



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

June 17, 2020

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework of operations for the reactivation of activities in the NB-PEI Region of the Canadian Pony Club. Upon approval from the National Pony Club Management Committee, and approval of Branch plans by the region, in person activities may commence. NB-PEI represents the only region in Canada which encompasses two provinces and so the Health protocols and policies of two provinces must be applied according to which province a branch resides in.

Within the provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, a phased re-opening of public activities has been announced. Phased re-openings have been occurring at different rates in each province and our plan will be adjusted accordingly as new phases roll out in NB and PEI. PEI is currently in Phase 3 which allows for a max of 20 outdoors and 15 indoors. PEI Phase 4 is expected to roll out on June 26: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/renew-pei-together>

New Brunswick has 6 of 7 zones moving into Phase two of “Yellow” and allows for up to 10 indoors and 50 outdoors with safe distancing. <https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/recovery.html#triggers>

The guidelines outlined in this plan are in accordance with both NB and PEI Provincial Health, as well as recommendations of Equestrian Canada and the New Brunswick Equestrian Association (NBEA). Changes in any of the guidelines will result in adjustments to this protocol and updated versions will be published on our NB-PEI Pony Club website.

This protocol must be shared with all Branch members, their guardians, coaches/instructors and relevant volunteers before resuming any mounted or other in-person activities within clubs.

Please be respectful of those members and instructors that choose not to return to in-person meetings with the Pony Club. They will need to make their own assessment of the risks for their personal situation. This may mean that clubs will not reopen yet and will set their own timelines for doing so.

Branches will need permission from the owners of facilities being used to run Pony Club activities at those venues (barn, community center, agricultural society, etc.). They may all have their own protocols and timelines for reopening their properties, arenas and grounds, and these must at least meet or exceed the Pony Club protocols.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

When resuming riding or stable management lessons with your club you must adhere to the following protocol developed for the NB-PEI Region Branches.

The Region and branches must ensure that that proper PPE equipment is provided for any activities taking place. **Members are expected to provide own masks. If they choose to use other PPE, they should bring their own. The PPE provided by the Region/Branches is for emergency use, and for the use of volunteers and instructors.**

It is the member/member's family's responsibility to be aware of the current government regulations and restrictions.

Pony Club will not be responsible for any fines due to lack of attention by members and their families to the provincial requirements/laws.

Failure to obey these policies may result in members being suspended from activities.

GENERAL PROVINCIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Restrictions on gatherings such as sporting events change as needed, in response to lower or higher COVID-19 risk in the area. As this changes, the restriction here can be adjusted based on New Brunswick and PEI government guidelines. **It is essential that clubs in each province routinely check their provincial government websites for daily updates that will guide these restrictions.**
<https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/recovery.html>
<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/covid-19>
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should include a non-medical grade mask/face covering (this can be disposable or handmade as per public health guidelines – it must cover mouth and nose) and effective hand washing or alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Disposable gloves are only required for first aid situations for the person administering first aid. Protective eye wear also encouraged if available. PPE is required when physical distancing of 2m or more is not possible.
- Everybody must adhere to social distancing measures; people will have to keep 2 meters distance from each other, unless they live in same household. Coach / instructor must ALWAYS carry PPE, which must be used when physical distance space is less than 2m, unless they are working exclusively with members/riders who are in their household/bubble family.
- All participants in Pony Club activities must abide by all other general rules in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as: stay home when you or someone in your household is sick, avoid touching your face and sneeze or cough in your elbow – please consult your provincial government websites for the most up-to-date health & safety protocols, as these change frequently.
- Keep up to date on COVID-19 Symptoms. According to the most up-to-date reports, the following symptoms may present in Covid-19 patients:
 - Sore Throat



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

- Difficulty swallowing
- Decrease or loss of sense of taste or smell
- Chills
- Headaches
- Unexplained fatigue / malaise
- Diarrhea
- Fever (it's important to check this before attending Pony Club activities)
- Abdominal pain
- Nausea / vomiting
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- Runny nose without other known cause
- Nasal congestion without other known cause
- Multisystem inflammatory vasculitis in children.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship



