



Generalitat de Catalunya
**Departament d'Acció Climàtica,
Alimentació i Agenda Rural**



Addressing welfare of equids at local festivals in
Cataluña (*Tres Tombs*)

Summary

- Introduction of *Tres Tombs* festivity
- Mainly Animal Welfare problems reported by stoptrestombs
- Competent Authority actions
- Result of the report on the analysis of welfare problems in *Tres Tombs*
- Action guide for the proper operation for the *Tres Tombs* and other concentrations with equids of a similar nature
- Future....

TRES TOMBS



- ❑ 17TH January 17 in honor of Sant Antoni Abat, patron saint of **round-footed animals**.
- ❑ The catholic religious origin of this festival to venerate its patron, is maintained today, being a set of celebrations throughout Catalonia and consisting of rides, parades, races and the blessings of working and domestic animals.
- ❑ Next year they are going to celebrate 200 aniversaries



TRES TOMBS

The main rite of the *Tres Tombs* consists of making three laps with horses and carriages around the town.

The laps are made around the church of Sant Antoni or, if there is none, at the image of the saint, from where the blessing of the animals is done.

The meaning for the laps are to ask for:

1st : protection for animals

2nd : good harvest

3rd : health for people



Calendar. <https://trestombs.cat/>

FESTES DELS TRES TOMBS PROGRAMADES PER L'ANY 2024

ALCARRÀS 21-ABR 619284144
ALCOVER 04-FEB 696288837
ALELLA 28-GEN 647646142
AMPOSTA 21-GEN 681175246
ANGLESOLA 07-ABR 643900735
ARGENTONA 14-GEN 937970270
BADALONA 11-FEB 649177554
BALSARENY 04-FEB 938396100
BARBERÀ DEL VALLÈS
11-FEB 673755030
BARCELONA 20-GEN 933741950
BEGUES (*) 630961791
BIGUES I RIELLS 10-MAR 630289025
CALDES DE MONTBUI 21-GEN 626791274
CALDETENES (*) 626709609
CAMARLES 21-ABR 977470007
CAMBRILS 21-GEN 977794579
CANOVELLES 20-GEN 687011885
CASTELLAR DEL VALLÈS
25-FEB 655622336
CASTELLBISBAL 03-MARÇ 639623188
CENTELLES 20-GEN 626159160
CERDANYOLA DEL VALLÈS
14-GEN 606382506
CERVELLÓ 11-MAIG 620295622
CONSTANTÍ 25-FEB 620344575
DELTEBRE 03-MARÇ 630049055
EL PERELLÓ 17-GEN 977491021

EL PINELL DE BRAI 25-FEB
663185687
EL PRAT DE LLOBREGAT
12-MAIG 659854755
ESPARREGUERA 28-GEN 699995533
ESPLUGUES DE LLOBREGAT
10-MARÇ 609670718
GANDESA (*) 647209552
GAVÀ 16-MARÇ 649790934
IGUALADA 21-GEN 669048274
L'AMPOLLA 28-ABR 667656963
L'ESQUIROL (*) 620943404
LA GARRIGA 14-ABR 606379871
LA RÀPITA 02-JUN 679524050
LA ROCA DEL VALLÈS
18-FEB 626520180
LLEIDA 20-GEN 653467580
LLETGER 28-ABR 609435506
MANLLEU 21-GEN 629839820
MARÇÀ (*) 620398338
MARTORELL 14-GEN 681198410
MATARÓ 04-FEB 670304535
MIRAVET 06-OCT 620928620
MOIÀ 28-GEN 619218191
MOLINS DE REI (*) 609163757
MONTBLANC - TROBADA NACIONAL
05-MAIG 608155569

