

World Rescue Organisation



Trauma Guidelines – WRC 2025 – Croatia

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World Rescue Organisation



WORLD RESCUE CHALLENGE

TRAUMA GUIDELINES

**Croatia
2025**

Contents

1. <i>Foreword</i>	7
2. <i>Definitions</i>	7
3. <i>Introduction</i>	7
4. <i>The Mission</i>	8
5. <i>Criteria for Participation</i>	8
6. <i>Code of Conduct</i>	8
7. <i>Team Membership</i>	9
8. <i>Injury</i>	101
9. <i>Pit Access</i>	101
10. <i>Insurance</i>	10
11. <i>Registration</i>	10
12. <i>Assessors and Appeals:</i>	10
13. <i>Assessment Sheets</i>	11
14. <i>The Benchmarks</i>	11
15. <i>The Challenge</i>	11
16. <i>Scenarios</i>	12
17. <i>Scenario Aims and Class Objectives</i>	12
18. <i>Prop Positioning and Relocation</i>	14
19. <i>Tools and Equipment</i>	14
20. <i>Team Presentation at Challenge</i>	166
21. <i>Breakdown of Scenario</i>	167
22. <i>Assessment of Performance</i>	167
23. <i>Debriefing</i>	177
24. <i>Personal Protective Equipment</i>	178
25. <i>Challenge Safety</i>	188
26. <i>Timing</i>	188
27. <i>Casualties</i>	188
28. <i>Non-attendance of Team</i>	189
29. <i>Information</i>	189
30. <i>Team Leaders and Medics Briefing</i>	189

31. Determination of Results	199
32. Awards	20
33. Disqualification	20
34. Participation in the Learning Symposium and Workshop	20



1. Foreword

The World Rescue Challenge (WRC) is an event managed by a host country / organisation on behalf of, and under the auspices of the World Rescue Organisation (WRO). These guidelines take precedence over local or organisational arrangements though it is recognized that some local adaptation may be required.

These guidelines are such that an event can take place with as much uniformity as possible across the various organisations that make up the WRO. Even though local arrangements will be such that the disciplines contained with this document may require minor amendments. This can only be achieved with consent of the WRO Executive Committee (EC).

2. Definitions

The term “organisers” hereafter will mean the WRO as the official organisers of the world rescue challenge. The term “Host” hereafter will mean the agency(s) or organisation(s) hosting any particular challenge.

3. Introduction

Firefighters, Rescue workers and medical personnel are increasingly being asked to deal with more challenging casualty related situations than ever before. Their skills in dealing with casualties at incidents are constantly being challenged.

The objective of the World Rescue Organisation (WRO) Trauma Challenge (TC) is to assist in the development of trauma related skills of firefighters and rescue workers to enable them to deal successfully with the vast range of casualty centred incidents. Participating teams will be assessed on their “lifesaving” capabilities during three fifteen-minute trauma based scenarios.

The WRO TC will focus on developing and promoting life support skills of rescue personnel, which will allow them to fill the therapeutic vacuum until further medical help arrives.

4. The Mission

To provide a platform for rescue personnel from around the world to come together, to enhance and develop competence levels in first responder trauma care.

5. Criteria for Participation

Participants must be competent within the field of casualty care and currently be members of an emergency service or formal emergency response team who provide casualty care within the community.

Teams require authorisation from their service and peak body WRO member.

Teams, which are participating as national winners from rescue organisations of the WRO or nominated from their peak body will attract priority in securing a place.

All other independent teams will secure a place subject to consideration of the WRO EC. The EC will base the decision for participation upon key criteria which may include, but not be limited to:

- Where entry fees are submitted with application forms on a 'first come' basis.
- The maximum number of teams the event can support.
- A balance between participating countries.
- The introduction of new countries, organisations.

The decision of the WRO will be final although every effort will be made to accommodate as many as possible.

6. Code of Conduct

It is incumbent upon everyone involved in the management or participation within the WRC to always apply the principles of fairness and dignity to all people. The WRO will not condone inappropriate behaviour or discrimination and will act swiftly to prevent it.

