

SHOW HORSE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIA INC.
GUIDELINES FOR DRUG TESTING – 2nd March 2010

These Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the S.H.C. of Australasia Inc. Competition Rules & any special Conditions/Regulations that apply to the Show/ Event in which any horse (selected for Drug Testing) is competing.

It is the aim of the Show Horse Council that at Official Events, horses compete in equitable conditions on their merits, without the aid of any Drug or Prohibited Substance that would affect the conduct, performance or appearance of the horse.

These Guidelines have been drawn up to provide information to the persons concerned at the time drug testing is conducted, to clearly appreciate their responsibilities and understand the procedures involved in Drug Testing/Sampling of any horse that competes in any show conducted in accordance with SHC Rules.

The term “Prohibited Substance” means any substance (or any isomer, metabolite and/or analogue produced from the substance) originating externally to the horse (whether or not endogenous to the horse) and capable of affecting the performance or behaviour of a horse. Any PERFORMANCE AFFECTING Substance is deemed a PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE. It is a contravention of S.H.C.Rules, where a horse is Drug Tested by the SHC & the analysis of the samples taken from the horse shows the presence of a prohibited substance in any of its tissues, body fluids or excreta.

The term “Responsible Officer” applies to the person considered responsible in relation to a horse’s entry and/or competition in a show (event/class), this person (or his/her Representative) must be 18 years of age or over (refer S.H.C. Competition Rules).

A Veterinarian shall be approved for drug testing exhibit/s at any official SHC Show/Event. The attending Vet shall be responsible for the procurement of samples for drug testing.

The Swab Steward/s shall be approved by the Show Horse Council. The Swab Steward shall supervise the selection of the horses to be swabbed & assist the Vet in procuring samples for drug testing & completion of related documents & records.

The appointment of the Analytical Laboratory for analysis of samples shall be at the discretion of the SHC or where applicable the Show Organising Committee.

SELECTION - The organising Committee may determine specific &/or random selection of any competing horse/exhibit for drug testing. The Ground Jury, &/or Swab Steward/s & /or Testing Veterinarian may at any time during an Event/Show select any horse/exhibit for drug testing.

Once a horse has been selected for sampling, the Swab Steward or an appointed Official will inform the Rider/Handler of the horse, that the horse is to be drug tested. From that time the Responsible Officer (or his/her Representative - refer S.H.C. Competition Rules) must accompany the horse directly to the sampling area (stall) and remain with the horse until the process has been completed.

SAMPLING PROCEDURES – The Responsible Officer (or Representative) of the horse, should

& is entitled to witness the sampling procedure. Disinclination to witness after being informed will be considered as agreement to the procedure. Any refusal by the Responsible Officer (or Representative) to submit a horse for sampling or refusal to sign any relevant documents will be considered as a refusal to submit the horse for sampling & penalties will apply. Any objection to procedure by either party must be recorded

The Analytical Laboratory's Guidelines/Protocol for Sample Collection shall be adhered to during collection of samples.

Testing of horses will include the taking of blood &/or urine samples. All sampling will be supervised by the Veterinarian & the Swab Steward. The Witness should pay strict attention to the swabbing procedures during the collection of samples.

A reasonable time will be allowed for a urine sample to be provide, however, it shall be at the discretion of the Testing Veterinarian &/or the Swab Steward when a urine sample is not provided within a reasonable time a Blood sample will be obtained.

Samples collected for analysis are the responsibility of the Testing Veterinarian.

ANALYSIS

The samples taken from the horse will be dispatched by the attending Veterinarian, directly to the Analytical Laboratory for analysis. The analysis of Samples shall be completed as soon as possible on receipt by the Laboratory, if the result of the A Sample is Negative, samples will not be kept.

Upon a confirmed analysis to the detection to a Prohibited Substance in the samples taken from a horse, the matter will proceed on to the SHC Disputes/Disciplinary Committee, a written Report will be sent to the Responsible Officer of the horse notifying of the finding & any proceedings that may follow.

There shall be no contact between The Responsible Officer or other connections of the horse with the Testing Laboratory during the analysis process.

The detection to a Prohibited Substance in a Sample will require a confirmatory analysis, whereupon the Laboratory will nominate another official Laboratory and refer to it the B sample (or reserve portion) and except in the case of a blood sample, the control of same, together with the advice as to the identity of the prohibited substance detected.

In the event of the other Laboratory detecting the same prohibited substance (or metabolite, isomer or artifacts of the same substance) in the B sample (or reserved portion) and not in the referred portion of the control, the certified findings of both Laboratories shall be evidence upon which may be found that a prohibited substance had been administered to the horse from which the sample was taken.

A Report on the Analysis of any Positive Sample will be sent to the Responsible Officer. Should the analysis of Samples prove Negative no further action will be taken.

Where a positive result to a Prohibited Substance is confirmed, the cost of analysis of Samples by (both) Laboratories will be borne by the Responsible Officer.

It is recommended CONFIDENTIALITY should be observed by all parties while any matter concerning drug testing results is under review or prior to final ratification by the SHC.