

President:
Mrs J Hastie nee Nixon MRCVS

Chairman:
Miss E Gibson

General Secretary:
Miss C Burdock

Company Limited by Guarantee
Reg in England and Wales No. 0022147
96 High Street, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 5AR
Registered Charity: 211570



Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain
96 High Street
Edenbridge
Kent
TN8 5AR

Tel: 01732 866277

Email: office@sporthorsegb.co.uk
Web: www.sporthorsegb.co.uk

SHB(GB) Drug Testing – Policy and Procedures

a. Overview:

- i. Sport Horse Breeding (GB) [SHB(GB)] is committed to maintaining fairness, integrity, and the welfare of horses at all affiliated shows and events.
- ii. This policy outlines the rules and procedures for drug testing, including the responsibilities of Members, sampling and analysis processes, and disciplinary measures.

b. Member Responsibilities:

- i. Members, owners, and exhibitors are advised that any drug testing conducted by SHB(GB) at SHB(GB) Shows or Affiliated Shows will follow these rules.
- ii. SHB(GB) takes a strict stance on doping, whether intentional or accidental, to protect the welfare of horses and ensure fair competition. Members must be aware that many feeds, supplements, and even foods such as chocolate may contain prohibited substances. Some substances can also be absorbed through the skin or found in herbal or homeopathic remedies.
- iii. It is the sole responsibility of the Member, owner, or producer to ensure that no prohibited substance is administered, fed, or applied to a horse. Ignorance is not defence. Owners should have a full and frank conversation with their producer(s) not to administer any medication without their knowledge and consent.
- iv. SHB(GB) does not provide individual advice on substances. As a rule, any substance prohibited by the FEI (Fédération Équestre Internationale) is also prohibited by SHB(GB). Although SHB(GB) does not set its own threshold levels, FEI thresholds may be referenced when considering results.

c. Key Definitions:

- i. **Drugs Testing:** The examination of a horse by a qualified person authorised by SHB(GB), including the collection of samples (such as body fluids, tissues, excreta, hair, or skin scrapings) for laboratory analysis.

d. Prohibited Substances:

- i. These are divided into two categories:
- ii. **Banned Substances** – substances with no legitimate medical use in competition horses and a high potential for abuse. These are not permitted at any time.
- iii. **Controlled Medications** – substances with recognised therapeutic uses that may affect performance or welfare.

e. Drug Testing Procedures:

- i. SHB(GB) may conduct drug testing through authorised representatives or partner societies, including BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS, TSR, and JMB.

- ii. Any horse competing under SHB(GB) Rules may be selected for testing, competing or not. Refusal to allow testing is a breach of this policy.
- iii. Horses competing in HOYS qualifying classes under BSHA or TSR Rules are also subject to those societies' respective drug testing procedures.
- iv. The sampling and analysis process for SHB(GB) tests is detailed below.
- v. The detection of a prohibited substance in a horse's sample is a breach of these rules.
- vi. Anyone who administers or causes a horse to receive a prohibited substance will be in breach of this policy.

f. Sampling And Analysis Process:

- i. Any horse present at a show under SHB(GB) rules may be tested.
- ii. The owner, producer, or person in charge of the horse must supervise it from notification until testing is complete and must witness the sampling procedure.
- iii. Refusal or obstruction of the process, or refusal to sign the sampling declaration, will be treated as a positive test.
- iv. If the responsible person or their representative is not present, testing will still proceed.
- v. Samples must be stored securely and sent an FEI-approved laboratory as soon as possible.
- vi. Each sample is divided into two parts: Sample A and Sample B.
- vii. Analysis of Sample A must be completed within 21 days of receipt.
- viii. SHB(GB) will notify the owner or producer of results by recorded delivery within 14 days of receipt of results.
- ix. If Sample A is negative, no further action is taken and Sample B may be destroyed. Negative results may be shared with partner societies (BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS, TSR)
- x. If Sample A is positive, the owner or producer may request confirmatory analysis of Sample B within 14 days of notification and can elect to have this undertaken at any FEI accredited laboratory.
- xi. The owner or producer may also request specific findings from Sample B analysis but will bear any additional costs.
- xii. If no confirmatory test is requested within 14 days, the Sample A result is deemed final and positive. The owner or producer must reimburse SHB(GB) for testing costs.
- xiii. If Sample B is analysed:
- xiv. SHB(GB) will send results by recorded delivery within 14 days of receipt.
- xv. If Sample B is negative, the matter is closed.
- xvi. If Sample B is positive, it confirms a positive drug test, the penalties in section 'Automatic Penalties' will apply and the Disciplinary Procedures contained within this Policy will be initiated.
- xvii. The requesting party must reimburse SHB(GB) for all testing costs

g. Disciplinary Process:

- i. The Disciplinary Panel will be appointed within 14 days of notification of after the positive test and will include at least one Council Member.
- ii. The Panel will review the evidence, allow the owner or producer to present their case, and may consider witness testimony or written statements.
- iii. The decision and any penalty will be communicated within 14 days of the hearing.

- iv. If the case is dismissed, any temporary suspensions will be lifted immediately.
- v. If the breach is upheld, the penalties outlined in section 'Disciplinary Panel Penalties' will apply.

h. Penalties:

i. Automatic Penalties (Applied immediately if Sample B confirms a positive drug test)

- ii. If a prohibited substance is confirmed in a horse's sample, the following automatic penalties will apply:
 - ❖ The horse will be disqualified from any competition, class, or championship on the day of testing, and any qualifications, prizes, or awards will be forfeited.
 - ❖ The horse will be suspended from SHB(GB)-affiliated competition pending disciplinary review.
 - ❖ The owner and/or producer will be suspended from SHB(GB) Membership rights and privileges pending review.
 - ❖ Suspension takes effect from the date the positive result is received.
 - ❖ The owner and/or producer will be responsible for any fines and testing costs incurred.

i. Disciplinary Panel Penalties:

- i. Following review, if the Disciplinary Panel determines a breach has occurred, it may impose one or more of the following actions:
- ii. Take no action (in exceptional mitigating circumstances).
- iii. Issue a reprimand or caution.
- iv. Suspend Membership temporarily or permanently. Suspensions will be applied to ensure that they are effective in terms of the period they cover.
- v. Impose a fine up to £6,000.
- vi. Share any disciplinary actions with partner societies (BSHA, TSR, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS) and other recognised equestrian bodies.
- vii. Any individual or horse banned by another equestrian governing body (e.g. Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing) may be prohibited from competing in SHB(GB) events for the duration of that ban, at the discretion of the SHB(GB) Council.

j. Responsibility and Liability:

- i. For the purpose of these rules, responsibility for compliance with the SHB(GB) Drug Testing Policy lies jointly with the owner, producer, and rider or exhibitor of the horse. Each of these parties has a duty to ensure that no prohibited substances are administered, fed, or applied to the horse at any time. If a horse returns a positive result for a prohibited substance, any or all the above individuals may be subject to disciplinary action. The SHB(GB) Disciplinary Panel will determine responsibility based on the evidence available, and penalties may include suspension, fines, or disqualification. Ignorance of the rules, or reliance on third parties, does not remove individual responsibility under this policy.