



**Racing
Victoria**

AMENDMENT TO RULES OF RACING

Amendment No 214 – Issued 21 December 2023

Racing Australia has approved the following amendments to the Australian Rules of Racing.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 79(4)

AR 79 HORSES WITH BLEEDING

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Under the current version of AR 79, a horse cannot be trained, exercised or galloped on a *racecourse* after having a first attack of bleeding (blood in both nostrils) however, this does not exclude or prohibit a horse from being trained, exercised or galloped at other locations such as a private pre-training property, recognised training track, beach or other place.

The Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) advised as follows in relation to horses returning from an attack of bleeding:

- In respect of AR 79(4)(a), the purpose of the current rule is to enforce a period of rest following an episode of bleeding and encourage trainers to spell a horse that has bled. While low intensity exercise is generally acceptable before the end of the 2 month prohibition, there is overall benefit for the horse to be spelled for 2 months.
- In respect of AR 79(4)(b), horses should be permitted to trial – instead of only a 1,000m gallop, before returning to racing following a bleeding attack.

In light of VAAG's advice regarding AR 79(4)(a), the Chairmen of Stewards Committee's (COSC) view is that a horse should not be ridden in any exercise for 2 months following bleeding regardless of where that exercise occurs. COSC felt that it would be too difficult to define "low intensity exercise" and, in the interests of horse welfare and rider safety, a blanket ban was the most appropriate position."

Racing Australia has therefore introduced amendments to AR 79(4)(a).

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AR 79(4) BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 79 Horses with bleeding

~~(4) A horse which, in the opinion of the Stewards, has had an attack of bleeding must not, without permission of the Stewards:~~

~~(a) be trained, exercised or galloped on any racecourse for a period of 2 months after the attack of bleeding;~~

~~(b) start in any race for a period of 3 months, and then only after a satisfactory gallop of at least 1,000 metres in the presence of a Steward.~~

~~...~~

AR 79 Horses with bleeding

~~...~~

- (4) A horse which, in the opinion of the Stewards, has had an attack of bleeding:
- (a) for a period of 2 months after the attack of bleeding, must not, without the permission of the Stewards, be trained, exercised or galloped on a racecourse, recognised training track, private training establishment, or other place;
 - (b) must not start in any race for a period of 3 months, and then only after:
 - (i) a gallop of at least 1,000 metres; or
 - (ii) an official trial or jump-out;

in the presence, and to the satisfaction of a Steward.

~~...~~

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 88C

AR 88C BLISTERING

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

At the February 2023 Chairmen of Stewards Committee's (COSC) meeting a Paper / Submission which was received from the Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) was considered relating specifically to Prohibited Practices and Eligibility to Race including Blistering.

Blistering

"Blistering" is defined as the application of a substance to cause blistering (vesiculation) and inflammation of the skin and underlying tissues. Like firing, it causes a counter-irritant effect, producing an acute inflammatory process in musculoskeletal conditions where there is chronic or subacute inflammation. The rationale being that the increased irritation and inflammation caused by the blistering will result in more rapid healing once the acute inflammation subsides.

Like firing, the most beneficial aspect of blistering is the enforced rest that is required to recover from the pain due to the acute tissue injury caused by the procedure and is essentially considered an ineffective method of therapy.

Period of Ineligibility:

VAAG also sought COSC's opinion as to whether the ineligibility attached to a breach of the Blistering Practice should be more limited rather than be for "life".

It has been suggested and supported that the minimum period of ineligibility should be for a period of 12 months, and that this provision should apply to this practice.

COSC unanimously agreed to support the definition of blistering for inclusion in AR 2 and a new rule to formalise a period of ineligibility of 12 months to participate in any race, trial, jump out or track work.

Racing Australia has introduced an amendment to AR 2 and AR 88C to give effect to this.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

ADD TO AR 2 AS FOLLOWS:

AR 2 Dictionary

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[Blistering means the application of a substance to cause blistering \(vesiculation\) and inflammation of the skin and underlying tissues.](#)

...

AR 88C BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

[AR 88C Horses that have had blistering procedure](#)

- [\(1\) If a horse has been subjected to a blistering procedure in Australia:
 - \[\\(a\\) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and\]\(#\)
 - \[\\(b\\) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.\]\(#\)](#)
- [\(2\) If a horse is subject to a blistering procedure, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:](#)

- (a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and
- (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 88D

AR 88D CHEMICAL CASTRATION OR IMMUNOCASTRATION

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

A paper/submission was sent to the Chairmen of Stewards Committee (COSC) from the Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) for consideration relating specifically to Prohibited Practices and Eligibility to Race including Chemical Castration or Immunocastration.

