



Far North Endurance Riders Association Event Biosecurity and Safety Document

Location: Tepon Equestrian Park Wondecla

FNERA Event Biosecurity Safety Document v12.1 September 2026

Accepted Date: September 2026 FNERA Committee

Note: The event safety checklist is required to be completed and returned to QERA by the Organising Committee.

Contents

Welcome.....	3
Safety	4
Ride Event Safety	4
Emergency on Track.....	4
Ride Base Camping.....	5
Containment of Horses at Rides.....	6
Ride Base Emergency	7
Biosecurity	8
Biosecurity Policy Introduction.....	8
Preventing the Introduction of Disease onto the Ride Venue	10
Preventing the Spread of Disease at Tepon Equestrian Park.....	10
Biosecurity Incident Contingency Plan.....	11
Veterinary Treatment Hospital	12
Queensland COVID Public Health and Social Measures.....	13
Appendix 1 - Site Map	14
Appendix 2 – Definitions	15

EVENT SAFETY CHECKLIST

Welcome

On behalf of the Far North Endurance Riders Association Management Committee, welcome to all persons participating in the sport of endurance horse riding.

To complete is to win.

FNERA events are based at Tepon Equestrian Park, Wondecla, and this safety document applies this event held at Tepon in 2025. The FNERA Management Committee reserves the right to make additional safety procedures and alerts at any individual ride. These will be notified to participants in the ride information flyer and or at the pre ride briefing. FNERA ride events are conducted by the Management Committee and a small group of volunteers. Management may delegate roles (such as timekeeper, rescue float driver etc) to volunteers during an event where appropriate.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable event, we ask that all competitors, volunteers and visitors, read and comply with the following safety document. Participation in a FNERA ride event implies you have read and will comply with the rules and policies of AERA/QERA/FNERA including the code of conduct. AERA rules and policies are freely available on the website: <http://aera.asn.au/national-rules/>

Any queries in regard to the event are to be directed to a member of the organising committee. Names and contact numbers follow:

Title	Name	Contact
President FNERA 2026	Kristie Sheehan	krimic80@gmail.com 0438 863 530
Chief Steward	Michael Sheehan	0438 867 447 Michael
Head Veterinarian	Matthew Walker	

Safety

Ride Event Safety

The organisers of FNERA events have taken all due care to ensure the event is safely completed.

We request you comply with the following safety requirements:

- the relevant Qld Health & Safety statutes.
- that you conduct your affairs with all due care and regard for other participants and visitors and comply with the QERA Code of Conduct. that you are asked to report any risks to a member of the Organising Committee.
- that you are asked to report any incidents that you are involved in during the course of your stay. A copy of the Committees Incident Report is attached to this document.
- that you are required to register on the appropriate forms to ensure insurance coverage prior to competing in the event.
- where your camp uses electrical leads, they are to be tested and tagged in compliance with AS/NZS3760.

Emergency on Track

Checkpoints manned by the Tableland Radio and Electronics Club volunteers will be strategically placed around the tracks. Riders are required to ensure check point personnel acknowledge your number when you pass through the checkpoint. Details explained at the pre-ride briefing are to be followed.

For rider and horse injuries occurring on track during the ride, notification to a checkpoint operator will activate the emergency plan. Communications at the checkpoints is through a two-way radio system and/or mobile telephones.

An on-track emergency is to be reported to the nearest checkpoint, and if possible, to the Chief Steward via mobile contact. Checkpoint personnel will notify the Chief Steward who will activate the following emergency plan:

- First Aid to be administered on site if possible.
- Details of emergency & location to be relayed to Chief Steward and FNERA Ride Event Management personnel
- Response to be determined in accordance with emergency.

Riders are encouraged to take a mobile phone on the ride, and must have the contact details of the Chief Steward and OC. There is a basic first aid kit located at the Tepon Clubhouse.



Ride Base Camping

Please observe these basic camping procedures:

Fires

Are permitted in designated fire pits, but please keep to a minimum. No bonfires. Campers must supply their own wood.

Electric Leads & Appliances

Do not overload the circuits. All leads must have current safety tags.

Dogs

Must be on a lead at all times.

Vehicular Access

Please show consideration to fellow campers and riders. Restrict your vehicles, tents, yards etc. to within the designated campsite areas.

Rubbish and Glass

Please place all rubbish in garbage bags and wheelie bins provided. No glass in designated areas on the Tepon grounds.

Horse Manure

Manure and hay must be removed from horse yards (both permanent and temporary) prior to departure. Wheelbarrows and forks are supplied at Tepon.

