

# DHPC RULEBOOK

APPROVED AT JUNE 2020 AGM

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## PREAMBLE

These Rules have been enacted and are hereby declared to be the rules of the Driving Horse & Pony Club of Bermuda (DHPC). The rules shall apply to and govern the conduct of racing and related matters by officials, trainers, drivers and members of the DHPC.

These are the official rules of the DHPC as of 29 June 2020, at the AGM of the membership. They include all addendums to the rules up to that date, all rules prior to this date are now rescinded and replaced with this current Rulebook. A complete copy of the Rule Book and any Amendments must be posted on the D.H.P.C website for all members to access at any time and a hard copy must be kept in the Judge's Box.

Any situation not covered by the Rules shall be decided by the Judge of the day. If a new rule is deemed necessary it will be put to the Rules Committee and voted on at an SGM or the following AGM.

A fair and reasonable racing opportunity shall be afforded for all horses.

## SECTION 1 - DRIVERS

### **1.1 –Driver's Conduct**

All drivers must obey Judge, Stewards and Starter's orders.

Any form of disrespect by a driver to any judge, presiding or otherwise, will result in immediate suspension from the race day and he/she will be referred to the Disciplinary Chairman.

The following shall constitute and may be reason for a fine and/or suspension:

- A. A driver not being at the paddock and ready to parade at post time, without the permission of the Presiding Judge. **FINE \$5**
- B. Ponies not being at the track one hour prior to post time. Fines must be paid before the pony can race. **FINE \$25**
- C. Failure to obey the judge's orders
- D. Failure to drive when programmed unless excused by judges
- E. Fighting
- F. Assaults
- G. Offensive or profane language
- H. Disturbing the peace
- I. Drinking intoxicating beverages or being under the influence of drugs. Strictly no alcohol or drugs shall be used by any driver. Any driver considered as being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be barred from driving that race day, will be asked to leave the premises and will face disciplinary proceedings.
- J. Smoking while on the track
- K. Shouting contempt towards the Judges, other drivers or any other person on the track
- L. Kicking the pony
- M. Not keeping both feet in the stirrups from call to post until the finish of the race, unless permission is granted by the presiding judge to do otherwise
- N. A driver not keeping their hands in their grips until the pony goes through the start line.

All persons who have been fined under the rules shall be suspended from racing until the fine is paid in full.



If, in the opinion of the Judges, a driver is for any reason unfit or incompetent to drive, refuses to comply with the directions of the Judges, or is reckless in conduct and endangers the safety of pony or other drivers in a race, the driver may be removed, suspended, or expelled.

### **1.2 – Drivers’ Meeting**

If a drivers’ meeting is deemed necessary by the Committee it will be announced in the racing schedule at least 24 hours before race day, unless there is an emergency. All drivers must attend the drivers’ meeting which will be held promptly 45 minutes before post time. If you are not able to attend a meeting you must inform a Committee Member prior to the meeting. There will be a fine for drivers who do not attend the meeting. **FINE \$10**

### **1.3 – Licenses**

All drivers must have a current DHPC driver’s license in order to drive in a Club race. Driver’s licenses may be obtained from the Club Secretary for a fee. No licenses will be given to members who are not paid members of the Bermuda Equestrian Federation (BEF).

Junior drivers must be tested by a tester appointed by the Executive Committee before a driver’s license will be issued.

### **1.4 – Rookie Drivers**

A rookie driver is a new driver to the Vesey Street track. Rookie drivers will be considered such for their entire first season.

Rookie drivers will have a probationary period and must start in the outside position for a minimum of four heats over at least two different race meets. Once these heats have been completed the Executive Committee will make a decision on the rookie driver starting in the regular position.

During the probationary period, rookie drivers are not permitted to use a whip.

