

DRUG CONTROL - for website

Integrity is a costly and time consuming, but very necessary, task for Harness Racing Australia's (HRA) Members. Ensuring a level playing field is essential for the well being of our participants and the image of our racing among both punters and the broader community.

The definition of integrity can often mean different things to different people, however, our approach can be summarised as "*adherence to moral and ethical principles*" while "*honesty*", along with "*doing the right thing*" are useful standards to apply.

Harness racing is sometimes criticised or maligned when discussions of racing and drugs combine - but this is quite simply ignorant of the facts.

The industry is heavily focused on integrity and is committed to identifying and penalising anyone breaching the Australian Harness Racing Rules (AHRR), ensuring the safety of our participants and managing a first class equine welfare program.

Harness racing integrity officers are constantly meeting the challenges presented by people prepared to engage in illegal activities and this includes world class drug controls with a commitment to the detection of doping agents and prohibited practices both in and out of competition.

This is clearly demonstrated via a total ban on raceday medication as well as bans on anabolic agents throughout a horse's career to comply with the principles of 'drug free' racing.

People found in breach of these rules may have their license suspended or disqualified for period of time as well as facing pecuniary penalties.

This approach is to ensure that as far as is possible that:

- the integrity of racing is protected
- racing is conducted on a level playing field - free from the manipulation of results
- horses race without the assistance of drugs

- racing is conducted safely, both with respect to horses and participants
- racing performances are reflective of the combined natural ability of horse, driver, trainer and conditions
- horses that are racing are free of masked injury and in excellent health

The following AHRR's set out various requirements with regards to drug control of prohibited substances. These Rules are amended and updated from time to time. The most complete and up to date version can be found at www.harness.org.au/AHRRules.pdf.

Prohibited Substances

Rule 190B Log Book

- (1) A trainer shall at all times keep and maintain a log book:-
- (a) listing all therapeutic substances in his or her possession;
 - (b) recording all details of treatment administered to any horse in his or her care and including as a minimum requirement:
 - (i) the name of the horse
 - (ii) the date of administration of the treatment
 - (iii) the name of the treatment (brand name of active constituent)
 - (iv) the route of administration
 - (v) the amount given
 - (vi) the name and signature of the person or persons administering and/or authorising treatment.
- (2) For the purposes of this rule treatment includes:
- (i) all Controlled Drugs (Schedule 8) administered by a veterinarian
 - (ii) all Prescription Animal Remedies (Schedule 4).
 - (iii) all Prescription Only Medicines (Schedule 4) prescribed and/or dispensed by a veterinarian for off label use
 - (iv) all injectable veterinary medicines (intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intra-articular) not already included above
 - (v) all Pharmacist only (Schedule 3) and Pharmacy Only (Schedule 2) medicines
 - (vi) all veterinary and other medicines containing other scheduled and unscheduled prohibited substances
 - (vii) all alkalising agents
 - (viii) all herbal preparations.
- (3) A trainer shall upon request produce such log book or register for inspection by the Stewards.

(4) A trainer who fails to comply with the provisions of sub-rule (1) or (3) is guilty of an offence.

Rule 196 Administering substances

(1) The Controlling Body may make determinations concerning the feeding, injecting, inserting or otherwise administering substances or prohibited substances to a horse.

(2) A person who fails to comply with a determination made under sub rule (1) is guilty of an offence.

196A.

(1) A person shall not administer or cause to be administered to a horse any prohibited substance

(i) for the purpose of affecting the performance or behaviour of a horse in a race or of preventing its starting in a race; or

(ii) which is detected in any sample taken from such horse prior to or following the running of any race.

(2) A person who fails to comply with sub-rule (1) is guilty of an offence.

Rule 194 Holding of Drugs

A person who procures or attempts to procure or who has in his possession or on his premises or under his control any substance or preparation that has not been registered, labelled, prescribed, dispensed or obtained in compliance with relevant State and Commonwealth legislation is guilty of an offence.

