



香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Guide for International Trainers & Grooms to HKIR Regulatory Veterinary Procedures

Introduction

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (the Club) has a number of compulsory procedures that must be performed on arrival and during the period leading up to the race.

These procedures are necessary to protect the health and welfare of the horses and to maintain in the integrity of racing.

The following is a brief outline of these procedures so that you will know what to expect on arrival in Hong Kong.

1. Veterinary Procedures

- 1.1. A Club Veterinary Surgeon will meet the horse and travelling grooms at the airport and follow the transport to the isolation stable.
- 1.2. In addition to providing whatever clinical veterinary services may be required for the horse as soon as possible after arrival in isolation stable, the Veterinary Surgeon is also required to:
 - 1.2.1 Collect blood samples for analysis for the presence of prohibited substances.
 - 1.2.2 Collect the Post-Arrival and Third Medication Declaration Form Three for Racehorses Travelling to Hong Kong to Compete in International Races (MDF3) advising of recent medication administered to the horse.
 - 1.2.3 Identify the horse from its passport/document.
 - 1.2.4 Perform a nasal swab for Equine Influenza testing.
 - 1.2.5 Provide advice on any medication or supplements brought with the horse.

[You must not bring any medications containing prohibited substances or any means of administration of prohibited substances, for example, syringes, hypodermic needles or nasogastric tubes, into the quarantine stables. If you are uncertain whether a product may contain prohibited substances, you should seek advice prior to shipping to Hong Kong (Refer to Notice – Annex A).]

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2. Post-Arrival Urine Collection for Prohibited Substance Testing

After completion of the veterinary procedures, the groom is required to collect a urine sample from the horse for testing for prohibited substances. The Club's security officers will supervise the collection and identification of the sample (Refer to Notice - **Annex B**).

Quarantine Procedures

The Club imposes strict quarantine procedures on international runners to protect both visiting horses and the local horse population from the risks of infectious disease.

The Club Quarantine Manager and staff will assist you in complying with the requirements (Refer to Notice – **Annex C**).

Gear Inspections

On the Wednesday morning prior to the raceday, the Chief Stipendiary Steward, the Starter, the Head Farrier and Veterinary Officers will visit your stable to:

1. Inspect any gear the horse will wear on raceday to ensure that it complies with the Club's Rules of Racing.
2. Obtain any information on any special requirements for the management of the horses at the Starting Gates.
3. Check that the proposed shoeing/plating of the horse for racing is in compliance with the Club's Rules of Racing.
4. Formally identify the horse.
5. Obtain any information on pre-existing veterinary conditions or injuries that may be relevant to assessing the horse's suitability to race during the pre-race veterinary inspection.
6. Provide any advice on Hong Kong International Race procedures that may be required by the trainers and grooms.

Pre-race Veterinary Inspections

On the morning prior to the raceday, after completion of trackwork, all horses must undergo a pre-race veterinary inspection for suitability to race.

The inspection consists of a trot up and palpation of the horse's limbs.

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The examiners are practical and experienced in performing pre-race veterinary inspection but it is important that trainers consult with the Veterinary Officers to advise them of any relevant veterinary history, for example an injury, pre-existing veterinary conditions or unusual gait, so that the best possible assessment of the horse's suitability to race can be made.

As a principle, if a horse has an injury or condition that puts it at risk of suffering significant injury during a race or that may contribute to it being unable to perform to reasonable expectations, it will not pass the pre-race veterinary inspection.

(Refer to Notice – **Annex D**).

Raceday Procedures

Grooms are required to collect a pre-race urine sample from horses for pre-race analysis for prohibited substances on the morning of the raceday under security supervision.

If a urine sample cannot be collected by about 7:15 to 7:30 am, a blood sample will be collected by a Club Veterinary Surgeon.

Please note that, if a pre-race urine sample cannot be collected, the horse must have post-race blood and urine collected after the race (Refer to Notice – **Annex E**).

First and second placed horses, beaten favourites, pre-race sample non-urinator and any horses selected by the Stipendiary Stewards will have blood and urine samples collected after the race.

The Stipendiary Stewards may also require that a horse undergo a veterinary clinical examination after racing to identify any veterinary reason for a disappointing racing performance. The examination consists of an inspection, endoscopic examination of the upper respiratory tract, auscultation of the heart and a trot-up for lameness by a Regulatory Veterinary Officer.

Please note that the Rules of Racing require trainers to report any injuries, incident or condition that may have affected a horse's racing performance.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison

2 October 2009



IMPORTANT NOTICE 重要通告

The Use In Racehorses Of Supplements or Other Products With No Listed Prohibited Substance

WARNING

- Supplements may contain unlabelled prohibited substances as part of the product formulation.
- Supplements may contain prohibited substances that are present as contaminants.
- Supplements may contain non-prohibited substances that metabolise to prohibited substances within the body.
- Supplements may be subject to batch-to-batch variation in their production which may affect both the risks of contamination, the composition of the product base and the concentration of active ingredients.

The risk of detecting a prohibited substance in an official sample taken from a racehorse through the use of supplements which contain low levels of unknown prohibited substances is dramatically increased when products are administered close to the time of racing and sampling.

The use of supplements close to the time of racing, even if they claim to be "completely natural" or "legal" or "does not contravene the rules of racing", etc, carries a risk of introducing prohibited substances into horses and causing positive detections in samples collected from the supplemented horses.