COVID-19 BIOSECURITY PROTOCOL Equestrian Establishments



<p>Owners & Stable Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain social distance (2m) Create a work schedule that allows for staff to maintain distance Wash hands frequently, between horses, when changing equipment, upon arrival and departure Cough and sneeze into your elbow Schedule frequent disinfection of equipment, surfaces, washrooms, and other shared spaces Ensure good supply of disinfectant and cleaning products Display GNB posters on hand washing & physical distancing Know the symptoms of Covid-19 and stay home if you or anyone in your household have any symptoms 	<p>Clients & Owners BY APPOINTMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain social distance (2m) Respect the visit schedule – arrive and depart on time; stay in assigned space Only owner/rider and immediate family members; no extra visitors Wash hands frequently, upon arrival and departure at stables, before/between each horse, in tack rooms, washrooms, etc. Do not use gloves; hand-washing is better Don't touch other horses or animals (cats, dogs, etc). Leave your dog at home. Use/touch only your own equipment. If asked, bring your own shovel broom, sanitizers, extra lead, etc. When a service provider is required, obtain permission from stable manager and be respectful of scheduling requirements Cough and sneeze into your elbow; don't touch your face Assist with disinfection of shared equipment and surfaces Stay home if you or anyone in your household exhibits virus symptoms 	<p>Service Providers at the Stable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule service appointments (vet, farrier, etc.) to enable distancing and keep total number of people in the stable within the gathering maximum Have a disinfected space prepared and have the horse ready, haltered, easily accessible, with lead line handy Maintain social distances Provider needs to wash or disinfect hands upon arrival, between horses, and upon departure Avoid sharing equipment with the provider and encourage digital payments and documents exchange After departure, clean/disinfect the work station
<p>Cleaning & Disinfecting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Covid-19 virus is easily deactivated with soap or disinfectants. Recommended products include those with 60% alcohol, bleach-based solutions (1 part bleach: 9 parts water), or over the counter products with hydrogen peroxide. Observe products' directions for use 		<p>Animals at the Stables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently there is no evidence of Covid-19 transmission from horse to human Animals exposed to the virus can, in theory, be a vector for transmission in a transitional manner <p>Wash your hands, maintain social distancing, and respect instructions.</p>

COMMON PUBLIC PROTOCOLS

The following are some common guidelines provided by the Governments of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Refer to this web site for the complete details. https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/community_measures.html

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/using-non-medical-masks-community>

Please read and follow these protocols when participating in activities to ensure your safety and to prevent the community spread of COVID-19.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

ORGANIZATION BEFORE YOU START

- At least one person in your Branch will be responsible for making sure the protocols as outlined within this document are adhered to – the “COVID-19 officer”. The most obvious choice would be the Safety officer and/or the DC. Where needed, the duty can be shared by more than one person.
- The DC will inform the Region of the name(s) of the appointed COVID-19 officer(s)
- The COVID-19 officer will be responsible to put together a reactivation plan for their Branch, that will outline all measures that have been taken to accommodate social distancing *specifically as it applies to your site and situation*.
- The COVID Officer ensures that members/coaches/families/volunteers/organizers are staying safe and using safe practices. This includes ensuring that all applicable COVID forms are completed and retained, as well as the usual Pony Club forms related to any incidents are completed, for any and all activities, including testing. They have the ability to stop activities and ask members to leave if they feel that protocols are not being respected, or if a situation is seen to be too risky/unsafe in the current COVID environment.
- An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is always recommended, which should be carried at all times by the COVID Officer, and can also be posted in the barn or main activity areas. An example of an EAP can be found on the Equestrian Canada website: https://www.hcbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EC-NCCP_TEMPLATE-EAP_E.pdf
- The Branch reactivation plan should outline the activities/programs being delivered and how the protocols will be followed to ensure that provincial guidelines are being met, and outline, for example:
 - a schedule to ensure that no more than the maximum allowed people on site at one time (as per provincial guidelines);
 - a map or description, showing how your site allows people to stay 2 meters apart and the zones / areas to apply to the provincial minimums for people. (For instance, parents should stay 2 meters away from the riding ring, have an entry and exit separate so members don't need to pass each other at a close distance);
 - a timeline for when preparation is done, and in-person activities will start again.
- A copy of the Branch reactivation plan will be sent to the Regional Chair for approval by the Regional Executive.
- **Activities are not sanctioned by CPC until the plan is approved and if the Resumption of Activities plan is NOT followed.**



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

- Contact your facility owner to make sure they allow you to use their premises and ask them about any protocols they may have in place to deal with the COVID-19 threat (and include those in your plan). Ensure that their protocol meets or exceeds the Pony Club COVID -19 standard.
- Send your Branch reactivation plan to your members and have members, responsible adults and instructors sign the Self Declaration screening form immediately prior to attending their activity. (Form attached).

