

As it becomes possible for equestrian events and activities to resume, organisers, officials and volunteers should look to maintain social distancing and other appropriate safety measures wherever possible. There are a number of suggestions which can be considered for each different type riding activity, in order to change the way things are organised and run, to assist with social distancing and COVID-19 health and safety implications. As with any activity, a thorough risk assessment must be carried out, detailing the risks and the appropriate control measures that will be in place.

The following are general considerations when organising an equestrian activity:

1. Attendees – Collect and retain contact details for everyone attending.
2. Capacity - Limit numbers on site wherever possible.
3. Geographical Restrictions – Consider any geographical restrictions – i.e. travel or local lockdowns.
4. Venues - Check whether the venue has any specific requirements for you.
5. Social Distancing – All on site to adhere to current social distancing guidance. Give thought to coaches, judges and volunteers roles where adaptations will need to be made to allow for this.
6. Before the Activity – Ensure all attendees are aware of what is required / in place. Anyone displaying COVID-19 symptoms (or in contact with anyone displaying symptoms), should stay at home.
7. Event Money – Consider the safest way to take payments for the activity.
8. Equipment - The sharing of equipment should be avoided wherever possible and appropriately sanitised.
9. Site Organisation - Identify and list any pinch points at your activity and implement 'one-way' systems, social distance markers or restricted access.
10. Catering - Catering options on site to comply with current government guidance. Officials and volunteers could be encouraged to bring their own.
11. Scorers – Consider ways of alternative scoring – electronic or with socially distanced scorers. Use internet updates for results instead of scoreboards.
12. Official photographers – Consider online sales of photographs only.
13. Trade stands - Appropriate social distancing and hygiene measures must be in place.
14. Competitor Declarations / Queries – Use an event phone rather than a check-in area.
15. Rider Times - Ask riders not to arrive before a stated time and then ask them to leave once they are finished.
16. Volunteers – Give consideration to volunteer briefings and appropriate roles.
17. Non-clinical PPE - Personal protective equipment should be considered for roles where social distancing cannot be maintained or there is regular contact with equipment.
18. Risk Assessment – A COVID-19 risk assessment should be carried out in addition to a regular risk assessment. This should detail the additional hazards and control measures in place and should be referred to in your usual risk assessment.
19. Compliance - Consider a COVID-19 compliance officer. This person will monitor the event to ensure all protocols are adhered to. This could be your current health and safety officer, and will act as an extra pair of eyes around the event, monitoring any control measures you have implemented.
20. Medical Cover – Consider the current advice to first-aiders. Upgrade to professional cover if necessary. Useful Links:

- a) <https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/covid-19-advice-for-first-aiders/>
 - b) <https://www.resus.org.uk/media/statements/resuscitation-council-uk-statements-on-covid-19-coronavirus-cpr-and-resuscitation/covid-community/>
21. Signs - Display signage reminding people to wash their hands regularly and reminding them of other COVID-19 related safety measures in place.
 22. Cleaning - Plan for an increase in the cleaning of communal facilities such as toilets, throughout the event.
 23. Hand Sanitiser - Hand sanitising stations should be located around the site in all key areas.
 24. Parking - Mark out parking spots before the day or use a parking steward. Lorries must be the following distances apart:
 - a) 10m apart if allowing tying up of horses on both sides
 - b) 5m apart if allowing tying up of horses on one side
 - c) 3m apart as the minimum allowed, and with no tying up of horses permitted
 25. Collecting Rings – Limit numbers to a suggested radius of 5 horse lengths apart for each horse.
 26. Toilet Facilities – Consider maximum occupancy and enhanced cleaning.

Further Advice and Information can be found here:

- The BHS have a range of additional guidance which can be found on the website here: <https://www.bhs.org.uk/advice-and-information/coronavirus-covid-19> This includes advice for horse owners on bringing horses back into work after having some time off.
- Some useful event guidance can be found on the Sports Ground Safety Authority website here: <https://sgsa.org.uk/>
- The British Equestrian website also has some guidance surrounding other equestrian disciplines: <https://www.britishequestrian.org.uk/news>
- Each discipline will have their own specific information which can be referred to for further guidance and ideas. See BRC, BE, BS, BD and PC websites.
- Government guidance for England: <https://www.gov.uk/>
- Government guidance for Scotland: <https://www.gov.scot/>
- Government guidance for Wales: <https://gov.wales/>
- Government guidance for Northern Ireland: <https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/>
- Government guidance for Republic of Ireland: <https://www.gov.ie/en/>
- Government guidance for Isle of Man: <https://www.gov.im/>
- Government guidance for Jersey: <https://www.gov.je/Pages/default.aspx>
- Government guidance for Guernsey: <https://www.gov.gg/>

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