



The American Driving Society, Inc.

ADS Covid-19 Action Plan

Updated **May 18, 2021**

This document will be updated regularly and made available on the ADS website until further notice.

Event Organizers (Pleasure, Combined Driving, Recreational, Education) may request ADS Event Recognition and in doing so must adhere to the ADS Covid-19 Action Plan.

The American Driving Society, Inc. (ADS) supports and parallels COVID-19 requirements and recommendations for ADS-Recognized Events according to industry standards.

State Regulations: Organizers must review State and Local Regulations on Sporting Events and Large Gatherings. All persons at ADS-Recognized Events are required to follow state and local regulations for masks/face coverings and social distancing. In the absence of state or local regulations, ADS requires compliance with current CDC guidelines. ADS Recognized Event Organizers are able to impose stricter requirements at their discretion.

Technical Delegates: The Technical Delegate shall be responsible to oversee these guidelines and advise the Organizer prior and during the event.

Twice per month the Ad-Hoc team and ADS staff will host a mandatory Zoom Meeting for those organizers with ADS-Recognized Events that begin within the following 30 days. The purpose of the call will be to educate organizers on current guidelines and answer their questions. Meeting dates and coordinates can be found on the ADS Calendar at www.americandrivingsociety.org.

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ON EVENT GROUNDS OF ADS-RECOGNIZED EVENTS:

PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND MASKS/FACE COVERINGS:

All persons at ADS-Recognized Events are required to follow state and local regulations for masks/face coverings and social distancing. In the absence of state or local regulations, ADS requires compliance with current CDC guidelines. ADS Recognized Event Organizers are able to impose stricter requirements at their discretion.

WHO MUST DISTANCE/MASK: Anyone who is not fully vaccinated* for COVID-19.



The American Driving Society, Inc.

WHEN: At all times while indoors and outdoors.

EXCEPTIONS:

- Immediate Household Members**
- Essential support personnel assisting an entry preparing to compete, during competition (including riding on the same vehicle) and immediately after competing.
- In cases of emergency.

**Fully Vaccinated – An individual is considered to be fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer, Moderna, etc.), or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson).*

***Immediate Household Members – Individuals consistently living in the same house or dwelling. Members of a household may or may not be related.*

REQUIRED – Organizers must agree to the following:

ADS Recognition: Competition organizers must follow federal, state, and local regulations in effect at the Start Date of their event, in addition to the requirements in this document. Regulations change frequently. 14 days prior to the event, and again 48 hours prior to the event, organizers must review their current published state and local regulations and communicate to the ADS office (info@americandrivingsociety.org) that their event is in compliance with their state and local regulations. ADS reserves the right to remove ADS Recognition for non-compliance with federal, state and local regulations. Federal, state, and local regulations will supersede ADS or organizer requirements except when ADS or organizer requirements are more restrictive.

Spectators: Spectators are allowed at the discretion of the Organizer and according to local and state regulations. Spectators must wear masks/face coverings and physically distance if not fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or if State/Local regulations so require. Organizers must either require all spectators to sign the ADS Non-Participant Disclaimer [HERE](#) or utilize only monitored, controlled access points to the venue which have posted signs at each entry that list agreement with all requirements in the ADS Non-Participant Disclaimer as a condition of entry (Download and print signs [HERE](#)). Stabling areas are off limits to spectators as well as any areas so designated by the organizer.

Limit of Entries: If a state or locality imposes limitations on the number of individuals allowed at a group gathering, that ordinance would guide a competition's ability to operate and dictate



The American Driving Society, Inc.

the number of individuals allowed at a venue. ADS is not making restrictions to entries based on geographic location. The decision will be made by the competition organizer, based on state and/or local restrictions and/or an organizer's ability to accept out of state entries. Organizers should recognize there may be self-quarantining rules for participants returning home from out of state. This restriction alone may severely reduce participation.

ADS Disclaimer: All individuals (including participants, service providers, competition staff, volunteers, essential personnel, and licensed officials) who enter an event venue must sign the updated ADS Disclaimer, downloadable [HERE](https://americandrivingsociety.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=548049&module_id=408765) on the Organizer Forms page: https://americandrivingsociety.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=548049&module_id=408765. Electronic signatures on the ADS Disclaimer are acceptable. Competition organizer must ensure compliance with the applicable law governing the enforceability of the electronic signature.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): The ADS will not provide PPE, disinfectants, or thermometers. Competition organizers must provide sanitation stations throughout the grounds with either soap and water, hand sanitizer, or both. Participants are required to wash hands often and adhere to other sanitization practices throughout the day. It is incumbent upon them to bring supplies as well. Competition organizers are responsible for providing PPE to their competition staff, volunteers, and officials. Participants are responsible for their own PPE and that of their support teams.

