

## AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS (AHS) CONTROL POLICY:

### PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR MOVEMENT

#### 1. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- 1.1. **“AHS”** African horse sickness
- 1.2. **“Breed registering authority”** as defined in terms of the **Animal Improvement Act 62 of 1998**, means an animal breeders' society or a group of animal breeders' societies which is registered as such in terms of section 8 (7) (a) (ii) of said Act.
- 1.3. **“Certification by a veterinarian”** must include the signature of the veterinarian, the veterinarian's full name, qualification and practice stamp/address.
- 1.4. **“DAFF authorised identification official”** an individual that is registered with the South African Veterinary Council, authorised by DAFF to identify equines
- 1.5. **“Equine”** means horses, mules, donkeys and their hybrids as defined in the Animal Diseases Act 1984 (Act no 35 of 84). This excludes zebra (*Equus quagga* and *Equus zebra*) and their hybrids.
- 1.6. **“FEI”** means the International Equestrian Federation
- 1.7. **“HCM”** is the Health Certificate for movement
- 1.8. **“Import Passport”** means a passport issued by an internationally recognised breed registering authority or international competitive body.
- 1.9. **“NHA”** is the National Horseracing Authority in South Africa.
- 1.10. **“OIE”** means the World Organization for Animal Health.
- 1.11. **“Passport Issuing Agency”** means a breed registering authority or international competition registering authority, or any other registering authority approved by SV: Boland that is authorised to issue passports and administers an appropriate equine registration database. The database should contain the passport number, the name of the horse, a scanned in copy of the identification page, the name of the owner or responsible person and contact details.

- 1.12. **“Registered Equine”** means any equine identified by means of an identification document/ passport that is compliant with this SOP, issued by a Passport Issuing Agency as defined above.
- 1.13. **“Registered Passport”** means a passport that is registered by a Passport Issuing Agency as defined under point 3.8 above.
- 1.14. **“Responsible person”** means a manager or owner of land or an owner of animals.
- 1.15. **“Supplementary Movement Control Booklet”** means a booklet linked to the passport that contains a health certificate for movement and pages to record AHS vaccinations. The supplementary movement control booklet is specifically designed to be used with an import passport that would not routinely contain the pages for AHS vaccinations and the health certificate for movement. Where the import passport does not include an internationally acceptable identification page with a clear diagram and the written descriptions in English, this should be included in the supplementary movement control booklet and should be certified by a registered veterinarian or DAFF authorised identification official.
- 1.16. **“Veterinarian”** means a qualified veterinarian according to the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act 1982 (Act no 19 of 82) and registered with the South African Veterinary Council.

## **2. APPLICATION**

- 2.1. This SOP is applicable to:
  - a) All equines that move into the AHS controlled area or all equines that move into a zone of higher control within the AHS controlled area.
  - b) All equines residing in the AHS free zone.
- 2.2. The equines described above must be identified with a registered passport that complies with the minimum standards described in this SOP.

## **3. GENERAL**

- 3.1. The passport is an indivisible permanent document that must travel with the horse. An electronic equivalent, in a format approved by SV: Boland, may be considered, but must be available at all times and travel with the horse.
- 3.2. It is the responsibility of the owner/manager and transporter of equines to ensure that a compliant passport accompanies the equine.

- 3.3. Only equines whose passports are compliant with this SOP will be considered for approval by state veterinary services for permission to enter the AHS controlled area or move to a zone of higher control in the AHS controlled area.
- 3.4. The veterinarian must check that the identity of the equine corresponds with the identity details in the passport each time the passport is presented to the veterinarian for any certification.
- 3.5. The veterinarian must check that the structure of the passport is compliant with the requirements of this SOP each time the passport is presented to the veterinarian for any certification
- 3.6. Any new entries or alterations to the identification diagram or description, health certificate for movement or AHS vaccination record in the passport must be certified by a veterinarian.
- 3.7. Passports frequently include sections to record additional information. Examples are listed below. Although these sections are not required for AHS movement control or residence in the AHS free area, inclusion of this information in the passport is regarded as good practise.
  - a) Equine Influenza vaccination record (Optional)
  - b) Record of laboratory health tests (Optional)
  - c) Record of controlled medical treatments (Optional)

#### **4. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR AN EQUINE PASSPORT FOR MOVEMENT TO A ZONE OF HIGHER CONTROL OR FOR RESIDENCE IN THE AHS FREE ZONE**

