



## Equine Herpes Protocol as at 23 March 2021

Many of you will have heard about the outbreak of Equine Herpes (EHV) on the continent, and that there have been a couple of cases in England. We are taking action as a precautionary measure, which in light of Covid I am sure you will agree is a positive way forward.

To that end, trainers and owners will be asked to confirm understanding of the below information concerning EHV when registering for a ticket, and the fixtures will also be taking action to ensure a biosecure environment on course. The aim is to cause as little extra work as possible whilst demonstrating that we are taking sensible precautions both on the course and in yards.

**Participants** are asked to be vigilant at home and run a biosecure system which reduces/prevents transmission through either horse or human. To come racing they will have to understand and adhere to the following statements:

Please confirm your horse(s) entered to run currently shows none of the clinical signs listed:

- recent cough of unknown cause
- recent nasal discharge of unknown cause
- enlarged lymph nodes
- fever (>38.5oC)
- recent onset of neurological signs of unknown cause
- diarrhoea

Please confirm the following statements. Your horse(s) entered to run:

- is not under current investigation for EHV infection.
- has not been in contact with and is not kept on the same premises as a horse known to have or be under investigation for EHV.
- ~~has been resident in the UK for the last 28 days.~~ Repealed until further notice.

Please agree to the following statements:

- All horse(s) that you are bringing will have temperature taken shortly before travel and will not travel should the temperature reading be >38.5oC
- That you maintain proper biosecurity measures at your yard and at the races, reducing any chance of compromise by human transmission
- All horses in your yard are free from disease or symptoms given above

**Fixtures** are to ensure systems are in place to reduce risk of transmission when on racecourse as was done for Equine Influenza (except for paperwork). Most of those should already be being applied due to Covid but issues particularly worth considering are:

- Access to communal water in box park. Taps etc?
- Use of communal buckets etc for cooling horses. All too often these are used to give horses a drink. Please ensure they are cleaned between races.