

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 Horse 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 Jockey's Benefit Association, 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 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
Medications that are listed in the Association of Racing Commissioners 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 being doubled.	
TCO₂ 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 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.

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 - \$250 or 1 day riding only
Causing interference in a race with a disqualification	\$500 fine or 1 day riding only
Causing interference resulting in an accident in a race	2 + days riding only

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

Note interference violations and whipping violations:

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

Other Penalties

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

Contact Information

Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch
Racing Division
408 – 4603 Kingsway Avenue
Burnaby, BC V5H 4M4

Telephone: 604 660-7400
Facsimile: 604 660-7414
Web: www.gaming.gov.bc.ca
E-mail: Gaming.Branch@gov.bc.ca