



EQUESTRIAN CANADA ÉQUESTRE

GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITION OPERATIONS DURING COVID-19



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Responsibilities of Competition Organizers.....	4
2.1 Competition Preparations.....	4
2.1.1 Signage.....	4
2.1.2 Entries.....	5
2.1.3 Access.....	5
2.1.4 Authority, Roles and Responsibilities.....	6
2.1.5 Communication.....	6
2.1.6 Documentation.....	6
2.1.7 Sanitation.....	6
2.1.8 Protection.....	7
2.1.9 Physical Distancing.....	7
2.2 Competition Operations.....	7
2.2.1 Arrivals (Parking, Check-In, Etc.).....	7
2.2.2 Competition Office Guidelines.....	8
2.2.3 Washroom Guidelines.....	8
2.2.3.1 Permanent Washroom Facilities.....	8
2.2.3.2 Portable Washroom Facilities.....	8
2.2.4 Stable Guidelines.....	9
2.2.5 Competition Arena/Ring and Warm-Up Ring Guidelines.....	9
2.2.6 Tack Check/Pony Measurements.....	9
2.2.7 Prize Giving.....	10
2.2.8 Equine Medication Control.....	10
3. Staff, Medical Personnel & Service Providers.....	11
3.1 COVID-19 Compliance Officer.....	11
3.2 Competition Organizers, Staff, Volunteers, Service Providers, Vendors & Officials.....	11
3.3 Service Providers and Vendors.....	12
4. Responsibilities of Participants.....	12
5. Penalties for Non-Compliance	13
Appendix 1 – Discipline-Specific Guidelines.....	14
Appendix 2 – Equestrian Competition Fact Sheet.....	19
Appendix 3 – International, Federal & Provincial/Territorial Recommendations.....	20
Appendix 4 – Printable Ressources.....	21
Appendix 5 – Samples & Additional Resources.....	23



1. Introduction

The use of the word Participant includes competitors, grooms, coaches/trainers, parents, guardians (for minors), competition organizers, staff, volunteers, officials (judges, stewards, medical personnel, veterinarians, etc.), vendors and service providers, etc.

Equestrian Canada (EC) and our [Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations](#) (PTSOs) are dedicated to ensuring the safety and welfare of all Participants in equestrian sport as we try to navigate various regulations established across the country in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

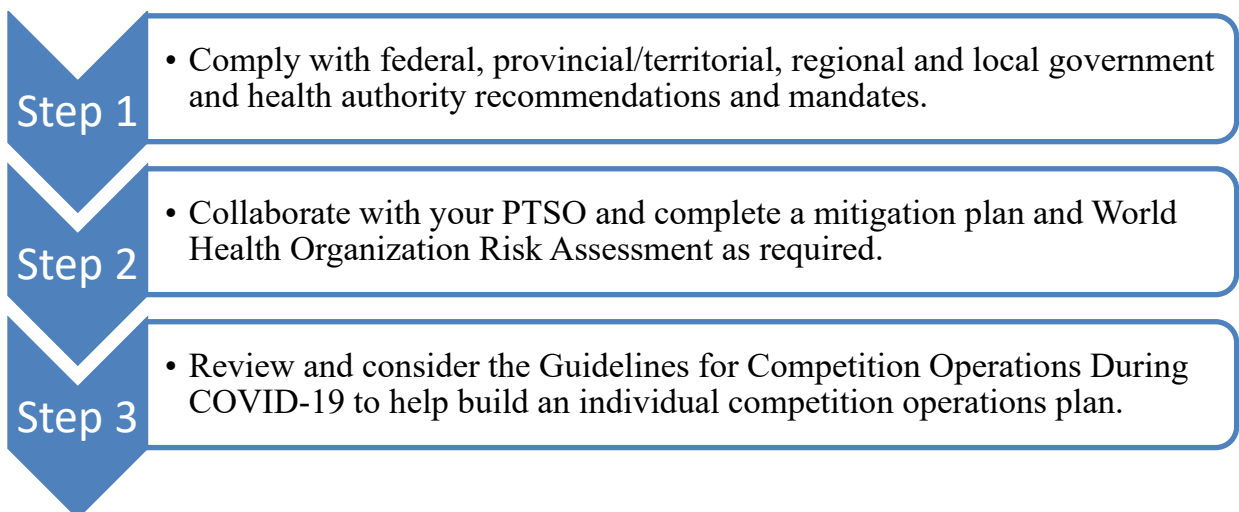
This document was developed as a resource to support competition organizers in the development of mitigation plans for COVID-19. While there is no way to eliminate all risks related to COVID-19, these guidelines are intended to decrease the risk of transmission as much as possible.