OLESA DE MONTSERRAT
04-FEB 619502464
PERAFITA (*) 938530001
POLINYÀ 14-GEN 687269383
PRATS DE LLUÇANÈS
25-JUN 669690257
PUIG-REIG 21-GEN 620041759
REUS 03-MARÇ 625457504
RIPOLL 13-ABR 972714142
RIPOLLET 25-FEB 631626808
RODA DE TER (*) 639382456
RUBÍ 28-GEN 630228007
SABADELL COLLA NOVA
17-GEN 937164374
SABADELL COLLA VELLA
17-GEN 656599335
SANT ANDREU DE PALOMAR
14-GEN 609831185
SANT CUGAT DEL VALLÈS
21-GEN 690622976
SANT JAUME D'ENVEJA
04-FEB 636388077
SANT JOAN DESPÍ
18-FEB 619884439
SANT LLORENÇ D'HORTONS
09-JUN 600414171
SANT MIQUEL DE BALENYÀ (SEVA)
03-MARÇ 626153772

SANT QUIRZE DEL VALLÈS
17-MARÇ 619607654
SANT SADURNÍ D'ANOIA
11-SET 619745794
SANT VICENÇ DE CASTELLET
10-MARÇ 938330649
SANTA BÀRBARA
28-GEN 650379568
SANTA EUGÈNIA DE BERGA
28-GEN 630031832
SANTA EULÀLIA DE RONÇANA
04-FEB 618862895
SANTA PERPÈTUA DE MOGODA
04-FEB 677514986
SANTPEDOR 18-FEB 619271378
SOLSONA 21-GEN 664384464
TARRAGONA 17-MARÇ 676839481
TIVISSA (*) 630143898
TERRASSA 18-FEB 607251739
TONA (*) 619710304
VIC (*) 626709609
VILAFRANCA DEL PENEDE'S
21-GEN 666 665 457
VILANOVA I LA GELTRÚ
17-GEN 660164688
VILASSAR DE DALT
17-GEN 690606554
VILASSAR DE MAR 20-GEN 937590188

STOP TRES TOMBS

Per Unes Celebracions Lliures De Patiment Animal



<https://stop3tombs.com/>



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Competent Authority Actions



PROTOCOL DE BENESTAR ANIMAL,
SEGURETAT I REGLAMENT D'ORDRE
DE LES CAVALCADES I PASSADES
DE LA FEDERACIÓ CATALANA DELS TRES TOMBS

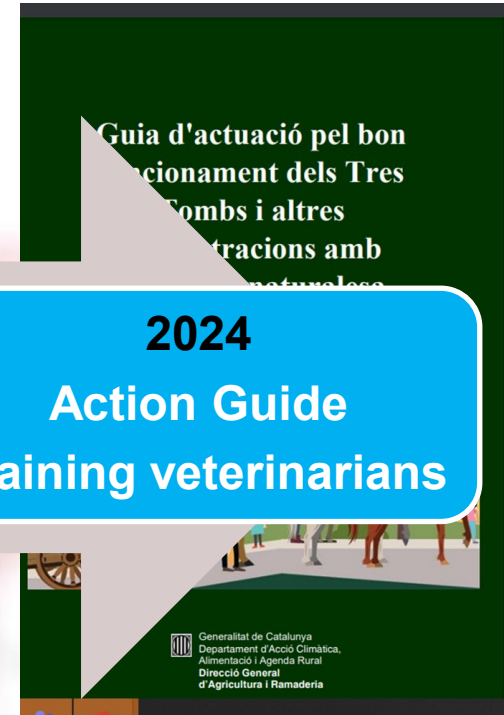


Anàlisi de la situació del benestar animal a la festa
dels tres tombs a Catalunya

2019-2021
**Two different
protocols**

2022 Analysed
main problems
2023 proposal of
a Regulation

2024
**Action Guide
Training veterinarians**



Proposta de reglament per les festes dels tres tombs de
Catalunya



PROTOCOL DE BENESTAR EN ÈQUIDS
PER A LA FESTA DELS TRES TOMBS

Octubre 2019
(Primer amb redacció)

ANIMAL WELFARE PROTOCOL


El benestar animal, la nostra prioritat

El concepte de benestar animal, d'acord amb el més gran acord internacional, inclou tres elements fonamentals: el funcionament adequat de l'organisme, l'estat emocional de l'animal i la possibilitat d'expressar alguns comportaments importants propis de l'espècie.

