

TEXAS RACING COMMISSION

Laws and Rules Governing Pari-Mutuel Racing in Texas

List of Replacement Pages

August 1, 2011

The current rulebook of the Texas Racing Commission consists of the Rulebook dated MARCH 2010, the List of Replacement Pages dated April 1, 2011 and the following replacement pages:

Pp. 197-198, rev. 8/1/2011

Pp. 239-240, rev. 8/1/2011

To maintain an updated rulebook, the above pages should be replaced. The Act, the Rules, and revisions are available on the agency's website at www.txrc.state.tx.us. Notification of revisions may be received by providing an email address to info@txrc.state.tx.us. Please type **Rulebook Updates** in the subject line.

Important Disclaimer

The information presented here is offered as a convenience to the public and every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy. However, under state law, this does not constitute the official source for the Texas Racing Act or the Texas Racing Commission's rules.

The official source for the Commission's rules is the Texas Administrative Code, compiled and maintained by the [Texas Secretary of State's office](#).

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in a race, a horse must have either started in a race or had a published workout in the 45-day period preceding a race.

(g) To be entered in a race around a turn for the first time, a quarter horse must:

(1) have a published workout around a turn at a minimum distance of 660 yards in the 45-day period preceding the race; and

(2) be approved by the clocker, the outrider and, if the horse is worked from the gate, the starter.

(h) To be eligible to start in a race, a horse must be properly tattooed and the horse's registration certificate showing the tattoo number of the horse must be on file with the racing secretary before scratch time for the race, unless the stewards authorize the certificate to be filed at a later time.

(i) A horse may not participate as a member of more than one breed at the same race meeting, even though the horse may be registered in more than one breed registry. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (a) amended eff. 1/10/90; (f) added eff. 1/10/90; (a), (b), (d) amended eff. 10/11/90; (e) added eff. 10/11/90; (a), (f) amended eff. 8/3/92; (g) added 8/3/92; (f) amended eff. 9/1/93; (g) amended eff. 11/1/93; (g) amended eff. 11/1/94; (a) amended eff. 6/1/95; (h) added eff. 6/1/95; (f) amended eff. 2/4/97; (a),(f),(g),(i) amended eff. 10/30/00)

Sec. 313.104. Registration Certificates.

(a) A certificate of registration or eligibility certificate filed with an association to establish eligibility of a horse to be entered in a race must accurately reflect the correct and true ownership of the horse. The stewards may authorize the entry of a horse with a pending transfer.

(b) The name of the owner printed on the program must conform to the ownership declared on the certificate of registration or eligibility certificate, unless a stable name has been registered for the owner.

(c) An individual may not alter or forge a certificate of registration, certificate of eligibility, or other document relating to ownership or registration.

(d) The racing secretary shall ensure that

registration certificates are secured in a manner that prevents access by unauthorized individuals.

(e) Not later than 24 hours after a trainer brings a horse on to association grounds, the trainer shall register the horse with the racing secretary. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (a) amended eff. 6/15/97; (a) amended eff. 10/30/00)

Sec. 313.105. Changes in Ownership.

(a) All entries and rights of entry survive when a horse is sold with engagements duly transferred. If a horse is sold with engagements, the seller may not strike the horse out of the engagements.

(b) An entry or right of entry remains valid on the death of the nominator unless the conditions of the race state otherwise. (Added eff. 8/30/89)

Sec. 313.106. Closing Entries.

(a) The racing secretary shall close entries at the advertised time and may not accept any entries after that time. The racing secretary may postpone the closing of overnight races.

(b) After entries are closed, an entry may not be altered, other than to correct an error.

(c) If the number of entries exceeds the number of horses that may start in a race, due to track limitations, the racing secretary may split the race and the starters will be determined by lot.

(d) If a race is canceled because of insufficient entries, the racing secretary may split any overnight race or write a substitute race in place of the canceled race. Where an overnight race is split, forming two or more separate races, the racing secretary shall give notice of not less than 15 minutes before such races are closed to grant time for making additional entries to such split races.

(e) The owner or trainer of a horse that has been entered in a race who does not wish the horse to participate in the race must withdraw the horse from the race before entries are closed. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (d) amended eff. 6/15/97; (d) amended eff. 10/30/00; (d) amended eff. 1/5/10)

Sec. 313.107. Draw for Post Position.

(a) After the entries are closed, the racing

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secretary shall designate two people who are owners, trainers, or racing officials to draw the entry sheets and post position numbers.

(b) The draw shall be held in public. A horse drawn is entitled to a position at the post corresponding to the number drawn.

