

**2015 MINE RESCUE, FIRST AID, BENCH AND PRESHIFT RULES
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Section I

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2015 MINE RESCUE Q&A

Q: A card rule 6-“correct relationship to each other” -this is vague-If a BO maps a BC on the left rib and a LC on the left rib and they were different sides on the field, is this a discount?

A: No, the correct relationship to each other means inby and outby.

Q: If the CCA is escorted to the CCA blind so he can setup his computer during the same 4 minute the team is setting up. How does the CCA get the SD card, problem and map that will be handed to the team after the clock is started.

A: Separate packets will be given, one to the team and one to the CCA. SD cards will already be in computer.

Q: How will team note fan on or off, pump on or off, if these controls are in the command center on team and BO map?

A: According to rule 6 (2nd para.) must be mapped how it was left.

Q: B Card - Rule 19 - team can discuss starting pump or fan with CCA or BO. The action should not be done until teams request, what if the CCA or BO starts fan or pump without the teams request or overrides the team?

A: No change, team still has to ask-this rule states “at teams request”.

Q: IWT wireless radios have the capabilities of calling or texting an individual radio without others hearing or seeing the message. How will they be monitored so information will not get to the team while working the problem?

A: Tape will be put over the message screen. Teams using IWT radios will not be allowed to use headsets; judges must be able to hear the conversations.

Q: B card - Rule 19 - building stoppings or doing any work at the FAB-simulate a back-up team, mine foreman or do the teams have to come back to FAB to do work?

A: Rule 19 states this can be determined by the problem designer and/or local contest director.

Q: Can the CCA build a stopping or do any work in the FAB?

A: No.

Q: During appeals can a team use page from rulebook and highlight area pertaining to discount and turn in for consideration?

A: Yes.

Q: Can problem designer put more than 1 fire into a problem?

A: Yes, but if they do fire extinguishers can be used multiple times.

Q: Will there be placards in the CC? Can teams stall the fan?

A: However the problem designer sets the problem up. (Placards in the CC will not have to be mapped).

Q: If a back-up team builds in the FAB, where and how will brattice cloth be supplied by the working team or located?

A: All materials needed will be located on the field.

Q: Rule 6 - Objects/conditions are required to be in correct relationship to each other, including BO map. Is this all objects or only objects and conditions that would cause ventilation problems?

A: All objects stated in Rule 6 are required to mapped.

Q: Will comparison of maps be allowed between the BO and CCA?

A: Yes.

Q: Can the BO and CCA communicate in the command center?

A: Yes.

Q: For mine rescue problems that state: rescue and locate missing miners, explore all areas of the mine if it can be done safely. Are teams required to continue to enter unexplored areas after all miners are accounted for and removed from the mine?

A: No, unless written problem requires something in addition to the exploration of these areas, such as ensure there are no contaminants left in the mine or ventilate all areas so that bare-faced exploration can take place.

Q: If a placard has a scoop on fire and team put the fire out, and since this doesn't say battery scoop can the team vent an explosive mixture over that area?

A: Yes.

Q: If a mine fire is out, is it still a fire for ventilation purposes?

A: No.

Q: Will air migrate with the fan(s) off?

A: No.

Q: Rule 6 - A card - On the BO/CCA maps, it doesn't have to be verbatim, but does the gas placards have to be accurate, example BO writes 5%CH₄ and field placard states .5%CH₄, is this a discount?

A: Yes, it must be correct.

Q: Will there be physical switches in the CC controlling fans/pumps?

A: Up to the problem designer.

Q: Can the tail captain request and receive a stop or advance command before all team members are on the line, if the tail captain does move until everyone is on the link line? Rule 18 states all team members must hold or be attached to the link line while traveling.

A: Advance - Yes. Stop - No.

Q: Does the team have to get permission from the CC or BO to relocate an ignition source?

A: No.

Q: What distance should a gas placard be placed in front of a barricade?

