



the **showing council**

Blueprint

**Guidance for the
Resumption of Showing**

GUIDANCE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF SHOWING – 04V

Introduction and Background

In recent months, the pandemic caused by COVID-19 has spread rapidly across the world causing considerable ill health, deaths and widespread disruption to the normal functioning of society which has necessitated significant changes to everyday life.

All competitive showing in Great Britain was suspended from 18 March 2020. It has been agreed by The Showing Council that affiliated showing should resume when it is safe and appropriate to do so, with the support of Government and in-line with the gradual easing of restrictions. Member bodies of The Showing Council have collaborated to develop a blueprint for this process.

The objective of this document is to support show secretaries and show venues in preparing their operational plans to mitigate risk to health of personnel required to deliver shows. **The operational requirements will be different for each show venue**, and the detail within this document is designed to provide suggestions and tools to assist secretaries in developing their own plans, and to enable a consistency of approach in relevant areas so as to enable more efficient communication, implementation and adoption of new working practices. The proposals within this document are not mandatory and **it is IMPERATIVE that each secretary considers the detail within this document in-line with their own site, circumstances, requirements and risk assessments, to ensure that the processes and procedures they implement are appropriate for their venue.**

This document should not be read in isolation but should be considered in conjunction with Government guidance on relevant issues.

Please note the current event guidance on the EIF website at www.eventsindustryforum.co.uk
By registering at no cost on this web site show organisers will constantly have access to the up to date guidance to which these notes and brief is supplementary.

This document is intended as a guide for showing. This is intended as an evolving document and will be constantly updated, so please check the version you are using.

These guidelines were facilitated through meetings with a number of The Showing Council member bodies with the aim of creating a useful document for all member bodies and beyond.

This guidance relates to England. Further restrictions currently remain in place for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

General

1. Guidance must be adhered to by show organisers until such time as government restrictions change. This must be in addition to and support the shows risk assessment plan which should specifically include a Covid19 risk assessment, to minimise the risk of infection/transmission. Examples of such risk assessments are available from the Showing Council. The Risk Assessment of the Organiser **MUST** be compatible with and work alongside the Event Venues Risk Assessment.
2. Each show must confirm with their insurers that they will be staging a competition and liaise with them regarding any requirements they may have of the venue.
3. Regulations and guidance must be shared with exhibitors in the schedule.
4. No equipment should be shared on the day between exhibitors or officials.
5. A Rider must not ride for multiple stables at a single show.

6. A Covid-19 officer is strongly recommended. A course can be taken online at <https://www.virtual-college.co.uk/courses/health-and-safety/prevent-covid-19>. This person should have authority to ensure social distancing is maintained, with the support of the societies. Anyone not adhering to social distancing WILL be reported to the appropriate Society.
7. Recommend Covid-19 signage on site encouraging social distancing and regular hand washing. Examples of where this may be necessary include the secretarial area and the side of the ring, or anywhere that a queue might form.
8. Hand sanitisers or wipes should be available for use at entrance/exit to venue/facility where possible.
9. It is recommended that if the show secretary's office is open to competitors a Perspex screen is installed.
10. Anyone who is symptomatic or suspects they have been exposed to the virus should not take part in any activities and remain at home. People classified high risk by the NHS guidance should be discouraged from attending shows.
11. If permitted on the showground, dogs MUST remain on leads at all times.
12. The number of people on site at any one time must be restricted in accordance with government guidelines, with consideration given to the implementation of social distancing measures.
13. **Outdoor events, that are organised by businesses, charitable organisations, and public bodies, may have more than 30 attendees provided (i) they have carried out a thorough risk assessment and (ii) taken all reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of viral transmission, taking into account that risk assessment, in line with Covid-19 Secure guidance.**
14. **This includes ensuring that social distancing between different households or support bubbles is maintained at all times, and between staff and performers. In addition, those operating venues or running events following Covid-19 Secure guidance should take additional steps to ensure the safety of the public and prevent large gatherings or mass events from taking place.**
15. It is recommended that ALL Organisers ensure that their sufficient personnel available that are aware and can manage the show in the event of one of the organising team requiring testing as a result of a contact or feeling unwell and becoming infected with Covid 19.
16. **Current official guidelines restrict classes to be no bigger than groups of 6 (5 competitors and 1 judge) as of 6th July 2020.**

First Aid Provision

17. The number of first aiders must be suitable for the personnel on site, and all first aiders must have appropriate PPE in line with current Government advice.

Veterinary and Farrier Provision

18. Where a vet or farrier is located on the showground, social distancing measures should be adhered to so far as is possible, and appropriate PPE worn. Generally, this is accepted as being a surgical face mask, as it is recognised that further PPE is not appropriate in the vicinity of horses for this type of work.
19. Random testing for illegal substances will still be in operation, and the vet taking the sample will wear appropriate PPE. The rider or handler must hold the horse for testing and not give to a third party.

Pre-Arrival

Entries

20. All entries must be in advance of the day. No substitutions on the day. This is to reduce contact in secretary areas and to help with timetabling.