Així doncs, les definicions més acceptades de benestar animal es basen en una aproximació multidimensional als equins, que inclou tant l'estat físic com l'estat mental dels animals i la seva conducta.



Descarrega't el nostre
protocol de benestar
animal:

 Protocol de benestar animal, seguretat i reglament
d'ordre_2024
(Document pdf 1 Mb)



PROTOCOL DE BENESTAR ANIMAL, SEGURETAT I REGLAMENT D'ORDRE DE LES CAVALCADES I PASSADES DE LA FEDERACIÓ CATALANA DELS TRES TOMBS



https://trestombs.cat/trestombs23/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Protocol-de-benestar-animal-seguretat-i-reglament-dordre_2024-.pdf



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Analysed of the main problems

**Anàlisi de la situació del benestar animal a la festa
dels tres tombs a Catalunya**

Horses not habituated/fit for the festivity



Bridles inappropriate



Two people



Galloping. Dangerous handling



Little control of the machine (carriage brake)



External stressful phenomenon of high intensity (noises, loudspeakers, firecrackers or music band)



Slippery ground: rain, cobblestones, zebra crossings, metal covers/gratings



Bad organization of the event (unsuitable and non-flowing route)



Land too steep



Animals with health problems or too old



Guia d'actuació pel bon funcionament dels Tres Tombs i altres concentracions amb èquids de naturalesa similar a Catalunya



Action guide for the proper operation for the Tres Tombs and other concentrations with equids of a similar nature

Guia d'actuació pel bon
funcionament dels Tres
Tombs i altres
concentracions amb
èquids de naturalesa
similar a Catalunya



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament d'Acció Climàtica,
Innovació i Agenda Rural
Direcció General
d'Agricultura i Ramaderia

1. General concepts
2. Development of the Tres Tombs event and other concentrations of horses of a similar nature
3. Duties of responsible veterinarians
4. Functions of the organization
5. Duties of the equine manager



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1. General concepts

- Veterinarian responsible
- Expert in equine behavior
- Organizer of the event
- **Animal welfare responsible from the organization**
- Responsible for the equine/s



2. Development of the event

- Tour and surroundings
- Water and food
- Transport
- Arrival and departure point
- Tacks
- Loads
- Environmental conditions
- State of equids
- Driving and riding
- Noises



Tour and surroundings

- ✓ Maximum route of 6km walking and/or 2.5h
- ✓ Prioritize the safety and well-being of equids and people
- ✓ Minimize stops. Stops are only permitted if are authorized
- ✓ Grade of the road: <15% punctual and 10% cumulative
- ✓ Avoid bends and steps



Tour and surroundings

- ✓ Protection of dangerous areas of the road
- ✓ Do not pick up, fill objects or similar things to equids that can cause stress
- ✓ Safety distance between carriage and horses
- ✓ Accessible route for the vehicles of the veterinarians
- ✓ Do not verbally and/or physically attack people and animals.



Water and food

- ✓ > 5kg forage for equid during transport
- ✓ Offer water while they are not tied to the carriage
- ✓ Means of transport: 1 water point for each for equids.
- ✓ Carrying and unloading area: 1 water point for 50 equids
- ✓ Do not share drinkers and feeders between equids of different origins



Transport

- ✓ The means of transport must be registered, authorized, not exceed the number of animals allowed and in good condition in accordance with the regulations
- ✓ Origin of horses <200km and/or within 2 hours on the same day of the event.
- ✓ If the equids arrive at the event on foot, they cannot come from distances > 5km
- ✓ Download and upload <45 minutes
- ✓ Ramps with angles <20°



