

## **Washington Horse Racing Commission Temporary Policy Statement 2020-01**

### Equine Testing

Due to the current COVID-19 health crisis and in order to minimize exposure to all licensees, the Washington Horse Racing Commission has adopted this policy statement which will reduce the number of licensees in the test barn at one time.

The Washington Horse Racing Commission views the controlled medication testing program as vital to the integrity of the industry. In its enforcement of this program, the commission directs its regulatory officials to utilize all methods under their authority to ensure the controlled medication testing program is effective in detecting the use of prohibited medications or levels of medications, either authorized or prohibited.

WAC 260-70-590 specifies that the official winning horse and any other horse ordered by the stewards or official veterinarian must be taken to the test barn and may be selected to have a blood and/or urine sample taken. The stewards or official veterinarian may select horses for testing utilizing the following process.

During the 2020 and 2021 race meets at Emerald Downs:

1. All horses finishing first in a race will be sent to the test barn.
2. All horses finishing first and second in any stake race will be sent to the test barn and a sample will be taken and sent for testing.
3. At the stewards' or official veterinarians' discretion, additional horses may be sent to the test barn for testing.

The Board of Stewards or the official veterinarian will ensure the trainer, or their representative, of the horse selected is notified and directed to have his/her horse immediately report to the test barn to provide a sample.

Horses that fail to provide a urine sample within one hour of arriving in the test barn will have a blood sample taken and then released. No more than four horses will be in the test barn at one time. For all claimed horses for which the successful claimant requests a test be taken, a blood sample will be taken and the horse will then be released.

Positives reported with blood samples only will be reviewed by the Equine Medical Director and recommendations as to the severity or significance of the substance will be provided to the Board of Stewards in determining if a penalty is warranted.

#### Adopted by the Washington Horse Racing Commission

June 12, 2020

This policy will be effective for the 2020 race meet at which time it will revert back Policy Statement 2006-04.

Amended by the Washington Horse Racing Commission

April 9, 2021

Effective date extended to December 31, 2021.