

EXERCISE

Purple Octagon

Serial 2.1
Scenario
PLANNERS ONLY

Exercise Purple Octagon – Scenario development

STARTEX - 1300 (CEST) 16 Sept

ENDEX - 1400 (CEST) 17 Sept

1. Background

The scenario is based on the Legionella outbreak in Amsterdam at the Westfriesse Flora Flower Show, NW Netherlands which was held between 19 – 28 February 1999. Of the 80,000 visitors, 181 people developed legionella pneumonia, 21 died. This outbreak is only exceeded by the original 1976 outbreak in Philadelphia where there were 221 cases and the largest outbreak to date in Murcia, Spain with 449 confirmed cases.

This outbreak was associated with a whirlpool spa which became infected within 4 days of installation at the flower show venue. During this outbreak the attack rate was only 0.24% compared to an expected rate of 4-7%. The outbreak was not detected until 14 days after the first case of pneumonia was diagnosed. 71 cases with community acquired pneumonia were admitted across Holland by 12 March; and cases continued to be admitted until 16 March.

2. Scenario

The Junior World Athletics Championship 2009 was held in Holland from Saturday 05 until Saturday 12 September.

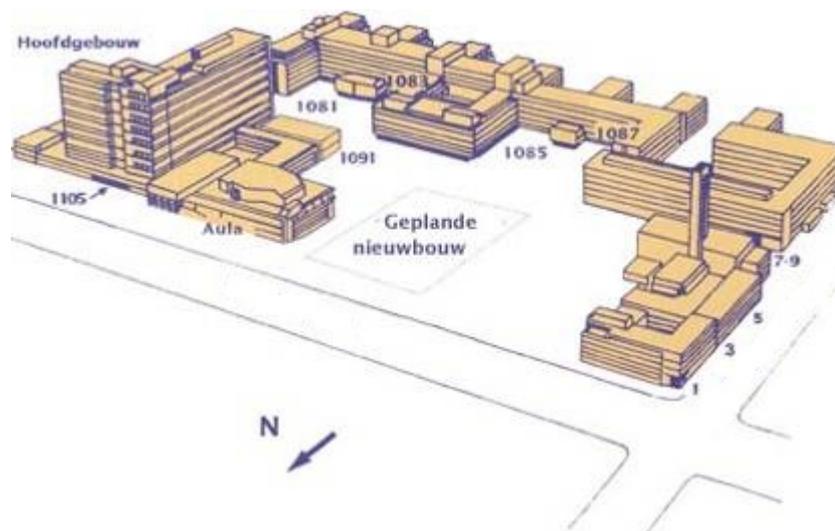
The championships were held at the newly refurbished Olympic Stadium, Amsterdam (shown below) which seated a crowd of almost 40,000 spectators per day from approximately 100 countries. Overall 200,000 tickets were sold for the event of which, 100,000 represented ticket sales outside Holland, including VIP's from participating countries. Organised catering facilities were available in and around the stadium with unofficial food vendors also outside the stadium, for the duration of the championships. The stadium's facilities (including toilets, drinking water etc) were enhanced by the addition of 50 portable toilet cabins, bottled drinking water and water dispensers, additional first aid capacity and increased security including restricted access areas, accredited passes and official ticketing.



The young athletes (aged 16-18 years old) with their family groups, from 86 countries (see appendix 4) arrived in Holland in the weeks preceding the championships so that they could acclimatise and practice in the stadium and at the nearby a Amsterdam Park. A timeline of the championships and follow-on tours are shown at Appendix 1.

The athletes and coaches were accommodated and catered for at the nearby student campus of University in Amsterdam, which also has a sports park, swimming pool and spa facilities including 3 whirlpool spas. Included in these facilities are state of the art services for disabled persons. The accommodation is comprised of typical university standard, including single, twin and multiple occupancy rooms with either en-suite or shared bathroom facilities. The whole complex is air conditioned.

The athlete's families stayed at hotels in the local area, but all leisure facilities of Vrije University were available to family members, who were encouraged to use these facilities as accredited site-visitors.