All participants are reminded that they are not only representatives of their own Service, but they also represent the Rescue Services as a whole and are to conduct themselves accordingly.

Each individual is accountable for their actions.

All assessors, officials and WRO members are professional / experienced rescuers or managers of rescue organisations and seek to deliver a fair and unbiased event. An appropriate degree of reciprocated professional respect is expected from all participants.

Fair play and good sportsmanship is expected of all participants and their teams during their evolutions and as spectators.

All participants are requested to respect the equipment of other teams, the equipment provided by the event management and the facilities provided at the challenge venue and accommodation.

Participants whose general health may give cause for concern under the influence of alcohol or any other substance during the challenge or any associated workshops, lectures etc. will be expelled and barred from further entry.

Participants are not to canvass any assessor, official or WRO member.

Assessors, officials, pit crews and WRO members will declare any interest in a particular team to the WRO Trauma Lead.

Both, the Opening and Closing ceremonies, are formal functions and appropriate uniform or corporate wear is to be worn. Dress may be relaxed at the discretion of the organizers and due notice will be given.

Participants are expected to be smartly dressed whilst in the Challenge venue, it is preferred that working rig be worn to tour the site, however this can be relaxed to casual wear, so long as it is smart and approved by the team manager.

Full protective clothing will be worn in the Challenge area, this may be relaxed during 'preparation and make up' at the discretion of the WRO Trauma Lead.

It is accepted that the evenings events perform an important part of the socializing aspect of the Challenge, participants are again reminded to behave in a manner befitting their Service and have due regard to non-service persons who may share the same facilities.

7. Team Membership

Each team will consist of two (2) members, one of whom must be designated team leader and one as medic/first responder. A team member can only participate in the event, upon the approval of a principle manager from the organisation they are representing.

All personnel will be allowed to participate in all classes. At the discretion of the WRO Trauma Lead, a team may substitute a team member in the case of an illness or injury.

If, during a scenario, a team member is injured and must withdraw, the team, if able, may continue until they finish, or 'Time' is called.

In addition, in the case of the medical competency, it is expected that team medics will be competent in the administration of oxygen and as such approved by their own organisation to do so.

The team is responsible for the provision of language interpretation where English is not the predominant language used during the event

If there is a failure in verbal communications during a scenario due to the lack of or poor translation, this will reflect in the overall scoring of that scenario

The team will need to discuss the issues and methods of achieving this with the WRO Trauma Lead prior to the Captains meeting.

8. Injury

If, during the challenge, an accident or injury occurs to a team member, casualty, spectator or any other person, that affects the running of the scenario, the injury will be advised to the organisers and hosts as an authentic occurrence. The WRO Trauma Lead, Scenario Assessors or Safety Officer, will immediately instigate competent medical attention to the situation via the local provider or crew on standby at the site. The delay or ceasing of that scenario will be at the discretion of the Assessors in that pit.

The WRO Director of Operations is to be advised immediately.

9. Pit Access

The pit area will be off-limits to all persons unless authorised by the organisers. Authorised persons will be admitted entry only by a pass or other approved means and be wearing appropriate PPE.

10. Insurance

Adequate insurance for third parties (or equivalent) and or Injury Insurance for the participating teams will be the responsibility of that team's Service, Agency or "Employing Organisation".

Nevertheless, the host organisation should supply third party liability insurance.

11. Registration

Team application and registration for this challenge can only proceed on the WRO website, accompanied by the prescribed fee, which will be determined by the WRO from year to year. As part of the process of registration, teams must confirm that all members of the team comply with the requirements of rules 5 (Criteria for Participation).

Registration of arrival will take place prior to the challenge. (See timetable)

Teams that are unable to participate in the challenge must notify the organisers in writing of their decision to withdraw, or they will be deemed to be a 'No show' and be disqualified. Teams that withdraw less than 28 days before the first official day of the challenge will forfeit their entry fee.

12. Assessors and Appeals:

Assessors are selected from rescue organisations that are members of the WRO, through the WRO Director of Operations and the WRO Trauma Lead.

