

## Thoroughbred Rule 1231 Amendment Summary

This amendment lowers the allowable TCO<sub>2</sub> level from 39 to 37 millimoles per liter to comply with national standards for graded stakes races. This change was made on an emergency basis for 2017, and is required for graded stakes races at Oaklawn to be certified as meeting national industry standards.

### Thoroughbred Rule 1231 Mark Up

#### 1231. Total Dissolved Carbon Dioxide Testing

##### A. Definitions

1. *Bicarbonate Loading or "Milkshaking"* -- terms used to describe the administration of bicarbonate of soda (sodium bicarbonate or NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) or other substances that affect total dissolved carbon dioxide levels, administered through a nasogastric tube or by any other means, which shall be deemed to have an adverse effect on the horse by changing its normal physiological state through elevation of blood total dissolved carbon dioxide.

2. *Nasogastric Tube* -- any tube which can be inserted through the nose that extends into the stomach.

##### B. Procedures

1. The state veterinarian may draw blood samples from a horse for the purpose of obtaining a TCO<sub>2</sub> (total dissolved carbon dioxide) concentration level.

2. Blood samples for TCO<sub>2</sub> shall be drawn at the discretion of the State Veterinarian.

3. The TCO<sub>2</sub> level in the blood shall not exceed 37.0 millimole per liter.

4. In the event a sample drawn from a horse contains an amount of TCO<sub>2</sub> which exceeds the levels described above, the following penalties shall apply:

a. The first time the laboratory reports an excessive TCO<sub>2</sub> level, the trainer shall be fined \$1,000 and the purse shall be redistributed.

b. The second time the laboratory reports an excessive TCO<sub>2</sub> level, the stewards shall suspend the trainer for the duration of the race meeting plus 10 days or for a period not to exceed 6 months, whichever is greater, impose a fine of up to \$1,500, with redistribution of the purse, and shall refer the case to the commission.

c. For each subsequent report of an excessive TCO<sub>2</sub> level, the Stewards or Commission may suspend the trainer for up to one year and impose a fine of up to \$2,500, with redistribution of the purse.

5. There shall be no split sample testing on blood samples drawn for purposes of TCO<sub>2</sub> testing.

6. No licensee other than veterinarians shall possess a nasogastric tube, as described herein, on the premises under the jurisdiction of the commission.