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**Guidelines and Best Practices for ILQHA Competitions and Gordyville USA facility to reopen under current Social Distancing and other Federal, State, and Local Requirements**  
*June 23, 2020*

*This is a working-draft for ILQHA specific guidelines to ensure the safest environment possible for our shows during the COVID-19 era. We will continue to update this protocol as we receive new information from USEF, local authorities, and informed exhibitors.*

*USEF has also developed a protocol which will be followed in addition to these ILQHA guidelines. If any guideline is contradicted in either document, the stricter of the two guidelines will be followed.*

ILQHA and Gordyville USA have prepared the following list of Guidelines and Best Practices in preparation for Equestrian events to re-open in 2020, and specifically the first event at the Gordyville USA facility in Gifford, IL, now that many Coronavirus restrictions have been lifted and Federal, State and Local governments, as well as the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), deem it safe to do so.

These guidelines have been developed based on research including recommendations from the State of Illinois, Illinois Farm Bureau, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and the American Horse Council, as well as meetings with USEF, United States Eventing Association (USEA), and the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). We have also researched guidelines published by governing bodies for other sports including USA Triathlon (USAT).

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**The below Guidelines will be in place whenever possible and practicable at all ILQHA competitions and events at the Gordyville USA facility beginning June 27, 2020.**

**General**

- Social Distancing (6 feet between individuals) will be followed.
- ILQHA and Gordyville USA Staff and Officials will wear masks and gloves at all times when practicable
- Full-Color Signage will be posted throughout the grounds regarding Social Distancing, Hand Washing, and other safety guidelines.
- Gordyville USA's facility has a property-wide PA system, and announcements regarding these guidelines will be made throughout the event.
- The ILQHA and Gordyville USA Release, Waiver, Hold Harmless, Assumption of Risk, Defend, and Indemnify Agreement for Infectious Diseases Including COVID-19 Related Loss, shall be signed by all exhibitors prior to participation in the event.
- Pre-order shavings and RV reservations should be made by email to [jodyquiram@gmail.com](mailto:jodyquiram@gmail.com) . Bedding will not be refunded.
- Trainers sheets will be posted online. Bedding and tack stalls can be divided providing the information is received before the show, otherwise it will be billed to the trainer or person who orders the stalls.

## **Facility – Access**

- Any person with known or suspected symptoms of COVID-19 or who has been exposed to a person with symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath, or fever) should follow self-quarantine protocol or be barred from or removed from the grounds.
- All ILQHA and Gordyville USA Staff (show office, arena crew, maintenance) will have their temperature checked before beginning work, and at a mid-point in their shift each day. Any Staff member with a temperature of 99.5 or higher will be sent home.
- All individuals should monitor their temperature daily, and should not enter the premises if presenting with a temperature of 99.5 or higher.
- No smoking in the facility as well as within 15' of the facility.
- Do not park empty trailers along the building or the west fence. Park all empty trailers on the south or east side of the building in the open parking lots.
- All dogs must be on a leash or in a tack stall. You will be fined \$50 if dogs are in arenas.

## **Facility - Sanitation and Bio-Security**

- Individuals must stay 6 feet apart (Social Distancing) and must not congregate.
- No more than fifty (50) people will be allowed in any single area, such as show office, ingate, or within each assigned stabling section. Some areas may be further restricted, but no group of more than fifty (50) will be allowed.
- It is recommended individuals wear a mask or other cloth face covering while on the premises, except when mounted, and it is required that a face mask or covering is worn when 6-feet of separation is not possible.
- ILQHA and/or Gordyville USA will provide face coverings to all Staff.
- ILQHA and/or Gordyville USA will provide hand sanitizing stations throughout the premises.
- Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized throughout the day. Masks are mandatory by state law in the bathrooms where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- All touchpoints and common areas will be cleaned and sanitized throughout each day.
- Show office will provide sanitizing wipes and/or sanitize entry and exit points of office regularly. When possible, doors will be left open during check-in or periods of high traffic for air flow.
- Although there is no evidence that horses can contract or become ill from COVID-19, practice good hygiene by washing your hands or using at least 60% alcohol hand sanitizer after touching a horse, communal areas, or communal equipment to prevent environmental spread of the virus.

