

Summary

Rule 1231 – Total Dissolved Carbon Dioxide Testing.

The purpose of this rule is to provide for testing for Bicarbonate loading or Milkshaking as it is referred to in the racing industry. Milkshaking occurs when horses are given Bicarbonate of soda through a nasogastric tube with the intent to elevate the blood total dissolved Carbon Dioxide in an effort to improve the endurance of the horse. This rule establishes a procedure for testing for Bicarbonate loading and establishes a threshold level for total dissolved Carbon Dioxide levels in the blood. The rule makes the possession of a nasogastric tube illegal for anyone other than a licensed veterinarian and provides for suspensions and fines for violation of this rule.

Summary

Rule 1270 – Postmortem Examination.

This rule allows the Commission veterinarian to order a postmortem examination of any horse that is injured and dies while in training or in competition at Oaklawn Park. The rule allows the Commission veterinarian to collect blood, urine and other bodily fluids from the horse to conduct a postmortem examination of those fluids. The purpose of this rule to insure that the horse has not been administered illegal drugs prior to the race and to attempt to learn why the horse was injured or died. In the past the Commission had no specific rule allowing postmortem examinations. The postmortem examinations are paid for out of the Commission's testing budget. If a prohibited substance is found in the fluids of the horse, the owner and trainer of the horse may be subject to a fine and/or suspension.

Summary

Rule 1381 - Veterinary Quarantine.

This rule is passed as a result of kennel cough epidemics that have struck Southland Greyhound Park in the past. Kennel cough and other similar diseases can be transferred from greyhound to greyhound and the racing commission veterinarian needs the ability to quarantine greyhounds until the threat of spreading the disease has ceased or diminished. The Commission had no specific rule allowing the Commission veterinarian to institute a quarantine in the past. It has been determined by the Commission that it is necessary that the veterinarian have quarantine power to protect the health of the greyhounds and the public.

Summary

Rule 2263 - Ineligibility of Horses Testing Positive for Blood Doping Agents.

The purpose of this rule is to make a horse ineligible to run in a race after it has tested positive for blood doping agents, until the horse's owner or trainer submits the horse for a test, and the test indicates the horse no longer has blood doping agents in its system. This rule is passed because blood doping agents have been proven to stay in the system of a horse for long periods of time.

Summary

Rule 2434(a) - Revocation of Claims for EPO Positives.

Each year Oaklawn Park runs a large number of claiming races where other owners may pay a set fee established prior to the race to claim the ownership of the horse running in a race. The person claiming a horse in such a race actually becomes the owner of the horse. In the past horses claimed were not tested for illegal drugs unless they happened to finish first and second or third in a race or were the subject of a random test. This rule allows for the new owner to pay a fee to have a claimed horse tested for drugs such as Erythropoietin, Darbepoetin, Oxyglobin and Hemopure which are commonly referred to as blood doping agents. The purpose of the blood doping agents is to give a horse more stamina in a race. If the new owner chooses to have the test for these blood doping agents he or she must pay a fee. If the test comes back positive, the new owner can revoke the claim and send the horse back to the previous owner. If the horse tests positive for blood doping agents, the previous owner will be fined or suspended under the Rules of Arkansas Racing Commission, and the new owner has no liability. These blood doping agents are capable of staying in the horses system for long periods of time. Therefore, the potential existed for the new owner to run the horse with the blood doping agents in its system and be accused of having administered the blood doping agents to the horse when in reality those agents were administered to the horse by the previous owner. The purpose of the Rule is to provide protection for owners claiming horses at Oaklawn Park.

Summary

Rule 3160 - Arkansas Breeders Purse and Awards Funds.

This rule establishes a procedure to register Arkansas bred Greyhounds and to determine their eligibility to participate in the Arkansas Racing Commission Purse and Awards Fund. The Purse and Award Fund monies are paid to breeders of Arkansas Greyhounds which meet the criteria established by the Commission and the Arkansas Greyhound Owners and Breeders Association. Arkansas Code Annotated 23-113-401 passed in the 2005 legislative session provided for the setback of 1% of the revenues from electronic games for the Arkansas Breeders Purse and Award Fund. This program is very similar to Thoroughbred Breeders Purse and Award fund which operates at Oaklawn Park. The Thoroughbred Breeders Purse and Award Fund has been very successful in encouraging breeding of Arkansas bred thoroughbreds. The Commission hopes to do the same thing with the Greyhound breeders program.

Summary

Rule 3161 - Distribution of Arkansas Breeders Purse and Award Funds.

This rule provides for the Commission to pay 20% of all funds deposited in the Arkansas Breeders Purse and Award Fund to the Arkansas Greyhound Owners and Breeders Association to promote Greyhound breeding in the State of Arkansas and to pay for the cost of administering the program. This program is very similar to the Thoroughbred Breeders program operating at Oaklawn Park for many years. This rule merely sets out the mechanism for the payment of those funds to the appropriate Arkansas bred Greyhound owners.

Summary

Rule 3220A - Greyhound Weigh-In Procedure.

This rule is amended to require that greyhounds have an approved identification tag when they report for the weigh-in procedure. There have been problems in the past when greyhounds reported for a weigh-in without an identification tag, and there was no specific rule requiring the use of an identification tag. If proper identification procedures are not used it is easy to confuse the dogs during the weigh-in procedure because many of the dogs have similar coloring and markings.

Summary

Rule 5015A - Exacta Pools.

This rule merely amends Rule 5015A to use the word Exacta rather than Perfecta which was the term formerly used in the rule. Since the institution of Rule 5015A, the term Perfecta is not used in the industry any longer. It has been replaced by the word Exacta. This rule is being changed so that the Arkansas rules conform to the rules of the other Greyhound tracks across the country and to insure there is no confusion when Southland Greyhound races are simulcast to other tracks.