This document does not replace the recommendations and mandates of federal, provincial/territorial, regional or local government and health authorities with which competition organizers must comply. Links to federal and provincial/territorial recommendations can be found in Appendix 3.

Note: Participants take personal responsibility when hosting and attending competitions. EC asks that in doing so, everyone respects these guidelines to avoid causing further spread of COVID-19, which could impact not only the Canadian equestrian industry, but the country at large.

For sanctioning requirements, competition organizers must refer to [EC's Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) ("Policy").

According to the Policy, competition organizers should follow the below steps in planning their events:



For additional resources and sample documents to help build your competition operations plan, please reference [Sample Documents for Competition Operations During COVID-19](#).



2. Responsibilities of Competition Organizers

All EC sanctioned competitions must be conducted in accordance with federal, provincial/territorial, regional and local mandates. Competition organizers should implement best practices for mitigating risk related to the spread of COVID-19.

Additionally, competition organizers must adhere to the technical rules of the sport as outlined in the [EC Rules](#). Where those rules create a risk for contact and limit physical distancing, they can be modified to allow for the running of the competition in accordance with regional physical distancing guidelines.

***Note:** Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) sanctioned competitions will be subject to additional requirements as determined by the FEI, which can be found [here](#).*

EC is committed to the ongoing development of education and resources to create and protect the safe and respectful environment that all Participants in equestrian sport deserve. Refer to the EC website for further details on our Safe Sport policies at www.equestrian.ca/about/safe-sport.

For questions, please contact the following EC staff members:

Subject	Contact	Email	Phone
Competitions	Maria-Christina Lepore	competitions@equestrian.ca	(613) 287-1515 ext. 118
Officials, Rules	Lindsey Blakely	officials@equestrian.ca rules@equestrian.ca	(613) 287-1515 ext. 111
Equine Medication Control	Shauna Curran-Cooper	equinemeds@equestrian.ca	(613) 287-1515 ext. 117

2.1 Competition Preparations

2.1.1 Signage

- Post signage at entrances and throughout the competition venue displaying all best practices and guidelines in effect, including applicable federal, provincial/territorial, regional or local government and health authority safety advisories. See Appendix 3 for links to federal and provincial/territorial recommendations.
 - Signage should clearly state that anyone who has a fever, exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19 and not been cleared by health authorities, or has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two (2) weeks should not enter the competition venue.
- Links to printable resources can be found in Appendix 4.

2.1.2 Entries

- Accept entries and entry payments online or by phone only.
- Limit entries to meet federal, provincial/territorial, regional and local government restrictions for travel and gathering size. This may include limiting the divisions and classes offered at the competition.
- Develop waivers, daily attestations and checklists specific to COVID-19 and require that they be submitted with all entries. Samples are available [through EC](#) or your PTSO office. These samples should be reviewed with your insurance provider and/or legal counsel. It is recommended that waivers and attestations be retained for a minimum of two (2) years.
- To monitor and allow for contact tracing of the Participants entering the venue, require competitors to list the support personnel they will have with them for the competition as part of their entry, including the name, phone number and email for the coach, groom, parent or responsible adult (if a minor).
 - Create a Venue Access List with this information and provide this list to the entrance attendants. This list will also need to be saved to allow for contact tracing and notification should the need arise.
- Stalls and hay/shavings should be prepaid in advance of arrival and should be delivered to stalls before Participants arrive onsite.
- Consider arranging competitor ride times with a “show and go” framework.
- Consider cancellation and credit policies to allow anyone with COVID-19 exposure or symptoms to receive refunds or future credits if they must withdraw last minute.

