



## **Operating procedures regarding the return of spectators to racecourses from Thursday, July 1, 2021 onwards.**

Any racing authority that organises a race meeting (national or local) from Thursday, July 1, 2021 onwards, must apply the following procedures until further notice.

### Summary

- 1) General guidelines
- 2) Number of spectators at the racecourse
- 3) Compulsory safety measures

#### **1) General guidelines**

In accordance with the provisions determined by the government (Decree n°2021-850 of 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2021 amending Decrees n° 2021-699 of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 prescribing the general health emergency measures necessary to come out of the pandemic), the racing industry is gradually reopening its racecourses to the public from Thursday, July 1, 2021 onwards.

- Racecourses are no longer subject to limiting spectator numbers (see page 2).  
**However, if the number of spectators is expected to exceed 1,000, each spectator must present a health pass at the entrance to the racecourse (see pages 2-3).**  
This pass is not required for organisers and competitors, who are not included in the 1,000-spectator limit, as they occupy specific areas on the racecourse.

These provisions warrant the continuation of a prior declaration of connections of starters.

- **Stringent health measures remain in place and must be strictly applied:**
  - The wearing of a face mask (with a filtration rate above 90% or a surgical face mask, both in pristine condition), continuously covering nose, mouth and chin, is compulsory at all times in indoor spaces and outdoor assembly areas (see page 4),
  - Permanent reminders to respect social distancing, particularly keeping a 1m safety distance ( 1 m if face masks are worn and 2m without face masks),
  - Sensitive work areas (steward's room, weighing room, infirmary, veterinary office, ...) must be reconfigured and organised accordingly**Restaurants are open according to provisions outlined in the national plan (see § 3.5 page 7).**

Spectators are invited to download and activate the "Tous anti-Covid" app.

Prefectures of each department are likely to set specific health measures.

## **2) Number of spectators admitted to the racecourse**

There is no longer a cap on the number of spectators allowed at the racecourse. If the number of spectators admitted to the racecourse is likely to exceed 1,000, it is mandatory for spectators aged 11 years and over to present a health pass in order to gain access to the racecourse. The Racing Authority must set up a system where the health pass is checked at the entrance of the racecourse.

### **A. Attendance limited to 1,000 people without a health pass**

The 1,000 people limit does not include connections of starters, nor the staff necessary for the organisation of the race meeting (trainer, lad, jockey, volunteers, employees, service providers, etc.), who occupy specific locations at the racecourse.

**A system to control the number of spectators at any given time must be in place at the entrances, so that access can be closed once the 1,000 people limit has been reached.**

The Racing Authority must be able to justify the total number of people present in the event of an inspection:

- volunteers, employees, service providers, .....
- industry professionals,
- public.

A document (template in annex), which must be produced whenever required by the authorities, must summarise the total number of people present at the racecourse on each day of racing.

### **B. Number of people admitted likely to exceed 1,000 with health pass**

If the number of spectators admitted is expected to exceed 1,000, the Racing Authority must demand the presentation of a health pass when entering the racecourse, with the exception of the organisers and connections of starters (trainers, lads, jockeys, etc.). This does not include owners who must present a health pass.

#### **B1 - What kind of health pass is needed and what information does it contain?**

The health pass can be presented in paper or digital format. If in digital format, it can be presented on the "TousAntiCovid" application or any other digital medium of the person's choice.

The following information must be included

- Name, first names and date of birth,
- A code that corresponds to one of the following documents: negative PCR or antigenic test no older than 72 hours, proof of double vaccination, certificate of recovery following a positive Covid test.

## **B2 - Who is authorised to check the health pass?**

Each race organiser must name the persons it has authorised to check the health pass: the list of authorised persons, the date of their authorisation, as well as the days and hours they have carried out the checks must be entered into a register. Those authorised to check health passes must be informed that in line with the protection of personal data, the data checked must not be recorded.

## **B3 - How to check the health pass?**

The checking of the health pass is carried out via the "Tousanticovid Verif" application, which can be downloaded free of charge onto a smartphone.

Persons in charge of checking the health pass must, via the "TousAntiCovid Verif" application, read the QR code presented by the spectator wishing to enter the racecourse and, at the same time, demand the presentation of a form of ID that matches the data on the QR Code: the spectator can only gain access to the racecourse if the QR code shows green.

Launch the Tous AntiCovid Verif app

Read the QR Code presented by the person who wishes to access the racecourse

Result

Valid (green) or not valid (red)

Presentation of ID does not constitute an identity check in the criminal sense.

Data checked on this occasion is not stored by the "Tous Anti Covid Verif" application; it is only read at the time of the check.

Information for the public is displayed at the entrances to the racecourse (poster template suggested by the FNCH).

## **3) Compulsory safety measures**

Organisers must designate:

- A Covid 19 adviser, with the specific responsibility for controlling the implementation of this operational plan and acting as a spokesperson for the authorities – this role should not be fulfilled by the head of security, but by a different person, since the demands are likely to be numerous and risk keeping that person occupied during a race.
- Staff to stock up on protective gear during the meeting (hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes – see §3.3).

### 3.1) Cleaning and disinfection of premises before, during and after race meetings

A thorough clean and disinfection with virucidal products is necessary before racing professionals enter the racecourse, after the race meeting and also during the race meeting when social distancing allows it.

This applies in particular to doorknobs, window handles, escalator rails and handrails, elevator buttons, as well as washrooms and restaurant areas.

A periodic cleaning service plan should be developed according to the planned racecourse meetings. Each cleaning operation and disinfection must be recorded in a document that can be presented for control purposes.