ACTIVITIES

- Outdoor activities are preferred. If using indoor, ensure that airflow is adequate and there is enough space to allow participants to maintain a safe distance. This includes mounted lessons and stable management sessions. **Any tack rooms, clubhouses or other indoor spaces will remain closed. Activities held in stalls are to be avoided as physical distancing is not possible.** In case of inclement weather, riding activities can move to an indoor arena as long as the requirements for maximum participants, social distancing and safety protocols are followed.
- The use of washrooms is *strongly discouraged* but could be made available to those that need to be on site for longer periods of time (instructors teaching several lessons). In that case a strict cleaning and disinfecting protocol must be in place, with particular attention to high touch areas. One or more hand washing/sanitizer station also must be on site.
- Do not engage in risky activities. These are restricted to ensure we do not put strain on additional medical resources (hospital, paramedics, fire fighters, etc.). The instructor will decide which activities he/she deems safe enough for a specific horse-rider combination to engage in. More than at any other times, if a rider does not adhere by the instructor's rules, they will be asked to leave the premises.
- Team activities . until such time as contact is considered safe, (relays with passed equipment such as batons) are NOT to be held. **Provincial guidelines must be followed to determine when contact activities are considered safe.**
- Testing – Testing activities are not the same as other regular program activities and can carry additional risks during COVID. At this time, the NB-PEI region is not testing, but is hoping to proceed as the situation with COVID improves. Please see an attached separate sheet for policies that will be updated as COVID Progresses and information from the National Testing Chair becomes available about Safe testing considerations.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

PLANNING YOUR ACTIVITIES

Since you can only have a set maximum number of people on site at one time, a plan needs to be in place to ensure smooth running of lessons and other activities. The change-over between activities and/or lessons - if applicable - will be the most critical time to manage.

Before you begin, consider the time off for both equine and human participants and adjusting the activities to a slow and gradual return to work.

- The number of members and/or riders you can have on site at one time will be determined by the number of instructors, staff members and guardians on site at the same time.
- No more than 8 riders are allowed in a mounted lesson at one time, this also applies to hands-on stable management lessons that involve horses (grooming, bandaging, etc.). **It is essential that social distancing measures ALWAYS be used, and masks should be on each member's person in case there are any challenges in maintaining social distancing. Sanitizing and hand sanitizer should be used frequently during any activities in which members and using common equipment.**
- The number of members involved in unmounted activities is determined by provincial Public Health guidelines at that time. If, for example, the maximum number of people allowed in a space is 10 people, you must factor in all people (members, instructors and volunteers).
- Every rider under 18 has to be accompanied by one and only one adult member of their household – the responsible adult.
- An appointed COVID-19 officer will have to be on site for the duration of the activities, this can be one of the responsible adults.
- Ensure that there is safe, accessible and adequate disposal for contaminated materials (gloves, masks, etc.).
- The number of people on site during *change over times* will have to stay at the maximum outlined earlier.

Those Branches that must accommodate a larger number of members and back-to-back lessons and/or activities should try to limit the time spent on site by members.

Some suggestions to manage this are:

- Plan enough time between lessons/activities for the first group to leave and the following group to arrive. If necessary, lesson/activities times could be shortened to allow for enough time to switch groups. **Members should be well-informed of start/finish times and understand that there is no flexibility (arriving early, staying late).**



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

- Riding lessons cannot overlap –riders from the first group(s) cannot do their cool down while the next group comes in. Riding lessons should be planned accordingly including a buffer limit for lesson changeover and to ensure proper cooling out of horses between lessons.
 - Limit the time spent on the grounds by asking members to groom at home, so they only need to tack up once they arrive and are ready to go to their lesson quickly.
 - Limit the time spent on the grounds after the ride. Riders should bring coolers and load horses and leave as soon as possible after their lesson.
 - If the horse is to be cooled out, there should be time buffered between the lessons to allow for this or riders are encouraged for the cool-out to be done near the horse trailer and the member and responsible adult or the owner of the horse should be the only people to hand walk the horse to cool them out. This should still be done away from others and close to the horse trailer as possible to isolate the activities.
- Keep the same group of members together for all activities; for example: the same 4 members do stable management, groom, ride, etc. together as a “bubble” so there is no mixing of the groups.

