

**IRISH NATIONAL HUNT
STEEPLECHASE
REGULATIONS
FOR
POINT TO POINT
STEEPLECHASES**

2025 / 2026

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APPENDIX B

**AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS
UP TO AND INCLUDING
1 September 2025**

APPENDIX B

Regulations For Point to Point Steeplechases

Point to Point Meetings are held under the auspices of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase CLG (INHSC) and as such are not Unrecognised Meetings within the meaning of the Rules of Racing and Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules ("the Rules"). Point to Point Meetings are held under the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases ("the Regulations") and the Rules where appropriate.

Copies of the Regulations and the Rules may be obtained from the Office of the INHSC, The Curragh, Co. Kildare, R56 Y668.

Where reference is made to the Directors of the INHSC and the Office of the INHSC in these Regulations, it shall now refer, where appropriate, to the Directors of the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board (IHRB) or to the Office of the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board (IHRB).

1. (i) DEFINITIONS

These definitions shall apply in all Regulations except where there is a specific definition included in any Regulation or Rule or applying to that Regulation or Rule.

"Acting Stewards" shall be appointed by the Hunt and in the case of the IHRB Representative, be appointed by the Directors of the INHSC to act on a Point to Point Raceday.

"AlcoBlow" means the alcohol screening device for the initial screening of Riders for the presence of alcohol on their breath in line with the Alcohol Testing Procedures as published on the IHRB website.

"Alcometer" means the evidential alcohol breath detection equipment used by the IHRB in line with the Alcohol Testing Procedures as published on the IHRB website.

"Alert Sheet" means the method of recording Riders declared unfit to ride by the Chief Medical Officer together with those Riders who are serving a suspension from riding.

"Appeals Body" means a committee appointed by the IHRB under Rule 19C to conduct and determine a particular appeal or appeals referred to it pursuant to these Regulations or Rules.

"Arrears" are any sums due to be paid to the IHRB or Horse Racing Ireland whether by virtue of these Regulations and Rules or otherwise and which have not been paid on the due date or on demand.

"Authorised Medicine" means either a veterinary medicine authorised by the Irish Medicines Board (or having a central European Union authorisation) and used in accordance with the conditions of the veterinary product authorisation for legitimate equine therapy, or an authorised veterinary medicine or human

medicine which is used legitimately for equine medication and in full compliance with the requirements of the "Cascade" system provided for in the Animal Remedies Act 1993 (as amended from time to time) and any Regulations made from time to time thereunder.

"Banned Substances" and **"Banned Methods"** means those substances and methods set out in the WADA list of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods which have, for the purposes of these Regulations and Rules been approved from time to time by the Directors of the IHRB and includes any isomer or homologue or metabolite of a Banned Substance, any compound, group of compounds or biological parameters that indicates the use of a Banned Substance or Banned Method and any related substances.

"Chaperone" means a person appointed by the Doping Control Officer, pursuant to Rule 20 (xx), to assist a Sampling Officer in the taking of samples for the purposes of Dope Tests.

"Chief Medical Officer" or a designated Deputy, is the person appointed by the Directors of the IHRB to be responsible for the overall medical supervision of all Riders, with particular emphasis on their fitness to ride and the co-ordination of the medical provision to Riders on Raceday. There is further responsibility for the provision of advice on medical matters to the IHRB. The Chief Medical Officer will also carry out any other duties as defined from time to time by the Directors of the IHRB. The Chief Medical Officer shall have all the powers as outlined for the IHRB Medical Officer.

"Chief Veterinary Officer" or **"CVO"** means the senior Official of the IHRB appointed by the Directors of the IHRB as Chief Veterinary Officer or their designated deputy.

"Directors of the IHRB" means, the persons appointed as Directors of the IHRB in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

"Directors of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase CLG" shall mean those individuals elected under the Constitution of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase CLG to be Directors.

"Disciplinary Panel" means the panel appointed by the IHRB pursuant to Rule 19 from which the individuals to sit on a Referrals Committee or Appeals Body to conduct and determine a particular case or cases or appeal or appeals, shall be appointed.

"Disqualified Person" means a person on whom disqualification has been imposed under these Regulations or Rules, any previous Rules of Racing or the Rules of another Turf Authority.

"Dope Test" means the taking from a Rider of a sample of the Rider's body tissue or fluids, the division of the sample into an "A" sample and "B" sample and the analysis of either or both the "A" and "B" samples by a WADA Accredited Laboratory.

"Doping Control Form" means the form used to record sample collection details relating to Dope Tests.

"Doping Control Notification Form" means the form used to notify a Rider that they have been selected to undergo a Dope Test.

"Doping Control Officer" means the person appointed by the Directors of the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20 (xx).

"Doping Control Station" means the place on the Racecourse/Point to Point Meeting for the taking of a Dope Test or an alcohol breath test.

"Doping Offence" means an offence specified in Rule 278.

"Emergency Passport" means a replacement or copy passport for a Horse provided by a Passport Issuing Organisation, Racing Authority or HRI due to the original Passport being unavailable.

"Fence Marshall" is an official appointed by a Hunt to carry out duties specifically assigned within these Regulations.

"Forfeit List" is a record of Arrears published by HRI in accordance with these Regulations, Rules and HRI Directive 8.

