E. Animal Welfare and Medications Provisions Applicable to all NRHA Events.

Effective June 2023, please utilize the digital NRHA Handbook found on nrha.com for the most updated rules and regulations regarding the Animal Welfare and Medications provisions applicable to all NRHA events.

It is not NRHA's intention to conflict with rules and regulations of states, provinces or countries in regards to medications. In cases, where NRHA shows are held in states, prov-

inces or countries with medications rules and regulations, the rules and regulations of the state, province or country take precedence.

Section 1. Testing

(a) All horses entered in an NRHA approved class that meet the criteria of the NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications Policies are subject to examination by a licensed veterinarian who must be approved by NRHA. Said approved veterinarian may appoint a technician to perform certain duties under this rule. The examination may include physical, blood, or other biological sample tests and/or any other test or procedure at the discretion of said veterinarian necessary to effectuate the purposes of this rule.

(b) Persons responsible for a horse being tested who are not able to accompany NRHA drug testing personnel and the horse to the location where sample collection is to take place, to act as witness to the collection and sealing of blood and urine samples, and to sign the drug collection documents in the appropriate places as witness, must appoint an agent to do so. The absence of such a witness shall constitute a waiver of any objection to the identification of the horse tested and the manner of collection and sealing of the samples.

(c) Upon the collection of a sufficient number of tubes of blood or other biological sample from the horse, the tubes shall be divided into two groups. One group shall be labeled and identified as Sample A, and the other as Sample B, and they shall be sealed accordingly. These procedures shall be performed whether or not the person responsible or his/her appointed witness is present as provided for in Section 1(b) above.

(d) In the event reasonable attempts at sample collections from the horse do not provide a sufficient number of tubes or volume of the sample to be divided, labeled, and identified as Samples A and B, as determined by the testing veterinarian and/or technician, the sample(s) obtained (if obtained) shall be labeled and identified as Sample(s) A only, and it shall be recorded in the records of the Animal Welfare and Medications Program that the corresponding Sample(s) B does (do) not exist, in which event the obtained Sample(s) shall be subject to testing.

Section 2. Cooperation

(a) Cooperation with the veterinarian and/or his agent(s) includes:

i. Taking the horse and the veterinarian and/or his agent(s) immediately to the location selected by said veterinarian and/or agent(s) for testing the horse and presenting it for testing.

ii. Assisting the veterinarian and/or his agent(s) in procuring the sample promptly, including but not

limited to removing equipment from the horse, leaving it quietly in the stall and avoiding any distractions to it. Schooling, lengthy cooling out, bandaging and other delays of this type shall be construed as noncooperation. Failure to cooperate with the NRHA testing veterinarian, technicians, staff, or any member of the testing team will result in an automatic Unsportsmanlike Conduct protest in accordance to Section D. Dispute Resolutions.

Section 3. Responsibility and Accountability of Person(s) Responsible

(**a**) A person responsible is defined as any adult or adults who has or shares the responsibility for the care, training, custody, condition, or performance of a horse whether said person be a trainer, owner, rider, agent and/or coach. Where a minor exhibitor has no person responsible, then a parent, guardian or agent or representative thereof assumes responsibility.

(b) The person(s) responsible in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary are responsible and accountable under the penalty provisions of these rules:

i. for the condition of a horse at an NRHA approved event and

ii. to know all of the provisions of General Rules and Regulations (G) (including any advisories or interpretations published in the *NRHA Reiner*) and all other rules and regulations of the NRHA and the penalty provisions of said rules. For purposes of this rule, substantial evidence means affirmative evidence of such a clear and definite nature as to establish that said person responsible, or any employee or agent of the person responsible, was, in fact, not responsible or accountable for the condition of the horse. If any person responsible is prevented from performing his or her duties, including responsibility for the condition of the horses in his or her care, by illness or other cause, or is absent from any NRHA approved event where horses under his or her care are entered and stabled, he or she must immediately notify the event secretary and, at the same time, a substitute must be appointed by the person responsible and such substitute must place his or her name on the entry blank forthwith. Such substitution does not relieve the regular person responsible of his/her responsibility and accountability under this rule; however, the substitute person responsible is equally responsible and accountable for the condition of such horses.

(c) The person responsible and owner acknowledge that the person responsible represents the owner regarding horses being trained or managed, entries, scratches for any reason and any act performed on any horse under the care and custody of the person responsible.

