



MAHONING VALLEY RACE COURSE

Racing Operations Covid-19 Protocols Effective October 9, 2020

The conduct of live horse racing in a safe, controlled and sustainable fashion is the paramount and shared goal of stakeholders Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley Race Course (HGMV), the Ohio State Racing Commission (OSRC) and the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent Protection Association (OHBPA.)

The following policies will be in effect with the start of live racing at HGMV. The goal of these procedures shall be to meet or exceed the recommended guidelines as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health and local health officials.

All of the enclosed procedures are subject to constant review by the stakeholders and outside health experts with any updating or changes being communicated to stakeholders in an expedited fashion.

The enclosed protocols apply to all Racing Department Employees, Horsemen and Vendors who enter the grounds of a HGMV.

1. General Guidelines

- a. Proper social distancing practices (maintaining minimum 6ft distance between individuals and no congregating in groups of five (5) or more individuals) will be required in all areas of the HGMV grounds.
- b. Hand washing, using soap and hot water for a minimum of 20 seconds should occur as often as possible. When washing is not practical, hand sanitizers should be utilized. Additional hand sanitizer stations will be placed in common areas around the property.
- c. Any individual feeling ill or displaying any of the known symptoms of Covid-19 is advised to stay home. If an individual starts to feel ill, or starts displaying symptoms while on the property, that individual should leave the property and seek immediate medical attention. Any individual who tests positive for COVID 19 must self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days and follow other guidelines in place by Ohio Department of Health and other authorities.

- d. A proper face covering that covers the mouth and nose at all times must be worn while on the grounds at HGMV (some exceptions will be permitted later in this document for safety reasons). The use of other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as latex gloves and face shields when appropriate is recommended.
- e. Disinfecting of the public areas in the barns, backstretch, race paddock, racing offices and jockeys' room will take place on a regular basis. With exception of the receiving barn, cleaning of barns and backstretch areas will be the responsibility of the Horsemen.

2. Stable Area Access

- a. Stable area access will only be granted to essential licensed personnel who have legitimate job and business functions that require them to be in the stable area and shall be subject to HGMV and OSRC approval. Guest and Day Passes will NOT be issued for anyone. Owners will not be allowed in the Stable area. Individuals under the age of 16 will be prohibited from entering the Stable area at any time.
 - i. Effective October 9, 2020, "Essential Personnel" shall be defined as:
 - 1. Grooms, working for trainers on the grounds
 - 2. Vets, Private and Regulatory
 - 3. Jockeys - Only those authorized to ride at the current meet
 - 4. Exercise Riders
 - 5. Hay, feed and bedding vendors
 - 6. Van Drivers
 - 7. HBPA and Chaplaincy Personnel
 - 8. Manure Vendor and employees
 - 9. Starting Gate personnel
 - 10. Outriders
 - 11. Ambulance Personnel
 - 12. HGMV Staff
 - 13. OSRC Staff
 - 14. Jocks Agents
 - 15. Others as previously approved by HGMV or OSRC
- b. All persons entering the stable area must wear a facial covering and will have their temperature checked to determine their general health condition. All persons entering the stable area may be screened verbally. Anyone temperature checked who exhibits a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees or is experiencing any of the symptoms of Covid-19 will not be permitted in the stable area and will be advised to seek immediate medical attention. Individuals accompanying someone denied access to the grounds of HGMV due to a medical screening shall also not be permitted access. Any individuals denied access to HGMV grounds due to potential health issues shall not be permitted to return to HGMV for fourteen (14) days.

- c. All horses shipping in to race and go must go to their assigned stall. Stalls in the receiving barn will be assigned by the stall superintendent to provide adequate social distancing. All horsemen and horses in the receiving barn must vacate the area as soon as practical after their race.
- d. “Work and Go” horses will be permitted to enter the stable area beginning on Friday, October 16, 2020. Only the trainer of record and the horse’s groom may accompany a “Work and Go” horse. The trainer shall comply with all protocols in this document and shall be responsible for and ensure his/her employees/attendees are abiding by the protocols while on the backstretch. The trainer is responsible for ensuring the stalls they use are left in a clean and orderly manner.

3. Racing Office

- a. The only persons permitted in the racing office shall be OSRC and HGMV racing officials, HGMV employees and horsemen for the express purpose of picking up or dropping off approved paperwork and racing silks, or to enter a claim or conduct business with the Horsemen’s Bookkeeper. Horsemen’s Bookkeeper transactions when possible shall be done telephonically. No foal registration certificates are required to race; however, foal certificates must be brought to the Race Office within 72 hours if your horse is claimed.
All checks will be mailed, so please make sure your correct address is on file. Licensees may also access this area to conduct business with OSRC and must follow any rules/protocols put in place by the OSRC. All persons entering the racing office area are required to wear a proper face covering and maintain effective social distancing. If the area becomes too crowded, all persons will be asked to step outside and may enter on a “one out, one in” basis. Persons are also asked not to loiter in this area.
- b. All entries must be made telephonically by calling 330-505-8813.
- c. Draw shall be done in a space large enough so a designated horsemen’s rep may attend.
- d. All racing office personnel must wear a facial covering and will observe all social distancing best practices and will work together to maintain a sanitary workspace.
- e. The exchange of claimed horses will take place in the usual manner. All persons accompanying claimed horses going to the test barn must abide by all rules and protocols set by the OHRC for the safe operation of this area.

