HARNESS RACING AUSTRALIA

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AUSTRALIAN HARNESS RACING RULES
Rules Amendments - HRA approved 14 December 2018

DICTIONARY

Amend definition of "Therapeutic substance"

"Therapeutic substance" means a prohibited substance to which a screening limit applies and which is promulgated as such from time to time by Harness Racing Australia and published on the websites of Harness Racing Australia and a Controlling Body"

3. MEETING AND RACES

Appointed times

- **Amend Rule 41(1)**

41. (1) A horse entered to race at a meeting shall be within the stabling area of the race course at which the meeting is to be conducted 60 minutes before the scheduled start time of the race or such other time as determined by the Controlling Body.

4. LICENCES

Grant of Licences and Other Matters – Drivers Licence

- **Amend Rule 90A (1.9)(a)**

90A. (1.9) The holder of a driver's licence -

(a) Grade C, is licensed to drive at trials, to carry out track work and to drive at any meeting to prepare a horse to race at that meeting other than during the horse's immediate pre-race preliminary.

Grant of Licences and Other Matters – Stablehands Licence

- **Amend Rule 90A (3.4)(a)**

90A. (3.4) The holder of a stablehand's licence is licensed, under the supervision or instructions of a licensed trainer, to -

(a) Carry out track work;

Offences

- **Amend Rule 91(4)**

91. (4) A person who fails to comply with Rule 90A sub-rule (1.6) or sub-rules (2.3), (3.3) and (4.3) insofar as they relate to sub-rule (1.6) is guilty of an offence.

5. HORSES

Registration certificate – deregistration of a horse

- **Amend Rule 96A(4)(b)**

96A. (4) The owner, or trainer of the horse at the time of its death shall:-

(a) In the case of a horse which dies within 14 days of being entered for or participating in a trial or race notify the Controlling Body of the death within 24 hours of its occurrence.

(b) In any other case notify the Controlling Body of the death within 7 days of its occurrence.

Medical and surgical procedures

- **Amend Rule 100(2)**

100. (2) Notification under sub rule (1) shall be given within 7 days of the gelding or other procedure occurring, in writing or such other form as the Controlling Body may determine and, if the horse is named, notification shall be accompanied by the horse's registration certificate.

Bleeding Attacks

- **New Rule 101C**

101C. (1) If a horse suffers cardiac arrhythmia after a race the trainer shall immediately and in any event within 24 hours notify the Stewards.

(2) If the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has suffered cardiac arrhythmia the Stewards shall:

(a) After the first attack stand the horse down from racing for a period of 14 days, require the horse to undergo an ECG prior to a trial and then trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards.

(b) After the second attack stand the horse down from racing for a period of 28 days, require the horse to undergo an ECG before trialling and then trial on two occasions to the satisfaction of the Stewards.

(c) After the third attack, bar the horse for life.

Temporary transfer of horse

- **Amend Rule 119A(2)**

119A. (2) The period in which a horse may be left with another licensed trainer or another person shall not exceed 14 days from the date of approval.

7. STARTING

False Start

- **Amend Rule 141(1)**

141. (1) In mobile start races the starter may declare a false start if at or before the starting point a horse causes interference to another runner, falls, breaks gear or scores up in front of the gate or in an incorrect barrier position.

9. DRIVERS

relating to matters at the start and during the race

- **Amend Rule 163(2)**

163. (2) If a driver's horse or sulky shifts inside the line of marker posts, the driver shall restrain the horse and, without interference to another runner, return to a position outside the line of marker posts at the first opportunity.

relating to production of licence

- **Repeal Rule 172 (1), (2)**

172. (1) A driver shall produce his driver's licence to the Stewards on demand.

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

10. OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS

Lodgment

- **New Rule 176(6)**

176. (6) Where a protest has been lodged in accordance with this Rule and a horse or its driver causes interference to another horse or its driver and the Stewards are of the opinion that the horse interfered with would have finished ahead of the first mentioned horse had such interference not occurred they shall place the first mentioned horse immediately after the horse interfered with.

12. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

Determination of prohibited substance

- **Amend Rule 188A(1)(a)**

188A. (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
the integumentary system
the ocular system

- **New Rule 188B**

188B. (1) In relation to the testing for the presence of a therapeutic substance in a sample taken at any time from a horse there must be an initial screening test or screening analysis of the sample.

(2) As a minimum requirement, the initial screening test or screening analysis is to be conducted as follows:-

(a) A biological matrix, equivalent in volume to the sample, is to have added to it a quantity of the therapeutic substance, or its specified metabolite, sufficient to bring its concentration to the screening limit specified for that therapeutic substance. This is known as the spiked sample and is to be analysed concurrently with the sample.