Each WRC requires that a balance is maintained between the various WRO member organisations and the host. A rotation of assessors is applied in order that experience is spread, and individuals are not repeatedly assessing each year. The Director of

Operations may authorise an Assessor to attend repeated years if they view it as an advantage to the successful outcome of the WRC.

The WRO Trauma Lead will co-ordinate the Assessors and resolve any disputes.

The team leader of any team that has a grievance or dispute must report it in writing to the WRO Trauma Lead within one hour of completing the scenario concerned on the day.

During the event the WRO Trauma Lead will, where possible, facilitate 'shadow' assessing. In the first instance, shadow assessors will primarily be from the host country in order that experience can be gained and the development of their own rescue organisation can be progressed.

All appeals in respect of a technical performance and associated scoring will be heard by the WRO Trauma Lead who will, where required, investigate or discuss the issue with any involved assessors and whose deliberation is final.

All allegations of unfair assessment will be investigated thoroughly from all perspectives by the WRO Trauma Lead who will present their findings to representatives of the WRO EC for their deliberation.

Assessor teams will comprise of at least 2 persons assessing team performance.

All Assessors must be qualified to participate in a WRC and nominated by a WRO affiliated rescue organisation. Assessor teams will be formed for each challenge class. Each Assessing team will assess all teams attempting one class only; this ensures that each team demonstrates their skills before each of the Assessing teams.

13. Assessment Sheets

The assessment sheets will remain the property of the WRO and will not be available for viewing or scrutiny by any unauthorized persons. Score sheet summaries for each team will be made available to that team after the conclusion of the challenge.

14. The Benchmarks

- Develop a Safety-First attitude amongst all rescuers.
- Emphasize patient, rescue personnel and scene safety.
- Encourage higher and more proficient levels of casualty centered first responder trauma care.
- Create the broader spectrum of trauma principles and techniques.

15. The Challenge

Each team consisting of two members will compete and be assessed in three scenarios during the four days.

Each team is allocated 14 minutes for assessment and treatment and a further one minute for patient handover in the case of the Standard and Complex Trauma Scenario.

Each team is allocated 18 minutes for triage, assessment and treatment and a further

two minute for patient handover in the case of the Triage Trauma Scenario.

The scores for Standard and Complex Trauma Scenario will be evaluated from which the overall trauma challenge winner will be identified. The scores of the Triage Scenario will be evaluated from which the overall triage challenge winner will be identified.

The trauma teams will be assessed in the following areas:

- Scene assessment & Initial casualty contact
- Triage where necessary
- Assessment and Management of injuries
- Treatment of casualty
- Preparation for transport
- Patient handover & Communication

Each team will be afforded a 'hot' debrief immediately following their 'run off', with a written critique post-challenge on request.

It must be noted that the assessors' decision is final and all participants are asked to respect that decision.

Marks will be awarded for each scenario in each category. The highest combined score will determine the order of places in each category and for the awards.

16. Scenarios

There will be a bank of scenarios controlled by the organisers. The exact scenario delivered to each team in each class will remain confidential. It is envisaged that the following classes will be compulsory for a host to administer on behalf of the WRO.

The scenario duration will be:

- **Standard Trauma** (one live casualty) - Fifteen-minutes
- **Complex Trauma** (two live casualties) - Fifteen-minutes
- **Triage Mass Casualty** (two to eight live casualties) - Twenty Minutes

The organisers will determine the sequence in which the teams participate prior to the challenge. in order to ensure that there is a reasonable time between scenarios.

17. Scenario Aims and Class Objectives

The trauma challenge is designed to meet the following outcomes:

- Replicate trauma scenarios that emergency response crews maybe called to attend.
- Create an environment where:
 - Teams have the opportunity to demonstrate a range of techniques and options of casualty care.
 - Team performance can be analyzed over a series of trauma scenarios.
 - Learning and education in all facets of trauma care is promoted.

- Participants will leave being able to perform more competently at trauma scenes, exercising current techniques in casualty treatment.

