



State of Utah

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Department of Agriculture and Food

LEONARD M. BLACKHAM
Commissioner

KYLE R. STEPHENS
Deputy Commissioner

KATHLEEN CLARKE
Deputy Commissioner

April 4, 2012

To Whom It May Concern

RE: Clarification on Utah Horse Racing Commission Rules – R52-7.

Administrative Rules have been adopted that govern the conduct of officially sanctioned horse races for the State of Utah. These are outlined in the rule identified as R52-7.

Recently, some questions have been raised relative to the use of “Clenbuterol” and the approved method for collecting required test samples. This notice will serve to clarify those issues as outlined in R52-7.

R52-7-8.4 states: *“Drugs or Medication. Except as authorized by the provisions of this Article, no drug or medication shall be administered to any horse prior to or during any race. Presence of any drug or its metabolites or analog, or any substance foreign to the natural horse found in the testing sample of a horse participating in a Commission-sanctioned race shall result in disqualification by the Stewards”*. Therefore, Clenbuterol is determined to be a prohibited substance and not allowed for use in the state of Utah. We understand that some states have taken a position to allow its use, with a 30-day withdrawal time, prior to an official race; however, the state of Utah has not addressed this issue at this time.

The question has been raised about the ability to use a blood draw instead of a urine sample as an official test. R52-7-8.11 states: *“Taking of Samples. Blood, urine, saliva or other samples shall be taken under the direction of the official veterinarian or persons appointed or assigned by the official veterinarian for taking samples. All samples shall be taken in a detention area approved by the Commission, unless the Official Veterinarian approves otherwise. Each horse shall be cooled out for a minimum of 30 minutes after entry into the test barn before a sample is to be taken”*. The current rule allows for a blood sample, but still requires a 30 minute wait period to take the sample. We cannot change the wait period at this point, but race officials do have the flexibility to collect blood as the official sample.

The Utah Horse Racing Commission will review both of these issues and may consider submitting rule changes for officially sanctioned races next year.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kyle R. Stephens, Deputy Commissioner
and Executive Director, Utah Horse Racing Commission

cc: Utah Horse Racing Commission Members