

Nova Scotia Health & Safety for Screen Based Industries

SPECIAL SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Guideline No. 17: General Stunt and FX Provisions

1. Stunts are to be performed only by competent stunt persons.
2. The designated Stunt Coordinator should:
 - i. Have experience equal to or greater than that of the stunt person(s) involved in the scene.
 - ii. Be responsible for the safety of the stunt.
 - iii. Inspect and approve any gear, harnesses, etc. involved in the stunt; and
 - iv. Ensure that the stunt persons are competent to perform the stunt.
3. All stunt persons should be notified reasonably in advance of their involvement in a stunt sequence.
4. Stunt persons shall wear protective equipment.
5. Wardrobe for persons involved in a stunt should be approved in advance by the Stunt Coordinator.
6. Prior to the performance of all stunts, dangerous work situations, or pyrotechnic effects, the Production Manager through the 1st Assistant Director should give notification to all Key personnel. The Call Sheet should also state that explosive or pyrotechnical special effects are to be utilized.
7. Before any stunt is to be performed, a meeting should be called for all personnel involved and they should be thoroughly briefed at a meeting on the site where the sequence is to take place. This meeting should include:
 - i. An “on-site walk-through” or “dry run” with the Stunt Coordinator and all personnel involved in the event.
 - ii. The Stunt Coordinator should plan and explain acceptable avenues of escape to personnel involved in the event; and
 - iii. An understanding of the intended action, possible deviations and authority to

abort should be made clear.

8. If any “on the day” deviations of a planned stunt or FX effect become necessary, another meeting should again be called for all personnel involved in the hazardous procedure to confirm everyone understands and agrees to the change(s).

9. Medical providers with Advanced First Aid Certification should be present at all rehearsals and all performances involving stunts or any other potentially hazardous activities and prepared to administer medical assistance on an emergency basis.