

# SEG Biosecurity Policy

All people who bring horses or livestock on to SEG grounds are expected to be aware of their biosecurity obligation and take reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

- All horses or livestock entering SEG grounds must be from a property actively practising good biosecurity principles within their management.
- Horse Health Declarations (HHDs) are a mandatory requirement for all events at SEG.
- The property identification code (PIC) of the horse's origin and returning property must be included on the HHD.
- Acceptance into the event will be refused if the required HHD is not presented at point of entry or designated registration point.
- No horses with signs of illness are to be brought onto the SEG grounds
- No communal water troughs will be available at the event. Equipment including food and water containers is not to be shared between horses.
- Participants are responsible for cleaning manure from yards and placing it in the designated areas.
- Participants are required to advise the event organisers immediately if a horse is sick, to stop all non-essential contact with the sick horse and not allow children to have close contact with the sick horse.
- Everyone handling horses should wash or sanitise hands between contacting different horses.

In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, our response plan will be implemented. If the incident involves a notifiable disease, Biosecurity Queensland and or Queensland Health will be notified and they may implement legislated controls on the movement of horses from the event. Participants will be notified about the incident and will be expected to follow any directions provided by the event organisers.

In the event of horse movement restrictions participants are responsible for the care, maintenance and cost of their horses and themselves, including feeding, bedding, vets and personal needs. Everyone will be expected to remain at the grounds until cleared to leave by the event organisers.

The biosecurity manager, in consultation with the event organiser, is in charge should a biosecurity risk arise. While the biosecurity manager does not possess the legal powers necessary to quarantine or restrict movements of people, they will arrange to have the details of any person and/ or animal passed on to Biosecurity Queensland if departure from the grounds proceeds despite being directed not to.

# Biosecurity Incident Contingency Plan

SEG has adopted the Equestrian Queensland event biosecurity plan.

This Biosecurity Plan outlines a set of preventative control measures and actions aimed at reducing the risk and spread of an infectious diseases outbreak affecting people and horses on and off the venue. Every individual has a responsibility to abide by the biosecurity measures and to follow the directions of the Organising Committee (OC) or risk expulsion from the event.

This plan includes:

1. Emergency contact information
2. Details of biosecurity kit and equipment required in the event of a biosecurity threat
3. Biosecurity contingency plan
4. Communication plan
5. Biosecurity information for event organisers

Biosecurity Queensland provides a range of resources in regard to;

- Horse Health and Disease Management
- Guidelines on Running, Registering and Participating in Horse Events
- Registering your Horse Property
- Horse Registrations and Movement Records

Further information regarding biosecurity and horse ownership requirements in Queensland is available from Biosecurity Queensland

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/animal-biosecurity-welfare/animal-health-pests-diseases/horses>

Please note:

Resources have been developed by EA to support the continuation of equestrian events in Queensland as it relates to COVID-19; in accordance with government restrictions and advice to protect both participants, event organisers, officials, support persons and volunteers and are to be used in conjunction with existing Biosecurity Plans.

Affiliate clubs and event organisers conducting events and/or activities are required to meet the requirements of the Event Protocol checklist until further notice as directed by Equestrian Queensland.

Copies of the event protocol checklist can be found at:

<https://www.qld.equestrian.org.au/member-resources/biosecurity>

In the event that a sick horse is confirmed at a SEG event, the following plan is to be followed:  
**Emergency contact List**

Organisation	Name	Phone number	Comment
Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline		1800 675 888	
Biosecurity Queensland		13 25 23	
SEG Biosecurity Manager	Vice President	0426863838	Janette Barratt
Event Veterinarian (Local veterinarian)	Samford Valley Veterinary Hospital Dayboro Vets Old Mill Veterinary surgery	3289 1322 3425 1544 3425 2222	
First Aid provider			
Body Disposal Company	Good As Dunn	0410558685	Ferny grove
Clinical waste disposal	ACE Waste	1300 850 901	
Venue Manager	Samford Showgrounds Manager	0450882842	Terry Rowbottom
Local Police	Ferny grove Police Station	3872 1555	
Workplace Health Safety Queensland		1300 326 128	
Local Hospital	TPCH (Public) St Vincents Northside (Private) NorthWest Private Hospital	3139 4000 3326 3000 3246 3133	Adult & child ED

### **BIOSECURITY EQUIPMENT**

Equipment required:

- Microchip scanner for vet inspection (vet will supply)
- PA system (Organising committee)
- Hand sanitiser for stations around yard areas and at marshalling areas (Biosecurity Manager)
- First aid kit (Organising committee)

Biosecurity field kit comprising:

*PPE equipment*

- disposable gloves
- overalls
- boots/covers
- P2 respirators
- safety goggles

- paper hand towels
- heavy duty garbage bags
- clinical waste bags
- tape for gloves

*Decontamination equipment*

- buckets
- spray bottles
- scrubbing brush
- foot bath – kitty litter tray
- detergents and disinfectant

*Isolation equipment comprising*

- star pickets or panel fencing if available
- large tarpaulin
- hazard tape

**Sick horse**

- Organising Committee and Biosecurity Manager are to be advised of a sick horse immediately.
- Biosecurity Manager will contact the event / local vet.
- Horse is to be taken to isolation area, via the most direct route avoiding any unnecessary contact with other people or horses until review by the vet.
- The isolation area for a sick horse /s will be marked with hazard tape in the southern most point of the parking area adjacent to the SEG sheds.
- Alternately, a day yard closest to the SEG shed may be used to contain a horse provided all other yards within a 5 metre perimeter are vacated, locked and area cordoned off with hazard tape to protect other horses and people passing from exposure risk.

**Vet attendance**

- If the event / local vet declines or is unable to attend, the owner will be required to organise for their own treating vet, and if able to travel, leave the venue.
- If the horse is unable to travel, its welfare needs to be considered with all reasonably practicable treatment options provided.
- If the horse is deemed to be non-infectious it may be returned to regular stable and will be managed by owner/ exhibitor and attending vet (at owners' expense).

OR

- If the horse is diagnosed as being a possible biosecurity threat it is to remain in an isolation stable with minimum five-metre perimeter to other horses or passing people.
- Biosecurity Manager will contact **Emergency Disease watch hotline 1800 675888**.
- All people within the isolation zone i.e. vet, officials, owner, are to don PPE gear when tending to horse. SEG has a Biosecurity field box with equipment for handling a biosecurity threat.
- Disinfection of shoes via footbaths and strict hand hygiene to be followed.

