

**Oregon High School
Equestrian Teams, Inc.**

State Officers

Candi Bothum, Chair
Scott Chauncey, Vice Chair
Denise John, Treasurer
Jan Harer, Secretary

District Chairs

Christina Bates, Central
Heather Zumwalt, Central
Kari Laizure, North Valley
Corrine Dimick, North West
Sue Lowe, South Valley
Denise Greif, Tri-River Valley
Tasha Ballsteadt, Willamette
Chris Dinsmore, North East
Kelly Porter, Southern

1929 NE Walnut Dr.
Redmond, OR 97756
541-419-6350
cbothum@ohset.com

www.OHSET.com



Thursday, March 12, 2020; 8:00 AM

MEMORANDUM

TO: OHSET Districts, Teams, Schools and Affiliates

FROM: Candi Bothum, State Chair

Regarding: COVID-19 and THIS weekend's meets

As most are aware, Governor Brown released precautionary measures late last night, additionally, OSAA shared their plan. While I spent most of yesterday educating myself on this issue, I also plan to hear the Governor's press conference today and sit in on another educational event held by OSU. However, this weekend's meets cannot wait for more education, so this is how I would like us to proceed.

First, every family has to make the decision best for their family, give them complete respect and honor their decision to proceed how they see fit.

Second follow the lead of the schools, if the schools in your district say no, respect that – we can deal with the impact of this individually.

Here is how I would like us to proceed for the next four days:

1. Notify all vendors they may not attend your meet; we will refund their vendor fees, the state will help if necessary. This includes the photographer. We, of course, cannot compensate them for lost revenue. If you are already moved in, send vendors home.
2. Call whoever provides portable toilets in your area and ask them to bring a couple extra handwashing stations, if they have them available, to your meet location – it's a late ask, explain the challenge, if they can do it, have them do it – they can send OHSET State the bill or we can reimburse the district if necessary. In this same thought, if you can find hand sanitizer, set it out, (chain it to something if necessary).
3. Anyone already not feeling well or with otherwise compromised immune systems should stay home.
4. Inform teams/families that spectators are not welcome to the meet. Grandparents, boy/girl friends, trainers, friends, etc. may NOT attend. It is now a closed venue, only parents or those necessary to get athletes to the event, athletes, coaches, and necessary meet volunteers may attend.
5. Those in attendance should bring their own chairs if possible, those watching who don't live in the same household should practice "safe social space" a minimum of 3 feet from the next closest family.

6. Don't ASSUME youth or their families know how to keep their germs to themselves, wash their hands or cough into a tissue, their elbow or something other than the air. Tell them and teach them!
7. Keep offices or other enclosed spaces free of unnecessary people. If bathrooms at your venue are small and often very busy, contact that same portable toilet vendor and bring in a couple additional options. Close off horse stalls for dressing rooms versus doing it all in the bathroom – spread people out.
8. Use Clorox or other wipes for radios, phones, microphones, and all flat surfaces after each new person uses. Be smart and error on the side of caution.

Have fun and be safe. There will be an **OHSET State Board Meeting via ZOOM on Saturday, March 14, 5 pm**; to discuss next week's meets and the NW Horse Expo.

If schools want to talk to me, have additional measures they want us to take, etc. Don't hesitate to have them give me a call; this situation is very fluid; it's changing every day. All we can do is make the best decision(s) we can each week. The good part is, our events are not in a gymnasium, but rather open air and we don't have folks meeting in enclosed spaces for the most part. 541-419-6350. I will get to calls and emails as soon as I can – remember I have a real job and part of that real job is working with colleagues to support staff, manage a facility, and work to mitigate this same challenge on a bit larger scale. I will respond; might be late or early, but I will respond. If it's urgent, text me and say so.

Respectfully,

Oregon High School Equestrian Teams, Inc.



Candi Bothum
State Chair