

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	7/1/2025	6/18/2025	Approved 6/17/2025

## Extraordinary Change Reason

Horse Welfare and Fair Competition

## Rule Change Intent

In the interest of horse welfare and fair competition, testing Samples (as defined in the Chapter), in addition to urine and blood is necessary to keep pace with technology and strengthen our program. USEF has received credible reports about the usage of some substances prohibited by USEF rules, and intended to enhance performance in competition. USEF has the ability to collect and have tested hair samples from horses that are participating in USEF competitions. This would enhance the ability to detect prohibited substances in horses that may otherwise evade testing detection. Other regulatory authorities such as horse racing have incorporated hair testing into their anti-doping effort.

## Proponent Details

USEF Executive Staff

## Contact Information

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## Linked Rules

## Comments

## CHAPTER 4 DRUGS AND MEDICATIONS

*For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions apply:*

**Drug Testing Personnel.** Includes (i) any licensed veterinarian appointed by the Federation to perform duties under this Chapter; and (ii) any technician appointed by a Federation-appointed licensed veterinarian to perform duties under this Chapter.

**Sample.** Unless otherwise specified herein, means any biological or other material, including any tissue, body fluid, excreta, hair, skin scraping or swab collected for the purposes of analysis under the Federation rules.

### GR402 Testing

1. Horses and/or ponies competing at a Licensed Competition are subject to examination by a licensed veterinarian who must be appointed by the Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program ~~Federation~~. Said appointed veterinarian, with the approval of the Administrator, may appoint a technician to perform certain duties under this Rule ~~Chapter 4~~. The examination may include physical, ~~collection of Samples~~ urine, blood tests and/or any other test or procedure at the discretion of said veterinarian necessary to effectuate the purposes of this rule ~~Chapter 4~~. Said veterinarian may examine any or all ~~Horses and/or ponies~~ in a class or all classes in a competition or any ~~Horses and/or ponies~~ entered in any class, whether in competition or not, if on the competition grounds, or any ~~Horse and/or pony~~ withdrawn by any exhibitor within 24 hours prior to a class for which it has been entered.
2. Whether a ~~Horse and/or pony~~ is in competition or not, refusal to submit the ~~Horse and/or pony~~ for examination or to cooperate with **Drug Testing Personnel** the veterinarian or their agents constitutes a violation and subjects the responsible person to penalties under GR406.
3. Trainers who are not able to accompany ~~Federation~~ **Drug Testing Personnel** and the ~~Horse and/or pony~~ to the location where a ~~Sample~~ collection is to take place, to act as witness to the collection and sealing of blood and urine ~~Samples~~, and to sign the drug collection documents in the appropriate places as witness, must appoint an agent to do so. The absence of such a witness shall constitute a waiver of any objection to the identification of the ~~Horse and/or pony~~ tested and the manner of collection and sealing of the ~~Samples~~.
4. Upon the collection of a sufficient number of tubes of blood from the ~~Horse or pony~~, the tubes shall be divided into two groups. One group shall be labeled and identified as Blood Sample A and the other as Blood Sample B, and they shall be sealed accordingly. Upon the collection of a sufficient volume of urine from the ~~Horse or pony~~, a portion of the sample shall be poured into a second urine sample container. One container shall be labeled and identified as Urine Sample A and the other as Urine Sample B, and they shall be sealed accordingly. **Upon collection of a sufficient amount of any other Sample from the Horse, a portion of the sample shall be placed into a second sample container. One container shall be labeled and identified as Sample A and the other as Sample B, and they shall be sealed accordingly. NOTE: There is no Sample B for swabs.** These procedures shall be performed whether or not the trainer or their appointed witness is present as provided for in Section 3 above.
5. In the event reasonable attempts at ~~Sample~~ collections from the ~~Horse or pony~~ do not provide a sufficient **quantity of Sample material** number of tubes of blood or a sufficient volume of urine to be divided, labeled, and identified as Samples A and B, as determined by **Drug Testing Personnel** the testing veterinarian and/or technician, the ~~Sample(s)~~ obtained (if obtained) shall be labeled and identified as Sample(s) A only, and it shall be recorded in the records of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program that the corresponding Sample(s) B does (do) not exist, in which event the obtained Sample(s) shall be subject to testing.
6. A blood ~~Sample~~ may be retested under these Rules at any time exclusively at the direction of the Federation. The retesting of a sample may lead to a violation only if the sample was retested within three (3) years from the sample collection date. In order to constitute a violation under these rules, the substance detected in the retested sample must (i) have been prohibited at the time of sample collection; and (ii) not a therapeutic substance, which for purposes of this rule includes only the Controlled Medications on the FEI



