



Camden Show... 'Still a Country Show'





Major Incident Response

A case study

The Camden Show Society Inc.

Est 1886

Rodeo's

- **A fantastic spectacle**
- **Australian cultural icon**
- **We love the ROUGH and TUMBLE**



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What happens when it goes wrong ??





Rodeo's

- **High Risk**
- **Accidents happen**

How do we manage the risk

To look after:

- 1. Competitors**
- 2. Visitors**
- 3. Livestock**
- 4. The Show Society/ Committee**



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Show runs 3 days (Gate 2 days)

Thursday – Judging

Friday – Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Alpacas, Show
Jumping, Equestrian, 4800 school children, Rodeo

Saturday – Beef cattle, Equestrian, Goats, night
show, Fireworks Finale.



2014 Friday night rodeo

5.00pm to 10.30pm

2000 + spectators

Rodeo programme includes:

- **Timed events** – barrel races, steer roping
- **Saddle and bare back horses**
- **Novice & Open Bull rides**
- **Affiliated with ABCRA**

Australian Bushmen's Campdraft & Rodeo Assoc.



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2014 Show Conditions:

- Very heavy rain on Thursday and Friday morning.
- Great crowd numbers considering the weather.
- Rodeo arena was constructed on a playing field surface with 200mm of sand laid on top, surface was in good condition.

Every thing was progressing as planned.

Then.....

BEWARE

Manure Happens.

© 2008

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STOP



Go back to 2005 OH&S

OH&S (WH&S) is foreign to most volunteers and committees. Committee were introduced to WH&S and why the need?

- **Make sure accidents don't happen**
- **Keep every one at the show safe including Committee, competitors, exhibitors and the public**

Introduced to WH&S processes such as:

- **Risk Assessments**
- **Restricted Access Controls**

Introduction and development of Risk Assessments in a work shop environment

Sub committees discussing risks



OH&S

Induction of all volunteers

Clear Communication to all volunteers of our expectations concerning OH&S

- What the risks are in the sub committees area?
- How to report potential risks that have not been discussed.
- What happens if you get injured?
- What happens if you see some one else get injured?
- Where is the first aid post?

Preparation is the key

- Have documentation of the induction ready to go
- Carry out the induction prior to the event starting
- All Volunteers and sub committee members to sign off to acknowledge induction
- **ALL signed induction forms MUST be RETURNED to the office**



Sample

Volunteer induction checklist

- Volunteer application form
- Showground map
- Hazard report form
- Incident & injury recording/investigation process
- Incident & injury report form
- Emergency information & procedures Procedure in case of fire
- Emergency evacuation plan
- CSS WHS Policy
- Sub committee risk assessment

ALL signed induction forms MUST be RETURNED to the office



Show Safety

Safety Sub committee

- **Dedicated Committee person on grounds for safety**
- **Co-ordinate first aid (St John Ambulance)**
- **Co-ordinate NSW Ambulances**
- **Report on incident**
- **Follow up with patient**
- **Follow up with Sub committee and Risk assessment review.**



Back to 2014 Rodeo



Thank goodness
for OH&S & Risk
Assessments !!!

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What just happened ???

- Bull rider clashed heads with the Bull twice.
- Competitor was unconscious
- Protection clowns moved stock away
- St John Ambulance gave immediate treatment
- The riders was in a serious medical condition



EMERGENCY!!

**Patient to be air
Lifted to RNS Hosp**



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What now ???

Simultaneous Priorities

You can't be in 6 places at once



! DELEGATE !



What now ???

