Sample Letter to Mail to Registered Exhibitors

Dear Exhibitor,

We have received your registration for EVENT X on EVENT DATE X. Protecting the health of your horse and other horses at this event is of the upmost importance to event management. This event is implementing biosecurity measures to decrease the risk of infectious disease agent introduction and spread at this event.

Regardless of whether they are participating in the event or not, all horses and livestock that enter the grounds will be subject to examination by event officials/designated representatives and/or State Animal Health Officials. Such examinations are to determine if the animal(s) is/are, has/have been infected/exposed, or are likely to be infected with an infectious or contagious disease. If after such examination, an official believes the health condition of an animal will place other animals at risk, the officials may quarantine the animal(s) and others that may have been infected/exposed, or if necessary, require movement of the animal(s) from the show grounds. All participants must agree to fully cooperate with examining officials and abide by their decisions/instructions. Failure to comply with officials shall be grounds for immediate expulsion of the participant from the grounds and potential disciplinary action(s) by the sponsoring organization and local/state or federal officials.

The equine health entry requirements for this event include: (*EVENT MANAGER TO CHOOSE ONE or MORE and DELETE OTHERS*)

a. Horses displaying obvious signs of clinical disease, such as fever, abnormal nasal discharge, consistent frequent coughing, neurologic signs of ataxia or significant hind limb weakness are not permitted to enter the event grounds.
b. Event *No Fever* Policy:
    i. Each horse entering the premises must have documentation demonstrating a record of body temperature readings with none above 102°F for a designated time period before arrival at the event premises. (*For example, 72 hours*)
    ii. Show officials will obtain a body temperature of all horses at the time of arrival to the event premises and all horses will be subject to periodic inspection by event officials during the event.
    iii. Owner/agents will monitor and document on a log the body temperature of their horse(s) ___X___ times a day during the event. (*For example, two times a day)*
c. Health Certification Policy
    i. Owner/agents must present to event officials at the time of arrival to the event premises, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health certificate), written within ___X___ hours (*For example, seventy-two (72) hours*) of arrival to the event premises.
d. Event Participation Declaration: (See Appendix F for Sample Event Participation Declaration)
    i. Owners/agents must sign a health certification statement verifying that the horse(s) has/have been healthy with no sign of infectious disease for the preceding three (3) days and a body temperature below 102°F during the __X__ hours (*For example, 72 hours*) before arrival at the event premises.

ii. Owner/agents must provide event officials with the address of the premises where each horse was located immediately before arrival at the event and the address of the intended premises of destination for each horse following departure from the event premises.

In addition to the above entry requirement, the following biosecurity measures are recommended:

- Dogs are not permitted on the event premises *or* All dogs on the event premises must be kept on a leash
- Limit horse-to-horse contact
- Limit horse-to-human-to-horse contact
- Avoid sharing of equipment, to include tack, water buckets, brushes, wipe rags, etc.
- Avoid use of communal water troughs
- Avoid submerging end of water hoses in water buckets
- Do not allow horses to drink directly from a water hose
- Avoid tying horses to fences or gates on the event grounds
- Cover all feed and hay to prevent access by vermin, birds or other animals
- Monitor your horse frequently for signs of disease during the event
- Immediately report any sick horse(s) to designated event official or veterinarian
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all equipment before use at the home premises
- Isolate and monitor all animals upon return to the home premises.

In the event of an emergency or infectious disease incident at the event, all participants and horses will remain at the venue until event management provides clearance for departure from the event premises. In the case of an infectious disease event, event officials will evaluate individual horse disease exposure risk and provide owner/agents with follow up disease monitoring instructions. In the event movement restrictions are put in place, each owner/agent is responsible for the care and maintenance of their horse(s) on the premises.

We appreciate your compliance with event management efforts to maintain biosecurity at the upcoming event.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXXXX
Event Manager