Prohibited Substances List (available at <http://www.fei.org/fei/cleansport>) in effect on the sample collection date.

7. In the event that the retested ~~S~~sample proves positive, and the retest was conducted more than one (1) year since the date of collection, no prizes or awards will be required to be returned.

#### GR403 Cooperation

1. Cooperation with **Drug Testing Personnel** ~~the veterinarian and/or their agent(s)~~ includes:
  - a. Taking the ~~H~~horse and/or pony and **Drug Testing Personnel** ~~the veterinarian and/or their agent(s)~~ immediately to the location selected by **Drug Testing Personnel** ~~said veterinarian and/or their agent(s)~~ for testing the ~~H~~horse and/or pony and presenting it for testing.
  - b. Assisting **Drug Testing Personnel** ~~the veterinarian and/or their agent(s)~~ in procuring the ~~S~~samples promptly, including but not limited to removing equipment from the ~~H~~horse and/or pony, leaving it quietly in the stall and avoiding any distractions to it. Schooling, lengthy cooling out, bandaging and other delays of this type shall be construed as noncooperation.
  - c. Polite attitude and actions toward ~~the veterinarian and/or their agent(s)~~ **Drug Testing Personnel**.
2. ***It is a violation for any individual to attempt to intimidate or interfere with Drug Testing Personnel.***

#### GR405 Equine Drugs and Medications Testing in Connection with an Appeal Measurement

1. Each animal submitted for an appeal measurement is subject to the Drugs and Medications Chapter at the time of said measurement and/or concurrent examinations, and said animal must be in compliance therewith.
2. Each animal submitted for an appeal measurement must have ~~drug testing s~~samples collected at the time of said measurement and/or concurrent examinations. No ~~S~~sample is a ~~drug testing S~~sample ***as required under this rule Chapter 4*** unless it is collected by and/or under the direct supervision of ~~Federation Drug Testing P~~Personnel, who must be appointed by the ~~Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program Federation~~ to collect ~~S~~samples from the animal in question in connection with said measurement.
3. Each animal submitted for an appeal measurement must have ~~both a urine sample and a blood samples~~ collected at the time of said measurement and/or concurrent examinations. ***All Samples*** ~~Both the urine sample and the blood sample~~ must be of sufficient volume ***and amount*** for drug testing purposes, as determined by the ~~Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program Federation~~. Said ~~S~~sample collections shall be conducted in accordance with procedures which are the sole prerogative of the ~~Federation d~~Drug Testing ~~p~~Personnel. As deemed necessary by the Federation testing veterinarian, the animal shall be administered furosemide to cause it to produce a ~~u~~rine ~~s~~sample in a timely manner.
4. Every ~~Sample blood sample and/or urine sample~~ collected in connection with an appeal measurement and all portions thereof are the sole property of the Federation. Said ~~s~~samples and all portions thereof must remain in the sole custody of the ~~Federation d~~Drug Testing ~~p~~Personnel at all times during said measurement and/or concurrent examinations, and subsequently they must be submitted to the Federation's designated laboratory for testing in accordance with the instructions of the ~~Federation Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program~~.
5. The entire cost of ~~S~~sample collections and testing conducted in connection with an appeal measurement, including the fees and expenses of ~~Federation d~~Drug Testing ~~p~~Personnel, shipping costs for equipment and samples, laboratory charges, etc., as determined by the ~~Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program Federation~~, must be paid in full by the appellant within 30 days of the submission of an invoice, regardless of the outcome of said measurement, and regardless of the laboratory results. A deposit in cash or certified check equal to the costs of sampling and testing, as estimated by the ~~Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program Federation~~, may be required prior to the measurement.
6. No appeal measurement is valid absent written affirmation of the CEO or their designee confirming the receipt of negative drug testing results from the Federation's designated laboratory, indicating that ~~both the urine and blood all Samples~~sample collected from the animal in question in connection with said measurement and/or concurrent examinations were found to contain no prohibited substance, said results having been issued to the ~~Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program Federation~~. Any instance involving a finding of prohibited substance shall additionally result in a violation of Chapter 4 for adjudication by the Hearing Committee in accordance with the Federation Bylaws.



