

# 2021 Private Horse Show



# Safety and Health Protocols and Guidelines

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#### Welcome

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo<sup>TM</sup> (HLSR) welcomes you to the Horse Show. HLSR staff and volunteers look forward to hosting you and your family at NRG Arena. We hope to create a fun event for exhibitors, as well as showcase the hospitality that the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is known for. In these unique times, it is crucial for our industry to model safety protocols and social distancing. Please be open to working with us and following requests of staff and committeemen, as well as the protocols and guidelines set forth in this document. We are excited to see our exhibitors at our 2021 event.

#### **Dates**

The 2021 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Horse Show will be held at NRG Park in Houston, Texas from February 25 – March 17, 2021. Shows may be adjusted for the revised 2021 schedule if any health orders are initiated by local, state, or federal agencies, or if health and safety concerns exist. Any additional updates will be available on <u>rodeohouston.com</u>.

With our exhibitor's health and safety as our number one priority, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will implement all preventive measures recommended by the CDC and other relevant health agencies for these events. **Face coverings will be required.** 

# Force Majeure

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo shall not be liable for any delay or failure to perform its operations, activities, shows and events to the extent such delay or failure results from a force majeure occurrence. A force majeure occurrence is defined as any occurrence which makes performance by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo illegal, impossible, inadvisable or, in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's reasonable opinion, unsafe or commercially impracticable, and includes, but is not limited to (i) any breakage or accident to equipment, machinery or facilities; (ii) any strikes, lock-outs or other labor difficulties; (iii) statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, directives or rules issued by governmental authorities, including, but not limited to those concerning public health and safety, animal disease prevention, detection and response and/or protection of the environment; (iv) judicial decrees or orders; (v) pandemics, epidemics, quarantines, recognized health threats as determined by the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or state or local government authority or health agencies (including, but not limited to the health threats of COVID-19, H1N1 or other infectious diseases); (vi) animal diseases and/or quarantines; (vii) wars, riots or insurrections; (viii) civil disobediences, public demonstrations or sabotage; (ix) acts of God, fires, floods, national disasters, explosions or inclement weather; (x) inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, supplies, utilities or transportation; (xi) depressions, recessions or other economic downturns; (xii) embargoes or energy shortages; or (xiii) any other cause beyond the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's reasonable control.

# COVID-19 Warning, Rules and Acknowledgment or Risk

a. The novel coronavirus commonly known as COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 (the "Virus") has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. An inherent

risk of exposure to the Virus exists in any public place where people are present, including Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo horse show events at NRG Park. The COVID-19 Virus is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to potentially lifethreatening illness and even death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), senior citizens and persons with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. The state of medical knowledge is evolving, but the Virus is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact, as between persons who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet), through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks, and some recent studies have suggested that the Virus may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms. There is also some indication that it may be spread by contact with recently contaminated surfaces and objects.

- b. All Exhibitors, their family members and other related persons participating in the horse show events or on-grounds at NRG Park facilities shall comply with all health and safety orders, rules and guidelines related to the Virus promulgated by the State of Texas, County of Harris, City of Houston, CDC, and HLSR. Without limiting the foregoing, Exhibitor, their family members and other related persons participating in the horse show events agree that they will wear a face covering, wash hands frequently, use hand sanitizer or antibacterial wipes, maintain social distancing, and submit to non-invasive body temperature measurement.
- c. Any individual, including an HLSR employee or volunteer, who registers at or above 100.4° Fahrenheit per CDC guidelines during the screening will be denied access to NRG Park and will be advised to return home and promptly contact his or her doctor; provided, however, that if the individual wishes to have a second temperature reading taken, this will be done after a 5-minute wait. If the second reading is less than 100.4° Fahrenheit and the individual answers "no" to the questions asked, the individual will be granted access.
- d. Exhibitors and their family members acknowledge that personal protective equipment ("PPE") designed to reduce the chances of exposure to or infection with the Virus may not be readily available at HLSR Horse Show facilities for their participation in the horse show events. Exhibitors and their family members acknowledge that HLSR may not, and is under no legal duty to, provide any PPE to Exhibitors or their family members. Exhibitors and their families should provide their own PPE for participation in HLSR horse show events.
- e. Exhibitors and their family members understand and acknowledge that participation in the HLSR horse show events or use of HLSR Horse Show facilities may expose them to contact with one or more persons who have been infected with, and/or exposed to, the Virus. Exhibitors and their family members further understand that participation in the HLSR horse show events or use of the facilities may expose them to contact with surfaces or objects that contain the Virus and may serve as a means for transmission of the Virus to others who participate in the livestock and/or horse events or use the facilities. Based on the forgoing, Exhibitors and their family members understand and acknowledge that participation in the HLSR horse show events and use of the facilities

may expose them, along with others with whom they may come in contact after they leave HLSR Horse Show facilities, to a risk of infection with the Virus, which may cause significant and serious illness, bodily injury, disfigurement, temporary or permanent disability, and/or death.

