Introduction: The following outlines the standard operating procedures of the NCSU Veterinary Health Complex equine Surgery Service:

Procedures:

A. Scheduling
   1. Submit request form by 4:00pm.
   2. Emergency surgery - inform OR scheduler and OR Technician or OR Supervisor ASAP & submit request to the prep room.
   3. Out-of-hours emergency surgery – LA Technician or House Officer or designee to call "on-call" tech.
   4. Complete preoperative workup sheet according to clinician's specifications.

B. Attire
   1. Students must supply their own blue scrub suits. If doing an infectious case, explain to central supply tech & borrow a green scrub suit.
   2. Clean green scrub suits shall be worn in the equine surgery suites (induction stall, operating room, recovery room). The VHC Central Supply will supply scrub suits for faculty and staff;
   3. Once worn outside the equine surgery suite, scrub suits need to be changed for clean scrubs before re-entering any surgical suite.
   4. Scrub suits shall not be worn outside the Veterinary Health Complex building. This includes the parking lot, the research building, TAU, Facilities Operations, etc. *Shoes that cover toes and soles (ankles and achilles may be exposed). Shoes must be washable and or are able to be disinfected.
   5. Scrubs to be worn in surgery must be covered with a white lab coat or clean coveralls when outside of the surgical area.
   6. T-shirts may be worn under scrub suit provided sleeves do not hang below scrub top when acting as a scrub assistant.
   7. Long sleeved surgical jackets may be checked out from Central Supply only by personnel and students wearing surgical scrubs and exchanged daily for a clean one.
   8. Turtle necks and long sleeves are not to be worn under the scrub suit.
   9. Bouffant hats required and beard covers if needed. Mask to be worn in OR at all times.
   10. Fingernails: long or fake fingernails are not allowed.
   11. Jewelry: All finger rings, bracelets, dangling earrings, and facial jewelry or other facial items should be removed or covered.
   12. White bunny suit must be worn over regular clothes and dirty scrubs if a quick visit to the Surgical Area is necessary.
C. Patient Prep
   1. All food to be withheld after midnight preceding surgery. Water is allowed at all times.
   2. Horse shoes to be removed pm preceding surgery. If owner requests that they are not removed, service member to wrap with elastic on tape prior to leading horse into induction stall.
   3. Horse to be groomed (bathed if necessary) the am of surgery by student surgeon.
   4. Feet to be picked by student surgeon before patient leaves its stall.
   5. Mouth to be washed out by anesthesia before entering induction stall.

D. Induction
   1. Help with induction. Doors between the LA hospital & induction stall to be closed before doors to OR are opened.
   2. Following induction, horses feet to be covered with plastic sleeves (shod feet first to be wrapped with Elasticon) & hobbles (housed in cabinet in breezeway). Then attach hobbles to chain.

E. Move to O.R.
   1. Hoist horse, transport into OR, lower horse onto table, position table in center of OR.
   2. Help with patient positioning; body of horse to be covered with clean sheet.
   3. Assist with clipping, vacuuming & first patient prep before going to scrub in.
   4. Consult with OR tech & help open gloves & gowns for everyone before scrubbing in.
   5. Once procedure is in progress, do not open induction/recovery doors or windows. Don a white coverall & enter OR for communications.

F. Recovery
   1. Student surgeon responsible for removing cultures, biopsies & radiographs & other items not brought in by surgery tech.
   2. Student surgeon to assist with recovery of patient
   3. Place dirty towels in the receptacle in breezeway.
   4. Blood soaked towels must be returned to surgery to be placed in “washable biohazard bags” to be sent out to laundry service.
   5. All ropes to be put away & breezeway left clean.
   6. Anesthesia tech will clean recovery stall during regular hours.
   7. After hours & non-surgical use of recovery stall - clinical service is responsible for removing gross contaminants & hosing down recovery stall.