## **SECTION 2 – RACE ENTRIES**

### **2.1 – Information on Entries**

The following constitutes a valid race entry:

- A. DHPC Entry Form must be duly completed and signed by the due date provided by the Executive Committee.
- B. The applicable entry fee must be paid in full prior to the event.
- C. All entries received or paid for after the DHPC entry deadline will be considered a post entry and a post entry fee will be incurred.
- D. Declarations to start/entries shall state who will drive the pony. No driver may be changed without first notifying the Judge.

## **SECTION 3 – RACING & TRACK RULES**

### **3.1 – Attire**

- A. Colours – All drivers must wear jackets or silks with at least two colours and white trousers. Trousers may have the option of a coloured stripe(s).
- B. Helmets and Eye Protection – All drivers must wear helmets with chin straps in place, as well as some form of eye protection while on the track during warm up or a race meet.

### **3.2 Wheels**

All spoked wheels must be covered with wheel covers.

### **3.3– Cones**

Drivers will be judged by the following rules:

- A. Drivers will be allowed two free hits of no more than 3 consecutive cones per heat. The third hit during the same heat will be subject to a fine. **FINE \$5**
- B. Hits do not carry over into other races.
- C. Ponies going inside of the cones will constitute immediate disqualification with an automatic fine unless in the avoidance of an accident and is deemed necessary by the presiding Judge.

### **3.4 - Whips and Whipping**

Only the use of an ordinary whip used in harness racing and held by the handle is allowed. The whip may not exceed 36” in length. Its snapper may not exceed 6” in length, for a total of 42” in length and black in color.

All whipping must be done within the shafts, and must be appropriate. At the discretion of the Judges, brutal or indiscriminate use of the whip is prohibited and is punishable by fine or suspension.

Drivers will be judged by the following rules:

- A. Constantly hitting the shafts and whipping outside of the shafts will not be tolerated.
- B. No one handed whipping is allowed behind the start car.
- C. Once the pony goes through the start, drivers are allowed to one-handed whip two times. These whips must be done before the finish line on the first lap.
- D. Drivers are not allowed to one-handed whip again until the last lap and will be allowed to start where the “appropriate headgear” sign is posted on the corner of the collecting ring (across from the paddock area). The driver will only be allowed 5 one-handed hits from this position to the finish line. A fine will be imposed for hitting outside of the allowed positions. **FINE \$25 for the first offense, the fine will double for each subsequent offense throughout the race season.**
- E. Excessive whipping will not be tolerated. For excessive whipping (more than the 5 allowed hits) a higher fee will be imposed. **FINE \$50**
- F. If a driver is fined for the same infraction of excessive whipping more than once on a race day, each time the driver is fined the amount will double.
- G. A driver will be suspended for one (1) race day after the second offence of item E above.

### **3.5– Behaviour of Horses during a Race**

The lead pony is entitled to any part of the track; however, neither the driver of the first pony nor any other driver in the race may do any of the following things:

- A. Change either to the right or left during any part of the race when another pony is so near that, in altering position, the pony behind is compelled to shorten stride or its driver must pull the pony out of stride.
- B. Jostle, strike, hook wheels, or interfere with another pony or driver.
- C. Cross sharply in front of a pony or cross over in front of a field of ponies in a reckless manner, endangering other drivers
- D. Crowd a pony or driver by putting a wheel under the pony, or their pony's head over the other driver's shoulder.
- E. Take up abruptly in front of another pony so as to cause confusion or interference among the other ponies.
- F. Let another pony pass on the inside needlessly, or commit any other act which constitutes what is popularly known as helping.
- G. Commit any act which shall impede the progress of another pony, or cause that pony to break.
- H. Swerve/bear in or out in such a manner that interferes with another pony, causes that pony to change course, or causes that pony to take back.
- I. Drive in a careless or reckless manner.

If for any cause (other than being interfered with) a pony fails to finish after starting a heat, that pony shall be ruled out.

