

Penalty Guidelines for Thoroughbred Horse Racing Licensee Violations

This document outlines recommended penalties for thoroughbred horse racing licensee violations. These guidelines were developed by the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch's (GPEB) Director of Racing in consultation with the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for GPEB and Racing Division Stewards. Additionally, representatives from the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, the Jockeys Benefit Association, and the Great Canadian Gaming Corporation were consulted.

These guidelines further enhance the integrity of B.C.'s horse racing industry and also reflect the changing times; larger prize purses have led to a more competitive racing atmosphere, which demands an appropriate penalty structure for violations.

It should be noted that these guidelines provide recommended penalties only. Each violation has its own set of circumstances, which may lead to different penalties than those shown below. **When considering penalties, the Racing Division Stewards will take into account the violation history of the licensee.**

Positive Tests / Drug Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
TCO₂ overages	30 day full suspension
Medications used for therapeutic purposes that are listed in the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency (CPMA) Schedule of Drugs which are defined as Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Class 5; non-classified drugs such as Phenylbutazone or Penicillin G Procaine that could have been mistakenly given to a horse	15 day full suspension or \$2,500 fine
Medications listed in the CPMA Schedule of Drugs, which are ARCI Class 2-4	30 – 120 day full suspension (depends on the ARCI classification of the drug)
Medications not listed for veterinarian use which includes ARCI Class 1 drugs	120 day – 1 year full suspension (depends on the drug)
Erythropoietin or Darbepoetin	7 year full suspension
Possession of needles/syringes on the grounds	10 day full suspension or \$1,500 fine
Using a tubing device on the grounds for the purpose of "milkshaking"	60 day full suspension
Steroid positive	15 day full suspension Horse remains on Stewards' list until a negative test is submitted (costs to be paid by owner). If it is a claimed horse, it will be returned to the original owner.

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Notes about positive tests / drug violations:

- A second violation within 3 years will result in twice the regular penalty.
- A third violation within 5 years will result in twice the penalty for second violations.
- A fourth violation within 8 years will be at the discretion of the Stewards and will be severe.

Interference Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
Causing interference away from the gate with no disqualification	\$100 fine
Causing minor interference in a race with no disqualification	\$100 fine
Causing interference in a race	\$500 fine or 1 day riding only suspension
Causing interference resulting in an accident in a race	2 day riding only suspension

Whipping Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
First whipping violation	\$100 fine
Second whipping violation within 3 weeks	\$200 fine
Third whipping violation within 6 weeks	1 day riding only suspension
Fourth whipping violation within 9 weeks	2 day riding only suspension

Notes about interference violations and whipping violations:

- Stated penalties will double for a second violation within 3 weeks, triple for a third violation within 6 weeks and quadruple for a fourth violation within 9 weeks.
- Penalties in excess of those outlined will be at the discretion of the Stewards.

Other Penalties

All other penalties will be at the discretion of the Racing Division Stewards.

Contact Information

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