

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.

Case Notes

Horse driver who moved into another racing lane without sufficient clearance was fined and suspended. *Stafford v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 25.

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.

Unintentional lane change that impeded progress of other horse warranted three-day suspension of driver. *Manzi v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 49.

Racing over passing lane during open stretch supported race horse & equals; disqualification from first place finish. *Vacca v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 20.

Impeding another driver's forward progress during race justified three-day suspension for horse driver. *Smith v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 19.

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).

Racing license suspension for inconsistent driving dismissed. Cito v. New Jersey Racing Commission, 97 N.J.A.R.2d (RAC) 15.

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.

before they can race. The voluntary administration of furosemide without an external bleeding incident shall not subject the horse to the initial period of ineligibility as defined by (b) above. A horse may be recommended for removal from the Bleeder List only on the direction of the licensed, practicing veterinarian, who shall certify in writing to the Board of Judges the recommendation for removal. A horse, which has been placed on a Bleeder List in another jurisdiction pursuant to these rules, shall be placed on a Bleeder List in this jurisdiction.

(d) 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 in (b) above. Post-race test results must show a detectable concentration of furosemide in the serum, plasma or urine sample taken from a furosemide treated horse. Quantitation of furosemide in serum or plasma shall be performed and concentrations may not exceed 100 nanograms of furosemide per milliliter of serum or plasma. In the event a post-race analysis of a blood sample reveals that the concentration of furosemide exceeds a level of 100 nanograms per milliliter of serum or plasma (100 ng/mL) or in the event that a post-race analysis of a blood or urine sample reveals no detectable concentration of furosemide, the trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall be liable to the penalties as set forth in (e) below.

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

1. A trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall receive a warning for the first violation.
2. A trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall receive a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for a second violation.
3. A trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall be suspended, fined or both for a third violation.
4. Repeated violations of (d) above by a trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, for any horse under their care may subject said trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, to fine and/or suspension regardless of whether or not the same horse is involved.

(f) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein or in N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.1, no penalty shall be imposed where on the day of the race a horse carries in its body either

Phenylbutazone or Flunixin, both NSAID(s), under the following conditions:

1. The NSAID level does not exceed the following permitted serum or plasma threshold concentrations which are consistent with administration by a single intravenous injection that follows the FDA-approved dose regimen for each product(s) at least 24 hours before the post time for the race in which the horse is entered:
 - i. Phenylbutazone (or its metabolite oxphenylbutazone) - five micrograms per milliliter (five $\mu\text{g/mL}$);
 - ii. Flunixin -20 nanograms per milliliter (20 ng/mL);
2. Phenylbutazone and Flunixin are not to be administered within the 24 hours before post time for the race in which the horse is entered; and
3. The presence of more than one of the two approved NSAID or any unapproved NSAID(s) in the post-race serum or plasma sample is not permitted. The use of all but one of the approved NSAID shall be discontinued at least 48 hours before the post time for the race in which the horse is entered.

(g) In the event post-race testing determines that the threshold levels set forth for the two permitted NSAID(s) were exceeded, there is evidence of more than one of the two permitted NSAID(s) present or there is evidence of an unapproved NSAID the Board of Judges shall penalize, the trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, as follows, regardless of whether or not the same horse is involved:

1. First violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.8(f) – \$500.00 fine, loss of purse and 15 day suspension; and
2. Second or subsequent violations of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.8(f) – such fines, suspensions and/or other penalties allowed by this chapter.

(h) The following anti-ulcer medications may be administered up to 24 hours prior to the race in which the horse is entered: Omeprazole; Cimetidine; Ranitidine; and Sucralfate. In the event a horse tests positive for any of the anti-ulcer medications identified in this subsection, the trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. \$250.00 fine for the first violation;
2. \$500.00 fine and loss of purse for the second violation; and
3. Increased fine, loss of purse and license suspension as deemed appropriate by the Board of Judges for the third and subsequent violations.

(i) The following substances may be present in post-race samples as a result of possible environmental contamination from plants that are traditionally grazed or harvested as equine feed or are present from contamination during cultivation, processing, treatment, storage and transportation phases that contribute to contamination:

1. Atropine;
2. Dimethyl sulfoxide;
3. Estranediol;
4. Hydrocortisone;
5. Morphine and Metabolites;
6. Salicylic acid;
7. Scopolamine;
8. Strychnine;
9. Testosterone;
10. Theobromine; or
11. Theophylline.

