



COVID-19 PROTOCOL
FOR
EQUESTRIAN
TRAINING & EVENTS

GUIDELINES FOR RESUMING EQUESTRIAN TRAINING AND COMPETITION ACTIVITIES IN A COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT

1. Guideline Aims.

(a) 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 policies issued by the Govt of India and respective State Govts and International regulatory requirements. All of these processes have been developed with the best interests of all participants, their families and communities in mind.

(b) *'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: -

(a) **Activities.** includes training, education and competition.

(b) **Members.** includes all EFI registered riders, EFI registered members, EFI empanelled officials, discipline members, coaches, officials, organising committees and volunteers.

(c) **Spectators.** includes members of the general public, not designated to the assistance of the athlete. Spectators does not mean parents/carer, groom or trainer.

(d) **Clubs.** All equestrian clubs registered and affiliated with the respective State Associations or the National Federation.

(e) **State Association.** All State Association registered and affiliated with EFI.

3. EFI's National Principles to Resume Equestrian Training and Competition In India.

(a) Resumption of equestrian training and competition activities can contribute many health, economic, physical and cultural benefits to people and communities emerging from and living with a COVID-19 environment.

(b) Resumption of equestrian training and competition activities should not compromise the health of participants, horses or the community.

(c) 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.

(d) All decisions for returning to equestrian training and competition activities must proceed with careful reference to all EFI and Central/State Govt recommendations. In addition, all decisions should be based on local State Govt COVID-19 Public Health protocols, advisories from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India, lockdown restrictions and unlock protocols issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt of India and the comprehensive SOP issued by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of India.

(e) EFI's 'Guideline for Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition Activities in a COVID-19 Environment' provides the minimum benchmark for Organising Committees(OC), Clubs, volunteers and members affiliated with the NSF. This framework supports equestrian as a non-contact sport incorporating both indoor and outdoor activities.

(f) EFI recommends World Health Organisation (WHO) advice on outdoor sports activities which is deemed as a low-risk setting for COVID-19 transmission. EFI also recommends use of the WHO Risk assessment tool to decide on a competition venue.

(g) 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 individual competitions and recreational activities.

(h) 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 distancing measures apply to all participating and non-participating persons. If the training/competition requires closer-human-contact for short periods of time, ensure all pre-screening measures are completed and COVID-19 risk mitigation measures are adhered to as reasonably practical pre and post activity.

(j) 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 etc).

(k) This guideline for resuming equestrian activities 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 Club, 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.

(l) 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 if required, has to be obtained in writing and the same forwarded to EFI prior to the proposed equestrian activity.

(m) All State Associations, Clubs, OCs, coaches, officials, participants and any participant support personnel must respond to the directives of local Health and Administrative 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).

(n) The risks associated with large gatherings are such that large group competitions should be done 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).

(o) 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.

(p) The health, safety and well-being of all equestrian participants, participating support personnel, others and the general public will be the priority in any future decisions about the resumption of equestrian training and competition activities. All decisions pertaining to 'Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition in a COVID-19 environment', will include thorough consultation with all relevant parties OCs, respective State Associations, local Health & Administrative authorities, Veterinary and Medical representatives, All COVID-19 regulations and advisories issued by respective Central/State/Territory and/or Local Public Health Authorities, FEI, Sports Authority of India will be adhered to.

4. **Covid -19 Compliance Officer.**

- (a) This section is intended to outline the role and duties of a COVID- 19 Compliance Officer in line with the Government's recommendations to monitor Social Distancing.
- (b) It is important that the right candidate is appointed/ selected as a COVID- 19 Compliance Officer.
- (c) Organisers must assess how many COVID- 19 Compliance Officers are required depending on size, environment, number of participants to be monitored. Stable yards and riding schools must do the same.
- (d) Social distancing compliance is the responsibility of everyone.
- (e) Details of the assigned COVID- 19 Compliance Officer to be communicated in the case of shows or events
 - Show Notices and the Showschedules.
- (f) In the case of training at stable yards, riding schools or equestrian venues
 - Communicated to these athletes.

