SUBJECT: Part 18

Part 18 of the New York State Sanitary Code requires specific emergency medical services (EMS) planning and coverage for all events likely to attract 5,000 persons or more, at any given time. It is the Department’s position that such coverage must provide for care of participants as well as spectators.

All Applications for a Permit for a Public Gathering (DOH-44) must include a plan which encompasses EMS protection for the participants (including athletes) as well as spectators. Following are methods by which this coverage may be addressed.

When a physician, trainer, or coach is responsible for care of the participants (generally athletes), the EMS plan must include an interface between the responsible person and the EMS system. This interface must include a written understanding, protocols, and two-way communication via radio or telephone. For high risk events, the permit issuing official may require additional EMS personnel and equipment dedicated to care of the participants.

For other events, EMS coverage for participants may be included with the general coverage for spectators.

Issued by: George L. Johnson, Associate Emergency Medical Care Representative
Authorized by: Michael Gilbertson, Director