

2014 Equine Health and Safety Report

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October 7, 2014

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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Overages on permitted medications	10	3	4	5	8	1
Presence of prohibited substances	3	0	1	0	0	0
Improper medication administration	2	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	15	3	5	5	8	1

Stewards' Rulings

Medication Violations at the Nonprofit Racetracks

Violation	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Overages on permitted medications	2	0	0	2	0	2
Presence of prohibited substances	0	0	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	2	0	0	2	0	2

Status at Time of Fatality

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Racing	10	14	11	16	9	10	8	8	5
Starting Gate	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training	8	11	11	8	12	5	4	4	8
Paddock	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Barn	9	9	14	10	10	9	8	4	4
Total	28	35	36	35	31	35	20	16	17

Racing Days, Training Days, Races & Starters 2006 - 2014

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Racing Days	90	91	91	91	90	82	81	75	73
Training Days	238	241	240	238	221	208	187	218	215
Races	822	824	827	815	772	778	690	665	641
Starters	6,456	6,252	6,362	6,058	5,429	4,898	4,390	4,427	4,022
Racing Fatalities	11	15	11	16	9	10	8	8	5
Fatalities/1,000 Starts	1.70	2.40	1.73	2.64	1.65	2.04	1.80	1.81	1.24

Outstanding 2010 thru 2014 Staff Recommendations

- Adoption of model medication & penalty rules – (Adopted new threshold moving closer to ARCI recommendations);
- Explore rulemaking for out-of-competition testing (*Should the WHRC have authority at off-site facilities - pending*);
- Require continuing education & testing of owners, trainers, & grooms – (*No Formal Action, HBPA offering voluntary CE*);
- Rulemaking regarding claimed horses breaking down during racing & impact to the original owner (*No Action*);
- 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. - (*No Action*)

2014 Staff Recommendations

- *Continue to move toward ARCI and RMTC model rules regarding therapeutic medications, moved closer in 2014, but changes should be made as research becomes available.*
- *All split sample labs should be double accredited, (ISO 17025 and RMTC), to ensure testing is at the same level as primary lab.*