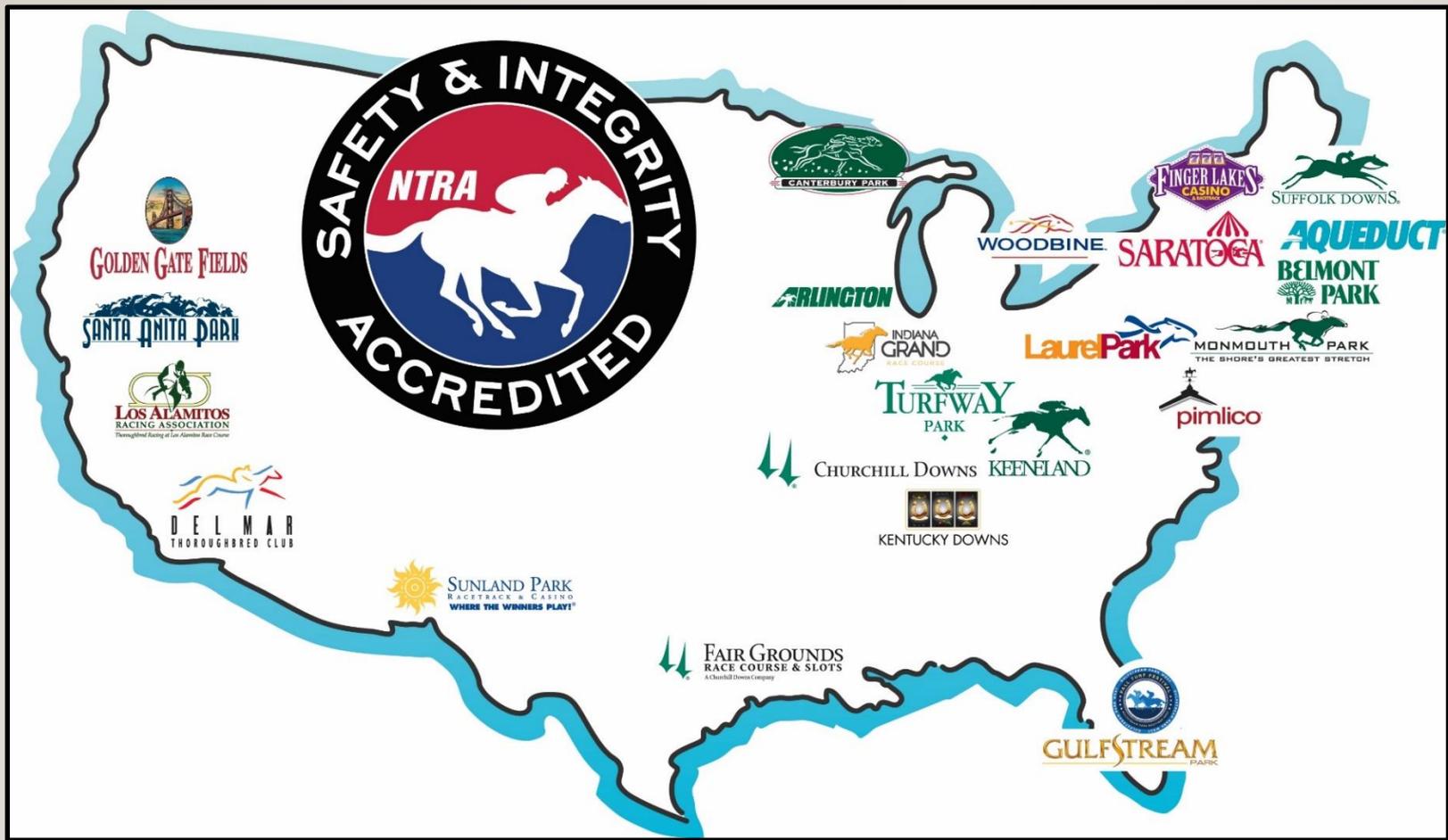




## **BEST PRACTICES AT THE TEST BARN : Chain of Custody and Operating Efficiency**





**74% of North American wagering,  
90% of Graded Stakes**



100%?

of American wagering,  
90% of Graded Stakes



# Safety & Integrity Code of Standards

Updated annually:

- Industry submissions (RCI Model Rules)
- Observed Best Practices

Advisory Board:



Today's 'Best Practices' are tomorrow's minimum standards.



