

BRITISH HARNESS RACING CLUB



RULES AND REGULATIONS

Y Section
(2023) Version 2

These Rules and Regulations are the property of The British Harness Racing Club and to be used only for races and racing matters administered directly or indirectly by the British Harness Racing Club

Use of these rules, copying, transcription or any other matter is expressly forbidden

This document is available in large print upon request from the Registered Office

These rules are the copyright of The British Harness Racing Club

**Issued by the Stewards of the British Harness Racing Club,
Registered Office: PJE Accountants 23 College Street, Lampeter, SA48 7DY**

PART EIGHT - MEDICATION AND DRUG CONTROL
SECTION Y

Objectives of the Anti-Doping Code

1. The objective and intention of this Code is to protect the integrity of harness horseracing and the welfare of horses participating in harness horseracing by controlling and limiting the use of substances capable of giving a horse an advantage or disadvantage and to protect the horse's welfare and health through controlling the use of substances that might have an adverse impact on either its welfare or its health or both.
2. The Anti-Doping Code places the responsibility and obligation on the Responsible Person to safeguard and protect horses in his care from Prohibited Substances and requires the Responsible Person to ensure that each horse's health and welfare are treated as paramount considerations in all of the Responsible Person's dealings with each horse.
3. By agreeing to be bound by these Rules and this Anti-Doping Code, every Responsible Person accepts that it is his personal duty and obligation to comply with the spirit of the Code and each provision of it.
4. By this Code the BHRC may issue an order excluding any person from all premises approved or licenced by the BHRC including training establishments and racecourses whether or not that person is bound by the Rules of the BHRC including this Code in circumstances where it is in the interests of harness racing to do so. Such an order may be for a fixed or indefinite period. In circumstances where such an order is made the recipient shall be entitled to request a hearing before the Disciplinary Panel of the BHRC by way of appeal of such order. The procedure to be adopted would be that for a Hearing as set out in this Code.

Duties of the Responsible Person

1. To ensure that no Prohibited Substance and/or their Metabolites and/or Markers are present in a horse's system on the day on which it races and/or from the point it arrives at a racecourse whether or not the horse actually runs in a race on that day.
2. Subject to paragraph 1 above, to take all reasonable precautions to ensure that all horses in his care are not exposed to Prohibited Substances other than during the bona fide treatment of horses under the specific direction of a Veterinary Surgeon. The BHRC shall have the power to require any Responsible Person at any time to explain to the BHRC what precautions he has put in place to comply with this requirement.
3. To ensure that no horse is permitted to run in any race when the Responsible Person knows, or by the exercise of reasonable care should or might have known that a horse had or may have received any substance for whatever reason that could result in a positive test for a Prohibited Substance.
4. To fully cooperate with the Testing of the horse.
5. Not to bring or cause to have brought onto a racecourse on a race day any Prohibited Substance or any means of administering such substance to include but not limited to needles, nasal gastric tubes, gastric tubes, ventilators and nebulisers.
6. To be responsible and account for the actions and omissions of any third party who the Responsible Person permits or otherwise allows to be in contact with a horse including in circumstances where the Responsible Person has delegated to the third party the supervision, care and/or control of the horse.
7. To keep and maintain a written record of each of the following in respect of every horse:
 - 7.1 Influenza vaccinations
 - 7.2 All veterinary treatment
 - 7.3 All medication administered whether by a veterinary surgeon or otherwise
 - 7.4 All Prohibited Substances administered to a horse as part of legitimate veterinary care.
8. To place the protection of horses in his care from Prohibited Substances and to ensure that each horse's health and welfare are treated as paramount considerations in all their dealings with each horse.
9. To fully assist and engage with any investigation undertaken by the BHRC in respect of the horse and/or any other horses including but not limited to ensure that individuals authorised by the BHRC are able to enter premises used by the Responsible Person to either train or stable horses whether or not those premises are owned or controlled by the Responsible Person and to enable examination by a person or persons authorised by the BHRC of any horse in the Care of the Responsible Person. The BHRC shall have the right to authorise the search of such premises and to make inspection of any part of those premises but limited to vehicles, equipment, forage and/or medication.

During a stable visit, if a horse registered with the Trainer is not present (without valid reason, i.e., vet, racing etc.) then the 28 day rule will be invoked with the day of the visit being classed as day 1. Evidence will need to be provided to validate any absences. ([Amended 2021](#))

Matters that constitute a breach of the Anti-Doping Code

A Responsible Person will be in breach of the Anti-Doping Code in each of the following circumstances (the “Rules”):

- Rule 1. The Responsible Person is strictly liable for any Prohibited Substances found in a Sample taken from a horse for which they are responsible. The strict liability nature of this Rule will apply in respect of all Prohibited Substances found in a Sample taken from a horse whilst at a racecourse whether or not the horse runs. In all other circumstances where a Sample is taken other than on a racecourse this Rule is intended to be applied strictly other than where the Prohibited Substance has been administered to the horse as part of legitimate veterinary care for that horse and was administered under the specific direction of a Veterinary Surgeon, where this is accurately recorded in the Medication Records Book. The presence of a Prohibited Substance and/or Metabolites and/or Markers in a Sample will constitute a breach of the Rules. It is the obligation of the Responsible Person to be familiar with what constitutes a Prohibited Substance. It is not necessary for the BHRC to demonstrate intent, fault, negligence or actual knowledge to establish a breach of this Rule.
- Rule 2. Administering or attempting to administer any Prohibited Substance to a horse other than as part of legitimate veterinary treatment of a horse and where it is administered under the specific direction of a veterinary surgeon.
- The burden of proof under Rules 1, 2 and 5 that any prohibited substance was administered or attempted to be administered as part of legitimate veterinary treatment under the control and/or direction of a veterinary surgeon shall be on the Responsible Person.
- Rule 3. Administering a Prohibited Substance to a horse with the intention to affect the racing performance (either positively or negatively) of that horse in a race and/or in its training regime.
- Rule 4. Permitting a horse to run in any race and/or to bring a horse onto a racecourse whether or not it runs in a race if the Responsible Person knows, or if by the exercise of reasonable care, he might have known or have cause to believe, that a horse has or may have received for any reason or has otherwise ingested any substance that remains in its system so that it could result in a positive test for a Prohibited Substance.
- Rule 5. In all other circumstances not referred to in rule 4 above failing to take reasonable precautions at all times to ensure that all horses in his care are not exposed to Prohibited Substances at any time other than during bona fide treatment under the specific direction of a Veterinary Surgeon always provided that the burden of proof in demonstrating that a Prohibited Substance was administered as part of a bona fide treatment by a veterinary surgeon lies with the Responsible Person. In the case of a horse being the subject to bona fide treatment by a Veterinary Surgeon the Responsible Person remains obliged to comply with all other elements of the Code including Rules 1-4 and 6-16 of this part of the Code including the obligation to ensure that the Horse is free of Prohibited Substances before entering a racecourse and/or running in a race.