Simultaneous Priorities

PRIORITY 1. Look after people

- a) Appropriate medical treatment for Patient
- b) Look after the Patients family
- c) Co –ordinate with first aid and direct ambulance
- d) AIR AMBULANCE – where are they to land (*Police will take over. It is best to have prior plans and discussions with police as to various landing locations dependant on the time of day of the incident*)
- e) Protect the dignity of the patient by preventing on lookers from seeing what is going on. Also protects the public from distress
- f) Volunteer / Sub Committee welfare.
- g) **Ensure you have the family's contact details on accident report form.**



PRIORITY 2. Gather information at the Scene

- a) Secure the scene “prepare for the worse and hope for the best”
 - i. Don't let anyone modify the scene until the police give ok.
 - ii. Gather any known recordings of the accident and secure. **NOT for DISTRIBUTION. Not so easy in 2024!**

- b) Gather and record witness statements
 - i. As soon as possible sit down with Subcommittee, committee witnesses and fill out individual accident forms.
 - ii. Debrief subcommittee and assure them of no blame. Explain the process of debrief and review of incident .
 - iii. **Make clear witnesses do not to talk to media unless given written permission by the Show Society**
 - iv. **Secure all documents** – make sure you've got the original waiver form, copy immediately with photo from phone. Secure in show office.



PRIORITY 3. Communicate

- a) Notify Executive of incident**
- b) Notify Police and Work Cover immediately in the case of:**
 - i. the death of a person
 - ii. a serious injury or illness of a person
 - iii. a potentially dangerous incident.
- c) Notify Committee of incident**
 - Remind committee not to talk to media about the incident**
 - Brief the office staff as they will be the 1st people to get calls.**
 - i. Take message from media and the President is to ring them
- d) President to communicate with family**
- e) Notify ASC and Insurance broker (PSC)**
- f) Post comment from President on Website to pre-empt public comment.**

e.g

A serious bull riding incident occurred in the Rodeo Arena last night, The male competitor was airlifted to the Royal North Shore Hospital.

Our thoughts and well wishes are with him and his family. We can't say any more at this time, out of respect to the young man and his family.

Hugh Southwell

Camden Show Society President

Manage the Media !

Pre Interview

- **The media can smell a story.**
- **All media enquiries go through the office to the President**
- **Have a senior committee member meet them and deliver them to the President.**

Never let them roam alone.



Manage the Media ! cont.

The Interview

- Prepare a simple list of facts that you wish to share.
- Do not be forced to share information you do not wish to.

Eg. Media: “What is name of the person who was hurt by the bull?”

Show: “Out of respect to the bull rider and his family we are not releasing his name. This was a terrible accident. The Show Society's heart felt best wishes go out to the young man and his family.”

- If not confident have another Exec. member with you.



Manage the Media ! cont.

Post Interview

- **Never leave the media alone with witnesses.**
- **Have chaperones stay with the media until they leave the grounds.**

We had 3 x media outlets at one time.



Post Show

- **Organise a meeting with sub committee to review the accident.**
What could we do better?
- **Review Risk Assessment**
E.g Issue: Ambulance got stuck in the sand/mud.
Action: Ensure 4wd Ambulance is at Rodeo.

Do it now!!!



Post Show cont.

- **Collate all documentation:**
Photos, video, waivers, Accident report forms, Witness statements and place in one central folder. Write up a summary of time line and events.

Do it now!!!

Why now?



A lot has happened since 2014.

- **March 2015 Show**
- **May 2015 – Notified of claim against Workers Compensation policy.**
- **June 2015 - Investigators come to take statements**
- **June 2015 – Claim declined by insurer. – appealed**
- **March 2016 show**
- **March 2017 show**
- **June 2017 – Claim finally declined by tribunal**



Major Incident Response Summary

Plan for the worse

- Be prepared
- Risk Assessments
- Delegate - Who is to help and how when things go wrong

Organise your priorities 1,2,3

- Look after the patient
- Secure the scene and documents
- Communicate / Notify all interested parties



Major Incident Response Summary cont.

Manage the media

- Pre – during – post interview
- Chaperone the media **AT ALL TIMES**
- Prepare your thoughts and simple message

Contact the family

- Demonstrate your empathy
- Keep yourself updated

Review the event

- What could be done to prevent another incident

Major Incident Response Summary cont.

**Document everything
NOW**





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Questions?