

## **BHA Equine Anti-Doping Rules – A brief explanation**

Trainers must read the full BHA rules and guidance on the BHA website. This is an aide memoire only for day to day management of racehorses within Great Britain.

### **The BHA's aim (Chapter K of the BHA rules of Racing)**

A horse must not be administered an anabolic steroid at any point in its life.

There are other substances which are prohibited at all times in a horse's life. These are not listed here but are set out in the BHA's guide.

### **Testing**

All horses must be available for testing at any time regardless of physical location and whose care the horse is under from the time it is first registered with Weatherbys.

Trainers must ensure their staff are aware testing could happen at any time even in the trainer's absence.

Trainers must ensure third party yards are aware that testing could happen at any time and that they must allow the BHA to carry out testing. A refusal by a third party could lead to the trainer (if the Responsible Person at the time) being charged with a breach.

### **Whereabouts (Code 21 of the BHA rules)**

The BHA wants to know the full time whereabouts of the horse at all times.

Trainers must inform Weatherbys as soon a horse enters their care or control, changes from one of their yards to another or if there is a change in ownership under their care or control.

Trainers must update the Racing Administration Site when a horse leaves their yard.

When the horse is under the care and control of a trainer, the trainer must be able to inform the BHA of the horse's full time whereabouts upon request. As such if a trainer has placed a horse at a third party yard, the trainer must be able to inform the BHA where the horse is. See the section below on "who will be considered the responsible person".

**Who will be considered the responsible person is a horse test positive?**

Horse in trainer's yard	The trainer (even if horse out of training)
Horse in owner's yard	The owner (if the trainer has transferred responsibility - see below)
Horse at third party location (not at trainer's nor owner's premises)	The person who chose that location to send the horse to. Again if the going to a third party yard of the owner's choice, the trainer must transfer responsibility – see below

**Transfer of Responsibility – what to do when a horse leaves the yard**

To transfer the responsibility you must take the following actions:

Horse goes to another licensed trainer	You must update the Racing Administration Site
Horse goes to owner's yard	<p>You must notify the owner of transfer of responsibility by first class post, hand delivery to their address, fax or email. There is a template on the BHA website</p> <p>Obtain written acceptance of the transfer (email, fax, letter).</p> <p>If the owner does not return the signed form, then you must contact the owner a second time by phone or email, leaving a message if no reply.</p> <p>You must keep records of sending the transfer notice and all attempts at chasing it, i.e. keep emails, keep a note of times called/messages left.</p> <p>You should keep a record of any instructions from the owner, including instructions made over the phone or in person. Consider confirming these instructions by email/including them in the trainer notification. All this will show that you took reasonable steps to notify the owner and obtain acceptance of the transfer.</p> <p>You must update the Racing Administration Site.</p>
Horse at third party location (not trainer's yard or owner's property)	(if the owner chose the third party yard - to transfer responsibility to the owner, you must

	<p>follow the steps outlined above in “horse goes to owner’s yard”</p> <p>You must also update the Racing Administration Site</p>
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### **How do I protect myself when the horse is off site at a third party location?**

You should ensure that the third party yard:

- Knows the horse is a racehorse and subject to strict regulations
- Knows that they should only take instructions from the responsible person and that the third party knows who that is (i.e. whether it is the owner or the trainer)
- Has detailed contact information and alternatives in the event that the responsible person is not available

You should agree with the third party what, if any, treatments you are prepared for the third party yard to administer without further reference to you or without veterinary prescription and to agree a specific list of those with the third party yard.

You should ensure that the third party yard knows the responsible person must be contacted other than in the most exceptional circumstances before any treatment (unless on a specific pre-agreed list as mentioned above) is administered to the horse and ensure that they know all non-specified treatments must:

- only be provided following prescription by a veterinary surgeon aware of the anti-doping rules
- have the consent of the responsible person (except in exceptional life threatening illness and the responsible person is unavailable)

You must ensure that the third party knows that it must record all treatments – specified and non-specified – to the same standard as required by the BHA of trainers and that any treatments to non-racehorses within the yard of substances prohibited at all times by the BHA are recorded.

You must also ensure that the third party yard has satisfactory practices in place which are known by all staff to guard against contamination.

*The NTF has produced a template sheet for members to use when placing racehorses into the third party yards*

### **Horses permanently imported into Great Britain to be trained in Great Britain**

If you are responsible for the horse you must provide the BHA whereabouts information within 7 days of the horse’s arrival so that the BHA may collect a sample at any time. The BHA may waive this requirement if the horse has spent at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to being imported in a country that the BHA is satisfied has an equivalent testing policy in place to the BHA. The BHA may also waive the sample requirement in that situation.

The BHA may choose to allow the sample to be collected prior to importation to Great Britain by the BHA or its agents. In such circumstances, the BHA may amend the whereabouts requirements to enable the sample to be taken.

If a horse is permanently imported into Great Britain to be trained in Great Britain, the Responsible Person must within 90 day of its arrival file with the General Stud Book

- The Export Certificate and
- The analysis of a sample taken by the BHA after arrival in Great Britain which does not show the presence of a substance prohibited at all times or a method prohibited at all times.

The horse once imported becomes subject to the main whereabouts rules as above.

National Trainers Federation

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