- Rule 6. Evading or attempting to evade a Test. At the discretion of the Board of Directors a 6 month suspension of all licences with immediate effect.
- Rule 7. Refusing to submit a horse for a Test/or failing to co-operate with a Test and/or attempting to tamper or tampers with a Sample. At the discretion of the Board of Directors a 6 month suspension of all licences with immediate effect.
- Rule 8. Bringing onto the racecourse on a race day or causing another person to do so any Prohibited Substance or any means of administering such substance including but not limited to needles, nasal gastric tubes, gastric tubes, ventilators and nebulisers. It is not necessary for the BHRC to demonstrate intent, fault, negligence or actual knowledge to establish a breach of this paragraph.
- Rule 9. Being found in possession on a race day of any such equipment or means or administering a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Substance itself is a breach of these rules. It is not necessary for the BHRC to demonstrate intent, fault, negligence or actual knowledge to establish a breach of this paragraph.
- Rule 10. The actual or attempted:
10.1 Manipulation of blood or blood components
10.2 Blood transfusion
10.3 Artificial enhancement of a horse's ability to carry, uptake and/or deliver oxygen for the purpose of enhancing a horse's racing performance at any time.
- Rule 11. The Responsible Person must account and be responsible for the actions and omissions of any third party who the Responsible Person permits or otherwise allows to be in contact with the horse including in circumstances where the Responsible Person has delegated to the third party the supervision, care and/or control of the horse and will be in breach of these provisions in the event that such a third party acts or behaves in a manner that would have constituted a breach of the Anti-Doping Code had the third party been a Responsible Person. It is not necessary for the BHRC to demonstrate intent, fault, negligence or actual knowledge to establish a breach of this paragraph.
- Rule 12. Encouraging, coercing, causing or otherwise assisting others to commit a breach of the Anti-Doping Code.
- Rule 13. Trafficking or attempting to Traffic any Prohibited Substance.
- Rule 14. Failure to act in a manner that meets and is consistent with the Objectives of the Anti-Doping Code.
- Rule 15. Failure to maintain the BHRC official Medication Book and/or to record every treatment given to a horse whether administered by a veterinary surgeon or otherwise as required by paragraph 7 – Duties of the Responsible Person.
- Rule 16. Failing to engage or otherwise assist the BHRC in respect of any investigation that it undertakes in relations to these rules.
- Rule 17. To otherwise fail to comply fully with the duties of the Responsible Person set out in this Code.

Sufficiency of evidence

1. The presence of a Prohibited Substance will be proved if a Prohibited Substance is found in the horse's A sample when the B sample is not analysed for whatever reason. If both A and B samples are analysed, if a Prohibited Substance is found in both the A and B samples the presence of a Prohibited Substance will be proved.
2. Once the presence of a Prohibited Substance is proved in accordance with paragraph 1 above, the burden of proof in explaining how the Prohibited Substance came to be in the horse's Sample rests with the Responsible Person.
3. The standard of proof is the civil standard as it applies to the Law of England and Wales – balance of probabilities.

Testing

1. The BHRC is entitled to Test any horse at any time in connection with harness horseracing and at any location without prior notice whether or not the horse is in training or out of training.
2. Horses will be selected for Testing at the discretion of and on the order of The Stewards or Track Stewards. Selection will be either random or targeted. They are not required to provide any explanation as to why or on what basis any horse is selected to be tested.
3. The BHRC shall be responsible for all Testing conducted within these rules. Samples may be obtained by an Appointed Veterinary Surgeon or an Appointed Testing Officer. Testing shall be undertaken, and samples collected in accordance with the Sample Collection Procedure published on the BHRC's website.
4. Failure to comply with the Sample Collection Procedure which did not cause a Positive Analysis will not lead to a Positive Analysis being invalid. In circumstances where the Responsible Person establishes that a failure to comply with the Sample Collection Procedure may reasonably have caused a Positive Analysis it will be for the BHRC to establish on the balance of probabilities that the failure to comply was not the cause of the Positive Analysis.
5. In the unfortunate circumstances of a horse dying on a track, the Chief Steward must inform the Regional Steward/Integrity Officer. Samples must be collected for analysis. *(Addition 2022)*

Analysis and storage of Samples

1. Samples will be analysed only in laboratories approved by the BHRC.
2. In the event that the Responsible Person elects to have the B sample analysed, he can nominate a different laboratory to the one which undertook the A Sample analysis always provided that the laboratory nominated is approved by the BHRC. On request, the BHRC will provide to a Responsible Person a list of laboratories approved by the BHRC.
3. The BHRC shall have the right to store Samples indefinitely and to conduct further and other analysis of them at any time. In the event that such further or other analysis produces a positive for a Prohibited Substance or otherwise where any other potential breach of the Code is identified, then the Anti-Doping Code will apply to the Responsible Person in relation to such analysis.
4. All Samples obtained under these Rules and the Anti-Doping Code from a horse are and shall remain the property of the British Harness Racing Club.
5. Laboratories undertaking analysis will be presumed to have conducted such analysis of the Sample and to have put in place a secure chain of custody of the Sample in accordance with laboratory standards and to have properly stored the remaining parts of either the A and/or B Samples having properly re-sealed the Sample.
6. In circumstances where a Responsible Person establishes that a failure to comply with laboratory standards may reasonably have caused a Positive Analysis, it will be for the BHRC to establish on the balance of probabilities that the failure to comply was not the cause of the Positive Analysis. Any failure to comply with laboratory standards which did not cause a Positive Analysis will not lead to a Positive Analysis being invalid.

