



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
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Handbook for the management of High Health, High Performance Horses



HANDBOOK
FOR THE MANAGEMENT
OF HIGH HEALTH,
HIGH PERFORMANCE HORSES

December 2016

Content

(updated as of December 2016)

PREAMBLE..... 5

PART 1
THE HHP FRAMEWORK..... 7

1) SUMMARY OF THE FRAMEWORK 9

2) STEPWISE IMPLEMENTATION 11

 2.a) *Qualification of a compartment*..... 11

 2.b) *Maintenance of qualification for a compartment (“multiple use strategy”)*..... 14

 2.c) *Qualification of HHP horses*..... 15

 2.d) *Initial certification of HHP horses for travel* 15

 2.e) *Onward certification of HHP horses for travel* 15

 2.f) *Qualification of HHP stables/premises for temporary residence (lay-over points and event venues)* 16

 2.g) *Competition* 16

 2.h) *Return to the country of usual residence* 17

3) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 17

 3.a) *Compartment manager (CM)*..... 19

 3.b) *Responsible veterinarian (RV)* 20

 3.c) *Official veterinarian and Veterinary Authority*..... 21

 3.d) *Horse Industry (National Equestrian Federations - National Horseracing Authority)* 22

 3.e) *Transporters*..... 23

PART 2
BIOSECURITY GUIDELINES AND HHP MANAGEMENT 25

1) HHP FACILITIES..... 28

 1.a) *Construction*..... 28

 1.b) *Approval and registration* 29

2) BIOSECURITY MANAGEMENT 29

 2.a) *Hygiene* 29

 2.b) *Separation from other horses and animals*..... 30

 2.c) *Equipment and vehicles*..... 30

 2.d) *Control of access* 30

 2.e) *Additional biosecurity provisions for an event*..... 31

3) VETERINARY SUPERVISION 33

 3.a) *Routine health supervision*..... 33

 3.b) *Veterinary interventions*..... 34

 3.c) *Veterinary examination on arrival at the event*..... 34

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 4) | TRANSPORT OF HHP HORSES | 35 |
| 4.a) | <i>Planning</i> | 35 |
| 4.b) | <i>Loading and unloading</i> | 36 |
| 4.c) | <i>Transportation by road or sea</i> | 36 |
| 4.d) | <i>Transportation by air</i> | 36 |
| 5) | CONTINGENCY PLANNING | 37 |
| 5.a) | <i>General provisions</i> | 37 |
| 5.b) | <i>Management of disease suspicion or outbreak</i> | 38 |
| 5.c) | <i>Contingency plans for transport</i> | 40 |
| 5.d) | <i>Communication in case of a disease incident at an event</i> | 40 |
| 6) | DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE HHP PROVISIONS..... | 41 |
| 6.a) | <i>Horse identification</i> | 41 |
| 6.b) | <i>Record keeping</i> | 42 |
| 6.c) | <i>Monitoring compliance</i> | 42 |

| | | |
|---------------|--|-----------|
| PART 3 | INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND CERTIFICATION OF HHP HORSES..... | 43 |
|---------------|--|-----------|

| | | |
|------|---|----|
| 1) | GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND HEALTH CERTIFICATION | 45 |
| 1.a) | <i>Pre-departure and certification arrangements (departure from country of usual residence or from country of temporary residence)</i> | 45 |
| 1.b) | <i>Compliance with health requirements of importing countries</i> | 45 |
| 1.c) | <i>Compliance with health requirements for return of the horse to its country of usual residence</i> | 46 |
| 2) | SPECIFIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO THE HHP VETERINARY CERTIFICATES | 47 |
| 2.a) | <i>Priority diseases</i> | 47 |
| 2.b) | <i>Specific health requirements for qualification of a compartment and initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses</i> | 51 |
| 2.c) | <i>Specific health requirements for onward veterinary certification of selected HHP horses (up to 90 days upon initial veterinary certification)</i> | 54 |
| 2.d) | <i>Specific health requirements for maintenance of the health status of a compartment (“multiple use” strategy) (and initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses)</i> | 55 |

| | | |
|---------------|--|-----------|
| PART 4 | HHP VETERINARY CERTIFICATES | 57 |
|---------------|--|-----------|

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1) | HHP INITIAL VETERINARY CERTIFICATE | 59 |
| 2) | HHP ONWARD VETERINARY CERTIFICATE | 63 |

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| ANNEXES..... | 67 |
|---------------------|-----------|

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1) | GLOSSARY..... | 69 |
| 2) | LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS | 71 |
| 3) | RESOURCES..... | 71 |
| 4) | SUPPLEMENTAL READING ON THE HHP FRAMEWORK | 72 |
| 5) | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... | 72 |

Preamble

(Updated as of December 2016)

Equestrian sport and racing have been growing in some parts of the world and are well established in others. There is a clear desire by some countries to engage further in international equestrian sport and racing, and to host international events.

An harmonized international system has been developed by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) together with the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) to facilitate the safe movement of competition horses and to provide for expansion of the sport horse industry while safeguarding the health status of the equine population in the receiving country, the country of usual residence, and the countries with lay-over points. This system consists of the **“High Health High Performance horse – (HHP)” framework**, outlined in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (Chapter 4.16), based on the standard of compartmentalisation defined in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (Chapters 4.3 and 4.4).

The HHP framework and associated HHP Veterinary Certificates provide a standard for the temporary movement of horses to engage in international equestrian events and Group or Grade races, and to return to their countries of origin. Importantly, it is not applicable to travel for breeding purposes or for permanent importation.

The HHP framework can be applied between at least two countries that have agreed to use it. It is not meant to override existing import agreements between countries. It should be perceived as a framework in the absence of bilateral and regional import agreements, intended to assist countries that have not yet established agreements to facilitate horse movement to take part in international competitions.

This OIE HHP Handbook provides guidelines for the implementation of the HHP framework:

- **PART 1** – presents the **steps** and **responsibilities** for the application of the HHP framework
- **PART 2** – presents the **guidelines** for the implementation of the HHP framework, especially with regard to biosecurity requirements
- **PART 3** – presents the provisions for the temporary importation of HHP horses with reference to the **model HHP Veterinary Certificates**
- **PART 4** – Presents the **model HHP Veterinary Certificates**

In order to facilitate and harmonize the practical application of the HHP framework, further operational guidance is provided in Operational Guidelines developed by the FEI and the IFHA, in line with the principles established in the HHP Handbook.

PART 1

The HHP Framework

(Updated as of December 2016)

1) Summary of the framework

The establishment of a high health status sub-population of horses (hereafter “compartment”) is based on the principles of **compartmentalisation** as defined and described in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 4.3 and 4.4*. The HHP framework aims at facilitating the temporary importation of horses for the purpose of competing in international events; it is not applicable to travel for breeding purposes or for permanent importation.

The compartment should be established by the continuous application of documented **biosecurity procedures** to create and maintain a functional separation between horses within the defined subpopulation and equidae not of equivalent health status. Biosecurity procedures should be adapted as appropriate based on an assessment of the prevailing risks (See [Part 2 – Biosecurity guidelines and HHP management](#)). The resulting biosecurity plans should be recognised by the *Veterinary Authority*.

The HHP horses can be selected from a qualified compartment and sent for participation to FEI and IFHA **international competitions/races** accompanied by specific Veterinary Certificates for temporary international movements of HHP horses (Figure 1, Figure 2) (See [Part 4 – Model HHP veterinary certificates](#)). HHP horses should be subjected to **specific health requirements** in order to be certified as HHP horses. These requirements comprise a specific set of laboratory tests, treatments and vaccinations depending on the equine health situation of the country where the compartment is located and mitigatable risks in the country of destination (See [Part 3 – International travel and certification of HHP horses](#)).

Compliance with HHP requirements should be monitored through a continuous **veterinary supervision** and **full traceability** should be ensured through an international database managed by the Horse Industry (i.e. FEI and IFHA). The *Veterinary Authorities* should have access to this database.

Contingency planning to prepare an effective and rapid response to contain any disease incident is an integral part of the HHP framework. A contingency plan should be developed for all situations where HHP horses are held (home stable, temporary places of residence, event venue, transport).

Figure 1. Stepwise approach for the implementation of the HHP framework

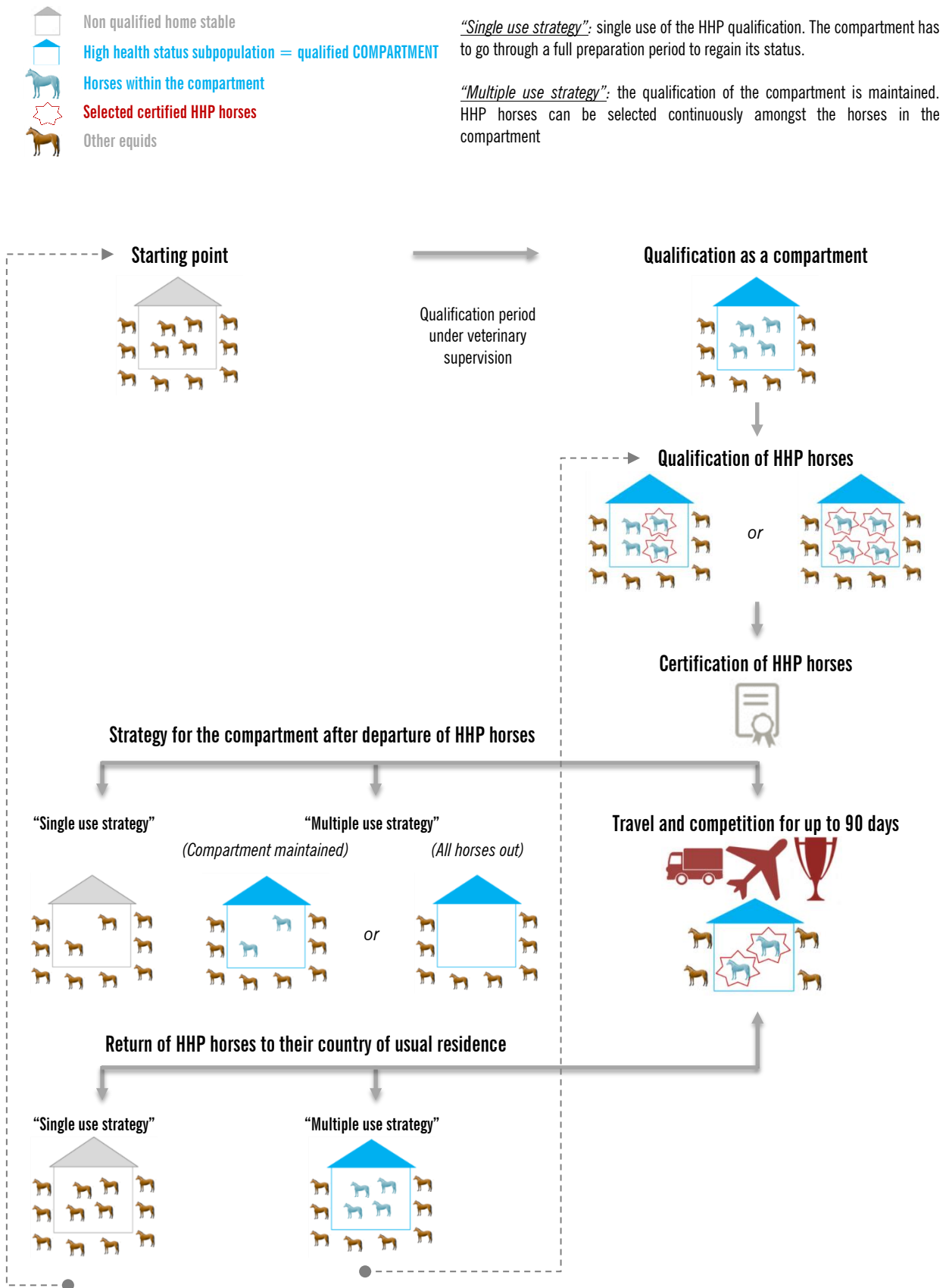


Figure 2. Example of HHP itinerary and certification flow for international competition



2) Stepwise implementation

The proposed approach for the stepwise implementation of the HHP framework is represented in Figure 1 and detailed hereafter.

2.a) Qualification of a compartment

Health status of the country or zone

The equine health status of the country or zone where the premises is located is relevant to the qualification of premises as a compartment. AHS should be notifiable in the country. In addition, the country should have a **good record of compliance with its OIE disease reporting obligations** during.

Approval of the biosecurity and management procedures for the qualification period to start

Any candidate compartment should be **registered by the Horse Industry** in an international database. To qualify as a compartment, the candidate compartment should undergo a specific qualification process. An inspection of the candidate compartment should be undertaken by an *Official Veterinarian*. When the *Official Veterinarian* **approves the biosecurity measures and management provisions** of the candidate compartment, the qualification process can commence.

Qualification period under continuous veterinary supervision

The duration of the qualification period should be a direct function of the equine health situation in the country and the quality of surveillance carried out on equids. It should be in any case long enough to provide sufficient guarantees that the compartment is free of equine infectious anaemia (i.e. 90 days according to *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, Chapter 12.5) and other equine diseases of relevance.

During the qualification period, **veterinary supervision** by a dedicated private veterinarian (“responsible veterinarian” (RV)) registered or certified by the Horse Industry and authorised by the *Veterinary Authority* should be applied, as well as **specific tests and vaccinations** depending on the equine health situation of the country where the compartment is located and mitigatable risks in the country of destination (See [Part 3 – International travel and certification of HHP horses](#)).

