

**Maritime Barrel Racing Association Drug Policy
Effective 2010**

The Maritime Barrel Racing Association (M. B. R. A) Drug Policy as set out herein is intended to guarantee fairness to all participants in events recognized and sanctioned by the M. B. R. A. and to ensure the welfare of horses and ponies entered in such events; and also to maintain public and sponsor confidence in the fairness of M. B. R. A. sanctioned events. ***It is understood that the M. B. R. A. has adopted a zero tolerance for drug use.***

This policy will be enforced by the Board of Directors of the M. B. R. A. and any other person or persons that the said Board of Directors appoints to do so at any given time.

Under the M. B. R. A. Drug Policy the Person(s) Responsible is strictly liable whenever a prohibited substance is found in a horse's bodily specimen. This means that a violation occurs whether or not the Person Responsible intentionally or unintentionally, knowingly or unknowingly, used a prohibited substance ***or had such a substance administered to their horse.***

The Person(s) Responsible is defined as the person who rides the horse during the event, and/or the owner of record of the animal, and/or in the case of minor children the parent or guardian listed on the entry form or M. B. R. A. waiver regardless of whether any or all of the above were present at the time of the infraction. The Person Responsible must be designated on all entry forms and in the absence of any such specific designation will be the person who signed the entry.

Under this policy unauthorized administration of drugs to horses competing in; or scheduled to compete in; an M. B. R. A. sanctioned event is not allowed. At this time that is defined as follows:

Any substance and any preparation, metabolite, derivative, isomer and salt of the substance:

- 1) that is labelled for veterinary use under the Food and Drug Regulations of Canada during a period of 240 days, calculated from the day on which the drug was assigned a drug identification number (D.I.N.) under those Regulations.***
- 2) that is not labelled for veterinary use under the Food and Drug Regulations of Canada***
- 3) that interferes with an analysis for any drug included in this schedule.***
- 4) any substance currently found on the list of banned substances as prepared by the C. P. M. A. together with any and all other updates or amendments thereto.***

It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that they are familiar with these regulations.

It is understood that there are certain medications, veterinarian prescribed, and otherwise, that are used to treat various conditions which may exist in horses. The M. B. R. A. does not allow any animal to compete while on any banned substance (as defined by the M. B. R. A.), regardless of it's therapeutic benefits, proven or otherwise. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that any animal that they compete on is capable of competing without the aid of any substance banned by the M. B. R. A. and that the competitor takes full

responsibility for the health and welfare of any animal entered.

The M. B. R. A. has the right to test for these substances at any time and any animal found to have tested positive, *regardless of the amount of drug present*, will be subject to any penalties imposed by the M. B. R. A. Anyone refusing to be tested, or present their animal to be tested will be considered to have been tested with a positive result and will be dealt with accordingly.

The M. B. R. A. has the right to employ whomever the Board of Directors deems fit to conduct these tests on their behalf and a positive test result from whomever the M. B. R. A. employs to do the testing is considered final.

The M. B. R. A. also prohibits the *public* presence of any drug related paraphernalia such as; but not limited to; hypodermic needles, used or otherwise, any syringe capable of holding a needle, and vials or containers of injectable drugs, regardless of nature. Any person *who*, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, is found to be in *public* possession of such paraphernalia, will also be subject to the penalties imposed by the M. B. R. A.

In extenuating circumstances, a competitor may ask the Board of Directors for permission to have medications administered to a sick or injured horse at an event. If permission is obtained, a member of the Board of Directors must be present when the drug is administered; and the horse it is administered to must be withdrawn from the remainder of that competition. It is understood that the horse may be tested at subsequent events and that any medication administered in this fashion does not preclude that horse from a future positive test.

TESTING PROCEDURE

The M. B. R. A. has the right to test at any time and any animal found to have tested positive, regardless of the amount of drug present, will be subject to any penalties imposed by the M. B. R. A. Anyone refusing to be tested, or present their animal to be tested, or who refuses to cooperate with the Board of Directors, and any person or persons appointed by them to conduct the testing, will be considered to have been tested with a positive result and will be dealt with accordingly.

The M. B. R. A. has the right to employ whomever the Board of Directors deems fit to conduct these tests on their behalf and a positive test result from whomever the M. B. R. A. employs to do the testing is considered final.

The M. B. R. A. has the right to perform random testing of any animal entered in an M. B. R. A. sanctioned event regardless of its placing in the event, and whether or not the animal has competed or not.

At any M. B. R. A. sanctioned event a predetermined number of placings or horses may be tested. The number of testings, the classes to be tested, and the placings tested will be

determined in advance by the Board of Directors, or any person or persons appointed by them. Advance notice will not be given to the members of any testing and all members should be prepared to be tested at any time.

When so advised by the Board of Directors, all horses who may be placed in a class must remain in the warmup or holding area, or any other area as determined by the Board of Directors, until the class is over and the placings announced. Failure to do so may result in what the M. B. R. A. considers to be a refusal to test.