Notification and analysis of B Sample

1. In the event of a Positive Analysis being reported in respect of the A Sample, the Responsible Person will be notified by the BHRC.
2. A request by the Responsible Person for the B Sample to be analysed must be made within 14 days of the BHRC's notification.
3. Any request by the Responsible Person for the B sample to be analysed must be accompanied by the relevant analysis fee as quoted by the BHRC approved laboratory nominated to undertake the B Sample analysis.
4. This Anti-Doping Code applies to every horse that either runs in races regulated by the BHRC or is being trained to run in such races. Determination of whether or not a horse meets those criteria will be a matter for the BHRC alone. In the event that a Prohibited Substance is found in a Sample taken from a horse which is entered or has run in a race regulated by the BHRC or is being prepared to run in such a race, but which is trained abroad, the BHRC, in addition to applying the Anti-Doping Code, will inform the governing body of the territory where the horse is trained.
5. The BHRC shall have the right at its discretion to order that a horse be re-tested and further Samples taken from the horse in any circumstances where the A Sample of that horse has on analysis resulted in a positive test for a Prohibited Substance.
6. The BHRC shall have the power to require that a horse be quarantined in the BHRC's care, custody and control for a period of no more than 21 days following a Prohibited Substance being identified on analysis of the A Sample.

Results management and process

1. The BHRC shall have the power to undertake any investigation that it reasonably deems necessary in respect of a positive analysis.

Those licensed by the BHRC are required by these rules to engage with and assist the BHRC fully in respect of such an investigation. Failure to do so would constitute a breach of these rules.

Following receipt of a sample analysis that returns a Positive Analysis for a Prohibited Substance and following any preliminary investigation undertaken by the BHRC, the BHRC will notify the Responsible Person in writing of the positive analysis.

2. The Responsible Person shall have a period of 14 days in which to request analysis of the B sample such B sample to be analysed in accordance with the Code. The Responsible Person shall be responsible for the payment of the costs of the B Sample, other than in circumstances where the B samples returns a negative analysis for any prohibited substance, in which case the cost of the B sample shall be met by the BHRC.
3. Following an analysis of the B sample in circumstances when the Responsible Person requests that the B sample be analysed, and that analysis is found to be negative for any Prohibited Substance, the findings of the A sample shall be discounted, and no further action will be taken.
4. In circumstances where (1) the A and B sample both return a positive analysis for a prohibited substance or (2) the Responsible Person does not request that the B sample be analysed and the A sample has previously returned a positive for a prohibited substance, the matter will fall to be considered by the Disciplinary Panel.

Hearing

1. All hearings in respect of this code will be before the Disciplinary Panel, which shall decide all matters concerning potential breaches of the code.
2. The hearing process will be triggered by the BHRC sending a Notice to the Responsible Person(s) of the allegations of breach that the Disciplinary Panel will be invited to decide, together with a case summary setting out the material aspects of the BHRC's case and the evidence on which it seeks to rely.
3. Within 21 days of receiving the Notice the Responsible Person will provide his response, setting out in clear terms the nature of the Responsible Person's response to the notice, including whether or not the responsible person admits to the breaches alleged, together with a summary of the nature of any defence and the evidence in which the Responsible Person relies on including witness of fact and/or expert evidence. In respect of his preparation of the response, the Responsible Person shall be entitled to request a further 21 days in which to provide that response, such request not to be unreasonably denied by the BHRC. Any further extension of time will require the Responsible Person to make any application to the Disciplinary Panel.
4. The Disciplinary Panel shall determine all procedural matters, such determination may be delegated to the Chairman by the Disciplinary Panel always provided that hearings before the Disciplinary Panels comply with the principles of natural justice.
5. The Disciplinary Panel's focus and aim is to achieve a just and fair outcome for all parties concerned and, in those circumstances, matters of process are of secondary consideration to the primary objective of achieving a fair outcome that is just to all parties.
6. As a consequence, the Disciplinary Panel is not required to follow the strict rules of evidence as they apply to the criminal and/or civil courts and may admit such evidence and accord that evidence such weight as it reasonably considers appropriate.
7. All parties to proceedings before the Disciplinary Panel have the right to be legally represented at their own cost. Any party that chooses to be legally represented, must as soon as reasonably practical, notify the other party and the Disciplinary Tribunal of the identity of the legal representative – together with provision of contact details. Once a party is legally represented, all other parties and the Disciplinary Panel will deal directly with the legal representative.
8. All matters that are put before a Disciplinary Panel shall be and shall remain confidential, subject to the following:
 - The BHRC shall have the right to publish the fact that a Disciplinary Panel enquiry has been convened and to provide details of the breaches of the Code that have been alleged and to identify the Responsible Person.
 - The BHRC may publish at its discretion any written decision of a Disciplinary Panel including its reasons on liability and details of any sanction imposed.
 - The BHRC shall have the right to pass any information obtained during a hearing or an investigation to any law enforcement agency and/or any regulator of harness racing worldwide, in circumstances where the BHRC in its absolute discretion considers that it is appropriate to do so.

