

# HORSE COUNCIL BC COACH CONNECTION

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**HORSE COUNCIL**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

## COVID-19

While we are experiencing social distancing, program postponement and a general shut down due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, communication is key to everyone being safe but there is also a need to communicate as a community.

The Coach Connection will be sent out for the next few months to offer support and information to coaches.

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## **A Conversation - Covid-19 and Insurance for Coaches and Instructors**

### Description

This free webinar will provide Coaches and Instructors with an opportunity to participate in an interactive Q&A seminar about insurance and the equestrian industry and how it relates to you during these challenging times. Featuring Mike King our insurance provider at CapriCMW Inc.

Time Apr 28, 2020 12:00 PM in [Pacific Time \(US and Canada\)](#)

Preregistration is required, go to [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvc--pqDksHdANwo7RojZbrcE8vOgB4q\\_T](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvc--pqDksHdANwo7RojZbrcE8vOgB4q_T)

This webinar will be approximately 1 hour long which includes questions and answer time. Coaches will receive 1 PD point for participating.

HCBC is also presenting similar webinars for Facility Owners and Members, preregistration is also required.

## **Facilities – Wednesday, April 29 at noon PDT**

Register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUdp-qppz0uGtFysyoCPh4RHAbQRtaZ33Jg>

## **Individual HCBC Members - Thursday, April 30 at 5:00 PM PDT**

Register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tf-uhjr4sG9ZfPYH8RZbcMHOfi2Vf3Avp>

Please pass along this information to anyone you think should participate.

## Horse Council BC - Covid-19: We are all in this together

Collectively we're experiencing a lot of changes and firsts right now. As members of Horse Council BC and the equine community you remain at the forefront of everything we do as we work through these challenging times. We also want to re-assure you we support the health and welfare of horses and their people.

With this in mind we are providing this update which is a **collection of relevant resources including government financial assistance programs and equine related resources**. We are also very pleased to offer a **series of free webinars on Covid-19 and Insurance** featuring Michael King from our Insurance Partner CapriCMW Insurance Services. These include individualized sessions for Coaches and Instructors, Equine Facility Owners/Managers, and Horse Council BC Members. Participation is free but requires preregistration. Please see the information below.

The COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting equestrians' routines across the province as barns employ physical distancing techniques and increased human biosecurity practices. In many cases facilities are closed to all but essential staff. Events and activities have been postponed or cancelled, with the horse community doing its part to flatten the curve.

Horse Council BC continues to receive many inquiries about whether members can even go to the barn let alone ride their horses. Coaches, instructors, and facility owners are asking about what activities are allowed. We can offer the following clarification which we hope helps you wade through these difficult questions.

Please keep in mind that **HCBC is not a regulatory authority** and we can only control events we sanction, host, or that use our programming. Horse Council has the responsibility to help educate our members. **The Federal, Provincial and Municipal government's health authorities are who we all need to look to for determining our actions.**

### **Who should be allowed access to facilities and what activities should be allowed?**

The short answer whether you are a boarder or facility owner is: there is no one right answer for every barn. **It is the right and responsibility of the facility to decide how they manage this within the current health authority rules.** Here in BC, Dr. Bonnie Henry continually urges us to adhere to physical distancing - where residents stay home as much as possible and stay two metres away from others who are not members of their own household.

It is very important that we all make changes to **ensure we are meeting or exceeding the government health authority guidance**. Many facilities have restricted horse owners' access that is not essential to horse care. Every additional person coming on the property may increase the health risk to those who are essential to the care of the horses.

Facility owners are walking the fine line of balancing the health and safety of their clients, staff, themselves, their family members, and others, while ensuring the wellbeing of the horses in their care.

We understand the Covid-19 pandemic is increasing both financial pressures and risk management anxiety on everyone including coaches/instructors and facility owners. We encourage you to talk to each other and work together to find solutions that work for your community. I hope we can all remember and embrace the words of our wonderful BC Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, "Be kind, be calm, be safe".

**FEI.TV**, the **FEI's** online television platform, will be providing all its coverage of past events and special equestrian features free of charge to everyone while live sport is on hold until the end of June.

Under normal circumstances, **FEI.TV** live-streams all major **FEI Series and Championships**, with an extensive range of replays, special features and historic events coverage available on-demand combining to provide unparalleled coverage of equestrian sport year-round.

But with no live sport, access to **FEI.TV** will be free and existing subscribers will be compensated for the months of April, May and June. They will get automatically refunded on their account. All content on the platform, including VOD, will be freely available to all users who will need to register, meaning that fans can re-live all the action from past events so there's no need to miss out on your fix of equestrian sport.

