

Horse Ambulance and Equipment

The Organiser must provide a dedicated Horse Ambulance and equipment as follows:

- Low trailer with 4 preferably wide tyres to ensure ease of travel across soft ground conditions and roadworthy.
- Shallow ramps back and front to enable easy loading and ability to walk a casualty forward without having to back it out of a trailer. (Note: an oblique angled front ramp is perfectly acceptable.) Ramps and trailer floor surface should be nonslip and rubber surfaced to ensure a Horse with studs can be safely loaded and transported.
- Two easily moveable partitions.
- Slings and drag mat are optional due to the extreme rarity of their use in competition casualty management.
- Roof of min height of 2.2m (7ft) and preferably padded.
- Adequate interior light giving sufficient lighting to front and rear ramps. Adequate ventilation must be provided.
- 2 screens of sufficient length to screen casualty and preferably 2.4m (8ft) high and 7.5m (24ft) long. These can either be made of tarpaulin-like material or hessian material which is more manageable in windy conditions due to it being partially air permeable. They should be detachable from the ambulance to be sufficiently versatile to adapt to individual casualty condition and position.
- Screens must be deployed when dealing with any injured Horse at the discretion of the attending Vet.
- An electric winch is needed to be rated at 2,300kg or more.
- Should be adequately maintained and should be inspected by the BE Steward before start of competition.
- Towing vehicle should have 4-wheel drive and be capable of operating anywhere on the Event site as well as for road use to transport injured Horse to designated referral vet centre.
- The towing vehicle and ambulance should be attended by an experienced operator/ driver who is familiar with the layout and access to the Event site, familiar with the operation of ambulance and towing vehicle, holds a current appropriate UK drivers licence, capable of manoeuvring the towing vehicle and ambulance, and is an experienced Horse handler capable of assisting the vet at the scene of an injured Horse.
- The Horse ambulance must not leave the Event site, without the permission of the BE Steward. It should be remembered by Event organisers that a suitable back-up means of transporting an injured Horse should be available. If this is not available, then the BE Steward may have to consider stopping the competition until the Horse ambulance is back on site.
- A Horse ambulance must remain at the Event until 30 minutes after the last Horse has completed and must be stood down by the BE Steward.