



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NZ ADVICE DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVELS 1 TO 4

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

Please note that Equestrian Sports New Zealand (ESNZ) is not an expert on pandemics and as such all [New Zealand Government](#) and [Ministry of Health](#) information, guidelines and directives supersede this information. This document has been put together by Equestrian Sports NZ, with the purpose of informing our equestrian community how we are responding to Covid-19, and to provide recommendations for what we believe is the best course of action for all equestrian area groups/clubs, facilities, officials and members.

This document will change frequently, and we will make sure the most up to date is dated and on the website. We will monitor the government Alert Levels as we move back down to 3, 2 and 1, and if there is more flexibility for activities such as equestrian, we will be sure to update these recommendations in line with government advice.

Significant work is being done before we move to level two to ensure organising committees, area groups and affiliated groups are aware of what they should be planning for. Please keep a watch on this site.

All equestrian area groups/clubs need to consider their own situations at any given time. An area group/club's decision on whether to allow training or competition needs to be based on the situation in your local area at the time. The Government has released [Alert Levels](#) which can differ by region at any one time, so the location of your area group/club could be under specific direction of the Government. There will need to be more definition of regional boundaries and we are seeking clarification on this before a Level Two shift.

On 20 April 2020 the Prime Minister announced the following principles to abide by:

- Stay home
- Work and learn from home if you can
- Make your business COVID-19 safe Further business advice is available on the COVID-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/alert-level-3/#workers-and-businesses>
- Stay regional Further travel advice is available on the COVID-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/alert-level-3/>
- Keep your bubble as small as possible
- Wash your hands often with soap and cough into your elbow
- If you're sick, stay home and get advice from a GP and do that quickly

FUTURE PLANNING

Once we get closer to Level Two - should your area group/club be willing and able to allow training or competition, it may consider some of the following measures so social distancing is practiced.

- Contact tracing will be imperative so every OC will need a system to log all those at the premises at any time. We are checking out apps and templates for this and will have more information soon.
- Offering staggered training or start times.
- All entries to be done and paid online.
- Consider no changes to entries on the day – any changes must be done online the day before at a certain time. No exceptions to the rule.
- Online booking system for training and use of grounds/facility.
- Spacing out stabling.
- Spacing out parking for horse trucks/floats.
- Posting or emailing out rider packs, back numbers to avoid queue in the secretary office.
- All events will need to be draw order only.

ESNZ is also working with the FEI on how we might manage officials requirements in L2.

The following information may assist with determining what equestrian activity may be possible under each Alert Level, but Equestrian Sports NZ reiterate it is up to individual area groups/clubs to make decisions, based upon their own circumstances and applicable Government directives.

OTHER USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

- [Government Alert System](#)
- [MPI Alert System and information for animal welfare](#)
- [Sport New Zealand Alert System](#)
- [High Performance Sport NZ Alert System](#)
- [ESNZ Covid19 Updates](#)
- [Covid19 posters and social media images](#)
- Online Entry Providers
 - [Equestrian Entries](#)
 - [Main-Events](#)



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NZ ADVICE DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 4 – UNTIL AT LEAST 27 APRIL 2020

