

RWWA HARNESS

CONTROL OF RACE DAY TREATMENT/MEDICATION OF RACEHORSES

With a number of Rules now restricting medication and treatments of various kinds before competition, the following are guidelines regarding medications/treatments that may be approved by the Stewards on veterinary advice when a request is made to the Stewards for permission to treat a horse on race day.

Guidelines for treatments/medications that can be permitted on race day prior to the race – prior approval of the Stewards not required

Topical application of hoof oils/dressings/grooming products

The application of routine, non-medicated hoof oils/dressings is permitted on the day of racing. The exception is those products that contain medications or herbs that claim therapeutic effects such as analgesia or anti-inflammatory actions.

The application of commercial baby oil or petroleum jelly preparations to lubricate/prevent chaffing of a body area, or a grooming product, is permitted to be applied pre-race. Any product so used must be kept in its original container that has applied to it the original product label, must not be altered or modified by the addition of any other substance/s, and must be available for inspection by the Stewards and official veterinarian. The Stewards may take possession of any such preparation for testing for prohibited substances.

Shampoos and fly sprays

Shampoos, including those that are antiseptic or contain an anti-fungal agent, are permitted to be used on race day prior to racing. Fly sprays are permitted to be used on race day prior to racing.

Physical therapy as treatment

Vibratory massage systems may be used in the stable on the morning of the day of the race but are not permitted on the racecourse.

The application of ice/cold water to musculoskeletal structures

The application of ice or chilled water to, or the use of whirlpool boots or systems such as "Game Ready" on musculoskeletal structures are permitted in the trainer's stables on the morning of race day but are not permitted to be used pre-race in the race day stalls on-course.

Treatments/medications permitted on race day before the race – prior approval of the Stewards required

Other topical preparations

While creams, ointments and powders for topical use are considered to be medications, circumstances may arise when a horse suffers a minor wound that does not affect its suitability to race but would benefit from the application of a topical antibiotic or antiseptic treatment. Such a preparation must be a registered veterinary

preparation or human therapeutic good which contains **only** an antibiotic or antiseptic as its active ingredient, and which is clearly stated as such on its product label. Any product so used must be kept in its original container that has applied to it the original product label, must not be altered or modified by the addition of any other substance/s, and must be available for inspection by the Stewards and official veterinarian. The Stewards may take possession of any such preparation for testing for prohibited substances.

Trainers must apply to the Stewards for permission to administer a topical antiseptic/antibiotic preparation before a race on race day. Horses having received such permission for the application of a topical medication must be inspected by an official veterinarian on arrival at the racecourse.

Treatments/medications prohibited on race day prior to the race

Routes of administration

Unless excepted in the guidelines above, any substance administered by injection, by stomach tube, by paste, by dose syringe, by topical application or by inhalation will be considered to be a treatment and must not be administered on race day prior to the race. Furthermore, there are other pre-competition restrictions on certain treatments/procedures imposed within the Harness rules that trainers must be aware of.

Clay poultices

Clay poultices may be applied to the legs no later than the day before racing but must be removed the morning of the race and must not be re-applied on race day before the race. All traces of clay poultices must be removed prior to arrival on-course.

Glycerine and Vicks Vaporub®

The application of Glycerine and/or Vicks Vaporub® by any means is not permitted prior to racing on race day.

Physical therapy as treatment

The following physical treatments **are not permitted** to be used at any time before racing on the day of a race:

- acupuncture
- laser and infra-red treatments
- chiropractic manipulations
- magnetic field therapy
- transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) and any other form of electrical stimulation

Extra-corporeal shock wave treatment (ESWT)

Shock wave treatment of racehorses is prohibited for seven clear days prior to racing.