

## Discipline-specific guidelines for FEI Endurance Events taking place during the Covid-19 pandemic

### Purpose

This document provides OCs with detailed guidance for the management of FEI Endurance Events during the Covid-19 pandemic. The measures outlined aim to apply to all aspects of the Event the hygiene and social distancing principles necessary to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission.

This document must be read and used in conjunction with:

- The [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#), and in particular article VII “Recommended Best Practice for FEI Event Organisers”, which provides general guidance for all FEI Events.
- The [Veterinary-specific guidelines for FEI Events taking place during the Covid-19 pandemic](#) which outlines the veterinary processes applicable in each FEI discipline.

*These guidelines are best practice recommendations. They do not intend to replace the regulations and policies imposed by the national and local health authorities, but to supplement them with considerations that are unique to Endurance.*

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## I. Venue Layout

### 1. Arrivals and Parking

#### 1.1 Social distancing

- Entry to venue must allow space for Covid-19 screening on arrival with space for waiting if queues develop. Entry to be monitored throughout the event;
- The FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic recommends temperature screening + a brief set of questions.
- All persons entering to be screened and names should be recorded. Participants/officials/OC staff and volunteers should be screened in a designated area.
- Consider system such as 'all clear' wristband of different colors if multi day event.
- Clearly signed one-way system in place for venue from parking to stables and competition areas. OC to provide link to online map of the venue in their ride schedule published on FEI website.
- Arrival times designated to prevent crowding during parking and unloading, designated personnel to liaise with if arrival is to be delayed.
- Vehicles must be parked such that social distancing can be observed with a minimum distance of 2 metres between personnel. This will necessitate a large parking area, entry numbers must be limited if necessary in order that social distance can be maintained.

#### 1.2 Hygiene

- Toilet / bathroom facilities must be sufficient to prevent crowding, allow distancing and provide space for one way movement through each toilet block.
- Designated bathroom facilities throughout venue for participants and Officials.

### 2. Catering areas

#### 2.1 Social distancing

Limit catering offer in order to minimize gatherings. Organize a one way queuing system. If a seating space is proposed, ensure an adequate distance between tables and chairs.

#### 2.2 Hygiene

Toilet / bathroom facilities must be sufficient to prevent crowding, allow distancing and provide space for one way movement through each toilet block.

### 3. Venue map

The OC should provide a circulation map of the venue to all participants, Officials, and public.

## II. Spectators

### 1. Social distancing/masks

The FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic recommends that all persons on the venue wear masks at all times except when riding and competing.

### 2. Hygiene

The OC should check all hand sanitising points are operational before site opens and throughout the Event and ensure that an adequate hand sanitiser stock is available for the number of people attending throughout the event. Designated staff should monitor supplies.

## III. Show Office & Administration

Taking into account the Recommended Best Practices for FEI Event Organisers in the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic, a plan must be devised and implemented to ensure social distancing and adequate hygiene:

- At the various steps of the event administration (such as invoicing, orders etc.)
- In the show office
- During staff, volunteers and Officials briefings
- For shuttles and all venue vehicles

Regular cleaning and disinfection schedules must be established for all areas and equipment in the venue, including Judges box(es), score box(es), press & commentator box(es), volunteers material.

Pre-packaged individual food and bottled drink should be made available to personnel, Officials and volunteers if necessary.

Any payments on the venue to be made by card or by online transfer wherever possible.

### 1. Permitted persons in the show office

Athletes and team crew to designate only 1 representative to meet with the OC including visiting competition office, collecting bibs etc;

### 2. Social distancing/masks in show office

- Provide screens and masks for office staff.
- Designate times for participants to check in at office, communicate a phone number to liaise if appointed time is missed, and organise a waiting area with appropriate social distancing in case queues develop.
- Extra masks should be available as required.

### 3. Social distancing/masks and protocols for briefings to staff, volunteers and Officials

As a general principle, all persons on the venue should keep a 2 metres distance between each other whenever possible.

All OC volunteers and staff to be given masks. Extra masks should be available as required.

