



ONTARIO
EQUESTRIAN
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John Q. Sampolopolous
Adult, Exp. 2014/12/31



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insurance providers could lead to a misinterpretation of coverage, thereby putting you at risk. Additionally, an OEF membership does not expire during the calendar year. All OEF members automatically receive the following coverage:

- \$5,000,000 Personal Liability Insurance that will respond to actions brought against the member as a result of bodily injury or property damage caused by the member's non-commercial use of a horse owned, rented, leased or borrowed by the member, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, anywhere in the world.
- \$30,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment coverage.

Is it mandatory to ask for OEF memberships at my horse show or event?

The requirements for personal liability are regulated by the insurance carrier that provides coverage to the group, club, riding stable or entity you are representing. If that insurance carrier requires individual proof of liability coverage from participants at your events, an OEF membership is one way a participant can provide proof.

If I do decide to ask for OEF memberships, who needs one?

A horse cannot be sued, however each person responsible for an equine could be named. Therefore, the OEF recommends requiring an OEF membership from all participants. If the participant does not own the horse, both participant and owner should have separate OEF memberships.

How do I go about setting up a system to check for memberships?

Here are six recommended procedural steps to help you set up a system to check for memberships:

1. State the requirement of OEF memberships in the

Organizing A Horse Event?

Ask To See OEF Memberships!

Requiring participants at equestrian events like horse shows, clinics and trail rides to show proof of OEF membership protects everyone involved.

By requiring all participants to be a member of the OEF, as an event organizer you have the reassurance of knowing participants have their own liability coverage, and payment of claims will not necessarily default to your own coverage.

As well, asking to see an OEF membership can be easier to require than other liability coverage. Members can show their key fob, official membership receipt (electronic or printed), or electronic image as proof – no interpretation required. Interpreting letters from various

general regulations and rules. If you are club based, include the requirement with club membership and then it won't need to be checked for each subsequent event the club hosts.

2. Design application and entry forms to include an area to record OEF membership numbers.
3. Ask for proof from all participants and owners to be submitted with the form. OEF members can prove their membership with a key fob, membership receipt (electronic or printed), or an electronic image of their card.
4. Look at the proof provided – check the name and expiry date by cross-referencing with the entry form.
5. Check the forms to confirm that multiple people are not sharing a single person's membership number. A template for recording participants' OEF numbers is available upon request.
6. No proof? Participants who have arrived at the event without liability coverage can complete an OEF membership online and attain coverage immediately once completed (proof will be provided immediately via e-mail). When an OEF representative is in attendance, OEF memberships may be available for purchase. If the event is an ESD or EC sanctioned competition, show management may take OEF memberships on behalf of the OEF. The best practise is to require this in advance, so participants are aware and are able to

participate without complications.

Need assistance with your horse show?

If you are a director, volunteer, show manager or otherwise involved in running horse shows at agricultural society fairs and other venues, the Ontario Equestrian Federation has a new project called First Safe Strides. It is designed to assist you in hosting a successful show.

We want to be a resource for equine event organizers. Our aim is to help you host events that adhere to standard safety and procedural requirements. By supporting equine event hosts, the OEF is also supporting our members and fostering sport development throughout the province. With an increase in sport development, all sectors of our industry benefit – from equipment providers, professional instructors and coaches, local equestrian clubs, and provincial breed and discipline associations.

If your group or event is interested in implementing proof of membership requirements for the 2014 season, or would like more information about the First Safe Strides project, contact Stephanie Rutherford, the First Safe Strides Administrator at s.rutherford@horse.on.ca or call 1-877-441-7112 x 12.

WANTED: Creative Horse People With A Passion For Education

Would you be interested in sharing your ideas and time to help create equestrian-related activities to educate school-aged children?

The OEF is searching for volunteers across Ontario who would be interested in assisting the First Safe Strides, a horse show safety initiative. First Safe Strides aims to promote a love of horses and safe equestrian sport and, to that end, is developing an education package for fairs that deliver school education day programs across Ontario.

The OEF needs volunteers to assist in writing comprehensive curriculum-centred resources. As a volunteer, you would be asked to create lesson plans linked to the curriculum for un-mounted group activities, using a lesson plan

template provided by the OEF. You would receive credit as the author of your lesson plan(s) and support from OEF staff and volunteers. These lesson plans will enable OEF staff and volunteers to offer an introduction to horse sport and education at no charge to non-profit groups such as agricultural societies.

If you are interested in this opportunity to promote your love of horses, please contact Stephanie Rutherford, First Safe Strides Program Administrator, at s.rutherford@horse.on.ca or 1-877-441-7112 x 12.