"Handler" is a person who holds a permit in accordance with Regulation 23 (a).

"Hood" is a garment similar to Blinkers incorporating ear covers but without eye cowls.

"Horse(s)" includes any Equine within the meaning of the Equine (Transfer of Ownership) Regulations 2014 (the 2014 Regulations) in Ireland and/or which has been registered with an approved Stud Book Authority (which in Ireland is Weatherbys Ireland) within the meaning of the International Agreement.

"Horse Racing Ireland" (HRI) is the body established by the Horse and Greyhound Racing Act 2001.

"Hunters Certificate" is a certificate given upon the form prescribed by the Directors of the INHSC and signed by the Master of a Pack of Hounds, Stag hounds or Harriers qualified to hold a Point to Point Meeting or a person appointed to sign certificates to the effect that a Horse is the property of a bona fide subscriber to the Hunt in respect of the current season. The certificate becomes valid on Registration at the Office of the INHSC.

"Hunt Medical Officers" are engaged by the Hunt to provide medical services at a Point to Point Meeting.

"Hunt" "Registered Pack of Hounds" and "Recognised Pack of Hounds" means a Hunt registered as such with the Irish Masters of Foxhounds Association ("F"), the Irish Masters of Harriers Association ("H") or Stag hounds ("S").

"IHRB Medical Officer" means a qualified doctor appointed under Rule 28 or any appropriately qualified substitute appointed under Rule 29 in accordance with Regulation 3(c) of the Constitution of the IHRB.

"IHRB Representative" is the person appointed by the INHSC to advise the Acting Stewards on any matter in relation to the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases.

"IHRB Veterinary Officer" means the Veterinary Officer appointed under Rule 28 or any appropriately qualified substitute appointed under Rule 29 in accordance with Regulation 3(c) of the Constitution of the IHRB.

"Interference" means any act (including crossing, taking the ground from, failing to keep a straight course, hanging, bumping, boring, jostling, intimidating) on the part of a Horse or its Rider which adversely affects the running of any other Horse in any race.

"International Standard" means a standard adopted by WADA, compliance with which shall be sufficient to conclude that the procedures addressed by the International Standard were performed properly.

"Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board (IHRB)" is a company limited by guarantee established by the Turf Club and the INHSC under the Horse Racing Ireland Act, 2016.

"Licensing Committee" means a committee appointed by the Directors of the IHRB under Rule 19B of the Rules.

"Maiden" for the purpose of Point to Point Steeplechases, is a Horse that has not won any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain and has not won a race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing in any Country.

"Medicines Register" means a register in respect of all Authorised Medicines used for bona fide medicinal treatment of Horses and which must be similar in form to the requirements as outlined within the Animal Remedies Regulations 2007 to 2017 and contain all the information necessary to maintain the register in accordance with Rule 148. A register which does not contain at least the information contained in Rule 148 may be deemed not to be a Medicines Register.

"Microchip" means an identifying microchip approved by any recognised Thoroughbred Stud Book Authority.

"Missed Test" means a Horse's unavailability for examination or test pursuant to Rule 20(xvii) or Regulation R14.

"Novice Rider" is a Rider, who at midnight on the Monday prior to the closing of entries for a Point to Point Meeting, has not ridden more than fifteen winners under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing, including Point to Point Steeplechases.

"Office of the IHRB" is currently at the Curragh, County Kildare, R56 Y668.

"Office of the INHSC" is the Office appointed by the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase CLG and shall be kept by the Executive, known and designated as "The Registrar". It is currently located at the Curragh, County Kildare, R56 Y668.

"Official" is a person appointed at each Point to Point Meeting by the Directors of the IHRB and is licensed to carry out any function under these Regulations or Rules, including Microchip Officer, Steward's Secretary, Veterinary Officer, Veterinary Assistant, Inspector of Courses and any other person nominated by them from time to time. The Hunt organising the Point to Point meeting shall also appoint officials to carry out functions on its behalf.

"Owner" means the Owner of a Horse and is Registered as such in accordance with these Regulations. In the case of a partnership, the term "Owner" means any partners, all of whom must be qualified to enter.

"Passport" is the approved diagrammatic document of identity of a Horse issued by any recognised Turf Authority or Stud Book Authority.

"Passport Issuing Organisation" or "PIO" means an organisation authorised to issue Horse passports in accordance with relevant legislation in their jurisdiction i.e., Weatherbys in Ireland.

"Placed" means placed first, second, third or fourth unless otherwise stated.

"Point to Point Meeting" is a meeting with a schedule of races which has been approved by the Directors of the INHSC.

"Point to Point Raceday" is a day on which a Point to Point Meeting, sanctioned by the Directors of the INHSC, is scheduled to be held.

"Point to Point Steeplechase" means a Steeplechase run under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases.

"Private Sweepstakes" is one to which no money or other prize is added, and which has not been publicly advertised previous to closing.

"Prohibited Substance" means a substance described in the schedule of prohibited substances published from time to time by the Directors of the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20 (v) and means the substance itself or a metabolite of the substance or an isomer of the substance or an isomer of a metabolite of the substance and includes synthetic substances.

"Qualified Rider" means a person who holds a permit to ride issued under Rule 135 or a person who holds a current valid Amateur Licence issued by a recognised Turf Authority.

