EQUESTRIAN CANADA ÉQUESTRE

EQUINE MEDICATION CONTROL
MY HORSE WAS SELECTED FOR TESTING

Equestrian Canada encourages participants in all disciplines of equestrian sport to participate in anti-doping measures and fair medication control to safeguard the health and welfare of all equines.



MORE INFORMATION:

Equestrian Canada Rules,
Section A: General Regulations, Chapter 10, and
The Equine Medication Control Guide

WHAT IS EQUINE MEDICATION CONTROL?

Equine medication control is the collection of urine or blood samples from equines at Equestrian Canada (EC) sanctioned competitions, which are analyzed for performance altering substances and/or medications.

Equine medication control is in place to protect the health and welfare of both equine and rider, as well promote fairness of competition by deterring the use of performance altering drugs. The term horse or equine includes; horses, ponies, VSEs, zebras & mules.

WHO PERFORMS EQUINE MEDICATION CONTROL?

The Equine Medication Control Committee (EMCC) works with the EC program coordinator to administer and deliver the program across Canada.

Equine Medication Control Technicians (EMCTs) are contracted by EC to perform sample collection at sanctioned events. Processes are in place to ensure no conflict of interest. EMCTs have uniforms and ID cards.

The Official Laboratory in British Columbia performs analysis of the collected samples.

WHY WAS MY HORSE SELECTED?

Horses are selected at random by the EMCTs for sample collection. EMCTs may use a variety of criteria including order of go, horse colour or class placing.

Targeted testing of a horse may occur at the direction of an onsite EC Official as per the EC Rules.

Any horse entered in the competition is eligible to be tested while on the competition grounds.

CAN I REFUSE TO HAVE A SAMPLE COLLECTED?

In short, no. EMCTs are EC Officials, and failure to cooperate is a violation of the EC Rules and can result in additional penalties.

EMCTs are happy to work with you to make sure there is limited disruption to your schedule and ensure the welfare of your horse is paramount. There must not be excessive delay in the sample collection process.

Let them know what your horse may need after the class.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE WITNESS?

It is important for the integrity of testing that the process is governed by a strict chain of custody protocols.

Witnessing the entire sample collection process is the first step in ensuring protocols are followed.

The witness signs the collection sheet, indicating they watched the entire process from collection to sealing.

The witness can be the Person Responsible (PR), competitor, or any representative who is 18 or older as of January 1st.

The witness will be asked to provide information about the horse and be capable of safely handling the animal.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The sample is shipped to the official laboratory to be analyzed. Results are received by the EC program coordinator approximately 21 days after the competition.

No news is good news! The PR will only hear from EC in the event of a positive certificate.

Testing results are tabulated for statistical purposes to ensure testing standards are being met.

HOW IS MY SAMPLE KEPT SECURE?

Each sample is labeled with a unique numeric code. The lid of the sample is fastened with a tamper evident label, then sealed in a single-use, tamper-proof bag. Each sample is locked inside the cooler, and only handled by the EMCT and the official laboratory.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS A POSITIVE CERTIFICATE?

The EMCC determines the class of violation and reviews any emergency medication reports from the event. The PR listed on the entry form will receive notice of the finding within 10 days of EC receiving the certificate.

The PR may be offered the option to accept an administrative penalty (first offence ONLY) or to hold a hearing to present their case to a panel. This hearing is held in accordance with the EC Rules, Section A: General Regulations, Chapter 12.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM FUNDED?

The program is funded through medication control fees collected from entries at all levels of EC sanctioned competitions (Bronze through Gold). Fees are used to cover operating costs, education and promotion of clean sport.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Questions? Please contact:
equinemeds@equestrian.ca

https://equestrian.ca/compete/equine-athletes/equine-medication-control/