

Springdale Fire Department

Policy & Procedures Manual

Volume 2 – Operations

Section 204 – EMS Operations

204.12 – EMS Football Standby

This procedure defines the accepted actions for EMS personnel to follow when providing EMS coverage at football games. The EMS crew is responsible for staging in the appropriate location, and remaining alert and ready to respond to the needs of participants and spectators. Equipment must be staged for immediate response with the EMS crew. The Northwest Arkansas Regional Protocol Guideline for the spinal injured athlete will be followed in the event of a possible spinal injury.

The steps listed below shall be followed at all football standbys:

- Ensure all necessary EMS equipment is present on the squad, including a football kit.
- A portable radio must be carried by each crewmember.
- Request an incident number be assigned for the event upon checking on the air to the stadium. Arrive at the location 30 minutes prior to kickoff for Friday night high school games and 10-15 minutes prior to other games.
- Squads shall be staged at pre-designated areas. (Northeast corner of Bulldog Stadium, northwest corner of Southwest Junior High Stadium, southeast corner of Shiloh Christian Stadium).
- Equipment should be pre-arranged for rapid response. For example, backboard on the cot, EMS bags, and football kit easily available.
- Contact the team trainers, coaches, and/or team physician prior to kickoff to confirm who on their staff is responsible to call for EMS assistance. Additionally, with assistance from the trainer, inspect specific equipment to ensure familiarity.
- At least one crewmember will stay in the squad staging area at all times.
- EMS crews should not go onto the field until summoned by the appropriate personnel.
- If the EMS crew is requested onto the field one member may wait with the squad to bring additional equipment as needed.
- Squads shall not be driven onto the football field.
- The EMS crew shall immediately size up any situation or incident that occurs at the stadium. After size up is completed, the EMS crew shall immediately notify Dispatch of the incident type, location, and identify if any additional units are needed along with response mode (Code 1 or Code 3) of additional requested units and ascertain that appropriate incident numbers are assigned.
- Whenever the EMS crew determines that a patient transport is likely they must notify Dispatch to send another squad to the location for transport. If the EMS crew deems rapid transport is indicated, they shall transport immediately and the second squad will assume the role of standby.

- Upon completion of the game, the squad shall remain at the stadium until the majority of spectators have exited the stadium.
- Squads shall be washed and cleaned upon returning to quarters.