These facilities proved extremely popular, but due to the high level of demand and unavailability of certain facilities, complaints were raised by team managers during the first few days of the championships. In order to address these complaints it was decided to open additional facilities, including another spa pool, to accommodate the demand. Although the opening of these additional facilities was not in the original planning of the event, this decision was made by a championship official.

The championships were reported globally as an extremely successful event, which was only marred by a few of the young athletes and associates contracting a bad cough which seemed to be 'going around' - probably a seasonal virus (e.g. Adenovirus or Para-influenza type 3) which would spread easily through a large population living in close commune. At this stage symptoms did not indicate Pandemic H1N1 (2009) as a cause.

Unfortunately a 18 year old Canadian running star, who broke a junior world record to win gold in the 100m on Wednesday (09 Sept) was suffering from this cough and was not fit to take part in the 4 X 100m relay on the last day (12 Sept) and her team had to be content with a bronze medal, despite being favourites to win. Two other athletes had to be withdrawn from the 10,000m, one each from Greece and Portugal.

The same facilities and venues will also host the World Junior Para-athletics championships, the opening ceremony of which will take place in the Olympic stadium, Amsterdam on 26 September 2009. Athletes attending this championship are due to begin arriving at University from 19 September 2009.

3. 16 September – Startex 1200 (CEST)

Holland: The lead physician dealing with the case investigations of four patients at the Hospital of Amsterdam informed the public health service that the clinical condition of **4 people** admitted with breathing difficulties and or fever, in the preceding days have deteriorated quickly and unexpectedly. Patients with similar presentations have also been admitted to local hospitals within the last 3 days. A timeline for admissions is shown at Appendix 2.

UK: The lead physician dealing with the case investigations of five patients at Leicester Hospital informed the Health Protection Unit (HPU) duty desk, that the clinical condition of **5 people** admitted with breathing difficulties and or fever in the preceding thirty six hours deteriorated quickly and unexpectedly. A timeline for the hospital admissions is shown at Appendix 3.

A number of athletes, coaching staff and family have been taken ill on return to their home countries or during planned European excursions.

4. European Tours by competing teams

Several teams who competed at the championships took the opportunity to include a European tour for the athletes, coaches and families following the closing ceremony. These tours are shown at appendix 1 and included:

a. **Canada:** A touring party of Canadian athletes and family embarked on a 10 day tour of Europe on the 13 September. The tour is delayed in Poland on the 15 September when 3 of the contingent are admitted to hospital with high fever.

b. **China:** A touring party of Chinese athletes and family embarked on a 10 day tour of Europe on the 13 September. The tour is delayed in Portugal on the 15 September when 3 of the contingent are admitted to hospital with high fever.

c. **South Africa:** A touring party of South African athletes and family embarked on a two week tour of Europe and have been delayed in Greece, where 4 of the contingent are admitted to hospital on the 16 September with breathing difficulties and diarrhoea.

5. Medical facilities

The following medical facilities, in addition to those already mentioned, have been identified in participating countries as the locations for local cases to be admitted:

- a. **Poland**

- b. **Portugal**

- c. **Greece**

- d. **Canada**

- e. **Peoples Republic of China**

- f. **South Africa**

- g. **Italy**

- h. **France**

13. General notes:

86 countries (see Appendix 4) and a total of 732 athletes were involved in the championships.

The following countries will be identified as being affected during the exercise:

- Canada 33 Athletes
- China 14 Athletes
- Holland 30 Athletes
- Poland 68 Athletes
- Greece 20 Athletes
- Portugal 5 Athletes
- South Africa 26 Athletes
- United Kingdom 35 Athletes
- France 22 Athletes
- Italy 18 Athletes

Total - 271 Athletes

The following information will be used as STARTEX material:

Casualty details during and post Mass Gathering event

Date Admitted	No Casualties	Nationality	Brief	Hospital	Total Casualties
11 September	1	Canada	Canadian athlete	Amsterdam	1
13 September	1	Greece	60 YO (M) Coach	Amsterdam	2
14 September	1	Portugal	52 YO (F) Family member	Amsterdam	3
15 September	3	Poland Holland	2 x Family members 1 x coach	Amsterdam	6
13-15 September	5	UK	4 x Adults 1 x Athlete	Leicester England	11
15 September	3	China	10 day European coach tour	Denmark	14
15 September	3	Canada	10 day European coach tour	Lodz Poland	17
16 September	4	South Africa	2 week tour of Europe	Athens, Greece	21
16 September	1	Canada	Canadian athlete deteriorating	Amsterdam	21

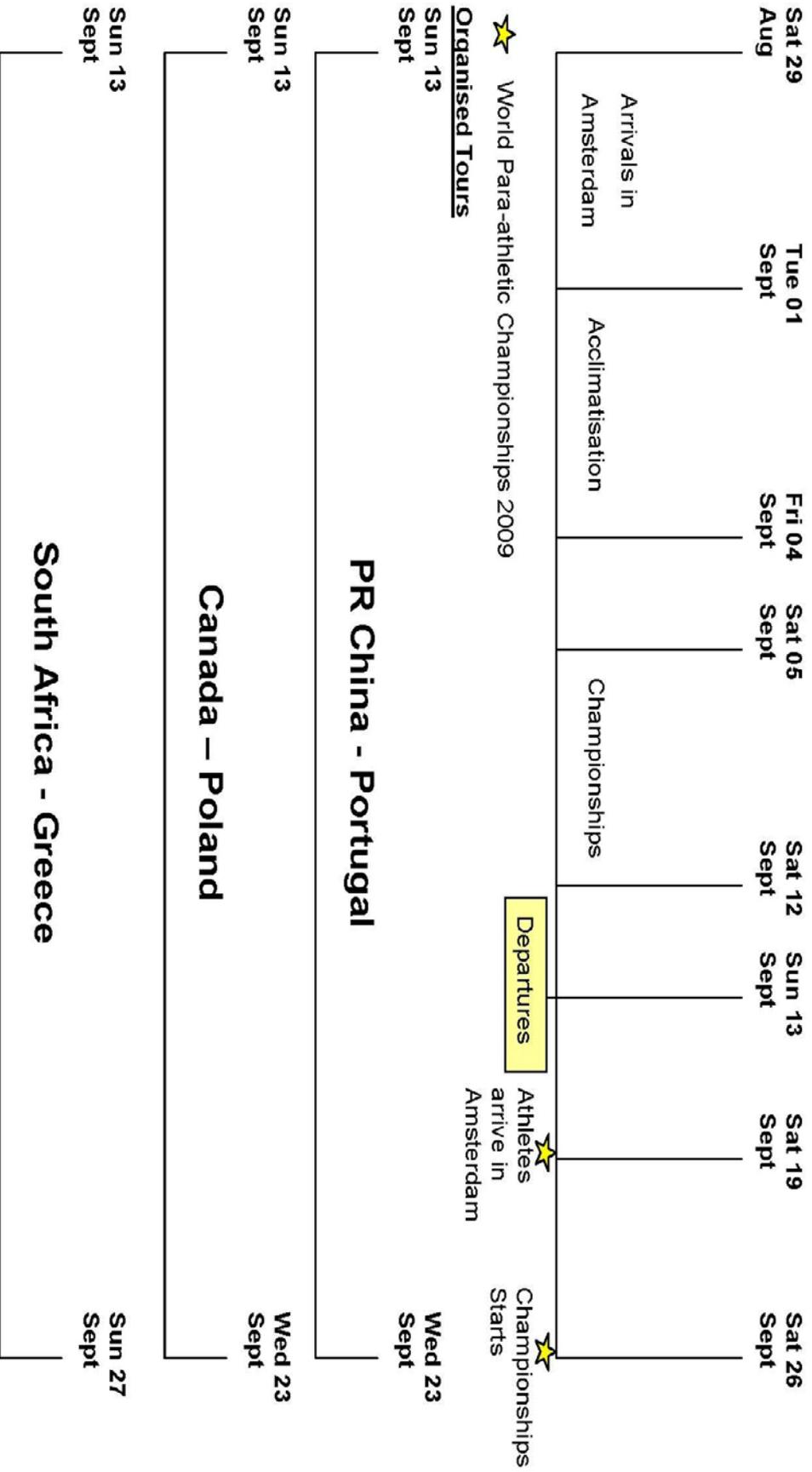


Further cases will be identified throughout the duration of the exercise in participating countries.

