

ARCI-006-070 Official Veterinarian

A. General Authority

The official veterinarian shall:

- (1) be employed by the Commission or similar agency having jurisdictional authority;
- (2) be a graduate veterinarian and be licensed to practice in this jurisdiction;
- (3) be qualified to objectively and competently provide the regulatory duties described herein;
- (4) refuse employment or payment, directly or indirectly, from any horse owner or trainer of a horse racing or intending to race in this jurisdiction while employed as the official veterinarian for the commission;
- (5) refrain from directly treating or prescribing for any horse under his/her jurisdiction except in cases of emergency, accident or injury;
- (6) have no employment history or business relationship prior to employment as the official veterinarian that could constitute a conflict of interest or impede in the performance of official duties.

B. Responsibilities

Should the Commission be unable to provide adequate veterinary staffing to fulfill the duties described below, some of the official veterinarian responsibilities, as indicated by an asterisk (*), may be shared with or deferred to, an association-employed veterinarian. The association-employed veterinarian is responsible for adhering to and upholding the rules and regulations of the commission and shall be accountable to the commission.

The official veterinarian shall:

- ~~(3)~~(1) * recommend to the stewards any horse deemed unsafe to be raced, or a horse that it would be inhumane to allow to race;
- (2) * conduct pre-race inspections on all potential starters on race day;
- (3) * inspect any horse when there is a question as to the physical condition of such horse independent of the horse's entry status;
- (4) * be present in the paddock during saddling, on the racetrack during the post parade and at the starting gate until the horses are dispatched from the starting gate for the race;
- (5) * recommend to the stewards the scratching of any horse that is, in the opinion of the official veterinarian, injured, ill, or otherwise unable to compete due to a medical or health-related condition;
- (6) * inspect any horse which appears in physical distress during the race or at the finish of the race; and shall report such horse together with his/her opinion as to the cause of the distress to the stewards and to the official veterinarian, if the inspection was done by either the racing veterinarian or an association-employed veterinarian;
- (7) * provide emergency medical care to horses injured racing and effect case transfer to the practicing veterinarian;
- (8) * be authorized to humanely destroy any horse deemed to be so seriously injured that it is in the best interests of the horse to so act; and

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- ~~(9)~~ * report to the Commission the names of all horses humanely destroyed or which otherwise expire at the meeting and the reasons therefore;
- ~~(10)~~ * maintain all required records of postmortem examinations performed on horses which have died within the jurisdiction of the Commission;
- ~~(11)~~ * maintain the Veterinarian's List of horses ineligible to race;
- ~~(4)~~place horses on the Veterinarian's List and remove horses from the Veterinarian's List;
- ~~(5)~~place horses on the Bleeder List and remove horses from the Bleeder List;
- ~~(6)~~~~(12)~~ supervise and control the Test Barn;
- ~~(7)~~~~(13)~~ supervise the taking of all specimens for testing according to procedures approved by the Commission;
- ~~(8)~~~~(14)~~ provide proper safeguards in the handling of all laboratory specimens to prevent tampering, confusion, or contamination and assure sample integrity;
- ~~(15)~~ provide the stewards with a written statement regarding the nature and seriousness of all laboratory reports of prohibited substances in equine samples.
- ~~(9)~~~~(16)~~ have jurisdiction over the practicing licensed veterinarians within the enclosure for the purpose of these rules;
- ~~(17)~~ review and consult with the applicants and the stewards/Commission regarding Commission license applications of practicing veterinarians, veterinary technicians or assistants, vendors of medical supplies and equipment, non-veterinarian health care providers (massage therapists, nutritionists, physical therapists, etc.);
- ~~(18)~~ * cooperate with practicing veterinarians and other regulatory agencies to take measures to control communicable and/or reportable equine diseases;
- ~~(10)~~report to the Commission the names of all horses humanely destroyed or which otherwise expire at the meeting and the reasons therefore;
- ~~(11)~~maintain all required records of postmortem examinations performed on horses which have died on association grounds;
- ~~(12)~~be available to the stewards prior to scratch time each racing day at a time designated by the stewards to inspect any horses and report on their condition as may be requested by the stewards;
- ~~(13)~~~~(19)~~ refuse employment or payment, directly or indirectly, from any horse owner or trainer of a horse racing or intending to race in this jurisdiction while employed as the official veterinarian for the Commission;
- ~~(14)~~review and consult with the applicants and the stewards/Commission regarding Commission license applications of practicing veterinarians;
- ~~(15)~~cooperate with practicing veterinarians and other regulatory agencies to take measures to control communicable and/or reportable equine diseases;
- ~~(16)~~periodically review all horse papers under the jurisdiction of the Commission to ensure that all required test and health certificates are current and properly filed in accordance with these rules;
- ~~(17)~~be authorized to humanely destroy any horse deemed to be so seriously injured that it is in the best interests of the horse to so act; and

~~(18) provide the stewards with a written statement regarding the nature and seriousness of all laboratory reports of prohibited substances in equine samples.~~

Adopted in Version 1.4 ARCI 8/27/02 NAPRA 10/2/02