Chemical Castration or Immunocastration

VAAG is concerned about the potential abuse of the practice of “chemical castration” to temporarily modify the behaviour of an entire male horse, principally to reversibly suppress the overt expression of stallion-like aggressive behaviour, and therefore render the animal a temporary gelding.

Chemical castration can be achieved by pharmacological means, usually the administration of progestogens, or by immunological means by the administration of anti-GnRH vaccine. However, there is a technical distinction between these two methods, and therefore both the terms “chemical castration” and “immunocastration” need to be specified.

Period of Ineligibility:

VAAG also sought COSC’s opinion as to whether the ineligibility attached to a breach of the chemical castration and immunocastration should be more limited rather than be for “life”.

It has been suggested and supported that the minimum period of ineligibility should be for a period of 12 months, and that this provision should apply to this practice.

COSC unanimously agreed to support a new rule to formalise a period of ineligibility of 12 months to participate in any race, trial, jump out or track work.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AR 88D BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 88D Horses that have had chemical castration or immunocastration.

- (1) If a horse has been subjected to a chemical castration or immunocastration procedure in Australia:
 - (a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and
 - (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.
- (2) If a horse is subject to a chemical castration or immunocastration, the owner of the horse or that owner’s authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:
 - (a) details of the procedure and the horse’s ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia’s national online database; and
 - (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse’s ineligibility to race.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 186(C)

AR 186(C) SECURING LEAD OR OTHER WEIGHTS

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Racing NSW recently experienced an incident whereby a horse was disqualified due to the rider weighing in light. It was found to be caused by the apprentice rider using riding boots with lead embedded and which weighed collectively around 1.5kg.

Racing NSW asked the Chairmen of Stewards Committee (COSC) to discuss and consider the matter and requested COSC to consider banning the practice of having riding boots with imbedded lead under the provisions of AR186.

It was noted that AR186 already specifies, by extension, that lead cannot be placed/secured in riding boots by virtue of the fact that subrule (2) requires that all lead or other weight must be carried in the saddle or lead bag pouches.

Notwithstanding the above, COSC is of the view that the rule should be clarified to specifically prohibit lead or other weight being imbedded, placed or carried in a rider's riding boots, and for that matter any other gear used by a rider.

The creation and addition of subrule 3 to AR186 was supported by COSC.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AR 186 (C) BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

[AR 186 Securing lead or other weights](#)

- (3) Further to, and without affecting the provisions of subrules (1) and (2) of this rule, no lead or other weight used by a rider when weighing out will be permitted to be:
- (i) imbedded or carried in a rider's race riding boots.
 - (ii) placed or carried in any other part of a rider's equipment and/or gear.
 - (iii) carried by a rider in any manner other than in the manner allowed under subrules (1) & (2) of this rule.

SELECTIVE ANDROGEN RECEPTOR MODULATORS (SARMS)

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Interest in Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators (SARMS) for human clinical purposes has increased following in vitro and in vivo studies showing these compounds to be effective anabolic agonists, without side-effects often associated with anabolic-androgenic steroids. Consequently, these compounds are prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA). Andarine (S-4), an arylpropionamide derived compound [S-3-(4-acetylamino-phenoxy)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-N-(4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionamide], was the lead compound in this class. Literature reports of andarine (S-4) detection first described a black-market product analysed by the Cologne anti-doping laboratory in 2009, followed by two adverse analytical findings in human sports doping control urine samples analysed by the Lausanne and Los Angeles anti-doping laboratories in 2011 and 2013, respectively.

In 2014, the first findings of andarine (S-4) in equine sports were made in Australian thoroughbred racing samples. During the subsequent Stewards inquiries, the trainer and veterinarian involved in these matters placed considerable emphasis on andarine (S-4) not being classified as an anabolic-androgenic steroid.

The timing of the cases was conspicuous, being less than one year after the prohibition of anabolic-androgenic steroids at all times in racing (former AR178H) was introduced on 1 November 2013. Fortunately, there have been no further findings of SARMS in Australian thoroughbred racing.

The number of different SARMS being investigated for legitimate human clinical use has expanded over recent years. Unfortunately, this has resulted in greater availability of non-approved compounds via illicit markets with more than 20 SARM compounds now posing a threat to the integrity of sport. One example is LGD-4033, also known as Ligandrol, which has been the subject of a number of findings in human sports in Australia and internationally.