2.1.3 Access

- Assign an individual to perform temperature checks (with a non-contact thermometer) prior to anyone entering the competition venue. Individuals with a temperature below 99.5° F (37.5° C) may enter the facility.
- Anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms should not enter the competition venue.
- Limit venue access to only the following:
 - Competition organizer and the staff/volunteers needed to run the competition.
 - Competitors, grooms, coaches, trainers, parents, guardians, etc.
 - Medical personnel (human).
 - Medical personnel (equine). The veterinarian and farrier may be on call, but must be within 30 minutes of the competition in case of an emergency.
 - One (1) parent or responsible adult for competitors who are under the age of majority.
 - Officials (COVID-19 Compliance Officer, Judges, Stewards, ring crew, announcer, score keeper, etc.).
 - Scribes (according to discipline-specific processes).
- Cross-reference everyone arriving against the Venue Access List.
- Restrict stables and spectator areas.
- Overnight accommodations (i.e. camping) on the grounds may not be permitted under current federal, provincial/territorial, regional or local government and health authority mandates. Check with your local authorities to determine if overnight accommodations are permitted.



2.1.4 *Authority, Roles and Responsibilities*

- This section of the competition operations plan should be drafted by the competition organizer to make it specific to the competition. Identify the following as part of your plan:
 - Who has ultimate authority over access/removal of Participants from the venue?
 - What are the roles and responsibilities of all staff on site?
 - Based on the above information, create a decision tree outlining scenario plans and lines of communication.
- Identify a COVID-19 Compliance Officer responsible for ensuring that guidelines put in place throughout the competition are being followed. See Section 3.1 COVID-19 Compliance Officer for more details.

2.1.5 *Communication*

- Post online and/or circulate via email the COVID-19 guidelines and plans in place at the competition to all Participants.
- Post online and/or circulate via email class times (including ride times), course maps and results.
- Use radio, phone and online communication methods as much as possible and communicate important information frequently throughout the competition venue.
- Conduct meetings via phone or webinar prior to competition for staff, volunteers and officials to review the COVID-19 plans and address questions.
- Design a detailed layout of the venue including all competition and warm-up arenas/rings and arrival/departure procedures and share with all Participants.
- Highlight the COVID-19 guidelines in place at the venue, post on social media and circulate to all Participants.
- Broadcast government health warnings related to COVID-19 over the venue's public address (PA) system throughout the competition as required.
- Assign equipment to officials and volunteers for the duration of the competition where possible.

2.1.6 *Documentation*

- Print and/or post online all competition documentation (e.g. dressage tests, score sheets, fence judge materials, competition/bib numbers) and create a method for virtual ribbons and awards (consider gift certificate options).

2.1.7 *Sanitation*

- Complete an extensive sanitization of the entire venue using disinfectant sprayers. This includes disinfecting all stables, offices, washrooms and venue equipment (including ring equipment, judge's booths, fence materials, etc.).
- Provide hand sanitizing/washing stations throughout the venue, including at each competition and warm-up arena/ring/stables/washroom facilities, etc.
- Place garbage bins throughout the venue for hygienic disposal of items. Remove garbage from the venue frequently (for additional precaution, organizers may consider having Participants bring their own garbage bags and take their garbage home with them).

-
- Assign a washroom attendant to ensure frequent cleaning and sanitizing of washrooms.
 - All equipment should be sanitized and disinfected before and after each use. This includes radios, clocks, stop watches, whistles, computers, laptops, etc.

2.1.8 Protection

- Install clear plastic, plexiglass or another type of protective shield in front of office staff if physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Have enough personal protective equipment (PPE) including face masks, hand sanitizer and gloves for all staff, volunteers and officials.
- Identify an isolation area to hold any symptomatic person found at the venue while awaiting patient transport to a medical facility or venue departure.
- Identify and organize medical personnel to help assess cases and potential other illness as needed.
- Liaise with a local doctor, medical personnel, hospitals and veterinary hospitals to ensure all current guidelines are being addressed and ambulance services are available.
- Provide notification to your regional medical authority, local by-law or policing agencies and provide information on those services to the Participants.
- Liaise with local hotels to ensure COVID-19 policies and practices are being implemented to ensure safety of Participants requiring accommodations.

2.1.9 Physical Distancing

- Ensure that the competition timetable/class schedule allows for physical distancing requirements (i.e. limit classes and access to warm-up and washing areas, schedule of course walking).
- Install markers to delineate two (2) meters spacing (e.g. markers on floor/ground for people in line) between people in the competition office, food area (if allowed under local health authority guidelines), washrooms, etc.
- As a general guideline, horses with handlers should be kept five (5) meters apart while at the competition venue.