COVID-19 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The COVID-19 officer will ensure that a plan is in place to safely run activities, and make sure the Branch is familiar with any additional protocols the facility owner has put into place.

During the activities a Covid-19 officer is on site for all Pony Club Activities, including testing, and:

- Makes sure that any visitor (child or adult) to the site has completed the Self Declaration form. This form must be filled out for each visit. **No form = no participation.**
- Makes sure that members abide by the rules of social distancing.
- **All members are strongly encouraged to report their temperature to the Covid-19 Officer upon arrival at the Pony Club activity. Temperature should be taken at home, before arriving at Pony Club.**
- Makes sure that no more than the maximum people allowed on site at one time. (See earlier reference).
- Has access to spare, clean PPE equipment in case of an emergency.
- Ensures that a first aid kit is on site, readily available and fully stocked. Ensures that whomever is designated to provide first aid is certified and current and aware of these COVID Protocols : .
- Keeps a record of all people on site at a specific date – using the attached Attendance form (in order to make contact tracing possible). This record is to be kept for at least 3 months after the activity.
- Ensures all other forms are completed (Self Declaration, EAP, Pony Club incident etc.) and retained or forwarded to appropriate individual(s). **All documents should be stored in one location (binder, etc.)**



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

to remain confidential and should only be accessible to (and handled by) the DC, COVID/ Safety Officer and Instructor(s) as required.

- Wipes down with disinfectant, all commonly touched surfaces before members arrive and after all have left (specifically entry gates and shared equipment such as manure forks / wheelbarrows).
- Where washrooms have been made available, ensure that your plan specifies how they will be cleaned after each use and by whom.
- Equipment such as jumps, cones, etc. be handled by only one person or sanitized after each use.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Every member must make his or her own assessment of the risks associated with joining in-person activities as it relates to their personal (home) situation.

Members are expected to:

- Abide by the general Provincial rules for social distancing
- **All members are strongly encouraged to report their temperature to the Covid-19 Officer upon arrival at the Pony Club activity. Temperature should be taken at home, before arriving at Pony Club.**
- Know the rules as to whether there is access to indoor facilities, such as a tack room, clubhouse or washrooms.
- Limit your time on site as closely to your lesson time as possible. Do not arrive early or stay too long after your lessons. Come already groomed and ready to tack up, proceed into lesson, if needing to cool out horse, find an appropriate spot at a safe distance and carry out non-essential grooming at home.
- Each rider under 18 will have to be accompanied by one and only one responsible adult from their household. Any other family members or friends (siblings, grandparents, aunts etc.) are not welcome on site at this time.
- Do not carpool with someone from a different household to get to the facility.
- Do not share any equipment (including barn tools) and don't ask anyone who is not from your household to hold items for you (phones, crops and even your horse).
- Members and their responsible adults should bring a (non-medical grade) mask for use in case of an emergency.
- If assistance of a rider is needed, the responsible adult will be the one to perform those tasks; for instance, hold the pony while mounting, lead-lining a pony.
- If assistance of a rider is needed around safety of the horse and rider, the coach / instructor will perform those tasks; for instance, adjusting gear, etc. In this case both coach / instructor and student



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

must wear personal protective equipment in the case that both are not from the same household and if they need to be closer than the safe 2m distance.

- During stable management lessons involving a horse (bandaging, grooming, etc.) all safety gear in the form of helmet, proper foot ware and medical armband are required to be worn. Personal protective equipment such as masks are highly encouraged for all participating.
- Bring a hand sanitizer so you can clean your hands when arriving on site, when using communal equipment (gate, manure forks, wheelbarrows) and before you leave.

For equipment on ponies that are leased/borrowed/shared.