(d) In the case of a horse competing under the Therapeutic Substance Provisions, any person responsible or other person subject to these rules who actually administers, attempts to administer, instructs, aids, conspires with another to administer or employs anyone who administers or attempts to administer a prohibited "banned" or conditionally permitted substance to a horse which might affect the performance of said horse at an event approved by the NRHA without complying with Section 8 of the Animal Welfare and Medications Provisions, is subject to the penalties provided in the Animal Welfare and Medications Policies.

(e) Any person(s) responsible or person subject to these rules who administers, attempts to administer, instructs, aids, conspires with another to administer or employs anyone who administers or attempts to administer any substance to a horse by injection or by any other route of administration, whether the substance is prohibited "banned", conditionally permitted, or permitted, at an event licensed by the NRHA, whether it be during a scheduled class in the competition ring, practice arenas, alleys leading into the arenas or any other public areas of the show grounds, is subject to the penalties provided in Section 5. Please see the current NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications Policy for testing procedures and penalty application.

(f) Unless administered in a life-saving situation which should be done based on consultation with a veterinarian.

Section 4. Results, Confirmatory Analysis, and Retest

(a) Samples labeled and identified as Samples A shall be subjected to chemical analysis by a laboratory with which NRHA has contracted for its services. Samples labeled and identified as Samples B shall be stored securely, unopened, at the contracted laboratory, to be used in the event that a confirmatory analysis shall be required.

(b) In the event the chemical analysis of Sample A is negative, i.e., no prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule is found to be present in the sample, the corresponding Sample B shall be destroyed by the laboratory.

(c) In the event the chemical analysis of Sample A is positive, i.e., a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule is found to be present in the sample, this shall be prima facie evidence that the prohibited substance was administered in some manner to said horse, whether intentionally or unintentionally, or otherwise was caused to be present in the tissues, body fluids or excreta of the horse at the event, whether intentionally or unintentionally, such that the person(s) responsible deemed responsible and accountable for its condition is (are) liable under the provisions of Section 3.

(d) In the event the chemical analysis of Sample A is positive, and upon the issuance of Notices of Charge to persons deemed responsible and accountable under the rules, a person charged who requests a confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B must make the request in writing to NRHA Counsel, and it must be received within 15 days of the date of the Notice of Charge.

(e) The confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B shall be performed by a drug testing laboratory that must be mutually agreed upon by the person charged who requests the confirmatory analysis and NRHA Counsel, which laboratory must have demonstrated proficiency in performing the necessary confirmatory analysis, provided the corresponding Sample B exists and is of sufficient volume to permit a confirmatory analysis. In the event the drug testing laboratory that analyzed Sample A is the only laboratory that has demonstrated proficiency in performing the necessary confirmatory analysis, as determined by NRHA Counsel, this laboratory shall be the only laboratory to which NRHA Counsel shall agree to perform the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B. Upon the completion of the confirmatory analysis, NRHA Counsel shall forward its findings and supporting data to all parties.

(f) In the event no agreement is reached as to a laboratory as required in Section 4(e) above, and the person charged who requests the confirmatory analysis does not revoke his/her request, the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B shall be performed by the contracted laboratory as determined by NRHA Counsel, which NRHA Counsel shall forward the findings and supporting data to all parties. Both the results of the analysis of Sample A (and supporting data) and the results of the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B, if any (and supporting data, if any), shall be admissible as evidence in any hearing or proceeding pertaining to this matter.

(g) In the event the corresponding Sample B does not exist, or is of insufficient volume to permit a confirmatory analysis, as determined by NRHA Counsel, and there exists a remaining aliquot of Sample A which is of sufficient volume to permit a retest, as determined by NRHA Counsel, a person charged who requests the retest of Sample A must make the request in writing to NRHA Counsel, and it must be received within 7 days of the determination that the corresponding Sample B does not exist or is of insufficient volume to permit a confirmatory analysis.

(**h**) Any requested re-test of the remaining aliquot of Sample A, provided it is of sufficient volume to permit a retest, shall be performed by the contracted laboratory as determined by NRHA Counsel.

(i) The retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A may be witnessed by a Witnessing Analyst appointed by the person charged who requests such analysis at the same time as the retest is requested. The Witnessing Analyst must be a qualified analytical chemist employed by an equine drug testing laboratory. If no Witnessing Analyst is appointed by the person requesting the retest, or if the Witnessing Analyst is unavailable within a reasonable time, the requested retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A shall proceed without the Witnessing Analyst.