A: Dotted line map, gas placard must be side by side to barricade placard if the intent is for the problem to NOT be a withdrawal situation. Solid line map, it does not have to be side by side, just in by plane.

Q: Do 2014 Q's and A's apply this year?

A: Yes. Some will be revised to reflect this year's changes.

Q: If a team encounters two different gas placards in an intersection are both gases present in the intersection?

A: Problem designers were instructed not to put two different gas placards in same intersection.

Q: What does it mean when it states in Rule 18 - "If team is using standard lifeline signals, verbal communications between the working team members and the command center is allowed?"

A: Teams may come to the FAB or surface and verbally talk to CC to (1) relate conditions/objects to be mapped (2) discuss ventilation (3) other things related to the working of the problem.

Q: If two teams from the same company need to share equipment, can they share computer?

A: No.

Q: Will the packets given to the team and CC have the same information?

A: Yes.

Q: Rule 24F states: Upon re-entry into any area where the ventilation has been changed, including subsequent ventilation changes, teams shall make examinations for methane, carbon monoxide, and oxygen deficiency at the location of all placards where any of these gases were encountered on the initial exploration of the area. Q: Is one examination upon re-entry to an area that has been ventilated sufficient or does the team have to examine for CH₄, CO, and low O₂ each and every time they come to that location?

A: Only one time, unless, there are further ventilation changes.

Q: Rule 30 and 31 - If a team has been on both sides of a water over knee deep and later pumps water down, is team required to explore through the area before ventilating contaminants through it or to satisfy "explore entire mine" in the instructions?

A: Rule 30(F) states you can't send irrespirable air through unexplored area with persons missing. Rule 31(C) states you can't send explosive mixture through unexplored area. You must explore the area if either of these scenarios exist. Rule 44(A) requires the team to explore this area if the problem requires it.

Q: Is a dotted line map required to be made solid after team passes the area?

A: Yes. Rule 5(I) states the 6-foot tolerance does not apply to rib lines or pillar blocks "drawn in" projected areas. The rule intends for dotted lines to be drawn in.

Q: What is required to airlock at an overcast?

A: Problem designers should not require teams to airlock through an overcast for this year.

Q: If a patient responds via a radio during the working of a problem, does the team immediately account for this person? Is the team tied to this patient?

A: Yes, if the patient talks directly to any member of the team, the patient is accounted for. The team still must follow systematic exploration rules while trying to reach the patient.

Q: When a team has a response behind a barricade and the patient says me and my co-worker are behind the barricade, does the team account for both people?

A: Yes

Q: If a patient responds and says I am behind the barricade and my co-worker is behind a different barricade or another location, can you account for both?

A: No

Q: Rule 41 - The team reaches a barricade the patient statement is "Get me out and there are 5 other people in here with me." Is it 6 points total or 6 points per patient if they are delayed?

A: 6 discounts per missing person.

Q: Can the patient reload the stretcher or turn off a caravent?

A: No. (This was answered Yes at the rules meeting in Beckley, but after further review, the answer is No.)

Q: Rule 34 – What type of glove will be accepted?

A: Any type of glove, but can't be fingerless gloves.

Q: Will a 100-foot nylon tape line be accepted for teams traveling through smoke?

A: Yes, however smoke could exist throughout the entire mine, so 100-foot may not be adequate.

Q: At contest, who will receive the written problem?

A: There should be two packets with the problem, appropriate map, and other necessary information; one for the team and one for the command center.

Q: At local contest, if a back-up team is in the fresh air base to direct air, how is communication going to be achieved between the team underground, team at the fresh air base, and the command center?

A: Up to problem design, but must explained during captain's meeting or in written statement.

Q: Rule 41(B) – Where is the 25-foot limit, from captain's or #5 man's stopping point? If the team is at a barricade, and the patient is less than 25 feet from one of the stopping points, can the team reach the patient without an advance?

A: The 25-foot limit is from either the captain's or #5 man's stopping point. Yes, the team can breach a barricade and travel up to 25 feet from one of the stopping points without an advance.