"R.A.C.E." means Racing Academy and Centre of Education as recognised by the IHRB or an alternative training and educational provider as approved by the IHRB.

"Raceday" means a Point to Point Raceday.

"Race Meeting" means a Point to Point Race Meeting.

"Recognised Meeting" is a meeting at which Horse races take place which are authorised by a recognised Turf Authority, in the case of Ireland by the IHRB.

"Referrals Committee" means a committee appointed by the IHRB under Rule 19A to conduct and determine a particular case or cases referred to it pursuant to these Regulations and Rules, including disciplinary matters and other breaches of these Regulations or Rules.

"Registered" and **"Registration"** means "Registered" and "Registration" at the Office of the INHSC.

"Registrar" means the Registrar appointed by the INHSC.

"Rider" means any person who has ridden or is qualified to ride a Horse in a race under these Regulations.

"Sample(s)" means any biological material of a Horse, including any tissue, body fluid, excreta, hair, skin scraping or swab, collected for the purposes of these Regulations or Rules.

"Sampling Officer" means a person appointed by the Doping Control Officer, pursuant to Rule 20 (xx), to take samples for the purposes of Dope Tests.

"Sampling Unit" means the area and equipment used for the purpose of sampling Horses.

"Season" for Point to Point Steeplechases shall consist of an Autumn schedule and a Spring schedule. The Autumn schedule will commence no earlier than the first day in October and conclude before December 25th. The Spring schedule will commence after December 25th and conclude no later than the final day in May of the following year. For the exact dates of the Point to Point season please refer to the Point to Point Fixture List as published in the Irish Racing Calendar.

"Senior Racing Official" is a person appointed or retained by the IHRB in accordance with Regulation 3(c) of the Constitution of the IHRB and to whom certain functions have been delegated by the IHRB.

"Sheepskin Cheek Pieces" means two strips of sheepskin or any other similar material which is attached to the cheek pieces of the bridle.

"Started" every Horse shall be considered as having started which has not been withdrawn before a fair start has been effected.

"Stewards Enquiry" is an enquiry into matters connected with the running of a race or into any other matter connected with a Point to Point Meeting, conducted by the Acting Stewards pursuant to the provisions of these Regulations and Rules.

"Stewards' Secretary" is an Official appointed by the Directors of the IHRB to assist and advise the Acting Stewards in the running of a Point to Point Meeting. The Senior Stewards Secretary on duty will be an Acting Steward on the day.

"Testing Officer" means a person appointed by the Doping Control Officer, pursuant to Rule 20 (xx), to test Riders for the presence of alcohol by means of an alcohol breath test.

"Time of entry" means the time fixed for the closing of a race.

"Tongue Strap" means any device approved by the IHRB used to tie down a Horse's tongue (For the list of approved devices see ION 12).

"Training Establishment" means any land or buildings on or from which a Handler carries on the business of training Horses.

"Turf Authorities of Ireland" shall mean the IHRB and, for the purposes of carrying out its functions under relevant legislation, HRI.

"Turf Authority" means Authorities who are members of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities and other Turf Authorities which the Directors of the IHRB approve as recognised Turf Authorities.

"Unrecognised Meetings" are meetings which are not Recognised Meetings.

"Veterinary Surgeon" means a Veterinary Surgeon who is registered as such with the Veterinary Council of Ireland or the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in the U.K. or the appropriate Professional Body in any other country.

"WADA" means the World Anti-Doping Agency.

"WADA Accredited Laboratory" means a laboratory accredited by WADA pursuant to the WADA International Standard for Laboratories.

"Winner All Right" means the authorisation and announcement of the result of a race by the Acting Stewards in accordance with Regulation 42.

- (ii) The Rules of Racing and Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules 4, 14 (i) (c), (d), 18, 19, 19 A, 19 C, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 78, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90 (ii),(v),(vi), 91, 96, 125 (v)(c), 136, 148 (i) to (x), (xi) (a), (b), (c), (g), (h), 225, 257, 260, 264, 267, 271 to 280, 296 and 297, R7 Dope Testing of Riders and R14 Taking of Samples from Horses shall apply to all Point to Point Steeplechases.
- (iii) With the sanction of the Directors of the INHSC, Point to Point Steeplechases may be held annually by a Hunt being Foxhounds, Harriers, (provided always that the Hunt is properly registered with the Irish Master of Foxhounds Association or the Irish Master of Harriers Association) or Staghouads. Should the Directors of the INHSC have any doubt as to the bona fides of the Hunt applying for permission to hold a Point to Point Meeting, they shall take any necessary steps to enquire into the standing of the Hunt in question.

2. Not less than twenty-eight days before the date of a Point to Point Meeting, notice must be sent to the Office of the INHSC giving the locality of the proposed course, together with a draft entry form for the Point to Point Meeting. Failure to comply with this Regulation will result in a mandatory fine of €100 being imposed.

Courses will be inspected at a time to be arranged between the Clerk of the Course and the IHRB Inspector of Courses and the time arranged shall not be less than two days prior to the day of the Point to Point Meeting.

If at the time appointed, the course is found to be unsatisfactory or has not yet been completed, the Directors of the INHSC may withdraw permission to race in that year or in subsequent years or may order a further inspection and impose a mandatory fine of €500.