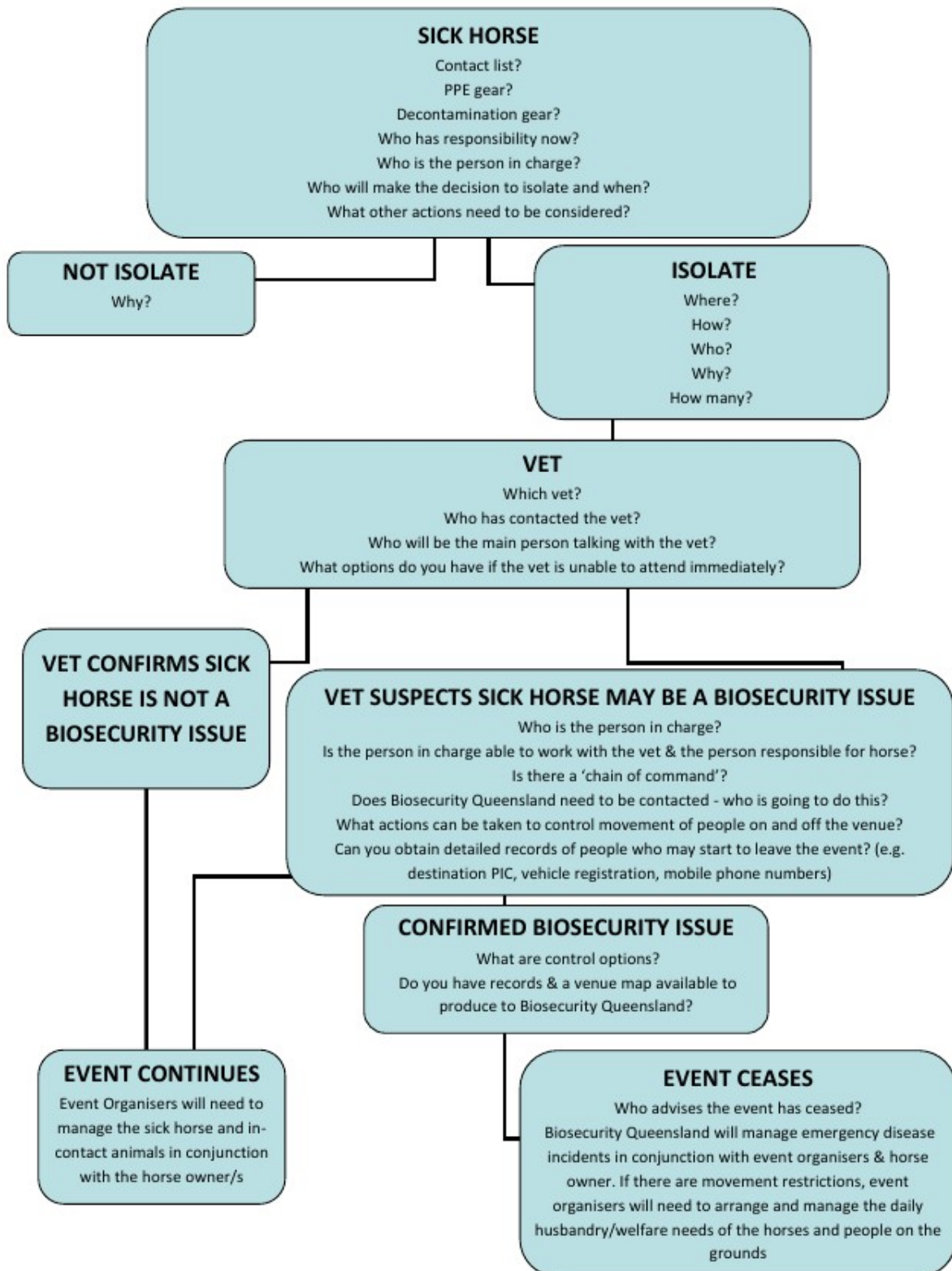
**Biosecurity issue Identified**

- Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with attending vet will contact **Biosecurity Queensland 13 25 23**.
- Biosecurity Manager will ask OC to close exit points and broadcast to all present at the venue to remain on site until further information and exit points are closed.
- Event organiser will take advice about whether to continue with the event, after discussion with Biosecurity Queensland, and advise participants of this decision.
- Horse Health Declarations for all horses on site made available to Biosecurity Queensland.
- Access to isolation area will be patrolled by Biosecurity Manager and limited to essential personnel.
- All horse movement to cease unless authorised by Biosecurity Queensland.

### **Lockdown**

- Biosecurity Queensland will advise if a total lockdown of the venue is required and the event organising committee will advise participants of this decision.
- The Biosecurity Manager will regularly check entry/exit points to ensure anyone leaving the venue is given an exit notice and their vehicle registration is noted.
- The Biosecurity Manager will make arrangements for waste removal if required.
- The event organiser will arrange for fodder to be available for purchase by participants.
- Further shavings will be arranged by the Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with the venue and be available for purchase by participants.
- Biosecurity Queensland will advise the Biosecurity Manager and participants of any further protocols required.
- The Biosecurity Manager in conjunction with the organising committee will arrange removal and disposal of deceased animals if required.

## BIOSECURITY CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR SUSPECT BIOSECURITY RISK





## COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notification of all affected parties is a critical component for an effective infectious disease control plan.

Development of a clear, concise and accurate message about a situation, the measures being taken and the procedures for event participants to follow is critical to prevent the spread of disease and panic among event participants and the general horse-owning public.

This plan outlines the communication protocols and the range of biosecurity messages for participants before the event, for all attendees during the event, including if there is a biosecurity incident.

### BEFORE THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Person responsible
Biosecurity is everyone's business. All horse owners and riders have a biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant. Participants expected to ensure good biosecurity practices at home, and at the event and act at the direction of the organising committee and Biosecurity Manager.	All event participants, their parents, coaches and teachers.	Fact sheet	Via nominate.com with event draw	OC to arrange distribution

### DURING THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Person responsible
OC has measures in place to mitigate risk of infection, disease and pests. In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, biosecurity plan will be implemented. Participants will be notified about the incident and expected to follow the directions given by the OC. Everyone will be expected to remain at the venue until cleared to leave by the OC.	Participants Everyone at venue	Fact sheet A3 poster	Handed to all participants on arrival / collection of rider packs  Posted on gate and other visible points at venue	BM to provide signage to OC  Contact person is BM.