Australian racing laboratories have the capability to screen for the presence of a growing number of SARMS, subject to the availability of reference materials, at low levels in routine equine plasma and urine samples. Work is also underway to investigate the potential of detection in equine hair samples, which may increase the retrospectivity (i.e. detection period) in controlling misuse of these substances.

Notwithstanding the continuous evolution in monitoring for the presence of SARMS, the persistent threat of SARM misuse necessitates a review the Rules of Racing, specifically AR 248 Administration of anabolic androgenic steroids, to ensure that the principle to control the long-term effects of anabolic substances is applied to SARMS.

Racing Australia has introduced a number of changes to AR 248 along with consequential changes to AR 2, AR 17, AR 286 and AR 253 as a result of this review.

Further, Australian racing laboratories have the capability to issue a “clearing certificate” in respect of SARMS, and that reference to same in the relevant sub rules would be appropriate.

Amendments effective from 1 February 2024

AR 248 BE DELETED AND REPLACED AS FOLLOWS:

~~AR 248 Administration of anabolic androgenic steroids~~

~~(1) A person must not:~~

~~(a) administer;~~

~~(b) cause to be administered;~~

~~(c) attempt to administer; or~~

~~(d) be a party to the administration or attempted administration of,
an anabolic androgenic steroid to a horse.~~

- ~~(2) If a person breaches subrule (1), a disqualification for a period of not less than 2 years must be imposed, unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists, in which case that penalty may be reduced.~~
- ~~(3) If the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has been, or is likely to have been, administered an anabolic androgenic steroid, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any race, official trial or jump-out.~~
- ~~(4) If a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid, the horse is not permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
 - ~~(a) for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the collection of the sample; and~~
 - ~~(b) until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.~~~~
- ~~(5) An owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse must not, when directed by the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, fail to produce or otherwise give full access to the horse so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is in the system of the horse.~~
- ~~(6) Subrule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer or other person in charge of a horse to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:
 - ~~(a) under the care or control of another person; and/or~~
 - ~~(b) located at the property of another person.~~~~
- ~~(7) If an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse breaches subrule (5), the horse will not be permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
 - ~~(a) for a period of not less than 12 months following the day that the horse is produced or made fully accessible to the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid is in the system of the horse; and~~
 - ~~(b) until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.~~~~

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AR 248 Administration of anabolic androgenic steroids and selective androgen receptor modulators

- (1) A person must not:
 - (a) administer;
 - (b) cause to be administered;
 - (c) attempt to administer; or
 - (d) be a party to the administration or attempted administration of, an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator to a horse.
- (2) If a person breaches subrule (1), a disqualification for a period of not less than 2 years must be imposed, unless there is a finding that a special circumstance exists, in which case that penalty may be reduced.
- (3) If the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has been, or is likely to have been, administered an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any race, official trial or jump-out.
- (4) If a sample taken at any time from a horse has detected in it an anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator, the horse is not permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
 - (a) for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the collection of the sample; and
 - (b) until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.
- (5) An owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse must not, when

directed by the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, fail to produce or otherwise give full access to the horse so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is in the system of the horse.

(6) Subrule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer or other person in charge of a horse to produce the horse, or otherwise give full access to the horse, even if the horse is:

(a) under the care or control of another person; and/or

(b) located at the property of another person.

(7) If an owner, lessee, nominator, trainer and/or other person in charge of a horse breaches subrule (5), the horse will not be permitted to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:

(a) for a period of not less than 12 months following the day that the horse is produced or made fully accessible to the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, so that a sample can be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator is in the system of the horse; and

(b) until after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate, as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.

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ADD TO AR 2 AS FOLLOWS:

AR 2 Dictionary

Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate means a certificate from an Official Racing Laboratory stating that a sample (taken under the supervision of the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA to do so) is free of selective androgen receptor modulators.

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AR 17 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 17 Taking samples at horse sales

Without limiting any other PRA powers, a PRA has the following powers in respect of taking samples at horse sales:

- (a) if, in the opinion of a PRA, a thoroughbred horse selling agent or organisation has in place satisfactory arrangements (including as between a buyer and seller of a horse) for taking samples from horses at horse sales for the purpose of testing for anabolic androgenic steroids and/or selective androgen receptor modulators, to officially approve as a “PRA-approved vet” (which approval can be withdrawn at the discretion of a PRA) a veterinary surgeon employed, engaged or authorised by the selling agent or organisation, to take a sample from a horse for that purpose; and
- (b) to declare either before or after a sample is taken by a PRA-approved vet under subrule (a) that the sample is to be treated as a sample for the purpose of these Australian Rules.