## **Entry Requirements**

#### Adherence to the Rules

Exhibitors must meet and adhere to all general rules, requirements, and special rules posted in the Horse Show Exhibitor Handbook. Failure to comply with the Horse Show Safety and Health Protocols and Guidelines, at the sole discretion of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, could lead to expulsion from the event.

#### **Face Covering**

Individuals will be required to wear a face covering that will cover the nose and mouth. A face shield may be worn in addition to the face covering if the individual chooses but will not take the place of the face covering.

Face coverings must always be worn; except when eating or drinking in the designated concession area, when horseback, or when competing in the show arena. The 6 ft rule will apply at this time and precautions of washing hands should be taken. Masks may be removed for seated food and beverage consumption. Traversing throughout NRG Park with food and drink in hand with no face covering will NOT be acceptable.

#### **Entry Screening**

- a. All persons attending the Horse Show, including HLSR employees and volunteers, will be screened prior to entry into NRG Park. Individuals will pass through the drive-through check point upon arriving to the grounds. A screening process that includes a short wellness survey and a temperature check will be conducted for all of those in the vehicle. If the driver or any passenger shows signs of a temperature at or greater than 100.4° Fahrenheit the individual and all that occupy the vehicle will not be allowed access to NRG Park provided, however, that if the individual wishes to have a second temperature reading taken, this will be done after a 5-minute wait. If the second reading is less than 100.4° Fahrenheit and the individual answers "no" to the questions asked, the individual will be granted access.
- b. If the second reading is 100.4° Fahrenheit or greater, the individual and all that occupy the vehicle will not be allowed access to NRG Park. Should individuals presenting with symptoms require a rest space for animals, a temporary unloading/stall space will be available at a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo offsite location until other arrangements can be made.
- c. Proof of negative results from a COVID-19 rapid test will not allow for entry while symptoms are still present.

The COVID-19 screening involves a temperature check with a no-touch thermometer and responding verbally to various COVID-19 related questions as listed below. A face covering should be worn during the screening. This list is subject to change and revision based on health guidelines:

YES/ NO CHECKLIST			
		A new cough	
		Shortness of breath	
		Sore throat	
		Muscle aches	
		Loss of taste or smell	
		Vomiting/Nausea	
		Profound fatigue	
		Temp at or above 100.4 or the sense of having a fever	
		To the best of your knowledge have you been in close contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?	

- Any individual, including an HLSR employee, who refuses to submit to the COVID-19 screening will be denied access to NRG Park.
- b. Any individual, including an HLSR employee or volunteer, who registers at or above 100.4° Fahrenheit per CDC guidelines during the screening will be denied access to NRG Park and will be advised to return home and promptly contact his or her doctor; provided, however, that if the individual wishes to have a second temperature reading taken, this will be done after a 5-minute wait. If the second reading is less than 100.4° Fahrenheit and the individual answers "no" to the questions asked, the individual will be granted access.
- c. Any individual who answers "yes" to any of the questions asked during the screening will be denied access to NRG Park and will be advised to return home and promptly contact his or her doctor.

All exhibitors entering the grounds and passing the screening will be issued a wristband. This wristband is valid only for the show(s) entered. A new screening will take place each time an exhibitor arrives on the NRG Park grounds. Please allow for enough time to be screened.

#### **Entry Check In**

Check in at the stalling office to have stalls assigned. A member of the Horspitality Committee will direct you to the stalling office after the health paper check is complete. The stalling office is open 24 hours a day.

Once you have your stall assignments, you will be directed to the horse show office to pick up all credentials and paperwork needed for the show. A written pre-screening questionnaire will be required for each show packet picked up in the horse show office. Please be prepared to provide the names of every individual in your party as part of the check in process. The horse show office is open from 7 am - 7 pm daily.



A face covering should always be worn during the check in process and social distancing guidelines will be enforced.

#### Credentials

To monitor screening efforts, capacities, and adhere to social distancing measures, exhibitors will be issued wristbands. Wristbands will be distributed when you check in at the horse show office. Wristbands **MUST** be worn on each person's wrist.

# Signage

All exhibitors and attendees shall comply with all signage for maintaining social distancing on the premises and in the common areas. Audible announcements will also be made throughout the entirety of the Show and ask that all exhibitors comply with all announcements and requests that are made.