In the event of horse movement restrictions participants are responsible for the care, maintenance and cost of their horses and themselves, including feeding, bedding, vets and personal needs.				
Information and tips for good biosecurity practices	Everyone at the venue	Signage as per examples in this plan	Posted throughout venue	OC/BM

### **DURING THE EVENT IF THERE IS A BIOSECURITY THREAT/ INCIDENT**

In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, the Biosecurity Manager will:

1. Advise the organising committee of the situation.
2. Meet with the directly affected parties to advise the actions to be taken, including isolating the horse/s, contacting vet and authorities.
3. Contact the emergency disease hotline.
4. Identify all parties who may have had contact with the sick horse.
5. Act as the main point of contact between the authorities and the organising committee.
6. Prepare media/public statements as required.

The organising committee will:

1. Arrange for event staff to be stationed at venue exit points.
2. Provide staff at exits with equipment to take car/truck registration details of anyone who leaves the site, and information sheets to hand to people in exiting vehicles.
3. Advise all attendees at the event via public address system that a biosecurity matter is being investigated, the horse/s have been isolated, and authorities have been called.
4. Ask all people to stay well clear of the isolation area and request everyone to remain on site until further notice.
5. Advise everyone updates will be provided as soon as information comes to hand.
6. Invite attendees to come to registration desk if they have any questions.
7. Brief key messengers.
8. Arrange for notices to be produced and placed on vehicles on the grounds if required.

<b>Key messages</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Communication tools</b>	<b>Communication channels</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>
OC is managing a potential biosecurity matter. There is a plan that will be enacted for the safety of every person and horse on site. Horse /s have been isolated, authorities have been called. Everyone asked to stay well	All attendees at event	Verbal	PA system Key messengers	OC

away from isolation area. Please do not leave the venue without discussion with OC. Participants will be kept updated. Questions to the registration desk. Monitor your horse's health - what to look for.		Written	Notice might be given to all people leaving venue and placed on all vehicles at venue	BM to organise copies of notice. OC to distribute.
Status update of situation - particularly advising people when they can leave venue	All attendees	Verbal Written	PA system Key messengers  Notes on vehicles	OC
<b>If there is confirmed biosecurity threat</b>	All attendees General Public	Written statement Posts	Media Social media	<b>Biosecurity Qld / DAF Media</b>

#### AFTER THE EVENT

Key messages	Audience	Communication tools	Communication channels	Person responsible
Outcome of the biosecurity incident	Attendees Equestrian community General Public	Statement	Media Social media EQ website	<b>Biosecurity Qld/ DAF Media</b>
	Authorities	Written report		BM

## BIOSECURITY INFORMATION FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

### Workplace health and safety requirements

Horse Industry associations that conduct a business or undertaking have duties under work health and safety legislation to ensure the health and safety of themselves, their workers and other persons so far as is reasonably practicable. Risks to health and safety must be eliminated so far as is reasonably practicable. If this is not reasonably practicable, the risks must be minimised so far as is reasonably practicable.

A horse event may be a workplace for some persons but not others. Events must:

- provide and maintain a work environment without risks to health and safety
- provide and maintain safe plant and structures
- provide and maintain safe systems of work
- ensure the safe use, handling, and storage of plant, structures and substances
- provide adequate facilities (including hand hygiene and first aid facilities) for the welfare at work of workers including ensuring access to those facilities
- provide any information, training, instruction or supervision that is necessary to protect all persons from risks to their health and safety.

The Safework Australia – Essential Guide to Work Health and Safety for Volunteers is available at:

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/book/essential-guide-work-health-and-safety-volunteers>

### Biosecurity management

Biosecurity risks can be reduced by taking steps to:

- a. prevent introduction of disease onto grounds
- b. prevent the spread of disease on the grounds
- c. minimise the effect and spread of a disease incident within the ground

#### ***Prevention of introduction of disease onto grounds***

##### *Biosecurity policy and manager*

Measures include adopting biosecurity policies as outlined at beginning of this plan, appointing a biosecurity manager for the club, and ensuring good record keeping.

##### *Record keeping*

Horse Health Declarations should be kept by the biosecurity manager for six months after the event.

The Property Identification Code (PIC) of horse's origin and property it is returning to must be on the Horse Health Declaration. It is a legal requirement that all horse owners must apply to register their property with Biosecurity Queensland.

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/land-management/>

[pic](#)

Records should be kept of any volunteer/staff training activities the club or organisation has undertaken as it relates to activities/roles individuals are expected to perform during events or in the advent of a biosecurity outbreak.

Reviews and updates of any procedures or of your Biosecurity Plan should also be recorded and amendments noted on all such documents as soon as the reviews are completed.