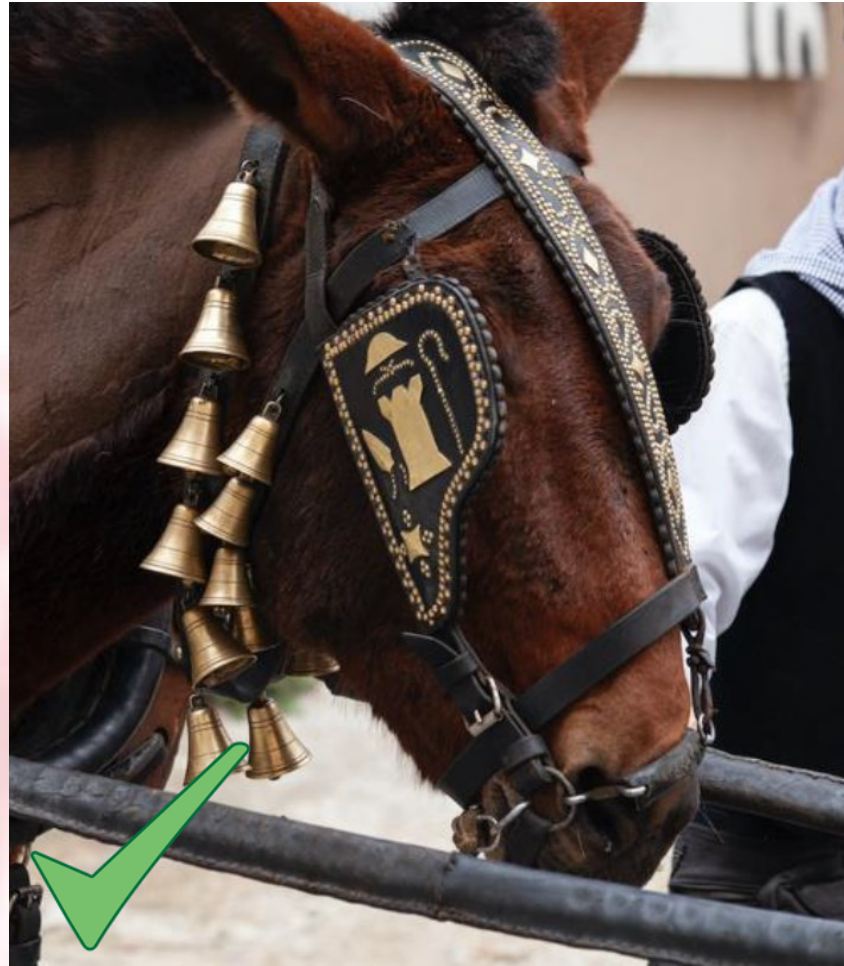
Arrival and departure point

- ✓ All equids will leave and arrive from the same point and if this is not the case, the vet will have to ensure checks at all points.
- ✓ Spacious and delimited loading and unloading space
- ✓ Area authorized to provide veterinary care to equids
- ✓ Attaching and detaching from carriages must be done calmly