Introduction of new horse(s) into a compartment during the qualification period

New horses may be introduced into a compartment during the qualification period, under the following conditions:

- **Health status of the country of origin:** the new horses should originate from a country of the same health status as the country in which the compartment under preparation is situated or should have been imported based on country’s import regulations or relevant provision of the OIE *Terrestrial Code*.
- **Health status of the country in which the compartment under preparation is situated:** it should be officially recognized as free from AHS by the OIE. In countries that have not been recognized free from AHS by the OIE, the compartment should be managed as an “all-in, all out” system following the single use strategy. Once the qualification period of the compartment has started, introductions of new horses into a compartment situated in a country that has not been recognized free from AHS by the OIE should not be permitted.
- **Isolation before introduction:** the new horses should be isolated from the other horses of the compartment for at least two weeks.
- **Testing and vaccination before introduction:** the new horses should undergo the same testing and vaccination as resident horses before entering the compartment.

- **Timing:** release from isolation and mixing with the rest of the horses within of the compartment should not take place during the last two weeks of the qualification period of the compartment.
- **Duration of the qualification period for the new horses:** new horses should complete a full qualification period. After release from isolation, they should be maintained for further 76 days in the compartment to complete the 90 days requirement before they can be certified as HHP horses.

Participation in approved events during the qualification period

As a general rule, no horse should be authorized to leave a compartment during the qualification period¹.

Exceptionally, in countries of known health status (no occurrence of glanders for at least 3 years, no occurrence of VEE for at least 2 years) and recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE, horses may attend approved events with a special authorisation during the qualification period¹.

In countries which have not officially been recognized free from AHS by the OIE, no departure from the facilities should be permitted during the qualification period.

In countries which are not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years or which are not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years, horses may attend approved events with a special authorisation, during the preparation period¹. However, no departure from the compartment should be permitted during the last 30 days of the qualification period (or during the last 30 days before the issuance of a HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate in case of a “multiple use” of the compartment) in countries not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, and no departure from the compartment should be permitted during the last 21 days of the qualification period (or during the last 21 days before the issuance of a HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate in case of a “multiple use” of the compartment) in countries not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years.

The *Official Veterinarian* should approve that the biosecurity management of these approved events ensures a functional separation between the horses of the compartment under qualification and other horses (See [Additional biosecurity provisions for an event](#)). These movements should be recorded by the compartment manager (CM).

Official inspection and qualification

At the **end of the qualification period**, the *Official Veterinarian* should inspect the candidate compartment, check records of the veterinary supervision and records in the individual passports, and check documented compliance with biosecurity provisions.

If the inspection is satisfactory, the *Official Veterinarian* can qualify the compartment and the international database should be updated accordingly.

¹ For a “multiple use” of the compartment, the same provisions apply once the compartment is qualified.

If the inspection is not satisfactory, the candidate compartment should be advised on corrective actions that would need to be taken before it can renew its request.

2.b) Maintenance of qualification for a compartment (“multiple use strategy”)

To be able to continuously select HHP horses in a qualified compartment, a multiple use strategy can be considered for the compartment.

Continuous veterinary supervision and biosecurity management

The HHP provisions should be complied with at all times for the maintenance of the qualification (See [Part 2 – Biosecurity guidelines and HHP management](#)).

A RV should maintain the qualified compartment under continuous supervision and the high health status of the remaining horses (at least one visit per week by the RV). A daily observation and twice daily temperature check of each horse should be carried out and the results should be recorded and made available to the RV.

Specific tests and vaccinations

Disease specific requirements depending on the equine health situation of the country where the compartment is located should be applied for the maintenance of the compartment (See [Specific requirements for maintenance of the health status of a compartment \(“multiple use” strategy\)](#)).

Introduction of new horses

The criteria and conditions for the introduction of new horses into a compartment during the qualification period also apply for the introduction of new horses into a qualified compartment.

Participation in approved events

The criteria and conditions for horses to leave a compartment to participate in approved events during the qualification period also apply for horses to leave a qualified compartment to participate in approved events following qualification.

Re-certification of HHP horses

If the compartment is located in a country of known health status (no occurrence of glanders for at least 3 years, no occurrence of VEE for at least 2 years) and recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE, HHP horses that return to a maintained compartment after a cycle of international travels under a HHP Veterinary Certificate should remain at least 14 days in the compartment before a new HHP Certificate can be issued.

Alternatively, if the compartment is located in a country which cannot substantiate a claim of freedom from glanders (for at least 3 years), HHP horses should remain at least 30 days in the maintained compartment before a new HHP Certificate can be issued. If the compartment is located in a country which cannot substantiate a claim of freedom from VEE (for at least 2 years), HHP horses should remain at least 21 days in the maintained compartment before a new HHP Certificate can be issued.

In countries that are not recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE, the qualification of the compartment cannot be maintained (“single use strategy”). Periodic audits

The *Official Veterinarian* should conduct a minimum of an annual audit of the biosecurity and management practices and of the records of veterinary supervisions for maintenance of the qualification of the compartment. The *Official Veterinarian* may carry out additional visits without prior notice.

2.c) Qualification of HHP horses

Selection for international competition

All horses intended for HHP certification should reside in a qualified compartment. On the basis of having **qualified for FEI and IFHA’s competitions**, individual horses can be selected within a qualified compartment to be certified as HHP horses.

Specific tests and residency periods

Depending on the equine health situation of the country where the compartment is located, the RV may have to perform further **tests** on the selected horses and, where applicable, a **specific residency period** should be applied before certification ([Part 3 – International travel and certification of HHP horses](#)).

2.d) Initial certification of HHP horses for travel

After the registration of a horse as a HHP horse, the *Official Veterinarian* can issue the **HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate**.

It is strongly recommended to plan the qualification process for the compartment in such a way that initial certification of HHP horses for travel coincides with the qualification of the compartment (See [Part 3 – International travel and certification of HHP horses](#)) (Figure 3).

For a single use strategy (e.g. if there is need only for a single use of the HHP qualification), there is no further requirement in the compartment after the departure of the HHP horse(s) for travel: the compartment should be disqualified in the international database.

2.e) Onward certification of HHP horses for travel

After a HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate has been issued to initiate a HHP journey, a HHP horse can travel to multiple destinations using multiple issues of the HHP onward Veterinary Certificate, up to a maximum of **90 days (temporary importation)**, before returning to the country of usual residence (re-entry after temporary export) (Figure 2). To begin a new HHP journey, a new HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate should be issued (even if the High health of the compartment is maintained “multiple use strategy”).

During transport of HHP horses between the compartment in the country of usual residence and the venue in the country of destination, and onward travel (either return to the country of usual residence or continuation to another country for the purpose of competition), **biosecurity should be continuously maintained** following documented standard operating procedures, so that the horse’s health status is not compromised (See [Transport of HHP horses](#)).

Importantly, HHP horses may only be **transported with equidae of equivalent health status**. Lay-over points should be approved as HHP stables by the *Veterinary Authority*.

2.f) Qualification of HHP stables/premises for temporary residence (lay-over points and event venues)

A horse, once qualified as a HHP horse and travelling using the HHP Veterinary Certificate, can reside in stables **shared only with other HHP horses**, hence there is a need to establish dedicated “**HHP stables**” that are lay-over points and stables at the event venue.

Lay-over points and event venues should be located in countries or zones:

- which have been officially recognised free from African horse sickness by the OIE;
- in which Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis is compulsorily notifiable and which have been free from Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis for at least the last two years;
- in which glanders (*Burkholderia mallei*) is compulsorily notifiable and where no case of glanders has been reported for at least the last 12 months.

The facilities for temporary residence should meet similar criteria to those for HHP home stables. They should be identified and registered in the international database by the Horse Industry and approved by the *Veterinary Authority*.

These can be sub-units of premises already qualified as compartments (HHP premises) or be set up particularly for this purpose. They should house only certified HHP horses and that they should be functionally separated from other stables, should there be non-HHP horses on the same premises.

2.g) Competition

To prevent and manage any risk to the health status of horses participating in an international sport event, organizers, in collaboration with veterinarians, should develop an **event biosecurity plan**, including an assessment of biosecurity risks and procedures to effectively manage them (contingency plan), including provisions for veterinary examination on arrival, stable management, continuous health supervision and contingency planning (See [Contingency planning](#)). The event biosecurity plan should be approved by the *Veterinary Authority*.

The events should be managed according to the FEI Rules for equestrian events (contained in the FEI Veterinary Regulations) or the Rules of Racing (contained in the national regulations of the horseracing authority of the host country for international race events).

The management of an equestrian event under HHP conditions should ensure that visiting HHP horses only come into direct contact with equidae of equivalent health status, except at the time of racing or competition. Veterinary supervision should be ensured from the time the first horse arrives to the time the last horse leaves the event venue.

Veterinary inspection and, when applicable, issuing of a **HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate** for the next leg of the journey complete the activities in the country of the competition.

2.h) Return to the country of usual residence

When a HHP horse returns from international competition to its country of usual residence, two options can be considered:

- return to an **active qualified compartment** based on compliance with all criteria under the conditions attested in the HHP certificate;

Or

- return to a non-registered, **normal stable**, under the conditions attested in the HHP certificate or according to the national animal health conditions for re-entry after temporary export or imports.

3) Roles and responsibilities

The proposed roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the HHP framework are represented on Table 1 and detailed hereafter.

Table 1. Roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the HHP Framework

| | Qualification of a compartment | Selection HHP horses | Travel | International event |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Compartment Manager (CM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Definition of the strategy for use of the HHP qualification (single-use; multiple use) + Compliance with HHP requirements + Record keeping + Liaison with RV | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Selection of HHP horses within a qualified compartment + Definition of the best timing for travel and certification. + Application for import permits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Plan travel itinerary + Compliance with HHP requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Compliance with HHP requirements |
| Responsible veterinarian (RV) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Continuous health supervision + Tests and vaccinations as applicable + Record keeping + Disease notification | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Tests and residency period as applicable for certification of HHP horses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Examination before travel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Veterinary examination on arrival at the event + Continuous veterinary supervision during an event + Record keeping + Disease notification |
| Horse Industry (National Equestrian Federations – National Horseracing Authority) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Registration of compartments, HHP stables and horses and update of status in the database | - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Identification and registration of lay-over points | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Identification and registration of event venue + Traceability of arrival and departure of HHP horses + Event biosecurity and contingency plans + Compliance with event biosecurity and contingency plans |
| Official veterinarian/ Veterinary Authority | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Approval of the candidate compartment (beginning of the qualification period) + Qualification of candidate compartment (end of the qualification period) + Audits for maintenance of the compartment (multiple use) + Suspension of qualification/status if health risk or non-compliance | - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Inspection and certification before travel + Approval of routes, lay-over points and biosecurity plan for transportation of HHP horses + Inspection of the HHP horses on arrival at the border + Suspension of qualification/status if health risk or non-compliance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Approval of event venues and event biosecurity and contingency plans. + Inspection of the HHP horses before certification + Continuous veterinary supervision during an event (or RV) + Suspension of qualification/status if health risk or non-compliance |
| Transporters | - | - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Plan travel route and identifies lay over points + Biosecurity procedures and contingency plans | - |
| Customs Authorities | - | - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Ensure that the health status and welfare of HHP horses are not compromised by lengthy border procedures | - |
| Event Organizing Committee | - | - | - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Develop and submit Biosecurity and Contingency Plan + Ensure onsite compliance with Biosecurity protocols |

3.a) Compartment manager (CM)

Definition of a strategy for use of the HHP qualification

The CM should define the **strategy for use** of the compartment in consultation with RV, *Official Veterinarian* and representatives of the Horse Industry (single use, multiple use, all in, all out, etc) including any modification of stable facilities and functional separation of HHP horses. The CM should establish the strategy for the **timing** of departure to travel of the **selected horse(s) in the compartment**.

Timing should take into account HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate's requirements for testing, vaccination and residency periods. It is recommended to **plan** the qualification process for the compartment in such a way that certification of HHP horses for travel coincides with the qualification of the compartment, particularly for single use and first used compartment.

Compliance with HHP requirements

The CM is designated responsible for the continuous compliance with biosecurity procedures and all other requirements pertaining to the compartment's and horses' status for all of the horses in the compartment.

The CM should understand the **requirements of HHP membership**, through discussion, as appropriate, with the RV, *Official Veterinarian*, representatives of the Horse industry. He should **sign an acknowledgement** stating his understanding and acceptance of the procedures and requirements associated with the HHP framework. He should especially ensure that horses kept in the compartment are individually identified, that the compartment is physically separated from the rest of the equine population, that biosecurity standard operating procedures for the compartment are established and documented, and that the biosecurity provisions and best practices are met at all times.

The CM is responsible for ensuring that **all persons** having direct contact with horses in the compartment (staff, farriers, visitors, veterinarians, etc.) comply with all biosecurity rules and procedures and good hygiene practices at all times when visiting the compartment.

The CM is responsible for ensuring that **the health and well-being of horses** under their care is continuously monitored.

The CM should record any observation, visits and events such as RV visits and movements of horses to attend approved events, and keep them up to date (See [Documentation of compliance with the HHP provisions](#)).

Under the overall responsibility of the designated CM, a supervisor can also be designated for each compartment and should take responsibility on a day-to-day basis for ensuring that **the compartment complies with the HHP requirements**.

Disease surveillance and notification

The CM should be aware of his responsibilities under national and relevant state or provincial legislation on animal health, including the requirement to **report any sign of disease or infection** without delay to the RV.

3.b) Responsible veterinarian (RV)

Veterinary supervision (compartment)

The responsibility for veterinary supervision of horses in the compartment lies with a RV who should be registered/ **certified with the Horse industry** (as appropriate) and should be **authorised for this purpose by the Veterinary Authority**.

