



**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY NOTICE SHARC-2009-02.**

**SUBJECT: Policy For The Use Of Corticosteroids By Intra-Articular Administration.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 2009.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with §§201 (b) and 202 (a) of the Race Horse Industry Reform Act (4 P.S. §§325.201(b) and 325.202(a)), the Pennsylvania State Harness Racing Commission (“Commission”) has general jurisdiction and authority over all harness horse racing activities in the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with its statutory authority, the Commission is concerned with the health and safety of the equine athlete engaged in standardbred horse racing in the Commonwealth and with the negative impact of intra-articular administration of corticosteroids in horses on or near race day; and

**WHEREAS**, after substantial review and discussion, the Association of Racing Regulatory Veterinarians (“ARRV”) provided the Commission with a proposed recommendation to discontinue the intra-articular administration of corticosteroids seven (7) days prior to the horse’s race day; and

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on June 17, 2009, the Pennsylvania Race Horse Testing Lab Management Committee unanimously recommended the adoption of this policy to the Commission and;

**WHEREAS**, on July 10, 2009, the Commission provided Notice to the harness horse racing industry of its intention to adopt the above policy at its July 31, 2009 public meeting;

**WHEREAS**, at its July 31, 2009 public meeting, the Commission provided that a “warning letter” would be issued if the foreign substance was detected and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Equine Toxicology and Research Laboratory (“PETRL”) from September 1 through September 30, 2009.

**WHEREAS**, as of October 1, 2009 and thereafter, the above referenced policy will be fully effective and any corticosteroids detected and confirmed by the PETRL in race samples will be considered a foreign substance and deemed a “positive.”

Chairman Roy W. Wilt  
Commissioner Arthur E. Manuel  
Commissioner Richard J. Welsh

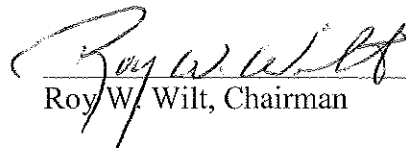
Acting Executive Secretary Michael Dillon





**NOW THEREFORE:** the intra-articular administration of corticosteroids to horses shall be discontinued seven (7) days prior to the horse's race day. Any administration of corticosteroids to horses by intra-articular administration shall be entered by the practicing veterinarian on the treatment sheet.

This Policy is effective September 1, 2009.

Adopted this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2009.

  
Roy W. Wilt, Chairman

  
Arthur E. Manuel, Commissioner

  
Richard J. Welsh, Commissioner

Chairman Roy W. Wilt  
Commissioner Arthur E. Manuel  
Commissioner Richard J. Welsh

Acting Executive Secretary Michael Dillon