AR 286(3) BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 286 Lodgement of Foal Ownership Declaration

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- (3) It is a condition precedent to any lodgement under this rule that the manager or his or her authorised agent lodging the Foal Ownership Declaration undertakes to be bound by the Rules and, upon action being taken in compliance with this rule (including by a Syndicate as applicable), the unnamed horse and its owners become subject to, and agree to be bound by, the Rules for the following purposes only as a consequence of, and relating to, the lodgement of the Foal Ownership

Declaration:

- (a) the testing of a named horse which has not been retired from racing under AR 297 for the presence of substances that are prohibited at any time by the Rules;
- (b) the testing of an unnamed horse for the presence of anabolic androgenic steroids, [and/or selective androgen receptor modulators](#);
- (c) the observation of other horses for health and welfare reasons only where there is concern for their health and welfare based on reasonable grounds; and
- (d) the rules that relate to traceability (any rule under this Part 14 and any relevant Local Rules).

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AR 253 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 253 Testing for anabolic androgenic steroids [and/or selective androgen receptor modulators](#) before registration

- (1) This rule applies to all unnamed horses.
- (2) The Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA may, at any time, direct that a horse be produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid [and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator](#) is present in the system of the horse.
- (3) If a horse is not produced to provide a sample as directed under subrule (2), that horse is ineligible to start in any race or official trial:
 - (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
 - (i) the date on which the horse, once registered with Racing Australia under these Australian Rules, is permitted under these Australian Rules to start in a race (and subject to any further conditions imposed by a PRA or the Stewards in their discretion); and
 - (ii) the date on which the horse is produced to provide a sample to be analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid [and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator](#) is present in the system of the horse; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate [and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate](#), as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.
- (4) If an anabolic androgenic steroid (other than an anabolic androgenic steroid at or below a permitted threshold identified in Schedule 1, Part 1, Division 3) [and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator](#) is detected in a sample taken at any time from a horse, the horse is ineligible to start in any race, official trial or jump-out:
 - (a) until at least 12 months after the latter of:
 - (i) the date on which the horse, once registered with Racing Australia pursuant to these Australian Rules, is permitted under these Australian Rules to start in a race (and subject to any further conditions imposed by the Stewards in their discretion); and
 - (ii) the date the relevant sample was taken; and
 - (b) only after an Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Clearing Certificate [and/or a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator Clearing Certificate](#), as the case may be, is provided in respect of a sample taken from the horse on a date directed by a PRA or the Stewards.
- (5) If directed under subrule (2) by the Stewards or another official employed or engaged by a PRA, a person must produce, or otherwise give full access to a horse so that a sample may be taken and analysed to determine whether any anabolic androgenic steroid [and/or a selective androgen receptor modulator](#) is in the system of the horse.
- (6) Subrule (5) requires an owner, lessee, nominator and/or trainer to produce a horse, or otherwise give full access to a horse, even if the horse is:
 - (a) under the care or control of another person; and/or
 - (b) located at the property of another person.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: National Equipment Register

NATIONAL EQUIPMENT REGISTER INCLUSION – STEP STIRRUP IRONS (STAINLESS STEEL)

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

The Chairmen of Stewards Committee (COSC) considered the application for the STEP stirrup irons (Stainless Steel) to be included in the RA National Equipment Register. COSC unanimously supported the Stainless Steel version based on a Test report verifying breaking strain and the fact that the stated breaking strain was sufficiently high.

Racing Australia has approved the inclusion of the Stainless Steel STEP stirrup iron in the National Equipment Register along with the inclusion of an image in the National Equipment Register.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AMENDMENTS TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 123 & National Equipment Register

AR 123 AND NATIONAL EQUIPMENT REGISTER INCLUSION – VIPA III SAFETY VEST

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

A VIPA III Safety Vest (manufactured and supplied by Vipatech) was submitted for testing by Human Impact Engineering. An application was submitted for consideration to be approved and included in AR123 and the Racing Australia National Equipment Register.

It is noted that the Test reports provided (2019 – VT19-008) & (2022 – VT22-001) confirm that the VIPA III Safety Vest submitted for consideration conforms to the EN 13158:2018 Level 3 Standard. European Standard EN 13158 is one of two Standards prescribed by RA in AR 123.

