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|  <p>HARNESS RACING VICTORIA</p> | <h1>COVID-19 Protocols for Licensed Participants</h1> <p>OFFICIAL</p> | <p>INT-TL-102 (9 APR 2020)</p> |
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Harness Racing Victoria (“HRV”) is committed to ensuring that the safety of employees, visitors, contractors and licensed participants is prioritised above all else. The purpose of this guideline is to provide licensed participants with clear protocols, which must be followed at Race meetings and Trials in response to COVID-19.

This guideline must also be read in conjunction with the ‘Covid-19 Racetrack Access and Operational Procedure’ which is available via the [trots website](#).

This guideline must be complied with by all licensed participants entering club premises.

1. Requirements for Licensed Participants

To minimise the risk of contracting Covid-19 when attending race meetings or trials, Licensed Participants must:

- Only attend the racing areas at a meeting or Trial when engaged for that Race meeting or Trial.
- Ensure that they follow the protocols in relation to attending a race meeting as a member of the public.
- Not attend if the licensed participant is exhibiting any cold or flu-like symptoms, they will **NOT** be permitted entry.
- Understand that it is still a condition of entry to racetracks that all participants will comply with any conditions or restrictions imposed by the state government under the [Pandemic Orders](#). (Note: Effective 11.59pm Friday 22 April, check-in using a QR code and provision of vaccination evidence is no longer required under the Pandemic Orders. Effective 11.59pm Friday 24 June, the mandatory vaccination requirement for racing industry personnel has been removed from the Orders.)
- Where displayed and required by [Pandemic Orders](#), abide by any social distancing requirements, such as remaining 1.5 metres from others. (Refer to Section 2 of this guideline for further details).
- Ensure that they regularly wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or apply hand sanitiser (containing at least 60% alcohol) where there is no access to water e.g. on track. This is especially important after touching hard surfaces or equipment e.g. vehicles, door handles, gates, pens etc. (refer to section 3 of this guideline for further details)
- Maintain a high level of cleanliness in areas that they access. For example, clean up after themselves and place all rubbish in bins.
- Carry their own pen and do not share with others.
- Not share drink bottles or other personal items.
- Adhere to advice provided on posters and instructional material related to coronavirus, social distancing and hand washing that are displayed at various locations around the racetrack.
- Observe the one vacant stall between each trainer’s horses, where possible.



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- Follow the media guidelines as described in Section 15 of the [Racetrack Access and Operational Procedures](#).
- [Report positive COVID-19 tests](#) to HRV.
- Carry and wear a mask in circumstances where physical distancing is not possible as masks play an important role in infection control. They should also be worn if directed to do so by Stewards or Club Officials. Mask wearing rules are subject to changes in government orders and HRV will respond to these changes by sending messages to industry participants and updating information on [thetrots.com.au](#). Face masks must be worn in accordance with Government directives. Current information can be found at [DH face masks](#)

HRV and Country Clubs reserve the right to temperature test at any race meeting or trial, based on any prevailing circumstances, including, but not limited to government advice, the number of COVID-19 cases, community transmission and lockdown events. Where temperature testing is in force entry will be denied to those with temperatures of 37.6 or higher.

2. Social Distancing Guidelines

Social distancing measures that have been advised by Federal and State Governments and Health Departments must be followed. The current measures must be followed by all participants:

- Abiding by social distancing guidelines and ensure 1.5 metres between persons attending racetracks. Where this is not considered reasonably practicable to perform the task, the period of time in which people are together must be restricted to the shortest amount of time necessary and PPE must be worn.
- Obey floor marking and signage in areas where queuing may be expected.
- Using a mask as per government directives, where social distancing cannot be maintained or when directed by Stewards.
- Where displayed and required by government orders, abiding by the maximum number of people allowable in a room at any one time, as per the density quotient. Where required, signs will be displayed in each indoor room to clearly define the maximum persons allowed.

It is important to note that in the existing changing environment surrounding COVID-19, the above social distancing and gathering requirements may change. Should this be the case, Government directives will take precedence over the above processes.

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3. Hand Washing and Cough Etiquette

The most effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is by the regular and thorough washing of hands. The recommended duration for hand washing is at least 20 seconds, using soap and warm water. Where available, sanitisers (containing at least 60% alcohol) can be used as an adjunct to the handwashing process. Sanitisers are not an alternative to hand washing.

The virus also spreads when droplets are inhaled as a result of a person coughing or sneezing. All persons are reminded to practice 'cough etiquette' by sneezing and coughing into a tissue or their flexed elbow. It is important to dispose of tissues in the rubbish bin and to wash hands after coughing and sneezing.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth and always wash hands before eating or drinking.

4. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

When mask wearing is required, it is important to ensure that you understand how to use them correctly and dispose of them properly. Information is available by following the link [WHO](#).

5. Contact tracing diary

HRV recommends that licensed participants and staff maintain a contact tracing diary that records interactions with others.

The contact tracing diary should record the following:

- Location
- Date
- Time
- Names and contact details (phone number or email address) of those you have come in contact with. (where this information is known) Refer to [close-contacts](#). A variety of methods may be used to record movements and contacts. Examples include; email calendar, a contact tracing app, a manual diary or notebook.