



## Fiesta Stock Horse Show & Rodeo Vesicular Stomatitis Virus Official Statement & Procedures

The Fiesta Stock Horse Show & Rodeo is aware that Santa Barbara County is now an affected area of the Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) and are doing everything in our power to create and maintain a safe show site and event for our contestants. The safety of our contestants and their animals is of utmost importance to us which is why, out of an abundance of caution, we are following the recommended guidelines from the state in order to minimize the risk of transmission of vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV). At this time, there are no mandatory guidelines from the state-only recommendations.

We are implementing the following procedures:

- 1) We will have a designated vet onsite to check all animals as they enter the showgrounds. All livestock animals will receive an oral examination for VSV lesions upon arrival. All contestants transporting livestock animals will be required to enter through Gate C by the horse show office.
- 2) Onsite check-in will begin at 6am Thursday-Sunday
- 3) If you plan to arrive at the showgrounds on Wednesday, you will have to provide a health certificate (CVI) or provide an on-site vet at your own cost.
- 4) All rough stock will be inspected at their origin of pickup before arriving at the showgrounds and the stock contractors will provide the appropriate health certificate verifying that all animals do not show signs of VSV.
- 5) All animals will be inspected while loaded in their trailers. If we are unable to access your animals or give them a proper inspection inside the trailer, you will be asked to proceed to a designated unload/inspection area where you will receive further instructions from the onsite vet.
- 6) If an animal is suspected of carrying the virus they will not unload and immediately be escorted off the showgrounds via a direct exit only gate.
- 7) If an animal becomes infected while onsite during the event, the animal will be sent home immediately and the stall, equipment, etc. will be disinfected immediately. In the case of an infected animal, only that infected animal is required to leave to be quarantined; all remaining animals will not need to be quarantined.

It is our goal to have this be as efficient of a process as it can be, but we ask that you are patient with our volunteers and onsite vets. We anticipate long lines during the check-in process & recommend that you arrive early enough to ensure you do not miss your event. The committee, volunteers and vet are not to be held liable if you miss your event due to arriving late and you will forfeit your entry fees in such a case.

While it is not mandatory, it is recommended that each contestant should, when possible, arrive at the event with a health certificate (CVI) that was issued within 2-5 days of the event. The health certificate is not a state requirement, but has been a prudent precaution to ensure that livestock arrive at the event free of clinical signs of VSV.

The health certificate (CVI) must contain the following statement: "I have examined the animal(s) represented on this certificate of veterinary inspection and have found no clinical signs of vesicular stomatitis and they have not originated from a premises under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis."

If you would like to secure a vet health certificate (CVI) you can receive that from your local veterinarian or Alamo Pintado Equine Medical Center will be offering inspections Monday, July 31 - Wednesday, August 2 from 1-4 pm; no appointment needed.

If you arrive at the showgrounds with the appropriate health certificate you will proceed to an express vet check line where you will provide the appropriate paperwork & immediately be directed to park and unload, saving yourself time and ensuring your animal was inspected by your primary veterinarian.

We also recommend that you:

- 1) Take the extra effort to ensure your equipment, stalls, etc. are properly disinfected. Diluted bleach or Virkon should suffice
- 2) Minimize common water and feed source use during the event. We discourage use of shared feed bins, water troughs, equipment and tack between participants.
- 3) Insect control and abatement is very important in controlling the spread of VSV. Fly wipes, sprays, foggers and other repellents for use on animals and premises should be applied as directed by label instructions.

We appreciate all our contestants taking the necessary precautions and working with us to ensure we are all doing our part to stop the spread of VSV. We do reserve the right to escort anyone not willing to comply with these guidelines off the showgrounds. In doing so, you would forfeit your entry fees.

Signs of VSV are:

- 1) Excessive salivation due to vesicles - blister-like lesions - in the mouth
- 2) Lesions may also be found on the nostrils, teats and around the hooves
- 3) Animals may refuse to eat or drink & show signs of lameness

**If your horse is ill, DO NOT bring them to the showgrounds.**

**ANY ORAL LESIONS, SORES OR ABRASIONS WILL BE TURNED AROUND & NOT PERMITTED ENTRY TO THE SHOWGROUNDS.**

The Fiesta Stock Horse Show & Rodeo committee, volunteers, vets, contractors and Earl Warren Showgrounds are not held liable if your animal contracts VSV. You are assuming the risk of participating in the event and by bringing your animal to the showgrounds you are accepting the liability is solely on you as an owner.

If you decide to withdraw from the competition, please refer to the rule book page 5. No refunds will be given for withdrawing your entry due to VSV. If anything changes or additional requirements are made we will keep you updated. Please reference our website for current guidelines.

If you have additional questions or need additional information, please reach out to us via email at [concerns@sbfiestarodeo.org](mailto:concerns@sbfiestarodeo.org) This will be the email address we monitor directly related to the Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) & will get you the quickest response from our committee.