Rule 192 Possession on course

(1) No person, unless he has first obtained the permission of the Stewards, shall have in his possession either on a racecourse or in any motor vehicle or trailer being used for the purpose of travelling to or from a racecourse any prohibited substance or a syringe, needle or other instrument which could be used –

(a) to administer a prohibited substance to a horse; or

(b) to produce a prohibited substance in a horse.

(c) to administer any medication or substance to a horse.

(2) The Stewards may impose terms and conditions when giving permission under sub rule (1).

(3) A person who fails to comply with sub rule (1) or with a term or condition imposed under sub rule (2) is guilty of an offence.

(4) For the purposes of sub rule (1) possession includes control of and right of access to the prohibited substance or syringe, needle or other instrument.

Rule 195 Prohibited Substances in Horses

A horse which has been presented for a race shall be disqualified from it if blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen taken from the horse is found to contain a prohibited substance.

195A

(1) This rule is to apply to any race or series of races which the Controlling Body stipulates in the Conditions of Entry that it shall apply to; such a race or races being a qualifying race for some other race.

(2) If in relation to a race to which this rule applies a blood, urine, saliva or other sample or specimen is taken from a horse when it is presented for such race and a certificate from a person or drug testing laboratory approved by the Controlling Body certifies the presence of a prohibited substance in such specimen or sample then the horse shall be immediately disqualified from participating in any other race for which the race in question provides or provided a qualification for participation.

(3) This rule is to have effect and to be conclusive irrespective of whether further testing procedures or other circumstances establish that the horse was presented for the race free of any prohibited substances.

Rule 189 Testing

(1) The Stewards may carry out tests and examinations to determine whether a prohibited substance was or is in or on a horse.

(2) A test or examination may be made at any time and place.

(3) A test or examination may be conducted on a horse alive or dead.

(4) For purposes of testing or examining the Stewards may take possession of a horse for such period and subject to such conditions as they think fit.

(5) The connections of a horse shall comply with any directions relating to testing and examining given by the Stewards.

(6) For purposes of testing and examining a horse the Stewards may use the services of a veterinary surgeon or other appropriately qualified person.

- (7) Blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or samples or specimens may be taken from a horse for purposes of testing and examining and may be stored, frozen or otherwise dealt with, and shall be disposed of only as the Stewards may direct.
- (8) Where the Stewards suspect that a prohibited substance was or is in or on a horse or that blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen taken from a horse may contain a prohibited substance, they may withdraw the horse from a race, bar it from racing for a period, or give such direction about the horse as they consider appropriate.
- (9) It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with a direction given under sub rule (5) or sub rule (7) or sub rule (8) or to interfere with or prevent or endeavour to interfere with or prevent the carrying out of a test or examination.

Rule 188 Determination of prohibited substance

- (1) The Controlling Body may determine -
- (a) anything to be a substance;
 - (b) a substance to be a prohibited substance;
 - (c) a substance which in the opinion of the Controlling Body has or may have a certain effect to be a prohibited substance;
 - (d) a substance coming within a nominated category or class to be a prohibited substance;
 - (e) a substance when in or on a horse to be a prohibited substance;
 - (f) a substance when in or on a horse at or above a nominated level to be a prohibited substance;
 - (g) a substance when in or on a horse for a nominated time to be a prohibited substance.
- (2) When making a determination under sub rule (1) the Controlling Body may act under any paragraph or any combination of paragraphs in that sub rule.