In the event of a Meeting not being organised to their satisfaction the Directors of the INHSC may decline to recommend the Point to Point Meeting for all or part of the Horse Racing Ireland grant. The IHRB Representative or a person nominated by the Directors of the INHSC shall be appointed to attend and monitor any Point to Point Meeting to furnish a report to the Directors of the INHSC as to the proper observance of these Regulations and Rules at such a Point to Point Meeting. They shall act as a Steward of the Point to Point Meeting on behalf of the Directors of the INHSC.

3. In all entry forms and racecards for a Point to Point Meeting, issued by the Authority under whose auspices the steeplechases are to be held, it shall be stated that:

This meeting is held subject to Rules 4, 14 (i) (c), (d), 18, 19, 19 A, 19 C, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 78, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90 (ii),(v),(vi), 91, 96, 125 (v)(c), 136, 148 (i) to (x), (xi) (a), (b), (c), (g), (h), 225, 257, 260, 264, 267, 271 to 280, 296 and 297, R7 Dope Testing of Riders and R14 Taking of Samples from Horses, and Appendix B (Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases) of the Rules of Racing and Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules.

In all entry forms and racecards there shall be embodied a condition that:

No Horse shall be entered or start for any race at this Point to Point Meeting unless a Hunters Certificate has been Registered at the Office of the INHSC and published on the IHRB website.

On all entry forms and racecards, the following notice shall be printed:

Entries received for these races can only be made and accepted on the condition that the Owner, Handler and the Rider of their Horse shall subject themselves in all respects to the Regulations and Rules for Point to Point Steeplechases laid down and the decisions made by the Directors of the INHSC and the Acting Stewards of this Point to Point Meeting.

4. Point to Point Meetings shall be held under the control of the Master of the Hunt holding the Point to Point Meeting (or in the absence of the Master, a committee appointed by the Hunt) who shall be responsible to the Directors of the INHSC for the conduct of all fixtures granted to the Hunt.

Any Point to Point Meeting which has not been sanctioned is an Unrecognised Meeting and every Horse which has run at such meetings is disqualified for all races to which the Regulations or Rules apply.

- (i) Permission to hold Point to Point Meetings shall be granted annually by the Directors of the INHSC.
- (ii) Application for Point to Point Meetings, giving a first and second choice of dates and accompanied by the relevant fee, must be made by the Master of the Hunt (or in the absence of a Master, a committee appointed by the Hunt) to the Office of the INHSC.
- (iii) No Point to Point Meeting shall be held before the first day in October or after the last day in May nor on the same day as a race meeting which is holding National Hunt racing within a distance of forty miles, except in very exceptional circumstances and only by permission of the Directors of the INHSC.
- (iv) Except by permission of the Directors of the INHSC, the first race shall be timed to start as follows:

November	-	not later than 12.30 p.m.,
December	-	not later than 12 noon,
January	-	not later than 12.30 p.m.

Starting times may be brought forward by order of the Directors of the INHSC.

At all Point to Point Meetings there shall be an interval of not less than 30 minutes between the time of the races, except when as a result of the division of a race or races, or special circumstances the Acting Stewards shall order otherwise.

5. A maximum of six steeplechases shall be scheduled at each Point to Point Meeting.
6. (i) Point to Point Steeplechases shall be confined to Horses certified by a Master of a Hunt in Ireland (or by a person appointed by the Master to sign Hunters Certificates) to be the property of bona fide subscribers to the Hunt issuing the certificates, and which have been certified as such by their Owner or Handler on the same certificate. Before such certificates are issued the name of the person appointed by the Master to sign certificates shall be notified to the Office of the INHSC together with a specimen signature of that person.

- (ii) (a) The Hunters Certificate with the registered name of the Horse must be lodged at the Office of the INHSC, for Registration by the Directors of the INHSC. The original copy of the Hunters Certificate signed by The Registrar should be available to the Clerk of the Scales at the time of declaration.
- (b) A Horse shall not be entered or start for any race at a Point to Point Meeting unless a Hunters Certificate has been Registered at the Office of the INHSC and published on the IHRB website.
- (c) A Hunters Certificate shall not be Registered for any Horse unless a Point to Point Owners Form or Multiple Owners Form and Point to Point Handlers Form have been lodged at the Office of the INHSC in advance of the Hunters Certificate being Registered.
- (iii) Hunters Certificates shall be issued upon the form prescribed by the Directors of the INHSC and issued to Masters of Hunts and are not valid until Registered at the Office of the INHSC in accordance with (ii)(b) above.

Should a Horse become the property of a different Owner from the person(s) named on the original Hunters Certificate, the new Owner(s) shall furnish a certificate to the Office of the INHSC indicating that they have subscribed to a Hunt as specified in (i) above.

- (iv) The prescribed form of Hunters Certificate will show that the Owner of the Horse is a subscriber as defined in (i) above.
- (v) A Hunters Certificate shall not be Registered or remain Registered for any Horse which is the subject of a non-racing declaration in accordance with HRI Directive 16. 3, except for a Horse which is the subject of a non-racing declaration with a foreign Turf Authority that permits the Horse to run in Point to Points only.
- (vi) The Directors of the INHSC reserve the right to refuse to register or cancel the Registration of Hunters Certificates, or to decline to accept them as issued by any person or persons.
- (vii) Not more than one Hunters Certificate will be issued for any one Horse in any one season. In addition, the Hunt to whom the Owner subscribes at time of Registration will be the only Hunt named on the Hunters Certificate in any one season, irrespective of whether the Owner of the Horse changes.
- (viii) Where any change of Horses' names or ownership or any endorsement is required on a certificate, the Owners copy must be returned to the Office of the INHSC with sufficient evidence to prove

that the change is bona fide, upon which an amended certificate may be issued.