5. **Role of a COVID- 19 Compliance Officer.**

- (a) The role of a COVID-19 Compliance Officer is to monitor activities to ensure social distancing and hygiene are being maintained to protect health and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- (b) These key personnel should be clearly identifiable onsite.
- (c) The person undertaking the role must be aware of the duties and actions to be executed by a compliance officer.
- (d) Ensuring compliance to the 2m social distancing rule and good hygiene is not the sole responsibility of the COVID-19 Compliance Officer but ALL individuals.
- (e) Must be supported by all stable yards, riding schools, Event Organisers & Show holding Bodies.
- (f) A COVID-19 Compliance Officer must not put themselves at risk while carrying out their duties.

6. **Responsibilities of a Covid-19 Compliance Officer.** COVID -19 Compliance Officer's responsibilities and duties fall broadly into 2 categories:-

(a) **Proactive Day to Day Duties.**

- (i) Being a constant onsite presence to monitor compliance with social distancing of 2 meters between all participants. In instances where there is non-conformance with social distancing the COVID-19 Compliance Officer is to intervene.
- (ii) Maintain a log of regular monitoring of COVID-19 controls onsite.
- (iii) Ensure there is sufficient up to date signage erected onsite to educate all personnel and individuals about the COVID-19 controls onsite.
- (iv) At all times promote and coach good hygiene practices.

- (v) Ensure regular cleaning of welfare facilities, handrails, door handles etc is undertaken.
- (vi) Ensure hand wash liquid/soap and hand sanitisers are replenished as required.
- (vii) Check hot water and hand drying facilities are available onsite.
- (viii) Ensure individuals wear mask.
- (ix) Ensure any COVID-19 concerns raised by individuals be attended to by the COVID-19 Compliance Officer.
- (x) Ensure that individuals are scanned and temperatures are recorded.
- (xi) Report any areas of non-compliance to site management and ensure these are addressed.
- (xii) Consider provision of additional controls for exceptional circumstances
- (xiii) Keep up to date with the advisories issued by the Health Deptt and WHO guidelines

(b) **Reactive Emergency duties.**

- (i) While the main role of the COVID-19 Compliance Officer is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 onsite, there is the potential where an individual onsite may experience COVID-19 symptoms and where the COVID-19 Compliance Officer needs to react.
- (ii) **In a reactive position, their responsibilities include:-**
 - (aa) Informing Event Organisers if there is a confirmed case or if they have been made aware of an individual with COVID-19 symptoms.
 - (ab) Isolating an individual with symptoms in an isolation room/segregated area away from other personnel.
 - (ac) Following site protocol for individuals with COVID-19 symptoms. (i.e send home, inform them to contact local health authorities).
 - (ad) Assisting in contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19.

7. **Responsibilities of Athletes (Participant)**

- (a) All members and riders 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.
- (b) To comply with the Central/State/local authorities and Sport authorities guidelines for COVID-19 requirements when participating in the resumption of equestrian training and competition activities:-

Practice minimal 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.

- (c) If you are or have experienced any of the following, it is your responsibility to declare to OC-designated COVID safety officer if:-
 - (i) 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.

- (ii) 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.
- (d) If you become unwell following attendance at an equestrian training or competition activity it is your responsibility to:-
 - (i) Seek medical advice.
 - (ii) Contact the event organiser, coach or relevant other persons and report.
- (e) Encourage participants to download the COVID-19 Safe App (Arogya Setu) for contact traceability from Apps store for IOS and Play store for Android.

8. **Responsibilities of Organising Committees, Officials, Clubs and/or Coaches.**

(a) **Pre-Activity, Planning and Funding.**

- (i) Until further notice all OCs, and/or coaches and officials 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 Govt risk management documents requirements, including the submission of COVID-19 risk management plans if/as required.
- (ii) 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. Covid-19 Compliance Officer, Biosecurity officer, Safety Officer etc.)
- (iii) 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 and officials. In this case the coach is not included in the 20-person limit).
- (iv) Consider the opportunity to generate a registry of all participants and participating support personnel in order to undertake swift contact tracing if/as required.
- (v) Consider COVID-19 pre-screening process for all participants, participating support personnel, grooms, officials, Medical Response Team (MRT), stewards, administration and volunteers.
- (vi) Consider a plan for COVID-19 'track and trace' verses 'local quarantine' in conjunction with local public health facilities.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) If unmounted activities are occurring (e.g. training room) all Central and State Government prescribed COVID-19 hygiene and physical distancing protocols must be implemented and maintained.
- (ix) The scheduling of activities should be determined to support maximum participation. Areas for consideration should include the following:-
 - (a) Arrival and departure times of participants
 - (b) Preparation and warm-up requirements.