Rule 188A Classification of Prohibited Substances

- (1) The following are prohibited substances:
- (a) Substances capable at any time of causing either directly or indirectly an action or effect, or both an action and effect, within one or more of the following mammalian body systems:-
 - the nervous system
 - the cardiovascular system

the respiratory system

the digestive system

the musculo-skeletal system

the endocrine system

the urinary system

the reproductive system

the blood system

the immune system

(b) Substances falling within, but not limited to, the following categories:-

acidifying agents		antiemetics	central nervous system stimulants
adrenergic blocking agents		antifibrinolytic agents	cholinergic agents
adrenergic stimulants		antihistamines	corticosteroids
agents affecting calcium and bone metabolism		antihypertensive agents	depressants
alcohols		anti-inflammatory agents	diuretics
alkalinising agents		antinauseants	erectile dysfunction agents
anabolic agents		antineoplastic agents	fibrinolytic agents
anaesthetic agents		antipsychotic agents	haematopoietic agents
analgesics		antipyretics	haemostatic agents
antiangina agents		antirheumatoid agents	hormones (including trophic hormones) and their synthetic counterparts
antianxiety agents		antispasmodic agents	hypnotics
antiarrhythmic agents		antithrombotic agents	hypoglycaemic agents
anticholinergic agents		antitussive agents	hypolipidaemic agents
anticoagulants		blood coagulants	immunomodifiers
anticonvulsants		bronchodilators	
antidepressants		bronchospasm relaxants	
		buffering agents	

masking agents	respiratory stimulants	vasodilators
muscle relaxants	sedatives	vasopressor agents
narcotic analgesics	stimulants	vitamins administered by injection
neuromuscular agents	sympathomimetic amines	
plasma volume expanders	tranquillisers	

(c) Metabolites, artifacts and isomers of the prohibited substances prescribed by sub rules(1)(a) and (1)(b).

(2) The following substances when present at or below the levels set out are excepted from the provisions of sub rule 1 and Rule 190AA:

- (a) Alkalinising Agents, when evidenced by total carbon dioxide (TCO₂) present at a concentration of 36.0 millimoles per litre in plasma.
- (b) Arsenic at a level of 0.30 micrograms per millilitre in urine.
- (c) Dimethyl sulphoxide at a concentration of 15.0 micrograms per millilitre in urine or 1000 nanograms per millilitre in plasma.
- (d) In male horses, other than geldings, 5 α -estrane - 3 β , 17 α -diol in urine (including both the free substance and that liberated from conjugates) at a concentration equal to or less than that of 5(10)-estrane-3 β , 17 α -diol in urine (including both the free substance and that liberated from its conjugates).
- (e) Salicylic acid at a concentration of 750 micrograms per millilitre in urine or 6.50 micrograms per millilitre in plasma. .
- (f) Free hydrocortisone at a concentration of 1.00 micrograms per millilitre in urine.
- (g) Testosterone (including both free testosterone and testosterone liberated from its conjugates)
 - (i) in geldings: at a concentration of 20 micrograms per litre in urine,
 - (ii) in fillies and mares: at a concentration of 55 micrograms per litre in urine,
 - (iii) In fillies and mares that have been notified as pregnant so as to comply with Rule 103B at any concentration.
- (h) 3-Methoxytyramine (including both free 3-methoxytyramine and 3-methoxytyramine liberated from its conjugates) at a concentration of 4.0 milligrams per litre in urine.

(i) Boldenone in male horses other than geldings, (including both free boldenone and boldenone liberated from its conjugates) at a mass concentration of 15 micrograms per litre in urine.

(j) Theobromine at a mass concentration of 2.00 milligrams per litre in urine.

(k) Cobalt at a concentration at or below 200 micrograms per litre in urine.

(3) The following are not prohibited substances:

- antimicrobials (antibiotics) and other anti-infective agents but not including procaine penicillin

- antiparasitics approved and registered for use in horses

- ranitidine

- omeprazole

- ambroxol

- bromhexine

- demborexine

- registered vaccines against infectious agents

- orally administered glucosamine

- orally administered chondroitin sulphate

- altrenogest when administered to fillies and mares

- (4) A trainer must notify the Stewards no later than 1 hour prior to the scheduled starting time of a race if the trainer's horse has been treated with Antimicrobials (antibiotics and other anti infective agents) except Procaine Penicillin, Vaccines and antisera for the prevention of disease, or Mucolytics within the preceding 7 days.
- (5) A trainer who fails to comply with sub-rule (4) is guilty of an offence.

