

<b>TITLE:</b>	GUIDELINE – RESUMING EQUESTRIAN TRAINING AND COMPETITION ACTIVITIES IN A COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT		
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<b>Applies to:</b>	EA State Branches, NDCs, ACs, Members, Coaches, Officials and relevant others		
<b>Authorized by:</b>	Andrew Hamilton, General Manager		
<b>Related Legislation / Guidance Material:</b>			
1. Australian Federal and State Regulations 2. Australian Institute of Sport and Sports Australia 3. Australian Government Department of Health 4. World Health Organisation 5. Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) 6. Australian Animal Health Committee			

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Signed by:



Date: 10 /06 / 2020

Andrew Hamilton, General Manager

## 1. Guideline Aims

This guideline aims to provide an operational framework to support members, in facilitating a healthy and safe return to all equestrian activities as soon as reasonably practical. A resumption of various equestrian activities will be in accordance with Australian and International regulatory requirements, along with Equestrian Australia (EA's) COVID-19 Risk Response and Recovery Plan 2020 (18.05.2020). All of these processes have been developed with the best interests of all participants, their families and communities in mind.

*'Complacency and simply not disclosing any illness are the key factors likely to disrupt our sport. Remember, the spread of COVID-19 is preventable, provided we all take responsibility and be accountable for our own actions'.*

## 2. Guideline Definitions

Within this guideline, some words have special meaning, these are outlined below:

Activities: includes training, education and competition

Members: includes all EA state branches, national discipline committees, coaches, officials, organising committees and volunteers

Spectators: includes members of the general public, not designated to the assistance of the athlete. Spectators does not mean parents/carers, groom or trainer.

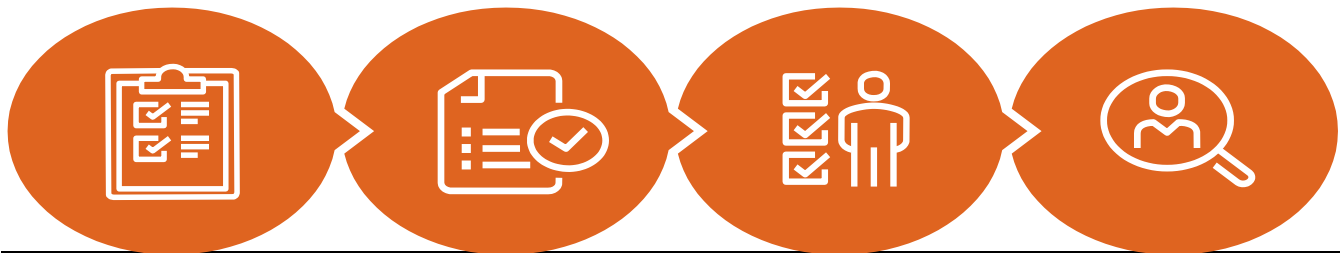
State Branches: includes Equestrian Queensland, Equestrian New South Wales, Equestrian Victoria, Equestrian Tasmania, Equestrian South Australia, Equestrian Western Australia and Equestrian Northern Territory for the purposes of this guideline