### **3.6 - Erratic Behaviour**

Any pony that does any of the following is automatically disqualified:

- A. Turns around, then turns back and finishes course
- B. Goes off the track, then returns to finish the course unless deemed necessary to avoid an accident by the presiding judge
- C. Stops, the driver gets off the sulky, returns to the sulky, and finishes the course

### **3.7 - Protests**

All complaints/protests by drivers of foul driving or other misconduct during the heat must be made at the termination of the heat, unless the driver is prevented from doing so by accident or injury. Any driver desiring to protest or enter a complaint of any violation of the rules must, before dismounting, indicate this desire to one of the Corner Judges. The Judge shall not call the race official until such protest, objection, or complaint has been entered and considered.

### **3.8 - Appeals**

If a driver wishes to appeal the Judge's final decision on a race, they must go to the Race Secretary, fill out an official protest form, and submit the form with their \$50 appeal fee within 30 minutes of the disputed race being called official. Appeals will be heard by a committee of three people chosen by the Appeals Chairman.

### **3.9 – Positions for the Heats**

No less than three members of the Executive Committee must participate in the drawing of race positions. A maximum of four ponies per heat will be drawn. The drawn order for the first heat will be reversed for the second heat (i.e. first heat: 1, 2, 3, 4 and second heat: 4, 3, 2, 1).



### **3.10 – Setback in a Race**

In case of interference, collision, or violation of any of the above restrictions, the offending pony may be placed in the position behind the offended pony or ponies. In the event such a collision or interference prevents any pony from finishing the heat, the offending pony may be disqualified from receiving any winnings and the driver may be suspended.

### **3.11 - Breaking**

When any pony breaks from gait in trotting or pacing, the driver shall at once, where clearance permits, take such pony to the outside and pull it to its gait, while losing ground.

The following shall be considered violations of this rule incur and a fine and/or setback. **\$5 FINE**

- A. Failure to properly attempt to pull the pony to its gait.
- B. Failure to take to the outside where clearance exists
- C. Failure to lose ground on a break

The Presiding and Start Judges may set any pony back one or more places if, in their judgment, any of the above violations were committed. If there has been no failure on the part of the driver in complying with this rule the pony shall not be set back unless a contending pony on gait has cover on at least the hind quarter of the breaking pony at the finish.

### **3.12 – Leaving the Grounds during a Meet**

Any trainer/driver wishing for their pony to leave the grounds before the end of races must get verbal permission from the Presiding Judge. If a pony leaves the grounds without the permission of the Presiding Judge the trainer/driver will be disciplined or fined before the next race day.

### **3.13 – Time between heats**

No pony may race in two or more heats with less than 30 minutes between heats.

### **3.14 – Judge's Stand**

No one but the Judges, the Race Secretary, Starter, Timers, Official Announcer and Executive Committee members shall be allowed in the Judge's Stand without permission.

## **SECTION 4 – JUDGES**

### **4.1 - Authority of the Presiding Judge**

The judge shall have the authority while presiding to:

- A. Inflict fines and penalties as prescribed by the rules.
- B. Determine all questions of fact relating to the race.
- C. Decide any differences between parties to the race or any contingent matter which shall arise that is otherwise provided for in the rules. As stated in the Preamble - Any situation not covered by the Rules shall be decided by the judge of the day. If a new rule is deemed necessary it will be put to the Rules Committee to be voted on at an SGM or the next AGM.
- D. Control the ponies, drivers, trainers, and assistants that enter the ground where a meet is being held and retain that control until the ponies, drivers, trainers, and assistants leave the grounds, as well as punish by fine, suspension, or expulsion any such person who fails to obey the rules.