## GR406 Results, Confirmatory Analysis, and Retest

1. ~~Blood and urine~~ **S**amples labeled and identified as Samples A shall be subjected to chemical analysis by the Federation's designated laboratory. ~~Blood and urine~~ **S**amples labeled and identified as Samples B shall be stored securely, unopened, at the Federation's designated laboratory, to be used in the event of a confirmatory analysis, or in the event of a future analysis. Samples collected by the Federation are the property of the Federation, and the Federation is entitled to determine all matters regarding access to and the analysis and disposal of such ~~S~~samples.
2. In the event the chemical analysis of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A is negative, i.e., no prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof is found to be present in the ~~S~~sample, the corresponding ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample B may be frozen **or stored, as appropriate**, and maintained, at the Federation's designated laboratory, for possible future chemical analysis.
3. In the event the chemical analysis of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A is positive, i.e., a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof is found to be present in the ~~S~~sample, this shall be prima facie evidence that the prohibited substance was administered in some manner to said ~~H~~horse or pony, whether intentionally or unintentionally, or otherwise was caused to be present in the tissues, body fluids or excreta of the ~~H~~horse or pony at the competition, whether intentionally or unintentionally, such that the trainer(s) deemed responsible and accountable for its condition is (are) liable under the provisions of GR404.
4. In the event the chemical analysis of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A is positive, the Federation shall notify the Trainer, Persons Responsible (if applicable), and the Owner of the Horse of their right to promptly request the analysis of the B ~~S~~sample. They may waive analysis of the B ~~S~~sample in which case they shall be deemed to accept the A ~~S~~sample analytical results. If waived, the Federation may nonetheless elect to proceed with the B ~~S~~sample analysis at its own expense. The Trainer, Persons Responsible (if applicable), and the Owner of the Horse are deemed to have waived their right to a B Sample analysis if the Confirmatory Analysis Request Form is not received by the Federation within 10 calendar days from notification of the right to request such analysis. Upon receipt of the duly executed Confirmatory Analysis Request Form, the Federation shall make arrangements for analysis of the B ~~S~~sample without undue delay. The party requesting the B ~~S~~sample analysis must pay the costs associated therewith in advance, but if the B ~~S~~sample analysis does not substantially confirm the A ~~S~~sample analysis, such costs will be reimbursed by the Federation. If such costs required to be paid in advance are not paid to the Federation within five business days following the issuance of the invoice, the right to have the B ~~S~~sample analysis performed will be deemed waived.
5. The party requesting the confirmatory analysis may elect to have the B ~~S~~sample analyzed at a different laboratory than the one which performed the A ~~S~~sample analysis. If such election is made, the Federation will select the B ~~S~~sample laboratory. The choice of laboratory used for the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample B will be determined exclusively by the Federation from the Federation Equestre Internationale list of approved laboratories or a laboratory recognized by the agency appointed by the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority as meeting their laboratory standards. The Federation will inform the requesting party which laboratory it selected to analyze the corresponding B ~~S~~sample.
6. The party requesting the analysis of the B sample may send a representative (witness) to be present for the opening and identification of the B sample, **if possible**, unless the Federation determines that allowing such representative (witness) may present a threat to the integrity of the analysis process. Such person does not have any right to witness the analysis of the B sample. If the appointed representative (witness) claims that they are not available on the scheduled date indicated by the Federation, the Federation will liaise with the testing laboratory and propose two alternative dates. If the appointed representative (witness) claims not to be available on the alternative dates proposed, the Federation will instruct the testing laboratory to proceed without the representative (witness) present.
7. In the event that the Federation's designated laboratory conducts both the analysis of the Sample A and the confirmatory analysis of the Sample B, both the results of the analysis of Sample A (and supporting data) and the results of the confirmatory analysis of the corresponding Sample B, if any (and supporting data, if any), shall be admissible as evidence in any hearing or proceeding pertaining to this matter.
8. In the event the corresponding ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample B does not exist, or is of insufficient volume to permit a confirmatory analysis, and there exists a remaining aliquot of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A which is of sufficient volume to permit a retest, as determined by the Federation, the party who requests the retest of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A must make the request in writing to the Federation and it must be received within 7 days of the determination that the corresponding ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample B does not exist or is of insufficient volume to permit a confirmatory analysis. The party requesting the re-test must pay the costs associated therewith in



advance, but if the re-test does not substantially confirm the A Sample analysis, such costs will be reimbursed by the Federation. If such costs required to be paid in advance are not paid to the Federation within five business days following the issuance of the invoice, the right to have the re-test performed will be deemed waived.

9. Any requested re-test of the remaining aliquot of ~~Blood or Urine~~ Sample A, provided it is of sufficient volume to permit a retest, shall be performed by the Federation's designated laboratory.
10. ~~The party requesting the re-test may send a representative (witness) to be present for the opening and identification of the remaining aliquot of Blood or Urine Sample A, unless the Federation determines that allowing such representative (witness) may present a threat to the integrity of the analysis process. Such person does not have any right to witness the analysis of the sample. If the appointed representative (witness) claims that they are not available on the scheduled date indicated by the Federation, the Federation will liaise with the testing laboratory and propose two alternative dates. If the appointed representative (witness) claims not to be available on the alternative dates proposed, the Federation will instruct the testing laboratory to proceed without the representative (witness) present.~~
11. After chemical analysis of the B Sample, or in the absence of the B Sample the re-test of the A Sample, if the laboratory's confirmatory analysis:
  - a. Does not substantially confirm the Federation's designated laboratory's findings, then any allegations that the substance in question was present at the time that the samples were collected shall be dismissed; or
  - b. Substantially confirms the Federation's designated laboratory's findings, the finding shall be considered conclusive.
12. In the case of a ~~Horse and/or pony~~ competing under the Therapeutic Substance Provisions, if the chemical analysis of the ~~S~~sample taken from such ~~Horse and/or pony~~ indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof and all the requirements of GR411 have been fully complied with, the information contained in said Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form and any other relevant evidence will be considered by the Federation in determining whether a rule violation was committed by any person(s) responsible or accountable for the condition of the ~~Horse and/or pony~~ under the provisions of this rule.
13. No trainer, responsible or accountable for the condition of said ~~Horse and/or pony~~, will be suspended, or a ~~Horse and/or pony~~ barred from competition, until after an administrative penalty has been assessed or after the conclusion of a hearing and a written ruling thereon has been made.
14. The owner or owners of a ~~Horse and/or pony~~ found to contain a prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof may be required to forfeit all prize money, sweepstakes, added money and any trophies, ribbons and "points" won at said competition by said ~~Horse and/or pony~~ and the same will be redistributed accordingly. The owner must pay a fee to said competition. Points accumulated toward Horse of the Year Awards prior to said competition may be nullified and redistributed at the discretion of the Hearing Committee. If, prior to or at a hearing, the Federation as the charging party, determines that one or more persons, not previously charged as a trainer should also be charged as a trainer, then, upon application by the Federation, the Hearing Committee may, in its discretion, continue or adjourn the hearing, in whole or in part, to permit a new or amended Disciplinary Action Complaint to be issued (unless the person(s) to be charged waive notice).
15. A trainer of a ~~Horse and/or pony~~ found to contain such prohibited substance or any metabolite or analogue thereof is subject to whatever penalty is assessed in accordance with the Federation Bylaws, rules, and published penalty guidelines.
16. If the Hearing Committee determines that any violation or attempted violation of this Rule was willful and/or intentional, there shall not be any limit to the period of a suspension, and the Hearing Committee may impose other and significantly greater penalties than it would have in the absence of such a determination.
17. A ~~blood~~ Sample may be retested under these Rules at any time exclusively at the direction of the Federation. The retesting of a sample may lead to a violation only if the sample was retested within three (3) years from the sample collection date. In order to constitute a violation under these rules, the substance detected in the retested sample must (i) have been prohibited at the time of sample collection; and (ii) not a therapeutic substance, which for purposes of this rule includes only the Controlled Medications on the FEI Prohibited Substances List (available at <http://www.fei.org/fei/cleansport>) in effect on the sample collection date.
18. In the event that the retested Sample proves positive, and the retest was conducted more than one (1) year since the date of collection, no prizes or awards will be required to be returned.