21. Online entries are encouraged. The handling of cash on the day is discouraged. Total entry numbers accepted will be dependent on venue capacity. Consideration should be given to the parking area to ensure sufficient space for social distancing, the warm-up area and ring capacities.
22. No horses/ponies may be brought to the showground that is not competing, or is a travelling companion.

Numbers

23. No back numbers to be collected on the day of the show to avoid unnecessary congestion in the secretarial area. Suggestions regarding back numbers include show secretaries emailing numbers to be printed by exhibitor, exhibitors providing their own back number (or bridle number) or numbers posted out in advance of the show.

It is advised that show secretaries also provide a template document to be completed by the competitor in advance, listing names and addresses of all attendees and vehicle registration numbers. In line with GDPR requirements, this information will not be shared beyond the show secretary and security provision, however it is a condition of entry that the information could be provided to outside authorities if a Track and Trace situation becomes necessary.

Notification of attendees including Organising Team Judges Officials and Volunteers

24. At least 24 hours ahead of show day, names and addresses of ALL those attending must be submitted to the show secretary, along with vehicle registrations which should be checked on arrival. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor named on the entry form to ensure that the correct information is provided. No changes can be made on the day, and anyone not previously notified to the secretary will be prohibited from entering the showground.
25. A maximum of 3 people may attend the show per horse. This includes the rider. Under 18s must have a parent or guardian with them.
26. No members of the public to be admitted to the showground.

Final class times

27. At least 24 hours ahead of show day, final “not before” times for classes should be shared with exhibitors

Arrival

Parking

28. Parking in line with government and venue regulations (currently 2 meters as of 25/6/2020)
29. Parking areas should be supervised to ensure social distancing is observed with space left for safe loading and unloading of horses. These locations should also display Show Layout plans and directional flow information.

Toilet Facilities and Cleaning

30. All competitors are encouraged to use the toilet facilities in their lorries/trailers.
31. Any venue toilets in use must be cleaned regularly and have hand sanitisers available and it is the responsibility of the venue to clean and provide the sanitisers.
32. “Touch points” around the showground should be regularly wiped with disinfectant. This might include gates and doors.

Catering

33. Food Outlets – Subject to Government Advice and venue restrictions.
34. Food and drink should be brought from home wherever possible (If Event venues wish to provide an on-site catering facility then it is recommended the organisers fully document this handover

of responsibility and ensure the appropriate measures are in place to manage this function as per the Event venue's guidelines and the current government regulations)

It is recommended no alcohol be brought onto site by participants. The sale of alcohol on showgrounds is not advised at this time. (If any Event venue wishes to sell alcohol then it is recommended the organisers fully document this handover of responsibility of Licencing and the respective Licensing objectives in all aspects to the Event centre.

Movement on the Showground

35. Where possible, one-way systems should be implemented to allow social distancing. This may be one entry point to each ring for horses and grooms, and one exit point.
36. One-way horse walks should be encouraged where possible with appropriate signage.
37. All pedestrian and equine walkway signage must be adhered to.

Horse Related Activity

Warm-up

38. Ensure sufficient space in the collecting ring to allow competitors to warm up while adhering to social distancing regulations. The collecting ring must be stewarded at all times.

Stabling

39. Stabling can only be provided by the show in accordance with Government guidance. (Should Event venues wish to supply their own on-site stabling then it is recommended the organisers fully document this handover of responsibility and ensure the appropriate measures are in place to manage this function as per the Event venue's own guidelines)

Judging of Classes

40. In the ring the line-up must be spaced according to current recommendations on social distancing; this will also apply to In-Hand classes.
41. No animals will be stripped for conformation.
42. No rider to dismount whilst in the ring.
43. Ride judges will not be permitted
44. Rosettes should be individually presented for the competitor to pick up themselves from a basket or on a tray that the steward will hold out. If a rosette is dropped it will be collected by the steward and taken to the secretary's office. Shows may choose to send rosettes out after the show or have a safe central point for collection after the class. Sashes and trophies should not be presented in the ring.
45. Stewards should provide their own pens and clipboards if at all possible. Any shared equipment should be thoroughly cleaned in advance of use and again before re-use.
46. Judges and stewards are advised to provide their own food and drink.

PPE

47. The use of face coverings is recommended for judges and stewards. The WHO advises against the use of face coverings for competitors but if worn they must be soft and not attached to the hat.
48. Individuals are responsible for their own PPE provision; however, it is advisable for the show organisers to keep a small stock of PPE (face masks, nitrile gloves) to use in case of emergency.
49. When social distancing is not possible, face coverings **MUST** be worn i.e. stewards, medical teams, grooms who do not reside with the rider.
50. Hand sanitisation to be available in each ring for the use of the judge and steward.

After Classes have been judged

51. Competitors must leave the showground as soon as they are finished and must remain in the vicinity of their own lorry when not competing. Socialising or watching classes in which there is no involvement should be heavily discouraged.
52. All competitors must take all litter home. There will not be any facilities to dispose of litter on the showground. No litter dropping will be tolerated at all due to the risk of contamination.
53. No mark sheets will be available at the show office but may be viewed online after the show.
54. Photographers are not permitted to run on site facilities to view and purchase photographs; any such activity must be carried out online after the event only.

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