(b) The sample is then to be tested to ascertain whether or not it contains a quantity of the therapeutic substance, or its specified metabolite, that exceeds the screening limit by making a direct comparison with the spiked sample.

(c) If the screening limit is not exceeded, the detection of the therapeutic substance is not to be reported.

(d) If the screening limit is exceeded then the sample is to be further tested in accordance with normal laboratory procedures designed to certify the presence of the therapeutic substance in the sample.

(3) A therapeutic substance for the purpose of this Rule and the screening limit applicable to it or its specified metabolite shall be promulgated from time to time by Harness Racing Australia and published on the websites of Harness Racing Australia and a Controlling Body.

(4) The screening limit testing provided for in this Rule is not intended and does not operate to mean that for the purpose of the Rules the therapeutic substance only becomes a prohibited substance if and when the screening limit is exceeded.

(5) It shall not be a defence to any charge under Rules 190, 190A, 190AA, 195 and 196A that the result of any initial screening test or screening analysis should have been below the screening limit for the therapeutic substance in question.

Out of Competition Testing

- **Amend Rule 190A(2)(c)**

190A. (2) For the purposes of sub-rule (1), the following substances are specified as prohibited substances:-

(c) growth hormones and their releasing factors;

Unregistered Substances

- **Amend Rule 194**

194. A person who administers, sells, supplies, distributes or attempts to administer, sell, supply or distribute any substance or preparation that has not been registered, labeled, prescribed or obtained in compliance with relevant State and Commonwealth Legislation is guilty of an offence.

Administering Substances

- **Amend Rule 196C(3)**
- **Amend Rule 196(C)(4)**
- **Renumber existing Rule 196C(4) to 196C(5)**

196C. (3) Where the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has or is likely to have been administered any alkalinising agent contrary to sub-rule (1) the horse shall either be withdrawn or disqualified from the race.

(4) Alkalinising agent:-

(a) Means any substance that may elevate the plasma total carbon dioxide (TCO2) of a horse when administered by any route.

(b) Includes but is not limited to substances that are bicarbonates, citrates, succinates, acetates, propionates, maleates, lactates and trometamol (THAM, Tris Buffer or Trometamine) and also include products marked as urinary alkalinises and hind gut buffers.

(c) Does not subject to sub-rule (d) hereof include substances that are alkalinising agents which are contained in commercial feeds and/or balanced commercial electrolytes supplements which when fed and consumed according to the manufacturer's recommendations for normal daily use, which Stewards are satisfied have a negligible effect on plasma TCO2.

(d) Any exemption from the definition of alkalinising agent granted under this rule does not constitute a defence to a charge laid against a person following the detection by an official racing laboratory of a TCO2 concentration in a horse in excess of the threshold described by Rule 188.

(5) For the purposes of this Rule:-

one clear day means the twenty four (24) hour period from 12.01 a.m. to 12 midnight.

14. GENERAL OFFENCES

Racecourses

- **Amend Rule 202**

202. A person shall not drive a horse unless that person holds a driving licence, training licence or a stablehand licence or other licence authorising that activity.

- **Amend Rule 203**

203. A person shall not train a horse unless that person holds a training licence.

- **Amend Rule 204**

204. A person shall not carry out the duties of a stablehand unless that person holds a trainer's, driver's or stablehand's licence.

Horses

- **New Rule 218A**

218A. (1) A person shall not mistreat a horse.

(2) For the purposes of this rule "mistreat" means to abuse or treat a horse badly, cruelly or unfairly.

- **New Rule 218B**

218B. (1) A person in charge of a horse presented to race which on the racecourse has been found to be suffering a condition or received veterinary treatment shall not be removed from the racecourse without the express permission of the Stewards.

(2) A trainer, or the person in charge, who removes a horse from the racecourse in contravention of sub-rule (1) is guilty of an offence.

Association with disqualified persons

- **Amend Rule 230**

230. Except with the consent of the Controlling Body a person shall not associate or communicate for purposes relating to the harness racing industry with a disqualified person or a person whose name appears in the current list of disqualifications published or adopted by a recognised harness racing authority.

Illegal betting

- **New Rule 235B**

235B. (1) A trainer shall not place a bet on another horse in a race in which he has a starter.

(2) A trainer shall not place a bet on a horse in a race to finish ahead of a horse trained by that trainer in the race.

