



NSA Official Notices

Monday, March 18, 2024

NSA Rules of Racing Revisions

Please review the following revisions to the NSA Rules of Racing, which have been made by the NSA Stewards Advisory Committee and approved by the NSA Executive Committee on behalf of the NSA Board of Directors. All new rules and regulations are effective immediately for the 2024 NSA racing season.

Definitions

(9) “**Association Grounds**” is all real property utilized by the Association in the conduct of its **Recognized Race Meeting including, but not limited to, the racecourse, spectator areas, barns and barn area, parking lots and parking area, saddling paddock, and walking ring.**

(53) “**Race Period**” is the period beginning 24-hours before the first post time of the Recognized Race Meeting and ending at midnight of the day of the races.

Revised Rules

Rule 5.15.A.3. examine any horse when there is a question as to the physical condition of such horse; **and conduct a pre-race examination of all horses on the grounds entered for the day’s racing and recommend a scratch if the examination reveals physical or medical abnormalities that could threaten the health or welfare of the horse or rider.**

Rule 5.15.A.6. be authorized to humanely destroy any horse deemed to be so seriously injured that it is in the best interest of the horse to so act; **and be authorized to pull blood or urine for drug testing when a horse must be euthanized or dies on the course.**

Rule 5.2.B.6. The Stewards have control over and free access to all **Association Grounds.**

Rule 7.1.H.1. Field size for maiden hurdle races shall not exceed ten (10) horses, unless altered by the Stewards Advisory Committee. **The limit of field for maiden timber races shall be determined by the Stewards of the Race Meet.**

Rule 7.6.A.4. A rider’s weight shall include his clothing, boots, saddle, pad, lead pad, under girth, and any other equipment, except the over girth, breast plate, yoke, number cloth, safety helmet and vest, and whip.

Rule 9.1. FORBIDDEN SUBSTANCES

A. No horse may participate in any race with, nor carry in its body during the running of a race, any (i) forbidden substance, **(ii) substance not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), (iii) adjunct bleeder medication,** or (iv) a controlled therapeutic substance in excess of the maximum permissible level as specified in the ARCI Controlled Therapeutic Substances list as may be amended from time to time. A forbidden substance is any drug, or drug metabolite, which might affect the speed or performance of a horse. Also prohibited are any drugs, regardless of how harmless or innocuous they might be, which might interfere with the detection of the aforementioned forbidden substance.

B. Any trainer or person subject to these Rules who **possesses**, administers, attempt to administer, instructs, aids, conspires with another to administer, or employs anyone who administers or attempts to administer a forbidden substance to a horse competing at a sanctioned race meet shall be subject to the penalties provided under these Rules.

Rule 9.2. FORBIDDEN PRACTICES

A. No person other than a veterinarian described in Rules 5.15, 5.16 or 5.17 shall have in their possession on **Association Grounds, during the Race Period,** any hypodermic needle, **syringe, dose syringe, applicator, or similar device of any type or nature.** Note: **“Race Period” is the period beginning 24-hours before the first post time of the Recognized Race meeting and ending at midnight of the day of the races.**

B. **During the Race Period,** no person shall have in their possession on **Association Grounds,** nor shall any person use, **or attempt to use** any **devices,** appliances, electrical, mechanical, or otherwise of such nature as could affect the speed or racing condition of a horse including, **but not limited to, nebulizer or puffer treatments, transdermal patches, and salt therapy.**

C. No horse may be treated with any form of shock wave therapy within **thirty (30) days** of racing. The administration of shock wave therapy, **outside of that thirty (30) day period,** may only be performed by a licensed veterinarian, who shall document and report each treatment and must submit that report to the NSA Equine Medical Director **via e-mail prior to entry of the horse in a race.** A trainer or veterinarian who has been found to have violated any of the above provisions of this rule shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the stewards including, but not limited to, a **minimum** suspension of ninety (90) days.

Rule 10.1.A.5. No other medication may be **on Association Grounds or be administered during the Race Period of the Recognized Race Meeting,** including any adjunct medications.

Eliminated Rule

Rule 3.4.B.7. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no member of the Stewards Advisory Committee may serve as a racing official or a member of the Hearing, Review and Appeals Committee.

