

Tweed Valley Equestrian Group Inc. Biosecurity Plan 2017 -2018

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 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 organisers 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 sanitise hands between contacting different horses.

Prior to the event, the Biosecurity Manager and Organising Committee will identify and mark off an agreed isolation area with hazard tape.(Stable at northern end of stable block furthest away from covered yards)

The Biosecurity Manager, in consultation with the Organising 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.

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

- Organising 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

- If the event vet declines to attend to a non-Hendra vaccinated horse, the owner will be required to organise for their own treating vet, and if able to travel, leave the venue.
- 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 owners 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 675888.
- All people within the isolation zone ie vet, officials, owner, are to don PPE gear when tending to horse.
- Disinfection of shoes via foot baths and strict hand hygiene to be followed.