2.2 Competition Operations

2.2.1 Arrivals (Parking, Check-In, Etc.)

- Entrance and exit routes should be clearly marked. A one-way system with a separate entrance and exit route would be ideal; however, if this is not possible, a “stop and go” system should be introduced.
- Entrance attendant(s) should be in place for the entire competition.
- All Participants should complete a daily attestation form and symptoms screening (see samples in [Sample Documents for Competition Operations During COVID-19](#)) before they come to the venue. If they have any symptoms, they should not come to the venue.
- Check in via drive-thru:
 - Cross-reference names of Participants arriving at the venue with the information provided on the competitor entries. This assists in preventing the public accessing the venue as spectators.



-
- Entrance attendant(s) should complete temperature checks and ask everyone on arrival if they feel ill in any way, specifically listing COVID-19 symptoms, and send home those Participants that report feeling ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (refer to government website for the latest information on symptoms).
 - Once cleared for entry, provide Participants with a coloured clearance wristband for the day. New and differently coloured clearance wristband should be required each day.
 - Parking slots should be marked out in accordance with physical distancing regulations (minimum of 2.5 metres between each parking space).
 - No shuttle service from the parking lot to stables or rings should be provided.
 - Horse arrivals (including passport checks if required) and departures should be scheduled via appointment.

2.2.2 Competition Office Guidelines

- The competition office should be closed for general walk-ins.
- Establish appointment times for Participants who need to come to the office.
- Provide separate 'in' and 'out' doors for access to the office where possible.
- Place protective screens in the office to protect staff if physical distancing can not be maintained.
- Limit the number of people who can enter the competition office at one time.
- Provide hand sanitizer at the door or assign an individual to provide sanitizer upon entry and exit.
- Consider touch points that will require constant cleaning.

2.2.3 Washroom Guidelines

2.2.3.1 Permanent Washroom Facilities

- Assign dedicated cleaning staff.
- Clean after every use with disinfectant wipes.
- Provide markers to delineate two (2) meters spacing between people in the washroom (e.g. markers on floor/ground for people in line) and limit access.
- Prepare hygiene stations with spray bottles of disinfectant, paper rolls, gloves, etc.
- Use disposable paper towels in washrooms. Do not use hand driers or reusable towels.

2.2.3.2 Portable Washroom Facilities

- Assign dedicated cleaning staff to disinfect washrooms on a set schedule throughout the day (frequency of cleaning schedule to be determined by competition organizer based on the frequency of use).
- Provide markers to delineate two (2) meters spacing between people in the washroom queue (e.g. markers on floor/ground for people in line).
- Set up hygiene and sanitation stations and garbage bins outside the washrooms.

2.2.4 *Stable Guidelines*

- Organize to have a stable attendant or security. Stables should be closed and restricted to competitors, grooms and essential support personnel (e.g. coaches, Stewards and vets).
- Professional braiders should not be permitted during the COVID-19 pandemic (personal grooms can braid their horse).
- Set up and communicate a stable schedule, including when the stable is closed (i.e. at night).
- A farrier station should be set up in a convenient location onsite (farriers should not need to access the stables).
- Provide hand sanitizing stations in and around the stabling area.
- If possible, organize stabling to avoid horses passing in the aisles.
- Aisles should be kept clear (no tack trunks, chairs or curtains) to allow for easy passage while maintaining distance. There should be no grooming stalls or horses in the aisles on crossties. Tack stalls should be made available for storage of equipment, etc.
- Ensure physical distancing between each horse or stable assignment (in cases of multiple entries from the same stable).
- Competitors shipping in for only a day may use their trailer, following the same physical distancing principles.

2.2.5 *Competition Arena/Ring and Warm-Up Ring Guidelines*

- Utilize posted starting lists/orders of go.
- Arrange judge's areas to comply with physical distancing requirements.
- Restrict the number of horses in the warm-up ring and establish a timetable to ensure that a minimum distance of five (5) meters between horses can be maintained at all times. Examples include staggered starts, assigning opposite ends of the arena/ring for warm-up, competitor stations and markers visible to competitors for start and stop points (e.g. visible spacing marks, etc.).
- Restrict the number of people accompanying a horse to the competition arena/ring (e.g. competitor, coach/trainer and groom) and comply with physical distancing requirements.
- In classes where competitors compete collectively (equitation and hack classes), determine and communicate the maximum number of horses permitted in each competition area at one time (these numbers will be based on the size of the competition area and physical distancing requirements).
- Warm-up rings should be closely monitored for physical distancing.
- Competitors, when mounted, should keep at least five (5) meters apart.
- Competitors should go straight back to their stable or trailer after their ride.
- Provide sanitizing stations at each competition ring and schooling/warm-up area.
- Post signage about not leaving equipment or attire unattended.

