The Australian Racing Board has given notice of the following amendment to the Australian Rules of Racing, effective from 25 March 2014.

**AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING**

**Amendments effective from 25 March 2014**

**AR 178AA(5)(c) BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

(4) ...

(5) For the purposes of AR 178AA, ‘alkalinising agent’:

(a) means any substance that may elevate the plasma total carbon dioxide (TCO₂) of a horse when administered by any route;

(b) includes but is not limited to substances that are bicarbonates, citrates, succinates, acetates, propionates, maleates, lactates and trometamol (THAM, Tris Buffer or Trometamine) and also include products marketed as urinary alkalinisers and hind gut buffers;

(c) does not include substances:

(i) that are alkalinising agents which are contained in commercial feeds and/or balanced commercial electrolyte supplements which when fed and consumed according to the manufacturers’ recommendations for normal daily use have a negligible effect on plasma TCO₂; and

(ii) in respect of which the Stewards have granted an express exemption from the operation of AR 178AA,

provided that any exemption from the definition of alkalinising agent granted under this rule does not constitute a defence to a charge laid against a person following the detection by an Official Racing Laboratory of a TCO₂ concentration in a horse in excess of the threshold prescribed by AR 178C(1)(a).

[AR 178AA added 1/9/13, AR 178AA(5)(c) amended 25/3/14]

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To view the current version of the Rules of Racing, please visit the following link to the Racing Victoria website: [http://www.racingvictoria.net.au/p_Rules_of_Racing.aspx](http://www.racingvictoria.net.au/p_Rules_of_Racing.aspx)