

# Temporary Guidelines for Racing at Scarborough Downs

Please note and observe the following guidelines for the beginning of Maine's harness racing season at Scarborough Downs

- No spectators will be allowed, including along the apron. Participants who have been admitted to the paddock may walk/drive to the top of the stretch to watch their horse race and must return to the paddock as soon as the race is concluded.
- Anyone older than 60 or with any pre-existing medical conditions is encouraged to find an alternate to take their horses to the paddock
- Guidelines for the bare minimum number of people admitted to the paddock will be strictly enforced.
- Participants are encouraged to check their temperature before leaving for the track
- Horsemen may only enter through the Payne Road entrance.
  - There will be a checkpoint at the Y in the road
- Participants should have a mask on when they arrive at the checkpoint
  - Temperature and symptom checks will occur at a checkpoint
  - Anyone who fails the health check will be turned away
- Stalls will be assigned upon entering the paddock
- All participants must wear a mask when in the paddock area as prescribed by guidelines
- Participants must observe physical distancing as much as possible at all times
- All catch drivers should remain outside of the paddock barns and observe distancing
- Horses must be bathed outdoors. Designated volunteers will fill water buckets
- The normal Lasix deadlines remain
- No Lasix money will be collected at the track – trainers will be billed monthly
- Lasix administration and blood draws to be conducted outside between Vet's Office and paddock barn. Trainers will bring only one horse at a time to the Vet.

# Horsemen and Paddock Area

## COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Plan - Spring 2020

These protocols are designed to minimize the risk of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 in the paddock area at Scarborough Downs, including the stable/barn area, the parking area, the driver's lounge and the Lasix and urine stalls. The emphasis will be on minimizing the number of personnel in the paddock area and implementing policies and strategies to maintain the maximum separation of participants. This plan also emphasizes other strategies for physical distancing, close attention to minimizing contact with common touch points, avoiding any human to human contact as much as possible, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), vigorous disinfection of touch points and frequent handwashing. Current CDC guidelines for distancing, PPE and disinfecting will be followed to the extent possible, so these protocols will likely change as the CDC guidelines change.

### General Rules of Operation

- All participants shall cooperate in attempting to ensure that the bare minimum number of personnel are present in the Secure Paddock Area (SPA).
- Participants who fall into higher risk categories for the COVID-19 disease due to age or underlying health conditions are strongly encouraged to send alternative personnel and refrain from traveling to track and entering the SPA.
- Participants should give particular attention to their current circle of people that they are in regular contact with, and take care not to expand that circle when racing starts. Riding together inside the cab of a vehicle results in a near ideal virus transmission environment.
- Participants arriving from out-of-state should note and comply with the provision of Executive order 34 FY 19/20. This includes a mandatory 14 day self-quarantine order once in-State.
- No visitors will be allowed in the SPA whatsoever. This includes Owners.
- All participants should check their temperature prior to departing for the track. No one should travel to the track if their temperature is above 100 degrees.
- Prior to leaving their residence for the track, all horsemen shall conduct a self-assessment for any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as described by the federal CDC. Said symptoms to include:
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - New loss of taste or smell

- All participants will be subjected to a non-contact thermal temperature scan at a manned station on the entry road from the Payne Road. Horsemen will only be allowed access to the SPA from the Payne Road after they have successfully passed the thermal temperature scan.
- Horsemen must be wearing a mask or face covering that fits snugly and covers mouth and nose from the time they arrive at the Payne Road screening site until they leave the SPA.
- If anyone in a vehicle fails the thermal temperature scan, the vehicle will be turned back and directed to leave the premises, including all occupants of the vehicle.
- Trainers/Grooms will be limited to no more than three members per ship in party, and staff shall be reduced to following ratio:
  - 1-2 horses – One Trainer or one Groom
  - 3-4 horses – One Trainer and one Groom
  - 5+ horses – One Trainer and up to two Grooms maximum
- Horsemen should leave as soon as they can and arrive as late as practical
- To the extent feasible, all interpersonal communications should be conducted electronically.
- All participants shall remain at least 6 feet away from others at all times, except that, persons who are already in day-to-day contact due to work or family, may conduct their racing duties without enforcing the 6-foot physical distancing recommendation.
- MHHA/MSBOA/MSHRC Staff shall aid in the SPA by filling the following roles:
  - Providing latex gloves and sanitizer stations.
  - Monitoring that participants remain 6 feet apart at all times.
  - Relaying information to the Paddock Judge.
  - Horsemen should consider bringing water with them to the track in order to negate the need to use the common water spigot.
  - Horsemen should pay special attention to the common contact points such as the water spigots and the bathrooms. Hand sanitizer stations will be positioned in various locations in the SPA. Horsemen should sanitize their hands before and after interacting with common touch points.
  - Volunteers/staff will pay special to regular disinfecting of the common touch points.

### **Racing Day Specific Activities upon Arrival – Trainers and Grooms**

- On race days, the perimeter of the “secure paddock area” (SPA) shall be expanded as shown on Figure 1. The following protocols shall be strictly adhered to.
  - Upon passing the temperature scan, the trainer shall report to the roaming paddock judge and report the entries are on-site. Maintain 6 feet of separation for this communication.
  - Lasix shall be administered in the open area between the Lasix barn and race paddock. No more than one horse, with a single attendant, shall be allowed in this area. Keep at least 6-feet of separation between all individuals.

All horses will race from the paddock building. Only 4 races will be allowed in the paddock building at once.

The paddock judge will assign stalls starting with either odd or even stalls for the first four races maintaining distancing between horses. Saddle pads will be in assigned stalls on cross ties. Go to the stall which is marked by your saddle pad. As a complete race leaves the paddock the next race will be called in to the unused stalls assigned by the paddock judge. Paddock cleaners will be cleaning the used stalls.

Please enter using the side door and exit using the front door. Walk horses with a lead shank at all times. Only drivers may handle their own sulkies and will meet and attach to the horse outside the paddock building

stalls shall be put in between all trainers. Trainers shall keep to their side of the paddock at all times and leave 6 feet between other participants.

- Horses and equipment shall either be washed at home (preferable) or outside the trainer's trailer or other pre-assigned area.
- Horses to be tested and have blood drawn shall report to area between the Lasix barn and paddock barn. No more than one horse, with a single attendant, may be present at one time. The attendant will stand on the opposite side of the horse as the MSHRC staff person.
- Horses and trainers must vacate the paddock as soon as possible after racing.

### **Racing Day Specific Activities upon Arrival – Drivers**

- On race days, the perimeter of the "secure paddock area" (SPA) shall be expanded as shown on Figure 1. The following protocols shall be strictly adhered to.
  - Drivers are encouraged to come prepared by having changed into their driving colors prior to arriving at the track. Should drivers need to change, the drivers lounge may be available but with the following conditions:
    - Only one driver should be in the lounge at a time. Maintain a safe distance.
    - Drivers should verbally inquire whether anyone else is present in the lounge prior to entering the doorway.
  - Drivers are not allowed in the paddock building.
  - While waiting between races, drivers should remain in their vehicles or otherwise maintain generous social distancing protocols.
  - Drivers will meet the horse attendant as they exit the paddock to take control of the horse for the race.

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# Scarborough Downs

## COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Plan - Spring 2020

These protocols are designed to minimize the risk of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 at main plant at Scarborough Downs, including the grandstand, clubhouse, judges and official's booth and the administrative offices while employees are performing their duties. The emphasis will be on physical distancing, avoiding any human to human contact as much as possible, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), vigorous disinfection of touch points and frequent handwashing. Current CDC guidelines for distancing, PPE and disinfecting will be followed to the extent possible, so these protocols will likely change as the CDC guidelines change.