- (ix) No alteration to a Hunters Certificate is valid unless certified at the Office of the INHSC.
- (x) Where a Horse is owned in Multiple Ownership under the requirements as outlined in Regulation 18, the ownership details must be lodged at the Office of the INHSC on the appropriate Registration form, for which no fee is payable.
- (xi) Books of Hunters Certificates are the property of the Directors of the INHSC and must be returned to the Office of the INHSC whenever required by them.
- (xii) A Hunters Certificate shall not be Registered for any Horse unless and until a vaccination certificate against equine influenza in accordance with the provisions of Rule 91 has been approved by the IHRB.

7. Deleted.

8. For Point to Point Steeplechases the following conditions shall apply:

- (i) (a) A Horse shall not be qualified to start for a Point to Point Steeplechase in the Autumn schedule if it has:

won a race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain and Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after March 1st prior to the start of the current Point to Point season; or

run in any race under the Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain and Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after September 1st prior to the start of the current Point to Point season.

- (b) A Horse shall not be qualified to start for a Point to Point Steeplechase in the Spring schedule if it has:

won a race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain and Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after March 1st prior to the start of the current Point to Point season; or

run in any race under the Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for

Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain, Academy Hurdles and Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after December 1st of the current Point to Point season.

Where in the case of (i) (a) above a Hunters Certificate has already been issued for a Horse and it subsequently runs in a race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain and Private Sweepstakes excluded), between September 1st and November 30th of the current Point to Point Season, the Hunters Certificate shall automatically be suspended until the commencement of the Spring Schedule.

Where in the case of (i) (a) and (b) above a Horse runs in a race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechases, any race under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases in Ireland or Great Britain, Academy Hurdles and Private Sweepstakes excluded), on or after December 1st of the current Point to Point Season the Hunters Certificate shall automatically be cancelled for the remainder of the season.

- (ii) Deleted
- (iii) No Horse shall be eligible to be entered or run in a Maiden Point to Point Steeplechase if it has won a race under any recognised Rules of Racing or Steeplechase Rules in any country.
- (iv) Races shall not be advertised as being “confined to Half-Bred Horses” or “confined to Horses not eligible for entry in the Stud Book of a recognised Turf Authority”.
- (v)
 - (a) Point to Point Steeplechases, with the exception of races confined to four year old maidens specified in (d) below, shall be run over a distance of not less than 3 miles.
 - (b) A Horse aged four years old shall not be eligible to run in a Point to Point Steeplechase before February 1st.
 - (c) From February 1st, a four year old maiden shall only be eligible to run in races confined to such Horses.
 - (d) Races confined to four year old maidens from February 1st to March 1st inclusive, shall be run over a distance of not less than 2 ½ miles.
 - (e) Races confined to four year old maidens from March 2nd to the conclusion of the season shall be run over a distance of not less than 3 miles.

- (f) There shall be at least twelve fences jumped in races of 3 miles and not less than ten fences in races of 2 ½ miles and not less than five separate fences jumped in each complete circuit.
- (vi) The maximum number of runners for all Point to Point Steeplechases shall be:
 - (a) Not more than fifteen Horses in races confined to four year olds only.
 - (b) Not more than fifteen Horses in races confined to Novice Riders only.
 - (c) Not more than seventeen Horses in all other races.

If upon inspection there is a need to reduce the maximum number of runners, the Inspector of Courses shall state the revised number in their report. Such figure shall be the maximum number permitted to run on the day and it shall be publicly announced before the commencement of the first race.

- 9. (i) (a) The course shall be within the limits of the Hunt or Hunts holding the Point to Point Meeting, except under special circumstances and with the permission of the Directors of the INHSC.
- (b) Properly constructed fences of such dimensions as may be laid down from time to time by the Directors of the INHSC may be substituted for natural fences (see diagram ION 3).
- (c) Artificial aprons are mandatory for all Point to Point fences with the exception of banks races.
- (ii) On all courses there shall be at least 32 feet of jumping space at all fences except in certain circumstances and by permission of the Directors of the INHSC. All fences shall have plastic wings of not less than 6 metres in length and shall be not less than 1 foot higher than the fence at the point where the wings and fence meet. The first fence shall have on both sides a second plastic wing in place or a plastic rail of similar measurement.
- (iii) All gaps and gateways shall not be less than 24 feet in width, except those in close proximity to either side of a fence, in such cases the gap or gateway shall not be less than 32 feet wide. Should the latter requirement not be achievable, the Inspector of Courses in accordance with Regulation 8 (vi) shall reduce the maximum number of runners as may be deemed necessary.
- (iv) Red and white flags only shall be used, red flags must be passed on the Rider's right and white flags must be passed on the Rider's

left. Turning flags shall be at least 12 inches square and on stakes not less than 6 feet from the ground level and must be accompanied by a round straw bale or other device approved by the Inspector of Courses placed against the post. The winning posts shall be marked appropriately. Flags to be at least 24 inches square and on stakes not less than 10 feet from the ground level. An example of the method of flagging to be used must be available for inspection by the Inspector of Courses.