(j) In the event the Witnessing Analyst appointed by the person requesting the retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A is satisfied that the positive result is correct, NRHA Counsel must be informed immediately with written confirmation.

(k) In the event the Witnessing Analyst is not satisfied that the result of the retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A is correct, NRHA Counsel must be informed immediately followed by a written report setting forth the basis for the Witnessing Analyst's opinion. Copies of the original and subsequent results and supporting analytical data must be submitted to the NRHA as part of the hearing record in the case, for resolution by it of any and all issues regarding the original analysis of Sample A and the retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A.

(l) By requesting the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B, or the retest of the remaining aliquot of Sample A, or by requesting that the retest be witnessed by a Witnessing Analyst, the person charged who makes such request(s) agrees to and must pay any and all fees, costs and expenses relating to the confirmatory analysis or the retest, whether it is performed by a mutually agreed upon laboratory, by the contracted laboratory upon the presentation of an invoice by NRHA Counsel, and any and all fees, costs, and expenses relating to the Witnessing Analyst.

(m) If the chemical analysis of the sample taken from such horse indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof and all the requirements of Section 8 have been fully complied with, the information contained in said Medications Report Form and any other relevant evidence will be considered by NRHA in determining whether a rule violation was committed by any person(s) responsible or accountable for the condition of the horse under the provisions of this rule.

(n) When sample B analysis confirms the presence of a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule and the responsible party would like to dispute the results, they may request a hearing with the NRHA Medications Hearing Panel. Should the responsible party still dispute the Hear-

ing Panel's decision, they may request to speak with the NRHA Executive Committee. The NRHA Executive Committee's decision is final. No person responsible or accountable for the condition of said horse will be suspended, or a horse barred from competition, until after an administrative penalty has been assessed or after the conclusion of a hearing and a written ruling thereon has been made. See the NRHA Animal Welfare & Medications Policy for related fees.

(o) The owner or owners of a horse found to contain a substance or metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule may be required to forfeit all prize money, sweepstakes, added money and any trophies, ribbons and "points" won in the respective NRHA class(es) for which the horse was tested at said event by said horse and the same will be redistributed accordingly. If, prior to or at a hearing, NRHA as the charging party, determines that one or more persons, not previously charged as a person responsible should also be charged as a person responsible, then, upon application by NRHA, the Medications Hearing Panel may, in its discretion, continue or adjourn the hearing, in whole or in part, to permit a new or amended charge to be issued (unless the person(s) to be charged waive notice).

(p) A person responsible of a horse found to contain such a substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule is subject to whatever penalty is assessed by the Medications Hearing Panel, as provided by the Animal Welfare and Medications Policies. Said person responsible may be fined and may be suspended from all participation in NRHA approved events as outlined in the Animal Welfare and Medications Policies. In determining an appropriate penalty under these rules, the Medications Hearing Panel may take into account such factors and circumstances as it may deem relevant, including but not limited to:

i. The pharmacology of the substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof that is in violation of this rule,

ii. the credibility and good faith of the person charged or of other witnesses,

iii. penalties determined in similar cases, and

iv. past violations of any NRHA rules (or the lack thereof).

v. reliance upon the professional ability or advice of a veterinarian who is a licensed graduate of an accredited veterinary school and who is in good standing in the state, province or country in which he/she primarily practices.

Section 5. Management Procedures

(a) Testing fees will be applied as described in the NRHA Animal Welfare & Medications Policy.

(b) Show management must forward to NRHA a sum representing the above fee times the number of hors-

es entered in the nonexempt classes of the event, plus the number of horses scratched where the fee is not refunded. (Exception: European region)

(c) Event management must cooperate with the veterinarian and/or his agents.

Section 6. Interpretations of the NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications Rule and its Application to Particular Substances.

Trainers, persons responsible and/or owners who seek advice concerning the interpretation and application of this rule in terms of dosages and withdrawal times should seek the advice of their licensed veterinarian. Trainers, persons responsible and/or owners who seek advice concerning the interpretation and application of the penalty application and testing procedures should contact the NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications department. Any trainer, person responsible or owner who is uncertain about whether this rule applies in any given situation would be well advised to withdraw the affected horse from competition until such time that clarification can be made.

