

**THE JOCKEY CLUB
THOROUGHBRED SAFETY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS
AUGUST 17, 2008**

Recommendation: Drug Testing & Laboratory Standards

With the goal of developing a world-class drug testing infrastructure in the United States, The Jockey Club is establishing and will fund a task force of representatives from the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC), the Association of Official Racing Chemists (AORC), and the Equine Drug Research Institute (EDRI) to:

- Research and analyze U.S. and international equine drug testing in order to develop a business plan for the most efficient and cost-effective infrastructure for equine drug testing and research.
- Develop strict equine drug testing laboratory standards based on best practices for standard operating procedures, state-of-the-art testing equipment, proficient staffing, required minimum number of tests for performance enhancing drugs, and blind sample quality assurance programs.
- Develop a uniform request for proposal from state racing commissions for drug testing laboratory services that requires adherence to the above standards and requires compliance with international drug testing accreditation specifications (ISO/IEC 17025).
- Develop and maintain a facility to store frozen samples from multiple jurisdictions for a minimum of five-years for future analysis as new drug tests are developed.

In order to facilitate uniform drug testing, the Thoroughbred Safety Committee calls for the Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI) and state racing commissions to immediately work with RMTC and AORC to expedite the laboratory harmonization of as many concentrations of drugs as possible in order to uniformly regulate the withdrawal times for permitted therapeutic medications.

In addition, the Thoroughbred Safety Committee calls for increased funding from state legislatures in order for state racing commissions to contract with laboratories that achieve international accreditation compliance and can achieve the developed industry standards.

The Thoroughbred Safety Committee also calls on industry stakeholders to provide funding for research to develop improved equine drug testing methods, the establishment of a 25-horse research and reference racing stable, and to support post graduate students interested in a career in equine drug testing.