- (v) On all courses the finishing straight should be adequately fenced off on both sides where practical from the last fence to a point beyond the winning post which shall be indicated by the Inspector of Courses.

(vi) Deleted.

(vii) Deleted.

10. Deleted.

11. Deleted.

- 12.** The total amount of added money given for a full programme shall not be less than €6,500 and the prize money to the first, second and third Horses, shall not be less than €800 in races confined to Horses aged 4yo or 5yo and €1,850 in all other races. In the case of a race or races being divided the added money may however be increased to such an amount as is necessary to enable each division of a race to have the original full prize fund for that race allocated to the division.

In all races the Owners of the first three placed Horses shall receive 70%, 20% and 10% respectively, of the total value of the race.

- 13.** (i) A Disqualified Person or a Horse declared disqualified or ineligible to compete under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing shall not be qualified to take part in Point to Point Steeplechases.
- (ii) The Acting Stewards shall exclude from all places under their control every Disqualified Person and all such persons or descriptions of persons as they may from time to time be required by the IHRB to exclude. They have power to exclude, at their discretion, any person from all or any place under their control.

14. Deleted.

15. Deleted.

- 16.** Racecourse Executives shall not allow their racecourses or fences to be used for Point to Point Meetings. Where Executives are prepared to allow part of their premises to be used for a Point to Point Meeting, application may be made by the Master of the Hunt to the Directors of the INHSC.

The granting of permission is in the absolute discretion of the Directors of the INHSC and will only be granted if they are satisfied that it will not be detrimental to racing on the course under Rules. The racecourse must be within the regular hunting country limits of the Hunt or Hunts holding the Point to Point Meeting, save as provided in Regulation 9.

17. Within fourteen days of the running of any Point to Point Meeting, the following must be lodged by the Hunt at the Office of the INHSC:
- (1) A certificate signed by the Master and two Acting Stewards of the Point to Point Meeting, specifying the runners, Riders, weights carried, placings and distances between the placed Horses.
 - (2) A completed event management plan.
 - (3) Failure to comply with the above will result in a mandatory fine of €100 being imposed.

Registration of Owners

18. The Directors of the INHSC shall maintain a Register of Point to Point Owners. An Owner may only be Registered by application to the Office of the INHSC on the prescribed form and signed by the applicant. If at the time of, or subsequent to the date of Registration, the application is found not to have been signed by the applicant, the Registration shall automatically become void. All other Registrations relating to the ownership of Horses for that person at that time or subsequently shall be cancelled.

In considering an application for Registration, the Directors of the INHSC shall be entitled to seek such information or to make such enquiries as they shall consider relevant. If at the time of, or subsequent to the date of Registration, such information as may be supplied is found to be incorrect or misleading, the Registration may be cancelled as may all other Registrations relevant to that Registration.

If a Registration is cancelled for any reason, the Registration cannot be re-instated and a new application for Registration will be necessary. In such instances, the Directors of the INHSC shall determine what further action, if any, they deem to be appropriate. The Directors of the INHSC shall have complete discretion whether to approve and register any person as an Owner, save that they shall not approve and register any person unless they are satisfied that they are not a Disqualified Person.

Registration shall be effective once the completed application form has been processed at the Office of the INHSC. If any Registered Owner shall become a Disqualified Person, the Registration shall become void and if the Directors of the INHSC shall register the name of a Disqualified Person, the Registration shall be void.

The Registration of a Registered Owner shall be automatically renewed annually unless the Directors of the INHSC shall otherwise determine.

Nothing in these Regulations shall prevent the personal representative of a deceased (Registered) Owner running a Horse solely under the description "Executor(s), Administrator(s) or Personal Representative of deceased" for the remainder of the current Point to Point Season. Unless otherwise determined by the Directors of the INHSC a personal representative need not apply to be put on the Register provided that the deceased was a Registered Owner at the time of death.

Multiple Owners

In the case of Multiple Ownership, a document stating:

- (a) the name and address of the primary owner.
- (b) the signatures of all partner(s) must be submitted before the Registration is valid.

A collective Multiple Ownership name, which must be approved by the Directors of the INHSC may appear on the racecard as the Owner, but such a Multiple Ownership name will merely denote the collective ownership of the Horse. The Multiple Ownership name shall be deemed unique to the particular named members for the period the Multiple Ownership Registration is in existence.

If at any time after a Multiple Ownership has been Registered there is any variation in the membership, written notification on a form approved for such purpose, must be lodged at the Office of the INHSC for approval. Such notification must be signed by any outgoing or incoming member and witnessed by the Primary Owner. Any such alterations to a Multiple Ownership shall apply to all Horses Registered in that Ownership's name.

A Multiple Ownership shall only be entitled to exercise its powers of an Owner through its Primary Owner, who shall for the purposes of these Regulations be treated as the sole Owner, and be subject to all the liabilities, duties and privileges of ownership. Other than running a Horse under the name of a Multiple Ownership, no privilege of ownership shall attach to any member other than the Primary Owner.