Consideration of Others

Endurance rides often start in the early hours of the morning. Please be considerate of your fellow campers with regard to late night noise and activity. This is family-oriented sport, however, parents/guardians are responsible for their children's behaviour at all times. Bicycles, footballs and toys are to be kept well away from horses.

Containment of Horses at Rides

The "Duty of Care" with regard to horse containment at rides is the responsibility of the person or persons in charge of the horse. Ride organisers do their best to provide a ride base that is of sufficient size and design to conduct endurance events safely.

Pre-nomination by riders is requested to determine ride numbers and camping requirements.

The grounds are fenced and the gates may be kept closed, especially at night.

Yards must comply with AERA regulations. Preferred yards are to be of metal construction, substantially fixed to a solid object such as a horse trailer or truck or permanent fence.

Electric fencing is allowed and needs to meet the AERA regulations.

Two strands of tape are to be used, preferably white and not string type, with the top tape to be 1.2 to 1.4 metres above the ground. The posts used should be of substantial material (metal pickets) and installed so that the tape does not sag. The fence needs to be energized at all times the horse is using it. No more than one horse per yard.

Tethering or hobbling of horses is not allowed.

It is advisable to have a competent person supervising your horse while you are attending the pre-ride talk.



Ride Base Emergency

All emergencies are to be reported to the Chief Steward and OC as soon as possible.

Fire: procedure designed on the RACE principle

Rescue or Remove people in immediate danger, if it is safe to do so.

Alert others: contact the Fire Department (dial 000)

Contain the Fire: if possible

Extinguish if safe to do so or **Evacuate**

In the event of an emergency requiring the evacuation of the Tepon Equestrian Centre, the following will occur:

- The Chief Steward or designated personnel will broadcast a message requesting evacuation from Tepon Equestrian Park.
 - Assembly points for the evacuation are located at:
 - The main entry gate on Longlands Gap Road
 - The airstrip via the middle gate on the grass arena area (not accessible to vehicles)
 - The exit gate past the maintenance shed toward 6th Division Road & Springvale Road
 - You are requested to make your way to one of the assembly points and await further instructions.
 - Local emergency services personnel will assume responsibility on their arrival.
-



Biosecurity

This Biosecurity Plan outlines a set of preventative control measures and actions aimed at reducing the risk and spread of an infectious diseases outbreak affecting people and horses on and off the Tepon Equestrian Park endurance ride venue. Every individual has a responsibility to abide by the biosecurity measures and to follow the directions of the Organising Committee (OC) or risk expulsion from the event.

The [Biosecurity Act 2014 \(PDF, 1.5MB\)](#) (the Act) commenced on 1 July 2016. The Act replaced the many separate pieces of legislation that were previously used to manage biosecurity. Under the Act, the [Biosecurity Regulation 2016 \(PDF, 1.5MB\)](#) sets out how the Act is implemented and applied.

This document applies to management of infectious disease risk generally, which could include strangles, diarrhoea and respiratory illness and includes information relating specifically to Hendra virus risk. Biosecurity also includes management of risk associated with livestock pests such as cattle ticks.

The Organising Committee and Chief Steward must be advised if there is a horse health issue prior to the Head Veterinarian's arrival. The Chief Steward (in consultation with the Organising Committee) will be in charge should a biosecurity risk arise before the Head Veterinarian arrives on site.

Biosecurity Policy Introduction

Biosecurity is the management of infectious diseases to reduce the risk of transmission to the minimum with a comprehensive approach. The critical elements are the control of disease agents and the prevention of the spread of any disease agents.

This includes hygiene practices, and the quarantine and control of infectious diseases onto and within an endurance ride venue and surrounding roads and tracks. This information applies to management of infectious disease risk in general (such as strangles and other respiratory illness, diarrhoea, etc.) and includes information specifically relating to Hendra virus risk and its' zoonotic potential.



Participants (riders, spectators and volunteers) at a FNERA event are advised that:

- They have a biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.
- Horse Health Declarations (HHD) and the Temperature Log Duration are a mandatory requirement and must be completed by the person responsible for the horse.
- The property identification code (PIC) of the horse's origin and returning property must be included on the HHD.
- Acceptance into the event will be refused if the required HHD is not presented at point of entry or designated registration point.
- No horses with signs of illness are to be brought onto the grounds.
- Direct nose to nose contact between horses should be minimised.
- Competitors are responsible for cleaning up manure from yards (permanent and temporary) and placing it in designated areas.
- Competitors are required to advise the Chief Steward immediately if a horse is sick, to stop all non-essential contact with the sick horse and not allow children to have close contact with the sick horse.

