

13:71-20.2 Driver's meeting

(a) Before the first heat or race at any meeting is contested the racing officials and the drivers shall meet at a time and place to be designated by the presiding judge. Notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be published on the bulletin board in the office of the race secretary at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, and shall be announced over the public address system one hour prior to the meeting.

(b) The officials will announce any special rules affecting the race meeting and shall construe such of the rules of racing as shall be requested. At the conclusion of such meeting, all drivers shall be presumed to be familiar with the rules of racing.

(c) Any driver failing to attend this meeting after being duly notified, may be fined a sum not to exceed \$100.00.

(d) No driver will be permitted to drive unless he shall have attended such meeting or has met with the officials.

13:71-20.3 Substitutions of driver

If the judges believe a driver is unreliable, unfit or incompetent to drive, or if he refuses to comply with the direction of the judges, or is reckless or unmannerly in his conduct, he may be removed and another driver substituted any time after the positions have been drawn in a race. Compensation of such substitute driver may be fixed in the discretion of the judges. No driver shall, without sufficient reason, decline to be substituted by the judge.

13:71-20.4 Trainers' duty regarding racing of horses

A trainer is responsible for the timely attendance of his horse or horses when they are being raced, and he shall attend his horse in the paddock to supervise the preparation of such horse when it is racing.

13:71-20.5 Absence of trainer-notice-substitute trainer

If any licensed trainer is to be absent from the track where employed, the presiding judge shall be immediately notified in writing and at that time a licensed substitute trainer, acceptable to the presiding judge, shall be appointed to assume responsibility for the horse or horses racing during the absence of the regular trainer. The name of the substitute trainer shall appear on the program if possible. The presiding judge shall be advised immediately when the regular trainer is present and resumes his duties.

13:71-20.6 Racing and track rules; driving procedures

(a) Although a leading horse is entitled to any part of the track except after selecting his position in the home stretch, neither the driver or the first horse nor any other driver in the race shall:

1. Change either to the right or left during any part of the race when another horse is so near him that in altering his positions he compels the horse behind him to

shorten his stride, or causes the driver of such other horse to pull him out of his stride;

2. Jostle, strike, hook wheels or interfere with another horse or driver;

3. Cross sharply in front of a horse or cross over in front of a field of horses in a reckless manner, endangering other drivers;

4. Swerve in and out or pull up quickly;

5. Crowd a horse or driver by "putting a wheel under him";

6. "Carry a horse out" or "sit down in front of him", take up abruptly in front of other horses so as to cause confusion or interference among the trailing horses;

7. Let a horse pass inside needlessly, or do any other act which constitutes what is popularly known as helping;

8. Commit any act which impedes the progress of another horse or causes him to "break";

9. Change course after selecting a position in the home stretch and swerve in or out, or bear in or out, in such manner as to interfere with another horse or cause him to change course or take back;

10. To drive in a careless or reckless manner;

11. Laying off a normal pace and leaving a hole when it is well within the horse's capacity to keep the hole closed;

12. Drivers must set and maintain a pace comparable to the class in which they are racing. Failure to do so by going an excessively slow quarter or any other distance that changes the normal pattern, overall timing, or general outcome of the race, or allowing his horse to go on an unrestrained break will be considered a violation of this section and the judges may impose a penalty which can be a fine, suspension or both.

(b) With the approval of the Racing Commission, a track may extend the width of its homestretch up to 10 feet inward in relation to the width of the rest of the racetrack. In the event the homestretch is expanded pursuant to this subsection, the following shall apply:

1. No horse shall use the extended inside lane except when entering the final homestretch run;

2. The lead horse in the homestretch shall maintain as straight a course as possible while allowing trailing horses full access to the extended inside lane; and

3. Judge's discretion shall prevail in all instances regarding the open stretch.

As amended, R.1982 d.109, effective April 5, 1982.

See: 13 N.J.R. 820(a), 14 N.J.R. 347(a).

"or allowing . . . break", added.

Amended by R.1992 d.268, effective July 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 686(a), 24 N.J.R. 2462(a).

Added (b).

Case Notes

Disqualification of first place horse for violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-20.6(a)8 affects the second and third place horses' owners, entitling them to a hearing before the Commission upon adequate notice; one-day mailgram notice of hearing from Commission is inadequate; one-sentence decision by Commission lacked required findings and conclusions. *Pitts v. Div. of New Jersey Racing Commission*, 185 N.J.Super. 190, 447 A.2d 1348 (App.Div.1982), certification denied.

Jockey suspended for causing interference or confusion among trailing horses in race. *McNichol v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 1.

Suspension of horse driver, impeding progress of other horses. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Morrill*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 1.

Suspension of harness driver; interference with other drivers. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Patterson*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 13.