Without prejudice to the foregoing the Directors of the INHSC may at their absolute discretion at any time and without assigning any reason therefore withdraw their approval of a Multiple Ownership or any change to it and cancel any such Registration or remove any member from that Registration in the event of that person being found to be a Disqualified Person.

The Directors of the INHSC takes no cognisance of any disputes arising between the partners of a Multiple Ownership Registered in accordance with these Regulations.

Assumed Names

It shall be a breach of these Regulations for an Owner to make use of an assumed name for the purpose of entering or running Horses and any Horse entered under any assumed name shall be disqualified and the Owner shall be subject to sanction by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body.

Entries

- 19.** (i) Entries for races shall be made by the Owner or Handler and shall be subject to the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases.
- (ii) Entries shall close at a specified time on a day to be stated in the entry form.
- (iii) Deleted.
- (iv) No Horse shall run in any race unless and until the entrance fee for that Horse at the Point to Point Meeting is paid.
- (v) Entries shall not be accepted after the specified time and no Horse shall run at the Point to Point Meeting in any race the entry of which is not printed on the official racecard for that race.

Note:

For the purpose of clarification, names of Horses added to racecards by means of adhesion due to "Printers Error" and not forming part of the racecard proper will not be allowed to run.

- (vi) Each entry shall state the name of the Owner, Handler and the name of the Horse and if the race be for Horses of different ages the age of the Horse.
- (vii) In all races the weight to be carried by the Horse shall be stated.
- (viii) In addition, the entry shall state the colours to be worn by the Rider.
- (ix) No person shall take entries for a Point to Point Meeting on behalf of Hunts without having been granted a Receiver of Entries Licence from the Directors of the INHSC. Such Licences are granted for a period of twelve months from September 1st to August 31st and applications must be made in writing on the appropriate form with the relevant fee. Breaches of the Licence Terms and Conditions will result in the matter being referred to the Referrals Committee.

Clerk of the Course

20. The Clerk of the Course shall:

- (i) Arrange for the publication of an official racecard of the steeplechases containing the conditions of each steeplechase, the names of the Owners, the Handlers, the names and ages of the Horses, the colours to be worn by the Rider, and such other particulars as are given in the entries. In all races the weight to be carried by each Horse shall be published.
- (ii) Arrange for the attendance of two registered road ambulances and a registered four wheel drive ambulance which comes equipped with a fixed stretcher. They shall also arrange for a Hunt Medical Officer to be in attendance and for a suitable facility for the medical examination of injured Riders. A second Medical Officer appointed by the IHRB shall be in attendance.
- (iii) Arrange for a suitable place, other than the weigh tent, where the Acting Stewards can hear objections and hold enquiries in private.
- (iv)
 - (a) Ensure that the dimension of the parade ring is at least 40 metres by 20 metres.
 - (b) See that a clean number cloth of a pattern approved by the Directors of the INHSC is provided for every Horse for which a Rider presents themselves to be weighed out.
- (v) Arrange that two Hunt Veterinary Surgeons be in attendance and that they have available for their use a method of humane destruction of an animal.
- (vi) Arrange to have an effective public address system.
- (vii) Arrange to have an adequate number board set in a prominent position on which the runners, Riders and any allowances claimed by a Rider shall be clearly displayed before each race.
- (viii) Arrange for the provision of a warning disc at each fence. The disc shall be orange in colour and 18 inches in diameter. It shall be fixed to a stake and when placed in a fence the bottom of the disc should be at least one foot clear of the fence. They shall see that each fence is manned by two competent Fence Marshalls wearing orange bibs/waistcoats.

In the case of an accident, arrange for a warning disc to be placed in a fence. The disc shall remain in place for the remainder of the race and that fence shall be omitted from the course for the remainder of the race. The warning disc shall take precedence over the flags and when a warning disc is in position, the fence shall

not be jumped, irrespective of the positions of the flags. Any Horse jumping the fence in such circumstances shall be disqualified and the Rider shall be reported to the Acting Stewards.

The warning disc shall be available for examination by the Inspector of Courses. The warning disc shall only be placed in a fence after all Horses still in the race have jumped the obstacle, at which the accident occurred, on that circuit. When bypassing is taking place, one of the Fence Marshalls shall proceed up the track to forewarn oncoming Riders by waving an orange flag.

- (ix) Arrange for the provision of suitable screens for use in the event of the humane destruction of an animal.

The Judge

- 21.** (i) The Judge, or an authorised substitute, must occupy the Judge's podium at the time the Horses pass the winning post.
- (ii) They must announce their decision immediately and report to the Clerk of the Scales the numbers of the first four Horses which have passed the winning post, the order in which they have passed, and the distance which separated them. The finishing positions of the Horses and the distances which separate them will be indicated and measured exclusively by their noses.
- (iii) A Horse will be adjudged to have beaten another if the Judge can establish that the Horse is ahead by however small a margin. If the Judge cannot distinguish which Horse is in front, they shall declare a dead heat.
- (iv) Such decisions of the Judge shall be final, except as provided under Regulation 21 (v), or unless an objection to the winner, or any placed Horse is made and sustained.
- (v) This Regulation shall not prevent a Judge from correcting any mistake before the Winner All Right announcement, in accordance with Regulation 42, has been made.
- (vi) A Senior Racing Official may, within one month of the running of a specified race, either on their own authority or at the Judge's request or on an objection, investigate any matter in respect of a decision of the Judge and refer the matter to the Referrals Committee if deemed appropriate.

