

WORLD TRIATHLON MEDICAL DELEGATE

PROFILE, ROLE AND FUNCTIONS

The Medical Delegate (MD) is a professional who take part in the delicate function of taking care on safety and medical issues of the athletes during the competitions. He needs to have experience in sports events, with knowledge in technical and operational issues related to triathlon world class events and expertise in anti-doping procedures and WADA related issues. The MD has to be a member of the team of technical officials in order to know the technical operations and the different scenarios of the competition.

TASKS PRIOR THE COMPETITION

The MD has to be integrated to the Competition Manager, Technical Delegate and Operations Manager Team from the beginning of the organization of the competition. He has to participate in every meeting related to technical and operational issues in order to be able to coordinate every aspect of the medical security with the local Medical Race Director.

The MD should request, review and approve the Events Medical Plan. This document should be approved no later than one month prior to the first competition day.

The MD must meet the Race Medical Director, Medical Staff and Doping Staff in advance in the last few days previous to the competition. MD has to transfer all the relevant information regarding the operative plan of the event to coordinate with them the Medical Plan. This information must include schedule of the event, maps of the courses, maps of alternative ways for evacuations and location of the closest hospitals, allocations of the aid stations and sector leaders and radio protocols to be used during the competition.

MD must check-up in conjunction with the Race Medical Director the medical facilities in advance, not the day of the competition. The Medical Delegates Check List is a tool that is advised to be used:

MEDICAL DELEGATES' CHECK LIST

Medical Services	Resp	✓	*	Comments
LOC Medical Director	TD	Name		
		Email		
Emergency evacuation plan approved by TD	TD			
Race Medical plan approved by World Triathlon	TD			
Local hospital notified	TD			
Ambulances on site and on course	TD			
LOC Medical Director cooperation with World Triathlon Medical Director and/or World Triathlon TD	TD			
Medical Facility	TD			
a) Tent size and number of cots and blankets	TD			
b) Ice and fridge	TD			
c) Wading cool down pools (in hot weather)	TD			
Medical equipment and supplies	TD			
Qualified personnel	TD			
Communication system (dedicated medical radio channel)	TD			
Medical access to finish area	TD			
Medical access and exit from the course	TD			
Medical services on course	TD			
a) Swim course	TD			
b) Bike/Run course	TD			
c) Finish area	TD			
d) Transition	TD			
e) Recovery	TD			
Transportation for medical personnel	TD			
Medical personnel clearly identified	TD			

SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS OR TASKS DURING THE COMPETITION

Swimming Course

- Evacuation Plan: Medical boat with medical staff (place in the water with emergency equipment and supplies, including radio for communications) Evacuation way, out of the field of play and procedure to assist an athlete in trouble to transfer to the medical tend or to the hospital.

Bike Course

- Coordination with the Technical Delegate and Competition Manager.
- Medical Operation Plan: effective communications with Sector Leaders, TD and ambulances.
- Operative Procedures in case of accident:
 - 1- Mild or not complicated accident: athletes recover by themselves and they continue competing or walk not requiring assistance. No medical assistance in the field of play. Technical Officials or Sector Leaders can assume the role and criteria on how to manage every situation on particular basis.
 - 2- Serious Accident: athletes on the field or play and they cannot react normally by themselves. Medical Assistance is required: nobody touches the athletes, wait for medical staff. A clear procedure on how to aisle the accident area and how to proceed with the evacuation to avoid any dangerous situation to the other competitors in the field of play.

Running Course

- Instructions to the TO and Sector Leaders about signs that an athlete can present when it is in trouble due to severe dehydration or heat stroke or any other dangerous conditions.
- Check Aid Stations: Quality and quantity of the liquids, temperature and locations.

Finish Line And Recovery

- 1- Coordination and assignments of TO to assist athletes after they cross the finish line. Assistance procedure to the athletes. Assume the authority and responsibility to keep a clean area to allow a free flow of the athletes and guarantee a rapid assistance and direction to the medical and recovery area. No other personal or staff must be in this areas, even press or protocol staff, except in the designed area for media. A good provision of sealed liquids in place.
- 2- Close communication with anti-doping staff to avoid unnecessary procedures for the athletes, except those that are clearly defined in WADA guidelines regarding the rights of the athletes after they finish the competition and the obligations they have to submit for testing.

TASKS AFTER THE COMPETITION

- Collect all the medical records and the police reports in case of accidents
- Complete the post race report with the Technical Delegate