Rule 190A Out of Competition Testing

- (1) When a sample taken at any time from a horse being trained or cared for by a licensed person has detected in it any prohibited substance specified in sub-rule (2):-
- (a) The trainer and any other person who was in charge of such horse at the relevant time shall be guilty of an offence.
 - (b) The horse may be disqualified from any race in which it has competed subsequent to the taking of such a sample where, in the opinion of the Stewards, the prohibited substance was likely to have had any direct and/or indirect effect on the horse at the time of the race.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-rule (1), the following substances are specified as prohibited substances:-
- (a) erythropoiesis – stimulating agents, including but not limited to erythropoietin (EPO), epoetin alfa, epoetin beta, darbepoetin alfa, and methoxy polyethylene glycolepoetin beta (*Mircera*);
 - (b) insulins;
 - (c) growth hormones;
 - (d) insulin-like growth factor-1;
 - (e) substances listed in Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 of the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons* contained in the *Australian Poisons Standard*;
 - (f) selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMS);
 - (g) selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMS);
 - (h) selective opiate receptor modulators (SORMS);
 - (i) peroxisome proliferator activated receptor 8 (PPAR8) agonists, including but not limited to GW 1516;
 - (j) AMPK activators, including but not limited to AICAR (5-amino-1-β-D-ribofuranosyl-imidazole-4-carboxamide);
 - (k) other agents that directly or indirectly affect or manipulate gene expression;
 - (l) hypoxia inducible factor (HIF)-1 stabilisers, including but not limited to ITPP (myoinositol trispyrophosphate);
 - (m) agents modifying myostatin function, including but not limited to myostatin inhibitors;

- (n) oxygen carriers including but not limited to perfluorochemicals, efaproxiral and modified haemoglobin products;
 - (o) thymosin beta;
 - (p) venoms of any species or derivatives thereof;
 - (q) synthetic proteins and peptides and synthetic analogues of endogenous proteins and peptides not registered for medical or veterinary use;
 - (r) anabolic androgenic steroids (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid which is present at or below the relevant concentrations set out in Rule 188A(2));
 - (s) metabolites, artifacts and isomers of any of the substances specified in paragraphs (a) to (r);
- (3) The substances bufotenine, butorphanol, 3-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-4-hydroxyindole, N,N-dimethyltryptamine, Ketamine, methadone, morphine, pethidine and quinalbarbitone, and their metabolites, artifacts and isomers are excepted from the provisions of this Rule.
- (4) If any substance or preparation that could give rise to an offence under this rule if administered to a horse at any time is found at any time at any premises used in relation to the training or racing of horses then any owner, trainer or person who owns, trains or races or is in charge of horses at those premises is deemed to have the substance or preparation in their possession and such person shall be guilty of an offence.
- (5) It shall be a defence to a charge under sub-rule (4) for the person in possession of such substance or preparation to prove that the substance or preparation was prescribed to him, for use by him, by either a qualified medical practitioner or veterinarian.
- (6) Any person who attempts to obtain possession of a substance specified in sub-rule (2) or a metabolite, artifact or isomer of such substance, is guilty of an offence.

Rule 191A Plasma Carbon Dioxide Measurement

For the purposes of the Rules the plasma total carbon dioxide level in a horse shall be measured only by an approved instrument.

Rule 191 Evidentiary certificates

- (1) A certificate from a person or drug testing laboratory approved by the Controlling Body which certifies the presence of a prohibited substance in or on a horse at, or approximately at, a particular time, or in blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen tested, or that a prohibited substance had at some time been administered to a horse is prima facie evidence of the matters certified.

