

A Notice to all Horse Show Organizers in BC

HCBC recognizes that BC's Horse Shows have or will be impacted by COVID-19 and we are here to assist you with navigating through this unprecedented time. We were all hoping that 2021 would be a "come back year" and we could put 2020 behind us, but with COVID19 cases rising at an alarming rate and the arrival of the new variants, 2021 hasn't started out like we were all hoping.

Please be assured HCBC is in frequent communication with ViaSport in regards to the Return to Sport Directives and will commit to relaying the most current information as well receive it.

The current governing directives are:

- *To minimize potential exposures to COVID-19, mandatory physical distancing and other restrictions are in place for all sport activities, including training and practice. **All games, tournaments, league play and other competitions are on hold until further notice.***
- *There may have been some uncertainty about which phase of the viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines we are currently in, leading to some sport organizations continuing to plan for competitive activities this spring. The Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, has confirmed that under the current Provincial Health Order, **there should be no competition and no travel for sport.***

You can find more information on the ViaSport website here:

<https://hcbc.ca/2021/04/13/viasport-clarity-to-updated-restrictions-april-12-2021/>
<https://www.viasport.ca/news/update-adult-sport-and-reminder-about-travel-sport>

or on the HCBC website here

<https://hcbc.ca/news-events/return-to-sport/>

Current conditions regarding COVID 19 are fluid and change daily. HCBC recognizes many of you are frustrated, facing undeniable challenges and are wondering what the future of your competition year holds, sadly at this time, no one can really say.

Please be advised Horse Council BC is under the Return to Sport Orders as directed by ViaSport and BC's Public Health Officer and at this time can not and will not be issuing sanctions for Competition. The online sanctioning system will not be available until further notice. Any applications sitting in the system will not be approved and any permits previously issued will be cancelled. Permit fees paid will be refunded.

We will communicate immediately when we are able to resume sanctioning Competition.

Thank you for your understanding, if we all continue to be responsible and follow the current orders, the sooner we will be able to get back to the sport we all love.

Respectfully,

Sandy Underwood
Competition Manager
Horse Council BC