COSC considered the application and unanimously supported that the VIPA III Safety Vest be included as an approved safety vest in the rules of racing and also be included in the National Equipment Register.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AR 123 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 123 Safety vests

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- (6) If an apprentice jockey breaches subrule (1), the apprentice jockey's master and/or any other person who was in charge of the apprentice jockey at any relevant time may also be penalised unless that person satisfies the Stewards that he or she took all proper care to ensure that the apprentice jockey complied with that subrule.

Note: Pursuant to this rule, Racing Australia has ordered that:

(a) the following standards of safety vests are prescribed:

- (i) ARB Standard 1.1998; and
- (ii) European Standard EN 13158;

(b) the following Level 1 safety vests are approved:

- (i) Hovs Racesafe;
- (ii) Ozvest;
- (iii) Racelite Pro;
- (iv) Vipa;
- (v) Vipa I;
- (vi) USG Flexi Race; and
- (vii) Airowear Swift;

(c) the following Level 2 safety vests are approved:

- (i) Vipa II.

(d) the following Level 3 safety vests are approved:

- (i) Vipa III

AMENDMENTS TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING:

Prohibited Substances Lists & Exemptions/Thresholds

INCLUSION OF CANNABINOIDS IN PROHIBITED LIST A

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Cannabinoids have always been substances banned at all times under the rules of racing by their inclusion as a Schedule 9 substance.

To date there has been no threshold or screening limit applied and there have not been any historical concerns or issues with this approach.

A new cannabidiol substance, trade name Epidyolex has been approved by the TGA in November 2020 in Australia as a Schedule 4 drug for prescription by doctors to patients.

This event has created a loophole where now not all cannabinoids are considered to be substances banned at all times in racing horses, as now not all cannabinoids are technically Schedule 9 substances.

It is VAAG's contention that to close this loophole it is necessary to also include "cannabinoids" in Prohibited List A as a discretely named substance.

VAAG is not aware of any scientific reason to support a 30ng/mL screening limit for cannabinoids under current Australian housing and feeding conditions.

VAAG will keep a watching brief on any significant international developments and any matter of a screening limit can be addressed in the future if things change.

COSC has considered this position and fully support the proposed addition of Cannabinoids to Prohibited List A.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

DIVISION 1 – PROHIBITED LIST A *BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:*

PART 1 SUBSTANCES PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES

Division 1 – Prohibited List A

The substances set out below in this Division 1 are specified as prohibited substances.

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24. Substances listed in Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons contained in the Australian Poisons Standard.

[25. Cannabinoids.](#)

~~25.~~ [26.](#) Metabolites, artefacts and isomers of any of the substances identified in this list.

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING:

Screening Limits for the purpose of AR 257 - Dexamethasone

SCREENING LIMITS FOR THE PURPOSE OF AR 257 - DEXAMETHASONE

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Racing Australia (RA) is a member of the Asian Racing Federation (ARF). The ARF wrote to RA seeking RA's commitment to adopt a recently approved Asian Screening Limit (ASL) for Dexamethasone in plasma.

Dexamethasone is used in horses as an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid muscle relaxant.

The ARF approved the following ASL for controlling Dexamethasone (an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid) in plasma:

Dexamethasone: 0.02 ng/mL in plasma.

VAAG has endorsed the proposed ASL and COSC has unanimously supported this endorsement.

Racing Australia has adopted the Asian Screening Limit for Dexamethasone – 0.02 ng/L in plasma for addition to Racing Australia's list of Screening Limits.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING:

Screening Limits for the purpose of AR 257 - PROCAINE

SCREENING LIMITS FOR THE PURPOSE OF AR 257 – PROCAINE

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Racing Australia (RA) is a member of the Asian Racing Federation (ARF). Following the adoption by the Asian Racing Federation (ARF) of an Asian Screening Limit (ASL) in respect of Procaine (20 ng/mL) – in urine, VAAG was requested to provide opinion on screening limits pertaining to Procaine.

VAAG has considered the request and made the following recommendation to adopt the below screening limits for Procaine.

1. International Screening Limit (ISL) for Procaine in plasma at 0.02 ng/L
2. Asian Screening Limit (ASL) for Procaine in urine at 20 ng/mL

COSC has endorsed this recommendation.

Racing Australia has adopted the:

1. International Screening Limit (ISL) for Procaine in plasma at 0.02 ng/L, and
2. the Asian Screening Limit (ASL) for Procaine in urine at 20 ng/mL
for addition to Racing Australia's list of Screening Limits.

Amendment effective from 1 February 2024

To view the current version of the Rules of Racing, please visit the following link to the Racing Victoria website: <http://rv.racing.com/racing-and-integrity/rules-of-racing>