Section 7. Equine Medications, The Therapeutic Substance Provisions

(a) No horse competing in an event approved by NRHA is to be shown in any class (see also Section 1 (a), last sentence) if it has been administered in any manner or otherwise contains in its tissues, body fluids or excreta a prohibited substance except as provided in Section 8. For purposes of this rule, a prohibited is:

i. Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer, local anesthetic, psychotropic (mood and/or behavior altering) substance, or drug which might affect the performance of a horse (stimulants and/or depressants are defined as substances which stimulate or depress the cardiovascular, respiratory or central nervous systems), or any metabolite and/or analogue of any such substance or drug, except as expressly permitted by this rule. [Exception: romifidine (no exception in the European region). See NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications policy for more information]

ii. Any corticosteroid present in the plasma of the horse other than dexamethasone (see Section (e)(ii)).

iii. Any nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug in excess of one present in the plasma of the horse (stacking) (Section 8 does not apply); exception: salicylic acid and topical use of diclofenac (Surpass) is permitted in addition to one additional nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

iv. Any substance (or metabolite and/or analogue thereof) permitted by this rule in excess of the maximum limit or other restrictions prescribed herein.

v. Any substance (or metabolite and/or analogue thereof), regardless of how harmless or innocuous it might be, which might interfere with the detection of any of the substances defined in (i), (ii), (iii)

or (v) or quantification of substances permitted by this rule.

vi. Any anabolic steroid.

For full definitions of substance classifications, please see the NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications policy.

(b) EXHIBITORS, OWNERS, TRAINERS, PERSONS RESPONSIBLE AND VETERINARIANS ARE CAUTIONED AGAINST THE USE OF MEDICINAL PREPARATIONS, TONICS, PASTES, AND PRODUCTS OF ANY KIND, THE INGREDIENTS AND QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF WHICH ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY KNOWN, AS MANY OF THEM MAY CONTAIN A PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE.

(c) The full use of modern therapeutic measures for the improvement and protection of the health of the horse is permitted unless:

i. The substance administered is a stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer, local anesthetic, drug or drug metabolite which might affect the performance of a horse [Exception: romifidine (no exception in the European region). See NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications Policy for more information] or might interfere with the detection of prohibited substances or quantification of permitted substances; or

ii. More than one nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug is present in the plasma of the horse (Section 8 does not apply); exception: salicylic acid and topical use of diclofenac (Surpass) is permitted in addition to one additional nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; or

iii. The presence of such substance in the sample exceeds the maximum limit or other restrictions prescribed herein below.

(d) Restrictions concerning the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and other permitted substances are as follows:

i. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of diclofenac is 0.005 micrograms per milliliter.

ii. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of phenylbutazone is 15.0 micrograms per milliliter.

iii. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of flunixin is 1.0 micrograms per milliliter.

iv. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of ketoprofen is 0.250 micrograms per milliliter.

v. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of omeprazole is 10 nanograms per milliliter.

vi. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of furosemide is 10 nanograms per milliliter.

vii. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of firocoxib is 0.240 micrograms per milliliter.

viii. Altrenogest (for use in mares).

ix. For the maximum permitted plasma concentration of isoxsurprine hydrochloride, please reference the NRHA Medications time and dosage guidelines.

x. The maximum dosage of romifidine is 5 mg/

mL not less than 30 minutes prior to competition. Please see required medications report form upon use. Please note, romifidine is not allowed for NRHA competition taking place in the European region.

xi. A maximum of one nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory listed in (i) through (x) above are permitted to be present in the same plasma sample (Section 8 does not apply) see NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications Policy for special provision on (x); exception topical use of diclofenac (Surpass) is permitted in addition to one additional nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

xii. Phenylbutazone and flunixin are not permitted to be present in the same plasma sample (Section 8.a.xii. does not apply).

xiii. Any substance not listed as permitted above but is classified as "prohibited-controlled" by FEI is considered a conditionally permitted substance as long as administration complies with Section 8. If the situation does not fall under Section 8, this is considered a conditionally permitted substance violation. All other substances are considered prohibited "banned" and are forbidden to be present in the plasma sample.

xiv. Any nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug that becomes approved for use in horses can be added to the list of those permitted, after the completion, review and approval of the needed research by the NRHA Board of Directors.

