

# INSTRUCTION C7 – ADMINISTRATION OF SUBSTANCES IN RACECOURSE STABLES

## Rules On Raceday Treatment Updated

Instructions C7 and C9 of the Rules of Racing restrict what treatments can be given to horses on racedays and what treatments and means of administration can be brought onto racecourses. The current Instructions restrict administration of substances to horses on racecourses, but also restrict the *administration* of water. The current Instructions also mention racecourse stables, but it is possible that a substance might be given anywhere on racecourse premises.

Currently the requirement is that permission must be obtained for each administration on each Raceday and for possession of dosing paraphernalia, such as syringes, even for administration of water by a bulb syringe. By far the most common request for dispensation is for water. Some trainers do request to use glycerine. These Instructions reflect what happens in most racing nations, and are reflected in the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' International Agreement.

The current Instructions have been well understood by most trainers, and it is hoped this is because of the extensive communications that have taken place, including posters sent to all trainers and displayed at racecourses. However following communication with the NTF the BHA is also aware of some concerns that the Instructions should be more flexible, and that their implementation needs to be consistent.

Over the last few months the BHA has worked closely with the NTF to update Instructions C7 and C9 and also the penalty guidance.

In response to requests from Trainers, the NTF and the BHA's Veterinary Officers, the key deregulation will come into force from 1st October 2008 to implement a general dispensation that water can be given via bulb syringes but *not* catheter mount syringes without asking for permission. The BHA believes this common administration is best done in the open saddling areas, and in hygiene terms is better than using a wet sponge. Possession of bulb syringes would also be allowed without having to ask for permission.

By advice and practice the BHA would promote that catheter mount syringes are normally only used for glycerine, in closed saddling boxes. Permission is still needed to administer glycerine.

There is a clearer definition in the revised Instructions of where restrictions should apply. They apply to the whole racecourse but exclude trainer's vehicles.

The BHA operational guidance documentation for Veterinary and Security staff has also been updated to ensure clarity on what is allowed and when. It takes into account

situations where trainers may not have a vehicle available. It also notes the general types of treatment materials that are acceptable in a travelling bag or box.

- Dressings: Cotton wool/Gamgee, Bandages, Adhesive (Elastoplast), Vetrap, Gauze (e.g. Melolin)
- Poulticing material : Animalintex, Kaolin
- Clay/ cooling dressing/lotion/soothing or anti-chafing gel: (Amoricaïne, Ice Tight) Vaseline
- Antiseptics: Solution (e.g. Pevidine, Betadine, Hibitane, Dettol) Powder (e.g. Sulphanilamide) Cream ( eg Savlon, Furadress)
- Antibiotic cream or ointment for topical treatment: (e.g. Orbenin intramammary)
- Ophthalmic ointment (without steroid)
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Thermometer, Scissors, Hoof Oil, Hoof Pick, Bulb syringe

This list is not what is required, nor is it exclusive and is only guidance. It is important that Trainers are aware that any treatments should be confined to very minor treatments, such as grazes, that care must be taken to avoid any use of any prohibited substance in any form at any time, and that if there is any doubt as to whether Veterinary attention is needed or a substance or means of administration is allowed, the Veterinary Officer should be consulted. If in doubt please do ask!

Raceday Veterinary and Security staff will work closely to implement the new approach. Posters have also been updated to illustrate these requirements and can be downloaded from the NTF website (in Information/Downloads) and the BHA website at:

[www.britishhorseracing.com/inside\\_horseracing/about/whatwedo/Veterinary/default.asp](http://www.britishhorseracing.com/inside_horseracing/about/whatwedo/Veterinary/default.asp)

The updated Instructions C7 and C9 can be found at:

<http://rules.britishhorseracing.com>

The links below take you to some sources of bulb syringes:

[www.midmeds.co.uk/supplies-and-consumables-bulb-syringe-c-25\\_138.html](http://www.midmeds.co.uk/supplies-and-consumables-bulb-syringe-c-25_138.html)

[www.spservices.co.uk/product\\_info.php/product\\_id/4109](http://www.spservices.co.uk/product_info.php/product_id/4109)