### General protocols

- During the initial opening, spectators, press and other members of the public will not be allowed entry into the Scarborough Downs. As the phased reopening of Maine's economy progresses, Scarborough Downs will work with the Maine DECD and other stakeholders to develop a carefully controlled and executed plan to gradually phase in the return of spectators.
- Prior to reporting to work at the track daily, all Scarborough Downs staff/officials will self-evaluate infection risk by:
  - Conducting a self-temperature check; and
  - Conducting a self-assessment against the US CDC symptom list
- Scarborough Downs staff/officials will be expected to wear face coverings or masks whenever present on the property sufficient to completely cover the nose and mouth.
- Scarborough Downs staff/officials will attempt to maintain at least a 6-foot physical distancing protocol to the extent feasible. Prior practices that resulted in staff/officials being in close proximity will be adjusted to the extent feasible.
- Scarborough Downs staff/officials will be instructed to wash their hands regularly throughout the day and always before eating or drinking.
- Scarborough Downs custodial/maintenance staff will increase normal disinfection of common touch points, bathroom surfaces and other areas that staff/officials commonly come in contact with.
- Scarborough Downs staff/officials will be instructed to use electronic communication as much as possible to avoid excess movement and human contact around the main plant.
- Only officially authorized personnel will be allowed to enter the main plant.
- Scarborough Downs staff/officials will segregate duties in an effort to minimize the possibility of multiple staff/officials touching the same surfaces as duties are performed.

# Maine State Harness Racing Commission

## COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Plan - Spring 2020

These protocols are designed to minimize the risk of transmitting COVID-19 in the paddock while MSHRC staff perform the essential duties necessary to support racing. The emphasis will be on avoiding human to human contact as much as possible, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), vigorous disinfection of touch points and frequent handwashing. Current CDC guidelines for distancing, PPE and disinfecting will be followed to the extent possible, so these protocols will likely change as the CDC guidelines change.

### General protocols

- Prior to reporting to work at the track daily, all MSHRC staff will self-evaluate infection risk by:
  - Conducting a self-temperature check; and
  - Conducting a self-assessment against the US CDC symptom list.
- MSHRC staff will have their temperatures checked before entering the paddock.
- MSHRC staff and all participants in the paddock will be expected to be wearing masks.
- MSHRC staff will attempt to maintain at least a 6-foot physical distancing protocol to the extent feasible. Prior practices that resulted in participants and staff being in close proximity will be adjusted to the extent feasible.
- MSHRC staff will; wash their hands regularly throughout the day and always before eating or drinking.
- MSHRC staff will regularly disinfect common touch points, sampling surfaces and equipment during track activities.
- MSHRC staff will try to use electronic communication as much as possible to avoid excess movement and human contact around the expanded paddock.
- Only MSHRC staff will enter the MSHRC offices.
- MSHRC staff will segregate duties in an effort to minimize the possibility of multiple staff touching the same surfaces as duties are performed.

### Lasix Administration

- No money will change hands in the paddock. There will be a system developed to track/confirm the doses given, and the MSHRC will bill the trainers.
- Lasix will be administered in much the same way as it currently is, except the horses will remain outside the building so that participants can maintain as much physical distance as possible.
- Horses will be brought to the area outside the Vet's office for Lasix administration. Only one horse may be brought for Lasix at a time. Horses will not be placed inside on cross ties if possible.
- If cross ties are necessary, there will be a stall available for that purpose.

- Horsemen will stand on the opposite side of the horse and face away from the MSHRC staff as the veterinarian administers Lasix.
- If using a Lasix stall, horsemen should be careful to avoid each other as much as possible.
- Lasix paperwork will not be physically signed by the trainers, an MSHRC staff person will get a verbal acknowledgment and sign on behalf of the trainer.

## Sample Collection

- There will be **no tags** handed out to horses selected for sample collection.
- Selected horses will be announced multiple times and posted in the paddock.
- Horses selected for blood samples will be brought to the area outside the Vet's office. Only one horse may be brought for testing at a time. Horses will not be put inside on cross ties if possible.
- Pre-race testing will be performed in the same manner, with announced horses being brought to the area outside the Vet's office one horse at a time.
- If cross ties are necessary, there will be a stall available for that purpose.
- Horsemen will stand on the opposite side of the horse as the MSHRC staff and face away from the staff while the sample is being drawn.
- Sample cards will not be physically signed by the trainers, an MSHRC staff person will get a verbal acknowledgment and sign on behalf of the trainer.
- MSHRC staff will disinfect testing equipment and supplies in a manner intended to prevent touch transmission.

## Breathalyzer

- The breathalyzer will be used at the discretion of the race officials.
- There will be a "self service" station set up for doing the breath test.
- An MSHRC staff member will be there to record results.
- Only the test taker will handle the breathalyzer.
- The test taker will fit a mouthpiece, perform the test, dispose of the mouthpiece, and disinfect the unit for the next person.

