



# Biosecurity and equine events

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**Queensland**  
Government



## Acknowledgement of First Nations peoples

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and I pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

I extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

## Why biosecurity?

- Everyone has a responsibility to ensure good biosecurity – before, during and after an event
- Biosecurity at an equine event is about taking precautions to minimise the risk of introducing infectious diseases
- You may not see the risk until it's too late!





## What is a biosecurity plan?

A plan that outlines the precautions taken to minimise the risk of pests and diseases

A biosecurity plan should be developed to suit your **event** and your **venue**

## Considerations

- provision for a vet to be on call during the event
- a way to make emergency phone calls
- a plan to minimise public access to stable areas
- separate vehicle parking for competitors and spectators
- single entry and exit to grounds
- adequate hand-washing facilities
- a designated isolation area (or stable) for sick horses
- good hygiene practice between horses that is supported by officials and stewards (e.g. gear check)
- a contingency plan if stock standstill (lockdown) is declared.



## Principles of a biosecurity plan

- **Prevention** of the introduction of disease onto the event grounds, training facility or private property
- **Prevention** of the spread of disease within the event grounds or elsewhere
- **Minimising** the effect and spread of a disease incident



## Risks

*THINK: What is your biosecurity risks? How could it enter the grounds?  
What is the outcome of that risk, should it be apparent?*



- **Horse to horse** contact
- **Fomites** – tack, feed/water containers, vehicles, floats, bedding
- **Other animals** – domestic, bats, birds, rodents
- **People** – competitors, event staff, spectators, farriers
- **Vectors** – mosquitoes, flies, ticks etc.
- **Air** - eg. EI moved on the wind
- **Feed and water supplies.**



## Prevention

*Once you have identified your risks, what action can you take to minimise or eliminate that risk?*

### Establish your rules

- Don't allow sick horses on to your grounds.
- Sick horses to be vet checked, isolated and potentially removed
- Any suspicion of illness **MUST** be reported to organisers or officials.
- Participants must obey the directions of the person in charge.
- All parties must understand and agree to comply with event rules prior to entry to the grounds.
- All participants must understand that if there is a horse disease incident, they may be subject to movement restrictions.

## Nominate a person in charge to:

- Manage the event for the day.
- Make decisions according to your rules.
- Adhere to the agreed plan.
- Deal with stressful situations.



*Depending on your club/organisation rules, make sure this person is aware of what disciplinary powers they have should an individual not comply with requests or follow event rules.*





## Record keeping

Event organisers must have record keeping system in place.  
In the event of a biosecurity incident, you will be asked for these records.

Include:

- where the horses/s came from
- when they arrived at the event
- a description of the horse/s including species, breed and any distinguishing feature sufficient to identify the horse/s
- the date of movement
- the person completing the record
- where the horses/s are being moved to and the name of the person receiving the horse/s when they leave the event



## Record keeping – other considerations

- Companion animals should be recorded as part of the movement record or health declaration
- In some cases, there may be a reporting requirement for other livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs)
- Be aware of your biosecurity zone – if you have competitors coming from other zones, there may be some other requirements to be met –
  - Tick declarations and requirements for documentation.
  - Fodder declarations for interstate or movement control areas ( eg. fire ants)

## Biosecurity Entity Registration

Registration helps us quickly locate animals and keep you informed in a biosecurity emergency.

Registration is free unless you keep animals for commercial purposes

Renew every 3 years.

Compliance action may be taken if you fail to register or renew



**In Queensland,  
all owners of  
livestock must  
be registered.**  
Even if you  
own just one.

Register or renew your registration at  
[qld.gov.au/BiosecurityRegistration](https://qld.gov.au/BiosecurityRegistration)  
or call 13 25 23



biosecurity.qld.gov.au  
BiosecurityQld  
biosecurityqld  
DAFQld





## But I already have a PIC?

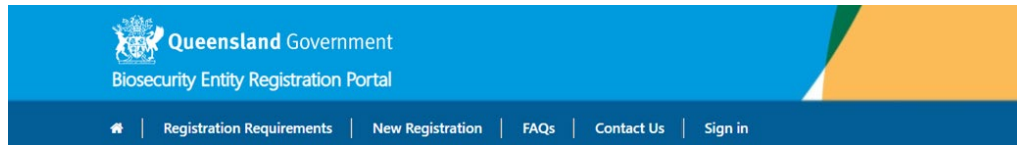
- You will be issued a Property Identification Code (PIC) when you register
  - Relates to the land where you keep your horse or pony and may differ to your residential address
  - Part of a nationally operated system allowing animals to be traced throughout Australia should an animal disease outbreak incident occurs
  - Remains with the property

# How to register

## ✓ Online Portal



- manage registration 24/7
- update information
- renew
- access NLIS order form



Sign in Redeem invitation

Sign in with an existing online account

\* Username

If you have forgotten your username, please [click here](#)

\* Password

If you have forgotten your password, please [click here](#)

☐ Remember me?

Sign in

Register New Account

## Other options

[qld.gov.au/BiosecurityRegistration](http://qld.gov.au/BiosecurityRegistration)

## ✓ Smart form

- Allows payment at time of application
- Does not allow for uploading of documents - LOA or lease agreements

## ✓ Paper form

- Can be posted or taken to DAF office for lodgement and payment



## A word on movement records

- Keep a record, either in hardcopy or electronically, every time a horse moves off the property.
- Some horse events also require a Horse Health Declaration, which can be used as a movement record.



- When moving from the cattle tick infested zone to the cattle tick free zone you must also include details of how you have inspected or treated your horse for cattle ticks.

## For competitors

### Practise good biosecurity

- Apply good hygiene. Clean equipment thoroughly.
- Do not share equipment
- Avoid use of communal water troughs.
- Avoid touching buckets when using shared hoses

### Monitor horse health


- Do not take sick horses to an event.
- Notify an official if a horse is suspected of being sick.
- Isolate the sick horse and seek veterinary advice.
- Decontaminate equipment used by the horse.



# Have an event **biosecurity management plan** in place

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

A laptop screen showing a document titled 'EVENT BIOSECURITY PLAN'. The document includes a table for event details, a paragraph explaining the plan's purpose, and a list of included items.

 **EVENT BIOSECURITY PLAN**

Name of event	
Address of the venue	
PIC of venue	
Number of exit and entry points	
Date of first arrivals and last departures	From:                      To:
Event Organiser and phone number	
Event Biosecurity Manager	
Site map attached.	

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. Biosecurity policy
3. Details of biosecurity kit and equipment required to be available at event
4. Biosecurity contingency plan





Questions?