Slowing of horse constituted interference; finish placement changed. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Stein*. 93 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 29.

Hooking wheels; five day suspension. *Allen v. New Jersey Racing Commission*. 93 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 27.

Harness driver's conduct made inevitable horse's hoof getting caught in another driver's wheel assembly; careless driving; suspension. *Parker v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 19.

First driver pulling in front of second horse and causing second driver to take evasive action constituted interference; suspension ordered. *LaChance v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 13.

Abrupt slowing by sulky driver warranted disqualification of horse. *Biada v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 1.

Finding that driver impeded the progress of another horse and caused him to "break." *Gillis v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 1 N.J.A.R. 78 (1980).

13:71-20.7 Complaints by drivers; judge's stand

All complaints by drivers of any foul driving or other misconduct during the race or heat shall be made at the termination of the race or heat unless the driver is prevented from doing so by an accident or injury. At the conclusion of each race or heat, any driver desiring to enter a claim of foul or other complaint of violation of the rules must, before dismounting, indicate to the patrol judge his desire to enter such claim or complaint immediately after the race and, upon dismounting, shall proceed to the nearest telephone and advise the judges of the complaint or foul involved. The judges shall not cause the official sign to be displayed until such complaint shall have been entered and considered. All drivers must return to the paddock and remain there until the race is made official. The judges will not consider any claim of foul instituted after the race has been made official.

As amended, R.1976 d.125, effective April 22, 1976.
See: 8 N.J.R. 47(b), 8 N.J.R. 308(a).

13:71-20.8 Violations involving entries, complaints, penalties

If any of the violations in N.J.A.C. 13:71-20.7 are committed by a person driving a horse coupled as an entry in the betting, the judges may set both horses back, if, in their opinion, the violation may have affected the finish of the race. Otherwise, penalties may be applied individually to the drivers of any entry.

Administrative correction.
See: 29 N.J.R. 585(a).

13:71-20.9 Placing offending horse

In case of interference, collision or violation of any of the rules, the offending horse may be placed behind all the unoffending horses in that heat or dash, and in the event such collision or interference prevents any horse from finishing the heat or dash, the offending horse may be disqualified from receiving any winnings and the driver may be penalized.

13:71-20.10 Fraudulent or unsatisfactory driving

(a) Every heat in a race must be contested by every horse in the race and every horse must be driven to the finish. If the judges believe that a horse is being driven, or had been driven, with design to prevent his winning a heat or dash which he was evidently able to win, or is being raced in an inconsistent manner, or to perpetrate or to aid a fraud, they shall consider it a violation and the driver, and anyone in concert with him to so affect the outcome of the race or races, may be penalized. The judges may in such cases substitute a driver. The substitute driver shall be paid at the discretion of the judges and the fee retained from the purse money due the horse, if any.

(b) In the event a drive is unsatisfactory due to lack of effort, carelessness, misjudgment, or demonstrated lack of judgment in performance, and the judges believe that there is no fraud, gross carelessness, or a deliberate inconsistent drive, they may impose a penalty similarly under this subsection.

(c) The length of suspension of a driver may be increased by the judges, stewards or Racing Commission if said driver is guilty of the same infractions of the rules of racing two times or more during any calendar year.

As amended, R.1976 d.125, effective April 22, 1976.
See: 8 N.J.R. 47(b), 8 N.J.R. 308(a).

Case Notes

Executive Director's improper ex parte communication with Board of Judges specifying exceptionally harsh and excessive sanction for licensee's lack of effort or carelessness in course of race tainted final determination of Racing Commission where sanction specified by Executive Director was eventually imposed by Board and affirmed by Commission. *New Jersey Racing Com'n v. Silverman*, 303 N.J.Super. 293, 696 A.2d 771 (N.J.Super.A.D.1997).

Suspension for violation in driving in unsatisfactory manner as a result of lack of effort, carelessness, misjudgment or demonstrated lack of judgment in performance (also cited as N.J.A.C. 13:17-20.10). *DeVitis v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 202 N.J.Super. 484, 495 A.2d 457 (App.Div.1985), certification denied 102 N.J. 337, 508 A.2d 213 (1985).

Racehorse driver's license was suspended for 45 days for holding horse back during race. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Silverman*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 7.

13:71-20.11 Removal and substitution of unfit or incompetent drivers

If in the opinion of the judges a driver is for any reason unfit or incompetent to drive or refuses to comply with the directions of the judges, or is reckless in his conduct and

endangers the safety of horses or other drivers in the race, he may be removed and another driver substituted at any time after the positions have been assigned in a race, in which case, the offending driver may be penalized. The substitute driver shall be properly compensated.