"Premium content like this usually sits behind a paywall and is normally available only to subscribers, but while there is no "live" sport, we want to give equestrian fans the chance to binge-watch for free during this terrible pandemic", FEI Commercial Director **Ralph Straus** says.

This week's **Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™** and **FEI Dressage World Cup™** Finals in Las Vegas were one of the early high-profile victims of the **COVID-19 outbreak** when they were cancelled in mid-March. But Jumping and Dressage fans now have the opportunity to relive some of the very best moments of the **FEI World Cup™** Finals from the past five years – 2015 to 2019 – live and free on **FEI.TV**, FEI Jumping and Dressage Facebook pages, and **FEI YouTube** channel daily. And if you can't watch it live, catch it on replay on **FEI.TV**

For fans of the other equestrian disciplines, **FEI.TV** has lots more unique content, ranging from **FEI Vaulting and Driving World Cup™** highlights to wrap-ups of the FEI Eventing and Dressage Nations Cup™ series.

An additional broadcast offering has been made available by the **FEI**, equestrian sport's global governing body, providing free access to video archive footage to TV broadcasters in EBU member territories across Europe through its partnership with EBU, and to key territories in the rest of the world via its partnership with IMG.

"Our broadcast partners are struggling to fill their air-time without live sport, so this initiative has been put in place to ensure that they have access to top equestrian footage and, together, we can keep our fans around the world happy with their daily dose of equestrian content", **Straus** says.

<https://tv.fei.org/home>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/feichannel>

## COVID-19 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION

### VIASPORT

In an effort to better inform the B.C. sport sector, we have put together a list of various supports and guides currently available. This list will also be updated as more information becomes available.

### UPDATED APRIL 15

- The law firm Norton Rose Fulbright hosted a webinar today on **Helping Canada's not-for-profit sector weather the storm**. Individuals can access the webinar to [watch here](#). Topics include:
  - How (and when) to hold an AGM during a pandemic
  - What the emergency wage subsidy means for our charities and non-profits
  - Force majeure and frustration: Options for when contractual compliance is not possible

### Assistance and Programs

- The Sport Law and Strategy Group is offering a free webinar series to give real time advice to sport leaders. Read more and register for *Conversations Matter: You Ask, We Share*.
- The Province is providing relief on power bills, read [the release](#).
- The Federal Government announced a number of relief measures for individuals and organizations, see them [here](#).
- The Provincial Government has also announced a number of relief measures, see them [here](#).
- Information on small business loans, small capital loans and purchase order financing from the [Business Development Bank of Canada](#)
- While information is still being finalized, interested organizations can sign up for notices regarding the [Facebook small business grants program](#)
- Your organization may be eligible for the [Vancity and Vancouver Foundation Community Response Fund](#)
- [BC Hydro deferral program](#) to help ease hydro costs
- If you are out of work, there are also updates and [changes to EI and sickness benefits](#) that individuals can take advantage of
- If you are out of work, you may also be eligible for the [Emergency Care Benefit](#)
- Canada Revenue Agency has a program that will allow you to [defer your tax payments](#)
- There is also the [Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers](#), which is a three-month measure that will allow eligible employers to reduce the amount of payroll deductions required to be remitted to the Canada Revenue Agency
- **More information for small businesses**
  - [Province of B.C. Supports for Small Businesses](#)
  - Resources for [small businesses](#)
  - The Canadian Chamber of Commerce's [Pandemic Preparedness Guide](#) for businesses

A video encouraging the equestrian world to think about how they could be unwittingly spreading coronavirus has been created by the British Grooms Association (BGA).

The short film promotes the importance of hand-washing — one of the key weapons in preventing the spread of Covid-19 — by showing how many objects a person touches simply by going about their day-to-day tasks.

The BGA put white powder on the actor's hands to represent germs, to bring to light how it is possible for the virus to be spread, particularly if someone is not taking precautions.

“The inspiration behind the video came at time when there was lots of uncertainty about the virus and how it can spread, so we wanted to educate people and highlight the risks of transmission,” BGA chief executive Lucy Katan told *H&H*.

“By highlighting the importance of washing your hands, how long coronavirus can live for on items around the yard, and how easily it can be spread, we hope that we have contributed in helping to raise awareness and assisting everyone to be responsible in these times.”

<https://www.horseandhound.co.uk/news/dont-pass-it-on-video-shows-how-coronavirus-can-spread-around-a-yard-712269>

#### Coronavirus – How it can be spread on a yard

⚠️ THINK ⚠️ Are you spreading coronavirus without realizing? Do you know how long it can survive on different objects around the yard and how easy it is to spread around the yard?

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