#### **4.2 - Judges Duties**

It shall be the duty of the Judges to:

- A. Exclude from the race any pony that in their opinion is improperly equipped, dangerous, or unfit to race.
- B. Exclude from the race any pony that in their opinion is sick, weak, or lame. The Presiding Judge shall consult an onsite vet, if there is one and the other two Judges if there is not. Collectively they should make a decision on the soundness of the pony.
- C. Investigate any apparent or possible interference whether a complaint has been made by the driver or not.
- D. Investigate any act of cruelty seen by them or reported to them by any Member toward a pony during a meeting at which they officiate.
- E. Immediately thereafter or on the day of the race, conduct an investigation of any accidents to determine the cause thereof. The Judges shall make all accidents a matter of record in the Judge's book.
- F. The Presiding Judge should be present at all hearings. He or she may inflict penalties as prescribed by this rule book. All penalties imposed need to be noted in the Judge's Book and signed by the Presiding Judge.

#### **4.3 - Judges Procedures**

Judges shall follow the procedures as set out below:

- A. Be in the stand 30 minutes prior to the first race and remain on the grounds at all times when the ponies are on the track and until all race appeals have been dealt with at the end of a race day.
- B. Observe the preliminary warming up of ponies and scoring, noting behaviour of ponies, lameness, equipment, conduct of drivers, and any unusual incidents pertaining to ponies or drivers participating in races.
- C. Give notice at least two minutes before each race or heat. Any driver failing to obey this summons may be punished by a fine and/or the pony may be ruled out by the Judges and considered withdrawn.
- D. The Presiding Judge shall designate the post time for each race and the ponies will be called at such times as to preclude excessive delay.
- E. Be in contact with the other Judges from the time the starter picks up the ponies until the finish of the race. Any violation or near violation of the rules shall be called by the Judge witnessing the incident and a written record made of the same. At least one Judge shall observe the drivers throughout the stretch, specifically noting: change of course, interference, improper use of whips, breaks and failure to contest the race to the finish.
- F. Sign the Judge's book after each race, verifying the correctness of the record by the Race Secretary. Make sure all incidents are noted in the Judge's book.
- G. Notify trainers and/or drivers of penalties assessed prior to the race being declared official.

#### **4.4 - Steward's list**

A pony that is unfit to race due to being dangerous, unmanageable, sick, lame, unable to perform, or otherwise unfit to race may be placed on a Steward's List by the Presiding Judge. Should this occur, the entry will be refused and the Club Secretary shall note on pony's eligibility certificate the date and reasons for the placement on the Steward's List. The trainer shall be notified in writing of such action and the reason shall be clearly stated on the notice. A pony may be removed from the Steward's List by performing satisfactorily a panel of judges, chosen from the Judge's Committee.



#### **4.5 - Track Conditions**

- A. In case of questionable track conditions due to weather, the Presiding Judge shall call a meeting consisting of two Executive Committee Members and themselves. Upon a majority decision by this committee of three that track conditions are safe for racing, no un-permitted withdrawals may be made.
- B. Notice of race cancellation shall be given to the members at least 4 hours prior to the start of the race meet.

#### **4.6 - Horses Entered**

All ponies on the grounds and entered on the program or Judge's sheets are under the jurisdiction of the Presiding Judge and cannot be withdrawn (scratched) without the permission of the Presiding Judge.

### **SECTION 5 – RACE SECRETARY**

#### **5.1 – Procedures for Race**

The Race Secretary shall keep the Judge's book current and document the following:

- A. A record of each heat, giving the positions of ponies at the finish.
- B. Drawn or ruled out ponies.
- C. Time in minutes, seconds, and fifths of seconds.
- D. All protests, fines, penalties and appeals in the Judge's book and see that the book is properly signed.

### **SECTION 6 – STARTING**

#### **6.1 - Duties of the Start Judge**

The Start Judge shall be at the starting gate fifteen minutes before the first race. The Start Judge shall have complete control over the ponies and authority to assess fines and/or suspend drivers for any violation of the rules from the formation of the parade until the word "GO" is given. Once the word "GO" is given the Presiding Judge takes over.

