

**Risk Assessment**

**of**

**Equine unloading / loading & competition**

**Note**

This risk assessment is based on general show activities and must be reviewed and updated in accordance with your specific show location, animal type, displays, attractions, vendors, entertainment and food service etc.

Irish Shows Association Affiliated Show			Equine competition area			
Area / Activity	Task description	Hazard & risk description	People exposed	ORR H, M, L	Control measures (existing and additional required)	Responsibility
Equine unloading / loading & competition	Parking of vehicles carrying horses in show grounds at competition area	Collision between vehicles whilst travelling through grounds and positioning in parking area	Stewards and Members of show team		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stewards briefed on show safety statement with specific attention to risk assessments covering tasks, associated hazards and required controls to be implemented and followed</li> <li>Required number of stewards should be on duty at equine parking and competition area to ensure compliance with show rules and safety requirements.</li> <li>Erect signage on site requesting the public to obey stewards instructions</li> <li>Where possible separate entrance and exit points should be provided for large and small vehicles to facilitate prompt and safe site access and egress and parking.</li> <li>High visibility jacket and safety boots to be worn by stewards and show team.</li> <li>Safety signage erected in equine area regarding access/egress points for horses between designated parking area and competition area and clear signage instruction on areas where horses cannot enter.</li> <li>Horses are brought into site on board vehicles or on lead and under the control of their owners at all times</li> <li>Stewards to ensure orderly positioning of vehicles in parking area to enable safe unloading &amp; loading of horses for competition</li> <li>Entrance route between parking and competition area should be treated with hard wood chip, bark wood or straw to minimise the creation of mud which could make surface slippery to horse &amp; rider</li> <li>Appropriate barrier (stakes, rope / orange mesh netting) should be erected around the competition area to clearly exclude spectators from the zone which horses will be competing in.</li> <li>Safety signage regarding movement of horses, control of pets and control of inflatable balloons etc. should be erected</li> <li>Safety signage cautioning pedestrians not to enter competition area and to take care of young children in their company should be erected</li> <li>Equine competition rules should be made available to all competition participants and judges should enforce compliance</li> <li>Erect equine competition rules in the competition area where they can be clearly observed by competitors</li> <li>Ensure emergency procedures are in place in the form of ambulance, paramedics, doctor and contact numbers in the show grounds and that stewards are aware of this information</li> <li>Provide separate access routes for pedestrian and spectators who wish to view equine competition</li> <li>Keep all pedestrian walk ways and viewing points clear of debris or potential trip hazards.</li> </ul>	Show committee
	Unloading & loading of horses	Collision between vehicles and pedestrians	The public attending the show			
	Transfer of horse by rider from parking area to competition area	Injury to pedestrian & rider when transferring from parking area to competition area	Horse rider			
	Leading or riding of horse to and from parking and competition area by owner	Injury to rider if horse is spooked by moving debris or dog	Children			
	Parading of horses & pony's	Injury to rider if horse slips/stumbles on soft or trampled ground between parking & competition area				
	Participation in competition	Injury to spectators should horse breach competition area				
	Attending to horse during competition	Injury to children should they enter competition area				
	Observation by spectators of equine competition					