2.2.6 *Tack Check/Pony Measurements*

- Stewards should always use PPE. Gloves must be changed after each tack check and used gloves must be properly discarded after each use.
- Grooms or support personnel must use PPE when presenting the horse for the tack check.



-
- The steward should always maintain a two (2) meter distance from the rider (riders should stay mounted unless asked to dismount).
 - For pony measurements, everyone should wear PPE and maintain physical distancing where possible.

2.2.7 Prize Giving

- There should be no formal awards ceremonies.
- All prizes of monetary value should be sent to the winners of the class electronically or via cheque.
- It is recommended that vouchers are obtained for those who receive prizes in kind.
- No ribbons should be awarded to limit the risk of contamination.

2.2.8 Equine Medication Control

- Assign the equine medication control testing stall/area in an easy to access, quiet area that does not require travel through the entire stabling area. It should be placed at the end of an aisle.
- Prepare and clean the testing stall/area and ensure it is ready with bedding by the start of competition. This will avoid any unnecessary contact/travel around the stabling area to prepare the area/stall during competition.
- Prepare orders of go/class lists, parking passes, entrance bands, etc. ahead of time and have them ready in the competition office/at the entrance for easy pick up by the technician.
- Have horse recordings easily accessible.
 - Set an appointment time for the technician to access this information.
 - If it is electronic, provide log in information to technicians where possible so they can log in using their own device.
- Provide the technician with a cell number for an office staff member that they can call or text for contactless information sharing.



3. Staff, Medical Personnel & Service Providers

3.1 COVID-19 Compliance Officer

This section is intended to outline the suggested role and duties of a COVID-19 Compliance Officer in line with the government's recommendations and in support of the operations plan you create. This individual does not need to be a health care provider, but should be well trained in the risks, protocols and symptoms related to COVID-19.

The number of COVID-19 Compliance Officers should be based on the size of the competition venue and the number of Participants permitted at the venue for the competition. Competition organizers should work with their provincial/territorial and local government and health authorities to determine how many COVID-19 Compliance Officers should be in attendance.

- The COVID-19 Compliance Officer monitors activities to ensure physical distancing and hygiene rules are being maintained to protect public health and reduce the spread of COVID-19. In instances where there is non-conformance with physical distancing, the COVID-19 Compliance Officer is to intervene.
- The COVID-19 Compliance Officer should be clearly identified.
- EC Stewards who are officiating at the competition cannot be used as COVID-19 Compliance Officers.
- Other duties may include:
 - Maintaining a log of regular monitoring of COVID-19 controls onsite.
 - Ensuring there is sufficient, up-to-date signage erected onsite.
 - Ensuring that regular cleaning of washroom facilities, handrails, door handles, etc. is undertaken and that hand wash liquid/soap and hand sanitizers are replenished as required.
 - Reporting any areas of non-compliance (e.g. violations of physical distancing, sanitation, personal hygiene or symptom acknowledgment, etc.) to the competition organizer.
 - Informing the competition organizer if there is a confirmed case or if they have been made aware of a Participant with COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Ensuring that a Participant with symptoms is placed in an isolation area away from other Participants and personnel until removed from premises.
 - Assisting health authorities in contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19.

3.2 Competition Organizers, Staff, Volunteers, Service Providers, Vendors & Officials

- Always maintain physical distancing.
- Use radio or cell phones for communication purposes.
- Use federal/provincial/territorial government recommended PPE.
- Stagger work hours and break times and discourage socializing.
- Sanitize all equipment before and after each use.
- Special consideration should be given to anyone over the age of 70 or with an increased risk of contracting COVID-19.
- Agree to all COVID-19 guidelines prior to competition.
- Complete required competition waivers, checklists and daily attestations.



3.3 Service Providers & Vendors

- Any provided services must follow provincial/territorial guidelines.
- For food vendors:
 - Limit the number of people who can enter the food area(s) at one time.
 - Provide hand sanitizer stations or assign an individual to provide sanitizer upon entry into the food area(s).
 - If food vendors are in a building, provide separate 'in' and 'out' doors where possible.
 - Provide markers to delineate two (2) meters spacing between people in the food area(s) (e.g. markers on floor/ground for people in line).
 - Protective screens should be placed to protect catering staff.
 - Consider a grab-and-go pre-packaged food option.

