



## AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

### AR 252A & AR 254A Prohibition on injectable cobalt salts

#### Summary:

Racing Australia is of the view that:

- a typical daily diet of a racehorse meets their daily dietary cobalt requirement;
- there have been no reported cases of cobalt deficiency in horses; and
- there is no nutritional, medical or welfare justification for the administration of cobalt by injection to a horse at any time.

Despite there being no therapeutic rationale for the use of injectable cobalt containing products in horses, registered supplements containing cobalt (amongst other substances) are widely used in racehorses.

In circumstances where Racing Australia is of the view that there is no place in racing for injectable products containing cobalt salts, it has approved the introduction of new rules which prohibit:

- the possession of injectable products containing cobalt salts; and
- the administration of cobalt salts by injection.

There are four injectable veterinary products that have been either previously or currently registered and/or available for use in horses that contain cobalt salts: *NV V.A.M. Injection*, *Troy Hemoplex Injection*, *Hemo-15 Vitamin-Amino Acid Injection* and *NV Haemo Injection*.

Possession and/or administration of these products, or any other injectable product containing cobalt salts, is prohibited under the new rules.

#### Introduce AR 252A as follows:

##### AR 252A Possession of injectable products containing cobalt salts

- (1) A person must not have in his or her possession, or on his or her premises, any injectable product which contains cobalt salts.
- (2) The Stewards may confiscate any product referred to in subrule (1) and use it as evidence in any inquiry, hearing or other proceeding under the Rules.

#### Introduce AR 254A as follows:

##### AR 254A Administration of cobalt salts by injection

- (1) A person must not:

- (a) administer;
  - (b) cause to be administered;
  - (c) attempt to administer; or
  - (d) be a party to the administration or attempted administration of,  
a product containing cobalt salts to a horse by injection.
- (2) If the Stewards are satisfied that a horse has been, or is likely to have been, administered a product containing cobalt salts by injection, the Stewards may prevent the horse from starting in any race, official trial or jump-out.
- (3) If a horse has been administered a product containing cobalt salts by injection, but the horse competes in a race, official trial or jump-out, the horse may be disqualified from that race, official trial or jump-out.
- (4) For the purposes of this rule, an “injection” includes, but is not limited to, the insertion of a hypodermic needle into a horse.

**Date of effect: 1 May 2021**