



EVENT BIOSECURITY PLAN

Runcorn Horse and Pony Club



Name of Event	
Address of the Venue	
PIC of Venue	
Number of exit and entry points	
Date of first arrivals and last departures	
Event Organiser and phone number	
Event Biosecurity Manager	
Site map attached?	

This Biosecurity Plan outlines a set of preventative control measures and actions aimed at reducing the risk and spread of an infectious diseases outbreak affecting people and horses on and off the venue. Every individual has a responsibility to abide by the biosecurity measures and to follow the directions of the Organising Committee (OC) or risk expulsion from the event.

While this document is not specifically related to the Hendra virus and associated outbreaks, it is important to note that the vaccination of horses in relation to the Hendra virus is recognized as the single most effective means of controlling the spread of this virus.

This plan includes:

1. Emergency contact information
2. Biosecurity policy
3. Details of biosecurity kit and equipment required to be available at event
4. Biosecurity contingency plan
5. Communication plan
6. Biosecurity information for event organizers

1. Emergency Contact Information

ORGANISATION	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	COMMENTS
Emergency Services	Police, Fire or Ambulance	000	
Emergency Animal Disease Hotline	Biosecurity Queensland	1800 675 888	info@daf.qld.gov.au
Biosecurity Qld		13 25 23	
Biosecurity Manager	David Eldred Sam Leigh-Cooper	0488 000 020 0400017189	
Veterinarians	Manly Road Veterinary Hospital All Horse Veterinary Services Chris Wain Equine Veterinary Services Eagle Farm Equine Veterinary Hospital	3396 9733 0457 467 737 1800 437 846 3268 4577	
Body Disposal Company	Brisbane City Council	3403 8888	
Clinical Waste Disposal	Inspired Waste Solutions	03 9945 8400	
Venue Owner/Manager	Brisbane City Council	3403 8888	
Local Police	Mt Gravatt Police Station 2132 Logan Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt	131 444 (Police Link)	Open 24 hours
Workplace Health Safety Queensland		1300 362 128	www.worksafe.qld.gov.au
Local Hospital	Logan Hospital Armstrong and Loganlea Rds, Meadowbrook QE2 Jubilee Hospital Kessels and Troughton Rds, Coopers Plains	3299 8899 3182 6111	Emergency Department open 24 hours Emergency Department open 24 hours

2. BIOSECURITY POLICY

All people who bring horses or livestock onto the grounds are expected to be aware of their biosecurity obligation that they must take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

All horses or livestock entering grounds must be from a property actively practicing good biosecurity principles within their management.

Competitors will be advised before and during the event that:

- They have a biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.
- Horse Health Declarations (HHD) are a mandatory requirement for all events.
- The property identification code (PIC) of the horse's origin and returning property must be included on the HHD.
- Acceptance into the event will be refused if the required HHD is not presented at point of entry or designated registration point.
- No horses with signs of illness are to be brought onto the grounds.
- No communal horse water troughs will be available at the event. Equipment, including food and water containers is not to be shared between horses.
- Competitors are responsible for cleaning up manure from yards and placing it in designated areas.
- Competitors are required to advise the event organizers immediately if a horse is sick, to stop all non-essential contact with the sick horse and not allow children to have close contact with the sick horse.
- Everyone handling horses should wash or sanitize hands between contacting different horses.
- Each morning prior to the commencement of competition, team managers are to inspect all horses in their team and certify on the forms provided that to the best of their knowledge the horses are fit and healthy.

Prior to the event, the Biosecurity Manager and Organizing Committee will identify and mark off an agreed isolation area with hazard tape.

The Biosecurity Manager, in consultation with the Organizing Committee, is in charge should a biosecurity risk arise. While the Biosecurity Manager does not possess the legal powers necessary to quarantine or restrict movements of people, they will arrange to have the details of any person and/or animal leaving the grounds if they have been directed not to.

