



HORSE RACING RACETRACKS PHASE ONE: ONE DAY EVENTS

SCOPE: Outdoor motor speedways and horse racing racetracks

PHASE 1: Establishments must either implement the following mandatory requirements or remain closed

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

The following guidance is intended to assist owners, operators, and participants during Phase I reopening of Forward Virginia. This guidance applies to single-day events. This guidance provides information regarding physical distancing, enhanced cleaning and disinfection, enhanced workplace safety, and other best practices recommended to control the spread of COVID-19. Please refer to the [Virginia Department of Health Interim Guidance on Screening, Monitoring, and Testing Employees Returning to Work: Non-Essential Workforce](#) for more information on screening and monitoring for COVID-19 in the workplace.

Businesses must strictly adhere to the physical distancing guidelines, enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices, and enhanced workplace safety practices provided in the “[Guidelines for All Business Sectors](#)” document. They must also adhere to the following additional requirements:

- ✓ Physical Distancing Signage
 - Post signage throughout the grounds to provide public health reminders regarding physical distancing, gatherings, options for high-risk individuals, staying home if sick, and hand washing. (Sample signage can be found in the [VDH Business Toolkit](#).)
 - Post [signage](#) at all entrance(s) to the facility and/or event stating that no one with a fever or symptoms associated with COVID-19, or who has been exposed to COVID-19 in the past 14 days, is permitted on the property (especially areas that are prone to congregation (i.e. entrances and restrooms)).

- Provide physical guides for seating, lines, and congregations areas including floor decals, colored tape, or signs to assist participants in complying with physical distancing.
- Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions at staffed kiosks.
- Configure stabling and paddocks to comply with physical distancing requirements to manage concentration of horses and people.
- ✓ The event must be held at locations with the ability to restrict access (i.e. barriers and gating that would preclude the general public from accessing the event).
 - No tailgating and camping is allowed during these events, including staff or race participants.
 - Entrances and exits must be staffed.
- ✓ No spectators or members of the public are permitted to attend the event, including owners and family (unless the guardian of a minor child) as well as outside vendors. Only individuals essential to the operation of the event are permitted to attend. Access to stabling areas are restricted to essential personnel (e.g., jockeys, riders, veterinarians, groomers, trainers, officials, etc.).
- ✓ Individuals must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth at all times with the exception of jockeys from departing the paddock to completion of the race and returning to the paddock. This requirement does not apply to persons with health conditions that prohibit wearing a face covering. Nothing in this paragraph shall require the use of a face covering by any person for whom doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety because of a medical condition.
- ✓ All individuals must maintain at least six feet of physical distancing between themselves and other participants.
- ✓ Prior to each race event, participants must self-monitor their symptoms by taking their temperature to check for fever.
 - Upon arrival and prior to gaining access to the raceway, individuals will be screened by event or facility staff who will ensure the individual does not have a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or greater, felt warm to the touch, or had a history of feeling feverish in the last 72 hours, without the use fever-reducing medication

and completes a COVID-19 symptom questionnaire, following the [Virginia Department of Health Interim Guidance on Screening, Monitoring, and Testing Employees Returning to Work: Non-Essential Workforce](#)

- Any individual who fails any of the screening requirements shall not gain admittance to the event.
- Team Trainers: Team trainers are responsible for monitoring their staff and jockey for symptoms of COVID-19, 14 days prior, during, and following the event.
 - Trainers will be held responsible for the conduct and adherence to the rules and guidelines set forth during the competition and notification thereafter.
- ✓ If an individual who was present at the event tests positive for COVID-19, or is a presumed case as indicated by a medical provider, within 14 days of the conclusion of the competition, the individual must notify the facility or event staff and the local health department.
- ✓ Prior to the event, organizers must establish a schedule for routine cleaning and disinfection of high-contact areas and hard surfaces, including door knobs/handles, tables/chairs, gates, restrooms, mass transit vehicles (shuttles) and shared equipment.
 - Encourage participants to wipe down equipment after each use.
 - To the extent tools or equipment must be shared, provide access to and instruct use of an [EPA-approved disinfectant](#) to clean items before and after use.
- ✓ Must supply hand sanitizer stations or hand washing stations.
 - Provide hand washing or sanitizing stations at each competition and warm-up area.
 - All hand-washing stations and portable toilets shall be placed in a convenient location for use by attendees but away from congregate areas and arranged in a configuration that maintains at least six feet of physical distance between persons.
- ✓ Mass transit vehicle operators must wear face coverings. Operator areas should be cleaned and disinfected between shifts.

- ✓ No public-facing amenities may be provided, including concessions, food sales, merchandise sales, hospitality, camping or loitering on the property, or fan experiences.
 - ✓ Restrict the number of people accompanying a horse to the competition area to those persons who are needed for safety or for achieving effective competition, and all must comply with physical distancing requirements.
 - ✓ During award ceremonies, ensure physical distancing at all times during presentation of awards and ribbons. Minimize or eliminate hand-to-hand contact.
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BEST PRACTICES:

- ✓ Once an individual has passed the initial screening test, an individual should be provided with a credential to wear throughout the event.
- ✓ All portable toilets will be spaced at least six feet apart.
- ✓ Steward stands and Jockey's quarters should be configured to maintain at least six feet of physical distancing between individuals.
- ✓ Stabling should be configured to maintain at least six feet of separation between all persons in a barn or paddock.
- ✓ Entering and exiting the track will be executed in a sequenced manner, in order to facilitate physical distancing and avoid congestion or congregation points. Competitors should leave the venue as expeditiously as possible following their last race or event in order to limit contact and exposure to themselves and other participants.
- ✓ Use technology solutions where possible to reduce person-to-person interaction, including contactless payment, registration/entry forms, sign-in, judges' cards, scoring sheets, etc.
- ✓ Encourage the use of mounting blocks to ensure adherence to physical distancing requirements.