

LOS ALAMITOS

QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION

EQUINE & RIDER SAFETY ENHANCEMENT PLAN



July 2020

Los Alamitos Race Course

4961 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

INTRODUCTION

Los Alamitos whole-heartedly shares the Board's commitment to improving the health and safety of each and every horse and rider participating in racing and training at our facility.

Since 2008, Los Alamitos has consistently and significantly reduced the frequency of equine fatalities at our facility. Those improvements were the product of conscious decisions and efforts to improve equine and human safety, and reflected Dr. Ed Allred's personal commitment to the wellbeing of the horses and people who participate in racing at Los Alamitos.

While Los Al's concerted efforts over the years have reduced the rate of racing and training injuries experienced at the track, our management team has never been entirely satisfied with the progress made. As part of an ongoing commitment to improve safety at the facility, Los Al's management continually evaluates operational changes aimed at enhancing equine and rider safety programs.

This Safety Enhancement Plan reflects a combination of independent internal efforts, and guidance obtained from the CHRB both during the July 10th hearing, and afterward. The Plan approaches these efforts in six phases:

1. Training Practices
2. Pre-Race Procedures
3. Entry Review Panel
4. Post Incident Assessments
5. Equine Illness & Recovery
6. Rules & Conditions

TRAINING PRACTICES

As the CHRB is aware, Los Alamitos is a mixed breed racing and training facility. On average, there are approximately 750 Quarter Horses and 750 Thoroughbreds stabled on the grounds at any given time.

Training practices for the breeds differ significantly, with Quarter Horses typically training far less intensely than their Thoroughbred counterparts, including the frequency and intensity of their works.

Based on data maintained by Los Al and that obtained from the CHRB, Los Al understands that 2 of the 9 training fatalities occurring in FY 2019/2020 involved Quarter Horses, with the balance identified as involving Thoroughbreds.

Increased Observation

Currently, during training hours, Los Al employs four experienced outriders and horseman who are all on the track observing horses. They communicate by radio to one another and the track veterinarian as to any horse deemed by an outrider to be traveling in an unusual manner or with altered gait. That information is relayed to the horse's trainer, the barn's veterinarian, and the track veterinarian.

Based on Commissioners' comments at the hearing, Los Al understood the CHRB to believe that these practices should be supplemented by the addition of an additional 'set of eyes'; i.e., a qualified dedicated observer who would also observe horses exiting and entering the track for training, for the purpose of identifying any horse exhibiting signs suggesting unsoundness or other concerns.

Based on that guidance, for that purpose, Los Al will be adding one qualified veterinarian each morning the track is open as a dedicated observer of horses entering and exiting the track for training purposes.

Qualifying Examinations for Initial Starts

For Quarter Horses qualifying for their initial start, Los Al will require trainers to submit a completed Qualifying Examination Form, signed by the trainer and their attending veterinarian, attesting that: (1) the horse is in a serviceable, sound condition suitable for training, working, and/or racing at LARC; and, (2) that it has worked twice, completing the designated distance within the designated time.

PRE-RACE PROCEDURES

Training practices for the breeds differ significantly, with Quarter Horses typically training far less intensely than their Thoroughbred counterparts, including the frequency and intensity of their works.

Recognizing those differences, and assuming entries have been suitably, professionally trained and treated by the licensed trainer and attending veterinarian, the following Pre-Race Procedures shall be implemented and apply to every trainer stabled and entry accepted at Los Alamitos:

1. Trainers and their attending veterinarians at LARC shall be required to immediately sign Los Alamitos Race Course's Rule and Conditions for Racing and Training (below).
2. Trainer shall not work or enter a horse in any race UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer's Attending Veterinarian during the specified days immediately preceding the work or race entry day for the express purpose of evaluating the horse's soundness to work or race; and (3) the horse has been found sound to work or race by the Attending Veterinarian.
3. The attending veterinarian and trainer are obligated to inform the examining veterinarians of any changes in the horse's fitness and/or soundness after entry and before race day.
4. At the trainer/owner's expense, the CHRB official veterinarian or Los Alamitos racing (track) veterinarian may require diagnostic imaging of any horse stabled at LARC in order to confirm/determine the horse's soundness/fitness to train, enter to race, or race, or for purposes of determining a horse's eligibility to come off of the Vet's List.
5. Trainer shall not enter in any race: a Thoroughbred that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 5 furlongs in 1:03 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations; and, a Quarter Horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 220 yards in 0:13.2 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.
6. In addition, a horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days, or horses that have not raced within 120 days but have raced within 365 days are required to have an examination performed by a regulatory veterinarian within 30 days prior to entry.
7. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection during the Fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the race.
8. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection of cortisone in to the fetlock joints within the previous thirty (30) days immediately preceding the race.
9. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received more than two intra-articular injection of cortisone into same intra-articular space within the previous sixty (60) days immediately preceding the race.
10. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer's care to participate in a timed

workout if the horse receives NSAIDs during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the workout.

11. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer's care to participate in a race if the horse receives a NSAID during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the race or has been treated with a second NSAID that could appear in a post-work or post-race blood or urine test.

LARC shall make available to horsemen a list of licensed veterinarians, and their contact information, available on designated days for 24-hour emergency calls, when the barn's attending veterinarian cannot be reached.

ENTRY REVIEW PANEL

Los Alamitos shall form an "Entry Review Panel," comprised of the entry steward, the racing secretary, and Los Alamitos track veterinarian or CHRB official veterinarian.

The Panel will review race entries, and based on information deemed of concern to the Panel, in its discretion, may deny such entry or request the scratch of any horse the Panel determines unsuitable for reasons of horse and/or rider safety.

The Panel's decision to deny entry or request the scratch of a horse may be appealed to the Stewards, at the earliest opportunity granted by the Stewards.

POST-INCIDENT ASSESSMENTS

In the event of a future racing or training injury or fatality, Los Alamitos will continue to conduct a thorough internal review of track condition, surface, and maintenance records and procedures utilizing the expertise of well-respected track consultant Dennis Moore, our track superintendent, and senior management.

Horses deemed to have suffered an injury while racing or training will be examined by the track veterinarian, at the soonest opportunity thereafter. Recognizing the disparity of knowledge as to the health history of the individual horse, responsibility for all treatment decisions will remain that of the owner, trainer, and/or attending veterinarian.

In addition, each fatality occurring on the grounds – regardless of causation – will trigger a 'Fatality Review,' conducted by a panel consisting of a qualified representative of track management, the track veterinarian, and the Racing Secretary. The trainer and attending/treating veterinarian will be invited/expected to attend and participate in the review, as well as any other person(s) or vendor, Los Alamitos believes may have relevant information.

Los Alamitos acknowledges that these reviews will be separate and apart from any fatality investigation conducted by the CHRB, including the *Rule 1846.6* Postmortem Examination Review.

EQUINE ILLNESS & RECOVERY

As noted above, ANY fatality occurring on the grounds will now trigger a Fatality Review with the trainer and attending/treating veterinarian of that horse.

Taking into consideration the size of a stable, the death of two horses on the grounds within the custody and care of any one trainer, which are attributed by the CHRB to a cause "Other" than racing or training, within any twelve month period may cause that trainer to be informed that his/her status as an invitee of the Association is under ongoing review and may be revoked following the subsequent death of another horse or horses within that trainer's care and custody.

The revocation of that trainer's status as an invitee of the racing association may be appealed by the trainer to the CHRB. Any trainer wishing to appeal that revocation of invited status must do so within ninety-six (96) hours of being so notified by the association.

PROPOSED 'RULES & CONDITIONS'

Consistent with versions of those implemented by the Del Mar and Los Angeles Thoroughbred Clubs, LAQHRA proposes to adopt the following proposed "Rules & Conditions":

LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE

RULES AND CONDITIONS FOR RACING AND TRAINING

As a condition to, and in consideration for Trainer being permitted to race, work or train any horse at Los Alamitos Race Course (LARC) or any authorized Los Alamitos auxiliary training facility, the undersigned Trainer and Trainer's Attending Veterinarian hereby agree to be bound by the following:

1. At all times, a horse shall be in serviceable, sound racing condition in order to race, work, or train at LARC. The Trainer acknowledges that it is his/her obligation to confirm the horse is in serviceable, sound racing condition in order to race, work or train at LARC.
2. All horses at LARC or an authorized Los Alamitos auxiliary training facility are subject to veterinary monitoring during training, and Trainer and Trainer's staff shall cooperate fully with all requests made by veterinarians and outriders.
3. At the trainer/owner's expense, the CHRB official veterinarian or Los Alamitos racing (track) veterinarian may require diagnostic imaging of any horse stabled at LARC in order to confirm/determine the horse's soundness to train, work, enter to race, or race, or for purposes of determining a horse's eligibility to come off of the Vet's List.
4. Trainer shall not work a horse UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer's Attending Veterinarian during the five (5) days immediately preceding the work for the express purpose of evaluating the horse's soundness to work; and (3) the horse has been found sound to work by the Attending Veterinarian. The trainer is obligated to inform the Attending Veterinarian of any perceived changes in the horse's fitness or soundness after the examination, prior to the work.
5. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer's Attending Veterinarian during the three (3) days immediately preceding the race entry day for the express purpose of evaluating the horse's soundness to race; and (3) the horse has been found sound to race by the Attending Veterinarian. The attending veterinarian and trainer are obligated to inform the examining veterinarians of any changes in the horse's fitness or soundness after entry and before race day.
6. For Quarter Horses qualifying for their initial start, trainers are required to submit a completed Qualifying Examination Form, signed by the trainer and their Attending Veterinarian, attesting that: (1) the horse is fit and in a serviceable, sound condition suitable for racing at LARC; and, (2) that it has worked twice, completing the designated distance within the designated time.
7. Trainer will not enter in any race a Quarter Horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 220 yards in 0:13.2 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.
8. Trainer shall not enter in any race a Thoroughbred that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 5 furlongs in 1:03 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.
9. In addition to the criteria set forth in Sections 7 and 8, a horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days, or horses that have not raced within 120 days but have raced within 365 days are required to have an examination performed by a regulatory veterinarian within 30 days prior to entry.
10. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection during the Fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the race.
11. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection of cortisone in to the fetlock joints within the previous thirty (30) days immediately preceding the race.
12. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received more than two intra-articular injections of cortisone into same intra-articular space within the previous sixty (60) days immediately preceding the race.
13. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer's care to participate in a timed workout if the horse receives NSAIDs during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the workout.
14. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer's care to participate in a race if the horse receives a NSAID during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the race or has been treated with a second NSAID that could appear in a post-work or post-race blood or urine test.
15. No veterinarian shall be recognized or considered an Attending Veterinarian unless and until Trainer and such veterinarian have agreed to be bound by this Agreement by submitting a fully executed copy of this Agreement to LARC's Racing Office. Under no circumstances shall an examination conducted by a veterinarian who has NOT been identified as the Trainer's Attending Veterinarian in compliance with this paragraph constitute a valid examination for purposes of determining a horse's soundness/fitness to race, work, or train at LARC.
16. LARC and its regulatory veterinarians are entitled to contact, without prior notice, Trainer's attending veterinarian(s) to confirm that such examinations have been conducted pursuant to these rules, and that any such examination meets LARC's requirements.

LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE

17. Trainer will not administer, directly or indirectly, or otherwise permit to be administered, any medication to a horse under Trainer's care that is racing or training at LARC UNLESS such medication is: (1) prescribed for that specific horse; and (2) administered strictly in accordance with CHRB regulations, and the prescription.
18. Both Trainer and Attending Veterinarian will abide by all rules and regulations of the CHRB, expressly incorporated by reference herein, as they are presently adopted or as they may be amended (collectively, "CHRB Rules"). Trainer and Attending Veterinarian shall be responsible for obtaining and becoming familiar with such rules and regulations.
19. All horses at LARC and authorized Los Alamitos auxiliary training facilities are subject to blood testing by CHRB licensed veterinary personnel to confirm compliance with LARC training medication policies. Trainer will not refuse to permit blood testing of any horse under Trainer's care and will ensure that all owners or other persons having care of any such horse fully cooperate in permitting blood testing of such horse.
20. Any violation of, or failure to comply with, these Rules and Conditions, or the Rules of the CHRB, may result in the immediate expulsion of Trainer and/or Attending Veterinarian from the current Los Alamitos Race Meet. Any such expulsion shall be at LARC's sole and absolute discretion.
21. Any failure by LARC to enforce any terms, rules, or conditions of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver by LARC, and shall not affect or impair this Agreement in any way, or the rights of LARC at any time to enforce this Agreement. LARC's approval or consent to any action proposed by Trainer or Attending Veterinarian shall not affect Trainer or Attending Veterinarian's obligation to strictly comply with these Rules and Conditions, and this Agreement.
22. As used herein, the term "Attending Veterinarian" shall include the undersigned veterinarian and any veterinarian who is a member of his/her veterinary practice.
23. By signing below, Trainer certifies that Trainer:
 - (a) Has read and fully understands the above Rules and Conditions for racing and training during the current Los Alamitos race meet;
 - (b) Will consult with Trainer's Attending Veterinarian or the CHRB official veterinarian if Trainer has any questions regarding such Rules; and,
 - (c) Will comply fully with such Rules and Conditions.
24. By signing below, the Attending Veterinarian certifies that he/she:
 - (a) Has read and fully understands the above Rules and Conditions for racing and training during the current Los Alamitos race meet;
 - (b) Will consult with the CHRB official veterinarian if he/she has any questions regarding such Rules; and,
 - (c) Will comply fully with such Rules and Conditions.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE FOREGOING RULES AND CONDITIONS AS OF THE DATE SET FORTH BELOW:

TRAINER

Date: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN

Date: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

