

# Rules of FACE 2016 Competition

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The First Aid Competition is part of the First Aid Convention in Europe – a Red Cross /Red Crescent Festival.
- 1.2 The First Aid Competition concerns immediate first aid measures.
- 1.3 The hosting National Society decides on the number of National Societies that may enter. Each National Society is entitled to enter one team. The hosting National Society does not enter a team in their own FACE, but may enter two teams in the following FACE. The National Society of the winner of the previous FACE is not entitled to nominate a team in the actual FACE, but may nominate two teams in the following FACE.
- 1.4 All competing teams and official representatives have to cover the costs for travel, accommodation and meals.
- 1.5 The hosting National Society tries to find sponsors for cutting the costs for the teams.
- 1.6 The official language of the competition is English.

## 2. Composition of the teams

- 2.1 The team shall consist of six persons (including one leader and one reserve). The reserve and team members can be interchanged after each test.
- 2.2 The team leader must be able to communicate in English.
- 2.3 There are no constraints on the mix of men and women within the team.
- 2.4 Qualified trainers/instructors, nurses, professional ambulance/rescue personnel, medical doctors may not take part in the FACE competition.
- 2.5 Any individual who has been a competitor at the previous FACE is not eligible as a competitor. In the actual FACE. An individual who is a member of the winning team of a FACE Competition is not permitted to enter for the next 2 FACE Competitions.
- 2.6 Team members must be 16 years old at least.
- 2.7 Every team member has to send a copy of their ID or passport with registration to the hosting country.

## 3. Uniform

- 3.1 All team members must wear the current authorised uniform of their National Society whilst competing in the competition.
- 3.2 The uniform should include wet weather clothing as much of the competition will be held outside.

## **4. First aid techniques**

4.1 The competition is a first aid competition. It is necessary to demonstrate only those skills required for immediate first aid at the scene.

4.2 The list of first aid equipment that may be used at the competition, will be posted on the FACE 2016 website, at least 3 months prior to the competition.

4.3 There will be a mark sheet form for each casualty and one summary form for the evaluation of team performance for each station (First Aid test).

4.4 First Aid techniques which are tested and evaluated are based on the national guidelines of the participating National Societies. All participating teams will be sent a list of injuries one week after registration closes. They need to fill in their national treatment for each injury. The deadline for returning the completed list is World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day, May 8th 2016.

4.5 If the National Society does not participate by sending in the completed injury list then their national team will be evaluated using the marking sheets according to the guidelines of the hosting National Society. In this case the Slovenian Red Cross Society.

**Please note that rule 4.4 and rule 4.5 are new to this FACE and must be carefully studied.**

## **5. The competition**

5.1 FACE shall consist of a number of team tests in which five members of the team will participate.

5.2 The team leader is expected to check and control the scene, also in terms of security, and to command the team. The team members are expected to perform first aid and psychological support.

5.3 There will be at least one test in which all members of a team shall compete on an individual basis.

5.4 Each team test shall last for 10 minutes.

5.5 The reserve can be interchanged with an active team member after each test. The team leader nominates the reserve in the waiting station, before knowing the scene. The team leader will compete in every test.

5.6 Each casualty will have a judge allocated to mark his/her treatment and care.

5.7 For the team tests, a Senior Judge will assess and award marks for leadership and teamwork.

5.8 It is not permitted for any person (with the exception of a FACE official) to have any contact with members of the team once they have entered into isolation until the completion of the competition. Otherwise the Jury may disqualify the whole team from the competition.

## **6. Judges**

6.1 Each National Society participating is entitled to nominate one Judge for FACE.

6.2 The hosting National Society will nominate any further judges as required.

6.3 Accommodation and food for the judges will be provided and paid by the hosting National Society.

6.4 The judges must be qualified first aid trainers or instructors or medical doctors.

6.5 All nominated judges have to attend a briefing session on the day before the competition.

6.6 Briefing for judges shall be held to inform them about the competition and their own particular station casualties.

6.7 The judges briefing is open only to Judges, members of the organising committee and the International Organising Committee. Information about test posts, casualties or the mark sheets is strictly confidential.

6.8 Without exception, all judges must be able to communicate in English.

## 7. Marking procedure

7.1 Judges will mark each test on a pre-prepared sheet which was adapted to the national guidelines of the participating teams by the respective National Society.

7.2 Casualties will act appropriately to their condition and the treatment received. Judges will be able to offer information on the following: pulse, breathing, pupil size and control of bleeding.

7.3 Team members must perform the observation correctly before requesting information from a judge.

1. **Pulse check:** the team member checks the pulse on one side of the patient and the judge instructs him/her to start counting out loud when they feel the pulse. The judge does the same check on the other side and makes sure that the team member is counting correctly for at least 10 seconds. If the pulse is correct the judge gives the simulated pulse (rate, rhythm and strength) of the patient to the team member. During subsequent checks they repeat the process.
2. **Breathing check:** the team member checks the breathing rate and informs the judge what they are doing. The team member counts the breaths out loud. The judge observes that the rate is correct. The judge gives the simulated breathing rate of the patient to the team member. During subsequent checks they repeat the process.