During the qualification period, and upon qualification as a compartment, the continuous veterinary supervision by the RV (**at least one visit per week**) should ensure the high health status of the horses in the compartment (including the inspection of temperature records at each visit) and that HHP biosecurity procedures are correctly applied. During each visit, the RV should observe biosecurity practices.

The RV should perform the **tests and vaccinations** (as applicable depending on the country's health status) for qualification of the candidate compartment, as well as the tests and residency periods (as applicable depending on the country's health status) for certification of HHP horses for travel.

The RV should report any **suspicion of disease notifiable** under national and relevant state or provincial legislation on animal health without delay to the *Veterinary Authority*.

The RV should ensure that all **veterinary interventions are recorded** in individual medical records.

Veterinary supervision (event)

A RV should examine HHP horses on arrival at the event.

All HHP horses should be under **continuous supervision** by a RV responsible for the health of all horses at the event. He may be assisted by private veterinarians registered or certified by the Horse industry and official veterinarians.

Individual records should be kept of all checks on horse health. Any suspicion of infectious disease including any recorded fever in a horse at the event should be reported without delay, in line with event management rules of the Horse industry (and the legislation on disease notification as advised by the *Official Veterinarian* in the event of a notifiable disease).

3.c) Official veterinarian and Veterinary Authority

Animal disease surveillance and control

Effective Veterinary Services should meet the OIE performance standards for key activities, including **disease surveillance, early detection, rapid response and reporting**, as set out in the *Terrestrial Code*, Chapters 3.1 and 3.2. All of these activities should be underpinned by veterinary legislation, as outlined in *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 3.4.

Based on the legislation in force, the *Veterinary Authority* **should have official policies** on animal disease surveillance and reporting, on disease prevention and control programmes. The *Veterinary Authority* should be responsible for reporting suspicion or confirmation of a reportable pathogen or disease to the OIE according to the procedures in the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 1.1.

Approval and qualification of compartments and HHP stables

The *Official Veterinarian* should examine the biosecurity and management practices at **the start and at the end of the qualification period**. He may also conduct unannounced visits during the qualification period.

At the end of the qualification period, the *Official Veterinarian* should inspect all individual horses in the candidate compartment, check records of the veterinary supervision and records in the individual passports and if satisfactory, the *Official Veterinarian* **qualifies the compartment**.

For “multiple use strategy”, the *Official Veterinarian* should conduct **audits** (at least annually), including unannounced visits.

An *Official Veterinarian* may also conduct audits, including unannounced visits, of any HHP facility (compartments, lay-over points, event venues).

Disqualification

Any health or biosecurity concern should be investigated and reported to the RV, who will inform the *Official Veterinarian* (when appropriate). The *Official Veterinarian* is responsible for disqualifying the compartments and HHP horses at any time due to health risk or non-compliance with HHP requirements.

Veterinary health certification (exporting country)

The credibility of a health certificate depends on the professional integrity of the certifying veterinarian and this should be upheld and safeguarded at all times, as stated in the *Terrestrial Code* Section 3 - Quality of Veterinary Services².

² Code Chapter 3.1 - Veterinary services [http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_vet_serv.htm]
Code Chapter 3.2 - Evaluation of veterinary services [http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_eval_vet_serv.htm]
Code Chapter 3.3 - Communication [http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_communication.htm]
Code Chapter 3.4 - Veterinary Legislation [http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_vet_legislation.htm]

The *Veterinary Authority* should be fully informed about the conditions that apply to HHP horses for **temporary export**. In accordance with *Terrestrial Code* Article 5.2.2, for the purposes of official certification, the passport should be examined, verified and signed by an *Official Veterinarian* in the appropriate section of the Passport.

Any issued initial or onward HHP Veterinary Certificate is to be recorded in the international database.

Approval and inspection (importing country)

The *Veterinary Authority* of the importing country (i.e. the country hosting the event) should be informed of, and if deemed necessary should approve the routes, **lay-over points and biosecurity plan** for the transportation of HHP horses.

The *Veterinary Authority* of the importing country should approve the **event venue** and the **event biosecurity plan**.

The *Official Veterinarian* of the importing country should perform an inspection of the HHP horses **on arrival at the border or any other venue accepted by the Official Veterinarian**. The *Official Veterinarian* can verify correctness of the Veterinary Certificate in the international database.

The *Official Veterinarian* of the importing country can disqualify HHP horses or HHP stables (lay over points or event venue) at any time if he perceives a health risk or non-compliance with HHP requirements.

3.d) Horse Industry (National Equestrian Federations - National Horseracing Authority)

Registration of compartments and HHP stables

Candidate compartments and HHP stables (lay-over points and event venues) should be approved by the *Veterinary Authority* and registered by the Horse industry.

The Horse industry should **liaise with the Official Veterinarian** to schedule the inspection for approval.

The Horse industry should **register all HHP facilities** in the international database and should keep their **status up to date**.

Traceability of attendance at an event

The Horse industry should record in the international database the **arrival and departure** of the HHP horses at an event and provide updated travel schedules to inform the *Official Veterinarian*/the *Veterinary Authority*, especially in the case of delay of arrival/departure.

Event biosecurity and contingency plans

Events should be managed according to the FEI Rules for equestrian events (contained in the FEI Veterinary Regulations) or the Rules of Racing (contained in the national regulations of the horseracing authority of the host country for international race events).

Event organising committees (OC) should establish **biosecurity plans which should include contingency plans**. The biosecurity provisions should follow the FEI Veterinary Regulations and the International Agreement on Breeding, Racing and Wagering and the national regulations of the horseracing authority, as appropriate. The biosecurity plan should include the provisions for a functional separation of HHP horses from equidae not of equivalent health status.

In planning and organising an event, the OC should ensure that officials, participants and support personnel comply with veterinary legislation and official health measures, notably those pertaining to the **HHP requirements**.

Compliance with the event biosecurity and contingency plans

During an event, the Horse industry should **inspect** all areas at different times of day, so as to avoid the predictability of the routine visits. Whenever an incidence of non-compliance with biosecurity rules is detected, corrective action should be taken immediately, and the *Official Veterinarian* should be notified when necessary.

3.e) Transporters

During transport between the compartment in the country of usual residence and the venue in the country of destination, biosecurity should be continuously maintained following **documented standard operating procedures**, so that the horse's health status is not compromised. HHP horses may only be transported with equidae of equivalent health status.

Transporters should inform themselves about their **responsibilities under animal health and welfare legislation** and international standards including those applicable to animal welfare during transport, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Code* (Chapters 7.2, 7.3, 7.4), and comply with these responsibilities.

A person with responsibility for ensuring compliance with health and biosecurity requirements of exporting and importing countries should be designated. This person should compile and submit the contingency plan and should maintain up-to-date contact details of representatives of the *Veterinary Authority* in areas where they operate.

The planning of transport should include a **contingency plan for emergency situations**.

A person accompanying the horse(s) for the duration of the journey should be made responsible for maintaining the horses' HHP status and welfare during transport. The responsible person should inform the Horse industry and *Official Veterinarian / Veterinary Authority* of any incident of delay/injury of the horse(s) in transit.

PART 2

Biosecurity guidelines and HHP management

(Updated as of December 2016)

This section provides recommendations on the **biosecurity requirements** for the management of the subpopulation of HHP horses in the HHP facilities (home stables (=compartments), HHP stables (=lay-over points and event venues) and during transport.

The biosecurity requirements aim at mitigating the risk of disease transmission by horses from outside of the subpopulation, animals, people, vehicles, equipment, feed, water, pests, etc. The risk of venereal transmission is also addressed by the prohibition of breeding activities in the subpopulation. Depending on the disease situation in any country/zone where HHP horses are held (country of residence, place of temporary residence, event venue), vector protection should also be considered.

Furthermore, this section provides recommendations for the management of the subpopulation of HHP horses, such as traceability, compliance monitoring and contingency planning. **Traceability and compliance monitoring** are of utmost importance for the integrity of the HHP framework and should be ensured at all times from the start of the qualification period until the return to the country of usual residence. Considering the HHP framework as a risk mitigation approach (not a zero-risk approach), **contingency planning** to prepare an effective and rapid response to contain any disease incident should be fully integrated.

These recommendations should be read in conjunction with:

- The **OIE standards** and recommendations on disease surveillance, reporting, prevention and control, and veterinary health certification for listed diseases of equines and relevant diseases of multiple species, which are found in the *Terrestrial Code*³, the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*⁴, and in Resolutions⁵ of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates.
- The **FEI Veterinary Regulations**⁶ and general rules⁷.
- The **IFHA Guidelines** to Facilitate the Temporary Movement of Registered Racehorses for International Races⁸.

³ <http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>

⁴ <http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/>

⁵ <http://www.oie.int/en/about-us/key-texts/resolutions-and-recommendations/resolutions-adopted-by-the-oie-international-committee/>

⁶ <http://www.fei.org/veterinary/veterinary-regulations>

⁷ <http://www.fei.org/rules/general>

⁸ <http://www.horseracingintfed.com/resources/Guidelines2002.pdf>

1) HHP facilities

HHP facilities include home stables (compartment) and all HHP stables (lay-over points and event venues).

1.a) Construction

The HHP facilities should be separate buildings (permanent double fencing or other effective means of physical separation), an adequate distance away from any stable unit containing equidae that do not have a health status equivalent to that of HHP horses⁹. This distance should be determined according to the diseases of concern in the local population and should take into consideration the management measures implemented (e.g. vector control).

Where required, stable construction should take into consideration insect vector control (e.g. insect vector screening, fans, other insect control equipment).

All of the construction aspects should address animal **welfare considerations**, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Code* (Chapter 7.1). The HHP facilities should be **demarcated** and clearly identified.

Stables, barns and yards should be supplied with sufficient **lighting, electrical points and ventilation**.

Parking for trucks and trailers should be away from horses, barns, pens and pastures. Vehicle access to the HHP stabling area should be restricted to authorized personnel only.

Appropriate facilities should be provided to facilitate the **loading and unloading** of horses (See [Transport of HHP horses](#)).

Specific access to dedicated **grazing facilities** should be provided.

Stables should be constructed in such a way that they can be easily **cleaned and disinfected**.

Walls should be constructed of non-porous materials.

Facilities should have adequate **drainage**.

For home stables, a separate **isolation area** specifically dedicated to horses of the compartment should be provided in a separate building.

For HHP premises, a separate isolation area for HHP and non HHP horses should be provided.

In any case, the isolation area should be clearly labelled, separated as far as possible from general stabling, fenced, and accessible to authorized persons only. It should include, as a minimum, a room or designated area for storing equipment, facilities for hand washing and cleaning/disinfection of boots, and leak-proof bins for discarded items, including disposable protective equipment, and facilities for the handling and disposal of waste (manure, urine,

⁹ Examples of standard distances can be found in the Ressources listed in Annex.

bedding and feed) to avoid the contamination of stables and other areas outside the isolation area.

At event venues, facilities should be provided for the **inspection/examination** of all horses on arrival.

A sufficient number of **horse wash-down areas** should be provided, so that horses will have to wait no longer than an adequate time for a wash.

1.b) Approval and registration

The compartments and all HHP stables (lay-over points, event venues) should be **approved by the Veterinary Authority** to host HHP horses and should be **registered by the Horse industry** in the international database.

Compartments should be identified by the name and contact details of the CM, GPS coordinates of the compartment, and the name and contact details of the RV, including out-of-hours contact information.

2) Biosecurity management

The following biosecurity principles should be complied with at all times in any HHP facility to include home, layover and event stabling.

2.a) Hygiene

The stables and stabling area (including temporary stabling) should be **cleaned, disinfected, disinsected, and inspected** prior to the entry of new HHP horses.

Walls and floors should be free of manure and organic debris prior to disinfection and an appropriate disinfectant targeting organisms of concern should be utilized.

Horses should have access to **clean bedding, fresh clean water** and **clean high quality equine feed** free of molds, toxins and debris.

Stables should be well-maintained. The stalls should be cleaned daily. **General circulation areas** should be kept clean, free of standing water, regularly and thoroughly scrubbed with an appropriate detergent/disinfectant and allowed to dry.

Feed should be stored in closed, **insect-proof** and **vermin-proof** containers, and hay stored off the ground.

Staff handling horses in the compartment should be trained in good everyday hygiene practices, especially effective hand washing and disinfection of items, and their use of these practices should be monitored.

Hand washing facilities and alcohol hand gels and footwear cleansing facility should be provided for use by persons handling or coming into contact with horses. **Multiple language signage** should be posted to remind people to use these facilities (including instructions for hand washing).

Disinfection mats may be placed at entries and exits of stables and barns. The mats should be inspected for organic debris and disinfectant saturation regularly (at least twice daily) to maintain their effectiveness. If excess debris is detected mats should be cleaned and resaturated with disinfectant.

2.b) Separation from other horses and animals

Direct (e.g. nose to nose) and indirect contact with horses that have not qualified for HHP membership or with any horse of lower health status should be prevented at all times.

The facilities for training and exercising HHP horses should provide for functional separation between HHP horses and equids that are not similarly qualified. **During competition and exercise**, horses of different health status may come into close proximity, **standard operating procedures** should be implemented to facilitate training and competition while minimising risks associated with close proximity of horses that have a different health status. If HHP horses are to be exercised on the same facilities as equidae of non-equivalent health status, the HHP horses should use them at designated times. There should be signage outside exercise areas in multiple languages announcing restrictions of exercise area or physical barrier access control arrangements during certain time periods. The exercise area should be monitored by an individual responsible for restricting access to HHP horses during the designated time period.