9. Whilst the BHRC shall have the right to record the tribunal hearings before the Disciplinary Panel, the deliberations of this Disciplinary Panel, shall remain private and unrecorded. Such deliberations will be held in the absence of all parties and a decision shall be reached by the Disciplinary Panel by way of simple majority.
10. Both the Responsible Person and the BHRC shall be entitled to appeal a decision of the Disciplinary Panel in accordance with the process set out in the BHRC Rules at section U.

1. Threshold substances

Threshold substances as referred to in the definition of Prohibited substances in this Code are listed at paragraph 2 below.

Thresholds can only be adopted for:

- Substances endogenous to the horse
- Substances arising from plants traditionally grazed or harvested as equine feed
- The governing Body shall determine such thresholds from time to time

2. Threshold levels

Threshold substance name	Threshold
Arsenic	0.3 microgram total arsenic per millilitre in urine
Carbon dioxide	36 millimoles available carbon dioxide per litre in plasma
Cobalt	100 micrograms per litre of urine 25 parts per billion in plasma
Dimethyl sulfoxide	5 micrograms dimethyl sulfoxide per millilitre in urine or 1 microgram dimethyl sulfoxide per millilitre in plasma
Hydrocortisone	1 microgram hydrocortisone per millilitre in urine
Nandrolone	Free and conjugated 5 α – estrane 3 β , 17 α – diol to free and conjugated 5 [10] – estrane - 3 β , 17 α – diol in urine at a ratio of 1
Salicylic acid	750 micrograms salicylic acid per millilitre in urine or 5.5 micrograms salicylic acid per millilitre in plasma
Testosterone	0.02 microgram free and conjugated epitestosterone in urine from fillies and mares at a ratio of 1B
Theobromine	2 micrograms theobromine per millilitre in urine

The governing body will use (unless otherwise stated) the international screening limitis/thresholds as listed by the IFHA/other approved organisation.

In all cases when the substances listed above are found on analysis to be in a sample at a level in excess of the threshold set out above, that substance will be deemed to be a Prohibited Substance.

3. TCO2 Sampling

Samples taken may be analysed by the BHRC or a qualified Veterinary Surgeon using a blood gas analyser or may be forwarded to any accredited laboratory for analysis.

3.1 In the event that a blood gas analyser records a TCO₂ level above the permitted threshold of 36 millimoles available carbon dioxide per litre in plasma, a minimum of three further blood samples will be required from the horse at 30 minute intervals post-race. The horse will therefore be retained in the custody of the BHRC for a minimum period of two hours after the last race it competes in.

3.2 Any removal of the horse or attempt to remove the horse from the custody of the nominated official will be considered a breach of this Code.

3.3 In the event that a blood gas analyser records TCO₂ level above the permitted threshold, all samples retrieved post-race will be forwarded to an accredited laboratory for analysis. If the laboratory records a TCO₂ level above the permitted threshold the costs of that analysis will be borne by the Owner/Trainer.

4. For any finding of a prohibited substance of endogenous nature, the Governing Body may decide either itself or at the Owner's or Trainer's request to examine the horse further.

5. Prohibited Substances

As recorded in the Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances published by the Association of Racing Commissioners International from time to time and/or substances published by the BHRC on its website or in this Code as threshold substances when found in a Sample to be in excess of the threshold levels or values set out in this Code and/or any other substances published by the BHRC on its website or in this Code as being a substance prohibited by the Code.

5.1 Furosemide (Lasix) is a Prohibited Substance and its presence at any level of concentration in a Sample will be a breach of this provision.

5.2 (a) Regumate is not permitted for use from 1st January 2019. Any laboratory analysis detecting the presence of Regumate after this date will be classed as a positive test. *(Addition 2011/Amended 2018)*

(b) Omeprazole and Ranitidine are permitted as gastric ulcer medication provided that the BHRC are notified in writing by a Veterinary Surgeon of the prescription, the treatment is recorded in the horse's passport and treatment is withdrawn three (3) clear days prior to competition. Such horses will be recorded on the race card with '(OR)' as a suffix. *(Addition 2016)*

Penalties and guidance on penalties

This section sets out the framework on penalties which Disciplinary Panels are required to work to. Whilst this framework is not intended to override the discretion of the Disciplinary Panel, it is intended that the framework is seen as more than mere guidance but as the framework which Disciplinary Panels are expected to operate and that it will only be departed from in exceptional circumstances. In those cases where the Disciplinary Panel does depart from this framework – whether that departure is because an individual case justifies a greater or lesser penalty – then Disciplinary Panels should set out in clear written terms their reasons for departing from the framework.

Guiding principles

1. Any non-suspension penalty will normally only be appropriate in circumstances where the Responsible Person has demonstrated he was entirely not at fault in respect of the matters in which he has been found in breach. In circumstances where a Responsible Person is able to demonstrate that he is not at fault (normally by identifying to the satisfaction of the Disciplinary Panel (on the balance of probabilities) the person or persons who were responsible), a Disciplinary Panel is entitled to consider no fault as mitigation and in exceptional cases sufficient mitigation might exist to permit the imposition of a non-suspension penalty. A Responsible Person may only be found to be not at fault in circumstances where he has established to the satisfaction of the Disciplinary Panel that they did not know or suspect and could not reasonably have known or suspected – having demonstrated that they acted with the utmost caution – that the events or matters being considered had occurred.
2. Paragraph 1 above is to be considered in the light of this and subsequent paragraphs in this section. The Responsible Person is responsible for all veterinary treatment administered to horses in his care including by any third party. The Responsible Person cannot rely, by way of mitigation, on the fact that treatment has been recommended and/or advised by a treating veterinary surgeon or that the treating veterinary surgeon had advised on medication withdrawal times. Such advice must be considered by a Responsible Person as being for guidance only. A Responsible Person is required and is under a duty to personally manage and make certain that any medication being administered is permitted under this Anti-Doping Code and that sufficient time has elapsed to ensure certainty that any such medication has passed through the horse's system before a horse runs a race. It is the responsibility of the Responsible Person to, for example, have a horse tested prior to running a horse to eliminate any doubt or uncertainty. The fact that a particular medicine or treatment has been prescribed or administered by a veterinary surgeon and/or that a veterinary surgeon has given advice on withdrawal periods does not excuse the Responsible Person from investigating to the fullest extent that the medication does not contain Prohibited Substances and/or that no such Prohibited Substances remain in the horse's system at the time that it runs in a race and/or arrives at a racecourse whether or not it runs in a race.
3. Cases where the existence of a Prohibited Substance in a horse's system risked compromising or actually compromised that horse's welfare should be considered by disciplinary panels as being substantially aggravating in nature and penalties imposed should reflect that.
4. In these guidelines where a penalty range is provided penalty should be imposed within that range subject to paragraph 1 above to reflect any mitigatory or aggravating features. Where the range include an entry point penalty that should be the start point for such deliberations.

