

Selecting an Official Testing Laboratory: Value is Not the Low-Cost Option



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Safety & Integrity Alliance – WHY?



Safety & Integrity Alliance - WHAT?

- “The health and safety of our human and equine athletes and the integrity of our sport are horseracing’s top priorities”.
- **Establish and implement national uniform safety and integrity standards**
- Industry self-regulation through bi-annual racetrack Accreditation
- Not unlike Joint Commissioner’s International for health care industry



Accredited by
The Joint Commission
The gold standard
in health care



NTRA SAFETY & INTEGRITY ALLIANCE



Look for the **ACCREDITED** seal indicating that your track meets industry standards in areas that include:

- injury reporting and prevention
- safer racing & training environment
- retired racehorse aftercare
- jockey health and welfare
- uniform medication and testing
- wagering security

www.NTRAalliance.com



Safety & Integrity Alliance - HOW?

Alliance Code of Standards

- www.NTRAalliance.com
- Updated annually
 - Industry submissions (RCI Model Rules)
 - Observed Best Practices
- Advisory Board:
NTRA, BC, TJC, Jockeys' Guild, AAEP, HBPA, THA, RMTC, ARCI, KHRC, TOBA

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

Code of Standards

1. Injury reporting and prevention
2. Creating a safer racing and training environment
3. Uniform medication, testing, and penalties
4. Safety and health of jockeys
5. Aftercare and transition of retired racehorses
6. Wagering security



Code of Standards 2016

1. Injury reporting and prevention
2. Creating a safer racing and training environment

3. Uniform medication, testing, and penalties

Section 3. Medication and Testing

H. Laboratory Selection and Performance Standards

4. Safety and health of jockeys
5. Aftercare and transition of retired racehorses
6. Wagering security



RMTC Laboratory Accreditation



External quality assurance program (EQAP) to confirm Official Testing Laboratories have capability to detect substances at the concentrations mandated by RMTC model rule recommendations.

RMTC accreditation ensures laboratories can operate at a high level of proficiency.



www.RMTCnet.com



Standard issue: drug testing far from uniform in American horse racing

Daniel Ross, Sept. 16, 2015

“But even if a laboratory is accredited with both [ISO 17025 and RMTC], the success and rigor of each racing jurisdiction’s drug testing program is dependent not necessarily upon the accreditation status of the laboratory but upon the particulars of the contract they have with each laboratory. And the problem is, not all contracts are created equal.”

“In states where they’ve had problems, there are issues in the contracting processes,” said Dr. Rick Arthur, equine medical director at the University of California’s School of Veterinary Medicine. “...We know the [accredited] lab is capable of doing this work. Whether they do it or not is a different question.”





Model Request for Proposals for Equine Drug Testing Laboratory

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www.RMTCnet.com

Code of Standards 2016

3. Medication and Testing

H. Laboratory Selection and Performance Standards

Members shall insist that local regulatory authorities implement industry performance standards and quality control mechanisms consistent with RMTC's "Model Request for Proposals for Equine Drug Testing Laboratory" in their Official Testing Laboratory selection and performance criteria. Members shall require documentation from the local regulatory body specifying the adopted selection and performance criteria, and ongoing quality control protocols.

To the extent that the local regulatory body has not so adopted RMTC's recommended performance standards and quality control protocols, **Member shall advocate the adoption of such standards consistent with RMTC's "Model Request for Proposals for Equine Drug Testing Laboratory".**

The Alliance Can Help...

- Advocacy
- Best Practices review
- Third party review of RFP, service agreement
- Connect with experts and expert resources



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