# **Cleaning Practices**

- a. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will be implementing cleaning and disinfection practices according to the CDC guidelines, with regular sanitation of high touch surfaces.
- b. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will provide adequate amount of hand washing and hand sanitizing stations for participants throughout the premise.
- c. Washing Hands
  - Washing hands is easy and is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community – livestock and horse shows.
    Exhibitors should follow these five steps every time they wash their hands.
    - i. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
    - ii. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
    - iii. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds.
    - iv. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
    - v. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.
  - When soap and water is not present, it is best to use hand sanitizer.
  - Exhibitor's should practice safe hand washing procedures by washing hands often and during these key times to reduce the chance of spreading germs.
    - i. Before, during, and after preparing food;
    - ii. Before eating food;
    - iii. Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea;
    - iv. Before and after treating a cut or wound;
    - v. After using the restroom;
    - vi. After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the restroom;
    - vii. After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing;
    - viii. After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste;
    - ix. After handling pet food or pet treats;
    - x. After touching garbage;
    - xi. After you have been in a public place and touched an item or surface that may be frequently touched by other people, such as door handles, tables, gas pumps, shopping carts, or electronic cashier registers/screen, etc.;
    - xii. Before touching your eyes, nose, or mouth because that's how germs enter our bodies.

# **Exhibitor Responsibilities**

a. Exhibitors that are caring for someone that is sick or is at high risk for complications from COVID-19 are recommended to not attend the horse show events.

- b. Exhibitors that are sick or showing signs of illness at the discretion of HLSR will not be allowed on the premises.
- c. Exhibitors will be required to wear a face covering. Exhibitors may remove their face covering while eating or drinking, while horseback, or while competing in the show arena. Traversing throughout NRG Arena with food and drink in hand with no face covering will NOT be acceptable. Participants will be required to provide their own face covering.
- d. Exhibitors should not congregate. At least 6 feet of distance must be maintained between people not in the same household unit. This includes in the stalling areas, arena staging areas, wash racks, arena gates, and while in the show ring.
- e. Anyone presenting with symptoms, whether on-site at NRG Park or prior to arrival, should self-report to the horse show office via phone at 832-667-1012.

#### **Barn Procedures**

a. All stalling assignments will have at least one stall between groups. Please stay within your stall area and do not congregate in the aisleways.

### **Show Ring Competition**

- a. All exhibitors will be required to wear a face covering <u>except</u> while horseback or in the show arena.
- b. Exhibitor plus one person will be allowed in the holding area. Face coverings must be worn in the holding area.
- c. Ring stewards will help maintain the proper six feet of distance between exhibitors.
- d. HLSR has the right to decrease class sizes if needed to maintain social distancing.
- e. Ring personnel will use hand sanitizer before touching and after distributing ribbons or other awards in the show ring.
- f. Shaking hands or other forms of commendation will be discouraged. When the class is dismissed, exhibitors are asked to return to their stalls or the warm-up areas. Those desiring to have photos taken, may stop at the photo backdrop. Social distancing will be enforced while waiting for photos. Face coverings are not required for the photo but must be worn upon leaving the photo backdrop.

#### **Show Facilities**

Only NRG Arena located at NRG Park will be accessible for the March 2021 Private Horse Show. All parties should only enter this facility. All other facilities on property are prohibited from entry without the proper credential. (NRG Center will occupy the HLSR March 2021 Private Livestock Show.)

There will be no attractions, carnival, concerts, or other activities on-site.

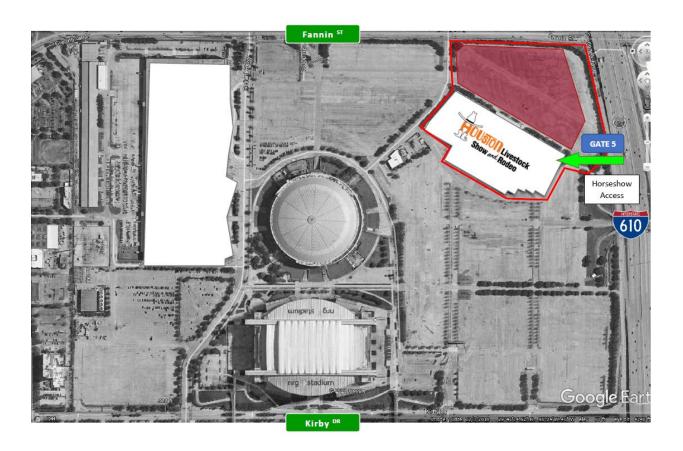
Food Options are available inside the NRG Arena and include but are not limited to BBQ, Chickfil-a, Papa John's Pizza, Nachos, and Hot Dogs among many others. Please note that ALL

transactions are CASHLESS. All forms of digital payment will be accepted including Chip, Swipe, Apple Pay, Android Pay, etc.

The hospitality room will be open to all exhibitors for breakfast and lunch.

Show supply vendors will be available for show operational needs.

All horse show exhibitors should enter NRG Park through Gate 5. This gate is located on the frontage road between Fannin and Kirby.



# Signage