Supplements that are regularly used in horses racing in Hong Kong are available at the Equine Hospital and, where practical, you are recommended to substitute these supplements for those you may use in your home country.

The use of any supplement must be entirely at the trainer's own risk with respect to the detection of a prohibited substance in an official sample taken from a racehorse.

Signed

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison



IMPORTANT NOTICE 重要通告

Cathy Pacific Hong Kong International Races

Sunday 13 December 2009

To: All Overseas Horse's Trainers and/or Grooms Immediate Post-Arrival Sampling Procedures

- All overseas horses are required to provide both BLOOD and URINE samples upon arrival at their isolation stables in Hong Kong to test for the presence of prohibited substances.
- These samples will be collected under Security Staff supervision and the collection, splitting and sealing must be witnessed by a representative of the horse.
- **BLOOD** samples, Primary [A] and Reserved [B], will be collected by a Club Veterinary Surgeon immediately upon arrival of the horse at its isolation stable.
- **URINE** samples, which must measure **at least 200ml**, will be collected by the horse's representative as soon as possible after its arrival at the isolation stables, into a container issued by the Security Staff who will split the sample into Primary [A] and Reserved [B] portions and seal them.
- A URINE sample **must** be collected and a representative of the horse **must** stay continuously with it until the sample has been collected, split and sealed.

Signed

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison



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The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Hong Kong International Race Biosecurity Procedures for International Visitors

Please be reminded that micro-organisms that cause serious horse diseases (for example, equine influenza) may survive for prolonged periods on human skin and clothing.

The most common reason for the spread of infectious disease from a quarantined horse to the local horse population is the movement of people carrying micro-organisms on their clothing and/or equipment.

To minimize the risk of transmitting any horse disease from overseas or from a quarantined HKIR horse to Hong Kong horses, please ensure that the following biosecurity procedures are followed:

1. Only accredited HKIR stable personnel and essential Club personnel will be permitted to enter the quarantine unit.
2. No international visitors or connections of international horses may enter the local Sha Tin Stable Complex or visit any local riding school or have any contact whatsoever with a local horse at any time.
3. No visitor, including Club personnel, who enters the quarantine unit is permitted to visit a local stable or riding school or to have any contact with a local horse for a period of at least 24 hours unless approved by the Club's Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison.
4. All visitors (except work riders, jockeys and grooms) must wear the supplied protective outer clothing within the quarantine unit, wash their hands thoroughly and disinfect their footwear prior to leaving the quarantine unit.
5. Visiting international stable personnel must wash their hands thoroughly and disinfect their footwear prior to leaving the quarantine unit and must shower and change their clothing as soon as possible after leaving the unit.

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison



IMPORTANT NOTICE 重要通告

Cathy Pacific Hong Kong International Races Sunday 13 December 2009

To: All Overseas Horse's Trainers and/or Grooms

Official Pre-race Veterinary Inspections on Saturday 12 December 2009

- All horses racing in Hong Kong are required to pass an Official Pre-Race Veterinary Inspection. This will be performed by a Regulatory Veterinary Officer after track work on Saturday 12 December 2009.
- The inspections require that the horse be trotted-up in-hand, its limbs be palpated and its racing plates be inspected.
- All protective boots, bandages and rugs must be removed for these inspections.
- At least one representative of the horse **must** be present who must not leave the horse until after each inspection has been completed.
- Horses that have not been inspected as scheduled will **not** be permitted to race.

Signed

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison



IMPORTANT NOTICE 重要通告

Cathy Pacific Hong Kong International Races Sunday 13 December 2009

To: All Overseas Horse's Trainers and/or Grooms

Race Day Sampling Procedures for Prohibited Substance

Pre-race

- All horses racing in Hong Kong are pre-race tested using urine or blood samples collected during the morning of the race day.
- You are required to arrive at the stables on race day by **06:00 hours** when Security Staff will issue you with pots in which to collect your horse's urine.
- If your horse has not produced a urine sample by about **07:00 hours**, the **horse must remain in its stable until a Veterinary Officer visits to collect its blood samples**; you **must** remain with the horse to witness this sampling.
- Only urine or blood samples are required pre-race; thus if your horse has provided a urine sample to security personnel you may leave the stables area as a blood sample will not then be required.

Post-race

- All horses finishing first or second, favourites who do not finish first or second, and all pre-race non-urinator are automatically sampled. The Race Meeting Stewards may also select other horses for veterinary inspection and sampling.
- All horses sent for sampling will be required to provide both blood and urine samples. After blood has been collected in the post-race sampling facility, overseas horses will be accompanied by Security Staff back to their isolation stables to produce the urine samples.
- Unless the Racing Meeting Stewards specifically require that a urine sample **must** be obtained from a particular horse, then it will be released from security surveillance at 20:00 hours and the person responsible for the horse is free to leave, even if a urine sample has not been obtained.
- Until both blood and urine samples have been produced or the horse has been released from security custody, the horse may only be allowed water to drink, **no food or medications are allowed**, unless under the direction of a Club Veterinary Officer/Surgeon for health and /or welfare reasons.

Signed

Dr Brian D Stewart BVSc (Hons) MBA
Head of Veterinary Regulation and International Liaison