During the scenario the team can require assistance from one bystander

Scenario Descriptor:

Scenario	Team Objectives	Time	Complexity (Guidelines only)
Standard Trauma	To demonstrate casualty centered first responder care with a high level of regard for safety of all personnel.	15 min	One live casualty requiring assessment and treatment. This may include the use of props. A comprehensive handover must be given to the Trauma assessor within the time allocated.
Complex Trauma	To demonstrate casualty centered first responder care with a high level of regard for safety of all personnel.	15 min	Two live casualties requiring triage, assessment and treatment. This may include the use of props. A comprehensive handover must be given to the Trauma assessor within the time allocated.
Triage Mass Casualty Incident	To demonstrate casualty centered first responder care with a high level of regard for safety of all personnel and casualty triage.	20 min	Two to Eight live casualties requiring triage, assessment and treatment. This may include the use of props. A comprehensive handover must be given to the Trauma assessor within the time allocated.

18. Prop Positioning and Relocation

Props may be positioned in pits to represent field objects. Every effort will be made by the organisers and hosts to ensure the realism of these props. This means that if the object is intended to be fixed and immovable, it will be placed in the scenario in such a way as to make it immovable. If the host's Logistics Manager is unable to create an equitable scenario, a simulated immovable object may be used. Clarification about the mobility of any prop can be sought from the Assessor at any stage during a scenario.

19. Tools and Equipment

A degree of flexibility in the availability of equipment must be acknowledged due to sponsorship deals and availability. A generic list of equipment that will be available can be viewed at www.wrescue.org.

The organisers, with the host, will supply a comprehensive selection of equipment.

The organisers and the host will not be responsible for any damage or loss of any equipment as a result of participating in this event.

The following equipment will be standard **in each pit** during the WRC 2025.

One kit for the Standard and Complex Trauma Scenario

Two kits for the Triage Mass Casualty Scenario

All teams must use this equipment

Teams may select appropriate equipment from the trauma kit bags supplied.

Airway & Breathing Equipment

- 1 x Set Oropharyngeal Airways
- 1 x Set Nasopharyngeal Airways
- 1 x Vitalograph Aspirator (or equivalent)
- 1 x Suction unit, battery powered with tubing
- 1 x Pocket Mask
- 1 x Disposable Bag and Mask (Adult & Child)
- 2 x 99% - 100% Non-Rebreathing Disposable Adult Mask
- 1 x 99% - 100% Non-Rebreathing Disposable Child Mask
- 1 x Resuscitator/ O2 therapy unit and O2 Cylinder

Circulation Equipment

- 2 x CAT Tourniquet
- 1 x Defibrillator
- 2 x Quick-Clot (Z-fold haemostatic dressing)

Disabilities

Diagnostic equipment below

Exposure Equipment

1 x Blanket

Spinal & Pelvic Care

1 x Longboard / Combi Carrier

1 x Scoop stretcher

2 x Medical collars

1 x Pelvic sling

1 x Vacuum Mattress

Trauma Equipment

10 x Gauze Pads, different sizes

12 x Elastic wrap bandages, different sizes

8 x Sterile gauze bandages, different sizes

4 x Triangular bandages, different sizes

2 x Adhesive tape

1 x Asherman Chest Seal or equivalent

1 x Set Trauma splints, SAM-splints or similar

1 x Set vacuum splints

1 x Body Fluid Spillage Kit

Diagnostic & Personal safety equipment

Disposable non-sterile gloves

1 x Protective glasses

1 x Stethoscope

1 x Sphygmomanometer

1 x Pulse Oximeter

1 x Blood glucose meter

1 x Body temperature thermometer

1 x Pupil torch

1 x Scissors / Tuf Cut Shears

1 x Pen

1 x Adhesive Tape

Teams are expected to supply their own consumables (e.g. PPE, tapes, sprays, etc.). Hosts are asked to ensure they have sufficient stock to re-supply teams, but this should not be assumed by participating teams.

Team members may carry individual Diagnostic and Personal safety equipment from the list. All these items, including personal equipment belts and contents, must be scrutinised by Assessors at a time and place determined by the organisers/hosts, prior

to the commencement of the WRC.

