

OKLAHOMA HORSE RACING COMMISSION

PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS TO FIVE RACING RULES

NOTE TO READER:

Proposed deletion is shown in bold and strikethrough fonts

Proposed addition is shown in bold and underline fonts

PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFY THE APPROVED ACTIONS OF THE RACING VETERINARIAN IN THE CASE OF A HORSE WHO SUFFERS A CATASTROPHIC INJURY

325:20-1-21. DUTIES OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

The Official Veterinarian must be a graduate veterinarian and licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma. He or she shall recommend to the Stewards any horse that is deemed unsafe to be raced, or a horse that it would be inhumane to allow to race. He or she shall supervise the taking of all specimens for testing according to procedures approved by the Commission **except in those cases provided for in Rule 325:20-1-22.** He or she shall provide proper safeguards in the handling of all laboratory specimens to prevent tampering, confusion, or contamination. All specimens collected shall be sent in locked and sealed cases to the laboratory. He or she shall have the authority and jurisdiction to supervise the practicing licensed veterinarians within the enclosure. He or she shall report to the Commission the names of all horses humanely destroyed or which otherwise expire at the meeting and the reasons therefore. No Official Veterinarian shall directly treat or prescribe for any horse scheduled to participate during his/her term of appointment at any recognized meeting except in an emergency or for the administration of a diuretic to facilitate the collection of a urine

sample, either case of which shall be immediately reported to the Stewards. The Official Veterinarian shall place horses on the Veterinarian's List and may remove from the List those horses which, in his/her opinion, can satisfactorily compete in a race.

325:20-1-22. DUTIES OF THE RACING VETERINARIAN

The Racing Veterinarian must be a graduate veterinarian and licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma. The Racing Veterinarian shall be present in the paddock on the racing course, and at the starting gate during the saddling, the parade, and until the horses are dispatched from the gate for the race; and shall examine any horse when there is a question as to the physical condition of such a horse. He or she shall report any horse, which in their opinion is incapable of physically exerting its best effort to win, to the Stewards, who may scratch such horse from the race. The Racing Veterinarian shall examine any horse which appears in physical distress during the race, at the finish of the race; and s/he shall report such horse together with their opinion as to the cause of the distress to the Stewards and to the Official Veterinarian. No Racing Veterinarian shall directly treat or prescribe for any horse scheduled to participate during their term of appointment at any recognized meeting except in an emergency. The Racing Veterinarian has the authority to treat any horse in the event of an emergency, accident or injury; and s/he is authorized to humanely destroy any horse which in their opinion is so seriously injured that it is in the best interests of racing to so act; and every horse owner and Trainer participating in Commission-licensed racing does consent to the humane destruction of such animal. In the case of a horse which has suffered a

catastrophic injury, the Racing Veterinarian may obtain a blood sample from the injured horse prior to taking any humane actions necessary. If the trainer is immediately available, he or she may witness the collection process. If the trainer is not immediately available to witness the collection process, any other licensed individual shall act as the witness to the collection process. It is the duty of the trainer to make himself/herself available to witness the collection process.

325:45-1-18. TAKING OF SAMPLES

Pursuant to the provisions of 3A:204(A)(14):

(1) Blood shall be taken only by the Official Veterinarian except as otherwise provided in the *Rules of Racing*.

(2) In the case of a horse which has suffered a catastrophic injury, the Racing Veterinarian may obtain a blood sample from the injured horse prior to taking any humane actions necessary. If the trainer is immediately available, he or she may witness the collection process. If the trainer is not immediately available to witness the collection process, any other licensed individual shall act as the witness to the collection process. It is the duty of the trainer to make himself/herself available to witness the collection process.

(~~2~~ 3) Urine, other samples or specimens shall be taken under the direction of the Official Veterinarian or persons appointed or assigned by the Official Veterinarian for such purposes. All samples shall be taken in a detention area approved by the