Q: Will the briefing office be able to be present for the reading of the written instructions? How will that be handled?

A: The written statement is given to the teams before they arrive at the field, or shown by video in lock-up. It is not read on the field anymore. There should be a team packet and a command center packet that will contain the written statement, appropriate map, written problem, and other pertinent information related to the contest.

Q: Where will the command center be located? Will it be close enough to recover radios if needed?

A: The command center should be located close to the field. Depending on space, the command center can be located one of the pillar blocks or just outby the FAB or surface openings. (Extra radios can be left in the FAB for the team in case of malfunction.)

Q: If team encounters a contaminant outby a seal with an open sample tube in it, does the contaminant stop or go through the door?

A: There is no door in a seal. If there is an open sample tube and the problem designer intends there to be a gas there, a placard must show the constituents. These constituents will be behind the seal.

Q: Last year the BO and CC attendant were required to wear headsets. Is this still a requirement since they will be stationed together?

A: No.

Q: Rule 41 – If a patient is found in front of a barricade and the team also has an airtight response from behind the barricade with no irrespirables in front of the barricade, is the team required to recover both patients at the same team stop?

A: Team has choice to recover one or both at this team stop, as long as team complies with all requirements of Rule 41. Problem designers should not “trap” teams by having two unconscious patients at one location. Teams should be aware that they may be taking a chance, depending on the circumstances (may have to put both patients under oxygen, etc.).

Q: If the command center attendant is speaking with the team and the briefing officer is mapping, does that not provide an advantage over a team who only has one person mapping?

A: It is beneficial to have multiple persons in the command center. However, all teams have the option to have two people in the command center, so it will be their choice if they only have one person. As we stated, we are trying to make the contests more in line with what a team would experience during a real event. (NOTE: If the team uses both persons in the command center, the intent is that both maps be completed).

Q: We are eliminating the briefing officer in contest. Yet we are told in a real emergency a team can go underground and act until that time MSHA gets there and

sets up. Why is briefing officer being eliminated? Are we to believe we cannot act without MSHA command center?

A: In a real emergency, the operator is still the entity who will make decisions, with consultation with MSHA, State, and Labor. It is not MSHA's command center. The briefing officer is not being eliminated; he is just being located in a different position. It is up to the team to use him or not.

Q: Rule 24 – Should gas tests be made at fires before they are extinguished, like roof and rib tests?

A: Rules are made for contest purposes. Gas tests under Rule 24(A) must be made at the team stop during initial exploration before the team leaves the area. That means it can be at any time during that team stop. In a real event, today's gas detectors are continuously monitoring the atmosphere, so in effect a gas test is being made constantly when approaching conditions, including a fire.

Q: You have to have a gas placard at the wall of an overcast in order for the gas to travel over the top of the overcast. So why do you not have to have a gas placard at a stopping with a hole in it to let the gas travel through the hole? What if the overcast wall has a door in it?

A: If the overcast wall has a hole in it, a placard is not required and the gas will go both under and over the overcast and fill the intersection. It depends on if the structure is intact and airtight. A stopping or overcast with an open door is not intact or airtight.