### **3. EA's National Principles to Resume Equestrian Training and Competition In Australia**

- 3.1. Resumption of equestrian training and competition activities can contribute many health, economic, physical and cultural benefits to our people and communities emerging from and living with a COVID-19 environment.
- 3.2. Resumption of equestrian training and competition activities should not compromise the health of participants, horses or the community.
- 3.3. Resumption of equestrian training and competition activities will be based on objective and current health information to ensure they are conducted safely and do not risk increased COVID-19 local transmission rates.
- 3.4. All decisions returning to equestrian training and competition activities must proceed with careful reference to all EA and State Branch recommendations. In addition, all decisions should be based on Federal, State/Territory COVID-19 Public Health, Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and Sports Australia advice.
- 3.5. EA's 'Guideline for Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition Activities in a COVID-19 Environment' provides a benchmark for State Branches, OCs, ACs, volunteers and members in Australia. This framework supports equestrian as a non-contact sport incorporating both indoor and outdoor activities. Whilst the AIS Frameworks provides three parameters (A, B and C) for a staged return to training and competition activities, individual Australian jurisdictions will provide further guidance on the timing for a re-introduction of these various levels with regard to local and current epidemiology, risk mitigation strategies and public health capacity.
- 3.6. EA supports World Health Organisation (WHO) advice that outdoor activities are deemed as a low-risk setting for COVID-19 transmission. However, there is an assumption that indoor activities pose a greater risk of disease spread than outdoor activities, despite similar mitigation steps.
- 3.7. All individuals who participate in and contribute to, training and competition are to be considered in resumption plans, including those at the high performance/professional, community and competitive level. Including those who wish to enjoy passive (non-contact) individual competitions and recreational activities.
- 3.8. Resumption of all equestrian training and competition activities are to proceed in a staged manner. This includes an initial phase of small group activities in a non-contact environment, followed by a subsequent phase of larger groups, which includes equestrian training and the introduction of competition. Again, individual jurisdictions will determine progression through these phases. Strict physical physical-distancing measures apply to all participating and non-participating persons. (If a discipline requires closer-human-contact for short periods of time e.g. Equestrian Driving, ensure all pre-screening measures are completed and COVID-19 risk mitigation measures are adhered to as reasonably practical pre and post activity).
- 3.9. Risk mitigation strategies (including physical distancing) must be applied to all indoor activities in alignment with outdoor equestrian competition activities (e.g. washrooms, canteens, club or tack rooms, training facilities and the like).
- 3.10. This guideline for resuming equestrian activities (inclusive of the AIS and Australia Government Framework), is determined as a minimum standard required to be met by all members prior to the resumption of any equestrian training and competition. It is the responsibility of each State Branch, OC, coach, official or any other participating member to ensure, so far as reasonably practical, that all precautions are taken to mitigate the risk of further environmental contamination and human contact spread of COVID-19.

- 3.11. If any individual or organisation is seeking specific exemptions in order to recommence an equestrian activity (e.g. competitions), they are required to engage with and where necessary seek approvals from, the respective State/Territory and/or Local Public Health Authorities regarding additional measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread. Any such exemptions require a notification (including relevant documentation) to be forwarded to EA's National Safety Manager reporting@equestrian.org.au and their relevant EA State Branch office, prior to the proposed equestrian activity.
- 3.12. All State Branches, OCs, coaches, officials, participants and any participant support personnel must respond to the directives of Public Health Authorities. Localised and/or community outbreaks may require a restriction on some or all equestrian activities (training or competition) and they must be ready to respond diligently and accordingly. The detection of a positive COVID-19 case in any equestrian related training or competition activity will result in a standard public health response, which may include quarantine of a whole group or part-there-off and any additional close contacts, for a required period of time (e.g. 14 days).
- 3.13. The risks associated with large gatherings are such that; for the foreseeable future, elite and or large group competitions, if recommenced should do so in a spectator-free environment with minimal staff available to run the equestrian activity. In addition, all equestrian activities should limit those present to the minimum required to support the participants (e.g. one parent, groom or participant support person if necessary).
- 3.14. All risk mitigation assessments, plans and protocols must be in writing, current, signed by all relevant parties and retained for risk conformance reporting purposes. All risk mitigation plans should include references to each States Public Health COVID-19 specific advice and guidelines.
- 3.15. The health, safety and well-being of all equestrian participants, participating support personnel, others and Australian communities will be the priority in any future decisions about the resumption of equestrian training and competition activities. All decisions pertaining to EA's framework for 'Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition in a COVID-19 Environment', will include thorough consultation with all relevant parties. Such as, but not limited to; Equestrian Australia Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT), State Branch CEOs, NDC Chairs, Veterinary and Medical representatives, Medical Consultative Group, including High Performance and legal representative where required. All COVID-19 Federal, State/Territory and/or Local Public Health Authorities, FEI, Sports Australia, Australian Institute of Sport and Health Committee recommendations will be reviewed.

