

Biosecurity Plan – Prevention and Control

*This document supports meeting Part A – General Conditions (Schedule 2 of the Regulations)
9.0 Protection from Pain, Suffering, Injury and Disease(9.1 (a) (iv) the prevention and control of the spread of disease (v)
monitoring and ensuring the health and welfare of all the animals and 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6*

Solihull Riding Club

Biosecurity Plan – Prevention and control of spread of disease

Centre protocol

Hygiene measures are implemented to maintain biosecurity and help with prevention of spread of equine infectious and contagious diseases.

Any horse showing suspected infectious/contagious diseases for example, high temperature (off food and lethargic), diarrhoea, nasal discharge, lumps /abscess under jaws, new coughs and skin lesions suggestive of ringworm will be isolated following our isolation procedure and following monitoring and observation the vet will be called for advice/visit

In the event of confirmation of contraction of infectious contagious diseases, a communication plan will be adapted in agreement with Veterinary advice and will consider the following aspects:

- Staff and clients (human footfall)
- Possible routes of transmission
- If the disease is notifiable (required by law to be reported to government authorities)
- If the disease is zoonotic, for example salmonella, clostridia, ringworm etc (can be passed from animals to humans)
- Adaptions re facilitating competitions/events on site
- Any necessary restrictions upon horse movements on/off site
- Notify other Equestrian businesses/centres in the locality

A record is kept of horses that are isolated. The information comprises:

- horse details (name, owner details etc.)
- date of arrival into/leaving Isolation
- reason for Isolation
- background information
- veterinary visits (dates/notes)
- medication, staff comments and initials

Isolation facility and procedures

Horses requiring isolation at Solihull Riding Club are to follow the following procedure:

- Horse requiring isolation to be stabled in the temporary green stabling at the rear of the second indoor school. Any other horses using this block to be relocated into other stables in the main block and therefore remaining separate to main stabling
- Allocation of a grazing area at the bottom of “Daffodils” can be used to ensure any horse requiring isolation has no contact with other
- Ensuring restricted access through erecting specific signage or positioning of cones/tape etc
- Isolation any objects that have had contact with the horse to include tack and equipment such as grooming brushes, stable cleaning implements, buckets, feeders, water supply
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all equipment that has had contact with the isolated horse

- Owner or livery yard owner to provide isolation kit with designated supplies including:
 - separate horse supplies to be used only on the isolated horse- headcollar, lead, thermometer
 - separate stabling supplies- buckets, feed tub, pitch fork, wheelbarrow
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)- disinfectant (eg Virkon) foot bath, hand sanitizer, disposable gloves, designated coveralls, and boot covers or designated boots to be left in the isolation area.

Preventative biosecurity measures

Staffing

- all staff are made aware of cleaning regimes in order to maintain good standards of yard hygiene, including use of PPE and washing hands etc.
- suitably experienced staff that are trained and proficient in biosecurity measures have designated responsibility to undertake the care and monitoring of health of any newly isolated horses
- separate, protective clothing and footwear is used when dealing with isolated horses

Horses

- visiting horses will be stabled/field kept away from resident herd
- visiting horses will have had appropriate vaccinations and be accompanied by their equine passport to evidence currency (as required) per SRC Vaccination Policy

In the event of an outbreak

Increased biosecurity measures, barrier nursing (taking extra precautions to ensure the disease cannot spread) will be undertaken to help contain any diseases and minimise spreading within the yard and beyond.

- Horses showing signs of infectious or contagious disease e.g. cough, coloured nasal discharge, fever (>38.5oC), skin lesions (e.g. ringworm) will be isolated immediately
- Appropriate staff will be allocated with direct responsibility
- The horse(s) will be placed in strict quarantine and isolated with a boundary of 20m “airspace” in an area where there is not contact with other horses
- Veterinary advice will be sought and followed
- The horse will be monitored with regards to TPR, appetite and any adaptations to diet/exercise will be made
- The effected horse will be cared for after non-infected horses to reduce the likelihood of disease transmission.
- All horses on the yard will have increased monitoring through observation and taking temperatures - ensuring thermometers are disinfected between horses
- A record of dates and names of horses that have had contact with the isolated horse will be made and these will be considered as potential ‘risk’ horses (as next point)
- A traffic light system will be implemented – colour code horses into groups eg
Red for those that have had direct contact with the ill horse
Amber for those that have been near the ill horse
Green for those that have had no contact with the horse
- Veterinary advice will be sought and followed on any retesting for clearance (depending upon situation) and returning to routine management
- Overalls will be worn to care for the isolated horse, with full barrier nursing in place.
- All equipment will be disinfected after the incident has been resolved
- The isolation stable will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with a Defra approved disinfectant and the bedding appropriately disposed of