



**All ESP Comments / Applied Methods/ and Actions as of 12.9.22 are in Red Text**

## **Guidance for Operating USEF-Licensed Competitions in the COVID-19 Environment**

**New Edition: December 9, 2022**

### **C. General**

**USEF-Licensed competitions must operate in accordance with state and local requirements for COVID-19, if in place. In the absence of state or local requirements, USEF recommends compliance with CDC guidelines. In an effort to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19, Competition Organizers may impose more restrictive requirements if they so choose.**

ESP has been instrumental in helping develop these protocols with USEF since the March 2020 shutdown. We have very diligently studied and applied actions for all requirements based on our operations and facilities. We have also enhanced and added additional protocols that we feel are best for the general welfare of our exhibitors. We have been in close contact with local authorities - and any competition held at our facility will be with their knowledge and support. ESP completed the WHO Mass Gathering for Sport Risk Assessment Tool during April 2020. We are considered low risk with an impressive mitigation score of 86%.

As of 12.9.22 neither our state or local authorities do not require social distancing or Face masks. Face masks are now optional indoors and outdoors on the competition grounds. Good judgement should be taken to avoid very close contact to the extent possible.

Additionally, competition organizers are encouraged to implement all recommendations for mitigating risks related to the COVID-19 virus.

All rings continue to have handwashing sinks with antibacterial soap and disposable towels. Automatic hand sanitizer dispensers are also at very ring and placed throughout the property.

It is recommended that USEF Competition Organizers work with local governments and public health authorities prior to the start of the competition to determine the current [Community Level](#) of COVID infection in the area in which the competition is occurring. Competition Organizers are encouraged to consult their insurers and legal counsel as well.

If competition organizers have any questions, please contact Katlynn Wilbers by email at [kwilbers@usef.org](mailto:kwilbers@usef.org) or by phone at (859) 225-6981.

## D. Agreements

• As is outlined in the USEF Competition License Agreement, ensure that all participants, licensed officials, and volunteers, provide emergency contact information and execute state-specific [Waiver and Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement](#) required by USEF, as a condition of participation. If a state-specific waiver is not available, please use the [general version](#) of the form.

## E. Access •

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

Competition organizers may want to consider prohibiting access to the grounds, regardless of vaccination status for those individuals who:

- Exhibit [COVID-19 symptoms](#), including a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher,
- Have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 5 days, or
- Have tested positive outside of the past 5 days, but are still symptomatic.

All persons entering competition grounds Acknowledge and agree to the following:

## IF YOU PROCEED PAST THIS ENTRY POINT YOU ATTEST TO THE FOLLOWING:

I am NOT experiencing any possible COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea);

I have NOT tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 5 days.

I agree to comply with all organizer requirements for attendance, including but not limited to wearing a face mask/face covering (as situations require), social distancing and frequent hand-washing.

I understand I can be removed from competition grounds for non-compliance of spectator protocols.

I acknowledge that the inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending this equestrian competition, I voluntarily assume all risks related to COVID-19 exposure and agree not to hold the competition, its organizers, or any of its directors, officers, staff, agents, contractors, or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.

For additional information, please refer to the CDC's [Isolation and Precautions](#) web page.

## Guidance for Competition Organizers

### F. Signage

- Competition Organizers are urged to post signage on their website, in their prize list, and throughout the competition grounds, regarding competition COVID protocols or recommendations.

Signs posted at every entrance. Current ESP COVID-19 action plan 12.9.22 on website and updated as needed.

Guidance for Competitions Organizers – *continued*

- Additionally, Competition Organizers are strongly encouraged to post the following signage at all entrances to the competition grounds as well as throughout the competition grounds:

Signs posted at every entrance.

- **USEF Poster: *STOP! If you proceed past this entry point, you attest to the following***
- **Sample poster: *Symptoms of Coronavirus Disease***

### G. Suggestions for Facilities, Staff, Service Providers & Volunteers

- Service providers, staff, volunteers and others are recommended to comply with the following:
  - Register with the competition organizer, and;
  - Sign a [waiver](#) provided by the organizer.
- **All Participants, Staff and Officials are required to sign the USEF Waiver and Release of Liability**
- **Cleaning/Sanitizing the environment**
  - Provide hand sanitization stations with access to soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the competition grounds. **All rings continue to have**

handwashing sinks with antibacterial soap and disposable towels. Automatic hand sanitizer dispensers are also at every ring and placed throughout the property.

