

Tough Mudder 2015 Review & Update Meeting
West Dover Fire House
February 26, 2015

Present: Richard Werner, Heidi Taylor, Randy Johnson, Bobby Maynard, Tim Dolan, Drew Hazelton, Ryan Alt, Hilary May, & Jen Mizono from Tough Mudder

Also present: recording secretary, Jeannette Eckert

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am

Update on Mt Snow Tough Mudder Event

Town requested the meeting to go over the medical/rescue plans for this year's event

Hilary May, Operations Director for Tough Mudder, lead the discussion:

- Last year was the first year we took on the medical operations in house
 - Took on a medical director, Dr. Weiss
- Last year was a little rocky; he was behind in the planning; a bit overwhelmed—Dr. Weiss will admit that himself
- Again doing operations this year; sticking to the 60-90 day out plan
- Nurse named Eileen has been contacted and she is in the loop on the conversations
- Dr. Weiss has contracted to have full overview of the medical operations
 - We will sit down and talk to him about the concerns
- Communication was lapse
- Contracted medical staff—very involved with the safety & medical assessments
 - There is no way to take them out of the picture
 - New obstacles this year to be assessed
- What is the best solution to make sure you have the best medical service on site?
- We were under the impression that Dr. Weiss was “hands off”
- Because Dr. Weiss was making the call—that was technically against VT law
- All the information is very useful and will forward to the head of my department and head nurse Eileen
- Given these challenges from last year, may not see Dr. Weiss
 - Eileen will be in the best position to organize and integrate the staffing
- When we looked at the medical operations, we looked across the boards
- Did not feel comfortable contracting out the medical operations to a third party
 - Decided to bring medical in house; that is where we hired Dr. Weiss
 - Don't always have the luxury of the resources we have access to at Mt. Snow; Dr. Weiss did not know how to coordinate all of it
 - Did not have the band width to think outside the box
- Don't like hearing that you had a bad experience
 - Will sit down with Eileen and have a discussion about the challenges
- Water rescue obstacles should be the same
 - Walk the plank—should still be an obstacle—in same location
 - Funky Monkey
 - Fire slide into pool will not be part of the event this year
- Will provide a course layout map
 - Will go over it with all medical staff
- Event is scheduled for June 6th & 7th
- Fire obstacles this year
 - Ring of fire—base area obstacle-- Not part of usual course flow

- Slide down a fire pole surrounded by a ring of fire into a dunk tank
- Propane based
- Will meet with ski patrol staff later today & will bring up the ambulance/doctor's office location
- It is really helpful hearing from you and we hope to work together much better this year

Dover comments/concerns:

- How much oversight do you have with the medical group?
- We are expecting a certain level of care—it was not provided
- It was not just the communication but not having the proper equipment was a huge deal and must be a huge liability
- Deerfield Valley Rescue staff did not get involved until 10 days before the event
- Common place stuff was not there—lacking basic equipment that is potentially needed
- They had a cardiac event last year—had to use the monitor off the ambulance that was there; Tough Mudder did not have its own
- Mobile ICU—lacking basic equipment
- Will there be a change in actual licensing?—Medical Director did not have a license to practice medicine in VT
 - Rescue Inc. cannot pass off a patient to someone who is not a licensed provider in VT
 - That was a huge liability from our end
- Should consult Stephanie Conrad at Mt Snow to get her input
- According to VT Health—has to have a licensed VT physician on site to provide care in this State
- Water rescue at one of the obstacles: in the event of a drowning—Dr. Weiss wanted patients taken to med. tent—Rescue Inc. cannot turn over a patient to a non-VT provider
- Dr. Weiss was not “hands off”
- VT doctor with VT nurses??—Unsure about the nurses
- Cardiac incident—helicopter should have been used to transport as soon as possible
 - Dr. Weiss created a situation that elongated the time that this person needed care
- Recent issue at Mt Snow was flown out and that person got there using the least possible amount of time
- We are looking to provide the best care and safety possible
- Why did last year go so poorly?
- Dr. Weiss was arrogant, worse person we have ever worked with
- Stephanie does a great job—moved forward on Mt Snow's end—communication; same frustrations on Mt Snow's end
 - Every event is a learning process
 - Tough Mudder has gotten better despite problems
- Would like Eileen to be here to discuss with everyone
- We love Tough Mudder in the valley; wish it was twice a year again
- But we need to look at the safety issues
- Concerns: serious injuries or death on the mountain require investigation
- Really need to work together; we are a small community
- Worthwhile to have Eileen come out and get things hashed out—everyone on the same page--then the relationship can grow—it will be like clockwork and it won't be a big deal next time
- We are a rural community—remember nothing is close by
- Water rescue events—are there any changes? What is the staffing going to look like? 72 hours before event last year, things changed
 - Increased difficulty for rescue personnel

- Would like to set up a meeting with the nurse in March
 - Tim Dolan will be liaison between the two groups & organize this meeting
- We are not trying to make things difficult
- We have worked with Mt Snow ski patrol for a long time—highly trained and it would be beneficial to make use of their expertise
- Landing zone—airport is the designated landing zone
 - We can throw one together at the north entrance if needed
- Communication is key—what is expected as to what actually occurred
- Doctor’s office in Sundance—already has an ambulance entrance
 - Moved to tent last year—not ideal for ambulance service
 - Distance from doctor’s office to finish line was far—how to accommodate for that?
 - Ask Stephanie—bringing people off site to doctor’s office is ideal
 - Clock tower worked but it was more difficult
- More people were treated at the finish line last year—did not bring as many people down to doctor’s office
 - More serious injuries were taken off site
- First few years worked really well-- it was just the last couple years where the problems starting happening
- Rescue Inc. is used to going to doctors office—if not there, need a well-defined ambulance entrance
- Police issues—participants are given a beer at the finish line?
 - ID’s are checked at registration and participants are given a bracelet
 - Bob Edwards usually did the training with on-site staff; food and beverage staff
- Appreciate Tough Mudder coming out to meet with us & look forward to the next steps

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10am

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert, Recording Secretary

Minutes are posted on the Dover, Vermont website: www.doververmont.com