



Mississippi Board of Animal Health  
Dr. Jim Watson, State Veterinarian  
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## **Equine Event Biosecurity Plan – Template**

Biosecurity is defined as a set of preventative measures to help prevent the introduction and transmission of infectious diseases on a premises. Biosecurity measures taken prior to, during, and after an event help keep horses healthy. A written biosecurity plan is essential for equine events; a well written plan increases compliance with biosecurity measures and standardizes practices for visitors, vehicles, feed, water, and animal movement.

### **General Description and Identification of Key Personnel and Contacts**

#### **Event Information:**

- Event Name:
- Date(s):
- First Horse Arrival Date:
- Last Horse Departure Date:
- Expected Number of Horses:

#### **Grounds/Facility Information:**

- Name of Facility:
- Location:
- Phone Number:
- Event Manager:
- Facility Manager:
- Facility Manger Phone Number:

#### **Other Contacts:**

##### **Biosecurity Coordinator:**

- The biosecurity coordinator is responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring biosecurity procedures. This individual should be familiar with the facility layout, animal housing areas, and health monitoring procedures. If not a veterinarian, consultation with an experienced equine veterinarian is recommended.



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Emergency Veterinarian (On-Call):

Phone:

Referral Clinic:

State Animal Health Official Contact:

### 1. Purpose

To prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease risks during the event.

### 2. Biosecurity Map

A biosecurity map will be created and posted at key locations. The map will identify:

- Entry and exit points
- Horse check-in location
- Stabling areas and traffic flow
- Isolation and quarantine area
- Manure disposal locations

### 3. Pre-Event Requirements

All horses entering the grounds must provide documentation of the following:

- Current Negative Coggins (EIA) within \_\_\_\_ months
- Health Certificate (CVI) issued within \_\_\_\_ days
- Vaccination records (EHV-1/4, Influenza, etc.) If requiring vaccinations, please list them here.

### 4. Entry Check-In Procedure

Upon arrival, each horse may undergo the following:

- Temperature check on arrival (performed and documented)
- Visual inspection for clinical signs (documented)
- Stall assignment issued



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## 5. Stabling & Traffic Management

Assign stalls by farm groups, avoid sharing equipment or water.

Question	Yes	No
Stalls cleaned and disinfected prior to first arrival	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stabling assignments made in advance based on biosecurity risk (e.g., common trainer/barn, age, use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stall assignment records maintained with owner/trainer contact information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horses stabled separately from other livestock (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communal water sources prohibited	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manure disposal areas clearly designated away from stabling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manure areas routinely inspected and managed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equipment sharing discouraged and cleaning/disinfection required	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry/exit points monitored 24 hours per day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 6. Event-Day Controls/Exhibitor Biosecurity Rules

- Do not touch or feed horses owned by others
- Do not share buckets, tack, feed, or water sources
- Wash or sanitize hands after handling any horse
- Prevent nose-to-nose contact between horses
- Monitor horses daily and report immediately to the show veterinarian or management, any of the following:
  - Fever
  - Coughing
  - Nasal discharge
  - Diarrhea
  - Neurologic signs
- Twice daily temperature monitoring by owners/trainers is strongly recommended

## 7. Isolation & Response Plan

Isolation Stall/Pen Location:

The isolation area should be physically separated from general stabling area and restricted access. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) should be used when dealing with isolated animals, cleaning, etc. A foot bath should be used upon entry and exit of the isolation area.



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### Triggers for isolation:

- Rectal temperature of **101.5°F (38.6°C) or above**
- Increased amount or abnormal appearance of nasal discharge, coughing, and/or enlarged lymph nodes
- Any neurological signs, stumbling, unable to stand
- Aggressive behavior, dullness, or unresponsiveness
- Profuse diarrhea
- Vesicular or ulcerative lesions of the mouth or coronary bands (sores)

### 8. Disinfection Protocol

Disinfect stalls, shared surfaces, and maintain PPE and supplies.

- Stalls cleaned and disinfected prior to event
- Manure removed daily and disposed of in designated areas
- Stall equipment disinfected between horses
- High-touch surfaces (door handles, gates) disinfected routinely
- Hand sanitizer available at barn entrances
- PPE stocked (gloves, boot covers, masks)
- Approved disinfectant prepared and available
  - Bleach solution of 1:10 dilution
  - One Stroke Environ
  - Tek-trol (phenols)
  - Virkon

### 9. Staff & Exhibitor Education

Biosecurity expectations will be communicated through:

- Pre-event emails or registration materials
- Posted signage throughout the facility
- Staff and volunteer training prior to event start

Documentation of staff biosecurity training will be maintained.

### 10. Post-Event Procedures

Owners and trainers should monitor horses for **7-14 days post-event** for signs of illness. Any fever, abnormal behavior, or clinical signs should be reported immediately to a veterinarian and, if applicable, to event management.