New Rule, R.1993 d.513, effective October 18, 1993.
 See: 25 N.J.R. 3427(a), 25 N.J.R. 4751(b).
 Amended by R.1997 d.127, effective March 17, 1997.
 See: 29 N.J.R. 95(a), 29 N.J.R. 901(b).
 Substantially amended section.

13:71-23.3C Post-race blood gas testing program; punishment for failure to cooperate

In the event any owner, trainer, licensed representative of same, or any person subject to the jurisdiction of the Racing Commission, fails to cooperate in connection with the blood gas testing program authorized pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.3A, or with regard to any procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.4, or otherwise set forth in or implemented pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.3A or 23.3B, in addition to ordering the relief set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.3A, the judges may, consistent with this chapter, impose fines or suspensions, or both, on the non-cooperating person. In determining the length of such suspension or amount of the fine, the judges may consider prior violations of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.3A, 23.3B or this section.

New Rule, R.1993 d.513, effective October 18, 1993.
 See: 25 N.J.R. 3427(a), 25 N.J.R. 4751(b).
 Amended by R.1997 d.127, effective March 17, 1997.
 See: 29 N.J.R. 95(a), 29 N.J.R. 901(b).
 Substantially amended section.

13:71-23.4 Post-race testing program

(a) No drug shall be administered or applied, internally or externally, to any horse that is to be sampled after a race until the blood and/or urine samples have been obtained unless permission from the State Veterinarian is obtained.

(b) Every horse to be tested shall be taken to a detention barn, to be supplied by the association in accordance with specifications set forth by the Commission. All blood samples shall be taken by a State Veterinarian while urine samples shall be secured by the State Veterinarian or a chemical inspector of the Commission at the direction of the State Veterinarian.

(c) During the taking of any blood and/or urine sample by the veterinarian representing the Commission, from the horse entered to race, the owner, trainer, or their designated representative shall be present and witness the procedure. The sample so taken shall be immediately sealed and tagged on the form provided by the Commission and the evidence of such sealing shall be indicated by the signature of such owner, trainer or representative. It shall be the obligation of the owner, trainer or representative to cooperate fully with the State Veterinarian in obtaining any samples which may be required and to attend and witness the taking and securing of such sample.

13:71-23.5 Procedure following positive chemical analysis

(a) On receiving written notice from the official chemist that a specimen has been found "positive" for any drug or substance foreign to the natural horse, the steward shall proceed as follows:

1. He or she shall notify the State Police and authorize a search of the premises occupied by the stable involved.

2. He or she shall, as quickly as possible, notify the owner and trainer of the horse involved.

3. He or she shall, with the assistance of the State Police, conduct a thorough investigation, interviewing the trainer, assistant trainer and any other persons who may have pertinent knowledge of the circumstances involved.

4. During the progress of such investigation, the stable involved shall be permitted to race; save that the particular horse (or horses) involved shall not be entered or start until allowed to do so by the judges. In no event shall such a prohibition extend beyond seven days unless the stable has failed to provide all due cooperation to the Judges in the course of such investigation.

Case Notes

Rule cited as example of Commission's reliance on conventional law enforcement services; denial of groom's license held arbitrary as the Rehabilitated Convicted Offender Act applies to Commission's licensing function (citing former N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.17). *Maietta v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 183 N.J.Super. 397, 444 A.2d 55 (App.Div. 1982), affirmed 93 N.J. 1, 495 A.2d 295 (1983).

13:71-23.6 Trainers

(a) A trainer shall be the absolute insurer of and is responsible for the condition of a horse within his care and custody.

(b) A trainer shall not enter or start a horse that has in its body any drug or substance foreign to the natural horse except as otherwise provided for in these rules and regulations.

(c) A trainer has the duty to be familiar with the medication rules of this Commission and with any drug or substances foreign to the natural horse administered to said horse at his direction or while in his care and custody.

(d) The trainer, owner, veterinarian, groom or other person charged with the custody, care and responsibility of a horse are all obligated to protect and guard the horse against administration of any drug or substances foreign to the natural horse, except as otherwise provided for in these rules and regulations by any unauthorized individual, and the administration of any unauthorized drug or substance foreign to the natural horse by any person.

Case Notes

District court would abstain from reaching merits of harness race-horse trainers' applications for stays of orders. *Bongiorno v. Lalomia*, D.N.J.1994, 851 F.Supp. 606, affirmed 39 F.3d 1168.

Fines and suspension of licenses and privileges for extended periods ranging from 30 months to 66 months, based on findings that trainers' horses had tested positive for drugs were not arbitrary, capricious, unreasonable; principles of "trainer responsibility" and "no medication" were clearly established in law and commission had authority to

protect integrity of horse racing. *New Jersey Racing Com'n v. Elliot*, 290 N.J.Super. 140, 675 A.2d 243 (A.D.1996).

