

## HUNTER PACE SAFETY GUIDELINES

Purpose of the guidelines: to help assure the most effective possible emergency response in case of accidents during the pace, involving injuries to riders, spectators, pace volunteers, and others in attendance.

Disclaimer: these guidelines do not necessarily cover all situations, and are intended solely as suggested actions for some commonly encountered incidents at horse events. The actions below will be carried out to the extent that volunteers are available for the tasks listed. These guidelines may be modified at any time.

Parking is directed by pace volunteers, attempting to ensure orderly positioning of truck/trailers so that none are blocked from easy egress, or access by emergency vehicles needing to render help in the parking area.

Instructions are given to all riders encouraging them to carry their cell phones (even if turned off for the ride), for use in calling for help if needed.

Pace teams are required to be a minimum of two people, helping ensure that someone can call for help in case of a mishap with one of the riders on the team.

At registration, instructions given to all pace participants list cell phone numbers of two of the persons at the registration desk, and the address of the pace site. Riders are asked to keep this hand-out with them on the ride, and to call 911 immediately if their team member needs emergency help on course; then to call the registration desk to report the accident to pace staff.

The registration desk is provided with a two-way radio for ease of communication with a mobile volunteer on course, in case of accident.

Persons in charge of emergency action/responsibilities:

The **course designer** provides the address of the pace site and a phone number for the landowner hosting the pace, in writing to the registration desk.

The **course designer** draws a map of the course, designating jump numbers and nearby roads and access points to the pace course. Quadrants are delineated on the map. This map is kept at the registration desk. It is used to help pinpoint locations of accidents when they are reported.

The **course designer** lets local emergency responders know about the event the day it occurs, so that they are clear about the location and ready for possible emergency calls from the pace site.

The **course designer** attempts to solicit least **one pace volunteer to be mobile** and available during the entirety of the pace, to be able to reach the site of accidents on course (via horseback or ATV). This volunteer carries a two-way radio for communication with the registration desk, renders assistance as able, helps communicate location, and stays with the person involved in an accident, until emergency responders arrive.

Pace volunteers are not required to be trained in first aid or CPR; any assistance they provide to injured accident victims is confined to only those actions which they can safely take until emergency responders arrive.

If the registration desk receives a cell phone call or in-person notification of an accident/injury, the designated **registration desk volunteer** immediately attempts to verify that 911 has been called if needed, either by him/herself, riders on course, or by pace volunteers to whom the mishap is reported.

After 911 is called, the designated registration desk volunteer helps direct emergency responders to the scene of the accident; attempts to determine the victim's name, address, and phone number; attempts to notify family members if possible; notifies the land owner hosting the pace; and contacts the victim the next day as a good will gesture.