### 3.2) Wearing of face masks on the racecourse

In accordance with current rules regarding the wearing of face masks, any person entering the racecourse must carry a face mask that complies with the applicable standards.

The people in charge of access control must check that each person has their mask, even if they are not wearing it at the time of the control, which may take place outside without a crowd.

Once on the racecourse,

- the mask ***must be worn at all times in indoor premises,***

- the mask **may be removed outdoors but must be kept on the person:**

- in outdoor areas, in the outside stands, provided that the 2-meter distance between groups is respected or, for racecourses with more than 1,000 spectators, that a showing of the health pass has been required at the entrance.
- for **professional outdoor activities, if there is no risk of contamination**. For example, a cameraman or ground staff on the track may remove their mask whilst in their specific work zone and if they work away from others, whilst tote staff or a waiter in a restaurant who is in constant contact with the public, has to wear a mask.

A racing professional may remove his or her mask in the stables if there are not too many other people around, and on the track, but has to wear it again when returning to the parade ring, winner's enclosure or for a prize-giving ceremony.

- A mask must be **worn outside in situations where social distancing rules cannot be observed:**

- **in queues** (entrance, betting counter, catering area),
- **in all areas with large spectator numbers** : around the parade ring, the winner's enclosure, prize-giving ceremony, entertainment, big screen, etc.

**The basic common sense rule applies: when close to others or in an area with lots of people traffic, wearing a mask allows you to protect yourself and others.**

For disabled people and children under 11 years of age, they will continue to be exempt from wearing a face mask in the few situations where it is required to wear a face mask outdoors.

Racing Authorities will not supply any face masks. Any person who arrives without a face mask will not be admitted onto the racecourse.

### 3.3) Outlining of barrier gestures and provision of hand sanitizers and disinfectant wipes

Once inside the racecourse, and in all the spaces which remain accessible, **posters** must remind attendees of the requisite barrier and social distancing regulations, and the obligation for everyone to wear a face mask inside and also outside when gathering in larger groups. (the FNCH will hand out examples of posters).

**PA announcements** will be made at regular intervals during the meeting, reminding spectators of the barrier gestures and inviting them to spread out over the wide spaces of the racecourse.

Hand sanitizers must be installed at entry points to the racecourse.

For workstations with contact areas (tables, desks), hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes must be provided.

This equipment must be in place before the arrival of the attendees. If necessary, they must be replenished during the meeting.

### 3.4) Sensitive areas

Where it is possible and depending on the weather, all areas must ideally be permanently or at least several minutes per hour **ventilated**, naturally or mechanically (doors and windows open).

- **Betting terminals**

Access to the Pari Mutual offices and particularly the dispatch area is strictly limited to the staff of the racecourse Pari Mutual (CARRUS or PMU).

Where the layout of the building allows and if there are several entrances to the dispatch area, one access point should be dedicated to the entrance and the other to the exit in order to restrict people from meeting in doorways. These rules must be clearly marked at eye level.

Betting terminals may be left accessible provided that the keypad is regularly cleaned and hand sanitizers are available nearby.

Contactless payment by card should be preferred.

Each person in charge of a betting terminal, fixed or mobile, and those in charge of maintaining the betting terminals must wear a face mask (PPE supplied by CARRUS or PMU).

In front of betting terminals and screens, floor markings must remind people to respect the 1m distance rule.

- **Children playgrounds**

Children playgrounds will be open and remain under the responsibility of the parents. Supervised pop-up play areas (bouncy castle, ponies....) must be left open and if necessary, the supervisor will restrict the number of kids at any one time. Hand sanitisers must be available at all play areas.

- **Guided tours**

Guided racecourse tours can take place, but groups must be limited to 10 people. During the tour, participants must be reminded to wear the mask at all times, even when asking questions and to respect the 1m social distance when meeting and during the guided tour.

- **Following vehicles with promotional purposes of partners or public**

Following vehicles with promotional purposes (partners, public....) are permitted.

- **Infirmary**

Infirmaries are generally located in small spaces: access to the infirmary will only be granted and sanctioned by the doctor in case of an emergency. The space must be constantly ventilated.

Any non-urgent issues will be treated outside the infirmary. A canopy or screen, as well as floor markings indicating a private area, could be put in place.

Any person developing symptoms during a race meeting must contact the on-course doctor immediately. If that person is not showing any signs of distress, he or she must make their way home, avoiding the use of public transport, and contact their doctor immediately.

### **3.5) Restaurants**

Restaurants and food outlets have to strictly adhere to the government measures in place:

- Interior restaurants and outside terraces open to 100% capacity
- No eating at the bar: take-aways or sit-down only
- The wearing of face masks is compulsory when inside a restaurant, except when seated at the table.

### **3.6) Non racing events**

For events outside racing, the relevant racing authority must contact their prefecture on a case-by-case basis to assess the feasibility of the event

**Organising of race meetings from Thursday, July 1, 2021 onwards with a 1,000 spectator limit.**

Racecourse .....

Meeting on .....

**1. Number of volunteers, officials, service providers (not included in the 1000 limit)**

Category	Numbers expected at this meeting
Bénévoles (dont commissaires de courses)	
Officials	
Service providers	
Partners (sponsors)	
Total	

**2. Number of horse connections (not included in the 1000 limit)**

Total	.....
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**3. Maximum number of 1,000 spectators, without the presentation of a health pass**

Maximum number of spectators at the meeting: .....

If the limit of 1000 spectators was reached, time the doors closed: .....

Date	Signature of Covid19 adviser
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