(e) Restrictions concerning other therapeutic substances are as follows:

i. The maximum permissible plasma concentration of methocarbamol is 4.0 micrograms per milliliter.

ii. The maximum permitted plasma concentration of dexamethasone is 0.003 micrograms per milliliter.

(f) Thresholds for substances of possible dietary origin are as follows:

i. The maximum permissible urine concentration of theobromine is 2.0 micrograms per milliliter.

Section 8. Conditions for Therapeutic Administrations of Conditionally Permitted Substances

(a) A horse exhibiting at an NRHA approved event pursuant to the Therapeutic Substance Provisions that receives any medication which contains a conditionally permitted substance is not eligible for competition unless all of the following requirements have been met and the facts are furnished in writing on a timely-submitted official Medications Report Form:

i. The medication must be therapeutic and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of an existing illness or injury. Any person responsible who is uncertain about whether a particular purpose is considered to be therapeutic would be well advised

to consult his/her veterinarian.
ii. The horse must be withdrawn from competition for a period of not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered.
iii. The medication must be administered by a licensed veterinarian in good standing, or, if a veterinarian is unavailable, only by the trainer/person responsible pursuant to the advice and direction of a veterinarian. Trainer/person responsible must be able to provide documentation of such direction in case requested.
iv. Administration of a conditionally permitted substance for non-therapeutic or optional purposes (such as, by way of example only, shipping, clipping, training, turning out, routine floating or cleaning of teeth, non-diagnostic nerve blocking, uncasting, mane pulling or non-emergency shoeing) is not considered to be therapeutic and will be considered a conditionally permitted substance violation. Conditionally permitted substances are permissible if administered prior to 24 hours prior to competition and is declared on a timely-submitted official Medications Report Form. (see Animal Welfare and Medications Policies for further details.
v. Identification of medication—the amount, strength and route of administration.
vi. Date and time of administration.
vii. Identification of horse, its name, (as recorded on NRHA Competition License, otherwise form will be considered void), age, sex, color and entry number.
viii. Diagnosis and reason for administration.
ix. Statement signed by person administering medication.
x. Medications Report Form filed in the Show Office within one hour after administration or one hour after the competition resumes if administration is at a time other than during competition hours.
xi. The Show Office must sign and record the time of receipt on the Medications Report Form.
xii. Flunixin (Banamine) is a quantitatively restricted medication that may be used conditionally as a second NSAID and/or in addition to phenylbutazone to treat colic or ophthalmic emergencies only under the actual observation of event management (or designated representative) and/or official event veterinarian, either of which must sign the medication report form, to aid in instances of colic. A Medications Report Form must be filed with event management as required in this rule.
NOTE: NRHA will accept Medications Report Forms submitted electronically. This option should be used when possible. The official Medications Report Form is available on the NRHA website (nrha.com/welfare). This form can be submitted at any time prior to com-

petition, but is still under the same time requirements as the paper version. All required information must be included when filing a report. Failure to satisfy and follow all the requirements of this rule and to supply all of the information required by such is a violation of the rules.

xiii. Lidocaine/Mepivacaine: Is a conditionally permitted medication that may only be used within 24 hours of competition under actual observation of event management (or designated representative) and/or the official event veterinarian, either of which must sign the medication report form, to aid in the surgical repair of minor skin lacerations which, due to their very nature, would not prevent the horse from competing following surgery. Treatments include, but are not limited to, repair of heel bulb. A *Medication Report Form* must be filed with the event management as required in this rule.

(b) Where all the requirements of Section 8 have been fully complied with, the information contained in said Medications Report Form and any other relevant evidence will be considered by the NRHA in determining whether a rule violation was committed by any person(s) responsible or accountable for the condition of the horse under the provisions of this rule.

NOTE: The official Medications Report Form is available from the officiating Show Steward, Show Representative and/or Show Secretary. All required information must be included when filing a report. Failure to satisfy and follow all the requirements of this Rule and to supply all of the information required by such Medications Report Form is a violation of the rules. The Show Steward/Show Representative must report any known violations of this Rule to the NRHA for such further action as may be deemed appropriate. A Medications Report Form does not guarantee compliance with the rule. All NRHA rules must be followed according to the *NRHA Handbook* and Animal Welfare and Medications Policy.

For additional guidelines, please see the NRHA Animal Welfare and Medications policy at nrha.com/welfare.