Both parties will have to work together on finding a safe approach. Suggestions to prevent spread through shared use of equipment are:

- If the rider leases or borrows a pony exclusively, they could bring tack and grooming tools home, clean it and use it exclusively.
- If tack has to be shared because riders from different households use the same tack, the rider is to wipe down tack and grooming tools after use with an appropriate disinfectant. (Use soap or tack cleaner on your leather tack; avoid alcohol-based cleaning products as they dry out your leather).
- Owners of shared ponies should also disinfect / wipe down all halters and lead lines after use.

COACH/INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

All Coaches/Instructors must be insured, either personally or by CPC (only employees or unpaid volunteers of CPC are covered by Pony Club insurance) and must be made aware of the COVID protocols and agree to follow them.

As with our members, every coach/ instructor has to make his or her own assessment of the risks associated with joining in-person activities as it relates to their personal (home) situation.

On top of their normal responsibilities, coaches/instructors are expected to:

- avoid risky activities and assess if an activity is safe for the group of riders they are teaching.
- ensure adequate spacing between students/riders.
- include a cooldown in the lesson plan, especially if subsequent lessons are planned
- keep a distance of 2 meters from the students (and any other persons) where possible. If a student needs assistance (e.g., stirrup length, girth) the instructor will follow the following steps:
 - Sanitize their hands before approaching the student (have readily available).
 - Wear face protection (see PPE guidelines).
 - Adjust what is needed.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

- Hand sanitize after leaving.
- move arena equipment such as poles, jump cups and arena letters around if needed. If the coach/instructor is unable to do this, one of the responsible adults on site will be appointed do so. If more than one person touches this equipment, they should disinfect their hands before and after use as well as the equipment after it has been touched.
- Familiarize themselves with the protocols for administering first aid under COVID-19.
- Protect all confidential information related to COVID-19 protocols (Self-Declaration forms, etc.)

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

- In the unfortunate case that a rider falls off their horse, or in any other accident, the responsible adult will help the rider. Adult riders will be expected to self-administer first aid when possible. The coach / instructor or other first aid person(s) available at the facility will support the rider or responsible adult from a distance. If someone not from the same household as the person requiring first aid, they are required to be within 2 meters of the individual requiring first aid, a face covering and gloves are required. See PPE guidelines for clarification on this.
- Go through normal triage and call 911 if necessary.
- If help has to be administered by a person other than the responsible adult, they will have to make their own risk assessment. The following guidelines can help:
 - If appropriate, the rider will be asked to put on a face covering (see PPE guidelines for clarification). If that is not possible, ask them to turn their head away from you (unless you suspect a head/neck/spinal injury).
 - Sanitize / wash your hands and put on disposable gloves before administering first aid.
 - Don't touch your face at any time face during the procedure.
 - Remove gloves carefully after you have completed your first aid and sanitize / wash your hands again.
 - In serious cases, when CPR is needed - Appointed First aid providers and instructors should familiarize themselves with new protocols for administering CPR under COVID-19: <https://www.redcross.ca/training-and-certification/first-aid-tips-and-resources/first-aid-tips/first-aid-protocols-for-an-unresponsive-person-during-covid-19> and <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/articles/modification-to-hands-only-cpr-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>



NB-PEI REGION



SELF DECLARATION FORM TO RESUME IN PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19

Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

For the safety of all our members, when returning to in person meetings, we ask you to fill out this self-declaration form before each Branch / Riding Centre activities attended in person.

1	I understand the risk of coming in contact with other people during the COVID-19 global pandemic at Pony Club meetings. I understand that I could become infected with COVID-19 while at a Pony Club meeting. I agree and assume all risk and release and absolve CPC Inc. and its affiliated officials, volunteers, offices, directors, agents, representatives and employees and the owners and occupiers of the land upon which the activity is held, from all responsibility, liability or claims I may have arising from participating in an in person activity during the COVID-19 pandemic. I understand that I must provide my own mask and bring it with me to all Pony Club activities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2	To your knowledge have you or anyone in your household had contact of any kind with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3	Are you experiencing any cold or flu-like symptoms, including, but not limited to fever, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4	Have you or anyone in your household returned from any destination outside of Canada or travelled in an airplane from any destination within the last 14 days? If Yes and that member is a Household family member that commutes outside of the country for work, this must be declared to the COVID-19 Officer in the branch for traceability purposes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5	I have read, understood and will abide by the protocols sent out by the NB-PEI Region.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6	I have read, understood and will abide by the reactivation plan sent out by my Branch / Riding Centre.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7	I understand that should any of the above change, I have a duty to CPC to not join any in person meetings within my Branch for a period of 14 days. I will inform the DC and the COVID-19 Officer immediately of any changes necessary to this self-declaration.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Print name _____ Signature _____