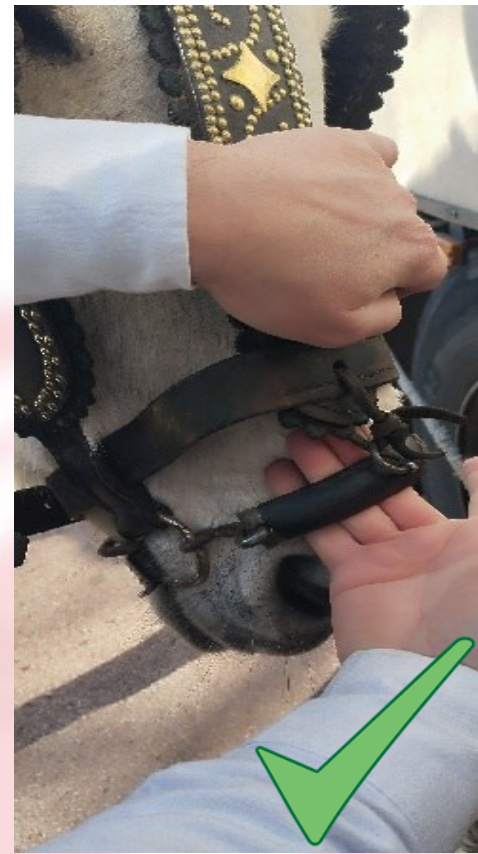
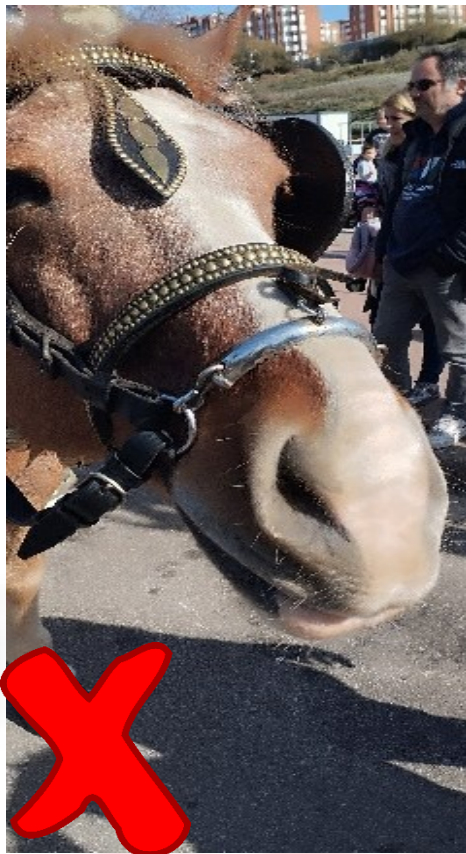
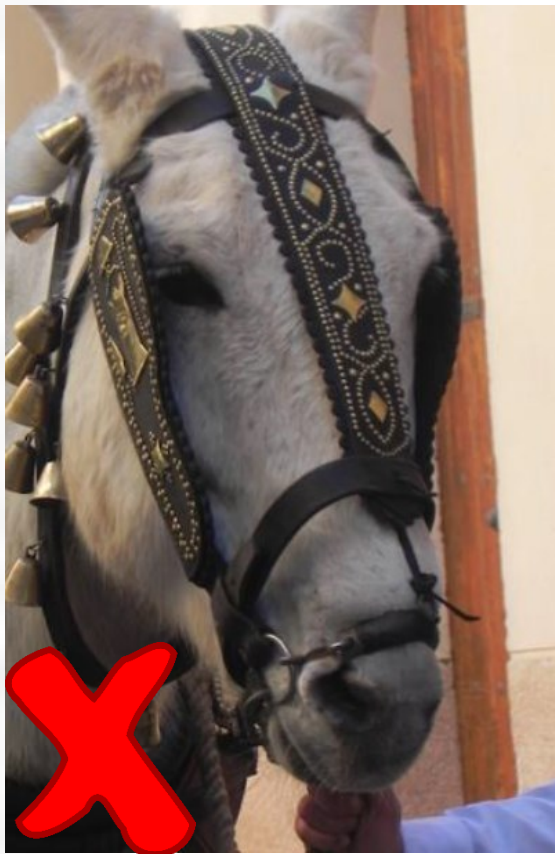


Bridles

- ✓ They must be in good condition, well placed and of the correct size.
- ✓ No excessive friction points, no injuries or pain.
- ✓ Minimize the use of saws, only allowed if they are protected with leather/rubber. They must be well placed.



Bridles (saws)



Bridles

- ✓ Minimize the use of chains, only allowed if they allow 3 fingers to pass comfortably
- ✓ Minimize the use of noseband or fillets Snaffle Bits, only those that are not severe are allowed
- ✓ Do not use horse spurs on boots



Bridles

- ✓ **Snaffle Bits** only allowed during the tour. It should allow 2 fingers to pass through.