4. Responsibilities of Participants

Reminder: Participants are attending the competition at their own risk. They are liable and must take personal responsibility for the safety of others and themselves. Comply with all best practices and guidelines in effect at the competition.

- Strongly encourage all Participants to wear PPE while onsite. PPE may be worn when mounted and competitors will not be penalized if wearing PPE while in the ring.
- Participants should:
 - Complete required competition waivers, checklists and daily attestations.
 - Provide PPE to personal support staff and require temperature monitoring.
 - Regularly sanitize vehicle door handles, stable doors, bucket handles, light switches, etc. and equipment including tack, grooming and feeding tools, stall cleaning materials, etc. Clean leather before and after every use.
 - Not share supplies, horse clothing, towels, equipment or tack (including lead shanks, etc.).
 - Adhere to physical distancing guidelines.
 - Wash and/or sanitize hands frequently.
 - Adhere to cough and sneeze etiquette. Participants who begin to cough/sneeze for any reason should move away from others until coughing/sneezing dissipates.
 - Leave the competition venue litter free. All garbage is to be taken home.
 - Leave the venue as soon as possible after their classes have concluded.
 - If they become sick within two (2) weeks following a show, contact the show organizer and indicate the events and dates that they were onsite.



5. Penalties for Non-Compliance

- The competition organizer and/or an EC Steward/Technical Delegate (TD) has the authority to remove any person who does not comply with the regulations and requirements in effect at the competition from the facility. Refer to EC's Rules for penalties for non-compliance at www.equestrian.ca/programs-services/rules.
- The COVID-19 Compliance Officer must report any incidents of non-compliance to the competition organizer. The competition organizer has the authority to remove the Participant from the facility. The circumstances of such removal should be documented by the EC Steward/Technical Delegate in their report to EC.
- In the event of repeated or flagrant non-compliance of a Participant with regard to best practices and guidelines implemented by the competition organizer, thereby endangering themselves and others, competition management has the authority to bar the Participant from the competition venue. The circumstances should be documented by the EC Steward/Technical Delegate in their report to the EC.



Appendix 1: Discipline-Specific Guidelines

Common sense dictates that there are many commonalities across disciplines and that the general guidelines must be applied to competitions in every discipline. See the below for discipline-specific guidelines:

[Dressage & Para-Dressage](#)

[Eventing](#)

[Jumping \(Hunter & Jumper\)](#)

[Vaulting](#)

[Endurance](#)

[Driving](#)

[Lead-Line & In-Hand Classes](#)

Dressage & Para-Dressage Guidelines

Physical Distancing

- Develop a plan for the flow of Participants:
 - Where possible, have separate entry and exit points to the competition zone and into warm-up rings.
 - For the competition arena/ring, make sure the previous rider has exited the area before the next competitor enters.
- Only one (1) support person should accompany the horse and rider to the competition area (e.g. groom).
- The coach is to follow physical distancing requirements and use a headset to communicate with the rider during the warm up.

Judges, Scribes, Judge's Booths

- Dressage judges should provide their own scribe from within their household to limit community transfer. If no scribe is available from their household, either the judge should scribe for him/herself or the scribe should sit in another vehicle or judge's box with direct communication to the judge via radio/headset/cell phone.
- Judges and scribes are to provide their own pens, notebooks, etc. There should be no sharing of equipment.
- If the judge's booth is big enough, the competition organizer may consider installing plexiglass or a heavy plastic divider.
- PPE and hand sanitizer should be provided for each judge and scribe.

Tests, Scores, Freestyle Music

- Consider using a software system to make judging tests touchless.
- Runners (score collectors) should be provided with PPE and hand sanitizer.
- Test sheets should be put in a folder and placed outside the competition or scoring office.
- No paper tests should be given out at the competition. Dressage test sheets may be requested following the competition and sent via email.



-
- There should be no main score board at the competition to discourage physical gathering. Post scores online and circulate through email.
 - Competition organizers should outline the acceptable formats for freestyle music in their prize lists. No physical media should be accepted; instead, freestyle music should be submitted electronically.

Carers

- Specific to para-dressage, competitors will provide their own carer, ideally from within their household to limit potential community transfer.
- Carers must always use PPE.

Eventing Guidelines

- Competitions should be run as a short format/horse trials in the following order: dressage, show jumping, cross-country.
- The number of divisions should be restricted.