#### 4. Framework for Resumption of Sport in a COVID-19 Environment (AIS)



1. Preparation	2. Criteria	3. Assessment	4. Management
-Education -Assessment of Training environment -Agreed protocol for a possible case of COVID-19	-Level A, B, C sporting activities	-Participant s/staff returning to training after COVID-19 infection -Vulnerable groups	-Monitoring participant s/other personnel -Managing a suspected COVID-19 case -Managing a confirmed COVID-19 case

#### 5. EA's Recommended Protocols for Equestrian Training and Competition Activities

##### 5.1. Participant (Athlete) Responsibilities

- 5.1.1. All EA members are required to take personal responsibility for their own health, safety and wellbeing and the 'impact on others' during the resumption of all equestrian training and competition activities.
- 5.1.2. To comply with all EA, State Branch, OCs, coaches, officials and affiliated clubs COVID-19 requirements to participate in the resumption of equestrian training and competition activities.
- 5.1.3. To comply with Australian Federal and State judicial and Sport authorities COVID-19 requirements when participating in the resumption of equestrian training and competition activities:
  - Practice minimal Australian Government requirements to protect others and stop COVID-19 spread by: practising good hygiene, physical distancing, following the limits for public gatherings and understand how to isolate if you need to. Refer to <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert> and <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/covid19-restriction-checker/sport-and-recreation>
- 5.1.4. If you are or have experienced any of the following, it is your responsibility to declare to OC-designated COVID safety officer if:
  - your health or wellbeing is compromised and you are experiencing: flu-like symptoms, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, cough, shortness of breath or high temperature

- Refer to Health Direct (Australian Government) Coronavirus (COVID-19) Symptom Checker for assistance. <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/symptom-checker/tool/basic-details>
- you have been in contact with an unwell person in the past 14 days
- Stay at home and do not attend the equestrian training or competition activity.

5.1.5. If you become unwell following attendance at an equestrian training or competition activity it is your responsibility to:

- seek medical advice
- contact the event organiser, coach or relevant other and report.

5.1.6. Encourage participants to download the COVID-19 Safe App (supports traceability)  
<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app>

## 5.2. **Organising Committees, Officials, Clubs and/or Coaches**

### 5.2.1. Pre-Activity, Planning and Funding

- 5.2.1.1. Until further notice all OCs, ACs and/or coaches, officials, including state squads to discuss, propose and document a COVID-19 risk management plan prior to any equestrian activity about the intended interactions of officials, staff, participating support personnel and volunteers during an event or training activity. Refer to FEI documents 5.1 and/or State Branch risk management documents requirements, including the submission of COVID-19 risk management plans if/as required.
- 5.2.1.2. Ensure a designated and appropriately trained person within the OC or training environment has been identified to assist in planning, implementation and monitoring of all agreed and documented COVID-19 Safe requirements. (e.g. Biosecurity officer, Client Safety Officer etc.)
- 5.2.1.3. Effective planning supports proactive COVID-19 safety management processes. Consider the number of participants (athletes) during any activity, in any location at the same time. This will require planning and management of human interactions to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 contamination. (e.g. If no more than 20 people can attend a facility at any one time, the total (20) includes participants (athletes), grooms, parents, participant support person, carers and officials. In this case the coach is not included in the 20-person limit).
- 5.2.1.4. Consider the opportunity to generate a registry of all participants and participating support personnel in order to undertake swift contact tracing if/as required.
- 5.2.1.5. Consider COVID-19 pre-screening process for all participants, participating support personnel, grooms, officials, Medical Response Team (MRT), stewards, administration and volunteers. Refer to 4.1 Medical Response and Infection Control Measures.
- 5.2.1.6. Consider a plan for COVID-19 'track and trace' verses 'local quarantine' in conjunction with local public health facilities. Refer to 4.0 Medical Response and Infection Control Measures.