4. Paddock

- a. The Paddock will be limited to required racing officials, the trainer or his/her assistant trainer or designee and one (1) groom per horse in the race.
- b. All persons entering the paddock, track side apron area and racetrack must wear a proper face covering and maintain social distancing at all times. All horsemen are requested to vacate the area as soon as practical after their race.

- c. No more than four (4) people (jockey, trainer, groom and one owner) will be permitted in the photo taken by the track photographer.

5. Jockeys' Room Operations

- a. All jockeys are required to provide documents showing they have a negative Covid-19 test result within five (5) days of the opening day of the Race Meet (October 23, 2020) or their first scheduled day of riding.
- b. All individuals while in the Jockey's Room shall always wear a proper face covering.
- c. All persons entering the jockeys' room will be subject to verbal health screening and a temperature check.
- d. Anyone exhibiting a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees or is experiencing any of the symptoms of Covid-19 will not be permitted in the jockey's room will be advised to seek immediate medical attention and will only be allowed to return to the room by furnishing a negative test result. Any individual who tests positive for COVID 19 must self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days and follow other guidelines in place by Ohio Department of Health and other authorities.
- e. Due to space constraints in the jockeys' room and the need to maintain safe social distancing, only riders on the approved list will be permitted to ride at HGMV until further notice. Jockeys should confirm in advance with Racing Office of their eligibility to ride before being named on a mount.
- f. To further promote social distancing in the jockey's room, jockeys are requested to stay out of the dressing/locker room area until it is time to get ready to ride.
- g. Valets will be required to thoroughly wash their hands before and after handling saddles at the scale. All equipment shall be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly between races.
- h. Jockeys' room sauna and hot box will not be available until further notice. No more than two jockeys at a time shall occupy the showers. To assist the jockeys making weight, three (3) pounds have been added to the assigned weights for each race. No other weight allowances will be offered other than those described in the OSRC Rules of Racing.
- i. Jockeys will be required to wear a proper face mask to the paddock which may be removed once they enter the main track for warmups.
- j. Upon completion of their riding engagements, the jockeys are asked to vacate the jockeys' room area as soon as practical.
- k. All racing employees and jockeys must help maintain the clean and sanitary condition of the jockeys' room.
- l. The Jockey's room shall be cleaned and disinfected by MVRC at the end of each race day and **REMAIN CLOSED ON OTHER DAYS**.
- m. Effective – October 5, any Jockey that rides at another race track, **MUST** quarantine for 14 days and present a negative Covid-19 Test dated within five (5) days to the Clerk of Scales or a Racing Official prior to the day they are schedule to ride or enter the stable area.

- n. Jockeys that ride at HGMV will not be allowed to ride out of state and return to HGMV.
- o. **For the Best of Ohio races scheduled for October 31, jockeys not on the list who have ridden at an Ohio racetrack in 2020, and who have not left the state of Ohio will be permitted to ride in those stakes races. If they have left the state after October 9, they will be required to furnish documentation of a negative Covid-19 test within five (5) days of October 31.**

6. On Track and Starting Gate Operations

- a. All pony riders and outriders must always wear a proper face covering while in the paddock area and on the racetrack.
- b. All pony riders are responsible for keeping their horses and their attendees properly social distanced from the other horses and riders during the post parade, while warming up and returning to the paddock after the race.
- c. The Starter, assistant starters and other on track personnel must wear a proper face covering while on the racetrack and in the confines of the gate crew facilities.
- d. Assistant starters are required to wash and or sanitize their hands immediately prior to and following each race.
- e. The gate crew will sanitize the starting gate between each race.
- f. The gate crew will be responsible for maintaining the starting gate crew facilities in a clean and sanitary manner

7. Officials and Race Time Personnel

- a. Race Officials, Equibase Charters, Announcer, video production staff, judges, stewards, timers and photo finish staff, collectively known as “Officials and Racing Operations Personnel” shall always follow safe social distancing practices.
- b. Permit holder will ensure hand sanitizer and/or antibacterial soap is available for all Officials and Race Time Personnel.
- c. Officials and Racing Operations Personnel shall utilize the minimum number of on-site staff to perform required functions.
- d. Stewards hearings should be done via video or conference call when possible, Permit holder will use best efforts to provide space large enough to hold such hearings when a video or conference call is not possible.

Dormitory Guidelines

All residents of the dormitory must present a negative Covid-19 Test dated within five (5) days of occupancy.

- a. Residents temperatures will be taken daily Anyone temperature checked who exhibits a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees or is experiencing any of the symptoms of Covid-19 will be advised to seek immediate medical attention and shall not be permitted in the dormitory.
- b. Any individual who tests positive for COVID 19 must self-quarantine OFF PROPERTY for a minimum of 14 days and follow other guidelines in place by Ohio Department of Health and other authorities. Dorm rooms will be limited to single occupancy other than a Husband and Wife.
- c. No guests or unassigned people are allowed in the dorm rooms at any time.

Dormitory Lounge requirements

All persons entering the Lounge Area must wear a facial covering at all times and maintain proper Social Distancing. Any food purchased in the Lounge shall be eaten in the individual's room. Failure to follow these protocols may result in the Lounge being closed.

Showers

There will be designated set hours with a minimum of eight (8) hours for shower use.

Social Distancing guidelines must be followed.

Horsemen will provide a bathroom attendant who will:

- Sanitize the showers after each use

- Sanitize bathroom fixtures while they are attending to the shower room.