16. DISQUALIFIED PERSONS

Restrictions

- **Amend Rule 259(1)(a)**
- **New Rule 259(1)(k)**

259. (1) A disqualified person or a person whose name appears in the current list of disqualifications published or adopted by a recognised harness racing authority or a person warned off cannot do any of the following -

(a) associate or communicate with persons connected with the harness racing industry for purposes relating to that industry;

(b) be a member or employee of the Controlling Body;

(c) be an office holder, official, member or employee of a club;

(d) enter a racecourse or any place under the control of a club or Controlling Body;

(e) race, lease, train, drive or nominate a horse;

(f) conduct breeding activities;

(g) enter any premises used for the purposes of the harness racing industry;

(h) participate in any manner in the harness racing industry;

(i) permit or authorise any person to conduct any activity associated with the harness racing industry at his/her registered training establishment;

(j) place, or have placed on their behalf, or have any other interest in, a bet on any Australian harness racing race.

(k) associate with licensed persons connected with the thoroughbred or greyhound racing industry including but not limited to entering any premises owned or occupied by such licensed persons.

Disqualification by conviction

- **Amend Rule 267(2)**

267. (2) Where a person is convicted of a crime or offence in any State or Territory of Australia or in any country and sentenced to a period of imprisonment Stewards shall disqualify that person for a period that is at least equivalent to the actual sentence imposed..

17. EQUIPMENT AND COLOURS

Offences

- **Amend Rule 273(2)**

273. (2) A person shall not present to start or start a horse in a race in gear which in the opinion of the Stewards is:-

(a) Incorrectly fitted

(bi) Insecure

(c) Of interior quality

(d) In poor order or condition

(e) Of insufficient strength and quality to cope with the stresses likely to imposed on it in a race.

Summary of Amendments – HRA approved 14 December 2018

DICTIONARY
Amend definition of "Therapeutic substance"

RULES AMENDED
41(1), 90A(1.9)(a), 90A(3.4)(a), 91(4), 96A(4)(b), 100(2), 119A(2), 141(1), 163(2), 188A(1)(a), 190A(2)(c), 194, 196C(3), 196C(4), 202, 203, 204, 230, 259(1)(a), 267(2), 273(2)

NEW RULES / SUB-RULES
101C, 176(6), 188B, 218A, 218B, 235B, 259(1)(k)

RULES REPEALED
172(1), (2),

RULES RENUMBERED
196C(4) to 196C(5)

SCREENING LIMITS
FOR THERAPEUTIC SUBSTANCES

For the purposes of AHHR Rule 188B, it is hereby notified that screening limits applicable to the following therapeutic substances, as approved by Harness Racing Australia, are set out as follows:

- Acepromazine – 0.02 nanograms per millilitre (ng/mL) in plasma
- Acepromazine – 10ng/mL of the 2-(1-hydroxyethyl) promazine sulphoxide metabolite in urine
- Betamethasone – 0.20ng/mL in urine
- Butorphanol – 0.01ng/mL in plasma
- Butorphanol – 1ng/mL in urine
- Carprofen – 100ng/mL in plasma
- Carprofen – 100ng/mL in urine
- Dantrolene – 1ng/mL of the 5-hydroxydantrolene metabolite in unhydrolysed urine
- Detomidine – 0.02ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxydetomidine metabolite in plasma
- Detomidine - 2ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxydetomidine metabolite in urine
- Dexamethasone – 0.2ng/mL in urine
- Diclofenac – 50ng/mL in urine
- Dipyrone – 1000ng/mL of the 4-methylaminoantipyrine metabolite in urine
- Eltenac – 50ng/mL in urine
- Flunixin -1ng/mL in plasma
- Flunixin – 100ng/mL in urine
- Frusemide – 0.1ng/mL in plasma
- Frusemide – 50ng/mL in urine
- Hyoscine butylbromide (or n-butylscopolammonium) – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- Hyoscine butylbromide (or n-butylscopolammonium) – 25 ng/mL in urine
- Ipratropium – 0.25ng/mL in urine
- Ketoprofen – 100ng/mL in urine
- Lignocaine – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- Lignocaine – 10-ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxylignocaine metabolite in urine
- Meclofenamic acid – 5ng/mL in plasma
- Meclofenamic acid – 250ng/mL in urine
- Medetomidine - 0.02ng/mL of 3'-hydroxymedetomidine in plasma
- Medetomidine – 5ng/mL of 3'-hydroxymedetomidine in urine
- Meloxicam – 1ng/mL in plasma
- Meloxicam – 10ng/mL in urine
- Mepivacaine – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- Mepivacaine – 10ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxymepivacaine metabolite in urine

- Methocarbamol – 100ng/mL in urine (when restricted to a single oral or IV treatment of no more than 5 grams of methocarbamol)
- Naproxen – 250ng/mL in urine
- Phenylbutazone – 100ng/mL in plasma
- Phenylbutazone – 100 ng/mL in urine
- Romifidine – 1ng/mL in urine
- Salbutamol – 0.5ng/mL in urine
- Triamcinolone acetonide – 0.5ng/mL in urine
- Vedaprofen – 50ng/mL in urine

Date of Effect: 14 December 2018