- 4.1. The passport must be bound or held together with staples, twine or glue to form an indivisible booklet with consecutively numbered pages.
- 4.2. The passport must have a unique passport number that is linked to a database.
- 4.3. The passport must contain the following clearly legible information:
  - a) Details of the current owner of the equine, which should include
    - full name of owner
    - residential address of owner
    - a telephonic contact number for the owner
    - email address of the owner

b) The Identification of the equine

- Both an identification diagram and written description of the equine, as described in the OIE Terrestrial Code (Chapter 5.12), must be completed and certified by a veterinarian or DAFF authorised identification official.
- The full name of the equine must be recorded legibly in the case of a named equine or included once the equine is named.
- The identification diagram and written description must be completed legibly in full as prescribed by the relevant passport issuing agency, and in compliance with OIE standards. The written descriptions must be easily understandable and should therefore be written in English.
- If the equine is microchipped, microchip numbers must be recorded in full on the identification diagram and certified by a veterinarian.
- No line should be left blank.
- Correction fluid must never be used in a passport.
- Minor alterations to the identification diagram and written description in the passport e.g. the inclusion of acquired scars or castration are permitted. All alterations should be certified by a veterinarian.
- Major alterations may require that a new passport is issued.

c) Health Certificate for Movement

- The health certificate for movement is a page in the passport that contains the specific declaration of the health status of the equine for AHS movement control into the AHS controlled area and includes multiple rows in which the details of each movement are to be recorded.
- A veterinarian must certify that the equine complies with the conditions stated in the health certificate for movement for every movement subject to AHS movement control.
- The health certificate for movement must declare that the equine complies with all the following conditions on inspection, and movement must not commence after 48 hrs from time of certification:

*I, the undersigned, inspected this registered equine and certify that it:*

- i. showed no clinical signs of disease,*

- ii. *has not been in contact during the last 15 days (as far as can be ascertained) with other equidae suffering from an infectious or contagious disease.*
- iii. *does not originate from an area where veterinary restrictions pertaining to diseases communicable to equidae are in force and does not come from a holding under veterinary restrictions,*
- iv. *does not come from a holding where there has been a case of African horse sickness during the past 40 days,*
- v. *originates from a holding, either;*  
  
*the African horse sickness infected area or African horse sickness protection zone and was vaccinated against African horse sickness by a veterinarian using a registered polyvalent African horse sickness vaccine as prescribed by the vaccine manufacturer at least 40 days , and not more than 24 months, prior to movement,*  
  
*or*  
  
*the African horse sickness surveillance zone and was not vaccinated against African horse sickness during the past 40 days.*
- vi. *Furthermore, I undertake to pre-notify the SV: Boland of the movement of this equine.*

- The veterinarian must examine the horse, enter the origin, destination and date of examination as well as certify the declaration on the health certificate for movement within 48 hours prior to movement.
- In the case of an imported equine with a passport from the country of origin, a supplementary movement control booklet that contains the health certificate for movement and a section to record AHS vaccinations must accompany the passport and be linked to the passport via the passport number. The imported equine must be microchipped and the microchip number must be recorded in both the passport and the supplementary movement control booklet.

d) Vaccination Certificate against AHS

- The Vaccination Certificate against AHS must provide for the veterinarian to certify the following in accordance with Rule 5 of the Veterinary and Para Veterinary Professions Act 19 of 1982:
  - i. Date of vaccination for each bottle of vaccine,

- ii. Batch number of each bottle of vaccine.
- In the case of an imported equine the AHS vaccinations must be recorded in the “vaccinations other than equine influenza” section of the passport, or in the supplementary movement control booklet.

e) Unique Passport Number

- This must be issued by an approved passport issuing authority as defined in this SOP or by SV Boland.
- The Unique passport number must be linked to a database that can be accessed by the competent authority if required.

## **5. SUPPLEMENTARY MOVEMENT CONTROL BOOKLET FOR PASSPORTS ISSUED OUTSIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA (IMPORT PASSPORTS)**

It is recognized that in countries where AHS is not endemic or not officially controlled by the veterinary authorities, equine passports may not contain all the relevant or compliant sections related to AHS movement control and vaccination. These import passports may only be considered acceptable for movement into the AHS controlled area, movement into a zone of higher control within the AHS controlled area, or residence within the AHS free zone provided they comply with the following:

- 5.1. The passport must be issued and registered with a passport issuing agency as defined in Section 3 of this SOP in the country of origin;
- 5.2. The passport should be compliant with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Chapter 5.12.
- 5.3. The identification diagram and passport number must comply with the requirements as set out in this SOP.
- 5.4. The passport must have a unique passport number that is linked to a database of the local passport issuing agency that will register the imported horse.
- 5.5. A supplementary movement control booklet issued by the relevant South African passport issuing agency or SV: Boland is obtained by the responsible person and kept with the import passport at all times.
- 5.6. The supplementary movement control booklet is only valid if:
  - a) it is used in conjunction with the import passport.
  - b) it is linked to the import passport by means of the unique passport number and microchip number.