Loads and environmental conditions



- Maximum drag weight = 2 x LW
 - Maximum weight mounted equids = <20% LW
 - The weight load must be well balanced
- Recommended Temperature = -5°C/26°C



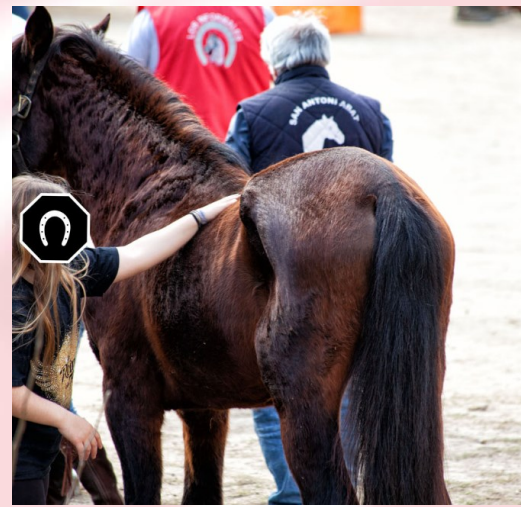
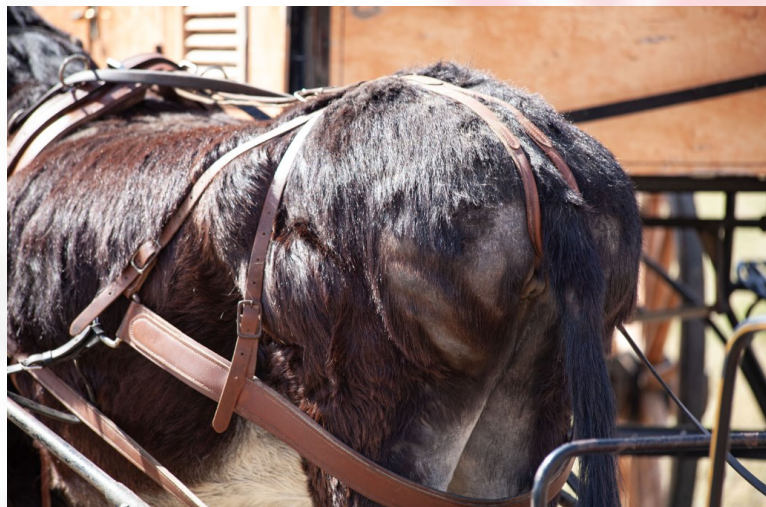
Equids's state

- ✓ They must be physically and mentally prepared for the event
- ✓ Age of participating horses: 4.5 - 23 years
- ✓ The hooves must be trimmed and well balanced
- ✓ All equids must wear horseshoes with laces or go barefoot. If the asphalt is completely dry, they can go with rubber horseshoes or rubber boots.



Equids's state

- ✓ Horses that present will not be able to participate
 - ✓ Physical health problems such as:
 - ✓ Fractured/cracked hooves, infected/deformed frogs, deep wounds, eye, respiratory conditions, lameness, joint deformities/alterations, mouth ulcers and/or dental pain, $CC < 2$ or > 4.5 , poor coat, dirty, presence of ectoparasites



Equids's state

- ✓ Horses that present will not be able to participate
 - ✓ Mental health problems such as:
 - ✓ Negative behavior, easy and bodily expressions compatible with pain and/or stress, escape behaviors, aggression, and manifestation of stereotypes



Driving and assembly

- ✓ A person in charge of the brakes is required in each of the carriages
- ✓ Consistent driving according to the route, unevenness, stops, etc
- ✓ They cannot be mounted if the angle between the plane of the frontal bone and the floor is less than 90°
- ✓ Equids must be kept on pace at all times



Driving and assembly

- ✓ Rods, poles and stakes only allowed in carriages as point deterrents if used properly
- ✓ Avoid excessive restrictions with the reins and/or noseband.
- ✓ Horses cannot be left alone



