



Department of Primary Industries

Frequently Asked Questions – Victorian Horse Entry Declarations

Updated 14 March 2008

The following frequently asked questions are only relevant for those who wish to apply for a Victorian Horse Entry Declaration (VHED)

1. *How do I apply for a VHED?*

You can apply for a VHED online at www.dpi.vic.gov.au and following the links to Equine Influenza. It will take you approximately 30 minutes to complete. Once completed you need to print, sign and date to validate it.

If you do not have the internet please contact the EI Information Helpline 1800 678 779 who can assist you by entering your details and then faxing or mailing the declaration.

The VHED must be carried with you when you are transporting your horse.

2. *How long before I plan to move do I have to get a VHED?*

Provided you carry a current, signed copy of the VHED, you can apply whenever you wish. Please note that applications cannot be made retrospectively.

3. *Why do I need a VHED to move my horse?*

It is important to have the ability to trace horse movements into Victoria. In addition to this you will be able to move your horse into Victoria without risk of penalties or fines. Having a VHED also contributes to the protection of your own animals, as the department knows how and where to contact you at short notice in case of an incident so you can take the necessary precautions to protect your horses.

4. *Who has to apply for the VHED if I am having a transport company?*

The owner or person in charge can apply for the VHED. The transport company should carry the VHED when carrying horses. The owner may wish to be provided with a copy of the VHED to ensure the process has been completed.

5. *Do I need documentation to move within NSW and QLD?*

As of 14 March the following were the conditions for moving horses from unrestricted zones in NSW/ QLD:

NSW: A travelling horse statement needs to be completed and carried, this can be applied for on line at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

QLD: A inter zone declaration is required for the green zone and a waybill is needed for the white zone, both of which can be applied for on line at www.dpi.qld.gov.au

6. *Do I have to stop and have my VHED checked at the border upon entering Victoria?*

There will be no set inspection points where you must stop and produce your VHED, however, there will be roving border patrols that record all registration details. DPI then checks to ensure a VHED has been completed and if not an investigation will be carried out. There will also be inspectors at some race meetings, events and sales in order to spot check that horses are being transported with valid VHED's.

7. *What will happen if I am caught moving into Victoria without a valid VHED?*

If you are transporting your horse without a valid VHED, you may be subject to fines and penalties under this Order which can be up to \$26,000 and/ or 24 months imprisonment.

8. *What if I am required to move daily/regularly with the same horses into Victoria from NSW e.g. racehorse trainer needs to use race track in Victoria for daily track work?*

In special cases like this where an owner is required to move into and out of Victoria on a regular basis to the same locations, there is a process for them to follow and have a longer term (30 day) VHED issued, however, if the destination in Victoria varies, a new VHED will need to be issued.

9. *Do I still require a permit for my float or equipment?*

As of 1st February permits are no longer required for the movement of vehicles including trailers and horse equipment or fittings.

10. *If my club is holding an event, do we have to check VHED's or advise interstate competitors about getting a VHED?*

It is for the individual club hosting the event to decide whether they want to ensure that Interstate competitors have a valid VHED, however, it would contribute significantly to the protection, safety and peace of mind of all competitors involved.

Potential competitors from NSW and QLD when registering for an event should be informed of the need to travel to Victoria with a VHED.