

Dope Testing - How it works...



SHB(GB) have an equine anti-doping and controlled medication programme at events running affiliated classes.

If a horse is selected for testing, blood and or urine samples will be sent to one of five FEI approved laboratories. Screening limits are set at fair and harmonised levels and all samples are analysed in the same way at these laboratories.

The 6 Steps...

1. Selection of Horses

There are three possible methods for selection of horses for antidoping testing.

RANDOM TESTING

i.e using a method of random selection agreed by the officials at the event

TARGETED TESTING

Where received intelligence has suggested that a horse may require testing or where it has displayed possible signs of banned or prohibited substance use.

PLACINGS

i.e. winners and or second and third placed horses in a class

Horses can be tested as soon as it is practical. Where the horse is in a championship it may be tested after the championship.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

Competitor, and or Owner, will be informed that their horse has been selected for testing.

They must stay with the horse or arrange for a groom or other representative to be present throughout the testing procedure. Minors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Regardless of who accompanies the horse during the test, the owner / competitor remains the PERSON RESPONSIBLE (PR).

TESTING OFFICALS ROLE

The testing official accompanies the horse to the collecting stables and remains with it and the Person Responsible until the test is collected.

2. Sampling Kit

Sample collection follows a strict procedure. It is carried out by a veterinarian, assisted by the testing official.

The main tool is the sampling kit which is packed within a uniquely numbered box and containing amongst other items, gloves, urine bottles with security caps, blood tubes and a needle for blood sampling, a security bag and bar code labels with the same unique number.

SAMPLING PROTOCOL

The utmost care is taken with samples during and after collection. Testing veterinarians wear disposable gloves and only remove them when the samples have been placed into sealed security bags.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

The Persons Responsible can ask for testing material to be replaced if they have any doubts about its security.

TESTING OFFICAL

The testing official always has more than one box in case replacement is required.

3. Sample Collection

Blood samples are collected from each horse under the supervision of the testing veterinarian. When blood is not available then urine will be the sample taken.

Collected samples are split into Sample A and Sample B.

Samples are labelled with the unique bar code labels with the same unique number and placed into the tamper proof security bag and sealed, witnessed by the PR.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

2 samples are sent to the same laboratory. If Sample A tests positive, then you can ask to test Sample B at an FEI approved laboratory (at your own expense).

Sample B ensures that Sample A unquestionably contains the prohibited substance. IF Sample B is Negative then the case is dropped.



4. Documentation

The testing veterinarian completes the sampling form and adds the unique labels that identify the sample.

The Persons Responsible (PR) or their appointed representative sign the form to certify that they have witnessed the entire procedure and have no objection to the entire procedure. If there are concerns or complaints about the process, the PR has the opportunity to write them on the form.

The form consists of two parts. the first part is placed in a plastic bag inside the testing box and sent to the laboratory with the samples. The testing official keeps one part and sends to SHB(GB),

The form is identified by the unique number – not the name of the person responsible for the horse.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

During testing you can record any complaints regarding the process on the form. If the sample is positive, these comments may be an important part of the case.

TESTING OFFICAL

The testing official explains what each part of the form is for and completes it legibly and shows you the relevant space to sign.



5. Sample Transportation

The samples are carefully packed and placed back into the original kit box, which is closed with a tape or label and marked with pen across both the tape and the box to ensure the box has not been tampered with or broken during transportation.

The boxes are placed in an isothermal bag and then placed in a tamper proof transportation bag and shipped by courier to the laboratory. E-D

6. Laboratory Testing

Once the samples reach the FEI approved laboratory, the B Samples are stored securely awaiting any testing at a later date. The A Samples are used for the initial analysis.

The process may take from 7 to 21 days to complete. If a prohibitive substance is detected, the results are promptly reported to the Society. The Society will then examine the specifics of the case and decide on action.







