



## APPENDIX C

### **COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN** **Suggestions for creating a plan for your US Equestrian Licensed competition**

**This document has been designed to provide general guidelines for managing incidents in the event a COVID-19-related situation occurs at a US Equestrian Licensed Competition. Most organizers of US Equestrian Licensed Competitions have comprehensive protocols in place to address a suspected COVID-19 situation, but others may find these suggestions useful in developing procedures that meet their needs.**

**This resource is generic in nature; therefore, not all of its contents will apply to every US Equestrian Licensed Competition organizer.**

Every competition organizer is encouraged to create an **Emergency Response Plan** for each US Equestrian Licensed competition to address any suspected COVID-19 situation. This plan should include local medical resources and address any state or local COVID-19 protocols, including medical evaluation, isolation, quarantine, and reporting. Organizers are encouraged to train competition staff, volunteers, and licensed officials regarding the procedures and requirements associated with the Emergency Response Plan.

These COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan suggestions are for competition organizers to use in developing a plan to address concerns around COVID-19 situations before and during a US Equestrian Licensed competition. Organizers should be in contact with their County Health Department well before the competition to learn whether any necessary local protocols are required. Each competition organizer should create a plan, which takes into account any facility, local, or state guidelines and protocols (if in place), and that addresses individual facility or operational circumstances. You should work with your team and local and/or state officials to create a customized plan tailored specifically for your competition.

For further information, please refer to the [USEF COVID-19 Action Plan, Section D of the Mandatory Requirements for Competition Organizers](#).

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## **SUGGESTED INCLUSIONS: EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN SPECIFIC TO A COVID-19 SITUATION**

**COVID-19 Compliance/Resource Officer:** Each Competition Organizer should consider appointing a specific COVID-19 Compliance/Resource Officer to oversee all COVID-19-related issues before and during a competition. **(This individual can be the Safety Coordinator as outlined in GR847 or another individual designated by the Competition Organizer.)** Responsibilities include:

- Formulating specific Competition Organizer/venue plan to be compliant with the USEF COVID-19 Action Plan
- Monitor activities to ensure compliance with any virus spread mitigation requirements
- Intervene if non-compliance is identified
- Interact with local health authorities to understand and implement any COVID-19 policies, as necessary
- Ensure adequate signage throughout the venue
- Evaluate and ensure that adequate hygiene materials are available in common areas and washroom facilities throughout the competition
- Ensure that an isolation area is prepared and available

### **OPERATIONS: SUGGESTED AREAS TO CONSIDER IN ADVANCE**

- 1) If an individual is determined to be unable to comply with Section F. and Section N. of the [USEF COVID-19 Action Plan](#), competition management should determine and document who the individual should notify.
- 2) How will competition management handle the information? How will the information be disseminated?
  - a. Any specific requirements around communication concerning a potential COVID-19 situation are guided by state, local or facility protocols.
- 3) Which competition staff person is responsible for documenting the situation concerning any potential individual who is unable to comply with the requirements?
  - a. Competition management should designate the COVID-19 Compliance/Resource Officer to be responsible. Ensure the responsible person is briefed concerning any facility or local state requirements that might be place.
  - b. Notify the USEF Steward or TD about the incident and provide any support so the Steward or TD is able to report to USEF.

**Please review the CDC website for updated information regarding COVID-19, including symptoms, protection, and guidance.** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/index.html>

**Any participant, staff, official, volunteer, support personnel, or service provider on the competition grounds who is prohibited from being present at the competition as per Section F. and Section N. of the [USEF COVID-19 Action Plan](#) must be denied entry to the competition or asked to exit the competition grounds.**

- All individuals are required to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms daily prior to entering the competition grounds.

REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS, ANYONE WHO:

- exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, including a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher regardless of whether a COVID-19 test was taken, or
- has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last five (5) days

CANNOT ENTER THE COMPETITION GROUNDS

**To plan ahead for the possibility of a COVID-19 situation, competition management should determine a blueprint for the following:**

Any person suspected to have COVID-19 or similar symptoms should be quickly removed from the venue (or isolated on-site until they can arrange transportation) to avoid further contact with other individuals.

**Isolation area:** If an individual on the grounds is displaying [COVID-19 symptoms](#), including a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher according to the [USEF COVID-19 Action Plan](#) and is unable to travel independently and immediately away from the competition grounds, the individual should be asked to remain in an isolation area away from others until private transportation can be organized. Competition management should establish an isolation area location; a cleaning & disinfecting protocol; a responsible party to facilitate and document this (possibly the COVID-19 Compliance/Resource Officer or Safety Coordinator), and compliance with any facility or local requirements for isolation.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP AFTER THE COMPETITION**

***Evaluate the effectiveness of your emergency operations and communication plans: Meet with the COVID-19 Compliance/Resource Officer or safety coordinator to identify areas for refinement or improvement.*** Gather feedback from competition staff, volunteers, service providers, and support to identify any gaps in the plans and any needs you may have for additional resources.