



## **Drugs & Medications Penalty Guidelines for violations of Prohibited Substances and 12-hour rule**

### **Introduction**

These Penalty Guidelines for violations of Prohibited Substances and/or the 12-hour rule Penalty Guidelines (“Guidelines”) have been prepared to inform the Federation membership of the types and ranges of penalties that have been imposed for rule violations based on the categories below. These Guidelines also assist the Hearing Committee Panels in the imposition of consistent and efficient penalties.

### **Penalty Range is a Guideline Only**

The penalty types and ranges below are simple guidelines and are not mandatory. These Guidelines are intended to provide a basis upon which discretion can be exercised consistently in like circumstances but are not binding on the Hearing Committee Panels. Depending on the facts and circumstances of each case, a Hearing Committee Panel may determine that no purpose is served by imposing a penalty within the range provided in these Guidelines. In some cases, a penalty below the stated range, or no penalty at all, may be warranted. Conversely, a Hearing Committee Panel may determine that the facts and circumstances of a specific case may call for the imposition of penalties above or otherwise outside of a stated range. Examples include, but are not limited to, prior rule violations, egregious misconduct, the need for increased deterrence, or certain policy considerations.

### **Hearing Panel Discretion**

Federation Hearing Panels must always exercise judgment and discretion and consider appropriate aggravating and mitigating factors in determining appropriate penalties in every case. In addition, whether the penalties are within or outside of the range stated in the Guidelines, Hearing Panels must identify the basis for the penalties imposed.

### **Categories of Rule Violations**

All categories below include return for redistribution all trophies, prizes, ribbons, and monies won at the competition.

#### **I. Category I** - Overages of NSAID's and other quantitatively restricted medications such as Dexamethasone.

- First offense - Censure and \$1,000 - \$2,000 fine.
- Second offense - Suspension up to 1 month and \$1,500 - \$3,000 fine.
- Third offense - Suspension of 2+ months and \$3,000+ fine.

#### **II. Category II** - Positives for Prohibited Substances that have legitimate therapeutic value in the treatment of horses such as corticosteroids used for joint injections, sedatives, and local anesthetics used for laceration repairs, and those medications commonly used for treatment of colic, etc. Additionally, any violation of the 12-hour rule is a Category II violation.

- First offense - Suspension of 1+ months and \$1,500+ fine.
- Second offense - Suspension of 4+ months and \$4,000+ fine.
- Third offense - Suspension of 7+ months and \$7,000+ fine.

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**III. Category III** - Prohibited Substances that are not indicated for use in horses but are FDA approve and regulated such as some of the opiates and antipsychotics drugs.

- First offense - Suspension of 6+ months and \$6,000+ fine.
- Second offense - Suspension of 9+ months and \$9,000+ fine.
- Third offense - Suspension of 15+ months and \$15,000+ fine.

**IV. Category IV** – Prohibited substances that may be used to alter the performance of the horse or may be used to avoid detection, and that have not been FDA approved for use in horses. Some examples include but are not limited to GABA and Phenibut.

- First offense - Suspension of 12+ months and \$12,000+ fine.
- Second offense - Suspension of 18+ months and \$18,000+ fine.
- Third offense - Suspension of 30+ months and \$30,000+ fine.