

## *Section 8: Part 7*

### *Travel and Road Safety*

#### **Travel**

With transport by float, horses are often injured. Common sites of injury are the coronet from treads, bruising of the points of the shoulders, hips, hock and buttock and damage to eyes and poll. When loading horses, it should be remembered that the widest part of a horse is between the hips. The horse should be given sufficient room to allow it to stand comfortably.

A horse cannot vomit and therefore when it becomes travel sick, the tendency is for it to paw.

The horse should always travel in headstall and lead, no bit in his mouth and the lead tied in a quick release knot, allowing sufficient play for forward and backward movement should the journey be rough.

The horse's legs should be well bandaged or booted. Do not bandage too tightly. Refer to Section 6: Part 2, "Bandaging". Knee-Boots can be used over the horse's knees, if possible using a pair with elastic let into the straps above the knee. The strap around the tendon is left loose and comfortable. Hock boots are used in some cases to save the point of the hock from injury especially if the horse is liable to kick. The tail should be bandaged with a crepe bandage or a tail-guard. Note that the bandage or tail-guard should not be too tight as circulation can be cut off over a long trip. Should the horse be travelling in a fully enclosed float, horse-box or the hold of a ship



or plane, it is not advisable to rug it. This, of course, is dependent upon the weather and left solely to the discretion of the attendant. It is advisable when travelling horses by float (especially mares) to unload every 4 hours, giving the horse a chance to stale as it has been found that mares are prone to water gripes owing to the fact that they will seldom stale whilst travelling. Remember also to take water and a small feed or some hay. (See Travel Section in Horse Health.)

If horses are loaded side by side it is essential to have the leads attached to the "dees" on each side of the head stall and tie each side of the horses heads. This prevents them from biting.

### **Road Safety**

#### **Riders are instructed:-**

1. To keep to the left of the road.
2. Not to trot or canter over bridges and bitumen.
3. Not to attempt to pass a motor vehicle in a cutting.
4. To rein horse to a walk if a dog is observed rushing out from a nearby house.
5. Not to travel more than two abreast.
6. To obey all road rules and signs; ridden horses do not enjoy preferential treatment.
7. Not be on the road between Sunset and Sunrise.
8. Be aware of the current road rules for horses

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Age

Aids

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Barre

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Bits

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