#### **6.2– Starting without a Starting Gate**

When ponies are started without a starting gate the starter shall have control of the ponies from the formation of the parade until the word "GO" is given. No driver shall cause unnecessary delay after the ponies are called. The starter shall notify the drivers to form a parade. Ponies should be lined up by the time they reach the collecting ring corner across from the paddock area. The rail pony shall set the pace from the start. All ponies to stay in their position before the start. The starter shall be located at the wire or other point of the race as nearly as possible to the place where the word "GO" is given and the flag is dropped.

#### **6.3– Recall without a Starting Gate**

If the word "GO" is not given, or the flag is not dropped, all ponies in the race shall immediately turn when the signal is sounded and jog back to their position for a fresh start.

#### **6.4 – Starting with a Starting Gate**

The starter shall endeavour to get all ponies away in position and on gate. Ponies shall be lined up in their positions behind the starting gate by the time they reach the collecting ring corner across from the paddock area.



### **6.5 – Recalls**

When speed has been reached at the starting gate, there shall be no decrease in speed except in case of a recall, in which case a signal shall be given, the recall sounded, and the starting gate will proceed out of the path of the ponies. A pony delaying the race may be started regardless of his position or gait and there shall be no recall because of a bad behaviour.

The Start Judge may sound a recall only for the following reason:

- A. There is interference
- B. A pony has broken equipment
- C. A pony falls before the word “GO”

### **6.6 – Stopping a Race after the Start**

There shall be no recall after the word “GO” has been given except that a race may be stopped if there is an accident and the Presiding Judge deems the race is impossible to finish. Any pony, regardless of its position or accident, shall be deemed a starter from the time the pony entered into the Start Judge’s control unless dismissed by the Start Judge.

### **6.7– Disqualifications and Ejections**

Any pony guilty of the following may be disqualified, setback, fined, suspended, or expelled from starting the heat at the discretion of the Start and/or Presiding Judge:

- A. Delaying the start
- B. Failure to obey the Start Judge’s instructions
- C. Rushing ahead of the inside or outside wing of the gate (the gates will be closed at the 9/16 pole which is located at the end of the collecting ring)
- D. Coming to the starting gate out of position
- E. Changing lanes or crossing over before the start of the race
- F. Interfering with another driver before the start

If in the opinion of the Presiding or Start Judge, a pony is unmanageable or liable to cause an accident or injury to any other pony or driver, it may be eliminated from racing and the entry money will not refunded.

### **6.8 - Finishing**

The ponies shall be deemed to have started when the word “GO” is given by the Start Judge and all ponies must go the course except in the case of an accident in which it is the opinion of the Presiding Judge that it is impossible to go the course. Drivers must be mounted at the finish of the race or the pony must be placed as not finished

### **6.9 - Refusal to Follow Instruction of the Start Judge**

Any driver refusing or failing to follow the Start Judge’s instructions may be fined or setback for the heat in which the offence occurs or for such other period as the Start Judge shall determine.

### **6.10 - Horses Placed on the Outside**

A pony may be placed on the outside at the discretion of the Start Judge or Presiding Judge. When such action is taken the public must be informed.

## **SECTION 7 – COMMITTEES**

The Chairpersons for the Appeals Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, the Judges Committee and the Rules Committee must be voted on at the AGM. The Chairpersons will serve for a term of one year. The Chairperson for the Disciplinary Committee must not be the same person as the Chairperson for the Appeals Committee.

### **7.1 – Appeals Committee**

The Appeals Committee will hear all race appeals as well as Disciplinary Appeals. Race appeals should be noted to the Race Secretary within 30 minutes of a dispute. Upon receiving an appeal from the Race Secretary, the Appeals Chairperson will pick three people to review that appeal. Race Appeals will be dealt at the end of the race day/night. Decisions of the Disciplinary committee may be appealed; these appeals to a disciplinary decision must be made to the President no later than 48 hours after receipt of the punishment.

The decision of the appeals committee is final.

### **7.2 – Disciplinary Committee**

Action will be taken by a Disciplinary Committee of 3 people, chosen by the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee, for any driver/ trainer/member misconduct. If a driver wishes to appeal that Committee's decision they may do so by writing a letter to the President who will then forward it on to the Appeals Chairperson. The Appeals Chairperson will appoint a separate appeals committee of 3 people, excluding all members of the Disciplinary Committee, to hear the appeal. The decision of the appeals committee is final.

### **7.3 - Judge's Committee**

The Chairperson of the Judge's Committee will ensure that all Presiding Judges, ground judges, and stewards officiating races adhere to these set of Rules and any Addendum thereafter made. The Chairperson will endeavour to instill consistency among judges in the application of these rules as stated and in any judging discretion permitted by the rules.

### **7.4 - Rules Committee**

At the conclusion of each race season, a Rules Committee is to meet to discuss proposed changes to the Rule Book and then present any recommendations to the Executive Committee prior to the AGM. The Chairperson must identify seven individuals which should include five drivers or former drivers, representatives on the committee should be from at least three different stables. Amendments to the Rule Book will be voted on at an AGM or SGM only.

### **7.5 - Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is responsible for organizing the race meets of the Club. Once the race schedule is set, they insure that the same is circulated to the Membership, usually by E-mail, as soon as possible after being drawn. They will also appoint all Race Officials for scheduled race dates - including the Presiding Judge, Corner Judges and Start Car Judge; drivers for the Start Car and Harrow Truck; Race Secretary, Timers, Videographer and Announcer; ensure that driving members are assigned gate duty on a rotating basis; supervise the 50/50 raffle which is undertaken by the Junior Drivers; seek volunteers for other duties that may come to hand. The Executive Committee will provide race programs covering the Race Schedule for the meet for that day.



The Executive Committee has the right to refer anything they may deem misconduct or cruelty to the Disciplinary Committee. They have the right to refuse race entries and track entry for people or ponies in unresolved disciplinary action.

## **SECTION 8 –PONY REGISTRATION**

All ponies intending to race must be registered with the DHPC and the required DHPC Pony Registration form, which can be obtained from the Secretary, must be completed and paid for in full prior to being eligible to race.

In order to be registered as a Trottingbred, the pony's sire or dam must be registered at a Trottingbred.

### **8.1 Qualifying Times**

A pony's qualifying time will be its second fastest time from its last season raced, provided that it raced at least 50% of the heats of that season. Ponies with no previous track times will start in the slowest time bar until a qualifying time can be established (two bona fide races).

### **8.2 Calculation of Times:**

The following calculations are applied to ponies with race times from overseas tracks:

- A. Half mile track add seven (7) seconds to the second fastest time.
- B. 5/16 mile track add five (5) seconds to the second fastest time.
- C. Quarter mile track add three (3) seconds to the second fastest time.

The fastest converted time of the three above will be considered the Bermuda qualifying time.

## **SECTION 9 - CLASSIFICATION SETBACKS**

A classification setback is an adjustment of the qualifying time to a slower time. A setback is given in terms of a number of seconds which may range from one second to a maximum of five seconds, but not more than one time bar slower. When a setback request is received, the Committee reviews the request against the pony's eligibilities record and has the discretion to approve or deny the request. Rationale for any denied request must be given in writing to the member so that they are aware of why the request was denied.

### **9.1. Request for a Classification Setback**

The trainer of a pony may apply to the DHPC Committee for a setback by submitting a copy of the pony's current eligibility along with a written request explaining the need for the setback. A study of the pony's racing results will be made and a decision reached as to how many seconds (if any) the pony will be setback. The trainer will be notified of the decision by the DHPC Committee.

### **9.2 Ponies laid off for a year**

A pony that has not raced for one or more years may be granted a classification setback but this is not automatically granted. A setback from one to five seconds slower than the class in which the pony was eligible to race under, at the close of the last season raced may be granted with the recommendation of the DHPC Committee.

