SAFETY MEASURES IN GOLF

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[Objective] [We have identified the actual situation concerning accidents and emergency medical services in golf course in the last time through questionnaire survey we sent to more than 2,200 Japanese golf courses during the 21 years. This time, in order to survey the safety situation in Australia district golf courses, we distributed questionnaires to 673 golf courses in Australia district.

[Method] The survey period was one year, between April 2005 and March 2006 Six questions posed were as follows: 1).Frequency of ambulances dispatched to the golf courses in a year (subdivided into the number of emergency calls per month), Reasons for calling an ambulance? 2). Established cooperative arrangement with neighboring hospitals (general and private hospitals)? Distance to recommended hospital departments and travel time? 3). Emergency medical care available at the golf course and crisis control system (designated person in charge, emergency training, qualified first aid persons, emergency equipment, fixtures, etc.), 4), Annual incidence or accidents among golfers (surgical accidents, deaths, etc)?

[Results] 1) Ambulance calls: Out of 673 golf courses, 102 replied. The response rate was 15%. With respect to the month, there 10 requests in January (14%), 6 in February (8%), 4 in March (4%), 2 in April (3%), 4 in May (6%), 17 in June (17%), 8 in July (11%), 4 in August (6%), 6 in September (8%), 4 in October (6%), 7 in November (10%), 5 in December (7%), respectively These results indicated that ambulance calls were most frequent in July and June in all regions (Fig. 1). 2) Emergency medical care system: Concerning emergency medical care procedures at golf courses, 36 golf courses (35%) said that cooperative arrangements with a given medical institution are in place, while 66 courses (65%) replied that they had no fixed cooperative arrangements. About half of the golf courses did not have an established system for cooperating with a given medical institution in case of an emergency (Fig. 2-1) Looking at practical emergency care procedures in the case of an emergency on the golf courses, 38 golf courses (37%), the majority had a designated member of staff who would be expected to take charge. 65 courses (64%) did not. (Fig 2-2) seventy-seven 45 courses (44%) held training courses for their staff in emergency care, but 58 courses (57%), the majority, provided no emergency training (Fig. 2-3). 3). 12300;Accidents to golfers12301;Accidents to golfers involving golf balls and clubs had been experienced at 29 golf courses (28 %) and had not been experienced at 73 (72%). 30golf courses (29%), had experienced accidents due to falls and slips, while 73(72%) had not. There were 3 accidents resulting in death at 3 golf courses (10.2%) last year. Since the golf courses had been in operation, there had been 36 fatal accidents in total, 3 of them due to being struck by a thunderbolt (at 3 different courses).

[References]

12th Annual Congress of the ECSS, 11–14 July 2007, Jyväskylä, Finland