3. BIOSECURITY EQUIPMENT

Equipment required at event:

- Microchip scanner for vet inspection (Veterinarian)
- PA system (Organizing committee)
- Hand sanitizer for stations around yard areas and at marshalling areas (Organizing Committee)
- First aid kit (Organizing committee)

Biosecurity field kit comprising:

PPE equipment

- disposable gloves
- overalls
- boots/covers
- P2 respirators
- safety goggles
- paper hand towels
- heavy duty garbage bags
- clinical waste bags

Decontamination equipment

- buckets
- spray bottles
- scrubbing brush
- foot bath – kitty litter tray
- detergents and disinfectant

Isolation equipment comprising

- star pickets or panel fencing
- rolls of hessian
- large tarpaulin
- hazard tape

4. BIOSECURITY INCIDENT CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the event that a sick horse is confirmed at the event, the following plan is to be followed:

Sick horse

- Organizing Committee and Biosecurity Manager are to be advised of a sick horse immediately.
- Biosecurity Manager will contact the event vet.
- Horse is to be taken to isolation area, via the most direct route avoiding any unnecessary contact with other people or horses until review by the vet.

Vet attendance

- The organizing Committee has consulted with the Attending vet. Both parties have signed and agreed to the biosecurity plan. The attending Vet has signed a letter with their commitment to attend and treat a horse which may require veterinary attention.
- If the horse is unable to travel, the event vet may decide to perform a Hendra virus exclusion test and the horse will remain in isolation until the test results are available.
- If the horse is deemed to be non-infectious it may be returned to regular stable and will be managed by owner/ exhibitor and attending vet (at owner's expense).
- OR -
- If the horse is diagnosed as being a possible biosecurity threat it is to remain in isolation stable with a minimum five-metre perimeter to other horses or passing people.
- Biosecurity Manager will contact Emergency Disease watch hotline 1800 675 888.
- All people within the isolation zone ie. vet, officials, owner, are to don PPE gear when tending to horse.
- Disinfection of shoes via footbaths and strict hand hygiene to be followed.

Biosecurity issue Identified

- Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with attending vet will contact Biosecurity Queensland 132523.
- Biosecurity Manager will ask OC to close exit points and broadcast to all present at the venue to remain on site until further information and exit points are closed.
- Event organiser will take advice about whether to continue with the event, after discussion with Biosecurity Queensland, and advise participants of this decision.
- Horse Health Declarations for all horses on site made available to Biosecurity Queensland.
- Access to isolation area will be patrolled by Biosecurity Manager and limited to essential personnel.
- All horse movement to cease unless authorised by Biosecurity Queensland.

Lockdown

- Biosecurity Queensland will advise if a total lockdown of the venue is required and the event organising committee will advise participants of this decision.
- The Biosecurity Manager will regularly check entry/exit points to ensure anyone leaving the venue is given an exit notice and their vehicle registration is noted.
- The Biosecurity Manager will make arrangements for waste removal if required.
- The event organiser will arrange for fodder to be available for purchase by participants.
- Further shavings will be arranged by the Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with the venue and be available for purchase by participants.
- Biosecurity Queensland will advise the Biosecurity Manager and participants of any further protocols required.
- The Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with the organising committee will arrange removal and disposal of deceased animals if required.

Sick Horse
Isolate horse from other horses and people.
Notify biosecurity manager and event organiser.

1. Biosecurity manager to contact Manly Road Vet (or other vet to be discussed with horse owner).
2. Vet will confirm if horse is a biosecurity risk. If no risk, the event may continue. Other participants will be notified of outcome.
3. If there is a confirmed biosecurity risk, then the Biosecurity Incident Contingency Plan must be enforced.

5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notification of all affected parties is a critical component for an effective infectious disease control plan. Development of a clear, concise and accurate message about a situation, the measures being taken and the procedures for event participants to follow is critical to prevent the spread of disease and panic among event participants and the general horse-owning public.

This plan outlines the communication protocols and the range of biosecurity messages for competitors before the event, for all attendees during the event, including if there is a biosecurity incident.

BEFORE THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Person responsible
<p>Biosecurity is everybody's business.</p> <p>All horse owners and riders have a biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.</p> <p>Competitors expected to ensure good biosecurity practices at home, and at the event and act at the direction of the organising committee and Biosecurity Manager.</p>	All event competitors, their parents and coaches.	Fact sheet	With nomination form and event draw	OC to arrange distribution

DURING THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Person responsible
<p>OC has measures in place to mitigate risk of infection, disease and pests.</p> <p>In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, biosecurity plan will be implemented. You will be notified about the incident and expected to follow the directions given by the organising committee. Everyone will be expected to remain at the venue until cleared to leave by the organising committee.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Competitors</p> <p>Everyone at venue</p>	<p>Fact sheet</p> <p>A3 poster</p>	<p>Handed to all competitors on arrival/collection of rider packs.</p> <p>Posted on gate and other visible points at venue</p>	<p>BM to provide signage to OC</p> <p>Contact person is BM</p>
Information and tips for good biosecurity practice	Everyone at venue	Signage as per examples in this plan	Posted throughout venue	OC/BM

DURING THE EVENT IF THERE IS A BIOSECURITY THREAT/INCIDENT

In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, the Biosecurity Manager will:

1. Advise the organising committee of the situation.
2. Meet with the directly affected parties to advise the actions to be taken, including isolating the horse/s, contacting vet and authorities.
3. Contact the emergency disease hotline.
4. Identify all parties who may have had contact with the sick horse.
5. Act as the main point of contact between the authorities and the organising committee.
6. Prepare media/public statements as required.