- (2) If another person or drug testing laboratory approved by the Controlling Body analyses a portion of the sample or specimen referred to in sub rule (1) and certifies the presence of a prohibited substance in the sample or specimen that certification together with the certification referred to in sub rule (1) is conclusive evidence of the presence of a prohibited substance.
- (3) A certificate furnished under this rule which relates to blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen taken from a horse at a meeting shall be prima facie evidence if sub rule (1) only applies, and conclusive evidence if both sub rules (1) and (2) apply, that the horse was presented for a race not free of prohibited substances.
- (4) A certificate furnished under this rule which relates to blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen taken from a horse shall be prima facie evidence if sub rule (1) only applies, and conclusive evidence if both sub rules (1) and (2) apply, that the prohibited substance was present in or on the horse at the time the blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen was taken from the horse.
- (5) Sub rules (1) and (2) do not preclude the presence of a prohibited substance in or on a horse, or in blood, urine, saliva, or other matter or sample or specimen, or the fact that a prohibited substance had at some time been administered to a horse, being established in other ways.
- (6) Sub rule (3) does not preclude the fact that a horse was presented for a race not free of prohibited substances being established in other ways.
- (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this rule, certificates do not possess evidentiary value nor establish an offence, where it is proved that the certification procedure or any act or omission forming part of or relevant to the process resulting in the issue of a certificate, was materially flawed.

Rule 94A Anabolic Steroid

- (1) This rule applies to all horses:
 - (a) born on or after 1st May 2014; and
 - (b) which are eligible to be registered under these Rules but have not yet been registered under these Rules.
- (2) The Stewards or other official appointed by the Controlling Body may, at any time, direct that a horse be produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.
- (3) Where a horse is not produced to provide a sample as directed pursuant to Rule 94A(2) that horse is ineligible to start in any race:
 - (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
 - (i) the date on which the horse, having been registered under these Rules, is allowed to start in a race; and

- (ii) the date on which the horse is in fact produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.
- (4) Where a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid which is present at or below the relevant concentrations set out in Rule 188A(2)), that horse is ineligible to start in any race:
- (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
 - (i) the date on which the horse, having been registered under these Rules, is allowed to start in a race; and
 - (ii) the date the relevant sample was taken; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.
- (5) Any person must, when directed by the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body, produce, or otherwise give full access to, the horse so that the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body may take or cause a sample to be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.
- (6) For the avoidance of doubt and without limitation, sub-rule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:
- (a) under the care or control of another person; and/or
 - (b) located at the property of another person.
- (7) Any person who fails to produce, or give full access to, a horse to provide a sample as required by sub-rule (5) is guilty of an offence.

Rule 190AA

- (1) A horse must not, in any manner, at any time, be administered an anabolic androgenic steroid.
- (2) Any person who:
 - (a) administers an anabolic androgenic steroid;
 - (b) attempts to administer an anabolic androgenic steroid;
 - (c) causes an anabolic androgenic steroid to be administered; and/or

- (d) is a party to the administration of, or an attempt to administer, an anabolic androgenic steroid, to a horse is guilty of an offence.
- (3) Where the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has, or is likely to have been, administered any anabolic androgenic steroid contrary to this rule, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any relevant race.
- (4) When a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid the horse is not permitted to start in any race:
- (a) for a minimum period of 12 months from the date of the collection of the sample in which an anabolic androgenic steroid was detected; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.
- (5) Any owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or person in charge of a horse registered under these Rules must, when directed by the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body, produce, or otherwise give full access to, the horse so that the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body may take or cause a sample to be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.
- (6) For the avoidance of doubt and without limitation, sub-rule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:
- (a) under the care or control of another person; and/or
 - (b) located at the property of another person.
- (7) Any person who fails to produce, or give full access to, a horse to provide a sample as required by sub-rule (5) is guilty of an offence.
- (8) In respect of a horse registered under these Rules, where an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or person in charge of a horse is in breach of sub-rule (5), the relevant horse will not be permitted to start in any race:
- (a) for a period of not less than 12 months following the day on which the horse is in fact produced to the Stewards, or full access to the horse is otherwise given to the Stewards, so that a sample may be taken and analysed for anabolic androgenic steroids; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.