- (c) Cool-down and horse welfare needs
- (d) Pack-up and dis-assembly of activity equipment etc.
- (x) To ensure only the prescribed number of participants and their participant support personnel are located in the same area at any one time.
- (xi) All documentation and payments (entries), 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 watts app platforms where possible.
- (xii) 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.
- (xiii) 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.
- (xiv) 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.
- (xv) Travel for all training or competition activity is to be in accordance with State jurisdiction requirements:-
 - (aa) Interstate travel (refer to each state 'covid-19 advice for travelling).
 - (ab) Committees, clubs and individuals should consult with their preferred coach regarding the possibility of travel.
- (xvi) Encourage all participants, participating support personnel, grooms, officials and volunteers to comply with all COVID-19 specific equestrian training and competition protocols and guidelines.
- (xvii) 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.
- (xviii) Encourage all others, including coaches, officials, volunteers, staff and participating support personnel to download the COVID-19 Safe App (Arogya Setu) for contact traceability from Apps store for IOS and Play store for Android.

9. **Guidelines for Equestrian Disciplines for Shows and Events.**

- (a) **Protocol and Guidelines for Equestrian Shows and Events.** - Outdoor sports venues are used for equestrian events which allows for social distancing in all areas of a show or event . With open environments this also ensures for continual clear air flow . The following protocols and procedures have been put in place so that any events under the auspices of EFI can operate safely . The new style of events is the new normal event until such time as Covid -19 is no longer a risk as will be communicated by the Government of India.
 - (i) 2m for individuals social distancing will be required throughout the Event/Show, as well as for riders on horseback.
 - (ii) All riders will always be required to wear a mask, with the exception of when riders are on horseback.
 - (iii) All other individuals are to wear a facemask whilst on the premises and to ensure they bring their own masks. (Riders to ensure their grooms are compliant).

- (iv) All entries will be done online and no changes or additions will be made on the day.
- (v) All riders to download the self assessment COVID 19 questionnaire and submit with online entry. Judges, officials, grooms to download this questionnaire and hand it in upon arrival at the event to the Compliance Officer.
- (vi) Specific individual time slots will be allocated on close of entries with specific durations determined by the various disciplines per horse and rider combination. Times will be available 24 hours before the event and available on the organisers web page/watts app/FB page.
- (vii) Signage will be placed around the venue to ensure everyone is aware of the current regulations, designated areas, and protocols at the events.
- (viii) There will be no hospitality sections and there will be no social events held and any communal places like a club house/rest area/grandstands need to be closed off.
- (ix) Sanitization stations and rules to be applied.
- (x) There will be the maximum entries allowed for a show at the relevant venue.
- (xi) Designated parking areas and Horse box parking slots will be marked out in accordance with social distancing regulations (minimum of 5m between each parking).
- (xii) Riders are required to ensure their part in ensuring their transport and equipment is sanitized before and after each event.
- (xiii) All surfaces at the venue to be wiped with disinfectant regularly.

(b) **Limited numbers.**

- (i) The Event will not be open to spectators.
- (ii) A limited number people will be allowed.
- (iii) Rider to be accompanied with two attendees. Where necessary additional groom/s to attend to horse/s. Welfare of the horse is paramount.

(c) **Arrival.**

- (i) A detailed layout of the event or show, arenas and warm up areas of routes will be posted on social media. Competitions for each arena and warm up will be clearly mapped on the social media post/website. Toilets signs clearly visible on the map.
- (ii) On arrival at the venue, a parking attendant will check competitors against a start list, check the number of passengers/grooms against the list and then competitors will be guided to a parking place. Only those pre-entered will allowed admission.
- (ii) Parking distances will be 5 meters apart and show organisers appointed COVID 19 Compliance Officer will be enforcing this.
- (iii) All riders are to ensure the COVID 19 Event forms and indemnity forms are submitted to the OC before arrival with correct information for themselves and every groom that will be attending the event with ID Numbers and contact information. This is compulsory.
- (iii) Forms will include cell no, email and physical address for the rider and all grooms. The form will also state that these details will be shared with local public health authorities if any participant becomes ill with a suspected infectious disease for contact tracing purposes.

