

Hi Matt,

The following can be attributed to San Diego State University:

During the first game at Snapdragon Stadium, there was an unprecedented heat wave which caused a number of attendees to have heat-related illnesses and who had to be treated onsite.

As SDSU is a state institution, the state fire marshal has jurisdiction and SDSU works closely and collaboratively with that office on emergency plans. SDSU does not provide a medical plan for any of its venues (for example, Viejas Arena) to the city fire department. However, for the sake of collaboration, the university did share its plans with SDFD.

SDSU utilized every resource available to help reduce the heat's impacts. In advance of the game, the university worked with San Diego Fire-Rescue (SDFD) and other departments in the stadium's unified command to respond to the conditions. We proactively communicated with fans in advance regarding the ability to bring in sealed bottles of water and the availability of water filling stations throughout the stadium. Additionally, there were multiple water misting zones on the concourse level. SDSU also added the City's preferred ambulance provider, Falck, to response plans as requested by SDFD. During the event, the university made changes as needed, called in additional resources, and acted on feedback from SDFD, including requesting additional ambulances from AMR. SDSU also handed out approximately 200 cases of free water to fans during the game. Given severe conditions across the region, we will continue to evaluate our plans and implement changes for future events.

SDSU values its relationship with SDFD and its presence and expertise in the unified command center for stadium events, as we have been coordinating in the months leading up to stadium opening.

For additional context: The university did in fact collaborate with SDFD in advance of the Sept. 3 game. On Tuesday, Aug 30, SDFD requested review of the medical plan for the stadium. SDSU shared the medical plan on Wednesday, Aug. 31; it is not accurate to say that SDSU did not provide a medical plan. This was a similar timeline used for the Aug. 20 scrimmage, as the university shared the medical plan five days prior to the event to receive recommendations from SDFD.

Prior to Sept. 3, out of an abundance of caution, SDSU agreed (as noted above) to add Falck to the response plan at SDFD's request despite SDSU already having a contract in place with AMR for ambulance and medical services. However, SDFD did not provide feedback on the complete response plan document in advance of the Sept. 3 game, and no additional recommendations were shared by SDFD prior to the game day. Canceling the game was not considered, nor did SDFD make that recommendation.

SDSU will continue to encourage discussions and collaboration in advance of games with fire officials, and fire officials will continue to be in the unified command center for football games and other stadium events.

We always want to provide our fans an outstanding experience, and we are focused on continuing to improve as the season continues, no matter the weather conditions or circumstances. We thank the fans and all those in attendance for their ongoing support as we continue to work hard to meet and exceed fan expectations for Snapdragon Stadium.

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