- c) It is bound or held together with staples, twine or glue to form an indivisible booklet with consecutively numbered pages.
- d) It contains the following:
- a cover page clearly referencing the import passport number, microchip number, registered horse name and the name of the relevant passport registering agency in South Africa (see example: Section 9).
  - the health certificate for movement as described in point 6.3.3 (example section 8.3).
  - the AHS vaccination page as described in point 6.3.5 (example 8.4).
  - where the import passport does not include an internationally acceptable identification page as described in point 6.3.2. (example section 8.2.), this should be included in the supplementary movement control booklet and should be certified by a veterinarian or a DAFF authorised identification official.

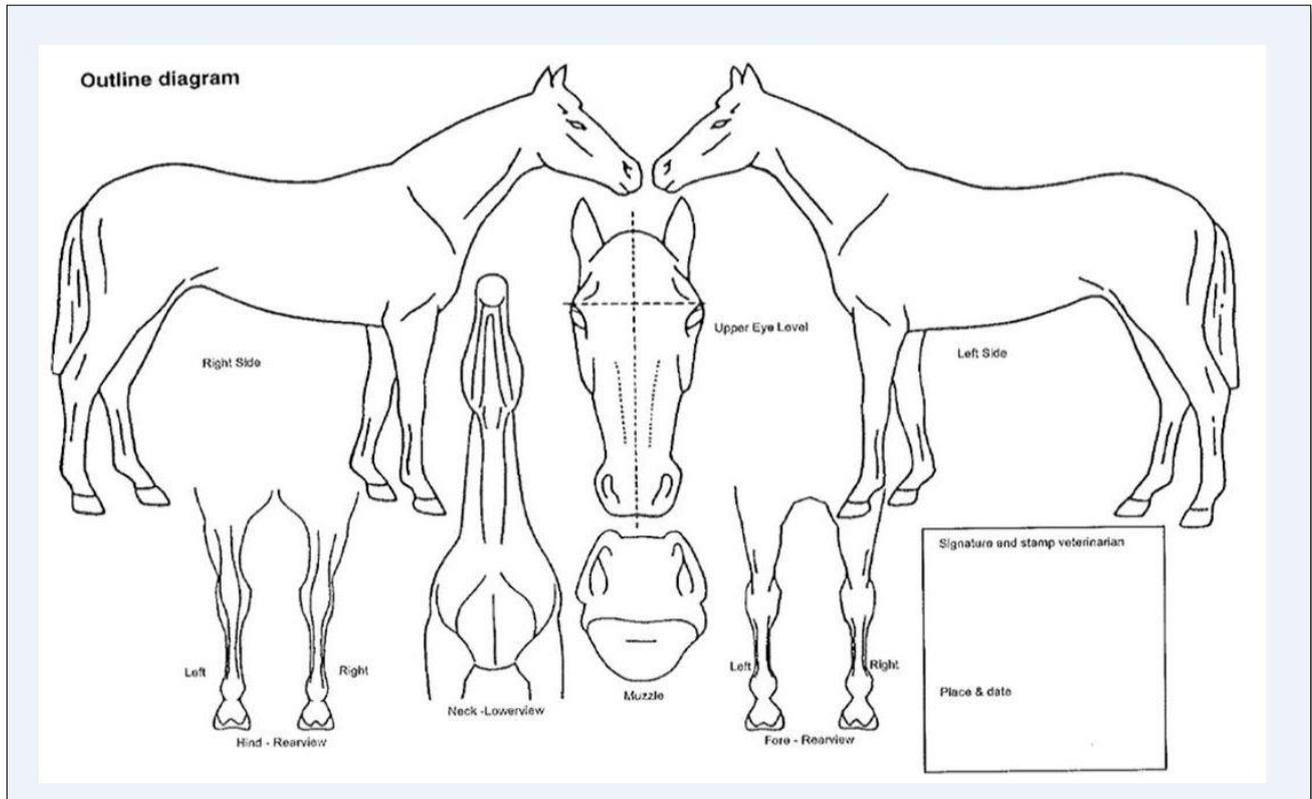
## **6. DUTIES OF THE PASSPORT ISSUING AGENCY**