- 5.2.1.7. Consider arrival and departure times of all participants, participating support personnel, officials and relevant others to reduce traffic congestion, non-essential group collaboration during and post-event, promoting a COVID-19 safer environment.
- 5.2.1.8. If unmounted activities are occurring (e.g. training room) all Federal and or State Government prescribed COVID-19 hygiene and physical distancing protocols must be implemented and maintained.
- 5.2.1.9. The scheduling of activities should be determined to support maximum participation. Areas for consideration should include the following:
- arrival and departure times of participants
  - preparation and warm-up requirements
  - cool-down and horse welfare needs
  - pack-up and dis-assembly of activity equipment etc.
- to ensure only the prescribed number of participants and their participant support personnel are located in the same area at any one time.
- 5.2.1.10. All documentation and payments (entries, insurance waivers, payments, risk assessments, approvals or permissions etc.) should be completed in a digital format where possible and forwarded to the relevant parties prior to the commencement of the training or competition activity. Use emails, text-messaging or sport-entry platforms (e.g. nominate) where possible.
- 5.2.1.11. Disseminate relevant COVID-19 procedures that will be used during an equestrian training or competition activity prior to the day to all participants, either online, via email, mail or any other suitable means.
- 5.2.1.12. Consider a cancellation and/or credit policy for any participant with possible COVID-19 exposure to receive refunds or future training or competition credits if they are required to cancel.
- 5.2.1.13. Consider a 'backup plan' if essential personnel (judge, official, EMT) cannot attend the training or competition activity on the day without prior notice or have COVID-19 type symptoms on the day.
- 5.2.1.14. Travel for all training or competition activity is to be in accordance with State jurisdiction requirements
- Interstate travel allowances is unlikely to be approved initially and will be determined accordingly by Federal and State jurisdictions only (refer to each state 'covid-19-coronavirus advice for travelling)
  - Committees, clubs and individuals should consult with their preferred coach regarding the possibility of travel. Refer to State travel requirements
  - Some coaches and /or officials may be able to apply for a travel permit under the provision of:



- travelling for work or generating an income
  - Specialist skills are not available in the local area
  - Attending an educational institution where necessary
- 5.2.1.15. Encourage all participants, participating support personnel, grooms, officials and volunteers to comply with all COVID-19 specific equestrian training and competition protocols and guidelines.
- 5.2.1.16. Communicate with local emergency response services about the proposed event or training day and confirm response time opportunities for a potential 'call assist' or transfer of an injured/ill participant as required.
- 5.2.1.17. Funding may be available to support the return of equestrian training and competition activities by providing advice and guidance to OCs on available grants and funding available from all levels of government to financial aid.
- 5.2.1.18. Encourage all others, including coaches, officials, volunteers, staff and participating support personnel to download the COVID-19 Safe App (supports traceability) <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app>
- 5.2.2. During Training or Competition
- 5.2.2.1. Ground (venue) arrival / departure require restricted access and risk management protocols
- 5.2.2.2. The unlocking and relocking of a facility or opening and closing of any internal gates or fences should be undertaken by one person, or a small group of rostered personnel.
- 5.2.2.3. All facility (venue) entry and exist points and internal facilities (e.g. washrooms) require access to hand sanitising stations. All participants must be informed (either directly or through signage) to thoroughly clean these areas before and after entry/exit with suitable COVID-19 deep cleaning products.
- 5.2.2.4. OCs, coaches, officials, volunteers, State Branch and Discipline specific representatives must reinforce the importance of physical distancing and strict hygiene protocols prior to and during an equestrian training or competition activity.
- 5.2.2.5. Prominent signage must be displayed which communicates physical distancing requirements, traffic flow, hygiene stations and venue specific rules.
- 5.2.3. Physical Distancing
- 5.2.3.1. A distance of 1.5m (or the current State specific prescribed distance) should be maintained with participants, participant support personnel and all others at all times.
- 5.2.3.2. Spectators are not permitted, unless they are deemed a parent, carer or participant support personnel.