Alert Level 4	Range of Government Measures <i>(can be applied locally or nationally)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Measures Undertaken	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for Area Groups/Clubs	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for National Equestrian Centre's <i>(Christchurch & Taupo)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for ESNZ Members and Equestrian Community
<p>Level 4 - Eliminate</p> <p>Likely that disease is not contained</p> <p>Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community transmission is occurring. Widespread outbreaks and new clusters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People instructed to stay at home (in their bubble) other than for essential personal movement. Safe recreational activity is allowed in local area. Travel is severely limited. All gatherings cancelled and all public venues closed. Businesses closed except for essential services (e.g. Supermarkets, pharmacies, clinics, petrol stations) and lifeline utilities. Educational facilities closed. Rationing of supplies and requisitioning of facilities possible. Reprioritisation of healthcare services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ESNZ office is closed <i>Staff are working from home and any business is being conducted online or by phone</i> No ESNZ High Performance, Performance or Squad training is taking place. <i>Training at home only HP personnel providing online training sessions and professional services</i> No equestrian competitions/rides are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> Meetings, workshops or events are not taking place (unless an online option can be held). No international or domestic travel or staying in any hotels (outside of local area) for ESNZ staff and athletes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> All area group/club facilities and centre's closed. Area group/clubs Meetings are not taking place (unless an online option can be held). All staff or volunteers should work from home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> Both National Equestrian Centre's closed. All staff or volunteers should work from home. Grounds staff can undertake grounds work at the venue if maintaining social distancing requirements and hygiene requirements. No Working Bees however. NEC Committee Meetings are not taking place (unless an online option can be held). Any POP campers onsite at time of any lockdown will be able to stay onsite under level 4 restrictions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone is being encouraged not to ride in order to reduce the pressure on emergency services in case of an accident. If you are continuing to ride, only ride your horse within the boundaries of the property where it's kept. Don't transport your horse by float to ride somewhere else. If your horse is based at a grazing facility or stables and the owner of the facility caring for your horse is happy to do so while we are at Alert Level 4, stay at home. If your horse is based at a grazing facility or stables and the owner of the facility is not happy or willing to care for your horse, then travel to look after your horse/s is allowed as long as all necessary health measures are followed such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash hands before and after. Only do the minimum i.e. feed and muck out. Keep visits brief Use own grooming kit, tack and equipment. Set up a roster or facebook group if there are others who access the same grazing Only ride within that property with the landowner's permission. No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> Both National Equestrian Centre's closed. All Riding Schools and Centre's closed. Vets and Farriers are classed as essential services but only for emergencies. Not any routine work. However, if the treatment is considered essential to maintain the welfare of the animal during the lockdown period, then a farrier should be called. Farriers will need to register as an essential business. Coaches and trainers should work from home and use online and video conferencing facilities to deliver their coaching and training. The exception to this rule is if the coach/trainer is providing services to a rider/s already within their self-isolation group or "bubble". All other equestrian related business, physios, saddle fitters etc are classed as non-essential business and are closed.



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NZ ADVICE DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 3 – UNTIL AT LEAST 11 MAY 2020