Appendices:

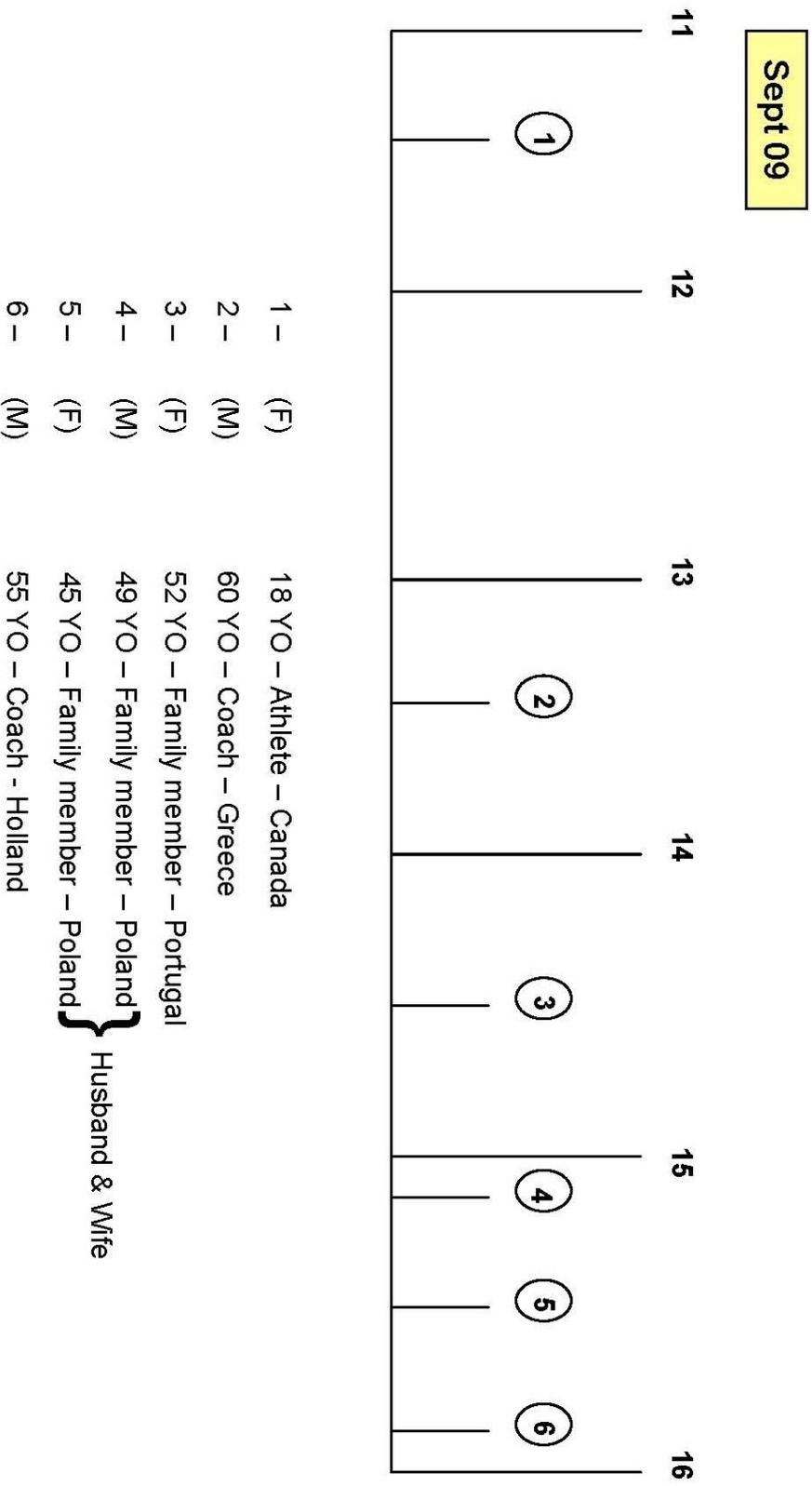
- 1 Championship & follow-on Tours
- 2 Hospital Admissions Timeline (Amsterdam)
- 3 Hospital Admissions Timeline (Leicester)
- 4 List of Participating Countries