- 5.2.3.3. Consider a suitable pre-determined distance for all parking areas (e.g. between floats, trucks and other vehicle's). A traffic management and parking plan would assist in reducing unnecessary people interactions and this should be maintained and monitored where reasonably practical at all times (e.g. meet 4m2 rule or as prescribed by State legislation).
- 5.2.3.4. Stables/yards are considered 'shared equipment'. Consider how these spaces can best be used. The allocation of yards or stables, the proximity of horses and people and positioning of tack and equipment to minimise contact. (e.g. a minimal of two stable/yard widths may be applicable, or outdoor yards could be used in preference to indoor stables). If a participant has more than one horse they could be housed next to each other. Adherence to strict hygiene measures are required to reduce contact/ contamination (i.e. wearing gloves, thoroughly cleaning areas, hand sanitising stations).
- 5.2.3.5. All participant's and attendees should be encouraged to bring their own drinking water (both horse and human). At wash-bay areas a distance of 4m2 (or as prescribed by State Legislation) is to be maintained by all in attendance, with a hand sanitising station available where possible.
- 5.2.3.6. All venue facilities (canteen, club rooms, caravans, etc.) are to be restricted to organising personnel only.
- 5.2.3.7. The sharing of any equipment is to be discouraged
- 5.2.4. Food Facilities
- 5.2.4.1. Canteen type facilities must comply with State Public Health requirements.
- 5.2.4.2. Where a food facility is required the following is recommended:
- No more than two people should be allowed within the food facility. The same two people are to be available for the duration of the activity, with a distancing rule of 4m2 to apply (or as prescribed State Legislation). No other people are permitted within the food facility.
  - All physical distancing measures must be implemented for food service (i.e. designated 1.5m ground distancing).
  - Where possible pre-packaged or hot foods and beverages only to be available.
  - A food facility could offer dine-in options, e.g. provided 20-person limit (or as prescribed by State Legislation) is observed and physical distancing measures are adhered to.
  - All food facilities must be thoroughly deep cleaned according to COVID-19 cleaning requirements
  - All mobile food facilities are required to obtain a permit to operate from their relevant local government All physical distancing measures must be implemented for food services (i.e. designated 1.5m ground distancing)

### 5.2.5. Site Administration and Official Safety

- 5.2.5.1. Consider touch points that will require constant cleaning: clipboards, pens, writing surfaces, computers, iPad, two-way radios, mobiles etc.
- 5.2.5.2. Provide access to disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, and gloves for administrative staff at a training or competition activity.
- 5.2.5.3. Utilise online and phone-based checkouts, or schedule check out times to limit numbers within administration locations.
- 5.2.5.4. Consider arranging training or competition pre-entry participants in a 'show and go' framework
- 5.2.5.5. Accept that participant flow may change in sequence, if this assists in minimizing physical contact.

### 5.2.6. Officials

- 5.2.6.1. Where stewards are required to complete 'gear checks' the number, requirements and process for checking participants gear (e.g. wearing disposable gloves) is to be determined prior to the training or competition activity. The accredited steward is required to inform the OC and relevant others of the recommended process.
- 5.2.6.2. Refer to EA's National Protocols for Stewards and Gear Check requirements for each equestrian disciplines, to support physical distancing requirements (e.g. walking around and not touching participant's tack, person or horse is preferred). Such as a) whip checks may be measured using a measuring gauge (e.g. tube, rod, tape measure or mark on a fence) or b) request removal of an ear bonnet to identify 'ear plugs'.
- 5.2.6.3. In order to inspect any questionable bit(s) or equipment, it is suggested the steward follows the participant to a designated area and check the removed equipment while maintaining physical distancing as able.
- 5.2.6.4. Where an official (e.g. judge) identifies a concern during an equestrian activity they may request to inspect a participant /horse visually, whilst maintaining physical distancing. If required a photograph could be taken and a second official may assist in a closer inspection outside of the competition arena or training location.
- 5.2.6.5. Maintain physical distancing during officiating duties (e.g. revise dressage judge-steward usage of vehicle location)
- 5.2.6.6. Consider delivery of food/water supplies, hand sanitizer, communications, locations to maintain hygiene and physical distancing requirements.
- 5.2.6.7. Review stewarding processes, record keeping, scribes, results handling, scoreboards, ribbons-awards etc. How these processes can be streamlined to minimise person-to-person contact and maintain physical distancing.