A. Dressage Phase

- See above dressage guidelines.

B. Jumping Phase

Warm Up

- Competition arena/ring staff should wear/change gloves regularly and sanitize often.
- Manage the show jumping warm-up area to ensure no more than five (5) mounted riders are warming up at any one time and that five (5) meters apart is adhered to.
- Warm-up jumps are to be four (4) meters apart.
- Mark out an area for the show jumping party/officials to stand.
- Make sanitizer available to clean poles and cups.

Show Jumping Round

- Show jumping times must be used to ensure the competition runs smoothly.
- Riders will have their show jumping time published on the website prior to the competition.
- Show jumping timing equipment must be managed by one (1) person and the timing clock/start sanitized before the judge/designated timer takes over.
- Only the announcer should use the microphone, which will be disinfected before, during and after the competition.
- The judge or designated timer should be the only one allowed to use the timing equipment.
- The score collector is to put score sheets in a folder at the door of the scoring office (as per dressage/cross-country).



C. Cross-Country Phase

Fence Judges/ Briefing

- Depending on the number of fences/fence judges required and to ensure adequate physical distancing, the fence judge briefing may need to be done in two phases. If an assistant TD is available, two briefings could be done simultaneously.
- As an alternative, briefings can be done via webinar prior to the competition.

Cross-Country Sectors

- In agreement with the TD, fence judges may be positioned in a way they can judge multiple fences. This is to limit the number of people on site but not compromise safety of Participants.
- The fence judge will radio/call the Controller if a competitor goes clear, has penalties or falls.
- The fence judge should bring their own pencils to mark supplied score sheets and their own lunch, beverages, etc.
- The fence judge's score sheets should be picked up by one courier who should wear appropriate PPE. Score sheets shall be stored in a folder and left by scoring office door.

Controller/Announcer

- The controller and announcer normally sit in the same area.
- Unless from the same household, physical distancing of two (2) meter minimum should be observed.
- There should be no sharing of equipment (e.g. radio, microphone).
- Microphones should be disinfected before, during and after every use.

Cross-Country Set Up

- A hand sanitizer station should be available at the cross-country warm-up/start box area.
- Competitors should be limited to five (5) in the warm-up area with at least five (5) meter between each horse.
- Competitors will go cross-country in strict numerical order.

Scoring

- There should be no main score board at the competition to discourage physical gathering. All results should be posted online.
- There is to be one (1) web scorer and one (1) manual scorer. Unless from the same household, physical distancing of two (2) meter minimum should be observed.
- Hand sanitizer should be available and used regularly.
- There should be no sharing of equipment.
- As per [EC Eventing Rules](#), all scoring queries should be raised to the TD within 30 minutes of the publication of that division's results and before the competitor leaves the competition.
- All scoring sheets are to be placed in a folder by the scoring office door to prevent risk of contamination.

Jumping (Hunter & Jumper) Guidelines

- The number of competition rings is dependent on the size of the competition venue and the ability of the venue to manage the physical distancing requirements and recommendations according to federal and provincial/territorial guidelines.
- Only one (1) support person should accompany the horse to the ringside (e.g. coach or groom).
- For specific stabling recommendations, refer to Section 2.2.4 Stable Guidelines.
- There should be no jogging for hunters.
- Everyone should wear PPE for course walks and maintain the recommended physical distances.

Warm Up

- Anyone onsite at the venue should wear PPE as per provincial/territorial guidelines.
- Competition arena/ring staff should wear/change gloves regularly and sanitize often.
- Warm-up jumps are to be five (5) meters apart and there is to be no more than one (1) person at each.
- An area should be marked for officials to stand behind.
- Paper towels, disinfectant, detergent and water should be made available to clean poles and cups by competition arena staff.

Jumping Rounds

- Assign ride times to help with the monitoring of traffic in and around rings.
- Timing equipment should be managed and sanitized by one (1) person.
- The judge should be the only one allowed to use the timing equipment once sanitized.
- Only the announcer should use the microphone system, which should be disinfected before, during and after the competition.

Vaulting Guidelines

- Only one (1) person on the horse or running in at a time.

Endurance Guidelines

- Provide PPE for vet checks with physical distancing maintained as much as feasibly possible.
- Endeavor to limit numbers at checks as much as it is safe to do so.
- Protect ride cards in zip lock bags and sanitize each time after use.