The control and management of equine passports is an important aspect of ensuring the information therein is reliable and a true reflection of the equine. Therefore, in addition to the passport itself complying with the requirements of this SOP, for a passport to be approved by SV Boland for AHS control purposes the passport issuing agency must be able to demonstrate to SV: Boland reasonable control over the following:

- 6.1. Linking of unique passport numbers to the equine identification diagram for that equine within their database;
- 6.2. It should be clear from visual inspection of the passport that the passport issuing agency has captured the identification diagram in their database. A stamp on the identification diagram indicating that this has been performed is ideal but a verification system approved by SV: Boland will also be accepted
- 6.3. A contact point for reporting of detected discrepancies, problems or fraudulent activities with regard to their passports;
- 6.4. Management of invalid, lost or stolen passports or any passport that should be cancelled for any reason;

## 7. GUIDELINE DOCUMENTATION FOR A PASSPORT

The minimum requirements for a passport are described below:



7.1. DETAILS OF OWNER OF EQUINE

<b>Unique Passport Number and issuing authority:</b>	e.g. 1234567890 issued by SAEF, WC Government, FEI, Studbook, NHA
<b>Registered horse name</b>	
<b>Full Name of Owner</b>	
<b>Physical Address of Owner</b>	
<b>Contact Number of Owner</b>	
<b>Email/Fax Address of Owner</b>	

## 7.2. IDENTIFICATION DIAGRAM AND DESCRIPTION OF EQUINE

<b>Unique Number and issuing authority:</b>	<b>Passport and issuing authority:</b>	e.g. 1234567890 issued by SAEF, WC Government, FEI, Studbook, NHA	<b>Description of body (including brands/scars etc):</b> _____ _____ _____
<b>Full Name of Equine:</b>			
<b>Colour:</b>			
<b>Gender:</b>			
<b>Year of birth: (if verified)</b>			
<b>Breed Type: (if known)</b>			<b>Description of head markings:</b> _____ _____
<b>Microchip Number:</b>			

Written description of leg markings		
Left Fore		Hoof
Right Fore		Hoof
Left Hind		Hoof
Right Hind		Hoof

### 7.3. HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR MOVEMENT

I, the undersigned, inspected this registered equine and certify that it:

- i. Showed no clinical signs of disease,
- ii. Has not been in contact during the last 15 days (as far as can be ascertained) with other equidae suffering from an infectious or contagious disease.
- iii. Does not originate from an area where veterinary restrictions pertaining to diseases communicable to equidae are in force and does not come from a holding under veterinary restrictions,
- iv. Does not come from a holding where there has been a case of African horse sickness during the past 40 days
- v. Originates from a holding, either;

The African horse sickness infected area or African horse sickness protection zone and was vaccinated against African horse sickness by a veterinarian using a registered polyvalent African horse sickness vaccine as prescribed by the vaccine manufacturer at least 40 days , and not more than 24 months, prior to movement,

Or

The African horse sickness surveillance zone and was not vaccinated against African horse sickness during the past 40 days.

Furthermore, I undertake to pre-notify the state veterinarian: Boland of the movement of this equine.

***NB. Movement must commence within 48hrs of signature of this certificate by your veterinarian.***

ORIGIN			DESTINATION			DATE EXAMINED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF CERTIFYING VETERINARIAN	SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING VETERINARIAN
Date of departure	District	Holding	Date of Arrival	District	Holding			

#### 7.4. AHS VACCINATION RECORD

### VACCINATIONS AGAINST AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS

Every vaccination against AHS which the equine undergoes must be entered clearly and in detail on this sheet in the space provided below

Date of Vaccination			Type, Name	Name and address of Veterinarian	Signature and stamp of Veterinarian
DD	MM	YY	Batch No of vaccine		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
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			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		
			AHS 1		
			AHS 2		

7.5. Example of a cover page for supplementary movement Control Booklet

<b>Unique Passport Number and issuing authority:</b>	e.g. 1234567890 issued by SAEF, WC Government, FEI, Studbook, NHA
<b>Registered horse name</b>	
<b>Microchip number</b>	
<b>Full Name of Owner</b>	
<b>Physical Address of Owner</b>	
<b>Contact Number of Owner</b>	
<b>Email Address of Owner</b>	
<p>This supplementary movement control booklet is only valid when used in conjunction with a valid import passport and is linked to the import passport by means of the unique passport number and microchip number.</p>	

Signed at Eisenburg.....(place) on 15.08.2018.....(date)



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**Dr. G. Msiza**

Chief Director Veterinary Services  
Department of Agriculture Western Cape  
Private Bag X1, Eisenburg 7607.

Stamp:

