NEW RULES PERTAINING TO THE BANNING OF ANABOLIC STEROIDS IN THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HARNESSES RACING INDUSTRY TO BE INTRODUCED 1ST SEPTEMBER 2014

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Racing and Wagering WA have resolved that the RWWA Rules of Harness Racing 2004 be amended.

In accordance with section 45 (1) (b) of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003 the Board of Racing and Wagering WA on the 10th April 2014 resolved that these amendments be adopted accordingly into the RWWA Rules of Harness Racing. The Harness Racing Board had advised of these amendments and the RWWA Board has determined that these amendments will come into effect on 1st September 2014.

The details of the relevant rules pertaining to this ban of anabolic steroids for reference can be found following this advice.

There are many implications arising from the introduction of these rules, and to assist trainers and veterinarians to comply with the new rules the following explanatory statement has been prepared.

**Which steroids are banned under these rules?**

The new rules ban the use of "anabolic androgenic steroids" in Standardbred horses at any time from birth until retirement.

"Anabolic androgenic steroids" include those that are currently registered in Australia by the APVMA for use in horses, such as boldenone, ethylestrenol (in Nitrotain), methandriol, nandrolone, stanozolol and testosterone.

Exogenous anabolic androgenic steroids that are banned also include but are not limited to those listed in the WADA prohibited list, such as 1-androstenediol; 1-androstenedione; bolandiol; bolasterone; boldione; calusterone; clostebol; danazol; dehydrochlormethyltestosterone; desoxymethyltestosterone; drostanolone; fluoxymesterone; formebolone; furazabol; geestrinone; 4-hydroxytestosterone; mesterolone; mesterolone; metenolone; methandienone; methasterone; methylidenolone; methyl-1-testosterone; methyltestosterone; metribolone; mibolerone; 19-norandrostenedione; norboleton; norcostebol; norethandrolone; oxabolone; oxandrolone; oxymesterone; oxymetholone; prostandol; quinbolone; stenbolone; 1-testosterone; tetrahydrogestrinone (THG); trenbolone; and other substances with a similar chemical structure or similar biological effect(s).

Endogenous anabolic androgenic steroids are also banned when administered exogenously, and include but are not limited to: androstenediol; androstenedione; dihydrotestosterone; prasterone (dehydroepiandrosterone or DHEA); and testosterone; and their metabolites and isomers.

Altrenogest (in, for example, *Regumate*) is still permitted to be used in fillies and mares to regulate their oestrus cycle.
Which horses are affected by these rules?

The use of anabolic androgenic steroids will be banned from birth. There are no time or therapeutic exemptions of any kind. The ban applies to all unregistered and registered Standardbred racehorses until their retirement as a racehorse. Standardbred horses can be tested at any time and this includes when spelling and in training and racing.

Can I have anabolic steroids present in my stables or on my property even when prescribed by a veterinarian?

No – the possession of any anabolic androgenic steroid, including oral paste preparations such as Nitrotain, at any premise used in relation to the training and racing of horses will be considered an offence under the new rules.

Further any person who either administers or attempts to administer an anabolic androgenic steroid to a Standardbred horse at any time commits an offence under these rules.

How will compliance with this ban be enforced by Controlling Bodies?

Compliance with these rules will be enforced by Controlling Bodies through regular stable inspections, inspections of medications and medication records and regular out of competition testing of Standardbred horses, as well as through routine race day sampling.

Any registered horse that tests positive at any time for a banned anabolic androgenic steroid will not be eligible to trial or race for 12 months from the date of collection of the sample.

Any unregistered horse that tests positive at any time for a banned anabolic androgenic steroid will not be eligible to trial or race for 12 months from the latter of a) the date on which the horse, having been registered, is allowed to start in a race or b) the date of collection of the sample.

Rule Amendments:

DICTIONARY

Add Definition

"Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate" means a certificate from a person or drug testing laboratory approved by the Controlling Body certifying that a sample is free of anabolic androgenic steroids or that any anabolic androgenic steroids that are present are at or below the relevant concentration set out in Rule 188A(2).

5. HORSES

Eligibility for registration

- New Rule 94A

94A. (1) This rule applies to all horses:

(a) born on or after 1st May 2014; and
(b) which are eligible to be registered under these Rules but have not yet been registered under these Rules.

(2) The Stewards or other official appointed by the Controlling Body may, at any time, direct that a horse be produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.

(3) Where a horse is not produced to provide a sample as directed pursuant to Rule 94A(2) that horse is ineligible to start in any race:

(a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:

(i) the date on which the horse, having been registered under these Rules, is allowed to start in a race; and

(ii) the date on which the horse is in fact produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse; and

(b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.

(4) Where a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid which is present at or below the relevant concentrations set out in Rule 188A(2)), that horse is ineligible to start in any race:

(a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:

(i) the date on which the horse, having been registered under these Rules, is allowed to start in a race; and

(ii) the date the relevant sample was taken; and

(b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.

(5) Any person must, when directed by the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body, produce, or otherwise give full access to, the horse so that the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body may take or cause a sample to be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.

(6) For the avoidance of doubt and without limitation, sub-rule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:

(a) under the care or control of another person; and/or

(b) located at the property of another person.

(7) Any person who fails to produce, or give full access to, a horse to provide a sample as required by sub-rule (5) is guilty of an offence.

12. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES
Determination of Prohibited Substance

- Amend Rule 188A(2)

188A. (2) The following substances when present at or below the levels set out are excepted from the provisions of sub rule 1 and Rule 190AA:

Out of Competition Testing

- Amend Rule 190A(2)(r)
- Renumber existing Rule 190A(2)(r) to 190A(2)(s)

190A  (2) (r) anabolic androgenic steroids (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid which is present at or below the relevant concentrations set out in Rule 188A(2));

(s) metabolites, artifacts and isomers of any of the substances specified in paragraphs (a) to (r);

Anabolic Steroids

- Add new sub-heading
- Add new Rule 190AA

190AA. (1) A horse must not, in any manner, at any time, be administered an anabolic androgenic steroid.

(2) Any person who:

(a) administers an anabolic androgenic steroid;

(b) attempts to administer an anabolic androgenic steroid;

(c) causes an anabolic androgenic steroid to be administered; and/or

(d) is a party to the administration of, or an attempt to administer, an anabolic androgenic steroid,

to a horse is guilty of an offence.

(3) Where the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has, or is likely to have been, administered any anabolic androgenic steroid contrary to this rule, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any relevant race.

(4) When a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid the horse is not permitted to start in any race:

(a) for a minimum period of 12 months from the date of the collection of the sample in which an anabolic androgenic steroid was detected; and
(b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.

(5) Any owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or person in charge of a horse registered under these Rules must, when directed by the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body, produce, or otherwise give full access to, the horse so that the Stewards or other person authorised by the Controlling Body may take or cause a sample to be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is present in the system of the horse.

(6) For the avoidance of doubt and without limitation, sub-rule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:

(a) under the care or control of another person; and/or

(b) located at the property of another person.

(7) Any person who fails to produce, or give full access to, a horse to provide a sample as required by sub-rule (5) is guilty of an offence.

(8) In respect of a horse registered under these Rules, where an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or person in charge of a horse is in breach of sub-rule (5), the relevant horse will not be permitted to start in any race:

(a) for a period of not less than 12 months following the day on which the horse is in fact produced to the Stewards, or full access to the horse is otherwise given to the Stewards, so that a sample may be taken and analysed for anabolic androgenic steroids; and

(b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse, such sample having been taken at a date determined by the Stewards.