

Please fill in your event/organisations details in the required fields

(Your Logo or Company Name)

BIOSECURITY PLAN

FOR <Organisation Name>

HHD	Horse Health Declaration
PIC	Property Identification Code
E/Vet	Event Veterinarian
AEBO	Appointed Event Biosecurity Officer
HeV	Hendra Virus

BIOSECURITY POLICY OUTLINED

This biosecurity plan forms part of the Risk Management for this event.

(Company/Organisation Name) would like to outline to our valued equine associates, public supporters and attending exhibitors, the biosecurity measures being put in place to mitigate risks of Hendra Virus and other infectious diseases at our events.

We have been working closely with Biosecurity Queensland and experienced Biosecurity veterinarians to ensure sound measures are in place prior to any horse event being held by (Company/Organisation Name). The organisation has been advised by these experts that in the current situation and with the current measures in place there is no reason for horses not to be a part of any events held by us in 2013-2014 and beyond.

(Company/Organisation Name) first and only consideration is the health and safety of all people and animals that attend events held in our name. While the likelihood of people contracting Hendra virus is extremely low, the (Company/Organisation Name) Biosecurity Plan has effective measures in place to mitigate these risks as advised by our veterinary experts and Biosecurity Queensland. These measures will ensure the highest standard of biosecurity for horse competitors and exhibitors attending equestrian events associated with (Company/Organisation Name).

While this document is not specifically related to the Hendra virus it is important to note that the vaccination of horses in relation to the Hendra virus is recognised as the single most effect means of controlling the spread of this virus.

Approved on behalf of (Company/Organisation Name)

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

1 Overview

This Biosecurity Plan is a set of preventative control measures and actions aimed at reducing the risk of infectious diseases and pests spreading through horses attending a *Company/ Club/ Association* (hereafter called the “Organisation”) meeting or **Event** (hereafter called an “Event”).

2 Organisation Requirements

2.1 Pre-Event Planning

Company // Club // Association recognise that we have duties under work health and safety legislation to ensure the health and safety of ourselves, workers and other persons so far as is reasonably practicable. Risks to health and safety are eliminated so far as is reasonably practicable. If this is not reasonably practicable, the risks are minimised so far as is reasonably practicable as detailed in this plan.

This plan is to:

- Provide and maintain a work environment without risks to health and safety
- Provide and maintain safe systems of work
- Ensure the safe use, handling, and storage of plant, structures and substances.
- Provide adequate facilities (including hand hygiene and first aid facilities) for the welfare at work of workers including ensuring access to those facilities
- Provide any information, training, instruction or supervision that is necessary to protect all persons from risks to their health and safety

We have accessed the Safework Australia Volunteer Resource Kit.

www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/model-whs-laws/guidance/volunteers/pages/resource-kit

2.2 Appoint Event Biosecurity Officer

The appointed event biosecurity officer (AEBO) will be responsible for completion of pre-event biosecurity planning and management of an incident should this occur. (Refer role description) If the AEBO is a different person on event day a through briefing and handover will occur.

2.3 Communication

- Biosecurity messages will be included in regular club communication to develop the understanding of the competitors of biosecurity risks, what to do if a horse becomes unwell at an event and what to expect should an incident occur.
- A communication plan is attached as appendix ___ to ensure the communication of clear, concise and accurate messages about a situation, the measures being taken and the procedures for event participants to follow. This is critical to prevent the spread of disease and panic among event participants and the public.
- The communications plan will include notification to event staff, participants, venue manager, peak sporting body, vendors and spectators/public in the event of an incident.

2.4 Event Preparation Requirements

Management of biosecurity risks will commence at the time of initiating the event. The following requirements will be met prior to the commencement of an event.

2.4.1 Event Schedule

- Entry forms will provide for capturing:
 - o PIC¹ of origin of all horses
 - o Details of companion horses in addition to the competition horses
 - o Microchip numbers
 - o HEV Status

2.4.2 Acceptance of Nominations

- Entries that do not provide the information required to implement the biosecurity policy will be not be accepted.

2.4.3 Allocation of Stables

- Wherever entry numbers allow stables will be allocated based on PIC with a stable left vacant between horses that have come from a different PIC.
- This vacant stable may be used for a tack room

2.4.4 Nomination and Briefing of Stable Warden

- A stable warden will be nominated for each event. The stable warden will be responsible for execution of the biosecurity plan in the stables area.
- The stable warden will be briefed before the event to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to execute their role.

2.4.5 Event Veterinarian

- An Event Veterinarian (E/Vet) will be appointed for each event and will be listed on the Biosecurity Contingency Plan for that event. They are the designated veterinarian in case of emergency or Biosecurity threat.
- Event vets and their contact details are provided in Event Biosecurity Contingency Plan

2.4.6 Venue Map

- a map defining Entry/Exit points, isolation areas, exercise, warm-up, stabling, competition, camping, toilets, catering, manure sites and traffic areas will be displayed in all the equine areas at the venue.

The venue map will also reflect horse, pedestrian and vehicle movements as defined in the Risk Management Plan.

¹ It is a legal requirement that every property that has one or more horses on it is registered with a PIC. To apply for a PIC or to check an existing PIC contact Biosecurity Queensland <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/animal-industries/moving-selling-livestock/national-livestock-identification-system/property-registration/multiple-land-parcels>.