### 5.2.7. Post-Activity

- 5.2.7.1. All participants and participating support personnel should not arrive early (or change their scheduled arrival time) unless discussed with the OC, AC or coach and approved.
- 5.2.7.2. All participants and participating support personnel are required to vacate the grounds following the completion of their training or competition activity.
- 5.2.7.3. All unnecessary group collaboration (social) needs to be discouraged (e.g. no 'high fives', use of washrooms together, singing songs, campfire gathering)

### 5.2.8. Horse Welfare and Movements

- 5.2.8.1. Maintain horse welfare (health and safety) and optimal biosecurity for animal health
  - The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) advises that internationally, there is currently no evidence to suggest that 'horses' infected by humans are playing a role in the spread of COVID-19. The current spread of COVID-19 is primarily human to human transmission.
  - Refer to current FEI and EA competition Regulations and Guidelines
- 5.2.8.2. Horse movements and ongoing care
  - Horses being transported in floats or trucks on arrival are to unload and reload with sufficient space and ample parking at all training and competition activities.
  - A delay in resuming participant-horse competition can disrupt horse training cycles and may impact on horse welfare. It is suggested all participants consult their coach, regarding return to competition and training guidelines.
  - Horse health services (veterinary, farrier, dentistry etc.) are essential for maintaining optimal horse welfare pre-during-post training and competition activities. All horse-health providers are also required to apply COVID-19 risk mitigation strategies (e.g. even when swabbing).

### 5.2.9. Medical Response and Infection Control Measures

- 5.2.9.1. COVID-19 Precautionary Measures
  - Encourage all participants, officials, staff, participating support personnel and volunteers to conduct strict, frequent and effective hygiene practices (hand washing-sanitising, cough protocol, non-contact and /or equipment sharing)
  - Encourage individual responsibilities for their own health status (if unwell, stay at home) and report any contact with a suspected COVID-19 case (Refer to 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6)
  - Ensure adequate supplies of infection control equipment (e.g. hand sanitizer, PPE) is available at all times where possible and in multiple locations. (Note: Hand washing (sanitizer) is determined as a more effective risk control measure, along with gloves, however 'face mask' should only be worn by a

person who is unwell, e.g. flu-like symptoms, and if unwell you should stay home. Masks should be an optional and available PPE item.

- Consider COVID-19 pre-screening processes (questionnaire, temperature recordings etc.) for all participants, officials, staff, grooms, participating support personnel and volunteers on entry to the venue. As a minimal pre-screening should include the following:
- a) Questionnaire: (this could be completed prior to arrival and provided at the entry gate)
  1. Have you recently travelled overseas?
  2. Have you been in contact with a COVID-19 suspect?
  3. Are you currently symptomatic? (e.g. experiencing flu-like symptoms, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, cough, shortness of breath or high temperature), or
- b) Digital temperature readings may be included, subject to logistics and capacity. (Note: temperature checking is not considered the most effective and reliable pre-screening process)
  - Pre-screening processes may be completed by a designated surveillance team if these resources are available (e.g. nurse, first-aider or suitable other person).
  - For training activities or competitions that have a duration of more than two-day's (e.g. Interschool competition) increased frequency of screening measures for COVID-19 should be considered. (e.g. additional temperature checks, symptom-checks etc.)
  - EA continues to consult with equestrian Medical Consultative Group and review relative information provided by Australian and International Health Authorities.
  - Refer to WHO Considerations for sports federation/sports event organisers when planning mass gatherings in the context COVID-19, Interim guidance 14th April 2020.

#### 5.2.9.2. Reporting and managing suspected COVID-19

- Provide first aid and medical services, including designated medical providers who are able to effectively triage.
- Ensure capacity to provide an isolation room/space identified to hold any symptomatic person found at the venue, while awaiting transport to a COVID-19 approved medical facility. Following departure of the symptomatic person, ensure a thorough deep clean of the room/space is completed.
- Determine how participants and all others will be notified of a COVID-19 confirmed case and the situation where they have participated in a training or competition activity.
- Predetermine emergency contacts with local health authorities to report suspected and/or confirmed COVID-19 case/s and each case is to be reported to NSM [reporting@equestrian.org.au](mailto:reporting@equestrian.org.au) immediately following identification.

- Identify the nearest publically available treatment facility for COVID-19.
- Keep up to date with COVID-19 outbreaks within your location is important. Refer to your State regulatory website for updates:  
QLD: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus>  
NSW: <https://preview.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>  
VIC: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>  
SA: <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/>  
TAS: <https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/>  
WA: [https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/articlesa\\_e/coronavirus](https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/articlesa_e/coronavirus)  
NT: <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/>

#### 5.2.10. Managing Participant (Athlete) return to sport

5.2.10.1. Where a confirmed COVID-19 case has been identified it is the responsibility of that person to comply with their State's Public Health requirements for medical management, monitoring and recovery.

