

**NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION
“KNOW BEFORE YOU SHOW”**

Revised on 11/18.19

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW

- The NCHA has adopted Medication and Drug Rules and Guidelines (“Medication Rules”) to protect and prolong the welfare and competitiveness of the equine athletes who compete in cutting. The NCHA believes in the safety of horses as well as a level playing field when it comes to its events. That is why the Association has adopted the Medication Rules and is testing for substance violations at the NCHA produced and/or approved events.
- This “Know Before You Show” is strictly for informational purposes and is intended to provide members with a quick reference to the NCHA Medication Rules. For detailed information about allowable dosage amounts and suggested withdrawal times, please refer to standing Rule 35A which is the complete NCHA Medication Rules and Guidelines in the NCHA Rulebook. The NCHA Medication Rules contained in the NCHA Rule Book are controlling and each member is expected to become familiar with and to comply with those Rules.
- Please note that dosages in the NCHA Medication Rules are calculated based on the horse’s weight. Accordingly, be sure to know the weight of your horse when referring to the guidelines to avoid overages that could result in a violation.
- Please note that overages may occur under NCHA Medication Rules even when therapeutic doses are given if the timing of prior doses have not been taken into account. Please consult NCHA Rules and your veterinarian concerning timing of dosages of specific medications.
- It is strongly recommended that all medications that are administered close to the time deadlines contained in the Guidelines be given IV (or IM if appropriate). Significant variations in plasma levels of oral medications (paste, tablet and powder) have been reported and may result in violations.
- The Medication Rules require that medication reports be filed for certain permitted medications. Be sure to consult the Medication Rules to determine if a medication report is required and the timeframes in which such reports must be filed with the NCHA.

2. MEDICATION TESTING REQUIREMENTS

- If you receive a Medication Test Form, you have 15 minutes from the time you receive that form to report to the designated medication testing stall in the Show Arena with the horse identified in the form for testing. If there is any anticipated delay in getting the identified horse to the designated testing stall in the Show Arena due to an imminent cattle change, you must report to the testing veterinarian at the designated testing stall in the Show Arena within the 15 minute period to make arrangements with the testing veterinarian for immediate testing of the horse in another location. Any alternate arrangements are at the sole discretion of the testing veterinarian. Please carefully review NCHA Rule 35A to be sure that you comply with all of its requirements relating to medication testing. Failure to comply with the provisions of that rule relating to medication testing may result in severe disciplinary actions.

3. PERMITTED MEDICATIONS

A. NSAIDS (See NCHA Rule 35A.2)

- **Administration of More Than One (1) NSAID is Prohibited** - It will be considered a rule violation if blood samples contain more than ONE of the permitted Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) that are listed below. The exception is Diclofenac (Surpass) topical which may be combined with one other systemic NSAID listed below.
- To avoid detection of more than one NSAID, only a single NSAID should be administered within 72 hours of showing. Also avoid using topical or compounded NSAIDs in which concentrations may not be accurate.
- It is strongly recommended that NSAIDs and dexamethasone that are administered 6 hours prior to competition be given IV (or IM if appropriate). Significant variations in plasma levels of oral medications have been reported.
- NSAIDs permitted under NCHA Medication Rules are:

<u>MEDICATION GENERIC NAME</u>	<u>MEDICATION TRADE NAME</u>	<u>QUICK REFERENCE TO NCHA GUIDELINES FOR RECOMMENDED DOSAGES/WITHDRAWAL TIMES</u>
Phenylbutazone (BUTE)	BUTAZOLIDIN	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.1
Firocoxib	EQUIOXX®	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.7
Flunixin Meglumine	BANAMINE	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.3
Ketoprofen	KETOFEN	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.4
Naproxen	EQUIPROXEN/ NAPROSYN	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.6
Meclofenamic Acid	ARQUEL®	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.5
Diclofenac	SURPASS®	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.2

B. OTHER PERMITTED MEDICATIONS (NCHA RULE 35A.3)

Methocarbamol	ROBAXIN®	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.8
Acetazolamide N/H, H/H Or HYPP Horses Only		See NCHA Rule 35A.9.9
Furosemide	SALIX LASIX	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.10
Isoxsuprine	VASODILAN®	See NCHA Rule 35A.9.11
Dexamethasone		See NCHA Rule 35A.9.12

Ventipulmin Syrup ®		See NCHA Rule 35A.9.13
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4. CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED MEDICATIONS

Conditionally permitted therapeutic medications, such as approved antibiotics, can be administered or prescribed by a licensed veterinarian for a legitimate illness or injury. However, it must be done no less than 24 hours before competing and each of the requirements listed in Rule 35A.3.b must be met to prevent disciplinary action if the medications are detected in plasma samples.

5. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (NCHA RULES 35A.1 AND 35A.10)

The following are considered prohibited substances under NCHA Medication Rules:

1. Anabolic Steroids (i.e.-Boldenone, Nandrolone, Stanozolol, Testosterone). No anabolic steroid is to be administered to a horse in a time frame before competition such that it, or any metabolite of it, might be present in the blood at the time of competition. See NCHA Rule 35A.3 for the recommended withdrawal times.
2. Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or sedative that could affect the performance of a horse. Stimulants and depressants are defined as substances that stimulate or depress the cardiovascular, respiratory or central nervous system.
3. Any drug considered a Class 1 or Class II substance as defined in the Association of Racing Commissioners Internationals (ARCI) Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances.*
4. Any substance that might interfere with or mask the detection of a prohibited drug or medication.
5. Any non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) other than those allowed by NCHA at the proper therapeutic dosage as contained in the NCHA Rules.
6. Any metabolite and/or analog of any of the above described forbidden drugs or substances.

7. EXCEPTIONS:

- **Acepromazine Maleate** is considered a conditionally approved medication when administered or prescribed by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with NCHA Guidelines. A written medication report must be submitted to show management. (See Rule 35A.9.14.)
- **Corticosteroids** other than dexamethasone (e.g., prednisone, prednisolone, Solu-Delta-Cortef®, triamcinolone acetonide, betamethasone, methylprednisolone (Depo-Medrol®) and others) are classified as prohibited substances unless used solely for a therapeutic purpose as defined in NCHA Rules, administered in accordance with the dosage guidelines contained in NCHA Rules, and if a medication report is timely filed as required by NCHA Rules. (See Rule 35A.1(b).)

*Please consult current ARCI Uniform Classification Guidelines for information on Class I and Class II substances at www.arci.com.

6. NUTRITIONAL AND HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS (NCHA RULE 35A.12)

Non-prescription medicinal, herbal and nutritional preparations, tonics, pastes and supplements should be used cautiously, as the ingredients and quantitative analysis of the products might not be known and could contain a forbidden or high level of substances or other substances that could show up in plasma samples and result in a positive test.

7. COMPOUNDED SUBSTANCES (NCHA RULE 35A.13)

Exhibitors, owners, trainers and veterinarians are cautioned against the use of compounded medications or those formulated at compounding pharmacies. The ingredients and quantitative analysis of the products may not be known and could contain a forbidden substance or quantities of substances that could result in a positive test.

8. NERVE BLOCKING AGENTS

Nerve blocking agents cannot be used 24 hours before competition unless used under the specific guidelines of the emergency medication provision in the NCHA Rulebook (NCHA Rule 35A.4).