- (iv) An appointed Officer will be at the entrance of an event to record arrival and departure times, get individuals details, check temperatures and check for mask.
- (v) Hand sanitization will be available for all persons entering and departing the event, bathrooms, judges' boxes and any other areas possible.
- (vi) No individual will be allowed access to the facility if they show symptoms of COVID 19 or who have been exposed to a person with COVID 19.
- (vii) Activities will be limited to the event - no lessons, no schooling of horses.
- (viii) All competitors will be advised to leave the venue as soon as possible after their competition.
- (ix) No spectators are allowed.
- (x) Competitors are advised to ensure their meals pre-packed with disposable bottles as per the regulations.

(d) **Officials.**

- (i) Sanitisation area to be set up outside the judge's box.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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 or request removal of an ear bonnet to identify 'ear plugs'.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) Maintain physical distancing during officiating duties (e.g. revise dressage judge-writer seating plan.)
- (vii) Consider delivery of food/water supplies, hand sanitizer, communications, locations to maintain hygiene and physical distancing requirements.
- (viii) 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.

(e) **Washrooms and Toilet areas.**

- (i) The Organising Committee is to provide staff to thoroughly clean bathrooms and common touch points throughout the day.
- (ii) Designated Line spacing at 2m to be provided should there be a queue to ensure social distancing.

(f) **Prize Distribution Ceremony.**

- (i) There will be no prize distribution ceremony.
- (ii) Results will be posted on Facebook and website.

(g) **Medical Services.**

- (i) There will be an identified room/area where someone who is feeling unwell or has symptoms where they can be safely isolated and sent home.
- (ii) Medical plan to be provided by the Organising Committee.

(h) **Stables.**

- (i) Should stabling be used – stable spaces between yards (no less than 1 stable in between) as well as stable blocks to be allocated with social distancing guidelines in place.
- (ii) Stables for visiting horses if absolutely required need to be situated far from the competition arena where horses and grooms will be isolated from the other competitors.
- (iii) Athletes are to provide their grooms with disposable gloves to be used when filling water buckets and using the wash bays.

(i) **Arenas**

- (i) There will be an identified room/area where someone who is feeling unwell or has symptoms where they can be safely isolated. 1-way zones for horses and riders to warm ups and to arenas and back again.
- (ii) No loitering next to warm up or arena – Grooms must hold horses next to their transport.
- (iii) Only the competitor/s are allowed in the riding arena, or the field of play.
- (iv) A cooling down area will be provided – the warm up is NOT to be used for cooling down of horses.
- (v) Number of horses controlled in warm ups – if possible 2 warm ups areas per arena.
- (vi) Signage of the relevant in each area.
- (vii) Course plans to be posted on the websites/watts app the day before the event. Course walks for Show Jumping and Eventing are allowed. 2m safe distances to be kept.
- (viii) Should there be more than 1 class per grade – these need to run one after the other to ensure riders do not have to stay around waiting.
- (ix) Starting times per class to be adhered to – so that riders do not have estimate their class times and wait around.
- (x) Each arena or course to have an IN an OUT gate to not have cross traffic.
- (xi) Hand sanitization stations will be strategically placed throughout the venue.
- (xii) Stewards in the warmup arenas will spray each jump with disinfectant between each rider/group.
- (xiii) For Show Jumping, maximum of 80 rounds per arena in a day.

(k) **Food Facilities.**

- (i) Canteen type facilities must comply with State Public Health requirements.
- (ii) Where a food facility is required the following is recommended:-
 - (aa) 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 2m to apply (or as prescribed State Legislation). No other people are permitted within the food facility.
 - (ab) All physical distancing measures must be implemented for food service (i.e. designated 2m ground distancing).
 - (ac) Where possible pre-packaged or hot foods and beverages only to be available.
 - (ad) All food facilities must be thoroughly deep cleaned according to COVID-19 cleaning requirements.

