
MEDICATION-BLEEDER PROGRAM

No prohibited drug, chemical, or other substance may be administered to an animal within the 24-hour period before the post time for the race in which the animal is entered.

Phenylbutazone: Phenylbutazone (Bute) is the only approved anti-inflammatory drug, which may be present in the body of a horse while participating in a race. The test level of Bute shall not exceed two (2) micrograms (mg) per milliliter (ml) of plasma.

BLEEDER PROGRAM - Texas Racing Commission Excerpts:

(a) Diagnosis of EIPH (a Bleeder). A bleeder is a horse that experiences Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage (EIPH). Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, the medical diagnosis of EIPH may be made only by a commission veterinarian or a veterinarian currently licensed by the commission. If the first EIPH event experienced by a horse in another pari-mutuel racing jurisdiction will also constitute a first report of a diagnosed EIPH event for purposes of this section. A veterinarian who diagnoses an EIPH event in a horse participating in pari-mutuel racing in this state shall report the event to the commission veterinarian in a format prescribed by the executive secretary. On receipt of the first report of a diagnosed EIPH event for a horse, the commission veterinarian shall certify the horse as a bleeder.

(b) Admission to the Furosemide Program. (1) A trainer may admit a horse to the furosemide program by stating at the time of entry that the horse will compete with furosemide. (2) A horse that competed with furosemide in its most recent start out-of-state must compete on furosemide in Texas unless withdrawn from the furosemide program at the time of entry. (3) An EIPH event experienced by a horse that is admitted to the furosemide program is deemed to be a first EIPH event for purposes of Subsection (g) of this section.

(c) Administration of Furosemide. Furosemide shall be administered to a horse in the furosemide Program not later than four hours before the published post time for the race the horse is entered to run. The furosemide must be administered intravenously by a veterinarian licensed by the commission. The executive secretary shall periodically publish the permissible blood levels of Furosemide in post race specimens and shall post the levels at each licensed racetrack.

(d) Requirement to Use Furosemide. A horse in the furosemide Program in Texas must compete with furosemide until withdrawn from the Program.

(e) Withdrawal from Furosemide. (1) To withdraw a horse from the furosemide program, the trainer must state his/her intention to race the horse without furosemide at the time of entry (2) A horse in the furosemide program that competes out-of-state without furosemide is considered to have been removed from the Texas furosemide program effective the date of its first race without furosemide. (3) Withdrawal from the furosemide program does not prohibit a horse from subsequent readmission to the program in accordance with this section.

(f) Readmission to the Furosemide Program. A horse may be readmitted to the furosemide program if: (1) at least 60 days have elapsed since the horse was withdrawn from the program. (2) the horse is required to compete with furosemide pursuant to subsection (b) (2) of this section; or (3) the commission veterinarian diagnoses the horse with another EIPH event.

(g) Bleeders List (1) The commission veterinarian shall maintain a list of horses that have been certified as bleeders and a list of horses that have been admitted to the furosemide Program. (2)

On receipt of a report of diagnosed EIPH event, the commission veterinarian shall place the horse on the veterinarian's list. For the first diagnosed EIPH event, a horse shall be placed on the veterinarian's list and is ineligible to start in a race before the 12th day after the date of the EIPH event. For the second diagnosed EIPH event within 365 days of previous incident - 30 days. For the third diagnosed EIPH event within 365 days of previous incident - 180 days. For the fourth diagnosed EIPH event within 365 days of previous incident - barred from racing in this state. A horse that does not have a diagnosed EIPH (bleeder) event for 365 consecutive days is considered a non-bleeder for the purpose of the paragraph. The report of a diagnosed EIPH event from any pari-mutuel jurisdiction which officially records EIPH events will be recognized as an EIPH event by the commission. (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if after reviewing a report of a diagnosed EIPH event the commission veterinarian determines additional days on the veterinarian's list are essential to the health and safety of the horse, the commission veterinarian may extend the number of days the horse is on the veterinarian's list. The commission veterinarian shall record the medical reasons for the additional days.

(h) Report by Veterinarian A veterinarian who administers furosemide to a horse that has been admitted to the furosemide program shall report the administration on a form prescribed by the commission. A report made under this subsection must be filed with the commission veterinarian not later than one hour before post time for the first race that day.

**A complete set of all rules can be obtained on the
Texas Racing Commission Web Site at**

txrc.state.tx.us

**For further information you can also contact the Test Barn at
(972) 237-5012 or by fax at (972) 237-4368.**

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