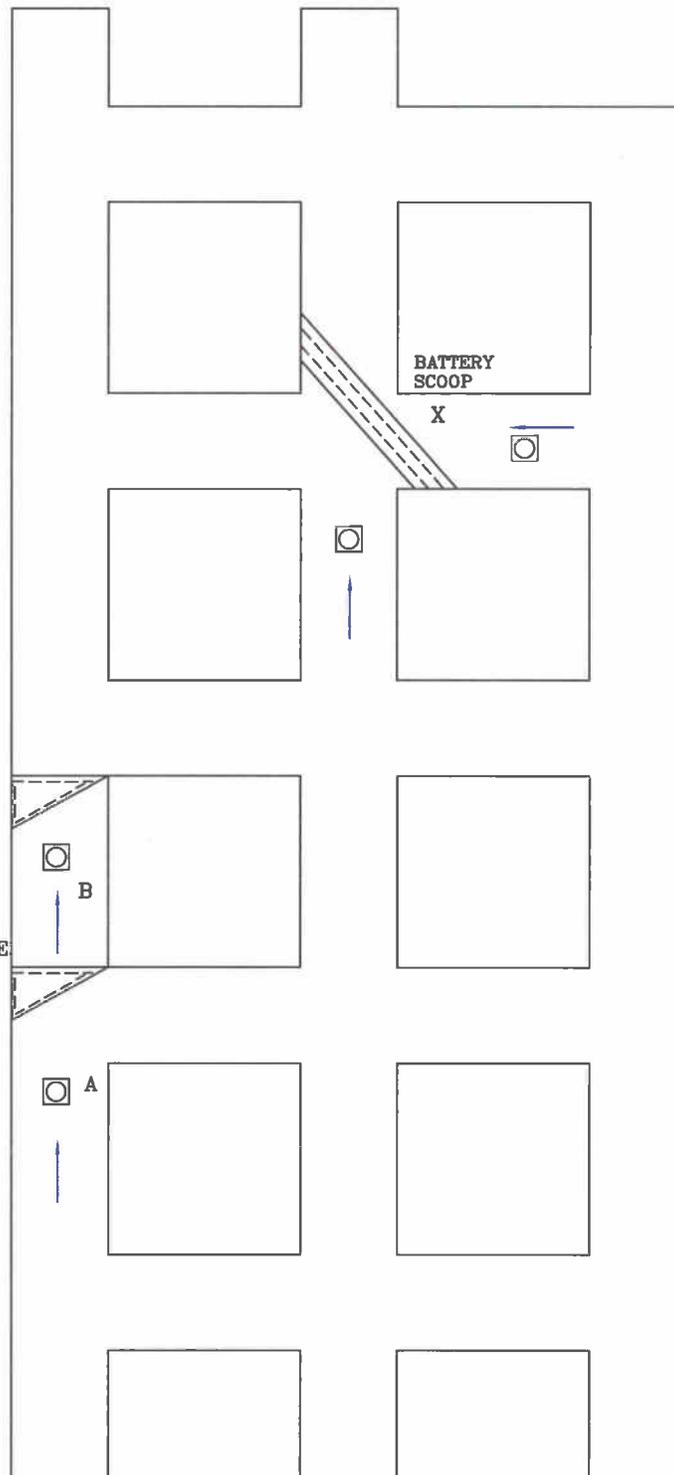
Q: How do you map a placard that states "Stopping Partially Destroyed"?

A: Rule 5E states "Objects/conditions not covered by the legend will be written in by the team and the location of the object/condition indicated by the symbol "X". The legend has symbols for "Permanent" and "Temporary" stoppings, but not for a "Stopping" alone. Problem designers should be careful about this. The correct way would be to put an "X" where the placard was found and write in the words.

Q: Rule 23 – No team member may perform work or move into any area during a team stop until the captain makes the appropriate roof examination. It also says in an intersection, placards on imaginary rib lines will be considered discovered and the team may be in the intersection prior to tests being made. If the area of unsafe roof is

not in an intersection, then should the entire area be tested before any team members move into that area as described in Rule 30(A)(2)?

A: Rule 23, 4th paragraph states that team members can follow directly behind the captain and make appropriate gas tests as the captain makes roof tests. (Roof test does not have to be completed for the whole area). Team members can follow the captain and be in the unsafe roof described in Rule 30(A)(2), but can't go past the inby/outby end of the unsafe roof until the captain makes the roof test. The only thing the team members can do in that instance is take gas tests.