(l) **Site Administration and Official Safety.**

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

(m) **Post-Activity.**

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

10. **TRAINING PROTOCOLS FOR RIDING SCHOOLS AND VENUES.**

- (a) Erection of permanent signage posted at entrances as well as at critical points.
- (b) Participants and attendees will be required to wear masks.
- (c) A Covid-19 Compliance Officer must be appointed by the Riding School or venue where training is intended to be conducted.
- (d) The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will have the responsibility of policing social distancing and will act with the full authority of the venue owner.

(e) The Compliance will keep a register of individuals entering the premises. Information that need to be recorded are as follows:-

- (i) Name and Contact Number.
- (ii) Time of arrival and departure.
- (iii) Temperature of individual.
- (iv) Is the individual wearing a mask.

(f) Should temperature taken on arrival be 99°F and above, then person must be taken to an isolation room/space identified to hold any symptomatic person found at the venue while awaiting transport to a medical facility.

(g) It will be made clear that at the time of entry that any person displaying symptoms associated with Covid-19 (Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath or Breathing Difficulties) or people who are considered in a high-risk group should not attend.

(h) All athletes who train simultaneously must adhere to strict social distancing and keep horses at least 2m apart.

(j) Training schedule for Riding Club & venues should be such that training is carried out in different batches and staggered timing.

(k) All tack must be handled by the individual and cleaned. No sharing of tack is allowed.

(l) Parking spaces will be pre-allocated at the time of entry where possible.

(m) A minimum distance of **5m** should be observed between vehicles.

(n) Social distancing marks should be indicated on ground where applicable. E.g. toilettes.

(o) Catering facilities will not be made available until further guidance from Department of Health is issued and that participants must be notified of this at the time of entry.

(p) Hygiene Stations prepared with spray bottles of disinfectant, paper rolls, etc.

(q) **Cleaning Principles.** The following basic principles should be adhered to:-

- (i) Cleaning is not all in the solution but also with the use of “elbow grease”. The actual physical removal of micro -organisms is often as important as the effect of the agent used.
- (ii) Sanitiser sprays must have a minimum alcohol content of 70%.
- (iii) The neutral detergent used should also be measured out correctly as per manufacturer’s instructions.
- (iv) Change water frequently as dirty water is ineffective for cleaning.
- (v) Buckets should be emptied after use, washed with detergent and warm water and stored dry.

11. **Horse Welfare and Movements.**

(a) **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 competition Regulations and Guidelines

(b) **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).

12. **Medical Response and Infection Control Measures.**

(a) **Precautionary Measures.**

- (i) 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).
- (ii) Encourage individual responsibilities for their own health status (if unwell, stay at home) and report any contact with a suspected COVID-19 case.
- (iii) 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, and 'face mask'.
- (iv) If unwell you should stay home. Masks should be a mandatory item and available as PPE item.
- (v) 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:-
 - (vi) Questionnaire: This should be completed at the entry gate (attached as Appx A)
 - (aa) Digital temperature readings may be included
 - (ab) Pre-screening
 - (ac) For training activities or competitions that have a duration of more than two-day's, increased frequency of screening measures for COVID-19 should be considered. (e.g. additional temperature checks, symptom-checks etc.)
 - (ad) Refer to WHO Considerations for sports federation/sports event organisers when planning mass gatherings in the context COVID-19, Interim guidance 14th April 2020.

(b) **Reporting and managing suspected COVID-19.**

- (i) Provide first aid and medical services.
- (ii) Ensure 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.
- (iii) 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.

(iv) 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 EFI at efiindianf@yahoo.co.in.

(v) Identify the nearest available treatment facility for COVID-19.

(vi) The continuation of training/event in case of a COVID-19 positive case will be at the discretion of the OC in consultation with appropriate medical and administrative authority.

(k) **Managing Participant (Athlete) Return to sport.**

(i) 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.

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

13. Relevant guidance from International Federations



EFI has reviewed the World Health Organisation **“Considerations for sports federations/ sports event organizers when planning mass gatherings in the context of COVID - 19”** and accessed the specific additional risks, identifying mitigation activities and making an informed evidence -based decision on running regulated sporting activity . The above protocols were developed in line with that guidance .



