

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

Purpose

This document provides Organising Committees (OCs) with detailed guidance for the management of FEI Driving 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 Driving.

Contents

I.	Venue Layout	3
II.	Show Office & Administration	3
III.	Consequences of the removal of a team member due to Covid-19	3
IV.	Horse Inspections	3
V.	Stabling	3
	1. Entry and exit points; circulation within stables	3
	2. Permitted persons	4
	3. Social distancing/masks	4
	4. Cleaning, hand sanitization stations, rules for shared equipment	4
VI.	Equipment	4
	1. Carriages	4
	2. Scoring and timing equipment	4

VII. Competition Areas	4
1. Course walking protocol	4
2. On carriage	4
VIII. Competition time	5
1. Briefings	5
2. Hygiene	5
IX. Falls & injured athletes	5
X. Prize giving, awards and end of competition	5
1. Social distancing/masks	5
2. Hygiene	6
IX. Summary of recommended COVID-19 mitigation measures	7

I. Venue Layout

- The OC should provide anyone entering the venue with the layout of the showground clearly identifying parking and camping area, stables, show office and other facilities, and written instructions on how to circulate.
- The OC should provide sanitising stations at all areas including entry, parking, sanitation facilities, catering area, stables and competition arenas.

II. 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.

III. 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 the FEI Driving Rules.

IV. Horse Inspections

All matters related to horse inspections are prescribed in the FEI Veterinary Guidelines.

V. Stabling

1. Entry and exit points; circulation within stables

The OC should prepare clear signs for entry and exit points, and if possible create a one-direction circuit.

2. Permitted persons

The OC should prepare beforehand accreditations in order to limit the access to the stables to only the necessary people.

If the OC permits the access to stables to horse owners, those should be checked in accordance with the official FEI Passport of the horse.

3. Social distancing/masks

Use of masks by everyone while in the stables area should be strictly enforced.

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

The OC should prepare sanitization station at the entry point. If sharing stable-cleaning equipment is not avoidable, hands should be sanitized before and after use.

VI. Equipment

1. Carriages

Carriages must be sanitised when leaving home and be used only by the team members competing in it, they should be thoroughly sanitised after each use.

2. Scoring and timing equipment

The OC should minimise the number of persons that take the score cards to the scoring office. When handling scoring cards, hands should be thoroughly sanitised.

The OC should create 3 WhatsApp or other direct messaging groups:

- Group for the Athletes where results and starting list are published
- Group for the Officials
- Group including 1 person responsible per NF, the scoring office representative and the OC, for all matters such as horse changes, etc.

The access to the scoring office should be exclusively reserved to the necessary persons.

If possible, the OC should make available a QR code for the above person to gain access to the mentioned WhatsApp group.

VII. Competition Areas

1. Course walking protocol

The OC should prepare dedicated time slots for each class in order to avoid unnecessary gatherings as much as possible.

The Athletes should wear mask as it is not possible to keep social distancing.

2. On carriage

Face masks should be worn by all persons on the venue, except:

- When driving a carriage; and,
- For Athletes, while training and competing.

VIII. Competition time

1. Briefings

Athletes and Officials briefings should be done by WhatsApp or other similar App. If not possible, the briefings should be done outside, respecting the 2 meters social distancing, and wearing masks. Only one National Federation representative should be invited to all meetings and draw, in order to reduce the number of people gathered.

2. Hygiene

Before handling any competition equipment such as cones, hands should be cleaned and sanitized. All equipment should be cleaned and disinfected daily based on a schedule taking into account the Recommended Best Practices for FEI Event Organisers in the [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#).

IX. 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.

X. Prize giving, awards and end of competition

1. Social distancing/masks

In compliance with the [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#), gatherings that are not absolutely essential to the Event, such as parties, should be avoided. This helps reducing the overall Covid-19 transmission risk associated with the Event.

If such a gathering has to take place it will be subject to the applicable restrictions issued by the relevant domestic authorities.

Prize Giving Ceremonies should be avoided if they are not absolutely necessary (such as Final Prize Giving Ceremony). If the OC nevertheless decides to organise a Prize Giving ceremony, the [Covid-19 guidelines for prize giving protocols and media activities at FEI Events](#) will must be complied with in addition to any requirement issued by the domestic authorities. 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.

2. Hygiene

Prizes in kind should be cleaned regularly following the Recommended Best Practices for FEI Event Organisers in the [FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic](#). Hands should be sanitized before and after handling.

IX. Summary of recommended COVID-19 mitigation measures

FEI™ DRIVING

 On showgrounds Horse Inspections Stables	 Sanitise equipment & material	 Social Distancing	 Masks	 Wash and sanitize hands	 One direction circuit
On showgrounds	X	X	X	X	X
Horse Inspections	X	X	X	X	X
Stables	X	X	X	X	X
On Carriages	X	Whenever possible	X (when not competing for the persons who are not driving the carriage)	X	-
Scoring office	X	X	X	X	X
Course walking	X	X	X	X	
Briefings	X	X	X	X	X
Prize giving	X	X	X	X	X