

# Movement of Competition Horses – UAE perspective

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# Multi-disciplinary

Flat racing

Show jumping

Arabian Show

Polo

Endurance

Show horses (growing)



# Multifactorial

Competent Authorities - import and export country

Equestrian Federations

Racing Authorities

Show Organisers

Local Veterinary Services

Customs

Laboratories



# Testing and Vaccinations

- ◇ Minimum standards of testing would be EIA and Glanders
- ◇ AHS??
- ◇ Pre export quarantine?
- ◇ Pre-export veterinary supervision?
- ◇ Influenza Vaccinations
- ◇ EHV vaccines?



# UAE Temp Import Flu Vax

- ◇ f) During the 90 days immediately prior to export, but not within 14 days of export,
- ◇ Either
- ◇ )i) The horse received TWO primary vaccinations against Equine Influenza, given 21-42 days apart and all vaccinations have been recorded in the horse passport. (2)
- ◇ Or
- ◇ )ii) It received a booster vaccination against equine influenza which was given within 12 months of a certified primary course given 21-42 days apart or within 12 months of a certified booster vaccination where it, and any other previous booster vaccinations, had been administered annually within a regular 12 month period since the



# Post Import arrangements

- ◆ Issuance of Import Permit and verification of ID documents
- ◆ Post import testing vs blood store (validity of sample)
- ◆ Post import quarantine facilities and initial restrictions on movement
- ◆ Post arrival care? Response to Fevers? Contingency Plan
- ◆ Veterinary monitoring – competent authority +/- delegate responsibility
- ◆ Post import monitoring



# Initial Restrictions

- ◆ Applied in UAE as follows;
- ◆ Horses which travel less than 6 hours stable to stable are confined to the quarantine for 12 hours before being permitted to leave
- ◆ Horses which travel more than 6 hours stable to stable are confined to the quarantine for 48 hours before being permitted to leave
- ◆ Post import monitoring and veterinary examination vital



# Post Import Training

- ◆ Governed by certificate conditions
- ◆ Confirm wording for return and if in doubt confirm with return country
- ◆ Training by sanitary group
- ◆ Certificate wording “did not come into contact with other horses of different health status apart from during training and competition’
- ◆ Variations of the above





# Competition

- ◆ Horses in competition would generally be considered to be HHP
- ◆ Bear in mind that untested local horses may also present risk
- ◆ Consider companions and lead ponies
- ◆ Vaccination status of local horses should be taken into account
- ◆ Tested status of local horses



# Racing

- ◆ Groups from EU, UK, South America, North America, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan
- ◆ Separate training slots to be scheduled
- ◆ Track permits distancing and separate entry and exit
- ◆ Transport to and from track by sanitary group
- ◆ Pre-race stabling takes into account sanitary group
- ◆ Mixing permitted in starting stalls but no direct contact



# Showjumping

- ◇ Generally GCC, EU and UK
- ◇ Reduces quarantine requirement relative to Flat Racing
- ◇ Stewarding essential to prevent mixing of different groups at training
- ◇ Warm up arena horses will generally mix in close proximity
- ◇ Competition arena – only at entry and exit



# Endurance

- ◆ Participants from GCC, South America and Europe in general
- ◆ Quarantine requirements reduced compared to Flat Racing
- ◆ Training can be stewarded to prevent mixing
- ◆ Competition has some close proximity mixing but not for extended time periods



# Arabian Show Horses

- ◆ Generally Local, GCC and potentially EU
- ◆ Supervision and stewarding over the training period
- ◆ Competition should be no mixing



# Show Horses

- ◇ Generally for specific cultural events
- ◇ Isolated separately, no local horses
- ◇ Potentially temporary quarantine facilities depending on site
- ◇ Generally, visit with competent authority and organizer at time of planning limits issues moving forward
- ◇ Planning and preparation key to success



# Clinical Veterinary Services

- ◇ Two main hospitals provide emergency cover.
- ◇ Flat racing will have 8-12 vets on site
- ◇ Other disciplines veterinary requirements vary
- ◇ Experienced supervising vet with knowledge of equine diseases
- ◇ Access to Laboratory – stall side testing



# Transport

- ◆ Conditions of transport are defined in certificates
- ◆ Horses from different sanitary groups should not mix during transport
- ◆ Disinfecting vehicles between groups





# Additional Testing

- ◇ In recent years we have introduced Equine Influenza swabs in response to European outbreak 2019
- ◇ EHV1 swabs in response to competition based outbreak in 2020
- ◇ False positives present significant concerns
- ◇ Additional isolation facilities required as matter of course
- ◇ Plan needs to be in place for positive cases



# Text Examples

1. The horse will be sent directly from the premises of dispatch to the premises of  
Destination without coming into contact with other Equidae not of the same health status;



# Multi Movement Text

- ◇ It has been examined today, this being within 75 days (in case of re-export to a third country)/90 days in case of re-export to the country of origin (2) of the date of export from the country of origin (4), and it shows no clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease and is fit to travel (1)
- ◇ (c) Whilst in
- ◇ (country of temporary residence)(4) the horse has not come into contact with local horses or other horses not of the same (certified) health status, other than at the time of competition and was treated with an approved topical insecticide containing pyrethrins on each occasion that it left the stables for training
- ◇ (d) During the entire period of stay in
- ◇ (country of temporary residence) (4) the horse has been held in officially approved isolation premises, other than during transport between the ports of import and export and the isolation stables, and during training and competition under official supervision. No cases of infectious or contagious equine diseases have been recorded in the premise during this time.
- ◇ e) Address of the Isolation Stables in the country of temporary residency:
- ◇ f) The horse will be sent in a vehicle cleansed and disinfected in advance with a disinfectant official country of dispatch and designed in a way that will ensure the welfare of the animal is protected and fodder cannot escape during transportation.



# Take home message

- ◆ Planning with stakeholders essential
- ◆ Preparation is key
- ◆ Veterinary Supervision and stewarding vital
- ◆ Ensure return conditions are complied with



Thank You