The Racing Commission has decided, through rulemaking, to exercise strict control over the use of narcotics. *Maietta v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 93 N.J. 1, 459 A.2d 295 (1983).

Horse trainer; race horses; suspension. *DeVitis v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 55.

Trainer suspended after the horse was discovered to have a foreign substance in its system. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Janis Gianforte*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 49.

Trainer violated responsibility rule; illegal drug. *New Jersey Racing Commission v. Rubin*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 17.

Post-race test finding of buprenorphine; trainer suspended. *Caltagione v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 7.

13:71-23.7 Penalties

(a) Should the judges determine that any person or persons have violated any section of this subchapter, they may punish the offending party consistent with the penalties provided for in these rules and regulations.

(b) In addition thereto, the judges may penalize the owner of any horse, or any entry of which said horse is a part, that has started in any race with any drug or substance foreign to the natural horse in its body by disqualification and denial of any part of the purse with redistribution of purse moneys as in the case of a disqualification.

(c) Any individual suspended or disciplined in any fashion for a second or subsequent violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.6(a), (b), (d) or any comparable rule of any other racing commission or turf governing body may be deemed a repetitive offender. A second or subsequent violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.6 may constitute grounds for further disciplinary action by the Commission.

(d) Horses owned wholly or in part by persons suspended for violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.6(a), (b) or (d) are ineligible to start during the period of such suspension, unless sold to a bona fide purchaser. Horses trained by a person suspended for such a violation, wherein the trainer does not have an ownership interest, are automatically eligible to start when placed in the hands of a licensed trainer approved by the judges.

(See N.J.A.C. 13:71-3 for rules concerning appeals.)

13:71-23.8 Administering medication to respiratory bleeders; standards for the administration of phenylbutazone

(a) The stewards may permit the administration of medication to control respiratory bleeding in animals that:

1. At any time have received a comprehensive cardiopulmonary examination at an approved equine hospital or school of veterinary medicine and as a result thereof are certified as bleeders and therefore are in need of medication in order to race; or

2. Are observed in New Jersey to bleed during the running or driving of a workout or race at a duly licensed New Jersey racetrack, or in the detention barn following such workout or race by a State or Associate State Veterinarian or by a licensed veterinarian at any time on the grounds of a racetrack and have been placed on a veterinarian's list for at least 10 days; or

3. Have been certified as respiratory bleeders in other racing jurisdictions by a veterinarian employed by that jurisdiction's regulatory body or have been placed on another racing jurisdiction's respiratory bleeder's list.

(b) All horses that are placed on the veterinarian's list shall be required to be treated by a licensed practicing veterinarian in the stall assigned to that horse on the grounds of the Racing Association or in the receiving barn. During this period the horse shall be under the care and custody of a groom or caretaker appointed by the trainer. Furosemide, a diuretic medication that is intended to control respiratory bleeding, shall be administered by a licensed practicing veterinarian and shall be limited to an intravenous dose of 0.50 milligrams (mg) per pound of body weight (1.00 mg per kilogram) or 500 milligrams (10 cubic centimeters (cc)) in a 1,000 pound horse at least four hours prior to race time. Said practicing veterinarian shall make daily reports of all said treatments and file said reports with the State Veterinarian each day.

(c) Post-race urine and blood samples may be taken by or under the supervision of the State Veterinarian from all horses treated with Lasix® (furosemide) to control respiratory bleeding pursuant to the requirements set forth above. In the event a post-race analysis of a blood sample reveals that the concentration of furosemide exceeds a level of 50 nanograms per milliliter of plasma (50 ng/ml) the trainer and/or the practicing veterinarian shall be liable to the penalties as set forth in (e) below.

(d) Any horse having bled in any jurisdiction shall be placed on the veterinarian's list for bleeding and must remain on the list for 10 calendar days, a second time bleeder must remain on the respiratory list for 30 days, and a third time bleeder must remain on the respiratory list for 90 days. A bleeder in the above categories is automatically released from the veterinarian's list after these dates; however, a horse which evidences respiratory bleeding a fourth time is barred from further racing in New Jersey.

(e) Should the stewards determine that any person or persons have violated (c) above, they shall punish the offending party as follows:

1. A trainer and/or veterinarian shall receive a warning for the first time a horse in his or her care shall show a test result in excess of 50 nanograms per milliliter of plasma.

2. A trainer and/or veterinarian shall receive a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for a second time the same horse shows a test result in excess of 50 nanograms per milliliter of plasma.

3. Should the same horse show a test result in excess of 50 nanograms per milliliter of plasma for a third time, the trainer and/or veterinarian shall be suspended, fined or both.