

TITLE:	GUIDELINE VIRTUAL EQUESTRIAN TRAINING ACTIVITIES		
Ref. No:	EA-HSMS–GL-01	Issue Date:	05/2020
Next review due:	01/2021	Version No:	V1.4
Applies to:	All EA Members, Coaches, Officials and relevant others		
Authorized by:	Andrew Hamilton, General Manager		
Related Legislation / Guidance Material:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Australian Institute of Sport 2. Sport Australia 3. EA Coaching and Officials Guidelines and Principles 			

1. OUR POLICY

Equestrian Australia is committed to:

- Maintaining horse welfare, as a priority during all human interactions
- Maintaining member engagement and participation utilizing virtual training and educational activities.
- Supporting all virtual training-coaching opportunities enabling members to be assessed, maintain and develop their individual equestrian skills
- Maintaining member health and safety despite a lack of usual controls afforded to official competition
- Providing steps and guidelines to promote healthy and safe outcomes for all participants
- Ensuring our Insurance obligations are effective despite limited face-to-face contact and interactions
- Maintaining and protecting our members, officials, judges and relevant others; privacy as required and social integrity whilst engaging a virtual platform
- Providing a fair, reasonable and equal field of play for all virtual participants
- Maintaining adherence to State, Federal, AIS and Sports Australia health and safety obligations during and beyond COVID-19.

Signed by:



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Andrew Hamilton, General Manager

Date: 25 /05 / 2020

2. KEY CONCEPT - SAFELY STAYING CONNECTED



3.0 GUIDELINES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

3.1 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

3.1.1 Discipline Activity (e.g. dressage, jumping etc.)

- Level of athlete capability vs activity participation to be no greater than pre-COVID-19 competition level or as deemed by coach
- All participants are to comply with EA's General Regulations and relevant National Sport rules
- All persons participating in the training activities shall be a current EA member
- All activity Organisers must notify a participant of any reported hazard or issue identified in a video recording, in writing to be rectified by the participant member.
- All video footage obtained is to be deleted by the official or organiser. All video footage received for the purpose of virtual training activities is not to be used for any other training, or promotional purpose.

3.1.2 Registration for Activity Participation

- Cost for participation (administration fee only)
- Coach engagement and payment for services can be negotiated
- No prizemoney, token, gift and or placing is distributed to participants

3.1.3 Other

- Primary purpose is for training-education for professional or personal development
- Relevant waiver and risk management processes completed and signed by participant
- Participant health and safety is paramount regarding ground surfaces, weather conditions, and activity constructions, suitable and appropriate equipment.
- Virtual training activities are designed to encourage members to engage in physical activity, exercise, professional/personal development.
- Participation does not contribute to any future qualification or competition

3.2 HORSE PARTICIPATION

3.2.1 Horse Welfare

- Horse 'fit to compete'
- Check ground surface area, obstacles are suitable and safe

3.2.2 Tack and Horse Gear

- All horse tack and gear needs to be same as usual competition standards
- Check helmets, spurs, boots, medication etc.

3.2.3 Abiding by Horse Welfares Standards

- Refer to FEI and EA's Code of Conduct
- Reinforce compliance with all rules

3.3 COACH/OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION

3.3.1 Individual Responsibilities

- All persons participating in the training activities shall be a current EA member, accredited coach or official
- Follow all risk management processes according to their usual face-to-face activity requirements
- In accordance with their individual accreditation level, experience and expertise.
- If a coach, official or member identifies an incident during a submitted video recording, considered to be a safety issue/welfare/risk they are required to report this to their relevant discipline committee in writing and a copy to be forwarded to the National Safety Manager (NSM) via reporting@equestrian.org.au within 24 hours for further review.
- All participants to comply with relevant State Workplace Health and Safety Legislative requirements
- All video footage obtained is to be deleted by the official or organizer. All video footage received for the purpose of virtual training activities is not to be used for any other training, or promotional purpose.

- This document (Virtual Equestrian Training Activities Guideline) is to accompany and be read in accordance with all EA's National Coaching requirements and guidelines:

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/are-ea-coaches-insured-when-coaching-athletes-live-video>

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/are-there-options-remote-coaching>

3.3.2 Payment for Services

- Coach engagement and payment for services can be negotiated

3.4 FAMILY/FRIENDS PARTICIPATION

3.4.1 Participant Support

- Have access to emergency mobile app or other suitable alternative
- Complete relevant waiver forms and other risk management documents
- Ensure adherence to all State and Federal compliance requirements regarding support persons (e.g. minimum of 1 in attendance)

3.4.2 Other requirements

- Pre-planned medical or first aid response plan
- Comply with all EA reporting requirements (e.g. concussion)

4.0 COVID-19 SPECIFIC

4.1 Personal Health and Safety

- All athletes and others are participating at their own risk. Horses are dangerous and virtual activities do not provide the usual support and organized processes of sanctioned EA competitions.
- Complete relevant waiver forms and other risk management documents (signed and submitted before activity)
- EA welcomes the participation of members in online training and educational activities during this period of COVID-19 shutdown that prevents athletes from competing. Virtual Dressage Horsesport, Virtual Showjumping Horsesport, Virtual Eventing Horsesport and online training is available so that athletes can have their training assessed while adhering to the obligations of social/physical distancing.


4.1.2 State and Federal Regulatory Requirements

- Social distancing at least 1.5m at any venue at all times including parking area
- Travel in accordance with State requirements
- Abide by current all health hygiene and pre-screening requirements
- Review suitable location-facility type in accordance with restrictions
- Complete all relevant coach or other risk assessment requirements

5.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

5.1 Training and Education (not Competition)

- This Guideline is to be read in conjunction with all EA Coaching and Official Guidelines and principles. This document only references the equestrian virtual education and training activities and forms part of EA overall Health and Safety Management System-Risk Management.
- All videoed sessions cannot be classed as a “competition”, given Official status, or used for future qualifications, leaderboard calculations or annual awards. However they can be used for training purposes with review and feedback provided by a judge.
- Due to the lack of usual controls afforded to an official competition, it is not possible for these on-line activities to assure participants of a level playing field in terms of assessment. For this reason the awarding of placings, rankings or prizes as per a typical competition is not appropriate.

Author	Status	Date	Version	Approved Changes	Date Approved
Meredith Chapman-NSM	Initial draft-discussed Discipline Chairs, EA Sport Ops & some State CEOs	08.04.2020	1.0		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	2 nd draft shared EA Sport Ops team	11.05.2020	1.1		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	3 rd draft shared EA Sport Ops, State CEOs, NDC Chairs & Vets	13.05.2020	1.2		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	4 th draft shared EA Sport Ops, State CEOs, NDC Chairs & Vets	18.05.2020	1.3		
Meredith Chapman-NSM	Final Document shared all relevant parties	25.05.2020	1.4		25.05.2020