Restricted Access to Event Venues: All persons entering the venue are required to self-monitor their temperature once daily prior to entering the venue. Any person who a. has a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher or b. has symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 7-10 days, or c. has been exposed to or has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19 within either the last 7 or 10 days (dependent upon certain criteria – refer to CDC Quarantine Options) cannot enter the competition grounds. *Exception: Those people who have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and healthcare personnel who have treated patients using appropriate medical grade PPE during the course of performing professional duties are exempt from c.

Enforcement and Reporting: Organizers are required to appoint an Action Plan Compliance Assistant who will work directly with the Officials before and during the event to help ensure safety protocols (including restricted venue access, PPE management, sanitization, etc.) will be



The American Driving Society, Inc.

followed. The TD (or Judge, if no TD) will be responsible for addressing the situations of noncompliance and any dispute mediation.

If mandatory requirements are not followed at a competition, it must be reported to the Competition Manager and the Technical Delegate at the competition. These matters should be handled immediately at the competition, if possible. Technical Delegates will inform individuals when they are in violation of the mandatory requirements. Competition Organizers will be responsible for facilitating the removal of an individual if they do not cooperate with the request. The Technical Delegate must report instances of non-compliance to the ADS in their TD Report. Competition Organizers are to remind all competition staff, service providers, participants, and support personnel of their responsibility to report if they test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the conclusion of competition. Competition organizers must notify ADS, as well as all competition staff, service providers, participants, and support personnel if any individual who was on event grounds tests positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the conclusion of the event.

Stabling: Stabling flow and assignment charts will be dependent on each individual organizer and venue. Organizers will need to configure stabling to comply with social distancing requirements. Competition organizers will also limit the congregation of groups in the stabling area. Stabling areas are off limits to spectators.

ADS Measurement Program: If offered at a competition, those completing horse and pony measurements must maintain social distancing/masking requirements while completing the measurement. Only one handler is permitted to bring the horse or pony to the measurement area. If more than one person arrives with the horse or pony to be measured, the measuring official has the authority to ask the excess individual(s) to leave the measurement area.

Essential Support Persons: Support personnel should be limited to Essential Support Personnel and must be listed on the competitor's entry form.

Transportation: Individuals are allowed to be seated together while being transported by golf cart (or similar four-wheeled transport vehicle), but capacity may not exceed the number of seats on the cart or vehicle.



The American Driving Society, Inc.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES (NOT REQUIREMENTS)

Regulations: Organizers should recognize all regulations are a subject to change at any time and that Local regulations may differ from state and national requirements.

Venue Access: If possible, limit access to the venue through limited, monitored points of entry and exit. All Individuals should monitor their temperature.

Exhibitor Parties: Exhibitor parties should not take place unless all federal, state, and local requirements can be met.

Stabling Areas: Sanitation/Biosecurity- Encourage Handwashing or Hand Sanitization before entering stabling area. Competition organizers are encouraged to plan and publish their stabling requirements prior to the start of competition for exhibitors and staff to review.

Sharing:

VEHICLES: Sharing of Carriages and equipment will be allowed.

Medical Personnel: Emergency medical responder(s) should be on the grounds during competition hours.

Vendors and Food: Foodservice should be for “Take Away” dining only. Allow Vendors only if they can meet all federal, state, and local requirements. Monitor them regularly.

Signage: Signage should be posted throughout the grounds regarding Social Distancing, Hand Washing, and other safety guidelines.

Camping: All requirements as listed above regarding social distancing, wearing of masks, and temperature monitoring must be followed if camping is allowed on the event grounds.

Insurance: Prior to applying for ADS recognition, organizers should ensure that the liability insurance coverage for the event *and for themselves personally* does not contain exclusions for communicable diseases. Conducting a competition with these exclusions may create unacceptable risk for the organizer and the supporting club, organization, or association.



The American Driving Society, Inc.

Official Briefings: Electronic briefings work well.

Event Office: Organizers should limit in-person interactions by competitors with event staff as much as possible. Office functions should be electronic to the extent possible. The show office should have both an entrance and a separate exit. Countertops and keyboards should be disinfected after each use.

Officials: Officials should contact the state or local authorities regarding that area's travel restrictions before accepting any assignments. Also check regulations for self-quarantining upon the return home.

Volunteers: Organizers should recognize that the event is likely to attract a significant number of participants (athletes and volunteers) at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease (e.g., people over 65 years of age or people with underlying health conditions).

Bathrooms: Surveys have noted that adequate sanitization of bathroom facilities is of particular concern to people considering participation in any capacity at equine events. Organizers should recognize it could be difficult and expensive to provide adequate sanitization of bathrooms, especially portable units.

Course Walking: Extra time should be allowed for course walking to allow participants to meet the requirements of social distancing. Controlled, limited access to courses is advised.

Paper Handling: Completed dressage tests may be sent electronically, and scoring results, Orders of Go and other time sheets may be posted electronically.