

NMRC Contagious Equine Disease Protocols

1. All racehorses entering any NMRC licensed racetrack or training center must be accompanied by copies of the horse's registration certificate, a current health certificate, and vaccination records. Health certificates for horses traveling intra-state must have been issued within the last 72 hours. Health certificates for horses traveling inter-state must have been issued within the last seven days.
2. The health certificate should state to the best of the examining veterinarian's knowledge:
 - a. the horse does not show clinical signs of any infectious or contagious equine diseases;
 - b. the temperature of the horse at the time of the examination; and
 - c. the horse has not received medication that has been shown to reduce the horse's temperature within the past 24 hours.
3. NMRC requires that all horses entering any NMRC licensed racetrack or training center must have proof of:
 - a. negative annual Coggins test;
 - b. negative Piroplasmosis (*Babesia equi*) test completed within the last two years for Quarter Horses;
 - c. Influenza vaccination with the last six months;
 - d. Rhinopneumonitis vaccination within the last six months;
 - e. Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis, Tetanus, and West Nile vaccination within the last 12 months; and

Owners and trainers should consult with their practicing veterinarian concerning the vaccination regime for their horses, but the vaccinations listed in 3.c-e above will be required to enter NMRC licensed racetracks and training centers beginning April 1, 2016. All other training facilities, fairgrounds, horse farms, stables, arenas and other horse facilities are advised to follow these same recommendations as may be required by the New Mexico Livestock Board.

4. Racetrack management must keep a daily log of all horses shipping-in and shipping-out of the racetrack. A barn list must be updated on a daily basis to reflect which trainers occupy which barns and stalls. The trainer's horse inventory must also be maintained on a daily basis. Trainers contact information (phone, local address & e-mail address) must be current. All of this information should be kept on the InCompass RTO System in the Racing Office.
5. All horses entering any licensed racetrack must be followed to the barn and properly identified by lip tattoo or by its digital tattoo. Horses that are not tattooed or digitally tattooed shall be matched to the registration certificate. Unregistered

pony horses shall have a current New Mexico Livestock Board brand inspection certificate with which to be identified.

6. Traffic in the barn area and between barns shall be limited to necessary travel only. Only currently licensed owners, trainers, stable employees, veterinarians, farriers, track security, racing officials, track management and approved vendors may be allowed in the barn area. Licensees must show their license badge upon entry at the stable gates and must keep their license badges on them at all times.
7. By January 1, 2017, every licensed racetrack shall have a perimeter fenced quarantine facility approved by the NMRC and the NM Livestock Board.
8. Racetracks should provide licensed trailer with winch for hauling dead horses to NMDA-VDS in Albuquerque for post mortem necropsy exams. The trailer must be properly and thoroughly sanitize between hauls.
9. Trainers' Guide handed out pre-meet should include equine health recommendations including temperature taking on a twice daily basis.
10. Dogs, chickens and other fowl should not be allowed on racetrack grounds. Other animals such as cats, goats and swine shall also be removed from racetrack grounds during contagious disease quarantines.
11. Practicing veterinarians in cooperation with track and state veterinarians shall conduct routine surveillance of their clients' stables for symptoms of contagious equine diseases.
12. Racetracks should maintain an inventory of temperature recording sheets and copies of "Equine Herpesvirus Myeloencephalopathy Incident Guidelines for State Animal Health Officials".
13. NMRC licensed training centers must maintain the same contagious equine disease protocols as a NMRC licensed racetrack.

Biosecurity Procedures for Horses Stabled at Racetracks and Training Centers During an Outbreak of a Contagious Equine Disease

1. Temperatures of all horses stabled on racetrack grounds must be taken twice a day (first thing in the morning, last thing in the evening) and recorded on the log sheet provided by racetrack management. Logs must be available for review by track and state veterinarians immediately upon request.
2. Any horse with a temperature greater than 101.5° must be immediately reported to racetrack management and the track or state veterinarians.

3. General good husbandry practices should be followed by all barns stabled at the racetrack. Those practices should include but are not limited to:
 - a. Keep your horse away from other horses and do not allow nose-to-nose contact;
 - b. Use one water bucket per horse;
 - c. Keep equipment used to handle feed separate from equipment used to handle manure;
 - d. Don't share equipment;
 - e. When bathing, do not let the hose touch the horse and hang it immediately after use;
 - f. Pick up manure immediately;
 - g. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after handling your horse;
 - h. Wear gloves, change boots or use a disinfectant foot bath before and after handling your horse;
 - i. Spray yourself down with Lysol or a similar antiviral aerosol spray;
 - j. Wash anything and everything your horse touches with soap and water. Make sure to remove dirt, mucus, manure and any leftover feed. This will make the disinfectant more effective;
 - k. Spray down anything that touches your horse using a 10% bleach solution (one part bleach, nine parts water) and/or Lysol.
 - l. Any symptoms such as discharge from the eyes or nose, swelling of the legs or neurologic signs such as unsteady gait, weakness, urine dribbling, lack of tail tone or inability to get up must be reported immediately.
4. Mounted riders – jockeys, exercise riders, pony riders and outriders shall practice biosecurity protocols and thoroughly disinfect gloves and other equipment that may come into contact with the horses they ride or lead in between each race, and between each horse they ride or lead during training hours, especially during an outbreak and/or quarantine of a contagious equine disease.
5. The saddling paddock valets and starting gate crew shall practice biosecurity protocols and thoroughly disinfect gloves and other equipment that may come into contact with the horses they saddle or load during the races and training hours. During a contagious equine disease outbreak and/or quarantine, the saddling paddock stalls and the starting gate stalls will be thoroughly disinfected between races and between horses during training hours.

New Mexico Horse Racing Industry Contagious Disease Prevention Program for 2017

1. NMRC & NMSU should conduct 2-hour required continuing education for trainers on equine care, safety and feeding annually at tracks in north and south.
2. Groom-Elite classes should be sponsored by tracks and the identified horsemen's group on an annual basis.
3. Livestock Board and NMRC should provide handouts in Spanish and English on equine health care for racing owners, trainers and other licensees.
4. NMSU, NMRC and LSB should do an instructional video on EHV1 bio-security protocols in Spanish and English.
5. Directory of contagious equine diseases information (available on AAEP Website) should be linked to NMRC, NMHA, NMHBA, LSB and tracks web-sites.
6. List of contact information should be maintained for experts in the various equine contagious diseases and available on NMRC, NMHBA, LSB and tracks web-sites.

(Revised September 27, 2024)