5.2.10.2. It is also the person's responsibility to only return to equestrian training or competition activities when fully recovered.

## 6. **Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI)**

- 6.1. The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) supports the health and safety of participants and the welfare of horses at all times during these unprecedented COVID-19 times.
- 6.2. For further information regarding Veterinary, Officials, measuring requirements, travel etc. Refer to <https://inside.fei.org/fei/covid-19/faqs>
- 6.3. For further information regarding Anti-Doping requirements. Refer to [https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/20200320\\_covid-19\\_update\\_en.pdf](https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/20200320_covid-19_update_en.pdf) In addition, can testing during the COVID-19 pandemic given the many restrictions in place, especially as it relates to physical distancing and self-isolation? The answer is YES. Where no mobility or physical contact restrictions have been out in place by local authorities, testing may still occur anytime and anywhere.
- 6.4. Key Directives from FEI: How do I take care of my horse(s) properly and ride safely in the current situation?  
FEI recommends all participants follow government measures within your country, keep informed through your National Federation (NF) on rules during COVID-19. Best practice includes:
  - Coordinate with other horse owners to limit the number of people at the stables at the same time by creating a timetable or WhatsApp group
  - Maintain the required physical distancing from other persons
  - Make sure to use only your own riding equipment and do not share it
  - If you need to use shared equipment, such as wheelbarrows, disinfect areas you touch and wear disposable gloves if possible
  - Avoid behaviour that could increase the risk of injury
  - Do not linger at the stables

- Keep up to date with COVID-19 emergency updates and information. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>
- Refer to the following documents for further guidance, OC event tools, checklists and guidance material

## **7. Recommended Guidance Material and Documents (For all State Branch, OCs and ACs)**

- 7.1. FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Effective July 2020)
- 7.2. FEI COVID -19 Communication Plan Checklist
- 7.3. WHO COVID-ra-Sports-Addendum (15.04.2020)
- 7.4. WHO Considerations for sports federations/sports event organisers when planning mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19 (14.04.2020)
- 7.5. WHO-2019-ncov-mg-decision-tree (15.04.2020)
- 7.6. AIS Sport Australia Return to Sport Toolkit
- 7.7. Safe Work Australia - <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/what-do-if-worker-has-covid-19-infographic> and <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/collection/covid-19-resource-kit>


## **8. State Branch References**

- 8.1 QLD: <https://www.qld.equestrian.org.au/covid-19>
- 8.2 NSW: <https://www.nsw.equestrian.org.au/COVID-1913>
- 8.3 VIC: <https://www.vic.equestrian.org.au/content/covid-19-useful-resources>
- 8.4 SA: <https://www.sa.equestrian.org.au/news>
- 8.5 TAS: <https://www.tas.equestrian.org.au/covid-19>
- 8.6 WA: <https://www.wa.equestrian.org.au/covid-19>
- 8.7 NT: <https://www.nt.equestrian.org.au/content/coronavirus-covid-19>

## 9. Documents Reviewed and References

- 9.1. The Australian Institute of Competition (AIS) framework for re-booting competition in a COVID-19 environment (May 2020)
- 9.2. United States Dressage Federation, Best Practices. (Rev 19.06.2020)
- 9.3. New Zealand Covid-19-Alert-Plan-06.05.2020
- 9.4. Animal Health Committee (AIC) Alert (Rev 19.05.2020)
- 9.5. WHO Considerations for sports federation/sports event organisers when planning mass gatherings in the context COVID-19, Interim guidance 14th April 2020.
- 9.6. AIS Sport Australia Return to Sport Toolkit

## 10. Document Control

Author	Status	Date	Version	Approved Changes	Date Approved
Meredith Chapman-NSM	Initial draft- EA Sport Ops & State CEOs	27.05.2020	1.0		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft- NDC, HP, R. Kane & G. Sinclair	01.06.2020	1.1		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	Final Draft for review, sent to all relevant parties	02.06.2020	1.2		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	Final Document released	04.06.2020	1.3		10.06.2020