Please refer to « Best Practice Recommendations » from the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic for additional recommendations such as:

- Social distancing/masks/hand sanitization for shuttles and venue vehicles
- Cleaning schedules for all areas and vehicles on the venue
- Covid-19 considerations in the Event Emergency Response Plan
- Communication plan

## IV. Stabling

### 1. Entry and exit points; circulation within stables

- OC to designate time of arrival to avoid crowding and ensure space for waiting while maintaining social distancing.
- Minimise the number of Officials and volunteers at arrival point.
- Organize a clear one-way circulation traffic from the examination on arrival to the allocated stabling to minimise face-to-face contact.

### 2. Permitted persons

- **Maximum of 2 persons allowed in stable area** with each horse at any time.
- **Crew number restricted to 2 plus Athlete throughout the event**, these crew are not interchangeable during the competition.

### 3. Social distancing/masks

Wearing a mask is strongly recommended for everyone present in the stables.

- Stewards to enforce social distancing for those awaiting examination on arrival
- **Horses to be allocated in alternate stables with space to store all equipment in spare stables, Horses from the same stables or travelling together don't need to be put in alternate boxes.**
- Minimum Stable staff in stables for minimum time necessary and not to congregate in stable corridor area, all horse care to be done in the horse's box.
- Stable security must be sufficient to reassure participants that horses will be supervised throughout their time in the stables;
- Organize stable tasks and exercise to minimize meetings between crew and rider if from different households, contact through phone or social media instead of face-to-face.

#### 4. Cleaning, hand sanitization stations, rules for shared equipment

Please refer to « Best Practice Recommendations » from the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

#### V. Social distancing for athletes and their support personnel

Please refer to « Best Practice Recommendations » from the FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

#### VI. Consequences of the removal of a team member due to Covid-19

If a team member has to leave the event due to SARS-CoV-2 contamination or suspected contamination (positive test, Covid-19 diagnosis, notification of close contact with an infected person by the relevant health authorities), the removal from the team will be considered as due to medical reasons and the consequences for the team will be determined as prescribed in article 802.2.1, FEI Endurance Rules.

#### VII. Equipment

No sharing of tack, buckets or any other equipment between crews

#### VIII. Competition Areas

##### 1. Horse Inspection area

###### 1.1 Permitted persons

Vetting area designed to allow personnel to follow principles set down in FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

###### 1.2 Social distancing measures/masks

- **Trotting Lanes should be 3 metres wide** to allow social distancing with spacing to allow minimum 2 metres between horses and crew in each lane,
- **To avoid queues for the first inspection, establish a numerical order.**
- For the first (pre-ride) inspection, horses should be inspected outside the stables in the vet inspection / vetting area. OC to allocate vetting time to each horse, horses to come in number order.
- Stewards and President of the Vet Commission (PVC) to ensure steady flow of horses to the Vet Gates without excessive queuing and observing a one-way system in and out of the vetting including exit to clinic if necessary.
- Rigorous stewarding of horses waiting to present to ensure horses/Athletes maintain distancing, not admitting additional horses if space is not available.

###### 1.3 Hygiene

Sanitiser wipes must be used to clean handheld heart rate monitor between horses.

## 2. Warm-up and competition arenas

### 2.1 Permitted persons

- **Maximum of 2 crew members per horse only at any stage of the event**
- Only 1 crew member per horse to attend start
- 1 person only to accompany the horse to the treatment facility unless 2 are required to maintain the safety of horse or personnel
- If crew members are from a different household they should travel in separate cars when they are crewing on course.
- Alternatively, only 1 crew member will travel in the car on the course, to the other one staying at the vet gate.

### 2.2 Social distancing and masks

- All horses to follow designated One-way circulation map / access between stables and warm up area.
- Athletes to observe social distancing when warming up and when out on course, avoiding face-to-face contact with other riders or crew.
- Masks must be worn at all times except when riding, training and competing, see [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#).
- Provision of food and drink, FEI Policy recommends that participants bring their own food and drinks for the competition to minimize contact with food outlets and queuing.
- **A designated place should be provided to sell or distribute face masks for people that lose or forget their own.**

### 2.3 Hygiene

- Dedicated toilet facilities with suitable handwashing close to cooling and recovery area for those participants working in this area
- All participants to wash hands with soap and water on entry and exit from vet gate at entrance to cooling / recovery area.