Alert Level 3	Range of Government Measures <i>(can be applied locally or nationally)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Measures Undertaken	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for Area Groups/Clubs	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for National Equestrian Centre's <i>(Christchurch & Taupo)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for ESNZ Members and Equestrian Community
<p>Level 3 - Restrict</p> <p>High risk the disease is not contained</p> <p>Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community transmission might be happening. New clusters may emerge but can be controlled through testing and contact tracing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People instructed to stay home in their bubble other than for essential personal movement – including to go to work, school if they have to or for local recreation. Physical distancing of two metres outside home (including on public transport), or one metre in controlled environments like schools and workplaces. People must stay within their immediate household bubble, but can expand this to reconnect with close family / whānau, or bring in caregivers, or support isolated people. This extended bubble should remain exclusive. Schools (years 1 to 10) and Early Childhood Education centres can safely open, but will have limited capacity. Children should learn at home if possible. People must work from home unless that is not possible. Businesses can open premises, but cannot physically interact with customers and must practice physical distancing. Low risk local recreation activities are allowed. Public venues are closed (e.g. libraries, museums, cinemas, food courts, gyms, pools, playgrounds, markets). Gatherings of up to 10 people are allowed but only for wedding services, funerals and tangihanga. Physical distancing and public health measures must be maintained. Healthcare services use virtual, non-contact consultations where possible. Inter-regional travel is highly limited (e.g. for essential workers, with limited exemptions for others). People at high risk of severe illness (older people and those with existing medical conditions) are encouraged to stay at home where possible, and take additional precautions when leaving home. They may choose to work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ESNZ office is closed <i>Staff are working from home and any business is being conducted online or by phone</i> No ESNZ High Performance, Performance or Squad training is taking place. <i>Training at home only HP personnel providing online training sessions and professional services</i> No equestrian competitions/rides are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> Meetings, workshops or events are not taking place (unless an online option can be held) No international or domestic travel or staying in any hotels (outside of local area) for ESNZ staff and athletes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> All area group/club facilities and centre's closed. Area group/clubs Meetings are not taking place (unless an online option can be held). All staff or volunteers should work from home. Grounds staff can undertake grounds work at the venue if maintaining social distancing requirements and hygiene requirements. No working bees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed) <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> Both National Equestrian Centre's closed. All staff or volunteers should work from home. Grounds staff can undertake grounds work at the venue if maintaining social distancing requirements and hygiene requirements. No Working Bees however. Private facilities (e.g. halls, toilets, showers) cannot open except for use by workers (with appropriate public health measures in place). Any POP campers onsite at time of any lockdown will be able to stay onsite under level 3 restrictions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horse riding (away from private land) is a recreational activity and allowed under Alert Level 3. The key messages are, keep it low risk, remain within your current abilities and don't pick up new activities or discipline. You can travel within your region, and across a regional boundary if it is in your local area. Travel to your nearest park or beach, not your favourite one. And if you don't usually take your horse to the beach now is not the time to expose yourself or your horse to any risk. It is important that you ride in a local area, which you can do safely, and which does not involve interacting with other people from outside your bubble, or equipment touched by other people. Now is not the time to take up new activities, or expose yourself to any risk that would put pressure on emergency services in case of an accident. The key messages are to use your common sense, stay local and stay safe. Group activities with anyone outside your bubble are not allowed. If your horse is based at a grazing facility or stables and the owner of the facility caring for your horse is happy to do so while we are at Alert Level 3, stay at home. If your horse is based at a grazing facility or stables and the owner of the facility is not happy or willing to care for your horse, then travel to look after your horse/s is allowed as long as all necessary health measures are followed such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash hands before and after. Only do the minimum i.e. feed and muck out. Keep visits brief Use own grooming kit, tack and equipment. Set up a roster or facebook group if there are others who access the same grazing Only ride within that property with the landowner's permission. If you are unwell or have Covid symptoms you must stay home or get tested. No equestrian competitions are taking place (either cancelled or postponed). <i>All events cancelled for 3 months. To be reviewed as information comes to hand.</i> All Riding Schools and Equestrian Centre's are closed. Farriers can operate, as long as public health measures are followed. Coaches and trainers who travel to a property to provide lessons cannot operate under Alert Level 3. Coaches and trainers should use online and video conferencing facilities to deliver their coaching and training. The exception to this rule is if the coach/trainer is providing services to a rider/s already within their self-isolation group or "bubble". All other equestrian related business, physios, saddle fitters etc are classed as non-essential business and are closed.



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NZ ADVICE DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 2 – TIMEFRAME TO BE DECIDED

