

Penalty Guidelines for Standardbred Horse Racing Licensee Violations

This document outlines recommended penalties for standardbred horse racing licensee violations. These guidelines were developed by the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch's (GPEB) Executive Director of Racing in consultation with the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for GPEB and Racing Division Judges. Additionally, representatives from Harness Racing BC and the Great Canadian Gaming Corporation were consulted.

These guidelines further enhance the integrity of B.C.'s horse racing industry and the larger purses have lead 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 Judges will take into account the violation history of the licensee.**

Positive Tests / Drug Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
Medications that are listed in the Association of Racing Commissions International (ARCI) Classification Guidelines with a penalty category of "C"	15 day full suspension or \$2,500 fine
Medications that are listed in the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Classification Guidelines with a penalty category of "B"	30 – 60 day full suspension
Medications that are listed in the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Classification Guidelines with a penalty category of "A" and medications that are not listed for veterinarian use	120 day – 1 year full suspension
The presence of any drug that is not listed on the CPMA Schedule of drugs but appears on the ARCI Classification Guidelines shall result in the penalty issued being doubled.	
TCO ₂ overages	30 day full suspension
Erythropoietin or Darbepoetin positive	7 year full suspension
Possession of needles/syringes on the grounds	Up to a 10 day full suspension or \$1,500 fine depending on mitigating circumstances
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 Judges' 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.

Penalty Guidelines for Standardbred Horse Racing Licensee Violations

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.
- The penalty for a fourth violation within 8 years will be at the discretion of the Judges.

Interference Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
Causing interference in a race with no disqualification	\$250 fine or 1 day driving only suspension
Causing interference in a race resulting in a disqualification	\$500 fine or 2 day driving only suspension
Causing interference in a race resulting in a horse breaking	3 day driving only suspension
Causing interference in a race resulting in an accident	5 day driving only suspension

Slow Pace

Description	Recommended Penalty
First violation	10% of purse earned or \$100 whichever is greater
Second violation within 50 drives	Double the penalty of the first violation
Third violation within 100 drives	2 day driving only suspension
Fourth violation within 200 drives	4 day driving only suspension

Whipping Violations

Description	Recommended Penalty
First whipping violation	\$100 fine
Second whipping violation within 50 drives	\$200 fine
Third whipping violation within 100 drives	2 day driving only suspension
Fourth whipping violation within 200 drives	4 day driving only suspension
Rule 250 (1)(a)(i) excessive whipping	\$500 - \$1,000 fine or 2 - 4 day driving only suspension depending on severity of the violation

Penalty Guidelines for Standardbred Horse Racing Licensee Violations

Whipping – Line in Each Hand

Description	Recommended Penalty
First violation	* 4 day driving only suspension or \$1,000 fine
Second violation within 50 drives	8 days driving only suspension
Third violation within 100 drives	16 day driving only suspension
Fourth violation	Penalty at the discretion of the Judges

* Penalty is at the sole discretion of the Judges.

- Driver must have a line in each hand for the entire race.

Note about interference violations, slow pace and whipping violations:

- Penalties in excess of those outlined will be at the discretion of the Judges

Other Penalties

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

Contact Information

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