2.5 Event Requirements

2.5.1 Entry to the Venue

- Will be allowed between set times and dates via designated entry points. Entry & Exit Gates for each event will be nominated and communicated to competitors.
- Access earlier than stated on the venue agreement is to be negotiated with QSEC.
- ONLY those horses registered to attend the event and detailed on a 'Horse Health Declaration (HHD),' provided to the Organiser, are permitted to be at the event. Verification of horses will occur before unloading.
- A COMPLETED HHD will be collected on entry and must include details of all animals on board.
- If a horse is reported as unwell prior to entry vet assistance is to be arranged with the designated Event Veterinarian (at the owner's expense).

2.5.2 Personal Hygiene

- A Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kit is available
- Please practice diligent personal hygiene ensuring regular hand washing
- The Organisation will provide hand sanitiser stations around the grounds
- Handling of horses should be kept to a minimum where possible
- Stewards/Vets/Officials will be required to practice hand hygiene between horses.

2.5.3 Designated Isolation Area & Stables

- Isolation stables and yards are provided and are located on the venue map. When and how these stables are to be used is detailed in the Event Contingency Plan.

2.5.4 Organisation Biosecurity Contacts

- Refer Appendix 1

2.5.5 Sick Horses

- Sick horses must not be allowed to enter the venue
- Any suspicion of illness in any horse before or during the event is to be reported to the Organisation & AEBO. Refer to the Biosecurity Contingency Plan for the required actions.

2.6 Interaction with the Public

To the extent practical interaction between horses and the public will be minimised. This will include:

- excluding the public from the stables and yards
- using different entry and exit points for horses and the public

2.7 Record Keeping

- A list of all nominations along with their HHD will be forwarded to QSEC within 7 days of the event.

3 Requirements of Participants

Every individual attending an event run by the organisation has a responsibility to abide by these Biosecurity measures and to follow the directions of the Organising Committee (OC) and their Appointed Event Biosecurity Officer (AEBO) and Venue representatives or risk expulsion from the event/venue.

Participants must check with their relevant State/Territory Department regarding requirements for Way bills, Travel Permits, Fodder transport, and 'Tick Spray'. Information on horse movement and biosecurity documentation can be found at <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au>.

3.1 Departing a Venue

- All stables must be vacated by the time and date as booked in Nominate and used areas all left thoroughly clean
- Horses may not leave the venue prior to completion of the event without authority from the Event Organising Committee or their Appointed Event Biosecurity Officer (AEBO).
- Notification of all horse departures is required to the AEBO prior to leaving the venue through the advertised exit point/s.

3.2 Horses

- Close contact between horses that are not normally housed together should be avoided wherever possible.

3.3 Manure

- Stables are to be kept clean of manure and feed scraps daily
- Regular pickups of manure from communal walkways and exercise areas will be undertaken
- Manure is to be disposed of in designated 'Manure' dump sites provided by the venue

3.4 Vehicles

- People transporting horses should ensure their vehicles/floats are clean before loading horses for departure to the venue
- All regulations en-route regarding the transport of plant material, seeds, weed control, etc are to be adhered to and are the responsibility of the horse carrier.

3.5 Horse Equipment

- All nominees, riders, handlers and their transporters are to ensure all tack, rugs, feed bins, water buckets etc are clean prior to arrival and where possible, sharing of these articles between horses should be avoided.

3.6 Water

- There will be **NO** communal water troughs allowed at the venue so owners/handlers are asked to bring adequate water containers needed to water horses in their control
- The organisation will ensure there are adequate taps at venues where events are booked to cater for stabling and camping.

3.7 Personal Hygiene

- The carrying of a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kit is highly recommended
- Please practice diligent personal hygiene ensuring regular hand washing
- Handling of multiple horses should be kept to a minimum where possible

3.8 Fodder

- Any feed brought to an event from Interstate must comply with Department requirements and a fodder declaration must be completed if required – please refer to the following web site for further information - <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au>
- The organisation, where possible, will supply a list of available Feed Suppliers close to the venue.
- Feed and water should not be shared and should be kept under cover away from trees to prevent contamination from birds/flying foxes etc;

3.9 Sick Horses

- Sick horses must not enter the venue
- Any suspicion of illness in any horse before or during the event is to be reported to the organisation & AEBO immediately. The horse should not be moved and should be prevented from making contact with other horses until advised by the AEBO.

3.10 *In the Event of a Biosecurity Emergency*

- All individuals must obey directions given by the organisation, AEBO and/or Venue Staff
- Everyone will remain at the venue until cleared to leave by the OC, AEBO and Venue Staff
- In the event of Horse Movement Restrictions – participants are responsible for the care, maintenance and cost of their horses and themselves including feeding, bedding, vets and personal needs

Appendix 1 Biosecurity Guide & Contact Details

Equipment Required

- Microchip scanner
- PA system
- Hand sanitiser for stations around stable areas and at gear check/marshalling areas
- First aid kit
- PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) (AVA’s Suit Up video may assist with this (<http://www.ava.com.au/suit-up>) available at vet inspection and Isolation area – disposable gloves; Paper towels; disposable overalls; Boots; safety goggles; P2 masks; heavy duty garbage bags; Biohazard bags
- Decontamination equipment for Isolation area to include – buckets; disinfectant; spray bottles; scrubbing brushes; kitty litter trays; Hazard tape.

Contact Details

Person/Organisation	Name	Phone	Mobile
Emergency Disease Watch Hotline		1800 675 888	
Biosecurity QLD		13 25 23	
Event Committee Chairperson			
Event Appointed Biosecurity Officer			
Event Organisers Appointed Veterinarian			
Stable Warden			
Caboolture Police		07 5495 0444	
Workplace Health Safety Queensland		1300 369 915	
QSEC Contact Details			
Venue Coordinator	Katie Schablon	07 5433 3222	0419 724 085
Duty Manager			0427 025 144
Moreton Bay Regional Council After Hours		07 3205 0555	