Facilities such as **wash down areas, swimming pools, water exercise/therapy machines and rolling boxes** should not be shared by equidae that are not of equivalent health status, unless an adequate disinfection protocol has been implemented.

Individual **water buckets** should be used. Communal water troughs should be avoided.

Animals other than horses should not be allowed access into the HHP facilities.

Measures should be taken to prevent the access of **birds, wildlife** (including rodents) and **insects** into the HHP facilities.

2.c) Equipment and vehicles

Equipment that is not **dedicated to HHP horses** should be cleaned and sanitised before use with a HHP horse.

A compartment should have its **own dedicated equipment**, including grooming equipment. These should be kept clean and sanitised as appropriate. All equipment should be **clearly marked as belonging to the compartment** and should be used only on these horses.

Transport vehicles should be cleaned regularly (disinfection inside and washing outside), especially after visiting another farm or co-mingling site, and carrying horses of non-HHP status. **Equipment used in trailers/trucks/transport vehicles** should be dedicated to the horses being transported.

2.d) Control of access

Only authorised persons should be allowed to enter the HHP facilities and this authorisation should be recorded. A system for checking the entry and exit of horses and the authorisation of

persons entering the HHP facilities (including recording entry and exit outside normal working hours) should be provided (e.g. log book).

All people handling HHP horses should strictly follow biosecurity rules. They should have dedicated outer clothing and shoes to wear only in the compartment. They should wash and disinfect hands before entering the compartment.

In a compartment, veterinarians, staff, farriers and other persons with access to different groups of horses might represent a high risk for disease introduction/transmission since they frequently come in contact with and handle horses of different health status. **Standard operating procedures** should be implemented for the biosecure intervention of the visiting farrier, veterinarians and all visiting personnel that have had contact with equidae that are not of equivalent health status.

2.e) Additional biosecurity provisions for an event

All the provisions for the biosecure management of HHP facilities listed above also apply to the management of events however, additional considerations should be addressed when planning an event.

In planning an event, organisers in collaboration with veterinarians should develop an **event biosecurity plan**, including an assessment of biosecurity risks and arrangements to address them, preferably using standard operating procedures to minimise risks. The written event biosecurity plan should be **approved by the Veterinary Authority** well in advance (e.g. under the FEI Veterinary Regulations, organisers should give the *Veterinary Authority* at least 4 months' notice of the intention to hold an event).

The *Veterinary Authority* should stipulate in the approval that measures such as functional separation are appropriate to the prevailing risks and that all required biosecurity measures are in place.

Event officials and participants should be aware of and **comply** with the biosecurity provisions. Authorisation to enter a venue brings with it a responsibility to respect biosecurity rules and sanctions may be applied in case of non-compliance and appropriate corrective actions undertaken.

The event biosecurity plan should be communicated to all participants before the event and the requirements displayed at the venue with appropriate signage in multiple languages.

The **main elements** of a biosecurity plan for an event should include the following, as a minimum:

- Layout of the venue and record of the stable assigned to each horse as well as provisions for an **effective functional separation** of HHP horses from equidae not of equivalent health status, including provisions for risk based biosecure separation of groups of horses at the venue (stabling based on risk (e.g. geographic origin, etc.)) and including also standard operating procedures to mitigate disease risks during the training, warm-up and competition.

- Documented health monitoring and clinical signs triggering action as well as the **contingency plan** to manage an outbreak of infectious disease (See [Contingency planning](#)).
- **Risk assessment and mitigation measures** for OIE listed diseases and local endemic diseases including vector control.
- **Health requirements for all horses** (including non HHP horses) that are going to enter the venue to assess and mitigate disease risks. For non HHP horses, this should include definition of minimum health status and/or screening for relevant local diseases.
- Precautions to protect all horses against **insects** (depending on the disease situation in the country hosting the event). The stable/block should be equipped with devices to kill vectors and windows and doors should be screened against the entry of vectors. Insect repellents should also be used to protect horses against insect attack while outside the stable, with due consideration for periods of maximum vector activity.
- Provisions to minimise the risk of transmission of **piroplasmiasis**, including iatrogenic transmission, to horses that are seronegative in areas with potential for vector transmission. HHP horses that are seropositive for piroplasmiasis should be held in separate vector protected HHP stables. The facility and immediate surroundings of the stables and exercise/competition areas should be free of vegetation as far as possible and the surrounding areas should be treated with an effective acaricide before the arrival of horses; at regular intervals while they are present, and after all horses have left. Horses that are seropositive for piroplasmiasis should be checked for ticks at least daily and treated with an effective acaricide at prescribed intervals.
- Prevention of the entry of unauthorised persons to HHP facilities. In general terms, there should be two groups of **authorised personnel** at an event, those authorised to enter a particular barn (e.g. grooms) and those authorised to enter multiple areas (e.g. veterinarians) who should wear protective clothing and apply disinfection procedures on entry to and exit from each area. Authorised personnel should be required to carry with them appropriate authorisation for their access and their activities in the stables.
- Procedures for **cleaning and disinfection** of horse stalls and removal and management of wastes
- Source of **feed and water**, including storage of feed.
- Control of **vehicles** within the venue.
- Record keeping and regular verification of horse's identity, including records for all documentation needed in order to trace horses at the event (See [Documentation of compliance with the HHP provisions](#)).
- Biosecurity '**chain of command**' (i.e. authorities, responsibilities and reporting lines for the implementation of the biosecurity plan at an equestrian event venue).

- **Stable security around the clock.** The designated HHP stable area should be under 24 hour supervision by designated personnel or officials (e.g. stewards). No horse should leave the designated venue during the event, unless specifically authorised and recorded by the designated officials.

The minimal provisions for veterinary services at an event should include:

- **Means of communication** between veterinarians, including veterinary officials and veterinarians attending individual horses (e.g. mobile phones and radio; 24 hour contact details).
- **Equipment** and sufficient trained and experienced **personnel**, familiar with procedures and emergency plans, to deal with all equine emergencies.
- Access to equipment and sufficient trained and experienced **personnel** for moving injured or sick horses in a humane manner.
- At least one authorised attending veterinarian present and **available at all times**, from the moment horses arrive at the event.
- At least one authorised attending veterinarian **on duty** and near the area **during competitions and prize-giving events.**
- At least one authorised attending veterinarian **on duty during all training times.**
- Access to a veterinarian experienced in the **diagnosis of equine infectious diseases.**
- Agreement with a HHP approved specialist **equine veterinary clinic**, with 24 hour contact information.
- Access to a veterinarian experienced in **biosecurity and infectious and zoonotic disease control.**
- Access to a veterinary **diagnostic laboratory** with capacity for rapid agent detection during the entire event.
- Access to a **veterinary pathology laboratory** capable of conducting a full post mortem examination on a horse.

3) Veterinary supervision

3.a) Routine health supervision

Compartment A **daily observation and a twice daily temperature check** (at least eight hours apart) of each horse should be carried out and the results should be recorded. A horse with a resting temperature greater than 38.5°C (101.6F), or any other abnormality, should be **reported immediately to the RV** (See [Contingency planning](#)).

Continuous **veterinary supervision** should be ensured (at least one visit per week by the RV) and records of veterinary visits and interventions should be kept and made available to the Horse industry or the *Veterinary Authority* for audit as may be required.

Event All HHP horses should be under continuous supervision by a RV responsible for the health of all horses at the event. In addition to monitoring the clinical presentation and performance of horses, the **temperature** should be checked and documented at least twice daily (8 hours apart). The RV may be assisted by private veterinarians registered or certified by the Horse industry and official veterinarians. Any signs suggestive of disease should be reported to the RV or a designated person. A horse with a resting temperature greater than 38.5°C (101.6 F) should be reported to an official (See [Contingency planning](#)).

3.b) Veterinary interventions

Administration of drugs and other veterinary treatments should be carried out in a manner that will prevent the transmission of pathogens. **Needles** and **syringes** should not be reused. Other equipment used on horses should be new and preferably disposable. Equipment should be **discarded in a safe manner after use**. If not discarded, equipment should be **cleaned and disinfected** before use on another horse.

Veterinary drugs should be securely stored and properly handled according to manufacturer's guidelines.

3.c) Veterinary examination on arrival at the event

HHP horses should be moved directly from means of transport to event HHP stables and be examined by an authorized veterinarian **as soon as possible after arrival**.

For non-HHP horses the examination should be performed by an authorized veterinarian and completed as soon as possible after the horse arrives at the event venue and **prior to the horse entering the designated non HHP stabling area**.

Once the horse's health status, identity, and documentation of **all of the horses that were transported together**¹⁰ have been checked and confirmed, they may join the designated stable area at the event venue¹¹.

The veterinary inspection for fitness to compete should be separate from the health examination on arrival.

The examination and assessment of documentation on arrival should include, as a minimum:

- Verifying horse's **identity** by reference to its identity document (passport¹²; microchip if applicable);
- Verifying horse's **vaccination** history (including the record of vaccination for equine influenza);
- Verifying the HHP Certificate;
- Verifying absence of stay or transit in an **area or premise** that is **under official restrictions** for an infectious disease.

¹⁰ All of the horses that were transported together are considered to have the same health status, due to the fact that they were in a close confined space.

¹¹ The FEI Veterinary Regulations set out the procedures for the examination on arrival (Article 1032).

¹² The FEI Veterinary Regulations set out the procedures for passport checking (Article 1029 and in relation to irregularities Article 1030)

The horse should be free of clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease at the time of the examination and be free from external parasites. It should have a normal temperature. An elevated temperature is not uncommon in horses that have been subjected to the stress of international transportation. Any horse with a resting temperature higher than 38.5°C (101.6 F) immediately after arrival should be placed in isolation and have its temperature rechecked after a period of 2 hours. If a horse shows a temperature that remains above 38.5°C (101.6 F) or if the horse appears dehydrated or depressed, or has clinical signs such as depression, neurological signs, respiratory signs or diarrhoea, and/or fever, the horse should be isolated for further veterinary investigation (See [Contingency planning](#)).

4) Transport of HHP horses

4.a) Planning

The transporter (*i.e.* transport company or CM) should be responsible for **planning** and submitting the route and identification of lay over points to the *Veterinary Authority* of the exporting country for approval prior to certification.

Horses that are transported together are considered to have the same health status, due to the fact that they are in a close confined space. Accordingly, HHP horses should **only be transported with equidae of equivalent health status**.

Horses should not travel longer than allowed under relevant national animal **welfare** legislations and relevant international standards for animal welfare during transport as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Code* (Chapters 7.2, 7.3, 7.4).

The availability of **approved HHP stables** where HHP horses are offloaded or held during journey breaks should be considered.

The transit through **areas that are under official restrictions relating to a notifiable disease** cannot be included in the travel plan.

The **risks associated with vector borne pathogens** should be considered. If the transport route passes through an area that is at risk for vector-borne disease of equids, risk mitigation should be considered (use of a trailer or stall that is screened to prevent entry of insects; transport at times of reduced vector activity; avoiding stops at times of high vector activity; use of insect repellents on the horse and on fixtures inside the trailer, use of fans). For air transportation, if transit stops occur in a country or area of unknown disease risk, or one that is known to be infected with a vector-borne disease of equids, steps should be taken to reduce the risk of insect attack. Risk mitigation strategies may include: the use of an air stall that is screened to prevent entry of insects; keeping the horse within the air stall while the aircraft is on the ground, and the use of insect repellents on the horse and disinsection inside the stall (only approved chemicals may be used inside aircraft and on aircraft equipment).

A person accompanying the horse(s) for the duration of the journey should be made **responsible** for maintaining the horses' HHP status during transport. This person should be well experienced in equine management.

Transporters should implement **documented standard operating procedures** which should be made available to the *Veterinary Authority* upon request

The final decision on the conditions that apply during transport, including combining of horses in consignments, routes and lay-overs, rests with the *Veterinary Authority* **hosting the equestrian event** (i.e. of the country into which the horse will be temporarily imported) and the *Veterinary Authority* of the country accepting the horse back/on all stages of journey.

4.b) Loading and unloading

Home stables and all HHP stables should be equipped with facilities for the loading and unloading of horses from trailers, accessible to authorized persons only. At event venues, the loading/unloading area should be **conveniently located to facilities for veterinary examination/inspection**.

The loading/unloading area should be quiet and of adequate size and should be kept in **good order**, free of manure and cleaned (disinfection inside and washing outside) regularly, with particular reference to any scheduled loading/unloading of horses.

There should be a direct **biosecure access route** to the loading and unloading area for HHP horses and an area to clean and disinfect these vehicles. Facilities for cleaning (disinfection inside, washing outside) of horse trailers (before and immediately after the transportation of visiting horses) should be provided on site (in or near the trailer parking area).

Wash facilities should have adequate **drainage** to prevent water pooling in areas where horses are stabled or exercised.

4.c) Transportation by road or sea

Horses should be moved in **suitable trailers**¹³ / **shipping containers**¹⁴ which should be cleaned (disinfected and disinfected, inside and washed outside) before and after the transportation of HHP horses.

4.d) Transportation by air

Transport by air should comply with the **IATA and OIE requirements**¹⁵.

Access to equipment used in aeroplanes is controlled by Airport Authorities for security reasons.

All personnel involved with the unloading/reloading of the aircraft and the clearance of cargo and personnel should be informed of relevant health and biosecurity requirements.