(c) No later than scratch time or at the draw if there is no scratch time, the owner or trainer of the horse shall designate the jockey who will ride the horse in the race. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (a) amended eff. 10/11/90; (c) amended eff. 9/30/91; (b) amended eff. 10/30/00)

Sec. 313.108. Preferred List.

(a) The racing secretary shall maintain a preferred list of entered horses eliminated from starting by a surplus of entries.

(b) The racing secretary shall update daily the preference designation for each horse, based on the races for which the horse has been entered, started, or scratched. A trainer or owner may file a claim of error in the preferred list with the racing secretary.

(c) The racing secretary may not use the “star system” of recording preferences.

(d) An “in today” horse has least preference. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (b) amended eff. 10/11/90; (b) amended eff. 10/30/00; (d) added 4/4/05)

Sec. 313.109. Change in Conditions.

After the racing secretary has received an entry to a race for which conditions have been published, the secretary may not change or supplement the conditions for the race. (Added eff. 8/30/89)

Sec. 313.110. Coupled Entries.

(a) Not more than two horses that have common interests through ownership, training, or lease may be entered in an overnight race, unless the race is divided.

(b) If two horses entered in a race are owned in whole or in part by the same individual or entity, the entry shall be coupled as a single wagering interest. (Added eff. 8/30/89; (a), (b), (c) amended eff. 10/11/90; (a), (b) amended eff. 10/30/00; (b) amended eff. 4/4/05; (b) amended eff. 6/12/11)

Sec. 313.111. Age Restrictions.

(a) A yearling is not eligible to start in a race.

(b) A two-year old horse may not start in a pari-mutuel race in Texas before March 1.

(c) A racing secretary may not schedule:

(1) a race for two-year old quarter horses longer than 350 yards before May 1 or longer than 400 yards before August 1; or

(2) a race for two-year old thoroughbreds longer than 4 1/2 furlongs before May 1 or at one mile or longer before August 1.

(d) A horse that is more than 12 years of age may not start in a pari-mutuel race in this state unless:

(1) the horse has finished first, second, or third in an officially sanctioned pari-mutuel race during the 12-month period preceding the race in which the horse is to start; or

(2) upon due consideration of the horse’s prior performance, the board of stewards has given specific authorization for the horse to start. (Added eff. 11/3/89; (b), (c), (d), (e) amended eff. 10/11/90; (d) amended eff. 7/1/92; (c), (d) amended eff. 6/15/97; (d) amended eff. 3/20/08)

Sec. 313.112. Objection to Entry.

(a) A person who wishes to protest the eligibility of a horse in a race or to protest the weight to be carried by a horse must make the protest with the stewards or other racing officials not less than one hour before post time for the first race on the day in which the horse is entered.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the stewards may take any action necessary to correct the eligibility, weight, or equipment of a horse at any time before the start of the race in which the horse is scheduled to compete.

(c) If the stewards determine before the start of a race that a horse entered in the race is not eligible for the race, the stewards shall immediately scratch the ineligible horse. (Added eff. 1/1/02)

CHAPTER 319

EIPH event in a horse participating in pari-mutuel racing in this state shall report the event to the commission veterinarian in a format prescribed by the executive secretary. On receipt of the first report of a diagnosed EIPH event for a horse, the commission veterinarian shall certify the horse as a bleeder.

(2) A trainer may request that a commission veterinarian reconsider the commission veterinarian's diagnosis of an EIPH event by presenting the horse for re-examination within four hours of the initial diagnosis, or within one hour after a performance's last race, whichever occurs sooner. To receive reconsideration, the trainer must present the horse to the commission veterinarian for endoscopic examination as performed by a commission-licensed veterinarian.

(b) Admission to Furosemide Program.

(1) A trainer may admit a horse to the furosemide program by stating at time of entry that the horse will compete with furosemide.

(2) A horse that competed with furosemide in its most recent start out-of-state must compete on furosemide in Texas unless withdrawn from the furosemide program at time of entry.

(3) The voluntary administration of furosemide without an external bleeding incident shall not subject the horse to an initial period of ineligibility under Subsection (g) of this section.

(c) Administration of Furosemide. Furosemide shall be administered to a horse in the furosemide program not later than four hours before the published post time for the race the horse is entered to run. The furosemide must be administered intravenously by a veterinarian licensed by the Commission. The executive secretary shall periodically publish the permissible blood levels of furosemide in post-race specimens and shall post the levels at each licensed racetrack.

(d) Requirement to Use Furosemide. A horse in the furosemide program in Texas must compete with furosemide until withdrawn from the program.

(e) Withdrawal from Furosemide Program.

(1) To withdraw a horse from the furosemide program, the trainer must state his/her intention to race the horse without furosemide at the time of entry.

(2) A horse in the furosemide program that competes out-of-state without furosemide is considered to have been removed from the Texas furosemide program effective the date of its first race without furosemide.