Driving and assembly

- ✓ Only 1 person mounted per horse
- ✓ There can be no minors on the carriages without the accompaniment of adults
- ✓ All mounted minors will wear a helmet



Noises

- ✓ Do not use pyrotechnics, fireworks or the like
- ✓ Music groups will only be allowed if they are at a distance from the horses
- ✓ Speakers not aimed at the horses and $< 70\text{dB}$
- ✓ Do not use flying elements such as banners, balloons or similar in the sight of the horses



3. Duties of the veterinarian responsible

- Assess the state of physical and mental health of the equids
- Review of the route
- Review of equine documentation
- Administer medication to equids that require it and/or refer it (contingency clinical vet)
- Prepare a detailed report describing possible incidents and proposed improvements 15 days after the event
- Establish measures to correct any situation that affects the BA

Ratio: 1 veterinarian for each 75 equids



4. Functions of the organization

- Communication procedure: *Tres toms* activity is subject to a prior communication obligation

The screenshot displays the Gencat website interface for the process of communicating animal concentrations. The main heading is "Regulació de certàmens i altres concentracions d'animals vius" and the sub-heading is "Fer la comunicació d'altres concentracions d'animals vius". The page is divided into two main sections: "Per Internet" and "Presencialment". The "Per Internet" section has a red "Inicia" button, and the "Presencialment" section has a "Consulta on" button. A navigation menu at the top includes "Inici", "Departament", "Àmbits d'actuació", "Tràmits", "Serveis", and "Actualitat". A breadcrumb trail shows the path: "Inici > Tràmits > Tràmits per temes > Regulació de certàmens i altres concentracions d'animals vius > Fer la comunicació d'altres concentracions d'animals vius". A sidebar menu on the left includes "Index" and "Regulació de certàmens i altres concentracions d'animals vius". A filter panel at the bottom left shows options for "QUI" (Ciutadania | Entitats), "COM" (Per Internet | Presencialment), and "QUAN" (En qualsevol moment) with a green checkmark.

<https://agricultura.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/tramits-temes/Regulacio-de-certamens-i-altres-concentracions-danimals-vius?moda=2>

4. Functions of the organization

- Communication procedure
- Have the authorization of the City Council
- Hire at least 1 veterinarian for every 75 equids
- Communicate the planned route to the competent safety and rescue authorities
- Manage the process and control of the registrations.
- Keep registration data and documentation
- Support the veterinarian in charge with the responsible animal welfare from the organization
- Request the documentation from those responsible for the horses
- Check the documentation related to the transport



4. Functions of the organization

- Control the arrival of participants and delivery of bibs
- Contingency plan for horses that require urgent on-site veterinary clinical care
- Make the regulations easier for participants
- Facilitate the route for the responsible veterinarians and, if applicable, the equine behavior expert
- Implement the recommendations of the responsible veterinarians
- Guarantee that loads and garnishes are optimal
- Ensure that the behavior of the participants is optimal
- Do not allow the participation of people who have breached current regulations in previous events.
- Decide which horses and people cannot participate



5. Duties of the equine manager

- Present the required identification and movement documentation
- Fill out the registration form as established by the organization
- Make sure that the equids come from a registered farm that takes care of their physical and mental well-being
- Take sanitary measures as appropriate
- Do not verbally or physically attack the horses
- Do not provide sedatives, relaxants or medicines that alter the behavior of the horse
- Do not leave the horses unattended at any time



Future



- ❑ Definitive version of the guide with professional design according official publication rules.
- ❑ Last quarter of the year: virtual training for the councils technicians
- ❑ Official controls to assure animal welfare rules in 2025.
- ❑ Process the proposal to change the decree to include new obligations in events with equines



**Thank you for your attention and special thanks
to Sandra Zafra and Maite Villalba**



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Photos from slide 3,4 source: <https://trestombs.cat>

Photos from slide 6, 7, 8 source: <https://stop3tombs.com/>

Photos from slide 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37,38,
39, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48. Source: Generalitat de Catalunya