

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE MEDICAL COVERAGE OF EVENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH ARTICLE 109.10 GRs**

*(Last update: 7 January 2021 – no substantial changes)*

### **Introduction**

The basic principles underlying medical coverage at FEI events are set out in Article 109.10, FEI General Regulations (GRs)<sup>1</sup>. These Guidelines, which are mandatory for FEI event Organisers (“OCs”), provide more detailed information about the essential components of medical coverage. While reading this document, OCs should keep in mind that:

- OCs are sole responsible for the planning of the medical coverage of their events. These Guidelines only aim to help with their planning.
- The information in this document is not an exhaustive list of the medical considerations applicable to FEI events.
- These Guidelines are not a substitute to the national and/or any other legislation(s) applicable to the event. They must always be read and applied in conjunction with such legislation as well as with any applicable provision in the corresponding FEI Sport Rules.
- It must be accepted that all forms of horse riding involve an element of risk. These Guidelines apply in all FEI disciplines.

### **Guidelines for FEI event medical coverage**

In order to plan for the medical coverage of their Events in accordance with art. 109.10, GRs, Organisers must comply with the following:

#### 1. Medical presence & level of expertise

The requirements indicated below are a minimum which does not substitute to any

---

1

*“109 - Organisation of Events*

*[...]*

*10. OCs of International Events must provide adequate medical and veterinarian assistance at the Event as indicated below.*

*10.1. Medical assistance:*

*(i) the on-site presence of personnel trained in emergency medical care; and*

*(ii) an appropriate medical emergency action plan for the evacuation, emergency treatment, and transport of injured Athletes.*

*To this effect, OCs must refer to the guidelines issued by the FEI and published on the FEI’s website [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).*

*10.2. Veterinarian assistance: See the Veterinary Regulations.*

*10.3. The Sport Rules may contain additional medical and veterinary requirements and compliance with such requirements is mandatory.*

*[...]”*

applicable legislation and/or FEI Sport Rules provisions.

- 1.1 The presence of personnel trained in emergency medical care must be ensured throughout the event, including during training.
- 1.2 Healthcare professionals with expertise in trauma are recommended for all competitions (and in some disciplines are mandatory) but it is recognised that some competitions may be assessed as not requiring professional first aid support. In these cases, which should be justified and assessed conservatively, the minimum standard for medical cover should be a person trained in first aid and holding a relevant and officially recognised certification.
- 1.3 All equestrian venues must have first aid equipment available, at the minimum to a level which complies with local legislation and any applicable FEI Sport Rules.

## 2. Medical coverage plan

- 2.1 The medical coverage plan for the event must:
  - Be decided before the event, taking professional advice when appropriate and complying with any applicable legislation,
  - Take into account the numbers of athletes and spectators, the location of the venue and proximity to emergency medical facilities such as hospitals and ambulance services (including usual response times).
- 2.2 The medical coverage plan must include:
  - The contact details of the designated providers of first aid,
  - Procedure in the event of a serious injury,
  - Details of the ambulance cover (on site or local emergency service) and local hospitals with emergency rooms.
  - Any other applicable requirement(s) imposed by the applicable legislation and/or FEI Sport Rules<sup>2</sup>.

This plan must be summarised in a document and shared with the FEI if requested.

---

<sup>2</sup> See in particular Annex D for Eventing.