5. Where there is no penalty range provided but a single-entry point penalty then that penalty is a fixed penalty and must be imposed.
6. In circumstances where the matter being considered is a second offence (by which it is meant a second offence of any part of the Anti-Doping Code not just the specific breach being considered) the Disciplinary Panel must impose a suspension by way of penalty. Whilst paragraph 1 may be considered when considering the length of any penalty it will not operate to reduce the penalty to a fine.
7. Disciplinary panels may within the confines of this guidance fine a Responsible Person, suspend their licence or licences and/or impose a penalty that is a combination of both fine and suspension.
8. Disciplinary panels may give credit for a timely admission of breach of the Rules in circumstances where the admission is made at the earliest opportunity – such credit should be reflected by no more than a 25% discount in the penalty that would ultimately have been imposed.

**RESPONSIBLE PERSON
(including Trainers and Owners)**

PENALTY CATEGORY RULE 1 BREACH – ENTRY POINT, FIRST OFFENCE

CLASS OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE		A	B	Any other penalty class
	Class 1 ENTRY POINT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Year suspension of all licences and • Fine of £3,000 or 20% of prize money whichever is the greater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Year suspension of all licences and • Fine of £1,500 or 20% of prize money whichever is the greater
Class 1 RANGE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-5 year suspension and • £2000 - £5000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 month – 2 year suspension and • £1000 - £2000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-9 month suspension and • £250 - £750 fine

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse to be suspended for one year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse to be suspended for six months 	
---	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:

- Disqualification of the horse from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Loss of any prize money from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Payment of all of the BHRC’s costs associated with the testing, investigation and hearing, this includes for example (but not limited to) costs of integrity testing, investigation and prosecution which are to be met by the Responsible Person
- Any handicap penalties incurred on the day of sampling (from any race if a positive sample is returned from either pre- or post-race testing) shall be retained on the handicap mark allotted to the horse
- Horse subject to integrity testing by the BHRC (such testing at the BHRC’s discretion in terms of scope). Costs of integrity testing to be met by the Responsible Person.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON
(including Trainers and Owners)

PENALTY CATEGORY RULE 1 BREACH – ENTRY POINT, FIRST OFFENCE

		A	B	Any other penalty class
CLASS OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE	Class 2 ENTRY POINT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Year suspension of all licences and • Fine of £3,000 or 20% of prize money whichever is the greater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Year suspension of all licences and • Fine of £1,500 or 20% of prize money whichever is the greater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 months suspension of Trainer's licence and • Fine of £500
	Class 2 RANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 month–4 year suspension and • £2000 - £5000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 months–18 month suspension and • £1000 - £2000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-7 month suspension and • £250 - £750 fine

FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:

- Disqualification of the horse from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Loss of any prize money from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Payment of all of the BHRC's costs associated with the testing, investigation and hearing inc for example but not limited to, costs of integrity testing, investigation and prosecution, which are to be met by the Responsible Person
- Any handicap penalties incurred on the day of sampling (from any race if a positive sample is returned from either pre- or post-race testing) shall be retained on the handicap mark allotted to the horse
- Horse subject to integrity testing by the BHRC (such testing at the BHRC's discretion in terms of scope). Costs of integrity testing to be met by the Responsible Person.

**RESPONSIBLE PERSON
(including Trainers and Owners)**

PENALTY CATEGORY RULE 1 BREACH – ENTRY POINT, FIRST OFFENCE

		A	B	Any other penalty class
	Class 3 ENTRY POINT (except cobalt – see below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Year suspension of all licences and • Fine of £2,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 months suspension of all licences and • Fine of £1,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 months suspension of Trainer’s licence and • Fine of £500
	Class 3 RANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-3 year suspension and • £1000 - £3000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-12 month suspension and • £500 - £1500 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 – 3 month suspension and • £500 - £1000 fine

	Cobalt	<p>FIRST OFFENCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 month suspension of all licences and £2500 fine <p>SECOND OFFENCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year suspension of all licences and £5000 fine 	
--	--------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:

- Disqualification of the horse from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Loss of any prize money from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Payment of all of the BHRC’s costs associated with the testing, investigation and hearing including for example (but not limited to), costs of integrity testing, investigation and prosecution which are to be met by the Responsible Person
- Any handicap penalties incurred on the day of sampling (from any race if a positive sample is returned from either pre- or post-race testing) shall be retained on the handicap mark allotted to the horse
- Horse subject to integrity testing by the BHRC (such testing at the BHRC’s discretion in terms of scope). Costs of integrity testing to be met by the Responsible Person.

**RESPONSIBLE PERSON
(including Trainers and Owners)**

PENALTY CATEGORY RULE 1 BREACH – ENTRY POINT, FIRST OFFENCE

		A	B	Any other penalty class
	Class 4 ENTRY POINT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 month suspension of all licences and • Fine of £2,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 months suspension of all licences and • Fine of £1,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 months suspension of Trainer’s licence and • Fine of £500
	RANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 – 24 month suspension and • £1000 - £3000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 – 12 month suspension and • £500 - £1500 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 – 3 month suspension and • £250 - £750 fine

FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:

- Disqualification of the horse from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Loss of any prize money from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Payment of all of the BHRC’s costs associated with the testing, investigation and hearing including for example (but not limited to) costs of integrity testing, investigation and prosecution which are to be met by the Responsible Person
- Any handicap penalties incurred on the day of sampling (from any race if a positive sample is returned from either pre- or post-race testing) shall be retained on the handicap mark allotted to the horse
- Horse subject to integrity testing by the BHRC (such testing at the BHRC’s discretion in terms of scope). Costs of integrity testing to be met by the Responsible Person.

