

# RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## AMENDMENTS TO RWWA RULES OF THOROUGHBRED RACING

In accordance with Section 45 (1) (a) of the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003*, notice is hereby given that the Board of Racing and Wagering WA has resolved that the RWWA Rules of Thoroughbred Racing be amended as detailed below.

### AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL RULES effective 1 February 2024

**Amend AR 79 as follows:**

#### **AR79 – Horses with bleeding**

- (4) A horse which, in the opinion of the Stewards, has had an attack of bleeding;
- (a) for a period of 2 months after the attack of bleeding, must not, without the permission of the Stewards, be trained, exercised or galloped on a racecourse, recognised training track, private training establishment, or other place;
- (b) must not start in any race for a period of 3 months, and then only after:
- (i) a gallop of at least 1,000 metres; or
- (ii) an official trial or jump-out;

in the presence, and to the satisfaction of a Steward.

#### **Summary**

Under the current version of AR79, a horse cannot be trained, exercised or galloped on a *racecourse* after having a first attack of bleeding (blood in both nostrils) however, this did not exclude or prohibit a horse from being trained, exercised or galloped at other locations such as a private pre-training property, recognised training track, beach or other place.

The Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) advised as follows in relation to horses returning from an attack of bleeding:

- In respect of AR79 (4)(a), the purpose of the current rule is to enforce a period of rest following an episode of bleeding and encourage trainers to spell a horse that has bled. While low intensity exercise is generally acceptable before the end of the 2-month prohibition, there is overall benefit for the horse to be spelled for 2 months.
- In respect of AR79 (4)(b), horses should be permitted to trial – instead of only a 1,000m gallop, before returning to racing following a bleeding attack.

In light of VAAG's advice regarding AR79 (4)(a), that a horse should not be ridden in any exercise for 2 months following bleeding regardless of where that exercise occurs. It is felt that it would be too difficult

to define “low intensity exercise” and, in the interests of horse welfare and rider safety, a blanket ban was the most appropriate position.”

Racing Australia has introduced amendments to AR79 (4) (a) to give effect to this.

Please note that the structure of AR 79 (4) (b) was modified for clarity. There has been no change to the wording.

**Add to AR 2 as follows:**

### **AR 2 Dictionary**

**Blistering** means the application of a substance to cause blistering (vesiculation) and inflammation of the skin and underlying tissues.

**Add AR 88C as follows:**

### **AR 88C Horses that have had blistering procedure**

- (1) If a horse has been subjected to a blistering procedure in Australia:
  - (a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and
  - (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.
- (2) If a horse is subject to a blistering procedure, the owner of the horse or that owner’s authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:
  - (a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia’s national online database; and
  - (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse’s ineligibility to race.

### **Summary**

#### **Blistering**

“Blistering” is defined as the application of a substance to cause blistering (vesiculation) and inflammation of the skin and underlying tissues.

Like firing, the most beneficial aspect of blistering is the enforced rest that is required to recover.

#### **Period of Ineligibility:**

The minimum period of ineligibility to participate in any race, trial, jump out or track work is to be for a period of 12 months.

Racing Australia has introduced the amendments to AR 2 and AR 88C to give effect to this.

**Add AR 88D as follows:**

### **AR 88D Horses that have had chemical castration or immunocastration.**

- (1) If a horse has been subjected to a chemical castration or immunocastration procedure in Australia:

- (a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and
  - (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.
- (2) If a horse is subject to a chemical castration or immunocastration, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:
- (a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and
  - (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

## **Summary**

### **Chemical Castration or Immunocastration**

A new rule introduced to ensure that a horse, must not be entered for a race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork, where it has been subject to either Chemical Castration or Immunocastration.

Th terms Chemical Castration and Immunocastration are specified to include all pharmacological and immunological means of achieving this effect.

### **Period of Ineligibility:**

The minimum period of ineligibility to participate in any race, trial, jump out or track work is to be for a period of 12 months.

Racing Australia has introduced AR 88D to give effect to this.

### **Add new sub-rule AR 186 (3) as follows:**

#### **AR186 Securing lead or other weights**

- (3) Further to, and without affecting the provisions of subrules (1) and (2) of this rule, no lead or other weight used by a rider when weighing out will be permitted to be;
- (i) imbedded or carried in a rider's race riding boots,
  - (ii) placed or carried in any other part of a rider's equipment and/or gear,
  - (iii) carried by a rider in any manner other than in the manner allowed under subrules (1) & (2) of this rule.

## **Summary**

The rules in relation to lead in riding boots are clarified to specifically prohibit lead or other weight being imbedded, placed or carried in a rider's riding boots, and for that matter any other gear used by a rider.

### **Addition to National Equipment Register**

The VIPA III Safety vest is an approved safety vest under AR123 and in the National Equipment Register.

**Amend AR 123 and add to National Equipment Register as follows:**

In AR123, the Note immediately following sub rule (6) is updated to reflect the addition of a section (d) to read:

(d) the following Level 3 safety vests are approved:

- (i) Vipa III

**Summary**

A VIPA III Safety Vest (manufactured and supplied by Vipatech) is approved.