WILL BE REVIEWED BEFORE A SHIFT TO LEVEL TWO

Alert Level 2	Range of Government Measures <i>(can be applied locally or nationally)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Measures Undertaken	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for Area Groups/Clubs	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for National Equestrian Centre's <i>(Christchurch & Taupo)</i>	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for ESNZ Members and Equestrian Community
<p>Level 2 - Reduce</p> <p>The disease is contained, but the risk of community transmission remains.</p> <p>Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household transmission could be occurring. Single or isolated cluster outbreaks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical distancing of one metre outside home (including on public transport). Gatherings of up to 100 people indoors and 500 outdoors allowed while maintaining physical distancing and contact tracing requirements. Sport and recreation activities are allowed if conditions on gatherings are met, physical distancing is followed and travel is local. Public venues can open but must comply with conditions on gatherings, and undertake public health measures. Health services operate as normally as possible. Most businesses open, and business premises can be open for staff and customers with appropriate measures in place. Alternative ways of working encouraged (e.g. remote working, shift-based working, physical distancing, staggering meal breaks, flexible leave). Schools and Early Childhood Education centres open, with distance learning available for those unable to attend school (e.g. self-isolating). People advised to avoid non-essential inter-regional travel. People at high risk of severe illness (older people and those with existing medical conditions) are encouraged to stay at home where possible, and take additional precautions when leaving home. They may choose to work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ESNZ office is open with appropriate measures in place for visiting customers. All ESNZ High Performance, Performance or Squad trainings are risk assessed and reviewed to determine if they will proceed with appropriate measures of safety maintained. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 100 people indoors and 500 outdoors while maintaining physical distancing. Record the contact information and time of all squad members. Local squad training only. Local Equestrian competitions/rides are allowed to take place if conditions on gatherings are met. Must have a register of who was there and maintain physical distancing where possible. Local meetings, workshops or events are allowed to take place if less than 100 people indoors or 500 outdoors. Limited international or domestic travel or staying in hotels (outside of local area) for ESNZ staff and athletes. Officials at high risk of severe illness (older officials and those with existing medical conditions) are encouraged to stay at home where possible. They may choose to officiate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area groups/clubs allowed to offer local competitions/rides only. Local Gatherings of up to 100 people indoors and 500 outdoors allowed while maintaining physical distancing and contact tracing requirements. Ensure that your equestrian competitions/rides are open to local riders/volunteers/officials only. No entries from outside the region allowed unless allowed by a relaxation of Govt restrictions. The use of local Volunteers and Officials is allowed only. Overnight camping is allowed for Equestrian Competitions/rides with multi day events as long as all necessary health measures and physical distancing is followed and the area group/club has a system for checking the rules are being applied. Ensure that Staff/Officials/Volunteers have access to PPE (hand sanitizer, gloves, mask). Record the contact information and time of all people accessing the facility or grounds. Ensure your facility has extensive signage and information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. Ensure your facility has an up to date cleaning schedule and adequate provisions to facilitate good hygiene practices. (Especially changing/bathrooms, stable facilities). Ensure that Staff, Officials and Volunteers are properly briefed on all information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. Food vendors allowed if physical distancing and contact tracing requirements can be met. All area group/club events or competition/rides should be risk assessed and reviewed to determine if they will proceed with appropriate measures of safety maintained. Decisions made on a case by case basis. All local seminars, face to face meetings and external activities should be risk assessed and reviewed to determine if they will proceed with appropriate measures of safety maintained. Decisions made on a case by case basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Equestrian Centre's are open with appropriate measures in place for visiting customers. Local Gatherings of up to 100 people indoors and 500 outdoors allowed while maintaining physical distancing and contact tracing requirements. Equestrian competitions/rides and training are open to local riders/volunteers/officials only. No entries from outside the region allowed. The use of local Volunteers and Officials is allowed only. Overnight camping is allowed for Equestrian Competitions/rides with multi day events as long as all necessary health measures and physical distancing is followed and the area group/club has a system for checking the rules are being applied. Officials at high risk of severe illness (older officials and those with existing medical conditions) are encouraged to stay at home where possible. They may choose to officiate. Ensure that Staff/Officials/Volunteers have access to PPE (hand sanitizer, gloves, mask). Record the contact information and time of all people accessing the facility or grounds. Ensure NEC has extensive signage and information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. Ensure NEC has an up to date cleaning schedule and adequate provisions to facilitate good hygiene practices. (Especially changing/bathrooms, stable facilities). New POP campers will be allowed to stay onsite under level 2 restrictions. Food vendors allowed if physical distancing and contact tracing requirements can be met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horse riding (away from private land) is a recreational activity and allowed under Alert Level 2. You can travel within your region, and across a regional boundary if it is in your local area. It is important that you ride in a local area, which you can do safely. If interacting with other people remember to maintain physical distancing of one metre. If you are unwell or have COVID-19 symptoms you must stay home or get tested. Equestrian competitions/rides and training are open to local riders/volunteers/Officials only. Do not enter a competition/ride outside of your region. All Riding Schools and Equestrian Centre's are open with appropriate measures in place. Travel to look after your horse outside of your property is allowed as long as all the necessary health measures are followed such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash hands before and after. Physical distancing of one metre. Use own grooming kit, tack and equipment. Set up a roster or facebook group for grazing. Comply with all rules set out by the landowner. Farriers can operate, as long as public health measures are followed. Coaches and trainers can operate, as long as public health measures are followed. All other equestrian related business, physios, saddle fitters etc can operate as long as public health measures are followed.