A Horse Health Declaration (HHD) must be completed prior to entry to the venue and will detail the contact details of the owner or person in charge of the horse, the address and PIC number of the horse's property of origin immediately prior to travel, a temperature log, and a horse health declaration by the owner or person in charge of the horse(s).

The temperature log duration for this event is 3 days.

Horse Health Declarations should be honest, accurate and reliable. HHD should be presented to the CS immediately upon arrival to the ground.

For Biosecurity purposes, participants are required to present:

- 3-day Horse Health Declaration and temperature log



Preventing the Introduction of Disease onto the Ride Venue

All people who bring horses or livestock (including dogs) onto the grounds are expected to be aware of their biosecurity obligation that they must take all reasonable steps to ensure their activities do not spread a disease or contaminant. The following actions are required of the person responsible for each horse.

Before you leave your own property:

Wash your horse/s before leaving home so that soil and organic matter are removed from their coats and hooves. Wash your vehicle and float before leaving home to remove visible dirt. Clean all horse gear of visible dirt before leaving home. Bring sufficient tack, feed and water containers with you, to avoid sharing these at the event. If travelling from interstate, adhere to all regulations regarding the transport of plants (including horse feed) and animals, which apply to your point of origin. Check for any evidence of ticks and abide by all government regulations for spraying if crossing State borders. International competitors must comply with Australian quarantine regulations. Take the temperature of the horse and observe health status of your horse to complete the Horse Health Declaration.

DO NOT bring an unwell horse onto the ride base. Horses suspected of potential contagious disease will be refused to entry to the event. If a horse becomes unwell while travelling, contact a vet and the OC, before arrival at the ride base. If, on arrival, a horse is suspected of a communicable disease based on the information received and/or from the visual clinical signs presented by the horse, a clinical exam should be carried out ASAP at the Isolation area at Tepon. The attending person is responsible for cleaning and ensuring that any contagious (e.g., faecal) material is promptly removed from the ground and appropriately disposed of.

IF YOUR HORSE IS UNWELL, RECONSIDER YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE RIDE EVENT.

Preventing the Spread of Disease at Tepon Equestrian Park

The following actions are required of the person responsible for each horse.

On arrival, the person responsible for the horse will be asked to provide a fully completed temperature log for each horse. If arriving early and camping, take your horse/s rectal temperature every morning from arrival at the ride venue until the pre ride vet check, and during ride vet checks if required.

Immediately notify the Chief Steward/Head Vet if your horse becomes unwell during the event.



As much as possible, minimise contact with other people's horses, and restrict access to your horse/s by other people and horses. Clean your horse yard of manure and feed scraps on a regular basis. Place all manure and waste hay in the allocated areas for collection. This includes temporary yards and is the responsibility of the person in charge of the horse.

Tepon Equestrian Park has a quarantine/isolation area with two covered yards for use as an isolation zone if required.

Biosecurity Incident Contingency Plan

The CS and Head Vet are to be advised of a sick horse immediately.

In the event that a sick horse is confirmed at the event, the horse is to be yarded at the isolation area, taken via the most direct route avoiding any unnecessary contact with other people or horses, until review by the vet.

The vet may decide to request a disease specific exclusion test (e.g., equine influenza) and the horse will remain in isolation until the test results are available. Please note that the person responsible for any horse requiring treatment will be responsible for all costs associated with treatment, including sampling and laboratory testing & PPE gear used. Logbooks will not be returned while accounts remain outstanding.

If the horse is deemed to be non-infectious, it may be returned to regular stable and will be managed by owner and their attending vet (at owner's expense).

- OR

If the horse is diagnosed as being a possible biosecurity threat, it is to remain in isolation area with a minimum 15 -metre to other horses or passing people. All people within the isolation zone i.e., vet, officials, owner, are to don PPE gear when tending to horse. If the horse is diagnosed as being a possible biosecurity threat:

OC in collaboration with CS and Vet will contact Biosecurity QLD. OC to close exit points and notify all present at the venue to remain on site until further information and that exit points are closed. OC will take advice about whether to continue with the event, after discussion with Biosecurity QLD, and advise participants of this decision. Horse Health Declarations for all horses on site will be made available to the Biosecurity QLD. Access to isolation area will be patrolled by the OC and limited to essential personnel. All horse movement to cease unless authorized by the Biosecurity Qld.

While the OC do not possess the legal powers necessary to quarantine or restrict movement of people or horses, they will arrange to provide the details, to Biosecurity Qld, of any person and or animal leaving the grounds during a possible biosecurity threat situation.