Our largest International Federation, the FEI has mandated the FEI Medical Committee to work on a protocol that will be provided to National Federations on measures for Organising Committees for when international equestrian events resume after the Covid -19 pandemic . Please see below statement .

“FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid -19 Pandemic (effective for all FEI Events held as of 1 July 2020)

As the Covid -19 pandemic continues to unfold, the FEI remains dedicated to the safety and welfare of horses, athletes, officials, staff, spectators and all those involved in the equine industry .

As we anticipate the gradual return of competitions, we must do everything we can to mitigate the risk of transmission and further spread of Covid -19. This is a matter of public health, and it's also how a sport can demonstrate to public authorities that it is ready to resume activity .

In this regard the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid -19 Pandemic, which is effective for all FEI Events held as of 1 July 2020, has been developed based on currently accepted best practices by the World Health Organization (WHO) and US Center for Disease Control (CDC) and will be continually reviewed and updated as more information becomes available . It is not intended to replace the applicable guidance and policies from domestic government and health authorities, but to supplement their recommendations with sport specific considerations .”

The Policy includes :

- A framework outlining objectives, roles and responsibilities;
- A decision -making system for sports federations/sports event organisers when planning events during the Covid -19 pandemic . This system, which was developed by the WHO, is composed of a risk assessment tool, a decision making tree, and an accompanying document outlining relevant considerations ;
- Best practices for FEI Event Organisers .

<https://inside.fei.org/fei/covid - 19>

14. **Recommended Guidance Material and Documents.**

- (a) FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Effective July 2020).
- (b) FEI COVID -19 Communication Plan Check list.
- (c) WHO COVID-19-Sports-Addendum (15.04.2020).
- (d) WHO Considerations for sports federations/sports event organisers when planning mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19 (14.04.2020).
- (e) WHO-2019-ncov-mg-decision-tree (15.04.2020).
- (f) Standard Operating Procedure SAI for Sports Activities



COVID-19 COMPLIANCE REGISTER

Show holding Body/ Venue Name:

Name of Show/Event:

Compliance Officer:

Date:

Date	Name & Surname	Contact No	EFI No	Signature	Time In	Temperature	Mask	Time Out

VERY IMPORTANT: All show venues MUST email the completed Covid-19 Compliance register of all attendees at their show/event by 12 noon on the following day their show/event to efiindianf@yahoo.co.in

No exceptions.



COVID-19 COMPLIANCE REGISTER – **INDIVIDUALS OVER 60**

Show holding Body/Venue Name:

Name of Show/Event:

Compliance Officer:

Date:

Date	Name & Surname	ID Number	Contact No	EFI No	Signature	Time In	Temperature	Mask	Time Out

VERY IMPORTANT: All show venues MUST email the completed Covid-19 Compliance register of all attendees at their show/event by 12 noon on the following day their show/event to efiindianf@yahoo.co.in

No exceptions.



COVID-19 DAILY SELF ASSESSMENT SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE (to be handed in at the access point and/or completed at the access point)

If you answer YES to any of the symptom questions you may not continue with training or compete in a show or event, if you do you will not be permitted to enter the training facilities or show/event.

Name of EFI Member Rider/Official/Admin	
EFI number	
Email Address	
Contact Number	
Physical Address	

Do you have any of the following symptoms?		
Fever (high temperature)	Yes	No
Cough	Yes	No
Sore throat	Yes	No
Shortness of breath	Yes	No
Myalgia (general weakness)	Yes	No
Loss of taste (ageusia)	Yes	No
Loss of sense of smell (anosmia)	Yes	No
Body aches	Yes	No
Redness of the eyes	Yes	No
Nausea/vomiting/diarrhoea	Yes	No
I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this form is complete, true and accurate and I give permission to the Equestrian Federation of India to validate any information provided.		
Signature		
DATE		



PERSONAL TRAVEL DECLARATION FORM

FIRSTNAME:

LAST NAME:

CONTACT NUMBER:

EFI NUMBER:

Have you visited or returned from overseas in the last 14 days? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐

Please indicate your return date, if you have

Have you been in contact with anyone who has been overseas or has returned from overseas in the past 14 days? **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐

If yes, please indicate the date of contact

I confirm that the information given above, is accurate and complete.

DATE: (DD/MM/YYYY)

SIGNATURE:

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