(3) Withdrawal from the furosemide program does not prohibit a horse from subsequent readmission to the program in accordance with this section.

(f) Readmission to the Furosemide Program. A horse may be readmitted to the furosemide program if:

(1) at least 60 days have elapsed since the horse was withdrawn from the program;

(2) the horse is required to compete with furosemide pursuant to subsection (b) (2) of this section; or

(3) the commission veterinarian diagnoses the horse with another EIPH event.

(g) Bleeders List.

(1) The commission veterinarian shall maintain a list of horses that have been certified as bleeders and a list of horses that have been admitted to the furosemide program.

(2) On receipt of a report of a diagnosed EIPH event, the commission veterinarian shall place the horse on the veterinarian's list and the horse shall be ineligible to race for the following time periods:

First incident - 12 days;

Second incident within 365 days of previous incident - 30 days;

Third incident within 365 days of previous incident - 180 days;

Fourth incident within 365 days of previous incident - lifetime ban from racing in this state.

(3) A horse with fewer than four EIPH events that has not had a diagnosed EIPH event for a period of 365 consecutive days is considered

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a non-bleeder for purposes of this subsection. The report of a diagnosed EIPH event from any pari-mutuel jurisdiction which officially records EIPH events will be recognized as an EIPH event by the Commission.

(4) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if after reviewing a report of a diagnosed EIPH event the commission veterinarian determines additional days on the veterinarian's list are essential to the health and safety of the horse, the commission veterinarian may extend the number of days the horse is on the veterinarian's list. The commission veterinarian shall record the medical reasons for the additional days.

(h) Report by Veterinarian. A veterinarian who administers furosemide to a horse that has been admitted to the furosemide program shall report the administration on a form prescribed by the Commission. A report made under this subsection must be filed with the test barn supervisor not later than one hour before post time for the first race of that day. (Added eff. 11/3/89; (a),(b),(h) amended eff. 8/3/92; (c)-(g) added eff. 8/3/92; (b), (c),(h) amended eff. 4/28/94; (c),(d),(f),(g) amended eff. 11/1/94; (b) amended eff. 3/15/95; (g) amended eff. 1/3/96; amended eff. 5/1/96; (f) amended eff. 10/1/96; (b), (c),(e),(f) amended eff. 11/1/98; (g) added eff. 11/1/98; (b) amended eff. 2/15/99; (a) amended eff. 7/17/01; amended eff. 11/1/01; (b),(f) amended eff. 5/18/04; (a),(e),(f),(g) amended eff. 7/16/07; (b) amended eff. 6/12/11)

Sec. 319.112. Unlicensed Veterinary Practices.

(a) A person other than a licensed veterinarian may not perform, conduct, or participate in veterinary practices, including equine dentistry, chiropractics, and acupuncture, unless the practices are performed by the order of and under the direct supervision of a veterinarian, licensed by the commission, in accordance with rules of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

(b) A person who observes an unlicensed person performing, conducting, or participating in veterinary practices on association grounds shall immediately report that fact to the stewards.

(c) The stewards shall report to the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners any person

reported under this section. (Added eff. 8/14/89; (a) amended eff. 11/1/94)

Subchapter C. Treatment of Greyhounds

Sec. 319.201. Pre-Race Examination.

(a) The commission veterinarian shall examine each greyhound entered in a race on the day it is to race to determine the greyhound's health and soundness for racing.

(b) The examination may include any practice or procedure which the commission veterinarian considers necessary to be able to determine the health and soundness of the greyhound for racing. The examination may be conducted at any time before the actual start time of the race. (Added eff. 8/14/89; (a), (b) amended eff. 10/11/90; amended eff. 11/1/98)

Sec. 319.202. Veterinarian's List.

(a) The commission veterinarian shall maintain a veterinarian's list of the greyhounds that are determined to be unfit to compete in a race due to physical distress, unsoundness, or infirmity. The commission veterinarian shall ensure that the veterinarian's list is posted in a conspicuous place available to all kennel owners, trainers, and officials.

(b) The commission veterinarian shall notify the kennel owner or trainer of a greyhound placed on the veterinarian's list not later than 24 hours after placing the greyhound on the list.

(c) A greyhound on the veterinarian's list may be removed from the list only on demonstrating to the commission veterinarian that the greyhound is raceably sound and in fit physical condition to exert its best effort in a race.

(d) A greyhound on the veterinarian's list may not enter a race before the third day after the day the greyhound was placed on the list. The commission veterinarian may require a greyhound to school after being examined and removed from the list before the greyhound may enter a race.

(e) Each lactating bitch and each bitch in season or coming in season during a race meeting