

# How to best prepare your horse for surgery

Undergoing surgery for your horse is similar to when a human goes in for surgery, it is important for the patient to be as prepared as possible for a smooth procedure.

Where possible, it helps our team if you can take some extra steps to ensure your horse is ready for surgery.

## THE DAY BEFORE SURGERY

- Please make sure your horse's hooves are trimmed and if your horse is wearing shoes they are removed where possible.
- Please either bath or brush your horse. This is important as it helps keep our induction and surgery clean. Horses that are brought in muddy will need to be groomed, which takes time away from our surgical team.
- Contact GVEH to ensure your booking date and time and ask if there are any special requirements (the horse may be held off feed if surgery is the day you are admitting the horse)

## THE DAY OF;

- Please try to groom your horse so it's clean and tidy ready to be admitted for surgery.
- When arriving at GVEH, please leave your horse on your trailer and please go to reception.
- When you unload your horse, one of our vet team or a vet nurse will give your horse a full examination and he/she will also be weighed.
- If your horse is able to go home the same day of surgery, you are welcome to park your float at GVEH, go into Shepparton for coffee or lunch and we can call you when your horse has recovered from anaesthesia.
- If your horse is staying overnight or, in some cases, for a few days, the surgeon will call you after your horse has recovered from anaesthesia and is back in their stall.

Please note we may need to do some pre-operative diagnostics in order to fully assess your horse's condition.

Phone Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital on 03 58299566