¹³ *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land

http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_aw_land_transpt.htm

¹⁴ *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* Chapter 7.2. Transport of animals by sea http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_aw_sea_transpt.htm

¹⁵ The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is the airlines' trade association, with 140 members in 2013. The OIE and IATA signed an official cooperation agreement in 2008. The IATA Live Animal Regulations (LAR) contain up-to-date airline and government specific requirements for the transport of live animals, including animal handling, marking, labelling and documentation requirements. In the *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 7.4

[\[http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.7.4.htm\]](http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.7.4.htm) contains general provisions on the transport of animals by air and makes reference to the LAR, which contain much more detailed recommendations. The LAR publication is provided to IATA members and may be purchased online

[\[https://www.iataonline.com/Store/Products/Product+Detail.htm?cs_id=9105-39&cs_catalog=Publications\]](https://www.iataonline.com/Store/Products/Product+Detail.htm?cs_id=9105-39&cs_catalog=Publications)

Thorough **cleaning, disinfection** and **disinsection** of air stalls should be undertaken before and after shipment of HHP horses. Appropriately authorised personnel or contractors should be provided with the necessary equipment for effective cleaning and disinfection. For safety reasons, only disinfectants that are approved for use within aircraft should be used.

For the purpose of air transport, horses are normally shipped in air stalls. HHP horses should be **accompanied** by a highly experienced, preferably professional, flying groom or a veterinarian during air transport.

5) Contingency planning

Written contingency plans should be developed for all facilities in which HHP horses are held (home stable, temporary places of residence, event venue, transport).

5.a) General provisions

Criteria for putting the contingency plan into action should be defined, including the decision making process and the decision maker for each action item designated in the plan.

The chain of command in the event of an outbreak or suspected outbreak of infectious disease (authorities, responsibilities, reporting lines) and with 24 hour contact details of all key personnel in the chain of command should be documented.

Liaison **arrangements with the Veterinary Authority** should be specified.

Liaison **arrangements with medical authorities** in the event of an outbreak of a zoonotic disease should be specified.

Protocol for **keeping records**, including logistic and veterinary aspects should be provided.

Equipment for use in the case of a **fire** and appropriate planning, including a designated area and transportation plan, if necessary for evacuation of horses, should be undertaken.

Personal protective equipment (such as coveralls, gloves and boots or waterproof footwear protection) for use in emergency situations should be provided.

A supplier that could supply bulk disinfectant in an emergency situation should be identified.

Procedures and equipment for the humane **euthanasia of horses** should be provided.

Liaison agreements with appropriate off site facilities and equipment to handle biosecure **disposal of horse carcasses**, potentially infective material, including manure, used bedding, and uneaten feed (e.g. composting or incineration) should be provided.

Standard operating procedures for the service industries (e.g. feed and water delivery, manure removal) in case of disease incident should be provided.

Access to scientific diagnostic expertise, on site or at a nearby laboratory with sufficient capacity and capability including rapid agent detection should be ensured, **for prompt diagnosis**.

Equine hospital/clinic holding HHP horses should be approved by the *Veterinary Authority* and should be aware of the requirements pertaining to the HHP status (if the equine hospital/clinic cannot provide HHP dedicated isolation stabling, the horse loses its status).

The RV or a designated official should inform and seek advice from the *Official Veterinarian / Veterinary Authority* for **transfer** of the HHP horse to the Equine Hospital/ Clinic for treatment.

If veterinary officials consider that a sick horse should be **transferred** from an event venue to a designated facility, the event organiser should be informed of the veterinary rationale for this and should advise the person responsible for the horse of the decision.

Standard operating procedures including biosecurity measures for the **movement** of HHP horses between the HHP facility and the equine hospital/clinic that is located outside of the facility for hospitalised treatment, surgery or diagnostic procedures should be documented.

The decision on subsequent movement of the horse should be taken by an *Official Veterinarian* in consultation with the owner /CM, rider or trainer, as appropriate.

5.b) Management of disease suspicion or outbreak

Any horse developing clinical signs suggestive of an infectious disease should be reported immediately to the RV and should immediately be sent to the **isolation facility**.

Determination of the **risk status of other horses** (e.g. infected, exposed, high risk, low risk) should be based on a clinical and epidemiological assessment with reference to the risk factors specific to the disease of concern. If it is considered that a horse has been exposed to animals with an infectious disease, or which present any biosecurity threat, it should be **placed in isolation**.

Any horse that **does not meet the health requirements** should not be allowed to enter the designated stable area at an event and may be placed in isolation. All of the horses that travelled with a horse considered to present a risk should also be considered to present a risk and should be placed in isolation.

Any horse placed in isolation should be kept under **close veterinary supervision**. Its clinical condition should be the subject of a **full veterinary investigation**, including a review of the vaccination and testing history. **Appropriate samples** should be submitted to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory for **diagnostic tests** to be performed.

A local representative of the *Veterinary Authority* should **be informed** without delay when the presence of a reportable disease is suspected or confirmed. Directions of the *Veterinary Authority* or the Horse industry relating to movement restrictions or other biosecurity measures might be put into effect promptly.

Any horse undergoing testing or investigation, or suspected of an infectious disease should **not leave the HHP facility** without specific authorisation by the designated officials or, if applicable, the *Veterinary Authority* or designee, even after the completion of the event.

Horses may be **released** from isolation and moved back to original stabling area once a veterinary investigation has ruled out the presence of any infectious disease that poses a risk to other horses at the event.

Access to the isolation stable should be restricted to **authorised persons** and steps taken to prevent access by other people, including security measures such as perimeter fencing and the placement of appropriate signage in multiple languages.

Persons handling horses in isolation should not handle other horses outside of isolation stabling. Any person working in the isolation facility should use coveralls dedicated to the isolation area and a **hygiene protocol**, including washing and disinfection of hands and boots should be required.

Isolation stables should be provided with separate, dedicated equipment, including personal protective equipment (coveralls, gloves and boots or waterproof footwear protection) and stable cleaning tools. The use of these items should be restricted to the isolation stable. After use, these items should be cleaned and sanitised or, if disposable, disposed off in a biosecurity manner such as incineration, burying, burning or any other method deemed appropriate.

Waste from the isolation stable (manure, urine, straw, uneaten feed) should be contained in leak-proof containers and disposed of in a biosecure manner.

After the release of horses from isolation, the isolation facility should be **cleaned and disinfected**.

In case of disease suspicion or outbreak, **health monitoring of all the horses** on the premises should be intensified, ideally a minimum of three checks per day (including temperature and inspection).

The **identity of all horses** present on the premises should be checked.

Physical security at all entrances and exits should be enhanced.

Temporary standstill of horse movements on the premises and surrounding areas may be imposed by either Horse industry or the *Veterinary Authority* pending veterinary investigation.

Arrangements to enhance the biosecurity, including provisions to maintain the **isolation and separation of horses** that are affected or considered to be exposed/at risk from horses that are considered to be of no risk or low risk should be provided on the basis of the epidemiology of the disease of concern and its **routes of transmission**.

Horse to horse contact should **be prohibited on the premises**.

The number of persons handling and coming into contact with horses should be restricted to the minimum. Only essential handling should be undertaken.

If appropriate, considering the routes of transmission of the disease of concern, all areas that are touched by horses or by human hands should be **cleaned and disinfected** daily (e.g. such as fences, wash racks, bathroom sinks, taps and door handles). **Any sharing of equipment** should stop. Common use items, such as cross ties and washing equipment should be removed and horse owners required to use their own equipment. Horses should not be tied to fences outside arenas or stabling areas. All previously shared equipment should be cleaned and disinfected. Participants and all individuals handling horses, equipment, supplies or vehicles should be

informed about cleaning and disinfection protocols and requested to clean and disinfect their horse equipment, vehicle and horse trailer before leaving the HHP facility. **Cleaning and disinfection protocols** (including supplies of disinfectants) for facilities, fixed equipment and horse trailers, equipment used with horses (harness etc.) should be provided.

Dogs should be removed from the event venue.

The consequences of a disease incident for the health status of the rest of the subpopulation should depend on the nature of the **disease of concern** and on the **conclusion of the epidemiological investigation** regarding the presumed origin of the incident (e.g. biosecurity breach).

5.c) Contingency plans for transport

The planning of transport should include a contingency plan for **emergency situations** such as a disease outbreak, a vehicle breakdown, traffic accident or a horse being injured or sick during transport.

The documented transportation and contingency plan should be presented by the transporter to the *Veterinary Authority* **for approval** well in advance of the horse leaving its compartment.

The contingency plan should address human safety, the welfare and safety of the transported horse, and the maintenance of biosecurity.

The **main elements** of a contingency plan for the transport of horses should be:

- A list of names and 24-hours contact details for use in any emergency situation. This information should be kept by the driver or accompanying person and by the owner of the horse / CM. Key contacts include the horse's attending veterinarian, the officials from the Horse industry responsible for an event and the local representative of the *Veterinary Authority*;
- Means of tracking and communicating with the transport vehicle;
- Protocols for obtaining the latest restrictions related to notifiable diseases during transit;
- Provisions for safe unloading of horses in case of need (e.g. at borders);
- A revised route that could be taken in the event of problems. Avoid passing through an area that is the subject of official restrictions relating to a notifiable disease;
- Arrangements for horses to be transferred to another vehicle, if necessary;
- Arrangements for the emergency euthanasia of an injured horse.

The relevant *Veterinary Authority* should be informed of any issue arising during transport.

5.d) Communication in case of a disease incident at an event

CMs, riders and trainers should be informed prior to an event and during the event of the contingency planning arrangements, including the name and contact details of designated officials in the contingency plan chain of command and the criteria for activating the contingency plan.

CMS, riders and trainers should be notified of the location of the contingency plan document on the event grounds. The contingency plan document should be available on site for review upon request.

A **communication plan** should be developed, so that this can be deployed without delay in the case of a disease incident. Event organisers should prepare biosecurity signage in multiple languages for posting at critical locations and a list of the locations where signage in multiple languages will be posted.

Arrangements should be in place for the **communication of critical information**, such as restrictions on horse movements and other decisions of the *Veterinary Authority*, protocols for personal hygiene, cleaning and disinfection of equipment used with horses and of horse trailers and sources of approved disinfectants.

A **spokesperson** or spokespersons for communication with the media who preferably had previous media experience with subject matter expertise should be designated as part of the contingency plan.

The **sources of information** and channels of communication should be defined (based on the situation consideration should be given to modes of communications such as website alerts, facebook posting, loud speaker announcements, email notifications, text notification).

Before an event (e.g. registration of participants), participants should be informed that temporary movement restrictions, testing of horses, or any other necessary measure, may be imposed in the case of a disease incident and should be asked to **confirm acceptance**.

6) Documentation of compliance with the HHP provisions

6.a) Horse identification

Each horse should bear a **permanent unique identifier** that makes it possible to link the animal to its mandatory identification document required to verify the identity, establish the ownership and vaccination status of the horse and trace its past movements.

Preferably, HHP horses should be identified with micro-chips ISO 11784/11785 compliant (using 134.2kHz) (15 digit number). In case a HHP horse is identified with a micro-chip which is not ISO 11784/11785 compliant or which cannot be read by standard multiscanners, a scanner should be supplied by the shipper to accompany the horse during its HHP journey.

Each horse should be accompanied at all times by its individual **passport** as required by the FEI General Regulations (GR) Article 137 and the IFHA International Agreement (Article 15). In addition to the identification and information on the owner of the horse, all official veterinary examinations and details of official tests and treatments, including vaccinations, should be **recorded** and verified whenever the passport is checked.

Every HHP horses should be registered in the **international database managed by the Horse industry**. The *Veterinary Authority* should have access to this database.

6.b) Record keeping

The **registration of the compartments** (candidates and qualified) (and horses in the compartments) with the Horse industry bodies in a dedicated international database should provide full traceability to the *Veterinary Authorities*. Registration of the candidate compartment in the database should be the starting point for traceability. The database is key for traceability as it should link horse identity, travel history and health certificate(s).

If the equine health situation of the country where the candidate compartment is located permits that a horse can temporarily leave the stable to participate in approved competitions during the qualification period, its departure and return dates should be recorded by the CM.

Issuance of the HHP veterinary certificate, horse's departure (and return) in a compartment, and horse's arrival and departure at/from an event should be recorded in the international database.

Individual veterinary records should be kept by the CM and should include all checks on horse health, including temperature. These records should be made available to the RV and upon request to an authorised official or representative of the *Veterinary Authority*.

The RV should keep records of the veterinary visits and interventions.

Administration of vaccines should be recorded in the horses' passport. The CMs and the RV should ensure that any other veterinary or equine health intervention is also noted in a separate treatment record.

The biosecurity plan and management practices for the compartment should be documented by the CM and made available to the *Official Veterinarian* on request.

6.c) Monitoring compliance

Compliance with HHP requirements should be **documented and monitored** (at home stable and places of temporary residence, during transport, at an event) and corrective action should be taken immediately, when appropriate.

At an event, appropriately authorised officials should be available to provide and **supervise all veterinary and biosecurity requirements**. Designated personnel or officials should regularly monitor the stable area, without establishing a predetermined pattern, to ensure compliance with biosecurity and animal welfare requirements. They should report their findings, particularly any biosecurity breaches, to the designated lead official or deputy.

Any HHP health or **biosecurity concern** observed should be investigated and reported to the RV (who will inform the *Official Veterinarian* if appropriate), and may result in disqualification from HHP membership.

Non-compliance can result in suspension of the high health status of the compartment or in the suspension of the horse's membership of the HHP sub-population. Incidents of non-compliance should be immediately recorded in the international database by the Horse industry. In the event of a horse or compartment losing its status, a process of documentation should be followed and reflected in the international database.

PART 3

International travel and certification of HHP horses

(Updated as of December 2016)

1) General provisions for travel arrangements and health certification

1.a) Pre-departure and certification arrangements (departure from country of usual residence or from country of temporary residence)

The CM should confirm the **flight schedule** and the **arrangements for shipment** of the horse with the shipping agent.