(legal guardian for members under 18)

Member name _____ Date _____

(if document is signed by legal guardian for members under 18)



NB-PEI REGION

ATTENDANCE SHEET FOR ALL CPC ACTIVITIES



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

	Date:	Location:			
	Club Name:				
	Name of COVID 19 officer present:				
	Visitor name	Function (member/guardian/instructor)	Signed Form?	Time in	Time out
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
Any remarks					



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

REGIONAL AND BRANCH TESTING CONSIDERATIONS

Additional considerations to regular program are necessary. When additional information about testing is received from National, the NB-PEI Region has made the following considerations and will develop a more complete testing plan as more information becomes available. At this time, testing is not being carried out in NB-PEI:

- Risk can be even greater than in a lesson/activity situation, given that the examiners may be seeing horse/rider combinations that are totally new to them and that they rely merely on a coach recommendation on an application to test form. On the test day, at every level, there are possible additional elements of rider/horse stress which can lead to a “out of the norm” situation for a horse/pony and rider. Examiners must use extra caution during COVID- 19, as the goal during this time is to not place additional demands on first responders and the Healthcare System.
- The COVID Officer must meet with Examiners (who must have up to date first aid) to ensure that they agree with the plan to test and the plans for administering emergency first aid.
- There must be consideration given to the use of an alternate horse, how it will be shared, and whether this can be approved to be excluded from the testing.
- Written tests are to be carried out in person, at a safe distance. Papers must be handled in a way that allows for them to be safely marked.
- A pre plan of the facility must show that all areas allow safe testing at a distance, including tack etc. Where a safe distance is not able to be maintained, PPE must be used by all involved. Where indoor rings are to be used, the limits for numbers allowed must provide for enough individuals to act as jump crew, etc.
- Lessons can be conducted over a short time and therefore washrooms may not be needed, if testing being done requires a washroom, then provisions will be made in the plan for access and cleaning
- If no washroom is available, and if it is not cost prohibitive, testing can be done by appt, however, given nerves of test day, and emergency washroom plan must be pre planned.
- Examiners must have the ability to use a washroom, or have breaks and access to a nearby washroom facility they can travel to, as well as a safe, dry and quiet place to mark papers while maintaining a safe distance
- Testing, both written and practical will not proceed until further direction/decisions come from the National Examiner and Management Committee.



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information can be found on:

- The Equestrian Canada framework to return to business operations under COVID19: https://www.equestrian.ca/cdn/storage/resources_v2/cRSrWCZPbutzEN8Qg/original/cRSrWCZPbutzEN8Qg.pdf
- The NBEA and IHC will provide feedback on their position on COVID-19 at <http://nbea.ca/Downloads/2020%20documents/NBEA%20Guidelines%20for%20Reopening%20of%20Boarding%20Stables.pdf>
- Biosecurity best practices from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for the equine sector: <https://www.inspection.gc.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/equine-sector/eng/1460662612042/1460662650577#a31>
- Provincial Government frameworks to reopening business, services and public spaces. <https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/recovery.html#roadmap>
<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/renew-pei-together-chart-phases>
- Government of Canada use of masks during COVID-19. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices/masks-respirators-covid19.html>
- Government of Canada use of non-medical masks and face coverings. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html>
- First Aid Guidelines during COVID-19 <https://www.redcross.ca/training-and-certification/first-aid-tips-and-resources/first-aid-tips/first-aid-protocols-for-an-unresponsive-person-during-covid-19>

Contact Info

Heather Touchie Blakely

Regional Chair

Email: nbpeiregionalchair@gmail.com; heather.touchie@nbed.nb.ca



NB-PEI REGION

PROTOCOL TO RESUME IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES UNDER COVID-19



Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship