



# VETERINARY MATTERS & MEDICATION CONTROL

## 1. Veterinary Inspection

The veterinary inspection and the checking of passports and identification documents will commence on the 1st & 2nd Day of the Show (Timings will be informed later).

## 2. Vaccination against equine influenza

All horses must be up to date with their influenza vaccination. The confirmation of the vaccination history must be included in the horse passport and validated by the Organiser's Veterinarian.

### EQUINE INFLUENZA VACCINATION REGULATION for all horses competing in ECAHO competitions

- All horses must have received an initial Primary Course of two vaccination doses administered a minimum of 21 and a maximum of 92 days apart.

Foals should begin the primary course of vaccination at 6 months of age. It is under the owners' responsibility if they are shown before the primary course of vaccination is complete.

- The First Booster must be given within 7 calendar months following the date of administration of the second vaccination of the primary course.

Horses which have received a correct primary course of vaccinations may compete at an ECAHO event up to 7 months after the second dose of the Primary Course.

- Horses that were correctly certified as receiving the primary course prior to 2009 are not required to fulfil the requirement of the first booster, providing there has been no lapse in their vaccination regime.
- Further booster vaccinations must be given within 12 months of the last dose, or shorter intervals where local or national authorities require it.
- No vaccination may be given within 7 days of the day of arrival at the ECAHO event.
- Vaccines must be administered by a veterinarian. The details of the vaccine, serial/batch number and the date of administration must be recorded in the passport, signed and stamped by the veterinarian who administered the vaccination.
- The entering of vaccination details in a new passport or a duplicate: if the vaccination history of a horse is very long, the veterinarian may use the following statement "The vaccination history of this horse is correct to date..... (Enter the last vaccination date)", signed and stamped by a veterinarian.
- Sanctions for vaccination irregularities, considering a 12 month interval between boosters:
  - Up to 1 week late: a fine of €130 – The horse will be allowed to compete.
  - Between 1 and 2 weeks late: a fine of €200 – The horse will be allowed to compete.
  - More than 2 weeks late: a fine of €280, the horse will not be allowed to compete and must leave the show ground as soon as possible.
  - No correct primary course or first booster vaccination where required: a fine of €280, the horse will not be allowed to compete and must leave the show ground as soon as possible. (The vaccinations must be restarted as in articles 1 and 2).



### 3. ECAHO Rules for Medication Control

#### - Preface

For the ECAHO Rules for Medication Control the following definitions shall apply:

- The term “**sampling veterinarians**” refers to any FEI approved veterinarians and those veterinarians included in the List of ECAHO approved sampling veterinarians as available at [www.ecaho.org](http://www.ecaho.org).
- The term “**ECAHO approved testing laboratory**” defines the Laboratoire des Courses Hippiques (LCH), 15 Rue de Paradis, ZAC Pampidou, 91370, Verrieres le Buisson, France.
- The term “**Prohibited substances**” defines zero tolerance for those substances which are listed in the “FEI Equine Prohibited Substances List” as valid at the time of sample taking.
- The **testing procedures** will follow the current “Manual for sampling veterinarians” as issued by LCH laboratory.
- The **person responsible** is the person who signs the entry form, but the handler, owner, and other support personnel including but not limited to grooms and veterinarians may be regarded as additional persons responsible if they are present at the event or have made a relevant decision about the horse.

#### Rules

- The administration of any substance not a normal nutrient (including irritants applied to the skin and mucous membranes), whether intentionally or unintentionally, which may affect the performance, temperament or soundness of an exhibit is forbidden. Such substances are listed in the list of prohibited substances.

2 a) At all ECAHO affiliated shows medication testing may be carried out at the discretion of the DC or the judges.

b) At all Title shows and A-shows the medication testing of all Gold Medal champions is compulsory.

c) Any horse at any show may be tested at the discretion of the DC or judges.

3. Both urine- and blood samples must be taken according to the “Manual for sampling veterinarians” which is enclosed with the sampling kits. If after a prolonged wait (no less than 30 minutes), no urine sample can be obtained, blood collection only is acceptable. Only sampling veterinarians may collect and they samples may not act in any other capacity at a show in which they have been appointed sampling veterinarians.