(j) If a horse tests positive for one of the substances identified in (i) above, within 10 days of being notified of the positive test, the trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, may request in writing a hearing before the Board of Judges for the purpose of determining whether the positive test resulted from environmental contamination as described in (i) above. The trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, shall have the burden of proof at the hearing. If the trainer and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, meet their burden of proof in showing environmental contamination as described in (i) above, the Board of Judges shall consider the environmental contamination as a mitigating circumstance in assessing a penalty.

(k) Regulatory thresholds (the concentration of the drug below which no administrative action is taken) are established for caffeine as 100 nanograms per milliliter (100 ng/mL) of serum or plasma. A positive test which exceeds the regulatory threshold will subject trainers and other persons charged with responsibility, including, without limitation, licensed, practicing veterinarians, to penalties consistent with those permitted by the New Jersey Racing Commission rules.

Amended by R.1988 d.183, effective April 18, 1988.
See: 20 N.J.R. 250(a), 20 N.J.R. 912(c).

Changed time a second time bleeder must remain on respiratory lift from three months to 30 days; added third time bleeder to be kept for three months.

Amended by R.1990 d.486, effective October 1, 1990 (operative January 1, 1991).

See: 22 N.J.R. 1718(a), 22 N.J.R. 3155(a).

Authorizes the administration of medication in assigned stall instead of detention barn and establishes dosage levels and time requirements recommended by the Association of Racing Commissioners International; provides for disciplinary action in the event of excessive drug levels as per post-race testing.

Amended by R.1990 d.575, effective November 19, 1990 (operative January 1, 1991).

See: 22 N.J.R. 1233(c), 22 N.J.R. 3500(b).

Provides for the acceptance of certification of respiratory bleeders from racing commissions in other jurisdictions.

Amended by R.1991 d.264, effective May 20, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 675(c), 23 N.J.R. 1684(e).

Changed "14 calendar days" to "10 calendar days"; changed "three months" to "90 days" in (d).

Amended by R.1992 d.18, effective January 6, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 2919(d), 24 N.J.R. 109(a).

Revised (a)2.

Amended by R.1994 d.128, effective March 7, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3105(a), 26 N.J.R. 1240(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.297, effective June 5, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 1957(a), 27 N.J.R. 2244(b).

Amended by R.1996 d.445, effective October 7, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 3055(a), 28 N.J.R. 4488(b).

Administrative correction.

See: 29 N.J.R. 448(b).

Amended by R.1997 d.91, effective February 18, 1997.

See: 28 N.J.R. 5057(a), 29 N.J.R. 584(b).

In (a)2, inserted reference to observation by a licensed veterinarian on the racetrack grounds.

Petition for Rulemaking.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1456(c), 1741(c), 2755(a).

Petition for Rulemaking: New Jersey Racing Commission; Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking: Administering Medication to Respiratory Bleeders.

See: 38 N.J.R. 1881(a), 38 N.J.R. 1881(b), 38 N.J.R. 2893(b), 38 N.J.R. 2893(c).

Amended by R.2006 d.227, effective June 19, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 1396(a), 38 N.J.R. 2727(b).

Section was "Administering medication to respiratory bleeders; standards for the administration of phenylbutazone". Rewrote section.

Case Notes

Rule sets forth the association between the administration of drugs and the need to protect horses from them. *Gallo v. New Jersey Racing Commission*, 6 N.J.A.R. 381 (1983).

13:71-23.9 Possession of drugs or drug instruments

(a) No person aside from licensed veterinarians shall have in his possession anywhere within the grounds of any association conducting a race meeting, or anywhere within the confines of a racetrack enclosure, or anywhere within the grounds of any licensed off-track stabling facility, any drugs not possessed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, nor any contraband drug or unauthorized prescription legend drugs, nor any hypodermic syringes or needles, or any other instrument which may be used for injection, unless the injectable device is possessed for self-administration, and further provided that the individual possessing such device promptly notify the State Steward:

1. That he is in possession of such device; and
2. Of the chemical substance to be administered.

Amended by R.1993 d.261, effective June 21, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1061(a), 25 N.J.R. 2488(b).