The organising committee will:

1. Arrange for event staff to be stationed at venue exit points.
2. Provide staff at exits with equipment to take car/truck registration details of anyone who leaves the site, and information sheets to hand to people in exiting vehicles.
3. Advise all attendees at the event via public address system that a biosecurity matter is being investigated, the horse/s have been isolated, and authorities have been called.
4. Ask all people to stay well clear of the isolation area and request everyone to remain on site until further notice.
5. Advise everyone updates will be provided as soon as information comes to hand.
6. Invite attendees to come to information booth if they have any questions.
7. Brief key messengers.
8. Arrange for notices to be produced and placed on vehicles on the grounds if required.

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Spokesperson/ Person responsible
<p>OC is managing a potential biosecurity matter. We have a plan and will be enacting it for the safety of every person and horse on site. Horse/s have been isolated, authorities called. Ask everyone to stay well away from isolation area. Please do not leave the venue without discussion with OC. We will keep you updated. Questions to the information booth.</p> <p>Monitor your horse's health - what to look for.</p>	All attendees at event	<p>Verbal</p> <p>Written</p>	<p>PA system Key messengers</p> <p>Notice given to all people leaving venue and placed on all vehicles at venue.</p>	<p>Event director/ OC</p> <p>BM has copies of notice. OC to arrange distribution</p>
Status update of situation – particularly advising people when they can leave venue	All attendees	<p>Verbal</p> <p>Written</p>	<p>PA system Key messengers Notes on vehicles</p>	OC
If there is a confirmed biosecurity threat	All attendees general public	Written statement Posts	Media Social media	BIOSECURITY QLD/DAF MEDIA

AFTER THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Spokesperson/ Person responsible
Outcome of bio security incident	Attendees Equestrian community General community	Statement	Media Social media EQ website	BIOSECURITY QLD/DAF MEDIA
	Authorities	Written report		BM

6. BIOSECURITY INFORMATION FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

Workplace health and safety requirements

Horse Industry associations that conduct a business or undertaking have duties under work health and safety legislation to ensure the health and safety of themselves, their workers and other persons so far as is reasonably practicable. Risks to health and safety must be eliminated so far as is reasonably practicable. If this is not reasonably practicable, the risks must be minimised so far as is reasonably practicable.

A horse event may be a workplace for some persons but not others. Events must:

- Provide and maintain a work environment without risks to health and safety
- Provide and maintain safe plant and structures
- 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

A Safework Australia Volunteer Resource Kit is available at:

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/aws/model-whs-laws/guidelines/volunteers/pages/resourcekit>

Biosecurity management

Biosecurity risks can be reduced by taking steps to:

- a. Prevent introduction of disease onto grounds
- b. Prevent the spread of disease on the grounds
- c. Minimise the effect and spread of a disease incident within the ground

Prevention of introduction of disease onto grounds

Biosecurity policy and manager

Measures include adopting biosecurity policies as outlined in section 2 of this plan, appointing a biosecurity manager for the event, and ensuring good record keeping.

Record keeping

Horse Health Declarations should be kept by the biosecurity manager for six months after the event.

The Property Identification Code (PIC) of horse's origin and property it is returning to must be on the Horse Health Declaration. It is a legal requirement that all horse owners must apply to register their property with Biosecurity Queensland <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/animal-industries/moving-sellinglivestock/national-livestock-identification-system/property-registration/multiple-land-parcels>.

Records should be kept of any volunteer/staff training activities the club or organisation has undertaken as it relates to activities/roles individuals are expected to perform during events or in the advent of a biosecurity outbreak.

Reviews and updates any procedures or of your Biosecurity Plan should also be recorded and amendments noted on all such documents as soon as the reviews are completed.

It is prudent to lodge these documents on your club or organisation website for all to see, as well as during specific notice to them in newsletters, social media links or the like.