The CM should also make the arrangements for an **import permit**, if it is required by the importing country.

The *Official Veterinarian* should be notified, by the CM or the shipping agent, at least 7 days prior to intended day of inspection. Arrangements for examination by the RV and **inspection and certification** by the *Official Veterinarian* should be made for the examination and inspection to take place in the 48 hours (or on the last working day) prior to scheduled day of departure.

If the inspection is satisfactory, the *Official Veterinarian* **issues the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate** for travel.

The HHP Veterinary Certificates should be kept together with the horse's passport. If the horse competes in several countries (figure 2), the successive HHP Onward Veterinary Certificates and a copy of the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate that was issued by the *Veterinary Authority* of the country of origin ('country of usual residence') should accompany the horse on each stage of its itinerary.

All documents required for entry into the receiving country should be transported with the horse and be made available to the Authorities at the time of arrival.

The issuance of the HHP Veterinary Certificates (Initial and Onward) and the departure of the HHP horse should be **recorded in the international database**¹⁶, and any associated document should be uploaded.

In case the horse doesn't travel to the designated destination within 10 days following the issuance of a HHP Veterinary Certificate (Initial or Onward), the certificate should be **withdrawn** and the Horse industry should be informed by CM.

1.b) Compliance with health requirements of importing countries

In the **transition period** between the launch of the HHP framework and the adoption of its principles and health requirements as stipulated in the HHP Initial and Onward Veterinary Certificates by OIE Member Countries, importing countries may have additional requirements. While the OIE promotes the universal use of the HHP Veterinary Certificates, additional requirements could be requested by the importing country depending on:

- the equine health status of the country of origin,

¹⁶ That applies to any event, including in the same country

- the equine health status of countries visited since departure from the country of usual residence,
- the length of time spent in each country,

In addition to the importing country health requirements, **specific health requirements** can be required **for the event** (to be checked in liaison with the event organiser).

The CM should, in collaboration with the RV and the *Official Veterinarian*, ascertain the official requirements for the country to which the horse will travel and the event in which it will compete, including testing, vaccination and pre-export isolation or quarantine, and should ensure that the horse meets all requirements.

Maximum period of temporary residence within a country. *Veterinary Authorities* may impose restrictions on the period for which horses may remain in the country of temporary residence. For example, Commission Decision 93/195/EEC¹⁷ permits the re-entry of registered horses for racing, competition and cultural events after temporary residence in approved third countries of the same EU sanitary group for up to **30 days a period that is extended up to 90 days in case of specific events**, and Commission Decision 92/260/EEC¹⁸ permits the temporary admission of registered horses into the EU for less than 90 days.

1.c) Compliance with health requirements for return of the horse to its country of usual residence

One of the key principles of the HHP framework is that horses should return to their countries of usual residence within a maximum period authorised by the *Veterinary Authority* of the country of usual residence. The relevant period approved in the Commission Decision 92/260/EEC¹⁸ on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for temporary admission of registered horses into the EU – **90 days** – has effectively become an industry standard and is also reflected in the HHP Veterinary Certificate.

It is, however, acknowledged that **during the transition period** before full adoption of the HHP framework into national legislation, the VA may require post-arrival tests on horses returning from international travel to the country of usual residence and may impose isolation periods relevant to that country's disease status and that of countries that the horse has visited and depending on the period of temporary residence in another country/ies.

In terms of a horse's status as a member of the HHP sub-population, return from an international event to the country of usual residence gives rise to two options:

- membership of the HHP can be maintained, based on compliance with all criteria for the maintenance of a compartment ([See Maintenance of qualification for a compartment \("multiple use strategy"\)](#)),
- or

¹⁷ Commission Decision of 2 February 1993 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for the re-entry of registered horses for racing, competition and cultural events after temporary export <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1993D0195:20100511:EN:PDF>

¹⁸ Commission Decision of 10 April 1992 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for temporary admission of registered horses <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31992D0260:en:NOT>

- membership of the HHP can be suspended. In case the CM wishes that the horse regains its active HHP status, it should follow the procedures that apply to the initial qualification for membership.

In any case, to initiate a new cycle of HHP travels, a new HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate should be issued.

2) Specific health requirements with reference to the HHP Veterinary Certificates

HHP Veterinary Certificates for global use have been developed to provide specific health requirements for the **temporary importation** of HHP horses **for the purpose of competitions** (See [Part 4 –HHP veterinary certificates](#)). The OIE has in effect developed HHP Veterinary Certificates with respect to certification for selected priority diseases. These requirements aim at protecting the HHP horses and the native populations in the visited countries.

After a HHP initial Veterinary Certificate has been issued, a HHP horse can travel to multiple destinations using multiple issues of the HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate, **up to a maximum of 90 days**, before return to the country of usual residence.

2.a) Priority diseases

The OIE considers **18 OIE listed diseases of importance for horses** (African horse sickness (AHS), anthrax, contagious equine metritis (CEM), dourine, equine infectious anemia (EIA), equine influenza (EI), equine viral arteritis (EVA), glanders, Japanese encephalitis (JE), infection with equid herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1), Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE), equine piroplasmiasis, rabies, screwworm, surra, Eastern equine encephalomyelitis (EEE), Western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE), West Nile fever (WNF)). In addition, seven non-listed diseases of great concern for the Horse industry were considered: strangles, epizootic lymphangitis, vesicular stomatitis, infection with Hendra virus, horse mange, horsepox, infection with Nipah virus.

While the OIE considers that qualification period, continuous veterinary supervision, biosecurity measures and health management mitigate the risk of transmission of most of these diseases, the potential for transmission and spread of 6 OIE listed diseases requires additional mitigation measures¹⁹ (Table 1, Table 2, Table3). Therefore, the HHP Veterinary Certificates include the attestation of specific guarantees for **glanders, AHS, EI, EIA, equine piroplasmiasis, VEE**.

The risk of transmission and spread of other diseases from the subpopulation should be considered as mitigated by the HHP conditions. Should countries wish to consider diseases additional to the 6 priority diseases, the requirements in the *Terrestrial Code* should apply.

¹⁹ http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Our_scientific_expertise/docs/pdf/Chevaux/HHPRiskMitigation.pdf

Table 1. Diseases for which the risk of presence in or introduction into the subpopulation is mitigated through observance of the HHP standard conditions

| Disease | Risk of undetected presence in the subpopulation | Risk of introduction into the subpopulation | Risk of transmission within and from subpopulation |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Anthrax | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision) | Extremely low (Biosecure stabling) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are extremely low) |
| Epizootic Lymphangitis | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision and care for wounds) | Extremely low (Biosecurity practices and hygiene + veterinary supervision and care to prevent fungal contamination of open wounds) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are extremely low) |
| Infection with Hendra virus | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent direct or indirect contact with bats) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are extremely low) |
| Horse mange | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are negligible) |
| (Classical) horsepox | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are extremely low) |
| Infection with Nipah virus | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent direct or indirect contact with swine) | Extremely low (Since the risks of the disease being present or introduced are extremely low) |

Table 2. Diseases that are of minimal risk of transmission when HHP standard biosecurity measures and health management practices are observed

| Disease | Risk of undetected presence in the subpopulation | Risk of introduction into the subpopulation | Risk of transmission within and from subpopulation |
|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Rabies | Yes (Incubation period can be of extended duration) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to control access of rabid animals) | Extremely low (Horse dead-end host) |
| Strangles | Yes (There are asymptomatic long term carriers) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and veterinary supervision (shedding does not begin until first/second day after the onset of pyrexia)) |
| EHV-1 | Yes (Latent infections) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Extremely low (Biosecurity and management of the subpopulation mitigate the risk for reactivation and indirect transmission; veterinary supervision should detect EHV-1 episodes and reduce the risk of direct transmission) |
| EVA | Yes (Acute infection can be subclinical. Asymptomatic long term carrier state in stallions) | Extremely low (Prohibition of breeding to prevent venereal transmission, biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and to prevent direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Extremely low (Respiratory transmission only during acute infection [i.e. not after the qualification period considering the short incubation period and the negligible risk of introduction]; Prohibition of breeding to prevent venereal transmission; biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission) |
| JE | Yes (Asymptomatic infections are frequent) | Yes (Vector-borne transmission [mosquitoes]) | Extremely low (Horse dead-end host) |
| Surra | Yes (Chronic infection with recurrent episodes of parasitaemia) | Yes (Vector-borne transmission - mechanically transmitted by biting flies) | Extremely low (Continuous veterinary supervision and management [parasitaemia directly associated with pyrexia]) |
| Vesicular stomatitis | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision [short incubation, clinical disease, no asymptomatic carriers]) | Yes (Vector-borne transmission) | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision; horses that have signs of disease can act as sources of the virus) |
| CEM | Yes (Asymptomatic long-term carrier state in stallions and mares) | Extremely low (Prohibition of breeding to prevent venereal transmission and biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission) | Extremely low (Prohibition of breeding to prevent venereal transmission and biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission) |
| Dourine | Yes (Incubation period can be of extended duration; subclinical infections may occur) | Extremely low (Breeding not permitted) | Extremely low (Breeding not permitted) |
| WNF | Yes (Asymptomatic infections are frequent) | Yes (Vector-borne transmission [mosquitoes]) | Extremely low (Horse dead-end host) |
| EEE | Yes (Subclinical infections may occur) | Yes (Vector borne transmission [mosquitoes]) | Extremely low (Horse dead-end host) |
| WEE | Yes (Subclinical infections may occur) | Yes (Vector-borne transmission (mosquitoes)) | Extremely low (Horse dead-end host) |
| Screwworm myiasis | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision and care) | Yes (Vector-borne [female fly laying eggs]) | Extremely low (Veterinary supervision [larvae detection in the wound and interruption of the parasite lifecycle]) |

Table 3. OIE listed diseases for which there is a risk of transmission under the HHP standard biosecurity measures and health management practices (i.e. without disease specific requirements)

| Disease | Risk of undetected presence in the subpopulation | Risk of introduction into the subpopulation | Risk of transmission within and from subpopulation |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Glanders | Yes* (Asymptomatic long term carriers) | Extremely low (Biosecurity measures to prevent fomite transmission and direct transmission from outside of the subpopulation) | Yes (Horses infected subclinically can be a source of infection and direct transmission by the respiratory route not excluded within the subpopulation) |
| AHS | Yes* (Asymptomatic viraemia [partially immune animals or vaccination with a live attenuated vaccine]) | Yes (Vector-borne [Culicoides]) | Yes (Infected horses act as a source of infection; Culicoides are widespread vectors; vector protection is not included under the HHP standard conditions) |
| EI | Yes* (Subclinical infection in partially immune horses) | Yes (Effective airborne transmission, risk increased during air transportation) | Yes (Pre-symptomatic shedding ; asymptomatic shedding in partially immune horses ; air-borne transmission not excluded within the subpopulation) |
| EIA | Yes* (Asymptomatic long term carriers) | Yes (Vector-borne; transmitted mechanically by biting insects) | Yes (Infected horses act as a source of infection; vectors are widespread) |
| Equine piroplasmiasis | Yes* (Asymptomatic long term carriers) | Yes (Vector-borne [ticks]) | Yes (Infected horses act as a source of infection; vectors are widespread, iatrogenic spread possible) |
| VEE | Yes* (Subclinical infections) | Yes (Vector-borne: mosquitoes) | Yes (Epidemic VEE virus subtypes amplified in equids; vectors are widespread) |

* In addition to the risk of recent introduction not yet detectable

2.b) Specific health requirements for qualification of a compartment and initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses

The key specific health requirements applicable to the priority diseases are summarised hereafter and in Table 4. They are further detailed in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate (See [Part 4 – HHP veterinary certificates](#)).

The qualification of the compartment should be planned in such a way that the initial veterinary certification of HHP horses coincides with the qualification of the compartment (Table 4).

Requirements for EIA

Horses should be tested for equine infectious anaemia with negative results.

Requirements for equine influenza

The country of usual residence should be free from equine influenza or horses should be vaccinated against equine influenza.

Requirements for AHS

If the country or zone of usual residence has not been officially recognised free from AHS by the OIE, AHS should be compulsorily notifiable and horses should not be vaccinated against AHS within 40 days prior to the introduction into an approved AHS vector-protected quarantine station where they should be isolated for at least 14 days. After at least 14 days after introduction into the quarantine, horses should be subjected to a validated PCR with negative results. Vector protection should be maintained until travel and vector protection should be applied during transportation.

Requirement for VEE

If the country of usual residence is not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 year, horses should be tested for VEE with negative results if they show a rise in temperature. In addition, horses should either be vaccinated with an inactivated vaccine against VEE or kept under vector protection and tested for VEE either with negative results or a stable or declining titre (vector protection should be maintained until travel and vector protection should be applied during transportation).

Requirement for glanders

If glanders is compulsorily notifiable in the country of usual residence and if the country has been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, horses should be tested for glanders with negative results (one test).

If the country of usual residence is not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, horses should be permanently resident for at least 30 days on a single premises where no case of glanders was reported during at least the past 12 months and should be subjected to two tests for glanders with negative results.

Requirements for equine piroplasmiasis

Horses should be tested for equine piroplasmiasis to establish their serological status. Seropositive horses can be certified as HHP horses. Measures should be applied to mitigate the risk of transmission to HHP seronegative horses (see 2.e. Additional biosecurity provisions).

