

STABLE SECURITY/STEWARDING AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Minimum requirements to ensure implementation of Veterinary Regulations, Articles 1023 and 1025

1. ACCESS TO STABLE AREA

Stables must be completely enclosed within a suitably restrictive perimeter (stable area) which will act both as a deterrent to the admission of unauthorised persons and to the exit of horses. The area must be sufficiently large to allow horses to be evacuated from the stables in an emergency but still remain within the confines of the perimeter. Stable security is required at all events, except for those listed under Art 1023 paragraph 12.

Whenever possible the stable area must include stables and Designated Treatment Boxes only. Lorries, caravans and other vehicles should not be permitted within the area unless specifically needed as accommodation for grooms.

Access to stables must be limited to those persons indicated in Art. 1023 paragraphs 19-21. It is essential that the official issuing authorised access be a responsible person of seniority within the OC.

2. CONTROL OF ACCESS

A control system must operate at all entrance gates so that there is an efficient and reliable method of identifying those who enter and leave the stable area at any time.

Extra vigilance must be used in establishing the identity of persons and reasons for entering the stables during the night. A night access list must be used for establishing the identity of all persons entering the stables at night and their reasons for entering.

3. STEWARDING OF STABLE AREA

At least one stable steward, directly responsible to the Chief Steward, must be present or readily available in the vicinity of the stable area 24 hours a day during the entire duration of the event. He may be assisted by deputies as required. The steward/deputies must regularly patrol the stable area, without establishing any predetermined pattern, to discourage violations of the Veterinary Regulations, especially abuses to horses. Any misdemeanours must be reported immediately to the stable steward who must, in turn, report to the Chief Steward.

The duty of the stewards is therefore to safeguard the welfare of the horses and to prevent any form of illegal practices.

4. GROOMS

Grooms are not permitted to sleep within the stable area unless exceptional authorisation is granted by the Chief Steward and Veterinary Delegate.

The Person Responsible must ensure that his/her grooms, or any other authorised persons with access to his/her horses, are familiar with the security and stewarding procedures operating at the event attended.

5. MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT EVENT GROUNDS

Movement of horses between the stables, practice, grazing and main arena must be strictly controlled. It is appreciated that flexibility will be required depending on the requirements of other disciplines.

6. STEWARDING OF PRACTICE ARENA

The Chief Steward must ensure that all practice arenas are adequately stewarded all the time that they are officially open. He must also ensure that these arenas are subject to random control when they are officially closed.

7. GRAZING AREA

It is recommended that a grazing area be provided at all outdoor events, and that this be subject to random control. If available, horses must only be grazed or walked in hand within this area.

The Foreign Judge/TD at events will be specifically asked to check that the relevant requirements are met as reasonably as can be expected and to indicate clearly any shortfalls, following which consideration may be given to altering the category of the event in future.