

2011 Equine Health and Safety Report

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October 13, 2011

Equine Health and Safety Report

Purpose:

- To review veterinary practices, equine health & medication;
- To present data regarding equine medication & treatment; and recommendations; and
- To provide our stakeholders an opportunity to comment on equine health & safety, medication, and veterinary practices.

Stewards' Rulings Medication Violations at Emerald Downs

Violation	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overages on permitted medications	15	12	11	10	3	4
Presence of prohibited substances	3	3	5	3	0	1
Improper medication administration	4	3	2	2	0	0
Failure to deliver forms on time	1	2	0	0	0	0
Presence of contraband items	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	24	20	18	15	3	5

Stewards' Rulings Medication Violations at the Nonprofit Racetracks

Violation	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overages on permitted medications	3	0	3	2	0	0
Presence of prohibited substances	0	1	1	0	0	0
Improper medication administration	0	0	0	0	0	0
Failure to deliver forms on time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Presence of contraband items	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	1	4	2	0	0

Status at Time of Fatality

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Racing	10	8	18	10	14	11	16	9	10
Starting Gate	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Training	8	3	8	8	11	11	8	12	5
Paddock	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1*
Barn	13	8	7	9	9	14	10	10	9
Total	31	20	33	28	35	36	35	31	25

Racing Days, Training Days, Races & Starters 2002 - 2010

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Racing Days	91	90	101	90	91	91	91	90	82
Training Days	231	231	258	238	241	240	238	221	208
Races	830	813	925	822	824	827	815	772	728
Starters	6,069	5,894	7,237	6,456	6,252	6,362	6,058	5,429	4,898
Racing Fatalities	10	9	18	11	15	11	16	9	10
Fatalities/1,000 Starts	1.65	1.53	2.49	1.70	2.40	1.73	2.64	1.65	2.04

Outstanding 2009 & 2010 Staff Recommendations

- Adoption of model medication & penalty rules – *(No Action)*;
- Explore rulemaking for out-of-competition testing *(No Action)*;
- Require continuing education & testing of owners, trainers, & grooms – *(No Action)*;
- Rulemaking regarding claimed horses breaking down during racing & impact to the original owner *(No Action)*;

2011 Staff Recommendations

- *Participate in industry task force to explore causes & methods to prevent catastrophic breakdowns of racehorses;*
- *Remind trainers about the need to keep a good history on horses' winter activities (or non- activity), especially three year olds – to help prevent humerus fractures; and*
- *Adopt Model Rules for Equine Medications, including lowering the threshold for phenylbutazone to two (2) micrograms per milliliter.*