Driving Guidelines

- Drivers must supply their own navigators, ideally from the same household.
- Limit the number of cone setters (3 to 4).
- Place dressage tests in sanitized zip lock bags. Scores are to be presented online only.
- Marathon course designs should have one (1) start/finish and allow for judges to have clear vision of entire obstacles.



-
- The obstacle timer can assist from 10 feet away. Time is recorded onto each sheet and each sheet is put into a folder which is sanitized after each person has touched.

Lead-Line and In-Hand Class Guidelines

- All handlers and officials should wear PPE.
- Where possible, maintain physical distancing.



Appendix 2

Equestrian Competition Fact Sheet

Based on the guidance of the World Health Organization (WHO), equestrian sport is a low-risk activity for COVID-19 spread due to the following factors:

- **Equestrian sport is non-contact.**
 - It involves a horse and rider as a combination.
 - Combinations compete individually in the competition arena/ring.
 - There is no sharing of equipment between Participants or sharing of transportation.
 - When mounted, physical distancing of five (5) metres or more is required to keep horses and Participants safe and avoid accidents from striking or kicking.
- **Equestrian sport does not enjoy large spectatorship.**
 - Canada's equestrian domestic landscape does not enjoy large spectator attendance.
- **Equestrian sport is an outdoor activity.**
 - Equestrian sport is primarily an outdoor activity with competitions taking place in large, open-air facilities.
- **Risk communication is a priority and undertaken before, during and after competitions.**
 - We have risk-assessed our sport to identify physical distancing issues, as well as provided guidelines to reduce the risks of contact and develop appropriate programs for cleaning and disinfecting.



Appendix 3

International, Federal & Provincial/Territorial Recommendations

Click on the below links to learn about international, federal and provincial/territorial government and health authority safety advisories.

International

- [World Health Organization](#)

National

- [Government of Canada](#)

Provincial

- [Quebec](#)
- [Ontario](#)
- [Nova Scotia](#)
- [New Brunswick](#)
- [Prince Edward Island](#)
- [Newfoundland and Labrador](#)
- [Manitoba](#)
- [Saskatchewan](#)
- [Alberta](#)
- [British Columbia](#)



Appendix 4

Printable Resources

Government of Canada

- [Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19](#)
- [Know the Facts About Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Reduce the Spread of COVID-19. Wash Your Hands.](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces](#)

Quebec

- [Wearing a Face Covering \(Handcrafted Mask\) in Public Settings](#)
- [Decision Fact Sheet](#)
- [Preventing Infections: It's a Collective Responsibility](#)
- [Notice to Visitors](#)
- [Respiratory Hygiene](#)



Manitoba

- [Notice: Do Not Enter If...](#)

Alberta

- [Notice: Do Not Enter If...](#)
- [Cover Your Cough](#)
- [How to Use Alcohol-based Hand Rub](#)
- [Putting on \(Donning\) Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
- [Taking off \(Doffing\) Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
- [COVID-19 symptoms in comparison to the flu and the common cold](#)
- [Notice: COVID-19 Visiting Rules](#)
- [Vanch mask adjustments, donning and doffing](#)
- [Typical Symptoms of COVID-19 Infection](#)

British Columbia

- [Notice: Physical Distancing](#)
- [Notice: Do Not Enter](#)
- [Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#)



Appendix 5

Samples & Additional Resources

For additional resources and sample documents, please reference [Sample Documents for Competition Operations During COVID-19](#), which includes:

- Participant Checklist
- Competition Organizers/Staff/Volunteers/Vendors/Service Providers/Officials Checklist
- Parent/Guardian Checklist
- Venue Owners/Competition Management Checklist for Return to Competition
- COVID-19 Health Screening Checklist Sample
- Venue Owners/Competition Management Contact Tracing
- Daily COVID-19 Attestation and Agreement
- Waiver of Liability for All Claims and Release of Liability: Facility Use Waiver
- Waiver of Liability for All Claims and Release of Liability: Competition Participation Waiver
- Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreement
- Remote Training Waiver
- COVID-19, Sport, and Waiver
- Engagement Form – Equestrian Activity Host
- Engagement Form – Equestrian Activity Organizer
- Recognition and Acceptance of Risks Disclaimer of Liability Form – Equestrian Activity Participant
- Recognition and Acceptance of Risks Disclaimer of Liability Form – Equestrian Activity Team Member
- [World Health Organization’s \(WHO\) Risk Assessment sports addendum](#)

