
Covid-19 (Coronavirus)

Dear Members,

This is a very serious and difficult time for a lot of people. As a club we want to wish well to all our members and their families and cannot stress enough to look after yourselves and those who are most vulnerable.

We have been in close contact with the BRC and the BHS and have been following guidelines and advice from other officials such as the BEF as well. With this in mind, and with the latest reports, we have cancelled some of our planned events until the end of June and have postponed others until further notice. We are going to hold some virtual shows online, where it is safe for all and to try and keep some fun going at this very difficult time.

Please keep an eye on the Website or Facebook page for regular updates.

The most recent advice from the BHS, BRC and BEF can be found below.

Let's hope we can get on top of this virus and start getting back to normal as soon as possible.

STAY SAFE

[Latest from the BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY and BRITISH RIDING CLUB as of 24th March 2020](#)

Advice for equestrians during the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak

24 March 2020

The British Horse Society is closely monitoring the Government's advice regarding the Coronavirus outbreak. The situation is changing daily and as a result it is strongly advised that horse owners put together a care plan for their horse should you have to self-isolate or become ill. The Government's directive as of 20:30 on Monday, 23rd March is for everyone to stay at home unless travel is absolutely necessary.

Horse welfare is critical and grooms or the sole carer for a horse should travel to provide care for horses. Where horses are kept in livery the BHS advises that horse owners respect the protocol put in place by the yard owner or manager and work as a team to agree a care plan for your horse(s).

Latest from the BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY and BRITISH RIDING CLUB Continued.....

There are no specific government guidelines for the question around whether we should still be out riding at present. Our strong advice is that it is not appropriate to put unnecessary pressure on the emergency services now or for the foreseeable future. It is incumbent on all of us to make an individual decision as to whether riding is necessary at all, at this time. Decisions can only be taken based on individual circumstances, but our choices should always be mindful of the potential impact for ourselves and others.

The health and welfare of your horse is your priority. If you have any concerns please contact your vet, yard manager or the BHS and we will do our best to assist you. You can contact us via telephone on 02476 840517 (calls may be recorded for monitoring purposes) or email us at welfare@bhs.org.uk.

Please note, while the guidance is current at the point of publication, it may quickly be superseded following further government updates, or changes to the situation. Please bear with us while we make these changes.

Latest from the BRITISH EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION as of 27th March 2020

*The British Equestrian Federation (BEF) has urged riders **not to “add to the burden” of the emergency services and stay out of the saddle** amid the coronavirus pandemic.*

*The update today (27 March) **goes further than earlier advice** by the BEF on Tuesday (24 March) which advised riders to avoid “all organised equine activity”. The federation has also advised to avoid hacking out.*

*The BEF statement said the government had not issued any restrictions on riding – but the federation urged everyone to **“carefully consider the risks and what is ‘essential’ – and not ride”**.*

“The emergency and health services are working at full capacity to combat the virus and as a community we shouldn’t add to that burden,” said the statement.

*“If you choose to ride, we strongly suggest avoiding activity with heightened risk and **keeping to your own property.**”*



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