**SELECTIVE ANDROGEN RECEPTOR MODULATORS (SARMS)**

**Amend AR 248 as follows:**

**AR 248 Administration of anabolic androgenic steroids and selective androgen receptor modulators**

- (1) A person must not:
  - a. administer;
  - b. cause to be administered;
  - c. attempt to administer; or
  - d. be a party to the administration or attempted administration of, an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator to a horse.
- (2) If a person breaches subrule (1), a disqualification for a period of not less than 2 years must be imposed, unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists, in which case that penalty may be reduced.
- (3) If the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has been, or is likely to have been, administered an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any race, official trial or jump-out.
- (4) If a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator, the horse is not permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
  - a. for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the collection of the sample; and
  - b. until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.
- (5) An owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse must not, when directed by the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, fail to produce or otherwise give full access to the horse so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is in the system of the horse.
- (6) Subrule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer or other person in charge of a horse 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) If an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse breaches subrule (5), the horse will not be permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
- a. for a period of not less than 12 months following the day that the horse is produced or made fully accessible to the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is in the system of the horse; and
  - b. until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.

**Add to AR 2 as follows:**

### **AR 2 Dictionary**

**Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate** means a certificate from an Official Racing Laboratory stating that a sample (taken under the supervision of the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA to do so) is free of selective androgen receptor modulators.

**Amend AR 17 as follows:**

### **AR 17 Taking samples at horse sales**

Without limiting any other PRA powers, a PRA has the following powers in respect of taking samples at horse sales:

- (a) if, in the opinion of a PRA, a thoroughbred horse selling agent or organisation has in place satisfactory arrangements (including as between a buyer and seller of a horse) for taking samples from horses at horse sales for the purpose of testing for anabolic androgenic steroids and/or selective androgen receptor modulators, to officially approve as a “PRA-approved vet” (which approval can be withdrawn at the discretion of a PRA) a veterinary surgeon employed, engaged or authorised by the selling agent or organisation, to take a sample from a horse for that purpose; and
- (b) to declare either before or after a sample is taken by a PRA-approved vet under subrule (a) that the sample is to be treated as a sample for the purpose of these Australian Rules.

**Amend AR 286 as follows:**

### **AR 286 Lodgement of Foal Ownership Declaration**

- (3) It is a condition precedent to any lodgement under this rule that the manager or his or her authorised agent lodging the Foal Ownership Declaration undertakes to be bound by the Rules and, upon action being taken in compliance with this rule (including by a Syndicate as applicable), the unnamed horse and its owners become subject to, and agree to be bound by, the Rules for the following purposes only as a consequence of, and relating to, the lodgement of the Foal Ownership Declaration:

- a. the testing of a named horse which has not been retired from racing under AR 297 for the presence of substances that are prohibited at any time by the Rules;
- b. the testing of an unnamed horse for the presence of anabolic androgenic steroids, and/or selective androgen receptor modulators;
- c. the observation of other horses for health and welfare reasons only where there is concern for their health and welfare based on reasonable grounds; and
- d. the rules that relate to traceability (any rule under this Part 14 and any relevant Local Rules).

**Amend AR 253 as follows:**

**AR 253 Testing for anabolic androgenic steroids and/or selective androgen receptor modulators before registration**

- (1) This rule applies to all unnamed horses.
- (2) The Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA may, at any time, direct that a horse be produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is present in the system of the horse.
- (3) If a horse is not produced to provide a sample as directed under subrule (2), that horse is ineligible to start in any race or official trial:
  - (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
    - (i) the date on which the horse, once registered with Racing Australia under these Australian Rules, is permitted under these Australian Rules to start in a race (and subject to any further conditions imposed by a PRA or the Stewards in their discretion); and
    - (ii) the date on which the horse is produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is present in the system of the horse; and
  - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.
- (4) If an anabolic androgenic steroid (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid at or below a permitted threshold identified in Schedule 1, Part 1, Division 3) and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is detected in a sample taken at any time from a horse, the horse is ineligible to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
  - (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
    - (i) the date on which the horse, once registered with Racing Australia pursuant to these Australian Rules, is permitted under these Australian Rules to start in a race (and subject to any further conditions imposed by the Stewards in their discretion); and
    - (ii) the date the relevant sample was taken; and
  - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.

- (5) If directed under subrule (2) by the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, a person must produce, or otherwise give full access to a horse so that a sample may be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is in the system of the horse.
- (6) Subrule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce a horse, or otherwise give full access to a 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.

**Summary:**

Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators (SARMs) are prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA).

Racing Australia has introduced a number of changes to AR 248 along with consequential changes to AR 2, AR 17, AR 253 and AR 286.

**Amend Schedule 1 Prohibited Substances Lists & Exemptions/Thresholds as follows:**

**PART 1 SUBSTANCES PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES**

Division 1 – Prohibited List A

The substances set out below in this Division 1 are specified as prohibited substances.

24. Substances listed in Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons contained in the Australian Poisons Standard.

25. Cannabinoids.

26. Metabolites, artefacts and isomers of any of the substances identified in this list.

**Summary**

Cannabinoids have always been substances banned at all times under the rules of racing by their inclusion as a Schedule 9 substance.

Racing Australia has introduced an update for Prohibited List A to include Cannabinoids.

These amendments come into effect as from 1 February 2024.