7.4 At the end of each test, the senior judge will require a final situation report from the team leader. This should consist of the condition of each casualty and a summary of treatment received.

7.5 After the completion of each test the senior judge gives brief feedback to the team about their performance and major mistakes. Maximum time for this is 2 minutes.

## **8. Protests**

8.1 The Jury will make final decisions about all protests made during the competition.

8.2 This Jury is composed of four members. This includes two members of actual hosting National Society, one member of the previous National Society and one member of the next hosting National Society of FACE. One of the members must be a medical doctor.

8.3 In the event of any protest, the team leader has to announce the protest to the senior judge before leaving the station.

8.4 The team leader should enter a protest by completing the protest form received from the senior judge when announcing the protest. This form should be handed to the senior judge at the next working station.

8.5 The deadline for receiving any protest is 15 minutes after the completion of the final test.

8.6 The Jury will adjudicate on the protest and a decision will be made as to whether to uphold or to deny the protest.

8.7 The Jury's decision is final and irrefutable.

8.8 Any violation against the principles of fairness (for example: breaking the isolation rule, informing the team about forthcoming test posts, casualties or mark procedures in any way or any other acts that are not in accordance with the fairness principle) may lead to a disqualification (or other measures) of the respective team.

8.9 Decisions about incidents described in 8.8. are made by the Jury together with the IOC permanent members. Decisions are final and irrefutable.

## **9. Others who may accompany the team**

9.1 It is permitted for one other person to accompany the team for the purposes of taking photographs.

9.2 It is permitted for one interpreter to also accompany the team.

9.3 Each participating National Society is entitled to send one official representative.

9.4 Persons accompanying a team must, at all times, observe the restrictions placed upon the team by their isolation during the competition. They will not be allowed to communicate with the spectators and supporters whilst accompanying the team and must stay with the team at all times. While the team is competing within a set, the photographer accompanying the team must in no way communicate with any team member.

9.5 All persons accompanying the team (like photographers and interpreters) have to pay for travel, accommodation and meals.

## **10. Spectators and supporters**

10.1 Spectators and supporters have to pay for travel, accommodation and meals.

10.2 Spectators and supporters may move freely throughout the whole of the competition site.

10.3 Spectators and supporters may not enter within any test site or waiting station.

10.4 Spectators and supporters are not allowed to communicate with the teams/photographer/interpreter during the competition.

## **11. International Organising Committee**

11.1 The International Organising Committee (IOC) is composed of four permanent and three temporary members.

11.2 The four permanent members are members of the Irish, German and Swiss Red Cross Societies and one representative of the European Working Group of First Aid Education. One of the permanent members must be a medical doctor.

11.3 The three temporary members are members of the hosting National Societies of the previous, actual and the next FACE.

11.4 The permanent members of the IOC are in charge of the First Aid Conventions in Europe (FACE) for five years. Subsequently they may be replaced by members of other European Red Cross / Red Crescent Societies by the vote of the European Red Cross / Red Crescent Societies. The current period ends after FACE 2019.

11.5 Every European Red Cross / Red Crescent Society applying for permanent membership in the IOC commits itself to host one FACE during the next period if no other National Society is volunteering to host FACE.

11.6 The costs involved for the members (meetings, travel costs, etc.) are covered by the respective National Societies.

11.7 The IOC has to be in continuous contact with the organisation committee of the hosting National Society.

11.8 The IOC is in charge of looking for new hosts of the competition and of choosing among the applying National Societies.

11.9 The IOC has to draw up guidelines for the procedure of the competition and for the judgment of the teams.

11.10 The IOC selects the themes of the competition in accordance with the hosting National Society.

11.11 The IOC meets three times a year, i.e. before, during and after the competition.

11.12 The IOC draws up rules and regulations for the competition.

11.13 The IOC draws up a list of equipment the use of which is permitted or forbidden.

11.14 The hosting National Society has to give a report to the IOC, including the costs charged to the participating teams for accommodation and meals.

## **12. Permanent Secretariat**

12.1 The International Organising Committee makes use of an elected Permanent Secretariat.

12.2 The National Society providing the permanent secretariat is automatically chair of the permanent members of the International Organising Committee.

12.3 The costs involved for the Permanent Secretariat (meetings, travel costs, etc.) are covered by the National Society providing the Permanent Secretariat.

12.4 For 2015 - 2019 this Secretariat is provided by the Irish Red Cross:

Permanent Secretariat of FACE

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e-mail: [FaceChair@redcross.ie](mailto:FaceChair@redcross.ie)

12.5 This Secretariat is the link between the European Red Cross / Red Crescent Societies and the International Organising Committee.