

To whom it may concern:

Please note that the following changes have been made to the African horse sickness (AHS) Control Policy: Movement Control Protocol in order to bring the policy in line with OIE standards:

- With reference to vaccination of horses prior to movement of horses into the AHS Controlled Area defined in section 3.1 of the protocol, horses moving into the AHS Controlled Area from the AHS infected zone must have been vaccinated within 24 months, but not less than **40 days**, prior to movement. (*The previously stated 60 days has been reduced to 40 days.*)
- With reference to vaccination of horses prior to movement WITHIN the Controlled Area (from protection zone to surveillance zone, or surveillance zone into free zone) all requirements relating to vaccination are suspended during the period June to October of each year. Therefore horses may move without vaccination or within 40 days of vaccination from protection zone to surveillance zone, or surveillance zone to free zone during this period only.

With regards to movement of horses during the AHS season:

- All direct movements from the AHS infected zone into the AHS Controlled Zone will be suspended from 01 February of each year until 30 June. During this period **ALL MOVEMENTS** into the Controlled Area must be done according to the Stop Over Quarantine Protocol at an approved facility. For further information regarding this protocol contact either Dr Gary Buhrmann of State Vet Boland, or Mrs Danielle Pienaar or Dr. Camilla Weyers both of the Equine Health Fund.
- Normal (i.e. direct) movements based on state veterinary permits and AHS outbreaks will apply until 01 February 2016, and will resume after the 30 June 2016, at the discretion of the State Vet Boland.
- During this period **ALL MOVEMENTS** into the Controlled Area can only be done **by means of an APPLICATION FOR MOVEMENT made to the STATE VET BOLAND A MINIMUM OF 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE INTENDED MOVEMENT DATE.** However it should be noted that a Stop Over Quarantine may be required for high risk areas, areas with poor reporting and where suspect or confirmed AHS cases have been reported an application 4 weeks prior to movement is suggested. This application **MUST** be done through Ms Danielle Pienaar (censuswc2012@gmail.com), and each application will be reviewed by the **MOVEMENT COMMITTEE** before being approved or denied.
- Exemption from the Stop Over Quarantine may be applied for during the movement application process. A risk analysis will be done by the **MOVEMENT COMMITTEE** and conditions for movement will be given, which may or may not include a SOQ. In the cases where direct movement will be allowed a RT-PCR will be required before the horse moves, and arrangements with the local state veterinarian of origin will be made through the committee in order to obtain a permit. **Exemptions will ONLY be considered if applied for timeously.**
- Included in the application for exemption will be a mandatory certification by either a state veterinarian, private veterinarian or animal health technician that the horse intended for movement has been on the holding of origin a minimum of 2 weeks prior to movement. This is to ensure that

the horse is in fact present in the said area at the time of the application and has not moved from a restricted area.

- Movements from high risk areas will need to occur via a **Stop Over Quarantine**. The Stop Over Quarantine will include a **mandatory** PCR test on whole blood, by a DAFF approved laboratory on **day 14** of quarantine.
- In rare cases the movement of horses from an AHS restricted area i.e. where there has been a confirmed AHS outbreak within 30 km within the last 40 days, or the area is regarded as high risk, may be considered if prior arrangements have been made with SV Boland. This protocol will include a minimum of a **14 DAY QUARANTINE in an approved VECTOR-PROTECTED facility prior to and following the movement to the AHS controlled area as well as PCR testing prior to and after movement**. The Facility must be approved by the SV at origin and SV Boland. For further information on this protocol please contact Dr Camilla Weyer.

CONTACT DETAILS:

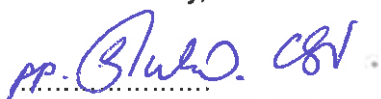
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Your participation in, compliance with and assistance with the implementation of this horse movement ban and protocol is greatly appreciated, as it is to the benefit of the entire Equine industry.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. G. Buhrmann for **DR. G. MSIZA**

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