Championship & follow-on tours Time lines



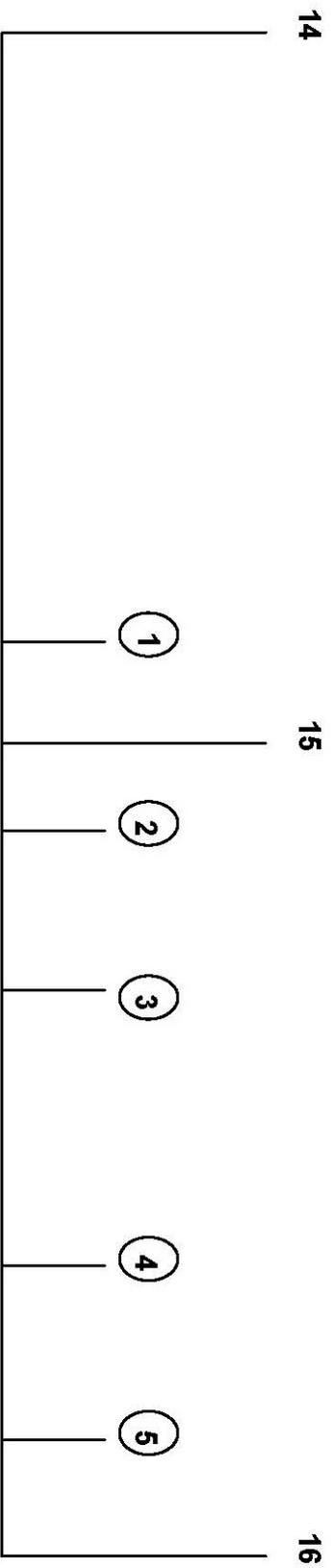
Appendix 2

Hospital Admissions Timeline Amsterdam



Hospital Admissions Timeline – Leicester

Sept 09



1. (M) 49 YO - Coach – UK - Admitted 2350 on 14 Sept
2. (M) 61 YO - Family member – UK - Admitted 0200 on 15 Sept
3. (M) 18 YO - Athlete – UK - Admitted 0415 on 15 Sept
4. (F) 50 YO - Staff member at University, UK - Admitted 1210 on 15 Sept
5. (M) 41 YO - Coach / Lecturer at University, UK - Admitted 1635 on 15 Sept

Appendix 4

LIST OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

The following countries participated in the 2009 Junior World Athletics Championships held in Amsterdam, Holland from the 5 – 12 September 2009;

Israel	USA
Slovenia	Mexico
Lithuania	Peru
Great Britain	Argentina
Serbia	Australia
Belarus	New Zealand
Switzerland	Fiji
Czech Republic	Uruguay
Russia	Bolivia
France	Brazil
Poland	Japan
Norway	South Korea
Italy	Saudi Arabia
Greece	UAE
Latvia	Kuwait
Holland	Cyprus
Spain	Morocco
Bosnia Herzegovina	Iran
Turkey	Iraq
Austria	Pakistan
Hungary	India
Ukraine	Ethiopia
Luxembourg	Kenya
Andorra	Malawi
Estonia	Lebanon
Azerbaijan	Jordan
Turkmenistan	Malta
Afghanistan	Jamaica
Moldova	Trinidad & Tobago
Egypt	Ivory coast
Republic of Ireland	Cameroon
Croatia	Sierra Leone
Canada	Nicaragua
Peoples Republic of China	Albania
Slovakia	Philippines
Greece	Tonga
Romania	Dominican Republic
Portugal	Antigua
Denmark	Barbados
Sweden	Dubai
South Africa	Armenia
Uzbekistan	Chile
Kazakhstan	Chad