ALL OTHER CATEGORIES NOT COVERED ABOVE

RESPONSIBLE PERSON (including Trainers and Owners)				
PENALTY CATEGORY RULE 1 BREACH – ENTRY POINT, FIRST OFFENCE				
		A	B	Any other penalty class
	Class 5 (or any other categories not listed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 month suspension of all licences and Fine of £1,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 months suspension of all licences and Fine of £500 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 months suspension of Trainer's licence and Fine of £250
	RANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6-18 month suspension and £500 - £2000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-6 month suspension and £250 - £1000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 – 3 month suspension and £150 - £500 fine

OTHER

	TCO2	FIRST OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 year suspension of all licences and £2000 fine 	SECOND OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 year suspension of all licences and £4000 fine
	Cobalt	FIRST OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36 month suspension of all licences £2500 fine 	SECOND OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 year suspension of all licences £5000 fine
	Furosemide (Lasix)	FIRST OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 month suspension of all licences £1000 fine 	SECOND OFFENCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ½ year suspension of all licences £2000 fine

FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:

- Disqualification of the horse from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Loss of any prize money from race if horse was subject to pre- or post-race testing
- Payment of all of the BHRC's costs associated with the testing, investigation and hearing for example (but not limited to) costs of integrity testing, investigation and prosecution which are to be met by the Responsible Person
- Any handicap penalties incurred on the day of sampling (from any race if a positive sample is returned from either pre- or post-race testing) shall be retained on the handicap mark allotted to the horse
- Horse subject to integrity testing by the BHRC (such testing at the BHRC's discretion in terms of scope). Costs of integrity testing to be met by the Responsible Person.

Set out below is the recommended entry level penalty in respect of other breaches of the Anti-Doping Code:

Rule	Breach	Recommended entry level penalty	Range
2	Attempting to administer a Prohibited Substance to a horse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three month suspension of Trainer's licence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 – 6 month suspension
3	Administering a Prohibited Substance to a horse with the intention of affecting its racing performance, either positively or negatively:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year suspension of all licences and • £3000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 – 10 year suspension • £3000 - £10,000 fine
4	Permitting a horse running a race, exercise of reasonable care, believe or cause to believe that the horse could test positive for a prohibited substance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of Trainer's licence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 – 24 month suspension of Trainer's licence
5	Failure to take reasonable precautions to ensure horses are not exposed to Prohibited Substances:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of Trainer's licence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 – 12 month suspension of Trainer's licence
6	Evading or attempting to evade a test at any point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of all licences with immediate effect* • Horse(s) to be suspended until a negative test result is returned. Costs of integrity testing, investigation/testing/hearing borne by Responsible Person. • FINE £3000 • Disqualification from race, loss of race/prizemoney, retention of handicap mark <p>*At the discretion of the Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 – 12 month suspension of all licences with immediate effect • Horse(s) suspended until a negative test is returned. Costs of integrity testing/investigation/hearing borne by Responsible Person • FINE £2000-£5000 • Disqualification from race, loss of race/prizemoney, retention of handicap mark
7	Refusing to submit a horse(s) for testing and/or failing to cooperate with the test/attempting to tamper with sample at any point: In respect of both Rule 6 and Rule 7 the following principles shall apply:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 months licence suspension of all licences with immediate effect* • Horse(s) to be suspended until a negative test result is returned. Costs borne by Responsible Person. • Fine £3000 <p>*At the discretion of the Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 – 12 month suspension of all licences with immediate effect • Horse(s) suspended until a negative test is returned. Costs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request to a Responsible Person to make a horse available for sampling made of the same or differing horses but on separate days (including sequential days) shall be treated as separate breaches of either/or Rule 6 and 7. • The penalty for a second offence is to be at least twice that imposed for a first offence and should be reflected by a suspension at the top end of the penalty range – 12 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification from race, loss of race/prizemoney, retention of handicap mark 	<p>borne by Responsible Person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FINE £2000-£5000 • Disqualification from race, loss of race/prizemoney, retention of handicap mark
8	Bringing onto the racecourse any Prohibited Substances or means to administer:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £300 - £2000 fine
9	Found in possession on a race day of any equipment or means of administering a Prohibited Substance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £300 – £2000 fine
10	Blood doping/blood manipulation/transfusions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 year suspension of all licences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 – 10 year suspension
11	Responsibility for action of third parties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where actions can be attributed to an identified third party to the satisfaction of a Panel penalty to be discounted by 1/3 from what is would have been if the breach had been committed by the Responsible Person. Third Party to be excluded from the sport of harness racing for a period set at the discretion of the Panel. • Otherwise, penalty the same as if the breach had been committed by the Responsible Person. • In terms of the third party – exclusion order for a period referable to the breach if committed by a Responsible Person. 	

12	Encouraging, coercing or causing others to assist to commit a breach:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalty to be applied as if that person had committed the act themselves – act of encouragement to be considered an aggravating feature 	
13	Trafficking or attempting to traffic any prohibited substance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of all licences and • £1500 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month – 3 year suspension of all licences and • £1500 - £3000 fine
14	Acting in a manner that does not meet the objectives of the Anti-Doping Code or otherwise fails to fulfil the duties of a Responsible Person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 - £3000 fine
15a	Failing to submit a Treatment and Medication record book:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 fine
15b	Failing to accurately keep up-to-date Treatment and Medication Record Book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £200 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £100-£500
16	Failing to engage or otherwise assist the BHRC in respect of any investigation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of all licences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month – 3 year suspension of all licences
17	To otherwise fail to comply fully with the duties of the Responsible Person set out in this code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month suspension of all licences • £500 fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month – 3 year suspension of all licences • £500-£1000 fine

PENALTIES

In circumstances where more than one period of suspension is imposed unless otherwise directed in this Code a disciplinary panel may order such periods of suspension to be served either concurrently or consecutively. The disciplinary panel may decide the date on which any period of suspension imposed should begin taking into account for example whether the sport of harness racing is in the off season at the time of any hearing – in which case, a panel may consider it appropriate that a suspension is served during the season.