Table 1. Roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the HHP Framework

| Disease (country/zone disease situation) | Specific health requirements for qualification of a compartment ¹ | Requirements during the interval between qualification of a compartment and initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses ² | Specific health requirements for initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses upon qualification of a compartment ³ | Specific health requirements for onward veterinary certification of HHP horses ⁴ |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| EIA | AGID test ¹ | | The test should not have been performed more than 30 days prior to shipment | EIA |
| Equine influenza | Free country or Vaccination | | The vaccination should have been performed within 21 to 90 days prior to shipment | Equine influenza |
| AHS (if country not recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE) | Isolation for 14 days in a vector protected quarantine and PCR test | Horses kept in vector protected quarantine | The PCR test should not have been performed more than 5 days prior to shipment | AHS (if country not recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE) |
| VEE (if country not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years) | For 3 weeks prior to qualification, test if rise in temperature and Vaccination or Vector protection for 3 weeks and HI test | | The vaccination should have been performed not less than 60 days prior to shipment or The test should have been performed within 7 days prior to shipment | Places of temporary residence visited should be located in countries in which VEE is compulsorily notifiable and which have been free from VEE for at least the last two years |
| Glanders (if country not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years) | Residency for at least 30 days on a single premises where no case of glanders was reported during at least 12 months and 2 CFT tests | | Residency in the same premises where no case of glanders was reported during at least 12 months | Places of temporary residence visited should be located in countries where glanders is compulsorily notifiable and where no case of glanders has been reported for at least the last 12 months |
| Glanders (if country free for 3 years) | - | | CFT test within 30 days prior to shipment | Glanders (if country free for 3 years) |
| Piroplasmosis | - | | Test (IFAT or c-ELISA) | Piroplasmosis |

¹ See detailed requirements as prescribed in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate² Qualification of a compartment and shipment of certified HHP horses to be planned in such way that the interval between qualification and certification is minimal³ Qualification of a compartment and shipment of certified HHP horses to be planned in such way that all requirements as prescribed in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate are met (e.g. relevant time windows to be considered)⁴ See detailed requirements as prescribed in the HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate

2.c) Specific health requirements for onward veterinary certification of selected HHP horses (up to 90 days upon initial veterinary certification)

Once a HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate has been issued, a HHP horse can travel to multiple destinations using multiple issues of the HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate, up to a maximum of 90 days (temporary importation), before returning to its country of usual residence.

The key specific health requirements for the priority diseases are summarised hereafter and in Table 4. They are detailed in the HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate (See [Part 4 – HHP veterinary certificates](#)).

Requirements for EIA

The test for EIA for initial HHP certification should not have been performed more than 30 days prior to the date of initial shipment in order to ensure that it will not have been performed more than 120 days prior to the date of the last onward certification before re-entry in the country of usual residence.

Requirements for equine influenza

The horse should not have shown clinical signs of equine influenza during the 21 days prior to shipment (or since entry into the country of temporary residence if it had entered that country less than 21 days prior to certification). It should have been vaccinated against equine influenza.

Requirements for AHS

Lay-over points and event venues should be located in countries or zones which have been officially recognised free from AHS by the OIE.

Requirements for VEE

Lay-over points and event venues should be located in countries in which VEE is compulsorily notifiable and which have been free from VEE for at least the last two years.

Requirements for glanders

Lay-over points and event venues should be located in countries in which glanders (*Burkholderia mallei*) is compulsorily notifiable and where no case of glanders has been reported for at least the last 12 months.

Requirements for equine piroplasmiasis

Risk of exposure to equine piroplasmiasis should be recorded in the HHP Onward Certificate for the information of the importing country and to allow for a continuous risk based management to prevent the transmission of piroplasmiasis to HHP seronegative horses.

2.d) Specific requirements for maintenance of the health status of a compartment (“multiple use” strategy) (and initial veterinary certification of selected HHP horses)

The key specific requirements to maintain the health status of a compartment (“multiple use” strategy) are summarised hereafter and in Table 5. In addition, selected HHP horses within a maintained compartment should comply with all of the requirements defined in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate in order to be re-certified to begin a new HHP journey (Table 5).

Requirements for EIA

Horses should be tested annually for equine infectious anaemia with negative results.

Requirements for equine influenza

The vaccination against equine influenza should be maintained valid (i.e. booster vaccinations should be given within 6 months intervals).

Requirements for AHS

If the country or zone of usual residence has not been officially recognised free from AHS by the OIE, the compartment should be managed as an “all-in, all out” system following the single use strategy. The health status of the compartment cannot be maintained.

Requirement for VEE

If the country of usual residence is not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years, the vaccine strategy is recommended for the compartment. The vaccination against VEE should be maintained valid.

Requirement for glanders

If the country of usual residence is not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, horses should be tested annually for glanders with negative results.

Table 5. HHP specific requirements for maintenance of the health status of a compartment (“multiple use” strategy) and for certification of individual HHP horses from a maintained compartment

| Disease (country/zone disease situation) | Specific requirements for maintenance of the health status of a compartment ¹ | Specific requirements for initial veterinary certification of HHP horses selected in a maintained compartment | Specific requirements for onward veterinary certification of HHP horses |
|---|--|--|--|
| EIA | Annual testing | The last test should not have been performed more than 30 days prior to shipment | See Table 4 |
| Equine influenza | Free country or vaccination maintained valid (booster within 6 months) | A booster vaccination should have been performed within 21 to 90 days prior to shipment | |
| AHS (if country not recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE) | <i>The compartment cannot be maintained</i> | | |
| VEE (if country not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years) | Vaccination maintained valid according to recommendations of the manufacturer ¹ | The last booster vaccination should have been performed not less than 60 days prior to shipment | |
| Glanders (if country not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years) | Annual testing | Residency for at least 30 days on a single premises where no case of glanders was reported during at least 12 months and 2 CFT tests | |
| Glanders (if country free for 3 years) | | CFT test during 30 days prior to shipment | |
| Piroplasmiasis | | Test (IFAT or c-ELISA) | |

¹ To maintain a HHP compartment in a country not known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years, the vaccine strategy is recommended (as compared to testing)

PART 4

HHP

Veterinary Certificates

(Updated as of December 2016)

1) HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate

HHP INITIAL VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

[Model for the temporary export of not more than 90 days of a High health-high performance (HHP) horse dispatched from its country of usual residence⁽¹⁾ to a country of temporary residence for competition or races]

COUNTRY *(that issues the certificate):*

Part I: Details of dispatched consignment

| | |
|---|---|
| Consignor <i>(natural or legal person dispatching the consignment):</i> Name: Address: | Certificate reference number: Veterinary Authority: |
| Consignee <i>(natural or legal person to whom the consignment is destined at the time the certificate is issued):</i> Name: Address: | |
| Country of usual residence⁽¹⁾: ISO Code: | HHP compartment of origin⁽²⁾ Registration number: Date of qualification: |
| Country of destination: ISO Code: | HHP compartment of destination⁽²⁾ Registration number: Address: |
| Place of origin: Name: Address: | |
| Place of shipment: | Date of departure: |
| Means of transport⁽³⁾: <input type="checkbox"/> Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship <input type="checkbox"/> Railway wagon <input type="checkbox"/> Road vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | Expected border post: If available, UN/LOCODE Import permit No(s) <i>(if applicable)</i>: |
| Identification <i>(flight number, name of the vessel, number of the train and the wagon, registration number of the road vehicle and the number of the trailer)</i>: | |
| Commodity Code <u>Horses</u> <input type="checkbox"/> 0101.21 Pure-bred breeding animals <input type="checkbox"/> 0101.29 Other: | |
| Commodities intended for use as competition <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| For temporary admission <input type="checkbox"/> | |

| Identification | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Species: <i>Equus caballus</i> | Microchip number: |
| Name: | Reading system other than ISO ⁽⁴⁾ : |
| Color: | Alternative permanent unique identifier (if an identifier other than a microchip is used): |
| Breed: | Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) (if applicable): |
| Date of foaling: | HHP identification number of the horse ⁽²⁾ : |
| Sex: | Passport's number issued by (relevant authority) |

Part II: Zoosanitary information

Certificate reference number:

The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the horse described above satisfies the following requirements:

- has been examined today, this being within 48 hours prior to shipment, and found free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease, free from obvious signs of ectoparasitic infestation, and fit to travel in accordance with the proposed itinerary;
- is a registered HHP horse accompanied by its passport in which all vaccinations related to this Certificate are documented;
- after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge, during the 90 days prior to shipment
 - has not been used for natural or artificial reproduction and has not been kept on a premises where natural or artificial reproduction activities are carried out during this period;
 - has not come into contact with any equidae not of equivalent health status and has continuously been resident on qualified HHP premises⁽¹⁾;
 - has not visited premises under official restriction for equine health reasons;
- after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge, for at least 15 days prior to shipment has not come into contact with equidae showing signs of infectious or contagious disease;
- comes from a country /zone of dispatch,

⁽³⁾either which has been recognised officially free from African horse sickness (AHS) by the OIE;

⁽³⁾or where AHS is compulsorily notifiable, and the horse was not vaccinated within 40 days prior to the introduction into an approved AHS vector-protected quarantine station⁽⁵⁾ where it was isolated for at least 14 days and was subjected to a validated PCR test carried out with negative result on a blood sample taken after at least 14 days after introduction into the quarantine and not more than 5 days before release from quarantine on⁽⁶⁾, and the horse is transported directly from the quarantine station to the place of dispatch in a vector-protected vehicle and appropriate vector protection is applied during transportation⁽⁶⁾;
- comes from a country of dispatch

⁽³⁾either in which Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis is compulsorily notifiable and which has been free from Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis for at least the last two years;

⁽³⁾or not known to have been free from Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis for at least the last two years, and the horse for three weeks prior to shipment has not shown a rise in temperature (taken at least once daily), or if it has shown a rise in temperature, it has been subjected to a blood test for virus isolation with negative result, and

⁽³⁾either has been vaccinated not less than 60 days prior to shipment with an inactivated vaccine against Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer;

⁽³⁾or for three weeks prior to shipment, has been kept under vector protection at all times and was subjected to a haemagglutination inhibition test for Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis carried out on⁽⁶⁾..... on paired samples taken on⁽⁶⁾..... and on⁽⁶⁾....., no less than 14 days apart, with either negative results or a stable or declining titre, the second sample having been taken during the 7 days prior to shipment, and is transported directly to the place of dispatch in a vector-protected vehicle and appropriate vector protection is applied during transportation;
- comes from a country or zone of dispatch

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>⁽³⁾either</p> | <p>in which glanders (<i>Burkholderia mallei</i>) is compulsorily notifiable and which has been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, and the horse was subjected to a complement fixation test for glanders carried out with negative result at a serum dilution of 1 in 5 on a sample taken on⁽⁶⁾ during the 30 days prior to shipment;</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾or</p> | <p>not known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years, and the horse has been permanently resident for at least 30 days prior to shipment on a single premises where no case of glanders was reported during the 12 months prior to shipment and has been subjected to a complement fixation test for glanders carried out with negative results at a serum dilution of 1 in 5 on blood samples taken on two occasions on⁽⁶⁾ and on⁽⁶⁾, at least 30 days apart with the second sample having been taken within 10 days prior to shipment;</p> |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>has been subjected to an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) or competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (c-ELISA) for equine piroplasmosis (<i>Babesia caballi</i> and <i>Theileria equi</i>) carried out</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾either</p> | <p>within 30 days prior to shipment with negative result on a blood sample taken on⁽⁶⁾ and was maintained free from ticks, by preventive treatment when necessary, during the 30 days prior to shipment;</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾or</p> | <p>previously with positive results and has been examined for, and treated against, ticks during the seven days prior to shipment;</p> |
| <p>9.</p> | <p>has been subjected to an agar gel immunodiffusion test for equine infectious anaemia carried out with negative result on a blood sample taken on⁽⁶⁾ no more than 30 days prior to shipment;</p> |
| <p>10.</p> | <p>after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge, no equids showed clinical signs of equine influenza in any premises in which the horse has been resident for the 21 days prior to shipment, and</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾either</p> | <p>comes from a country or zone in which equine influenza is compulsorily notifiable, which is free from equine influenza, and in which it has been resident for at least 21 days;</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾or</p> | <p>comes from a country or zone not known to have been free from equine influenza and has been vaccinated against equine influenza within 21 to 90 days prior to shipment with</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾either</p> | <p>a primary vaccination consisting of two consecutive inoculations with the same vaccine given 21 to 42 days apart on⁽⁶⁾ and on⁽⁶⁾</p> |
| <p>⁽³⁾or</p> | <p>a booster vaccination given on⁽⁶⁾ within 6 months of a certified primary course or within 6 months of a certified booster vaccination where it, and any previous booster vaccinations, had been administered at least annually;</p> |
| <p>11.</p> | <p>was found free from external parasites following a systematic and thorough examination with particular attention paid to the ears, false nostrils, intermandibular space, mane, lower body areas, including the axillae, and inguinal region, and the perineum and tail, and was treated according to the manufacturer's recommendations within 48 hours of shipment with a broad spectrum parasiticide licensed or registered for use on horses.</p> |
| <p>12.</p> | <p>I have received the route plan and declaration from the transporter or designated person responsible for the horse to ensure that:</p> |
| <p>12.1.</p> | <p>the horse will be consigned directly from the HHP premises of dispatch to the HHP premises of destination;</p> |
| <p>12.2.</p> | <p>during transport to destination the horse will not come into direct contact with equidae that are not of equivalent health status;</p> |
| <p>12.3.</p> | <p>the vehicle or container in which the horse will be transported has been cleansed, disinfected and disinfected prior to embarkation with an insecticide and a disinfectant approved in the country of dispatch;</p> |
| <p>12.4.</p> | <p>during transport to destination the health and welfare of the horse will be protected effectively.</p> |
| <p>This Certificate is valid for 10 days from the date of signing.</p> <p>The declaration signed by the owner or designated person responsible for the horse is part of this Certificate.</p> | |
| <p>Official Veterinarian:</p> | |
| <p>Name and address (<i>in capital letters</i>):</p> | <p>Official position:</p> |
| <p>Date:</p> | <p>Signature:</p> |
| <p>Stamp:</p> | |
| <p>Notes</p> <p>⁽¹⁾ As defined in the OIE Handbook for the management of High Health, High Performance Horses</p> <p>⁽²⁾ Number attributed by the Fédération Equestre Internationale or the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities</p> <p>⁽³⁾ Select the appropriate option and delete the option not applicable</p> <p>⁽⁴⁾ If the microchip is not ISO 11784/11785 compliant or cannot be read by standard multiscanners, a scanner must be supplied by the shipper to accompany the animal</p> <p>⁽⁵⁾ As defined in the OIE <i>Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i>, Chapter 12.1, Article 12.1.7 [http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_ahs.htm]</p> <p>⁽⁶⁾ Insert date</p> | |

