

### **ThedaStar Air Medical Policy for PR Events with Helicopter Present**

ThedaStar receives numerous requests for appearances from many communities, private groups, EMS, Fire & Police agencies and service groups. Due to the volume of requests received, we are not able to attend every event. In an effort to accommodate as many requests as possible in the fairest manner possible we have developed the following policy. This policy will serve as a guideline when scheduling ThedaStar to attend events where the helicopter is requested to be present.

We do require a name and phone number of a person who will be able to be reached prior to and during the time ThedaStar will be on location on the day of the event. This is to allow us to make contact with someone prior to going en-route to ensure the LZ is secure, to contact you if we are unable to attend for any reason, such as a pt. Flight or weather conditions, and as a back-up means of contacting the ThedaStar crew while on location at your event.

ThedaStar will participate, based on availability, in the following events:

- Providing utilization, safety & landing zone in-services to all hospitals, fire departments, law enforcement, and EMS agencies within our service area.
- Educational presentations pre-hospital and hospital personnel.
- Disaster drills, mock accidents and injury prevention demonstrations (such as pre-prom event at a high school).

Events that will require administrative approval before ThedaStar will be able to attend include:

- Community Events
- Events focused on children < 16 y/o
- Corporate events
- Events outside of ThedaStar's primary response area

Those events that are done in support of, or sponsored by, local Fire/EMS/Police agencies (such as fundraisers or Fire/EMS open house) will receive first consideration.

#### Day of the event:

Please understand that ThedaStar will remain in service during all PR events. The possibility exists that the aircraft may be unavailable or has to leave a scheduled event for a patient flight at any time. ThedaStar follows strict guidelines regarding the weather and conditions in which we can and cannot fly. Therefore, there may be instances when we cannot attend an event if weather conditions fall below our minimums.

Please review the landing zone requirements on page 2.

LZ Requirements for all unimproved landing zones (anything other than an airport or hospital helipad).

- The area must be secured and defined by trained individuals prior to landing or takeoff
  - At night, the limits of the area must be clearly marked by lights or reflective material in such a way that the pilot can see the landing area from any direction.
- LZ Surface (in order of preference)
  - Paved surfaces
  - Sod (grassy) surfaces
  - Gravel or soil
- Must have a clearance of at least 100' X 100', the landing surface may be 60' X 60'
- We require a 200' safety zone between the edge of the LZ and any non-emergency personnel (anyone not immediately involved in securing the LZ).
- There must be a clearance of at least 13' between the edge of the rotors and any stationary objects >4' in height
- Any landing gear obstruction must be at least 3' from the landing gear. This is anything on the ground the skid(s) could get caught on, including cones, uneven ground, ditch, etc.
- 2-way radio communication is required on a pre-designated frequency
- If 2 or more helicopters are landing there must be at least 20' clearance between the rotor tips of the aircraft
- No vehicles are permitted within 50 feet of the aircraft unless the pilot in command clears the vehicle, and remains at the aircraft until the vehicle is moved away.
- At no time will a vehicle be permitted closer than 13 feet from any portion of the aircraft, including the rotor disc area
- If landing is planned to any unprepared area where blowing dust, sand or dirt is anticipated, the following criteria must be met prior to approach or landing of the aircraft.
  - The area must be wet by recent rain or by assuring the area has been watered down; or
  - If there is no means to water down the area, the approach and departure path must allow for a safe aborted approach and straight-ahead (no turns needed) go around if brown-out conditions occur.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call us at 920-729-2114 or e-mail [thedastar@thedacare.org](mailto:thedastar@thedacare.org)