Prevention of spread of disease on the grounds

Venue

Venue planning should include:

- Placement of hand washing facilities and sanitiser at strategic, prescribed areas eg near the toilet shower block, horse wash area, waste disposal area, isolation area, etc.
- An isolation area for sick horses
- Restricted entry/exit points for spectators and competitors
- restricted access to isolation areas
- Location of food preparation and dining areas away from animal contact areas
- Identification of trees on-site that are attractive to flying foxes and restriction of access to these areas while the trees are flowering/fruited and attracting flying foxes
- Covering feed and water troughs and not placing these under trees
- Installing surfaces, equipment, fittings and materials that can be readily cleaned and disinfected ○ good general ventilation
- Design of traffic management systems and vehicle parking and delivery points for spectators, competitors, vendors, tradespersons, and emergency vehicles
- Design of horse movement corridors within the facility
- Design of waste management points and waste water management
- Pest and vector control
- Placement of biosecurity signage.

People

- Signage should inform visitors and competitors of the importance of biosecurity at the event.
- Specific biosecurity information should be included on event entries for all entrants to see.
- People should be encouraged to minimise (as much as practicable) contact with horses; **in particular other people's horses, no horses in camping areas at all times.**
- Horse carers should be encouraged to restrict public access to their horses as much as practicable.
- Horse handlers should be urged to regularly use hand sanitiser.
- The use of a detergent/disinfectant when cleaning equipment is recommended.
- Hand hygiene signage should be visible at all times.
- All officials should wash hands or apply hand sanitiser between contacting different horses or between classes where practicable and ensure any organic matter present is cleaned off hands or equipment prior to sanitisation.

- Where possible people should not camp in close proximity to where the horses are stabled, nor should horses be in close proximity to where people are cooking and eating.

Vehicles

- Every effort should be made to ensure the cleanliness of vehicles/floats entering the venue.
- All local regulations en-route regarding the transport of plant material, seeds, weed control, etc must be adhered to.

Horses

- No communal water troughs should be supplied.
- Contact with other horses and animals) on the grounds should be minimised (as much as practicable).
- No sharing of horse's water, feed containers or equipment. If this must happen, they should clean and disinfect gear between horse use.
- Stable horses that have been vaccinated for Hendra virus separate from horses that have not been vaccinated.
- Feed and water should be kept under cover and away from trees to prevent contamination from birds/flying foxes.

Manure

- Stables/yards should be kept clean of manure and feed scraps on a regular basis during an event, clinic or training days. This should be drawn to the attention of all concerned.
- Where possible, efforts are to be made to pick up manure from communal walkways and exercise areas as soon as possible.
- Manure is to be disposed of in designated 'manure' sites around the grounds.

Dogs

- Dogs are not a preferred option at events.
- If they are attending, dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and should be permitted in the camping areas only.
- It is the owner's responsibility to pick up and dispose of dog droppings.

Fodder (for interstate competitors)

- Any feed brought into the venue from Interstate must comply with Department requirements and a fodder declaration must be completed if required. Further information is at:
<http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/moving-plants-and-plant-products/into-or-withinqueensland/bringing-fodder-or-hay-into-queensland>

Minimising the effect and spread of a disease incident within the grounds

Veterinarian

- A designated veterinarian/isolation yard should be supplied.
- A veterinarian should be on call.
- A disposal area to bury or burn deceased horses should be organised prior to the event. This may be offsite. If this is the case a plan will need to be developed as to how the carcass will be transported to the burial site. (Ensure that you advise the horse disposal contractors of any potential human health risks if a horse is suspected, or confirmed to be infected, with a zoonotic disease).

Site map

A site map should include:

- Entry and exit point/s
- Isolation area
- Stabling
- Public access
- Public parking
- Participant's parking
- Warm up area
- Event activities
- Manure disposal
- Other waste areas
- Location of hand washing station
- Location of PPE
- Location of First Aid
- Water sources
- Traffic Flow

A Hendra virus vaccination is available for horses. Vaccination is the single most effective way of reducing the risk of Hendra virus infection in Horses. Discuss the option of vaccination with your veterinarian.

Hendra virus is a Zoonotic disease, which means it can transfer from animals to people.

Further information about horse movements, biosecurity concerns and documentation requirements in Queensland is at:

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/animal-biosecurity-welfare/animal-health-pests-diseases/horses/horse-registration-and-movement-records>