

June 9, 2021



**ATTENTION: ALL TRAINERS, GROOMS, AND VETERINARIANS**  
**SUMMER RACING PRECAUTIONS**

During summer months in Texas temperatures routinely go above 95 degrees with a heat index approaching 120. Racing in extreme conditions such as high temperature, high humidity, direct sunlight, and poor air movement increases the danger of heat stroke and severe dehydration. **To avoid these life-threatening health conditions the following procedures are encouraged by the TxRC and state veterinarian.**

- If your horse is on furosemide, the Commission does **NOT** require water be withheld after the furosemide is administered. ***In fact, you are encouraged to allow horses access to water until near race time.***
- Furosemide can be given in a smaller dose which will reduce the amount of fluid lost from urination. Discuss this with your veterinarian.
- Under extreme temperature conditions you may request the stewards allow you to scratch a horse from a race due to severe heat.
- **Immediately after unsaddling, cool your horse off with an ice water sponge bath. Ice water is provided at the winner's circle. You must have your own bucket and sponge at the unsaddling area.**
- **Instruct your walker/groom to stop at the "cooling station" located between the winner's circle and the track off-gap to again cool your horse with water.**
- **If your horse fails to recover or shows signs of heat stress, contact your veterinarian immediately.**

Contact the state veterinarian if you have any questions. Have a safe summer of racing!