Part III: Declaration signed by the owner or designated person responsible for the horse

I, undersigned (*name in capital*) _____, the owner or designated person responsible for the horse declare that the horse described in this Certificate:

1. will be outside its country of usual residence⁽¹⁾ for not more than 90 days;
2. has resided in (*country of usual residence*):
since (*date*):
3. during the 90 days prior to shipment:
 - 3.1. has not been used for natural or artificial reproduction and has not been kept on a premises where natural or artificial reproduction activities are carried out during this period;
 - 3.2. has not come into contact with any equidae that were not of equivalent health status;
 - 3.3. has not visited premises under official restriction for equine health reasons;
4. for at least 15 days prior to shipment, has not come into contact with equidae showing signs of infectious or contagious disease;
5. during the 90 days prior to shipment, has been kept only in qualified HHP premises and approved venues⁽¹⁾ and under supervision of the veterinary authority:

| Registration number ⁽²⁾ | Address of premises | Date of entry | Date of exit |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

6. will be sent directly from the HHP premises of dispatch to the HHP premises of destination under conditions that ensure that it will not come into contact with equidae not of equivalent health status, accompanied by the required veterinary health certificate, in a vehicle that was cleansed, disinfected and disinfected in advance with an insecticide and a disinfectant approved in the country of dispatch.
7. during transport to destination the health and welfare of the horse will be protected effectively.

Date: _____ Place: _____

Signature: _____

Notes

⁽¹⁾ As defined in the OIE Handbook for the management of High Health, High Performance Horse

⁽²⁾ Number attributed by the Fédération Equestre Internationale or the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities

| | |
|--|--|
| Commodities intended for use as competition <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| For ⁽³⁾ | Temporary admission <input type="checkbox"/> Re-entry <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Identification of the horse | |
| Microchip number: | |
| Reading system other than ISO ⁽⁴⁾ : | |
| Alternative permanent unique identifier (if an identifier other than a microchip is used): | |
| Passport's number: | |
| issued by (relevant authority): | |

Part II: Zoosanitary information

| | |
|--|---|
| Certificate reference number: | |
| The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the horse described above satisfies the following requirements: | |
| 1. | has been examined today, this being within 48 hours prior to shipment, and found free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease, free from obvious signs of ectoparasitic infestation, and fit to travel in accordance with the proposed itinerary; |
| 2. | is a registered HHP horse accompanied by its passport in which all vaccinations related to this Certificate are documented; |
| 3. | after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge, since the issuance of the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate: |
| 3.1. | has not been used for natural or artificial reproduction and has not been kept on a premises where natural or artificial reproduction activities are carried out during this period; |
| 3.2. | has not come into contact with any equidae not of equivalent health status and has continuously been resident on qualified HHP premises ⁽¹⁾ including its travel period; |
| 3.3. | has not visited premises under official restriction for equine health reasons; |
| 4. | after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge, for at least 15 days prior to shipment has not come into contact with equidae showing signs of infectious or contagious disease; |
| 5. | comes from a country or zone of dispatch: |
| 5.1. | which has been officially recognised free from African horse sickness by the OIE; |
| 5.2. | in which Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis is compulsorily notifiable and which has been free from Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis for at least the last two years; |
| 5.3. | in which glanders (<i>Burkholderia mallei</i>) is compulsorily notifiable and where no case of glanders has been reported for at least the last 12 months; |
| 6. | has been subjected to an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) or competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (c-ELISA) for equine piroplasmiasis (<i>Babesia caballi</i> and <i>Theileria equi</i>) as indicated in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate: |
| ⁽³⁾ either | with negative result and since arrival in the country of dispatch has been stabled apart from horses not of the same health status, examined thoroughly for ticks at least daily and treated with an effective acaricide at prescribed intervals according to the manufacturer's recommendations; |
| ⁽³⁾ or | with negative result and the measures to mitigate the risk of infection with <i>Babesia caballi</i> and <i>Theileria equi</i> listed above have not been continuously applied since arrival in the country of dispatch; |
| ⁽³⁾ or | with positive result; |
| 7. | has been subjected to an agar gel immunodiffusion test for equine infectious anaemia carried out with negative result on a blood sample collected not more than 30 days prior to initial shipment as indicated in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate; |
| 8. | showed no clinical sign of equine influenza during the 21 days prior to shipment, or since entry into the country of temporary residence if it had entered that country less than 21 days prior to certification, and has a valid vaccination against equine influenza as indicated in the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate; |
| 9. | was found free from external parasites following a systematic and thorough examination with particular attention paid to the ears, false nostrils, intermandibular space, mane, lower body areas, including the axillae, and inguinal region, and the perineum and tail, and was treated according to the manufacturer's recommendations within 48 hours of shipment with a broad spectrum parasiticide licensed or registered for use on horses. |

10. I have received the route plan and declaration from the transporter or designated person responsible for the horse to ensure that:

- 10.1. the horse will be consigned directly from the premises of dispatch to the premises of destination;
- 10.2. during transport to destination the horse will not come into direct contact with equidae that are not of equivalent health status;
- 10.3. the vehicle or container in which the horse will be transported has been cleansed, disinfected and disinfected prior to embarkation with an insecticide and a disinfectant approved in the country of dispatch;
- 10.4. during transport to destination the health and welfare of the horse will be protected effectively.

This Certificate is valid for 10 days from the date of signing.

The declaration signed by the owner or designated person responsible for the horse for the horse is part of this Certificate.

Official Veterinarian:

Name and address (*in capital letters*): _____ Official position: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Stamp: _____

Notes

⁽⁶⁾ As defined in the OIE Handbook for the management of High Health, High Performance Horses

⁽⁷⁾ Number attributed by the Fédération Equestre Internationale or the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities

⁽⁸⁾ Select the appropriate option and delete the option not applicable

⁽⁹⁾ If the microchip is not ISO 11784/11785 compliant or cannot be read by standard multiscanners, a scanner must be supplied by the shipper to accompany the animal

Part III: Declaration signed by the owner or designated person responsible for the horse

I, undersigned (name in capital) _____, the owner or designated person responsible for the horse declare that the horse described in this Certificate:

1. has been outside its country of usual residence⁽¹⁾ for not more than 90 days;
2. has entered (*country of temporary residence*): _____
on (*date*): _____
3. since the issuance of the HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate:
 - 3.1. has not been used for natural or artificial reproduction and has not been kept on a premises where natural or artificial reproduction activities are carried out during this period;
 - 3.2. has not come into contact with any equidae that were not of equivalent health status ;
 - 3.3. has not visited premises under official restriction for equine health reasons;
4. for at least 15 days prior to shipment has not come into contact with equidae showing signs of infectious or contagious disease;
5. During its temporary stay in the country of dispatch, has been kept only in qualified HHP premises⁽¹⁾ and under supervision of the veterinary authority of that country:

| Registration number ⁽²⁾ | Address of premises | Date of entry | Date of exit |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

6. will be sent directly from the HHP premises of dispatch to the HHP premises of destination under conditions that ensure that it will not come into contact with equidae not of equivalent health status, accompanied by the required veterinary health certificate, in a vehicle that was cleansed, disinfected and disinfected in advance with an insecticide and a disinfectant approved in the country of dispatch.
7. during transport to destination the health and welfare of the horse will be protected effectively.

Date:

Place:

Signature:

Notes

⁽³⁾ As defined in the OIE Handbook for the management of High Health, High Performance Horse

⁽⁴⁾ Number attributed by the Fédération Equestre Internationale or the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities.

ANNEXES

Glossary

Abbreviations

Resources

Supplemental reading
on the HHP Framework

Acknowledgements

1) Glossary

(Updated as of December 2016)

| | |
|---|---|
| Approved event: | Event which has a biosecurity plan in place which is compliant with HHP conditions and that guarantees functional separation between HHP horses, those under qualification and non-HHP horses, which has been approved by the Veterinary Authority. The participation in approved events shall only be permitted under specific conditions related to countries' health status and during specific time windows before HHP certification. |
| Compartment Manager: | Designated person responsible for all the horses of a compartment. |
| Country of known health status: | Country which is known to have been free from glanders for at least the past 3 years and which is known to have been free from VEE for at least the past 2 years and which have been recognized officially free from AHS by the OIE. |
| Continuous veterinary supervision at home stable and during transport: | Daily observation and twice daily temperature check of each horse under the responsibility of a responsible person (compartment manager at home stable, responsible person accompanying the horse during transport) and at least one visit per week by the responsible veterinarian). |
| Continuous veterinary supervision during an event: | health examination on arrival and daily monitoring of clinical presentation and performance and at least twice daily temperature check under the responsibility of a responsible veterinarian. |
| Country of usual residence: | Country where the qualified HHP home stable is located ("compartment") from which the HHP horse is dispatched to initiate a cycle of HHP travels and to which it must return after a period of not more than 90 days. |
| Functional separation: | Management of horses based on standard operation procedures aiming at mitigating the risk of exposure to equidae not of equivalent health status. The determination of the most adequate procedures to ensure an appropriate functional separation should be based on an assessment of the prevailing disease risks. |
| HHP horse: | Horse selected from a qualified compartment on the basis of having qualified for competitions. |
| HHP facility: | Compartment or HHP stable. |
| HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate: | Veterinary Certificate to be used for the initial travel of a HHP horse from its country of usual residence to the first country of temporary residence. |
| HHP Onward Veterinary Certificate: | Veterinary Certificate to be used after a HHP Initial Veterinary Certificate was issued for all subsequent onward travel of a HHP horse between countries of temporary residence / event venues and for the last journey back to the country of usual residence within 90 days. |
| HHP stables / premises: | Places of temporary residence for HHP horses (lay over points and event venues) that meet similar criteria to those for compartments and that are approved by the <i>Veterinary Authority</i> and registered by the Horse industry. |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Horse Industry: | Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) or International Federation of Horse Racing Authorities (IFHA). |
| Multiple use strategy: | The qualification of the compartment is maintained. HHP horses can be selected continuously amongst the horses in the compartment. |
| Official Veterinarian: | Veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in accordance with the OIE <i>Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i> Chapters 5.1 and 5.2. |
| Qualified compartment: | High health status subpopulation as defined in the <i>Terrestrial Animal Health Code</i> Chapter 4.16 (http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_high_level.htm). |
| Responsible veterinarian: | Private veterinarian registered or certified by the Horse Industry and authorised by the Veterinary Authority. |
| Single use strategy: | Single use of the HHP qualification. The compartment has to go through a full preparation period to regain its status. |
| Veterinary Authority: | Governmental Authority of an OIE Member Country, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the <i>Terrestrial Code</i> in the whole territory. |

2) List of abbreviations and acronyms

| | |
|------------------|--|
| AHS | African horse sickness |
| CM | Compartment Manager |
| EEE | Eastern equine encephalomyelitis |
| EI | Equine Influenza |
| EIA | Equine infectious anaemia |
| FEI | Fédération Equestre Internationale |
| HHP | High Health High Performance horse |
| IFHA | International Federation of Horse Racing Authorities |
| OC | Organising Committee |
| OIE | World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties) |
| PEQ | Pre-export quarantine |
| RV | Responsible veterinarian |
| Terrestrial Code | OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code |
| VEE | Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis |
| VR | Veterinary regulations |
| WEE | Western equine encephalomyelitis |

3) Resources

AQIS. 1999. Final Import risk analysis report on the temporary importation of horses that are serologically positive for equine piroplasmiasis for competition, exhibition or Racing purposes, 31p.

Australian Government. 2010. Import Risk Analysis Report for Horses from Approved Countries
http://www.daff.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/ba/animal/2013/zooelephants/Horse_IRA_final_100323.pdf

IFHA. 2002. Guidelines to facilitate the temporary movement of registered racehorses for international races by the Permanent liaison committee on the international movement of horses
http://www.horseracingintfed.com/resources/Guidelines_2002.pdf

New Zealand Government, Ministry for Primary Industries. 2004. Import Health Standard, Horses.
<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1705>

Slater J., 2013. Ensuring equine biosecurity at London 2012. *Vet. Rec.*, 2; 172(5): 117-9. doi: 10.1136/vr.f72.

UC Davis. 2011. How to set up a disease isolation unit at a farm or horse show
www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/pdfs/S.pdf

4) Supplemental reading on the HHP Framework

- [OIE Code Chapter 4.16 High health status horse subpopulation](#)
- [High health, high performance \(HHP\) horses: risk mitigation strategies and establishment of specific disease requirements](#)
- [The OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services \(OIE PVS Tool\)](#)

5) Acknowledgements

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