When a horse is selected to undergo testing and sample collection, and the Person(s) Responsible notified, the Person(s) Responsible, or someone appointed by them, shall take the horse to the area designated for sample collection at the time, and in the manner, indicated. Failure to do so, when asked, may result in what the M. B. R. A. considers to be a refusal to test.

The area used for testing will be determined by the Board of Directors, or any person or persons appointed by the Board of Directors, and may be an area separate from the usual stabling or competition area.

If the Person(s) Responsible is unable to attend the sample collection session he or she must designate a representative to attend. The Person(s) Responsible or their representative should witness the collection of the official sample, the sealing of the official container, and sign the documentation that accompanies the official sample to the official laboratory. The absence of the Person(s) Responsible or a representative shall constitute a waiver, or any objection to, the identification of any horse tested, the manner in which the official sample was collected, sealed and shipped to the official laboratory.

The official sample testing and analysis shall be governed by procedures approved by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Any and all tests and analysis, whether general screening, quantitative or qualitative that are deemed appropriate by the official chemist may be performed on all samples collected.

Horses may be asked to provide either a urine or blood sample. Where a horse has failed to provide a satisfactory urine sample, the Person(s) Responsible, or their representative, shall submit the horse for a blood sample collection. Such sample shall be taken by a Veterinarian or a qualified Technician, as determined by the M. B. R. A. The sample may also be taken by the Person(s) Responsible, or their designate, under the supervision of the M. B. R. A. Test Inspector using a syringe and vial provided by the M. B. R. A. Test Inspector. All costs associated with the collection of a blood sample shall be borne by the Person(s) Responsible for the horse.

Any horse(s) having, or alleged to have, tested positive for a prohibited substance shall not compete in any M. B. R. A. approved or sanctioned event during the investigation, or the suspension period of the penalties imposed.

PENALTIES

The penalties of the M. B. R. A., at this time, are as follows

1) First offence: Expelled from association for a period of one year from the date of the infraction including the remainder of the competition, together with; the loss of entry fees paid, forfeiture of any monies, placings, prizes or points earned at that event. This includes any and all other horses owned by or shown by the Person Responsible at the time of the infraction.

2) Second Offence: Lifetime expulsion from the M. B. R. A.

In the case of owners or riders of multiple horses the following provisions will be in affect.

1) If a person who owns multiple horses is found to be in contravention of this drug policy and as a result penalties are imposed then all horses owned by that person will be subject to the same penalties. Should a situation arise where there are other horses owned by this owner but entered under the name of another competitor the Board of Directors will make a determination as to the following:

a) If, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the horse or horses are solely in the care and control of another competitor they may make the determination that this competitor and those horses are unaffected by the penalties.

b) If, in the opinion of the Board of Directors the horse or horses are still under the care and control of the owner, regardless of whose name they are entered in, then those horses will be subject to the penalties imposed.

The board of directors will, in all instances have the final say as to whether any horse will be allowed to continue to compete or not. Any person or persons who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, attempts to circumvent these penalties by changing ownership or riders will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board including but not limited to suspension or expulsion from the M. B. R. A.

2) If a rider is found to be in contravention of this drug policy and as a result penalties are imposed then that rider,, and any horses owned by that rider will be subject to the same penalties.

Any horses being ridden by that rider at the event, but owned by someone else, will be allowed to compete with another rider, provided that the other horses were not involved in the infraction.

3) In the case of minor children.

a) If, the parent or guardian of a minor child, (according to the records of the M. B. R. A.), is the one on whom the penalties are imposed, then the minor children may be allowed to continue to compete under the following conditions

i) Subject to approval by the Board of Directors, another parent or guardian may be appointed. The M. B. R. A. membership application must be amended to reflect this change and the new parent or guardian must be present at the event.

ii) If the horse ridden by the minor is the horse involved in the infraction it cannot be used.

iii) A person suspended for any reason by the M..B. R. A. can never be appointed as guardian for a minor in the M. B. R. A. while that suspension is in affect.

b) If in the case of minor children, it is the minor child who has committed the infraction then the minor child, together with the guardian, (according to the records of the M. B. R. A.)

will both be penalized.

When a situation arises where the Board of Directors are called upon to render a decision, that decision will be made by a majority of the directors present at that event.

If the directors feel that they are unable to render a decision at that time then the matter will be held over for a period of no less than 2 weeks and all subsequent decisions regarding the matter at hand will be made by a majority of all of the Board of Directors.

If, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, an outside arbitrator needs to be used then all matters relating to this must be dealt with within 30 days.

In all instances the Board of Directors have the right to determine when, where and how the matter shall be heard and shall provide an opportunity for anyone alleged to have contravened the M. B. R. A. Drug Policy to respond, prior to rendering a decision

If the Board of Directors decides that there has been a violation of any kind, then that person(s) will be notified of the decision and be made aware of the penalties involved either verbally, or in writing, as determined by the Board.

The decision of the Board of Directors in all instances will be considered final.

These penalties will be reviewed by the Board of Directors from time to time and will be adjusted as they see fit.