4 The organiser will provide fresh bedding and a clean box for each horse to be tested. These boxes will be marked as sampling boxes and will be used exclusively for this purpose. They should be located in a quiet environment with no public access.

**5. All samples taken at a show must only be sent to the ECAHO approved testing laboratory which is the Laboratoire des Courses Hippiques, Verrieres le Buisson, France.**

The sampling kits, their transport from and to the ECAHO approved testing laboratory, analyses and honoraria of sampling veterinarians will be paid by the show organizer or by the National Registry/Association.

6. Any exhibit for which the sampling veterinarian certifies that in his opinion the collection of blood, urine or other substances may endanger the exhibit concerned or the persons handling such exhibit, will inform the DC’s who will disqualify the horse and forward the case to the SDC. Any horse so disqualified will not receive any prize or title and will not compete further at the show concerned.

7. Horses withdrawn from such test by the person responsible will not receive any prize or title, will not compete further at the show concerned and will be treated as if positive. The case will be forwarded to the SDC.



8. The ECAHO approved testing laboratory will send the results of the tests to the ECAHO Executive Secretary and the organizer of the show.
9. All offences of the Medication Control rules will be dealt with by the Standing Disciplinary Committee (SDC).
10. In the event that an exhibit is tested positive, the person responsible will be held fully responsible for the horse unless such person can provide full and proper evidence implicating some other person.
11. When a notification is received that a horse tested positive for prohibited substances, the Executive Secretary will forward the test results to the SDC, together with the details of horse and show concerned and will ask the show organiser for copies of the entry forms to be sent to the SDC. The SDC will consider all evidence available.
12. a) When a horse has been tested positive for prohibited substances, the person responsible will be informed and be offered the option of a second test (B sample). The request for such second test must be directed to the Executive Secretary in writing within 30 days after the receipt of notification is confirmed. **In the event that there is no specific confirmation of receipt, receipt shall be assumed to have occurred after ten (10) days from dispatch of the notice.** With such request, the person responsible may request a hearing at which the SDC will meet and the person responsible or his representative may be heard. Such hearing may be held not less than 42 days after the person responsible has been informed.
13. a) Horses in whose body fluids a forbidden substance is discovered are automatically disqualified from the competition concerned if no second test (B sample) is requested. Should a second test (B sample) be requested by the person responsible and found positive, the disqualification shall become effective after this second result has been communicated to the person responsible.  
b) The laboratory used for the analysis of the B sample shall be determined by ECAHO. However the person responsible may elect to have the B sample analyzed at one of the following **approved laboratories for B tests**: Laboratoire des Course Hippiques (L.C.H), France; Horseracing Forensic Laboratories (H.F.L), UK; The Hong Kong Jockey Club, Sha Tin, Hong Kong.  
c) Should the second test be negative all proceedings will be terminated.
14. a) The penalty for the use of prohibited medication will be a fine of up to 2000 Euro per horse, and the loss of place, title, qualification and the return of any trophies and/or prize money, and the horse will be banned from participating in any ECAHO affiliated show for a period of one (1) year after the day the sanctions were imposed by the SDC. **If the fine is not paid within one year, the horse will continue to be banned for a longer period of time until the full amount of the fine is received by ECAHO.**  
b) The penalty for the use of irritants will be a fine of up to 1000 Euro per horse, and the loss of place, title and qualification and the return of any trophies and/or prize money. **The horse will be banned from participating in any ECAHO affiliated show until the full amount of the fine is received by ECAHO.**
15. The person responsible will be liable for all costs of medication testing and subsequent costs of investigation, possible legal proceedings and all other follow-up costs arising out of this case; with regards to further sanctions against the person responsible and the horse concerned, rule 24 of RDC is applicable. **The horse(s) concerned will be banned from participating from any ECAHO affiliated shows until the full amount of the costs are received by ECAHO.**
16. Decisions are made public at the conclusion of the proceedings.