All participants/entrants will be responsible for their own costs in the event of a lockdown. Biosecurity Qld will advise if a total lockdown of the venue is required and the event OC will advise participants of this decision. The advice of Biosecurity Qld will be the final decision and will be followed by the OC.

The OC will regularly check entry/exit points to ensure anyone leaving the venue is given an exit notice and their vehicle registration is noted. Biosecurity Qld will advise the OC and participants of any further protocols required.



Veterinary Treatment Hospital

An endurance treatment hospital is a very important area of an endurance ride base, but can pose major risks to staff, volunteers and competitors. As such it is important that strict protocols and procedures are followed.

Access to the Veterinary Treatment Hospital needs to be restricted at the discretion of the Head Vet. If the rider or responsible person want to update or discuss with other people (e.g. strappers) they must leave the Veterinary Treatment Hospital. Officials who can access the Veterinary Treatment Hospital are the head veterinarian, chief steward and any other ride officials at the direction of the chief steward or head veterinarian. There should be only one entry and exit point from the Veterinary Treatment Hospital, to allow monitoring of those present within the Veterinary Treatment Hospital. No dogs or animals (other than horses entered in the ride) are permitted within the Veterinary Treatment Hospital.

Certain invasive procedures may not be able to be carried out on some horses. Referral to external hospital facilities for further diagnostic procedures and treatment must be made in consultation with the responsible person.

Referral to the external vet hospital is not an option at this event for unvaccinated horses at this ride. If required, the head vet request will the external vet hospital to perform a Hendra disease specific exclusion test and the horse will remain in isolation until the test results are available. Only when the exclusion test has come back as negative will the horse be able to be referred to the external hospital facility at the discretion of the treatment vet.

To ensure that all horses attending an event will be able to receive treatment if required, AERA Rulebook S1 rules 14.1 and 16.5 must be implemented well before the event date.

Riders and responsible persons must be aware that there are limitations in the treatment of endurance horses at this endurance ride, due to the limited availability of diagnostic equipment, and the ambulatory nature of a ride base Veterinary Treatment Hospital (compared to permanent horse hospitals with 24-hour staffing and on call veterinarians and trained veterinary staff).

Queensland COVID Public Health and Social Measures

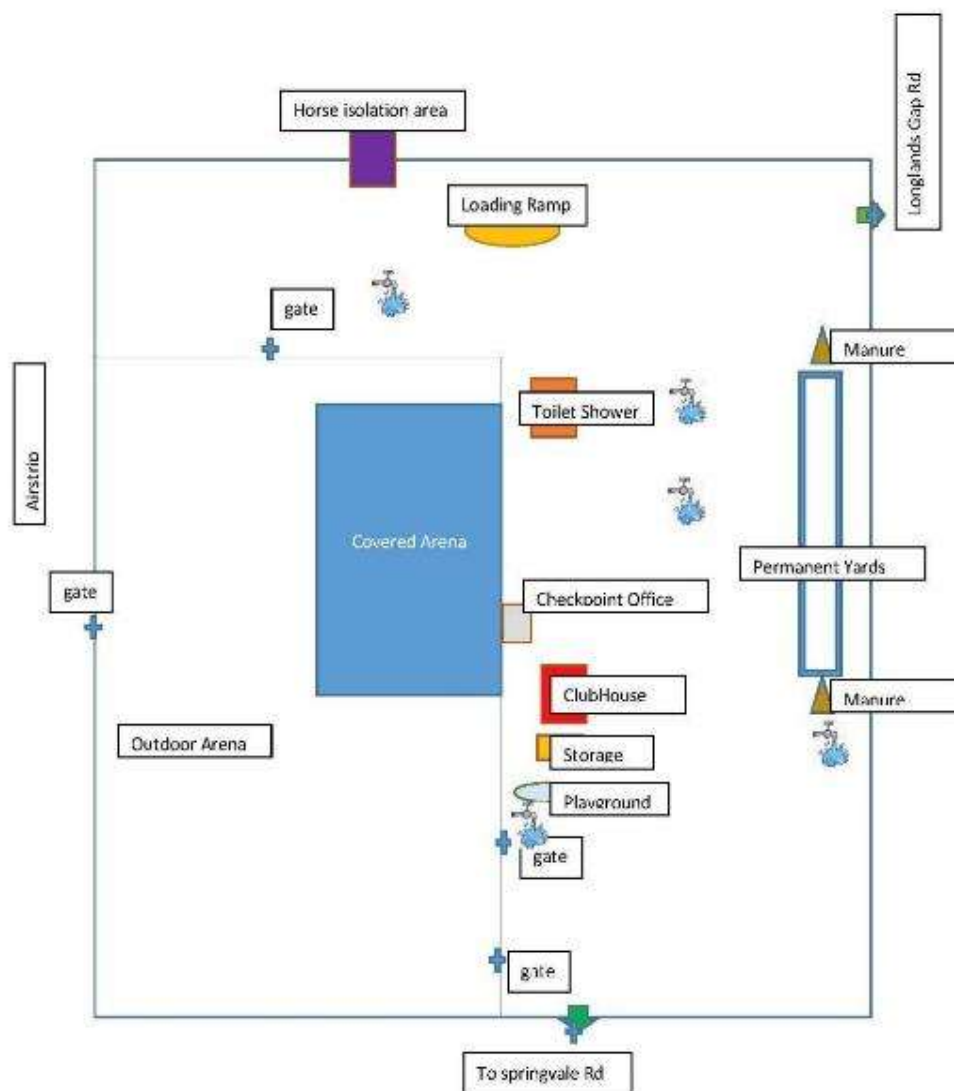
From 6pm Friday the 4th of March 2022, outdoor sporting events are no longer required to operate under the COVID Safe Event Checklist for Public Health and Social Measures. Participants/entrants are recommended to adhere to the following where possible.