## GR407 Management Procedures

1. To provide funds for research, inspection and enforcement of rules regarding use of medications and drugs, each Licensed Competition, except where prohibited by law, must assess the exhibitors a fee for each ~~H~~horse and/or pony entered in the competition. Participants in the following classes or competitions are exempted from payment:
  - a. leadline
  - b. exhibitions
  - c. games and races,
  - d. classes for 4-H members,
  - e. Recognized Academy classes at Dressage competitions.
  - f. Opportunity classes
  - g. Classes at Regular or Local Competitions restricted to breeds or disciplines whose rules are not included in the USEF rulebook.
  - h. Lite Competitions
  - i. However, these classes or competitions are not exempt from the Drugs and Medications Chapter itself. Within 10 days after a competition, competition management must forward to the Federation a sum representing the above fee times the number of ~~H~~horses and/or ponies entered in the nonexempt classes of the competition plus the number of ~~H~~horses and/or ponies scratched where the fee is not refunded, such sum to be held by the Federation in a separate fund for use to accomplish the purpose set forth above.
2. It is a violation for a Licensee to assess and/or collect a drug enforcement fee in excess of or in addition to that specified and required by GR407.1 of these rules, unless said assessment is approved in writing by the Federation in advance, and then only under the terms and conditions set forth.
3. It is a violation for a Licensee to withhold from the Federation any or all of the drug fees collected in accordance with GR407.1, for any purpose, including to defray the expenses incurred providing stalls, passes, and other items to ~~the Federation~~ **Drug Testing Personnel**, as required by GR407.4 and .5.
4. Each Licensed Competition shall, at its own cost and expense, set aside and make available to ~~The Federation~~ **Drug Testing Personnel** upon request suitable facilities conveniently located for **Drug Testing Personnel** the veterinarian appointed by the Federation and their technicians to collect equine blood and urine samples. Suitable facilities means one or more stalls if available, as requested, that are well lit, clean, dry, freshly bedded, and having a door or gate that can be secured.
5. Each Licensed Competition, upon request, must furnish the veterinarian appointed by The Federation ~~and/or the Administrator of the Equine Drugs and Medications Program~~ by mail forthwith, with the requested number of official passes and parking passes for **Drug Testing Personnel** the veterinarians and technicians to have immediate and free access to all areas at said Licensed Competition.
6. Competition management must cooperate with and exhibit polite attitude and actions toward **Drug Testing Personnel** the veterinarian and/or his agents.