### **9.3 Reclassification after a layoff setback**

When a pony is given a setback because it did not race the previous year or years, the pony has two chances to beat the setback time before being moved up to the faster classifying time.



#### 9.4 Performance Setbacks

If a pony does not run in their time bar for 8 consecutive heats and has had no wins, a performance setback can be requested. If granted the pony only gets one leg out before it is moved back up to the next time bar. The no wins criteria is reviewed by the committee and an element of discretion is applied in the case of 1 pony wins which ultimately are deemed a win for a pony.

#### 9.5 New Driver/Pony Combination

If there is a new driver to the track they are allowed a setback with only one leg out for one pony. If they drive a second pony or if another driver drives the pony with the setback, this setback will be revoked.

#### 9.6 Next year after a setback

If a pony is racing on a setback and does not beat the setback time, the same setback time is carried over to the next year. Ponies racing on a carried over setback have two chances to beat the time before being reclassified to the faster class.

#### 9.7 Only one setback allowed at a time

No matter which situation led to the setback, only one setback is allowed at a time unless the pony beats the setback time once or twice according to rules 9.3 and 9.4, cancelling the setback.

### SECTION 10 – PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUBSTANCES

The use of any of the following substances which enhances the performance of a pony is prohibited.

#### 10.1 Drug Protocol

The DHPC have adopted the following protocol for drug testing and the taking of blood samples for drug testing, as follows:

- A. There can be drug testing for any drug, stimulant, depressant, narcotic or hypnotic at any stakes race meet. **Blood will be drawn for testing.** The pony will be permitted to race until such time as the results of the test is made known.
- B. Ponies eligible for drug testing on a stakes race day will be those entered in the stakes races as well as any free-for-all ponies racing that day but not in the stake's races.
- C. Three of the eligible ponies' names will be drawn from a bag and the fourth pony to be tested will be the winner of the stakes race.
- D. If any trainer/driver refuses to allow blood testing on their pony, their refusal will be deemed a positive result and the punishment will be as such.
- E. If any pony tests positive for any drug, stimulant, depressant, narcotic or hypnotic, a mandatory sentence will be imposed.
- F. The Executive Committee will nominate a qualified veterinarian authorized to practice veterinary medicine under the laws of the Bermuda (hereinafter referred to as the "Nominated Veterinarian") to perform the drug testing protocol set out herein. Drug testing will be done at the Nominated Veterinarian's discretion up to the total cost of \$5,000.00 per race season.



## 10.2 Procedure

At any stakes race of the club, the Nominated Veterinarian may take blood samples from any pony entered in a free-for-all or stakes race on the race day in the following manner:

- A. At each race there will be two bags with numbered balls in the judge's box. The first bag will contain the heat numbers. Once a heat number has been pulled, a ball from the second bag will be pulled indicating which post position from that heat will be tested. The Race Secretary, Presiding Judge and Nominated Vet will be the only ones present for this draw. The Nominated Veterinarian will draw a blood sample after the races that day. The trainer/driver/groom of the chosen pony shall make the pony available to the Nominated Vet.
- B. The Nominated Veterinarian shall be accompanied by the Race Secretary and Presiding Judge when the blood is drawn. The Nominated Veterinarian will take a blood sample from the pony and shall seal the sample in the manner approved and provided by the testing laboratory.
- C. The Nominated Veterinarian shall then take the said sample to a courier service where the Club shall have an account and the Nominated Veterinarian shall personally seal the courier package which shall then be sent to the Bureau Veritas Laboratories, 4606 Canada Way, Burnaby, British Columbia Canada V5G 1K5 whereupon the sample shall be tested by Bureau Veritas Laboratories for the presence of banned substances.
- D. The Bureau Veritas Laboratories test results shall be returned to the Nominated Veterinarian who shall then forward the results immediately upon receiving them to the President of the Club.