# Code of Standards

1. Injury reporting and prevention
2. Safer racing and training environment
3. Uniform medication and testing
4. Jockey health and welfare
5. Retired racehorse aftercare
6. Wagering security

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**HAGYARD**  
Pharmacy



# Code of Standards 2017

1. Injury reporting and prevention
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# Code of Standards 2017

1. Injury reporting and prevention
2. Safer racing and training environment

## **3. Uniform medication and testing**

### **I. Security Assessment and Training**

### **2. Test Barn and Chain of Custody**

4. Jockey health and welfare
5. Retired racehorse aftercare
6. Wagering security

# Safety & Integrity Code of Standards 2017:

## 3.1.2. Medication and Testing

Racetrack Members may be subject to random on-site inspection and assessment of medication and drug testing standards and protocols as established by RMTC, to include, at a minimum, examination of test barn and chain of custody procedures based on

**Test Barn Chain of Custody and Procedures: Considerations and Recommendations**, which may be found attached as **Exhibit 6**.



# Test Barn Chain of Custody and Procedures: Considerations and Recommendations



Test Barn Chain of Custody and Procedures: Considerations and Recommendations

A Best Practices document by the Racing Medication & Testing Consortium and the National Thoroughbred Racing Association Safety & Integrity Alliance

Pre and post-race sampling protocols at the racetrack test barn are the industry's front line for ensuring fair, safe racing through medication and substance integrity. Neither the RMTC nor the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance advocate a "one-size-fits-all" solution but rather encourage jurisdictions to adopt procedures relevant to their regulations and in consideration of any facility-specific needs. To that end the RMTC and the Alliance provide the following as Best Practice recommendations for the efficient design and operation of test barn facilities in coordination with effective chain of custody protocols. Deviation from these recommended protocols does not necessarily indicate an operating deficiency or a compromise in the chain of custody. The goal for accredited facilities is to demonstrate comprehensive, thoughtful and consistent test barn procedures that ensure safety of all participants, chain of custody integrity, and regulatory value.

## 1. Identification of Horses for Sampling

It is important that the stewards or judges, racing officials, regulatory veterinarians, horsemen, and test barn personnel know — in advance of the diversion of any horse to the test barn — what subset of the racing population is eligible to be subjected to testing. Conventionally, the stewards will select the winner of a race plus one or more "stewards'/judges' specials". Additionally, claimed horses and/or injured horses may be tested.

Consideration must be given to test barn capacity, sampling personnel, and estimated retention period for a tested horse when determining how many horses can be safely presented for sampling.

### A. From Unsaddling to Test Barn

It is important to know whether local regulations specify the trainer, the association, or the regulatory authority as responsible for securing the horse from the time it finishes the race to the time it is presented at the test barn.

If the regulatory authority is responsible, it is ideal to have a representative of the authority or the racing association escort horses from the racetrack to the test barn. Alternatively, horses may be kept under visual surveillance by a designated authority representative. Note that the Trainer Responsibility rule is not waived when the regulatory authority does provide an escort.

It may not be practical for the regulatory authority to assign an escort to each horse, in which case the authority's designee must be alert to, and observant of, all horses identified for sampling. At a hearing, this individual may be required to provide testimony that no substances

A Best Practices document by the  
RMTC and the  
NTRA Safety and Integrity  
Alliance



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# Test Barn Chain of Custody and Procedures: Considerations and Recommendations

A Best Practices document by the RMTC and the  
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**"Neither the RMTC nor the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance advocate a "one-size-fits-all" solution... Deviation from these recommended protocols does not necessarily indicate an operating deficiency or a compromise in the chain of custody."**



# The Alliance and RMTC Can Assist...

- Advocacy
- Best Practices Review
- Connect with experts and resources



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Executive Director & COO  
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