

## Memorandum

**TO:** Minnesota Horse Racing Participants, Racing Commissioners, Commission Staff and Contractors, and Members of the Public

**FROM:** Lynn Hovda, Chief Commission Veterinarian

**SUBJECT:** New Rules in Effect March 28, 2020

The Minnesota Racing Commission has updated its rules with input from all of you. Rules promulgated this year became effective March 28, 2020. The complete text of the rule changes is attached to this memorandum.

Following is a brief summary of the important changes:

### **7869.0100 Definitions**

A definition for “digital tattoo” or “tattooed digitally”, used to identify Thoroughbred racehorses, has been added so everyone knows what is involved.

### **7869.0200 Incorporation by Reference**

The Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Uniform Classification Guidelines Model rule has been incorporated by reference. For those who are interested, a copy of the current model rule is available in the State Legislative Reference Library and on the MRC website.

The Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Uniform Classification Multiple Medication Violation Model rule has been incorporated by reference. For those who are interested, a copy of the current model rule is available in the State Law Library and on the MRC website.

### **7876.0100 On-Track Stabling**

Trainers must notify the commission veterinarian if a horse has been treated with a bisphosphonate drug within the last 6 months. Treated horses will be put on the veterinarian’s list.

### **7876.0110 Off-Track Stabling**

Trainers must notify the commission veterinarian if a horse shipping in from another racetrack or training facility has been treated with a bisphosphonate drug within the last 6 months. Treated horses will be put on the veterinarian’s list.

### **7877.0130 Standards Required of Applicants for Specific Licenses**

Individual owners and multiple owners are consenting to sharing prerace examination data and injury data with The Jockey Club.

Criteria for licensing as an equine masseuse are provided as well as establishment of a specific licensing category for an equine masseuse.

### **7877.0170 Duties and Responsibilities of Class C Licenses**

Trainers are now responsible for keeping complete written treatment records of horses under their care. Information of what needs to be included in the record is provided as well as a requirement for records dating back 14 days for any horse shipping in or not under the trainer's control for 14 days.

Records following a claimed horse now include all medications, treatment, and intra-articular injections given within the previous 30 days.

Additional information for licensing as an equine masseuse is provided. Daily treatment logs must be kept by an equine masseuse and provided to the commission veterinarian when requested.

### **7877.0175 Duties and Responsibilities of Racing Officials**

The racing secretary must be sure that Thoroughbred foal certificates for 2-year-old horses or those foaled after 2018 have a digital tattoo.

### **7877.0180 Conflicts**

No equine masseuse can bet on a racehorse while licensed by the MRC.

### **7883.0100 Entries and Subscriptions**

A horse on the Steward's list or Veterinarian's list in any racing jurisdiction cannot start until it has been removed from that list.

A horse on the starter's list or paddock judge's list in any racing jurisdiction cannot start while on the list. It can be removed from the list by a racing official in Minnesota or an official in the racing jurisdiction where it was put on the list.

Any horse that has received a bisphosphonate drug within the past 6 months may not be entered.

If a four-year-old and older horse is a first-time starter it must have gate approval and at least 3 timed workouts so it can enter. One of those workouts must be an official timed workout in front of the commission veterinarian with medication testing similar to race day.

### **7833.0140 Claiming Races**

A claim made on a horse may be reversed by the Stewards if the horse shows signs of a musculoskeletal injury, lameness or problems with the heart or lungs within an hour of racing. This includes cardiac arrhythmias and bleeding from the nostrils.

If a mare or filly is bred and in foal, it may not be entered in any claiming race.

### **7883.0160 Post To Finish**

Either a microchip or a digital or physical tattoo is required for a horse to start in a race.

### **7884.0120 Eligibility and Entering**

USTA eligibility certificates specific for Standardbred horses may be filed either physically or electronically.

In addition to other lists (qualifying, starter's schooling, steward's, bleeder's) Standardbred horses on the paddock judge's list in any racing jurisdiction may not be entered.

A Standardbred racehorse treated with any bisphosphonate drug within the past 6 months cannot be entered.

### **7884.0210 Claiming Races**

A claim made on a Standardbred racehorse may be reversed by the Stewards if the horse shows signs of a musculoskeletal injury, lameness or problems with the heart or lungs within an hour of racing. This includes cardiac arrhythmias and bleeding from the nostrils.

### **7890.0100 Definitions**

This language clearly defines a bisphosphonate drug.

The use of one of three approved NSAID drugs (phenylbutazone or "bute", flunixin, and ketoprofen) has been moved to 48 hours and the thresholds changed. The new thresholds are: phenylbutazone 0.3 mcg/mL of serum, flunixin 5 ng/mL of serum, and ketoprofen 2 ng/mL of serum. No other NSAID may be administered within 48 hours of racing. NO thresholds are provided for the use of other NSAIDs. In addition, the post-race (serum and urine) or official timed workout test sample may contain only one NSAID.

Oral vitamins and electrolytes may be given to a horse on race day, but they cannot contain sodium bicarbonate or any other alkalizing agent.

### **7890.0110 Medications and Practices Prohibited**

The use of a hair sample has been added to substances used for postrace analysis.

A nasogastric tube may not be possessed by anyone other than a veterinarian. To avoid confusion a nasogastric tube has been defined as a hose or tube more than 12 inches in length with a ¼ inch diameter.

A horse treated with shock wave therapy may not race or have a timed workout within 10 days of treatment.

The use of intra-articular corticosteroids is limited to one of four corticosteroids (betamethasone, isoflupredone, methylprednisolone, and triamcinolone) with thresholds and dosing specifications provided in the MRC version of the ARCI Controlled Therapeutic Medication Schedule. Only one corticosteroid may be present in the postrace sample.

#### **7890.0140 Bleeders**

To be classified as a “bleeder”, blood must be visible externally coming from one or both nostrils.

Horses observed bleeding for a fourth time within the last 365 days will be placed on the veterinarians list and will be permanently ineligible to race in Minnesota.

The provision for additional furosemide up to a maximum dose of 500mg has been removed from the rules. The intravenous dose is now from 150mg to 250mg administered a minimum of 4 hours prior to race time.

#### **7891.0100 Racing Soundness Examination**

While the commission veterinarian maintains a health and racing soundness record of each horse that has been entered to race, these are not considered to be a veterinary medical record.

#### **7891.0120 Mortality Review Committee**

A committee has been established to investigate the death of each horse at each racetrack that occurs during training or racing. Participation and submission of trainer treatment records are required unless excused by the Chief Steward.

#### **7892.0120 Taking of Samples**

The report of a positive test in a horse after random testing is deemed a positive sample and the horse will be placed on the veterinarian’s list.

Substances on the ARCI prohibited substance list are added to those used in out of competition testing. Should a positive finding be reported, the horse will be placed on the veterinarian’s list.

Hair samples may be collected at any time after a horse is entered to race and submitted as a post-race sample.

Samples for TCO<sub>2</sub> analysis (milk shaking) may be analyzed on site or submitted to the MRC contract laboratory.

Payment no longer has to accompany a split sample. Trainers requesting split sample analysis are able to contact the laboratory with a credit card or other means of payment prior to the sample being shipped.

A request for split sample analysis on a TCO<sub>2</sub> or hair sample must be made before or at the same time the original sample is taken.

#### **7897.0100 Prohibited Acts**

No bisphosphonate drug may be possessed by anyone on the grounds.