestrian Association: http://asci.uvm.edu/equine/law/amea/amea.htm

Breed/Discipline Organizations Safety:

- American Vaulting Association: http://www.americanvaulting.org/safety/
- The United States Pony Clubs, Inc.: http://www.safety.ponyclub.org/

First Aid/CPR Training:

- American Heart Association: www.americanheart.org
- American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
- The American Health Care Academy: www.cpraedcourse.com
- The American AED/CPR Association: www.aedcpr.com
- ProCPR: www.procpr.org
- CPR Professor: www.cprprofessor.com

Concussions/Head Injuries:

- American Academy of Family Physicians: http://www.aafp.org/afp/20010915/1007.html
- American Academy of Neurology: http://www.aan.com/
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons: www.neurosurgerytoday.com
- Brain Injury Association of America: http://www.biausa.org/
- Brain Injury Resource Center: www.headinjury.com
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov/NCIPC/tbi/Coaches Tool Kit.htm
- CogState concussion evaluation: www.cogstate.com
- ImPact concussion evaluation: www.impacttest.com
- Return to Play resources: http://www.youthsportsparents.com/index.php?q=health-safety/concussion-safety/return-to-play
- · Sport Concussion Assessment Tools (SCAT): http://sportconcussions.com/html/SCAT2.pdf

Helmets:

- ASTM/SEI approved helmets: http://www.seinet.org/search/search.php
- · Safety Equipment Institute: www.seinet.org

Injury Statistics:

• US Consumer Product Safety Commission – National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) On-line (search for Code 1239, which is for Horseback riding activity, apparel or equipment): http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/neiss.html

Weather:

- American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
- Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov
- The Weather Channel: www.weather.com
- National Lightning Safety Institute: www.lightningsafety.com
- National Severe Storms Laboratory: www.nssl.noaa.gov
- National Weather Service: www.nws.noaa.gov or www.weather.gov
- Weather Underground: www.wunderground.com