Items supplied in the trauma bag, which perform a similar function to equipment that teams introduce, will be removed. This is to ensure that teams bringing additional equipment do not gain a quantity advantage. Introduced equipment must be of similar size shape and purpose.

Teams wishing to introduce their own equipment should bring it to and speak to the Trauma Lead at the team briefing to gain approval. Approval cannot be given on the day of the challenge. The equipment must be marked with the team's name and available throughout the challenge days from the first to the last scenario. Teams wishing to use the equipment must inform the Trauma Lead during the equipment preparation and it will be lying at the pit entrance.

The hosts local rules may apply in the prohibition of certain items of equipment, and should this be the case all teams will be informed prior to the Challenge.

All team members should make themselves familiar with any tool that they may use at the WRC.

20. Team Presentation at Challenge

Teams will present themselves at a location (team registration) nominated by the hosts and specified during the Team briefing at the time indicated on the timetable (usually thirty minutes prior to their designated run off time). Once the team present, they are to remain there until they are escorted to the isolation area out of sight of the pit to allow for the staging of their scenario. During the isolation time the team can do their equipment inspection.

Any items the team identifies as being missing or unserviceable are to be brought to the attention of the Pit/Logistics Manager. The Pit/Logistics Manager will be responsible for resolving the issue and communicating the outcome to the team while they are in isolation.

The team will be taken to the challenge pit once their scenario has been staged.

While in isolation, the use of electronic communication devices is prohibited by team members.

21. Breakdown of Scenario

At the end of scenario, Teams are asked to respect the modesty of the internal assessors and assist them to return safely to the staging area. Teams must return all equipment to the way they originally found it in isolation. All equipment from medical vests / pockets must be returned.

22. Assessment of Performance

A panel of qualified Assessors will assess each team's performance. The parameters assessed are detailed in the Assessor's Guidelines and on the Challenge Assessment Sheets and Guidelines. These are based on best practices within the WRO's agreed

format following liaison and agreement from partner rescue organisations. To that end teams are encouraged to strive for the standard of excellence described in all areas.

Teams should note that Assessors are briefed to assess a team's performance on what they see and hear, not what they expect to see and hear. Teams are urged not to 'play up' to the Assessors by giving a running commentary of what they might do under certain conditions, but to actually do what they would normally do if they encountered the same scenario in real life.

The decision of the WRO Trauma Lead concerning any assessment or conduct will be deemed to be final.

Each team will be evaluated in the following areas:

- Scene assessment & Initial casualty contact
- Triage where necessary
- Assessment and Management of injuries
- Treatment of casualty
- Preparation for transport
- Patient handover & Communication

Copies of all the assessment scoresheets and guidelines in use each year are available on the WRO website.

23. Debriefing

Following each scenario in each class the assessor team managing that class will conduct a short debrief with each participating team and is designed to provide a learning opportunity for all involved. To that end, teams are encouraged to have their manager or any other support person take notes or video the discussion. Subject to approval by both the team leader and the Assessor.

A follow-up written critique 'post Challenge' can be provided on request, via the WRO Trauma Lead.

It must be noted that the Assessors' decision is final and all participants are asked to respect that decision.

24. Personal Protective Equipment

All competing team members will, at all times, during the challenge, wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment as approved by their agency. As a minimum, suitable turn out gear, coveralls, safety boots, eye protection (in the form of safety glasses). Team members arms and legs must be fully covered by appropriate clothing. Teams will need to wear and use appropriate helmets during the challenge.

All competitors are responsible for providing their own PPE, including medical gloves and eye protection.

In keeping with occupational health and safety practices, teams are expected to supply and use their own medical gloves, masks and other consumable personal protective

equipment supplies.

25. Challenge Safety

Where the command “**FOR REAL**” or where a whistle is blown, ALL members of the team will immediately stop their actions. This command indicates that a safety problem exists. Time will be stopped until the safety issue is rectified. Once addressed the Assessor will give the instruction for the team to continue and the clock will recommence.

If there are any other safety stoppages during the same evolution, the time will not stop and the team will have to rectify the situation while the clock continues to run.