It is prudent to lodge these documents on your club or organisation website for all to see, as well as giving specific notice to them in newsletters, social media links or the like.

### ***Prevention of spread of disease on the grounds***

#### *Venue*

Venue planning should include:

- placement of hand washing facilities and sanitiser at strategic, prescribed areas e.g. near the toile shower block, horse wash area, waste disposal area, isolation area, etc.
- an isolation area for sick horses
- restricted entry/exit points for spectators and participants
- restricted access to isolation areas
- location of food preparation and dining areas away from animal contact areas
- identification of trees on-site that are attractive to flying foxes and restriction of access to these areas while the trees are flowering/fruitleting and attracting flying foxes
- covering feed and water troughs and not placing these under trees
- installing surfaces, equipment, fittings and materials that can be readily cleaned and disinfected
- good general ventilation
- design of traffic management systems and vehicle parking and delivery points for spectators, participants, vendors, tradespersons, and emergency vehicles
- design of horse movement corridors within the facility
- design of waste management points and waste water management
- pest and vector control
- placement of biosecurity signage.

#### *People*

- Signage should inform visitors and participants of the importance of biosecurity at the event.
- Specific biosecurity information should be included on event entries for all entrants to see.
- People should be encouraged to minimise (as much as practicable) contact with horses; in particular other people's horses.
- Horse carers should be encouraged to restrict public access to their horses as much as practicable.
- Horse handlers should be urged to regularly use hand sanitiser.
- The use of a detergent/disinfectant when cleaning equipment is recommended.
- Hand hygiene signage should be visible at all times.
- All officials should wash hands or apply hand sanitiser between contacting different horses or between classes where practicable and ensure any organic matter present is cleaned off hands or equipment prior to sanitisation.

- Where possible people should not camp in close proximity to where the horses are stabled, nor should horses be in close proximity to where people are cooking and eating.

#### *Vehicles*

- Every effort should be made to ensure the cleanliness of vehicles/floats entering the venue.
- All local regulations en-route regarding the transport of plant material, seeds, weed control, etc must be adhered to.

#### *Horses*

- No communal water troughs should be supplied.
- Contact with other horses and animals) on the grounds should be minimised (as much as practicable)
- Encourage people not to share their horse's water, feed containers or equipment. If this must happen, they should clean and disinfect gear between horse use.
- Feed and water should be kept under cover and away from trees to prevent contamination from birds/flying foxes.

#### *Manure*

- Stables/yards should be kept clean of manure and feed scraps on a regular basis during an event, clinic or training days. This should be drawn to the attention of all concerned.
- Where possible, efforts are to be made to pick up manure from communal walkways and exercise areas as soon as possible.
- Manure is to be disposed of in designated 'manure' sites around the grounds.

#### *Dogs*

- Dogs are not a preferred option at events.
- If they are attending, dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and should be permitted in the camping areas only.
- It is the owner's responsibility to pick up and dispose of dog droppings.

#### *Fodder (for interstate participants)*

- Any feed brought into the venue from Interstate must comply with Department requirements and a fodder declaration must be completed if required. Further information is at: <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/moving-plants-and-plant-products/into-or-within-queensland/bringing-fodder-or-hay-into-queensland>

### **Minimising the effect and spread of a disease incident within the grounds**

#### *Veterinarian*

- A designated veterinarian/isolation yard should be supplied.
- A veterinarian should be on call.
- A disposal area to bury or burn deceased horses should be organised prior to the event. This may be offsite. If this is the case a plan will need to be developed as to how the carcass will be transported to the burial site. (Ensure that you advise the horse disposal contractors of any potential human health risks if a horse is suspected, or confirmed to be infected, with a zoonotic disease).

### *Site map*

A site map should include:

- entry and exit point/s
- isolation area
- Stabling
- public access
- public parking
- participants' parking
- designated exercise/warm up areas
- event activities
- manure disposal area
- other waste areas (e.g. feed, soiled bedding, clinical waste including sharps)
- location of cleaning agents, disinfectant
- location of hand washing basins and hand sanitisers
- location of first aid kits
- location of PPE Kit
- water sources
- a traffic flow/movement of people information (spectators, participants and officials), vehicles, animals
- and emergency vehicles for safe exiting of the venue.

Further information about horse movements, biosecurity concerns and documentation requirements in Queensland is <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/animal-biosecurity-welfare/animal-health-pests-diseases/horses>