Q: IF EXTENT STOPS AT UNSAFE IN EXAMPLE A, WHY DOESN'T IT STOP IN EXAMPLE B?
 A: GAS TEST IS REQUIRED AT UNSAFE IN EXAMPLE A, BUT NOT IN EXAMPLE B

Q: WHERE DOES GAS EXTEND TO IF YOU TRAVEL UP #2 ENTRY FIRST? FROM #3 ENTRY FIRST? IS THE SCOOP IN THE #2 RIGHT IN FRESH AIR?

A: IF TEAM TRAVELS UP #2 FIRST, THE GAS FILLS THE INTERSECTION, INCLUDING THE UNSAFE ROOF IN THE INTERSECTION. IF THE TEAM TRAVELS FROM THE #3 FIRST, THE GAS WILL STOP AT THE UNSAFE ROOF, AND WILL NOT GO INTO IT. EITHER WAY, THE BATTERY SCOOP IS IN THE GAS IN THE #2 RIGHT.

2015 BENCH Q&A BG-4

Q: Both BG-4 and BioPak 240R, What if it is obvious to the judge that the contestant fixed a problem on the apparatus but failed to verbally identify the problem?

A: There should not be a discount for fail to find and/or fail to correct.

Q: BioPak 240-R, During the high pressure leak test no other work can be performed?

A: If a leak is detected you must repair that leak reapply fluid and restart the one minute test.

2015 Pre-Shift Q&A

Q: Will there be a 30CFR Part 75 book at the fireboss station?

A: It will be provided at the National Contest. Contest Director's will decide for each local contest. Preshift rules do not mandate a copy be provided.

Q: If a contestant failed to identify, danger off, or correct a hazardous condition as stated in Rule 11 and received the discount; will they also be discounted for failing to correct the hazardous condition as stated in Rule 12?

A: Yes, if hazardous condition is not found the contestant will receive discounts under Rules 11 and 12.

Q: Will the examiner need to bump or calibrate the gas detector?

A: The instrument must be calibrated and ready for use at the start of preshift lock-up. Each contestant shall bring to the Preshift Contest lock-up a calibration assembly cap (sensor adaptor) and known mixture of gas designed for their gas detecting instruments for testing purposes. Prior to or during the preshift contest, each contestant's gas detecting instrument may be required to be placed in a known methane/air concentration to verify the instrument is not defective.

Q: What are you calling examining of gas detector in presence of judge at the fireboss station after starting the clock; does this mean calibrating, bumping, or just checking?

A: The contestant should verify that the instrument has been calibrated, turned on, functioning properly, and ready for use.

2015 First Aid Q&A

Q: Triage patient: Will placard affect the Start Triage System on table 26.2 or will symptoms be in the statement of the working problem?

A: NO Symptoms should be on an 8.5 X 11 sheet on the patient visible to the team, at the start of the problem.

Q: Do the AED pads need to stick to the patient?

A: NO

Q: Can two teams from the same company share the manikin?

A: NO

Q: Can basket sling be used when the treatment does not require a specific sling?

A: YES

Q: Can a patient become unconscious on the way out of the mine?

A: YES

Q: Is it up to the team to determine what type of splint to utilize?

A: YES

Q: What is a living splint?

A: Securing limb to body, limb to limb or digits to digits. See skill sheet Page 39
SPLINTING (RIGID OR SOFT) PELVIC GIRDLE, THIGH, KNEE, AND LOWER LEG.

Q: Are they required to be immobilized completely before release of mobilization?

A: YES

Q: What dictates as far as a card or placard that there is internal bleeding?

A: CARD OR PLACARD OR ALL THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Q: What are the treatments?

A: See page 370 of Brady Text.

Q: Would this require the patient to be immediately transported?

A: START TRIAGE SYSTEM, RULES, Page 7

Q: Will the life-threatening bleeding be in red color?

A: At the Nationals all life threats will be in red.

Q: How will contests utilize up to three patients?

A: Problem Design

Q: Will teams be required to provide the patients?

A: Only one.

Q: How often is the level of consciousness (AVPV) during use of tourniquet?

A: See Skill sheet

Q: Is there a time lapse between those checks?