- Vaccinated and unvaccinated persons are permitted to attend and participate.
- Outdoor based organisations are not considered a restricted business, activity or undertaking. Therefore, organisations are not required to comply with the COVID Checklist.
- It is not possible for contact sports to observe physical distancing while undertaking activity, however physical distancing should be observed at all other times, where possible.
- Whilst not mandatory, it's best practice to continue to clean frequently touched surfaces and shared equipment.
- Indoor spaces associated with outdoor venues such as clubhouses are required to follow occupant density requirements of one person per two square metres.

All participants/entrants to FNERA events will be responsible for the following:

- Physical distancing 1.5m.
- Hand hygiene.
- Respiratory hygiene.
- Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection.
- No-one must attend the event who is experiencing, or has recently experienced, any symptoms that might be associated with COVID-19.

Appendix 1 - Site Map (not to scale)





Appendix 2 – Definitions

Far North Endurance Riders Association (FNERA)
Hosting club affiliated with QERA and TEP.

Queensland Endurance Riders Association (QERA)
State body for endurance.

Tepon Equestrian Park (TEP)
Ride base for FNERA endurance events.

Organising Committee (OC)
The OC consists of the FNERA Management Committee as elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Chief Steward
The chief steward is responsible for the general control and conduct of the event from the opening of the ride base until the closure of the ride base. Further details of responsibility are listed in the AERA rulebook.

Communal water trough
Large trough of water that will be accessed by multiple horses. A communal water trough may or may not be used at an event, but if in use, water should be bucketed from the trough, horses should not drink directly from the trough.

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment
Refers to protective clothing, helmets, goggles, or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury or infection.

Property Identification Code (PIC)
An eight-character code to identify a livestock producing property. The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is Australia's system for the permanent identification and tracking of livestock for market access, food safety and disease control purposes.

Responsible person
The person responsible for the horse at a ride is prima facie, the rider and the trainer of the horse, (jointly and severally), however support personnel and the owner of the horse may also be regarded as additional persons responsible if they were present at the event and/or made a relevant decision about the horse, and compelling circumstances warrant such an extension.



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK

EVENT SAFETY CHECKLIST

The Event Organising Committee is responsible to ensure all relevant requirements on the Event Checklist have been checked and signed off.

		Yes	No
1.	The Event Committee has referenced and complies with the Ride Organisers Handbook	☐	☐
2.	Competitors issued with Event Safety documents.	☐	☐
3.	Disclaimer forms returned by competitors.	☐	☐
4.	Emergency Services notified and briefed on event.	☐	☐
5.	Required approvals confirmed:	☐	☐
	Local authority	☐	☐
	Police	☐	☐
	Local landowners.	☐	☐
	National Park	☐	☐
	State Forest	☐	☐
	Other	☐	☐
6.	Risks assessed (to include):	☐	☐
	Review of existing assessments	☐	☐
	Compile assessments unique to event	☐	☐
	Track inspected.	☐	☐
7.	Event safety procedures	☐	☐
	Documentation in place	☐	☐
	Participants briefed on procedures	☐	☐
	Event safety personnel briefed	☐	☐
	Emergency access confirmed	☐	☐

EVENT: _____

DATE: _____

FNERRA RIDE ORGANISER: _____