



POLICY FOR ENHANCED SAFETY AT COMPETITIONS DURING THE EHV-1 OUTBREAK

Effective for all EC sanctioned Events held as of July 1st, 2021.

The Equestrian Canada (EC) Policy for Enhanced Safety at Competitions During the EHV-1 Outbreak (“Policy”) is intended to assist organizers/managers of EC sanctioned competitions and other in-person events (“Events”) and Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations (PTSOs) in deciding how to hold Events while limiting the risk of transmission and further spread of Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1).

This Policy has been developed with guidance of technical and medical experts, veterinarians and equestrian community stakeholders.

This Policy is issued according to the EC Board decision on April 19, 2021, and applies to all Events held as of July 1, 2021, until further notice. EC will continue to make updates to this Policy as and when necessary, as the situation relating to EHV-1 evolves and best practices are identified or amended.

Sanctioning Requirements

In addition to the standard sanctioning requirements for competitions (see EC [Competition Administration Policy](#)), there will be additional safety/EHV-1 related requirements.

- 1. Access to Veterinary Services:** To support the enhanced safety of all equine participants, Competition Organizers/Managers must declare on the Competition Application Form that an on-call agreement exists with a veterinarian for the duration of the competition.
- 2. Prevention and Response Plan:** Every Competition Organizer/Manager must have a plan to minimize the potential risk of introduction and spread of EHV-1, including communicating necessary biosecurity education and expectations to participants. Submission of a self-assessment is required for each competition through an online questionnaire covering the following pieces:
 - Event Biosecurity Plan
 - Event Disease Isolation and Response Plan
- 3. EC Policy and Local Legislation:** All measures implemented by Competition Organizers/Managers in accordance with this Policy must consider and comply with the applicable legislation and policies from the local livestock health government agency.

EC retains the right to withhold sanctioning where requirements have not been met in full in accordance with EC’s Competition Administration Policy, Section 4.5.



In support of Competition Organizers/Managers, Competition Organizers/Managers have the right to require an individual who refuses to comply with the established risk mitigation plan to leave the Event site.

This Policy does not supersede applicable legislation and policies from local government and health authorities.