## **Food Service**

- Food Service is set up for “Take Away” dining. No seating will be provided.
- Markers indicating 6’ “Social Distance” will be identifiable to all customers in line, and to employees who will maintain such distance whenever practicable.
- Payment by Credit Card will be encouraged to decrease person-to-person contact.

## **Daily Competition Schedule**

- Pre-enter or email entry forms directly to the show office at [jodyquiram@gmail.com](mailto:jodyquiram@gmail.com).
- Email or text (217-530-1335) adds/scratches – include back number, rider & horse name, class number and class name to [jodyquiram@gmail.com](mailto:jodyquiram@gmail.com).
- Pattern books will not be provided. Please print before the show from the website. [www.gordyvilleusa.com](http://www.gordyvilleusa.com) under horse shows.
- Results and scoresheets will be posted online only.

## **Warm-up Areas**

- Each competition ring will have a dedicated warm-up area.
- Gloves should be worn by anyone managing gates.
- ILQHA and/or Gordyville USA Staff will institute a plan to clean and disinfect the gates most often touched.
- The arena Check-in/Order-of-Go system will encourage trainers to prepare all horses for a class at once, so there are limited number of trainers working in the warm-up arena.
- Warm-up arenas will be closely monitored to avoid crowding.
- No chairs, ladders or step stools of any kind are allowed in arenas or warm up arenas. You may mount your horse from one but have another person pick it up immediately.

## **Competition Arenas**

- All arenas at Gordyville USA's facility allow for a separate In-Gate and Out-Gate.
- Overhead fans will be turned on to allow more airflow throughout the facility.

## **Awards**

- Ribbons/Awards will not be handed out at the ring. They may be picked up in the show office at a pre-arranged time.

## **Stabling Areas – Access**

- Stabling assignments will be available prior to your arrival. Email [jodyquiram@gmail.com](mailto:jodyquiram@gmail.com) for assignments.
- Access to the Stabling Area will be restricted to Essential Personnel - veterinarians, equine caretakers (grooms), trainers and riders.
- Non-Essential Individuals (friends, family members, etc.) should not enter the stabling area.
- ILQHA and/or Gordyville USA will arrange stabling so there is appropriate Social Distance between trainer groups. Use only your entrance to your aisle to access your stalls. Do not enter aisles/stabling areas of other trainer groups.
- Trainers should provide an ample quantity of gloves, masks, hand sanitizer and other cleaning/disinfecting products for their staff/customers for use while on premises.
- Trainers should monitor temperatures of all staff/customers.
- Stalls will be placed 10' from the walls to allow entering & exiting from either end to avoid traffic.
- The virus can persist on nonporous materials (leather bridles/saddles/halters, nylon halters/lead ropes, gate latches, door handles, spray nozzles) longer than porous materials (cotton lead ropes, saddle pads). Clean communal leather tack daily with tack cleaner. Disinfect stall door handles, gate latches, cross-tie snaps, feed scoops, hose ends, spray nozzles, pitchforks, wheelbarrows, and other frequently handled surfaces regularly or after contact.

## **Stabling Areas – Sanitation / Bio-Security**

- Encourage handwashing or hand Sanitization before entering stabling area.
- Individuals should touch only the equipment and supplies necessary for completing tasks of caring for and exercising the specific horse(s).
- Do not share equipment between individuals - helmets, grooming supplies, tack, etc.
- Keep water buckets and feed buckets/tubs in a fixed position within the stall to ensure feed or water can be provided without touching or removing these items.
- Feed/bedding delivery by Gordyville USA Staff will be made with as little contact as possible.

## **Veterinary Care**

- Communicate proactively with your veterinarian to prepare for upcoming veterinary needs such as vaccinations, Coggins, or other maintenance and treatment procedures.
- Communicate proactively with your veterinarian to prepare for potential veterinary emergencies.
- An official veterinarian will be on call for any questions. Phone number will be posted in a visible location at the show office and stabling area.

***This is meant as a guide to ensure the safest environment possible for equestrian competition to return to an active state. Updates as needed will be posted at [ilqha.com](http://ilqha.com) and ILQHA social media and Gordyville.com***