## 10.3 Positive Result

In the event a positive test result is received:

- A. The President of the Club shall immediately inform the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee who shall convene a meeting.
- B. The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee shall then provide a formal written notice to the trainer and driver or drivers of the pony on the race day that the sample was drawn that a positive test result has been received for the presence of a banned substance and that the trainer and driver or drivers of the pony at the race meet at which the sample was drawn are to attend a Disciplinary Committee hearing to be held before the next race day, if possible.
- C. In the event the hearing cannot be held before the next race day, the trainer, pony and driver or drivers are automatically suspended from participating in any race meet until the Disciplinary Committee hearing is held.
- D. Individuals who have had a positive result have the ability to waive the need for a hearing if they so choose. Such waiver is acceptance of the Disciplinary Committee ruling.

## 10.4 Lasix (Furosemide)

Lasix is allowed to be used.

## 10.5 Punishments

The punishments for the presence of banned substances are as follows:

- A. Only the pony that tested positive will be suspended from racing by the Disciplinary Committee.
- B. The suspension times and fines are as follows for the trainer and pony:
  - a) 1<sup>st</sup> Offence within a 2-calendar-year period: 5 Race Day Suspension (not including rain days) & \$250 fine, plus the cost of testing.
  - b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence within a 2-calendar-year period: 10 Race Day Suspension (not including rain days) & \$500 fine, plus the cost of testing



- c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence within a 2-calendar-year period: 12-month Suspension & \$1,000 fine plus the cost of testing
- d) 4<sup>th</sup> Offence with a 2-calendar-year period: Lifetime ban
- C. The fine amount allocated for each positive drug test result is to be paid prior to the pony in question being allowed to race again under any ownership.
- D. Each trainer, driver and pony that is suspended for drug use will become a member in good standing with the club again after they have served their suspension and paid all fines and drug testing fees. The details will remain on the drug testing files for a period of two calendar years to begin on the date that their suspension begins. If they are caught within the 2 year period a new two year period will begin on the date of the new suspension.
- E. No points, trophies, blankets or monetary winnings will be awarded to any pony that is tested until their results return negative for any drug use. After a negative result or successful appeal, the pony's points, trophies and money will be awarded for the race day of the drug testing. If points, times, etc. were withheld from the pony on race days subsequent to the day it was drug tested, these additional days will count as 'time served' toward the suspension time punishment.

#### **10.6 Equipment and Facilities**

Bureau Veritas Laboratories is the laboratory who will be testing all the DHPC samples. Bureau Veritas Laboratories follows a set of Laboratory Standard Operating Procedures that were developed internally and are based largely on those prescribed by the U.S.E.P.A. Strict attention and documentation of sample receipt, analyses, and chain of custody are maintained in the laboratory. Quality control procedures are documented and follow guidelines established during the internal validation process of all analytical methodology. All sample analysis will be performed at Bureau Veritas Laboratories, 4606 Canada Way, Burnaby, British Columbia Canada V5G 1K5.

#### **10.7 Drug Screen**

This procedure allows detection of a tremendous number of different substances. It is highly effective in detecting the majority of drugs and medications administered to racehorses. Due to its ability to detect drugs from many different classes with different functionalities it is an excellent tool for detecting the "unknown" substance. The method was validated using a list of drugs selected to cover many different classes. The DHPC will follow the Bureau Veritas Laboratories recommendations regarding allowed thresholds when determining performance enhancement. This procedure was validated according to ISO 17025 guideline to allow detection of a number of different classes of substances. It is highly effective in detecting the majority of drugs and medications administered to racehorses. The method can detect but is not limited to the following drug groups:

- A) Stimulants/Antihistamines**
- B) Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatories/Analgesics**
- C) Corticosteroids**
- D) Diuretics**
- E) Tranquilizers/Sedatives**
- F) Anesthetics**
- G) Respiratory Aids**