COSTS

In respect of all breaches and penalties listed above the BHRC shall be entitled to payment of all its costs incurred in the investigation, hearing and any testing undertaken in connection with any stage.

SECOND OFFENCES

Multiple positive tests for the same medication incurred by a trainer prior to delivery of official notification by the governing body MAY be treated as a single violation, two individual first offences, or a first and second offence (subject to circumstances).

In the case of a positive test indicating multiple substances found in a single pre or post race sample the governing body will treat each substance found as an individual violation.

Example 1

- 1st offence – Rule 1 category 1A – Suspension 3 years
- 2nd offence – Rule 1 category 3B – Suspension 9 months
- Entry point for 2nd offence 18 months

Example 2

- 1st offence – Rule 1 category 2B – Suspension 1 year
- 2nd offence – Rule 1 category 1A – Suspension 3 years
- Entry point for 2nd offence – 6 years

Example 3

- 1st offence – Rule 6 – evading a test – Suspension 6 months
- 2nd offence – Rule 10 – blood doping – Suspension 3 years
- Entry point for Rule 10 offence – 6 years

Example 4

- 1st offence – Rule 6 – evading a test – Suspension 6 months
- 2nd offence – Rule 9 – found in possession - £1000 fine
- Entry point for Rule 9 offence – £2000 fine

For third offence in all cases, should be a suspension of all licences for either a minimum of 2 years or double 1st offence – whichever is the greater.

Previous breaches of this code will be deemed spent and not considered by the Disciplinary Panel following a period of 5 years after completion of any penalty for that earlier offence, provided that the Responsible Person has held a trainer's licence issued by the BHRC for the period of 5 years.

The starting point should be Entry Point penalty to be double that at first instance and should reflect any mitigatory or aggravating features.

Animal Welfare

The BHRC reserves the right to report any and all animal welfare concerns and panel findings to appropriate enforcement bodies.

Definitions

Administer(ing)	Participating in any way in the use of Prohibited Substances in connection with a horse
Anti-Doping Code	This code
Appointed Testing Officer	As appointed from time to time by the BHRC to obtain Samples from horses
Appointed Veterinary Surgeon	As appointed from time to time by the BHRC
Chairman	The chairman of a disciplinary panel as appointed by the BHRC
Disciplinary Panel	The panel of three people appointed by the BHRC to hear and decide disciplinary hearings
Notice	The notification of a Positive Analysis
Marker(s)	A compound, group of compounds or biological parameter(s) that indicates a Prohibited Substance
Metabolites	Any substance produced by a biotransformation process
Positive Analysis	A certificate of analysis from a laboratory approved by the BHRC which reports, in the case of a Prohibited Substance for which a threshold or cut off level is specified where the concentration of the Prohibited Substance is at or above the threshold or cut off level otherwise where a Prohibited Substance has been identified on analysis of the Sample
Prohibited Substance	As recorded in the Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances published by the Association of Racing Commissioners International from time to time and/or substances published by the BHRC on its website or in this Code as threshold substances when found in a Sample to be in excess of the threshold levels or values set out in this Code and/or any other substances published by the BHRC on its website or in this Code as being a substance prohibited by the Code
Responsible Person	The current or most recent Trainer of the horse unless the Trainer can demonstrate that the horse and responsibility for the horse has been transferred to the Owner. Burden of proving that responsibility of the horse and that the horse has been transferred to the Owner will that of the Trainer.
Rules	The rules of the BHRC incorporating this Anti-Doping Code
Sample	Any biological material taken from a horse including but not limited to body fluid, tissue, excreta, hair or skin scrapings

Sample Collection Procedure	The procedure published on the BHRC's website
Stewards	As published on the BHRC's website from time to time
Suspension	A period of time during which a Responsible Person's licensed privileges are withdrawn and during which time that person is prohibited from acting in the capacity from which he was suspended. Suspensions may start from a time/s prescribed by the disciplinary panel or the Stewards whichever the case may be that they think fit. For the avoidance of doubt the disciplinary panel has the power to order that any period of suspension is served during the harness racing season in circumstances where it would otherwise be served during the off season period
Testing	The process of Sample collection and analysis by or on behalf of the BHRC
Traffic (trafficking)	To deal or trade in Prohibited Substance supply

BHRC INTEGRITY TESTING REGULATIONS

A BHRC Director, Regional Steward, Deputy Regional Steward, Integrity Officer and/or Chief Track Steward are empowered (in majority) to order an integrity test on any horse competing.

If the above personnel are unavailable or not in agreement, the sample requested should be obtained and the decision whether to analyse the sample made at a later time.

THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES MUST BE ADHERED TO:

Once selected the horse(s) will be escorted by an official (i.e., Track Steward, Integrity Officer etc) to the appointed place for testing.

The horse may be washed down provided that the escorting official is present at all times.

The horse's passport must be produced for identification purposes.

The horse must be scanned for a microchip and identified as the horse named in the passport (and Race Card where appropriate) to the satisfaction of the officials and Veterinary Officer present.

The horse(s) will be held at the appointed place for testing until the sample(s) requested (urine, blood, hair, saliva or other such sample) has/have been obtained.