Added Rule

Rule 10.3 ELECTROLYTES

A. **Electrolytes may be administered intravenously or orally, on Association Grounds, during the Race Period, only by a licensed veterinarian, at their discretion, when necessary to treat a horse for medical reasons.**

B. **Granular electrolytes may be administered in the feed or water during the Race Period.**

150 Day Layoff Report Forms

Trainers must complete this form for any horse that has not raced for 150 days or more. The form must be submitted prior to entry. This requirement does not apply to first-time life starters.

Age Restrictions

Hurdle horses may not race over hurdles beyond the age of 12. **Timber horses aged 13 years and up may race, however they are required to have a physical examination by a veterinarian, and clearance from that examination, before running in a NSA sanctioned race. That clearance must be submitted to NSA Equine Medical Director Dr. Reynolds Cowles prior to entry in the race.**

NYRA Policy: Horses aged 10 years old and upward will not be permitted to run at NYRA race-tracks. This policy does apply to steeplechase races.

Revised NSA Shoe Policy

No toe grabs, caulks, stickers, turndowns, inserts, trailers, or heel extensions will be allowed on the front or hind shoes. Note: The insert on the toe of the Queen's Plate is considered a "wear plate," not a toe grab. Block heels on the hind shoes (not to exceed ¼ inch) are permissible. Outer rim shoes are allowable providing there is no toe grab. **Note: Equishox Shoes, by Olov, may be used under NSA Rules.**

NSA Starting Procedure

The European "Gather Up Start" will be used at all NSA race meets this spring, except for the parimutuel meet at the Virginia Gold Cup, where horses will be lined up in numerical order.

Careless Riding Penalty

The new standard fine for "careless riding" is \$500 for a first-time offense. Should the infraction be deemed "reckless" or "dangerous" by the stewards, the penalty will be a minimum fine of \$1,000 plus a one (1) day suspension or greater.

Virginia General Preference

At all Virginia NSA race meets (Blue Ridge, Old Dominion, Middleburg, Foxfield, and the Virginia Gold Cup) preference, in order, will be given to Virginia Bred, Virginia Sired, Virginia Certified, and all other horses that are stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians. (The "stabled or trained in Virginia or owned by Virginians" is restricted to one horse per trainer).

Note: It is the trainer's responsibility to claim preferences at the time of entry.

Carolina Cup Nominations

Carolina Cup Nominations are now available and attached below.

NSA Ratings Committee

The 2024 Ratings Handicap Committee consists of NSA Director of Racing Bill Gallo, racing journalist Joe Clancy, former jockey and current NSA steward Gregg Morris, and administrative assistant Emma Cary.

The guidelines and policies of the Committee are published in the Spring Condition Book on page 36. All hurdle winners, currently in training, appear on the ratings list, which is on the NSA website, and updated weekly.



**The Carolina Cup
(Sport of Kings Novice Hurdle Stakes)
\$75,000**

HURDLE FOR FOUR YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NOT WON OVER HURDLES PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 2023 OR WHICH HAVE NEVER WON THREE RACES, OTHER THAN THREE YEAR OLD Four-year-olds, 142 lbs.; older, 150 lbs. Winners, other than maiden, claiming, starter or restricted three-year-old race: 3 lbs. extra for each race won.

TWO MILES AND ONE EIGHTH (HURDLE)

TO BE RUN SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

ABAAN	ch.g.7	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Daigneault Thoroughbreds	Kate Dalton
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L'IMPERATOR (FR)	b.g.7	Hudson River Farms	Arch Kingsley, Jr.
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NEOTROPIC	gr/ro.g.6	Bruton Street-US	Jack Fisher
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PARLIAMENT HILL (GB)	ch.g.6	Maranto Manor, LLC	Thomas Garner
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SOVIET PIMPERNEL (IRE)	b.g.9	Del Rio Racing LLC	Ricky Hendriks
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THE HERO NEXT DOOR (IRE)	dk b/g.6	Michael A. Smith	Leslie F. Young
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CLOSED MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024 WITH 6 NOMINATIONS*

BILL GALLO
DIRECTOR OF RACING