## 3. Ground Jury box/Judges huts

Please refer to « Best Practice Recommendations » from the [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#).

## IX. Competition time

As a general principle, all persons on the venue should keep a 2 metres distance between each other.

Masks must be worn at all times except when riding, training and competing, see [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#).

### 1. Start and course requirements

- **'Staggered' start allowed to CEI1\*/CEI2\*/CEI3\* at a time to leave at time intervals as directed by GJ subject to number of entries, in order to ensure safety measures can be instigated - to be decided between OC and NF. To define number of horses per start, subject to the profile of the course.**
- Interval between groups of starters must be such that it minimizes the risk of horses catching up with each other.
- Allocation / fitting of transponders timing provider and horse handler to be on opposite sides of horse, minimize face-to-face contact.
- Only 1 crew member per horse to attend start.
- One-way circulation map / access in and around the start.
- OC to propose specific time to present for the check of equipment, dyes and creams before the competition start, this should allow sufficient time for participants to make any necessary changes.
- OC should ensure that sufficient Ground Jury members and well-briefed Stewards are present to ensure all participants are aware of procedure for staggered start.

### 2. Cooling and Recovery Area

- Designated areas for each horse / crew in cooling/recovery area;
- Crew members must wear masks ;
- **One-way system for participants to move from their designated crew area to the vet inspection area and the farrier and back;**
- Farrier to have designated work area and to wear mask while within working within 2 metres safe distance.
- Only one person to go with a horse to the farrier and to sanitise hands and wear masks.
- No sharing of tack, buckets or any other equipment between crews.

### 3. Out on the Course

- **Crews and athletes must wear masks except when riding, training and competing.** No sharing of tack, buckets or any other equipment between crews.
- If crew members are from a different household they should travel in separate cars when they are crewing on course;
- Alternatively, only 1 crew member to travel in car on course, remaining crew member to remain at vet gate;
- Crews to observe social distancing between Athlete and crew where they are from a different household, holding any meeting outside, but away from other participants;



- OCs to keep volunteers working in same pairs/ teams throughout the Event as far as possible and avoid volunteers having to change position in their task allocation;
- Provide them with meal/drinks in the morning and provide efficient means of communication with an OC team leader.

#### 4. Treatment Clinic

- Minimise number of vets and assistants in treatment facility whilst ensuring sufficient treating vets are available to safeguard the welfare of the horse;
- Set up as for the stables with one-way system and horses in alternate stables;
- 1 person only to accompany horse to treatment facility unless 2 are required to maintain safety of horse or personnel;
- OC to provide stewards as necessary;
- Designated toilet facilities with handwashing and rest area with food and drink provided to avoid personnel having to move around venue;
- Treatment vets on course to maintain social distancing in cars, if assistance is required personnel should travel in separate cars, in an emergency if this is not possible face masks should be worn.

#### 5. Post competition meetings

- OC Time keeper to Collect the timing devices (transponders/GPS/ bibs) in a dedicated box, at free access.
- Officials to give back the FEI Passport to Athletes/chefs d'equipe without contact, with screen, mask and gloves.
- OC/FEI debriefing OC / FEI: hold the meeting in a dedicated room. Meeting participants should wear masks, apply social distancing and wash/sanitise hands before entering and when leaving.
- If possible, FEI Officials should avoid meeting on site to complete their reports and should instead complete the reports by email once back home.

### **X. Falls & injured athletes**

Medical service providers must always wear mask and gloves when tending injured Athletes. Anyone else providing help must wear a mask, sanitise hands frequently and maintain adequate distance whenever possible.

The Athlete must be given a mask (unless in medical distress).

The medical facility and ambulance will be managed in accordance with the requirements from the local health authorities.

## **XI. Prize giving, Awards and End of competition**

As of 1 September 2020, the [Covid-19 guidelines for prize giving protocols and media activities at FEI Events](#) will apply to all FEI Events. Under these guidelines, the wearing of face masks is mandatory for everyone involved in prize givings, including Athletes unless they are mounted on a horse or driving a carriage. There is also a specific protocol for podium presentations.

Strict social distancing and mask wearing measures should be applied if an Award Ceremony for the Best Condition Horse must be held.