

MEDIA RELEASE



THOROUGHBRED RACING SA

5 March 2014

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ARR178AA

Industry participants may be aware of the late scratching of the horse EL ROCA from its engagement in the HOBARTVILLE STAKES run at the Rosehill Gardens Racecourse on Saturday, 1 March 2014. The circumstances which led to the late scratching are well documented in the Racing New South Wales Stewards' Report for the race meeting which essentially relates to the treatment of the horse on the day prior to its engagement. According to media reports, the horse was treated with a "Lang's IV Drip".

Stewards provide notice to all trainers and participants that the proprietary product "Lang's solution[®]" is considered by Thoroughbred Racing SA as being a product that contains an alkalinising agent and as such **must not be administered within one clear day prior to racing or prior to competing in an official trial or jump-out (part (b) of AR178AA(1))**.

Part (a) of the Rule also states that an alkalinising agent may not be administered to a horse which is engaged to run in any race, official trial or jump-out at any time on the day of the scheduled race, official trial or jump-out and prior to the start of such event.

Trainers and participants should be aware that while this notice refers specifically to "Lang's solution[®]" there are other products which are also considered to fall into the same category. In this regard please refer to the attached TRSA notice with the heading – "Administration of Alkalinising Agents and Stomach-Tubing".

Any trainer or participant who wishes to clarify any aspect in relation to AR178AA and the associated TRSA notice should contact the Stewards on either (08) 8179 9820 or 0488 990 750.

For further information please contact –

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Thoroughbred Racing SA Notice
Administration of Alkalinising Agents and Stomach-Tubing:

Stewards refer to the recently adopted Rules of Racing, AR.64G and AR.178AA, which was published in the September edition of "The Races" (pages 66 & 67). These rules became effective on 1 September 2013.

In reference to these rules participants should be aware they were introduced to prohibit the practice/procedure of stomach tubing and the administration of alkalinising agents within one clear day of racing.

To assist in the interpretation of these rules a definition for the term "clear day" was introduced at the same time. That definition states;

"Clear Day" means a 24 hour period from 12.01 am to 12 midnight".

To avoid confusion we provide the following – a clear day restriction means and has the effect that the calculation of the number of days for which the procedure/treatment is banned **does not** take into account the time of day of the treatment – a clear day is not just the 24 hour period prior to the time of racing.

By way of example it means that if a horse is racing on a Saturday, the last time it may be stomach-tube or be administered alkalinising agents is at 11.59 pm on the Thursday night preceding the Saturday. The Friday thus becomes the "clear day". Stewards wish to qualify that compliance with the terms of this rule **does not provide a defence** for any party in respect of a prohibited substance being present in a sample taken from a horse under their care in accordance with the Rules of Racing.

To further assist we provide the following in respect of what is considered to be an **alkalinising agent**.

For the purposes of **AR.178AA**, an alkalinising agent is any substance that may elevate the plasma TCO₂ of a horse when administered by any route with the exception of balanced, commercial electrolyte supplements which may contain some alkalinising agents but which can be demonstrated to have negligible effects on plasma TCO₂ when administered according to the manufacturers' recommendations for normal daily use.

AR.178AA prohibits the administration of alkalinising agents by any route within the one clear day of racing, including in feed.

Alkalinising agents that must not be administered within the one clear day prior to racing or competing in an official trial or jump-out include, but are not limited to, bicarbonates, citrates, succinates, acetates, propionates, maleates, lactates and trometamol (THAM, tris buffer or trometamine) and also include products marketed as urinary alkalinisers and hind gut buffers.

Products that contain alkalinising agents and which fall within the definition include proprietary formulations such as: Sodium Bicarbonate ("bicarb"), Baladene®, Lang's Solution® for intravenous use, Neutra-Syrup®, Neutralka®, Neutrolene®, Neutrolene Plus® and Neutradex® and any other products that are marketed as lactic acid buffering or neutralising products. **These products must not be administered within one clear day prior to racing or prior to competing in an official trial or jump-out.**

Balanced electrolyte supplements and potassium supplements that contain electrolytes may be administered or fed in normally recommended amounts within the one clear day. Examples of normal balanced electrolyte products would include such proprietary preparations as Applyte Gel®, Electromix®, Electro Paste®, Electrovote Paste®, Endura-Max®, Endura-Max Paste®, Equicharge® Horsport® Humidimix®, KelatoLYTE Electrolyte Replacer®, Ranvet Electrolytes®, Recharge®, Restore® and Vetsense®.

Commercial electrolyte supplements which may contain some alkalinising agents but which should have negligible effects on plasma TCO₂ when administered in feed according to the manufacturers' recommendations for normal daily use include Equilyte®, Race Electrolyte®, and Salkavite®. Examples of commercial balanced intravenous solutions that can be used up to and including the day prior to racing but not pre-race on the day of the race include Darrow's Solution®, Hartmann's Solution® and Lactated Ringers.

Participants should take particular note of the proviso to AR.178AA (5) which states:

"provided that any exemption from the definition of alkalinising agent granted under this rule **does not constitute a defence** to a charge laid against a person following the detection by an Official Racing Laboratory of a TCO₂ concentration in a horse in excess of the threshold prescribed by AR.178C(1)(a)".