The above safety calls can be made by any of the Assessors or Safety Officers. If the problem can't be rectified the WRO Trauma Lead may disqualify the team or cancel the evolution.

26. Timing

Assessors in each pit will be responsible for accurate timing of the scenario. The Assessor will call “time” or blow a whistle when time has elapsed. Alternatively, the team leader can call “time” before the available time has elapsed, when the Team Leader believes the team has completed the scenario.

27. Casualties

Live casualties will be used at all World Rescue Challenges.

Teams will be expected to assess the casualties for injury and provide treatment consistent with the injuries they find and their skills. Specific consideration should be given to maintaining the dignity of the casualties in this public training environment. The casualties will be wearing an agreed colour base layer that will be considered as “skin” and may not be removed or cut.

28. Non-attendance of Team

In the event of a ‘No Show’ by any registered team at their appointed time for registration, the organisers may disqualify them from that class.

The organisers may substitute another team, in the event of a team ‘No Show’.

29. Information

The organisers reserve the right to use any and all information, including but not limited to pictures and videos, that may be obtained from the WRC and its participants for educational purposes.

30. Team Leaders and Medics Briefing

A briefing(s) will be held at a time to be notified prior to the WRC.

It is mandatory for all team leaders and team medics to attend. Other team members may attend for the provision of interpretation to the Team Leader or Medic.

31. Determination of Results

Determination of results will be based on the following criteria:

Each Assessing Discipline score, for each scenario type ('Standard' or 'Complex' or "Triage") will result in a ranking, i.e. the highest score within Standard, will be ranked first, equating to 1 point.

The 'Count Back' process for the **Triage Scenario** will be conducted as follows:

- The highest overall score will be declared the winner
- If still tied, the highest Triage score will be declared the winner
- If still tied, then the highest Patient Assessment score will be declared the winner
- If still tied, then the WRC Triage Trauma Challenge will be declared a 'dead heat'.

A team's overall scenario WRC Trauma Challenge score will be the combined ranking points, i.e. where a team finishes first in Standard (1 point), eighth in Complex (8 points), their total team score for the WRC Trauma Challenge is 9 points.

The 'Overall Best Trauma Team' will be decided by the lowest combined ranking points across the Standard and Complex categories. In the event of two teams being tied overall a 'Count Back' process will be undertaken to establish the final overall ranking.

The 'Count Back' process will be conducted as follows:

- The highest combined score from both disciplines will be declared the winner
- If still tied, the highest complex score will be declared the winner
- If still tied, then the highest standard score will be declared the winner
- If still tied, then the WRC Trauma Challenge will be declared a 'dead heat'.

32. Awards

The organisers will determine the prizes to be awarded from year to year. Each year the WRO Committee recognizes the performances of the teams that compete. The effort and dedication that has been put in by team members and supporters towards this Challenge over many months, shows the value of just such an event as this.

In any rate, awards will be made to the teams in the following categories of the Challenge:

World Trauma Challenge Champions:

- Top Overall Team – 1st place
- Top Overall Team – 2nd place
- Top Overall Team – 3rd place

Standard Scenario:

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

Complex Scenario:

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

Triage Mass Casualty Incident Scenario

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

33. Disqualification

Any team or team member that does not adhere to these rules or brings disrepute upon the WRC may be disqualified.

Any matter concerning the possibility of a team disqualification or a matter bringing the WRC into disrepute will be heard by a committee made up of the WRO Trauma Lead and two other members from the organising body.

Any decision made by this group will be final.

Spectators or team supporters may encourage teams in the spirit of fair play; however, any “coaching”, including calling time remaining, from the spectators or team supporters will result in a “Freeze” being called, but the clock will continue to run. The Command Assessor will give a warning to the offending person or persons. Any subsequent coaching call will result in time being called on the participating team.

34. Participation in the Learning Symposium and Workshop

The intent of the WRC is to explore, develop and promote best practices in the delivery of integrated road rescue and trauma care services. To this end, the challenge may include a learning symposium and/or a practical workshop during the challenge. To ensure maximum learning opportunities for all participants, attendance at the symposium and participation in the workshop pit is recommended.