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NZ ADVICE DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 1 – TIMEFRAME TO BE DECIDED

Alert Level 1	Range of Government Measures (can be applied locally or nationally)	Equestrian Sports NZ Measures Undertaken	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for Area Groups/Clubs	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for National Equestrian Centre's (Christchurch & Taupo)	Equestrian Sports NZ Recommendations for ESNZ Members and Equestrian Community
<p>Level 1 - Prepare</p> <p>The disease is contained in New Zealand</p> <p>Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 is uncontrolled overseas. • Isolated household transmission could be occurring In New Zealand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Border entry measures to minimise risk of importing COVID-19 cases. • Intensive testing for COVID-19. • Rapid contact tracing of any positive case. • Self-isolation and quarantine required. • Schools and workplaces open, and must operate safely. • Physical distancing encouraged. • No restrictions on gatherings. • Stay home if you're sick, report flu-like symptoms. • Wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, don't touch your face. • No restrictions on domestic transport – avoid public transport or travel if sick. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ESNZ office is open. • Staff encouraged to stay home if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Riders encouraged to withdraw if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Officials encouraged to stay home if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • All ESNZ High Performance, Performance and Squad training are allowed to take place. • Equestrian competitions/rides are allowed to take place. But riders encouraged to withdraw if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Meetings, workshops or events and external activities are allowed. • National travel for ESNZ staff and athletes is allowed. International travel for ESNZ staff and athletes is risk assessed and needs to be approved by the CEO or manager. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No restrictions on Equestrian competitions/rides and training. Entries open to all riders and all regions. • Riders encouraged to withdraw if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Officials encouraged to stay home if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Ensure that Staff/Officials/Volunteers have access to PPE (hand sanitizer, gloves, mask). • Ensure your facility has extensive signage and information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. • Ensure your facility has an up to date cleaning schedule and adequate provisions to facilitate good hygiene practices. (Especially changing/bathrooms, stable facilities). • Ensure that Staff, Officials and Volunteers are properly briefed on all information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. • Food vendors allowed. • All National seminars, officials training seminars, face to face meetings and external activities are allowed. Any seminars, meetings and external activities that require bringing in international expertise should be risk assessed and reviewed to determine if they comply with quarantine requirements and can proceed. Decisions made on a case by case basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Equestrian Centre's are open. • No restrictions on gatherings. • No restrictions on equestrian competitions/rides and training. Entries open to all riders and all regions. • Riders encouraged to withdraw if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Officials encouraged to stay home if they are sick with flu-like symptoms. • Staff/Officials/Volunteers have access to PPE (hand sanitizer, gloves, mask). • Ensure NEC has extensive signage and information regarding precautions for managing COVID-19. • Ensure NEC has an up to date cleaning schedule and adequate provisions to facilitate good hygiene practices. (Especially changing/bathrooms, stable facilities). • Camping and overnight stays allowed. • Food vendors allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are unwell or have COVID-19 symptoms you must stay home or get tested. • Equestrian competitions/rides and training are open to all riders and regions. • All Riding Schools and Equestrian Centre's are Open. • Recreational riding is allowed and there are no restrictions on domestic transport. • If horse is not within personal property, then you can ride within the rules and the landowner's permission. • Travel to look after animal outside of your property is allowed. • Farriers can operate, as long as public health measures are followed. • Coaches and trainers can operate, as long as public health measures are followed. • All other equestrian related business, physios, saddle fitters etc can operate as long as public health measures are followed.

