

## **NEWMARKET STUD FARMERS' ASSOCIATION** **2026 BREEDING REGULATIONS**

The Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB) International Codes of Practice will be strictly applied to all Mares and Stallions for breeding purposes with respect to the control of Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA), Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1), Equine Infectious Anaemia (EIA), Dourine, Contagious Equine Metritis (CEMO) and other Equine Bacterial Venereal Diseases, as well as additional precautions that are considered necessary by the Newmarket Stud Farmers' Association. The HBLB International Codes of Practice can be found online at <http://codes.hblb.org.uk> or on free HBLB App: EquiBioSafe.

Please note: - Mares arriving from outside the United Kingdom and Ireland should not be travelled with non-thoroughbreds or any other equidae unless these meet the same disease screening requirements for CEMO, EVA, EIA and other equine infectious diseases as are laid down in these regulations. All correctly completed international travel documents should accompany the mare/s.

It is of the upmost importance that mares should be kept separate from all non-thoroughbreds with the exception of foster mares providing that they have been fully tested as per these Regulations. If this is not the case, it should be reported to the Stallion Stud well in advance of covering.

**All mares must be correctly vaccinated for EQUINE INFLUENZA. (Primary course of two vaccinations and 6 monthly booster). The latest vaccination must have been given within 6 months of each covering as recommended in the HBLB International Codes of Practice. All vaccinations must be entered in the mare's passport.**

**A CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS (CEMO) - HIGH RISK MARES** - those who have had previous contact with CEMO or **who originate from countries outside France, Germany, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom** (a full definition of high/low risk status can be found at Appendix 2 of the HBLB International Codes of Practice <http://codes.hblb.org.uk>) require:

Before first time of covering:

**Two** negative clitoral swabs taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 and at least seven days apart at the home premises or the boarding stud.

One negative endometrial swab taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at the home premises or the boarding stud during the oestrus prior to service.

Clitoral and endometrial swab test results must certify negative culture or PCR results for **Taylorella equigenitalis (CEMO), Klebsiella pneumoniae (capsule types 1, 2, & 5) and Pseudomonas aeruginosa** by a British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) Approved Laboratory or other National Approved Laboratory in Ireland or France. **Swab certificates from laboratories in other countries will not be accepted and tests will need to be repeated at the boarding stud, unless the Laboratory is accredited by BEVA Laboratory Approval Scheme, following quality assurance testing. See note c) at the end of these regulations. Immunofluorescence test (IFT) results will not be accepted.**

Subsequent walkings-in:

Repeat negative endometrial swab, to be cultured or PCR tested as above, for each subsequent oestrus period.

**CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS (CEMO) - LOW RISK MARES** require:

Before first time of covering:

One negative clitoral swab test and one negative endometrial swab test taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 with the latter taken during oestrus. Swab test results must certify negative culture or PCR results for **Taylorella equigenitalis (CEMO), Klebsiella pneumoniae (capsule types 1, 2, & 5) and Pseudomonas aeruginosa** by a British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) Approved Laboratory or other National Approved Laboratory in Ireland or France. **Swab certificates from laboratories in other countries will not be accepted, unless the Laboratory is accredited by BEVA Laboratory Approval Scheme, following quality assurance testing. See note c) at the end of these regulations. Immunofluorescence test (IFT) results will not be accepted.**

The Stallion Stud Manager may, at his or her discretion, on veterinary advice, allow mating to proceed on the basis of satisfactory results from aerobic culture of endometrial swabs if adequate clitoral swabbing has already been carried out. However, the microaerophilic culture or PCR endometrial swab results should be sent to the stallion stud as soon as they are available.

Subsequent walkings-in:

Repeat endometrial swab tests during all subsequent oestrus periods must be cultured aerobically or PCR tested for **Klebsiella pneumoniae & Pseudomonas aeruginosa**, and results certified before the mare is covered. Microaerophilic cultures or PCR testing for CEMO are still recommended and full results should follow afterwards if covering has already taken place.

## **CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS (CEMO) - ALL MARES**

In the case of pregnant mares who have had difficult foalings requiring veterinary attention and antibiotic treatments, an additional clitoral swab should be taken after foaling and more than 7 days after antibiotic treatment has finished, in addition to routine endometrial swabs, in order to rule out acquired *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* infections. Providing the pre-foaling clitoral swab was certified negative for *Taylorella equigenitalis*, the additional post-foaling clitoral swab may be cultured aerobically or PCR tested only.

### **B. EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS (EVA) tests to be taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

1. All mares that have NOT been outside the United Kingdom and Ireland within the last 12 months will require **one** negative blood test to be taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026. Seropositive mares will require two blood-tests to be taken a minimum of 14 days apart; these should demonstrate a stable or declining titre.
2. All mares originating from outside the UK and Ireland will require two negative blood tests, the first to be taken within a 28-day period prior to arrival in the UK, with the second to be taken at the boarding stud, a minimum of 14 days after arrival before the mare is released from isolation. Similarly, animals that are seropositive for EVA will require two tests to be taken in the UK. These should be taken a minimum of 14 days apart and demonstrate a stable or declining titre.
3. Fillies in Training. At the discretion of the stallion stud fillies walking in for covering from racing yards may be required to have additional tests taken or tests taken closer to covering. This should be discussed with the stallion stud well in advance.
4. NB. If a mare should leave the boarding stud after service or scanning in foal and thereafter wish to return during further oestrus, it may be necessary to provide a second negative EVA test.

**These test results must confirm no significant rise in antibody titres (seroconversion).**

**In the event of an inconclusive ELISA Test result the mare will not be accepted for covering until negative or stable/declining paired positive Virus Neutralisation Test results are obtained.**

### **C. EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANAEMIA (EIA)**

1. All mares that have NOT been outside the United Kingdom and Ireland within the last 12 months will require one negative blood test for EIA to be taken after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.
2. All mares originating from OUTSIDE the United Kingdom and Ireland will require a negative blood test for EIA taken no more than 14 days prior to arrival in this country. A second blood test must be taken at the boarding stud, prior to covering, a minimum of 14 days after arrival. Further blood tests must be taken as required to ensure that the mare is tested within 21 days prior to, and as close as possible to, EACH COVERING until a final blood test has been taken a minimum 60 days after the mare's arrival in this country.
3. Any mare arriving from GERMANY or ITALY with a foal at foot will require a blood test for EIA to be taken from the foal a minimum of 14 days after arrival in this country.

### **D. STRANGLES**

Owners and managers are required to declare any possible contact or exposure their mares or stud might have had to strangles, over the last two years. The current Code of Practice guidelines on prevention and control will be observed.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

- a) Additional swabbing and/or other tests may be required in certain circumstances at the stallion stud manager's discretion.**
- b) If a mare is changed from one stallion to another during the course of the breeding season a new clitoral swab, endometrial swab and EVA test will be required. The clitoral swab should be taken no sooner than 7 days after the mare was last covered by the original stallion. The EVA test must be taken no sooner than 14 days after the last covering.**
- c) BEVA may give approval to Laboratories outside the United Kingdom if the Laboratories have successfully completed BEVA's quality assurance tests. A list of Laboratories will be published on their website: [www.beva.org.uk](http://www.beva.org.uk). Mares with swab results from these Laboratories may be accepted for covering by stallion studs provided results are CERTIFIED ON THE CORRECT BEVA MARE CERTIFICATES. Mare owners and boarding studs must establish with the relevant stallion stud that these results are acceptable well in advance of covering.**