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- Provide hand sanitizer to all officials, ring crew, office staff and maintenance staff.

All rings continue to have handwashing sinks with antibacterial soap and disposable towels. Automatic hand sanitizer dispensers are also at every ring and placed throughout the property.

- Ensure frequent cleaning and sanitizing of bathrooms, provide soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer in bathrooms.
- Encourage all competitors to complete entry forms, in their entirety, including having all requisite memberships in place, prior to entering the competition office. In May 2020 we introduced electronic entries to be made and signed remotely. As always, ESP exhibitors can manage all of their entries online through our ShowGroundsLive.com.
- Strongly encourage that all entries, adds, scratches, feed & bedding orders, billing/invoicing are done electronically. Our SGL software has always allowed for adds, scratches, viewing bills and making payments remotely. With these features there is little reason that would require someone to visit the office. All feed and bedding are handled through Gold Coast Feed. Phone in orders are the primary means of ordering.
- Install clear plastic, glass or other type of protective shield/barrier in front of office staff. This has been built and installed in the show offices.
- Provide hand sanitizer near the door. This is provided at entry door and inside exit door.
- Provide an 'in' door and an 'out' door, if possible. There is a separate entrance and exit door available and marked for the show office.
- Prepare and email competitor bills as early as possible. SGL online close out capability provided. You may also request bills to be printed in advance by emailing Jennifer Glosson @ [jglosson@equestriansport.com](mailto:jglosson@equestriansport.com) or Hali Miller @ [CASEY255@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CASEY255@GMAIL.COM) or any other secretary of their choice by direct contact.
- Establish appointment times for check out at the competition office. SGL online close out capability provided. You may also request bills to be printed in advance by emailing Jennifer Glosson @ [jglosson@equestriansport.com](mailto:jglosson@equestriansport.com) or Hali Miller @ [CASEY255@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CASEY255@GMAIL.COM) or any other secretary of their choice by direct contact.

## Guidance for All Persons

### H. General

USEF-Licensed competitions must operate in accordance with state and local requirements for COVID-19, if in place. In the absence of state or local requirements, USEF recommends compliance with CDC guidelines. In an effort to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19, Competition Organizers may impose more restrictive requirements if they so choose.

All persons entering competition grounds Acknowledge and agree to the following:

## **IF YOU PROCEED PAST THIS ENTRY POINT YOU ATTEST TO THE FOLLOWING:**

I am NOT experiencing any possible COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea);

I have NOT tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 5 days.

I agree to comply with all organizer requirements for attendance, including but not limited to wearing a face mask/face covering (as situations require), social distancing and frequent hand-washing.

I understand I can be removed from competition grounds for non-compliance of spectator protocols.

I acknowledge that the inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending this equestrian competition, I voluntarily assume all risks related to COVID-19 exposure and agree not to hold the competition, its organizers, or any of its directors, officers, staff, agents, contractors, or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.

### **I. Access**

- All persons entering competition grounds are recommended to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms daily prior to entering the competition grounds

- Individuals are strongly urged to avoid entering the competition grounds regardless of vaccination status, if they:
- Exhibit [COVID-19 symptoms](#), including a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher,
- Have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 5 days, or
- Have tested positive outside of the past 5 days, but are still symptomatic.

For additional information, please refer to the CDC's [Isolation and Precautions](#) web page. **J.**

### **Additional Monitoring Guidelines for Individuals**

- Strongly encourage all individuals to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms daily and report any symptoms immediately.
- If you suspect COVID-19 infection or exposure to a COVID-19 infected individual, request that the exposed/infected individual consult the [CDC website](#) and follow the recommended protocols, including getting tested.
- It is recommended that all individuals who choose to travel together in the same vehicle to a competition be up to date on their vaccinations and are free of COVID-19 symptoms prior to getting into the vehicle.

### **K. Suggestions for Cleaning & Sanitizing**

- Utilize hand sanitizer and encourage regular handwashing for all barn staff and other personnel.
- As it is a universal bio-security best practice regardless of the communicable disease type, **do not** mix equipment (tack, grooming supplies, water buckets, lead shanks, etc.) and **do** sanitize between each use.
- Regularly sanitize bikes/motorbikes/golf carts/car & truck door handles, stable doors, bucket handles, light switches, etc., and equipment including tack, grooming, feeding, stall cleaning materials, etc.