

2012 Equine Health and Safety Report

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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	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Overages on permitted medications	12	11	10	3	4	5
Presence of prohibited substances	3	5	3	0	1	0
Improper medication administration	3	2	2	0	0	0
Failure to deliver forms on time	2	0	0	0	0	0
Presence of contraband items	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	18	15	3	5	5

Stewards' Rulings

Medication Violations at the Nonprofit Racetracks

Violation	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Overages on permitted medications	0	3	2	0	0	2
Presence of prohibited substances	1	1	0	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	1	4	2	0	0	2

Status at Time of Fatality

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Racing	8	18	10	14	11	16	9	10	8
Starting Gate	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Training	3	8	8	11	11	8	12	5	4
Paddock	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1*	0
Barn	8	7	9	9	14	10	10	9	8
Total	20	33	28	35	36	35	31	25	20

Racing Days, Training Days, Races & Starters 2004 - 2012

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Racing Days	90	101	90	91	91	91	90	82	81
Training Days	231	258	238	241	240	238	221	208	187
Races	813	925	822	824	827	815	772	728	690
Starters	5,894	7,237	6,456	6,252	6,362	6,058	5,429	4,898	4,390
Racing Fatalities	9	18	11	15	11	16	9	10	8
Fatalities/1,000 Starts	1.53	2.49	1.70	2.40	1.73	2.64	1.65	2.04	1.82

Results of Blood Screening in 2012

- Began direct instrumental screening in 2012;
- 2012 to be an educational year;
- Had six post race sample containing low concentrations of Class 4 substances:
 - (1) Carbazochrome – bleeder medication and
 - (5) Methylprednisolone – corticosteroid
- Involved four trainers.

Outstanding 2009 thru 2011 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*);

2012 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.*