Prior to commencement of the testing procedure and before breaking the seal on the testing kit the appointed veterinary officer should be instructed by the official in the presence of the horse's handler/person responsible to carry out an examination of the horse paying particular attention to both sides of the neck. *(Addition 2017)*

If any abnormality is detected during the examination, then it should be brought to the attention of the handler/person responsible, and any explanation offered should be noted. Photographic evidence of the abnormal area of the horse and the medication page from the passport should be obtained and the handler/person responsible for the horse should be informed that the matter will be referred to the BHRC. *(Addition 2017)*

The appointed Veterinary Officer or official shall obtain the sample(s) as per the instructions given by the BHRC. Blood samples may only be obtained by the Veterinary Officer.

Upon completion of the taking of the sample, the Veterinary Officer shall complete and endorse all paperwork supplied by the BHRC, including the seal of the sample package.

The horse's handler/person responsible shall complete and endorse all paperwork supplied, including the seal of the sample package. Such endorsement shall be taken as acknowledgement that he is satisfied with the procedure carried out.

The official shall complete and endorse all paperwork supplied, including the seal of the sample package. Such endorsement shall be taken as acknowledgement that he is satisfied with the procedure carried out.

The sample will remain in the custody of the BHRC who will be responsible for ensuring that the sample is safely packaged for transfer to the laboratory as soon as is practical.

The BHRC section of the Integrity Testing Form to be forwarded to the BHRC Office as soon as is practical.

Upon receipt of a positive integrity result notification will be provided as follows:

- Chairman informed of positive result only *(Amended 2016)*
- Trainer informed
 - of positive result via telephone (where possible) *(Addition 2016)*
 - of substance in writing only *(Addition 2016)*
- Owner informed of positive result only *(Amended 2016)*
- BHRC Council Members and Responsible Integrity Officer/Regional Steward informed of positive result only *(Amended 2022)*
- Promoter informed of positive result only *(Amended 2016)*
- Governing Body of Trotting (Trot Britain) *(Addition 2022)*
- Any other Integrity Team member notified of Positive Test *(Addition 2022)*
- Notice provided on BHRC website stating the fixture, date of test and class of substance

APPENDIX VI (Amended 2013)

BHRC INTEGRITY TESTING FORM

Please return this section to laboratory with the sample

NAME & ADDRESS OF TESTING ORGANISATION	
EVENT/LOCATION	
DATE	

SAMPLE DETAILS

SEX	
AGE (if known)	
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	

AFFIX BARCODE LABEL HERE

Signature (Vet/Official): _____

Date: _____

Name (Capitals): _____

Signature (Person Responsible): _____

Date: _____

Name (Capitals): _____

BHRC INTEGRITY TESTING FORM

This section to be retained by the testing organisation

NAME & ADDRESS OF TESTING ORGANISATION	
EVENT/LOCATION	
DATE	

SAMPLE DETAILS

NAME			
SEX		AGE (if known)	
OWNER			
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS			

AFFIX BARCODE LABEL HERE

Signature (Vet/Official): _____

Date: _____

Name (Capitals): _____

Signature (Person Responsible): _____

Date: _____

Name (Capitals): _____

The Steward must ensure that all the guidelines have been followed and upon completion of this form shall forward a copy to the BHRC Office as soon as is practical, keeping the original in his custody.

APPENDIX IX

PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED AT TRACK STEWARD'S ENQUIRIES

The Track Stewards must first of all fully assess the incident or complaint.

If the matter to be dealt with is by way of a complaint from an Owner, Trainer or Driver it must be put in writing by the complainant along with the appropriate fee.

If the matter is one that the Track Steward/s, or a BHRC Director/s, or Regional Steward/s, has brought to their attention then they must ensure that they have cause to investigate the matter and what rules apply to the incident.

On convening a Steward's Enquiry the Chief Steward shall act as chairperson with the Regional Steward in attendance. As the Regional Steward may take no part in decision-making, a further two Track Stewards shall be appointed as the Track Steward's Enquiry Panel.

The Regional Steward shall be responsible for informing all parties as to their rights during to enquiry and to advise both the panel and persons appearing before the panel.

A person shall be responsible for keeping a record of all matters. This may be done by the making of contemporaneous note or, if available, the enquiry shall be recorded on a sound recording device (written notes shall be sent to the BHRC Office within 48 hrs)

Any persons suspected of a breach of the BHRC rules must hand their BHRC licence to the Chief Steward at the outset of the enquiry.

From the outset of the enquiry all parties shall be present at all times during which any complaints or alleged breaches of the rules shall be made common to all persons involved. The reason for this is so that no allegations shall be made against a person that is not present to hear such allegations, they must be present in order that they may defend themselves with regard to any such allegations.

Any individual shall be entitled to have present a person to act as an independent witness to any statements made.

Any persons aged under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult who holds a BHRC licence.

Any persons suspected of a breach of the BHRC rules must be informed of the rule applicable and the nature of the offence for which they may be questioned. [A copy of the BHRC rulebook shall be available to all parties during an enquiry].

Having heard from all parties the Steward's area or room shall be cleared of all persons excepting the panel and the Regional Steward, who shall remain to advise as to the rules and penalties that may be applied.

The panel shall consider the statements and any evidence submitted and must make a decision as to any persons as to whether they be guilty of a breach of the BHRC rules or not [this must be a clear decision either guilty or not guilty]. The decision made can be that of all of the panel or if they cannot agree, then the decision of the majority shall be the decision made.

On reaching a decision then the persons concerned shall be called back to hear the decision of the track stewards, should any person be found guilty of breaking the BHRC rules then the chairperson shall inform them of the penalty that may be imposed.

The panel will then be asked to consider what penalties shall be imposed in accordance with the penalties laid down in the BHRC rulebook

The chairperson should then inform the parties of any penalties applied, also he should inform the parties of their rights as to any appeal they may or not be entitled to make and how to proceed should they wish to.

A short report on the BHRC enquiry form should be forwarded to the BHRC Office by 10am on the morning next following racing, followed by a full report within 48hrs.