A: Problem Design

Q: Can two-three teams use the same manikin or AED?

A: NO

Q: During same contest or will each team be required one each?

A: Each Team each contest.

Q: What dictates an immediate patient?

A: START TRIAGE SYSTEM, RULES, Page 7

Q: What symptoms?

A: Symptoms for injury/illness.

Q: If during the problem the manikin being used by the team fails - no recording of results - can that manikin be replaced and the team continue working the problem?

A: NO

Q: If a skill is to be performed during the working of the problem will the manikin and or AED be placed in the working area before the problem is started?

A: Manikin Only

Q: Will manikins being utilized by problem designers as a patient be pointed out as a prop before the team begins to work?

A: Only of the problem designer uses as a prop.

Q: Can teams request help from key officials for any of the mine rescue, first aid, preshift, or bench?

A: NO, Key Officials shall not train teams.

Q: Has Brady text been updated?

A: We will utilize the 9th edition.

Q: What edition is being utilized for this year?

A: We will utilize the 9th edition.

Q: Is BSI such as mask required to be in place even during CPR?

A: NO

Q: Is a deceased patient by rule required to be covered by the team?

A: YES

Q: When does this have to be completed?

A: Before stopping the timing device.

Q: Is patient assessment required to be completed for an immediate patient?

A: YES

Q: Does transportation being available or not change whether it should be done or not?

A: NO

Q: How can a team see an injury that would be determined to be immediate if that injury is located on the patient's back?

A: PROBLEM DESIGN

Q: Would a team be docked for not finding this immediately?

A: PROBLEM DESIGN

Q: Will one of the procedures from the former skill station always be in the one problem for each contest?

A: PROBLEM DESIGN

Q: During the AED what will determine how cycles will be completed by the team?

A: SKILL SHEET

Q: Whose decision is final for first aid during nationals or local contests?

A: FINAL APPEALS

Q: During CPR is hand location required each time a change is made?

A: SKILL SHEET

Q: What is the proper procedure for proper hand/heel location during CPR?

A: SKILL SHEET

Q: What injuries determine an immediate patient?

A: START TRIAGE SYSTEM, RULES, Page 7

Q: Is transportation required to be immediate?

A: AFTER RAPID ASSESSMENT AND PACKAGING

Q: Can a team pass the patient on to paramedics if available?

A: YES

Q: What about the timing out of the manikin?

A: PROBLEM DESIGN

Q: If an amputated limb or finger, toe, etc. is indicated in reading of problem and can't be found, what is a team to do?

A: Transport Patient

Q: If found, what are the procedures?

A: See Skill Sheet DRESSING AND BANDAGING WOUNDS

Q: During two-person log roll are teams required to utilize the bystander during the roll?

A: NO

Q: Will a team be docked for not utilizing the 2-person log roll?

A: PROBLEM DESIGN

Q: If during the working of a problem a team finishes but the judges don't go over what wasn't completed or treated will teams still be docked?

A: Any physical treatment(s) not performed, i.e. bandage, splint will be pointed out to team at this time.

Q: Can these docks be protested?

A: You can protest anything.

Q: What is the difference between "minor" and "delayed"? It seems to be the same in the rules and Brady text (for Triage).

A: CAN WALK, Initial Assessment skill sheet

Q: What is going to direct you towards the manikin?

A: Card, envelope or placard

Q: What brand and model of manikin will meet the requirements for extended CPR?

A: Three sets maximum or combination thereof. No extended CPR.

Q: Will they direct the team where to place the manikin on the field?

A: YES

Q: If the manikin is placed too close to a sideline, may the team move it into the field to avoid stepping out of bounds?

A: It will be placed in the proper location.

Q: Rule 17 about tails is out, but the skill sheets still have the tuck tails in them?

A: Follow the skill sheet.

Q: On page 6 of the first aid rules it says an automated external defibrillator training unit. Does that mean we must have a functional unit? We are using faulty units.

A: Rule says training unit.