



The Use of Horse Health Declarations (HHD) for Riders and Ride Organisers.

NSWERA supports and promotes the principles and practices of the management of infectious diseases. This requires the fulfilment of certain obligations prior to and during the ride by -

a) people in charge of the horse

- all horses or livestock entering grounds must be from a property actively practicing good biosecurity principles within their management,
- are expected to be aware of their biosecurity obligation, and that they must take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant,

and b) ride organisers

- prevent the spread of infectious disease, and to track any person or animal that may have been potentially exposed during the event. All ROCs should be conversant with and promote those principles and procedures.

These are found in the AERA Biosecurity Statement.

For riders:

The AERA Biosecurity Statement declares that Horse Health Declarations are now mandatory for **all horse at all rides**. The following actions are required of the person responsible for each horse –

- Name and contact details of the person who is responsible for each horse when it arrives at the ride base, and the duration of the event.
- Full details of your horse identity and property of origin, including PIC. If any horse is returning to a location other than its property of origin, provide the details of this property prior to departure from the event venue.
(<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis/pic>)
- Proof of current vaccination if your horse is vaccinated against Hendra virus. Accepted proof is a vaccination certificate or notation in the horses' logbook completed by the vet who administered the vaccine or scanned microchip by the Chief Steward, Biosecurity Manager, or Head Vet and compliant in the Hendra Vaccine registry.
(<https://health4horses.com.au/About/Hendra-Vaccination-Lookup/>)

- A properly completed Horse Health Declaration (including PIC code) to accompany every horse entering the ride base, and to have it easily accessible for collection on arrival at the ride venue. The declaration states that the horse is healthy to the best of the responsible person's knowledge, includes a temperature log for the stipulated number of days prior to arrival at the ride venue and subsequently, until the pre ride veterinary check. DO NOT bring an unwell horse onto the ride base.
- The HHD is to be completed by the person in charge of the horse using one horse per form – NO electronic copies – and is to accompany the horse (and its logbook if the horse has one) in the towing vehicle. Paper copies will **only** be accepted, as these are attached to the entry form for later examination if required.

No HHD No Ride.

For Ride Organising Committees:

The NSWERA SMC requests that ride committees should abide with the following guidelines for the management of the Horse Health Declaration (HHD):

Prior to the event-

- The AERA Biosecurity Statement details the number of days the HHD is to be taken -
 - 10 day temperature logs for non-vaccinated horses in Hendra Risk Zones and
 - 3 day logs for vaccinated horses in those areas.
 - 3 day logs for horses in all other areas **except**
 - a non-vaccinated horse from a Hendra Risk Zone comes into those other areas it requires a 10 day temperature log.
- The exception to this is the TQ and FEI rides where then Head Vet and Biosecurity Manager can decide on the temperature log period.
- Please ensure all riders are aware of the requirements of the HHD for **all** horses entering the ride base is advertised.
- The HHD is to be completed by the person in charge of the horse using one horse per form – NO electronic copies – and is to accompany the horse (and its logbook if the horse has one) in the towing vehicle.
- The Biosecurity Manager will decide if the HHD is to be taken at the point of entry to the ride base or at ride entry, depending on the origin of horses attending the event.
- If the HHD is to be collected at the ride base entry, check with the Head Vet the temperature parameters that s/he wishes to be notified of, usually greater than 38.5°.
- Ensure a quarantine/isolation zone is suitably situated. The guidelines and procedures for this area are to be strictly followed. See the AERA Biosecurity Statement.

At ride entry-

- The HHD is attached to the rider entry form. Both forms are to be kept for 6 months. (If the forms are taken at the entry gate, the HHD is sighted and checked by personnel and attached later.)
- The rider entry form must provide the person responsible for each horse.
- Ensure PIC codes are supplied on the HHD.
- Please check if the horse is returning to a location other than its property of origin, and ensure the details of this property are provided before departing the event.
- Crayons for horse identification or green ribbons (proven current Hendra Vaccination) may be required by the RO/CS and will be provided by the ROC.

Thank you
NSWERA SMC