Acting Stewards

- 22.** (i) (a) There must be a minimum of three Acting Stewards, including the Master of the Hunt holding the Point to Point Meeting, or a deputy appointed by them, for every Point to Point Meeting.
- (b) The Directors of the IHRB shall appoint a Stewards Secretary with the powers of a Steward of the meeting to act either as one of or in addition to the number of Acting Stewards required.
- (ii) The names of these Acting Stewards shall be printed on the racecard and be exhibited outside the weigh tent. Two of these Acting Stewards shall be present at the weigh tent immediately before and after each race.
- (iii) The IHRB Representative shall act in addition to or as one of the required number of Acting Stewards.
- (iv) (a) The Acting Stewards have jurisdiction to regulate, control, take cognisance of and adjudicate upon, the conduct of all Officials, of all Owners, Handlers, Riders, persons having care of Horses, grooms and persons attendant on Horses, and of all persons frequenting the Point to Point Meeting.
- (b) All such persons in attendance at a Point to Point Meeting shall comply with any reasonable request or instruction from an Official given in the interest of the efficient administration of racing or in the performance of the Official's duties. Failure to comply with such a request or instruction shall be a breach of these Regulations.
- (v) The Acting Stewards have power to sanction at their discretion any Rider subject to their control with a fine not exceeding €500 and/or with the suspension from riding for any period up to seven Point to Point Racedays beginning no earlier than the fourteenth day after their decision and if they deem necessary, to refer the Rider to the R.A.C.E. or to report the matter to the Referrals Committee, for any breach of these Regulations, Rules, or any Instructions, Orders or Notices made or issued under these Regulations, save that:
- (a) if a Rider on the commencement date already be suspended for any other offence, the suspension shall begin at the commencement of the day following the completion of any previous period of suspension.
- (b) if a Rider elects to serve a suspension of one day commencing earlier than the fourteenth day upon agreement with the IHRB.

Riders will not be permitted to ride under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing, including Point to Point Steeplechases on suspended days. Racedays to which Rider suspensions shall apply shall be determined on the basis of the list of fixtures published by the Directors of the INHSC on the date the sanction was imposed, whether originally, or if an appeal was lodged on the date of the determination of the appeal, subject to Rule 260.

- (vi) The Acting Stewards have power at any time to order, by general or particular direction, an examination or test by the IHRB Veterinary Officer of any Horse entered for a race or which has run in a race. They have power to order samples be taken from any Horse entered for a race or which has run in a race. Such samples are to be taken in substantial compliance with any Regulations published by the Directors of the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20 (v), the current version of which Regulations is contained in Regulation R14 "Taking of Samples from Horses".
- (vii) Deleted.
- (viii) The Acting Stewards have power to refuse to allow a Horse, duly entered to run in any race and may at their discretion order the withdrawal of any Horse.
- (ix) The Acting Stewards have power to operate a system of identity checks at any Point to Point Meeting. Passports must be available for inspection by the IHRB Veterinary Officer, or any such Official appointed by the Directors of the IHRB, or such other Veterinary Officer authorised to act by the Acting Stewards.

If following an inspection, a Horse cannot be positively identified the Horse shall be withdrawn by the Acting Stewards, and the matter shall be referred to a Senior Racing Official for investigation.

- (x) The Acting Stewards have full power in the interest of safety to make alterations to the track and its environs and in special circumstances to abandon the meeting or part of the meeting or any race or races at the meeting, to reduce the number of fences as they think fit or to declare a race void. In any of which events a full statement of the reasons for such decision shall be forwarded within forty-eight hours for the consideration of The Registrar.
- (xi) It shall be the obligation of the Handler to comply with the Regulations and Rules and with instructions issued by the Acting Stewards of the Point to Point Meeting and in default, the Acting Stewards may impose a fine of up to the sum of €500 or refer the matter to the Referrals Committee.
- (xii) Deleted (August 2021).

- (xiii) Where it is not possible, for whatever reason, for the Acting Stewards to conduct or conclude an enquiry, they have power at their discretion to report the matter to a Senior Racing Official who shall have power to investigate the matter and at their discretion to make such referrals as they may deem necessary or the Acting Stewards may refer the matter to the Referrals Committee, who shall decide thereon.
- (xiv) In any case where a Horse is the subject of an enquiry, whether in relation to the training, behaviour, starting, running or riding of any Horse or howsoever relating thereto, the Horse may at the discretion of the Acting Stewards be suspended from running for such time not exceeding sixty days. Such suspension shall take effect on the day after the time for appealing has lapsed.
- (xv) Any person involved in Point to Point Steeplechases who, within the jurisdiction of the IHRB, whether verbally or by conduct or behaviour, acts in a manner which is prejudicial to the integrity, proper conduct or good reputation of Horseracing (whether or not such behaviour or conduct, verbal or otherwise is associated directly with Horseracing) shall be in breach of these Regulations and Rules.

Handlers

23.

- (a) (i) Any person who has a Horse under their care, training, management or superintendence in Ireland, shall, obtain a permit renewable annually as a Handler with the Directors of the INHSC by the 1st day of September in each year (or such later date as the Directors of the INHSC may in any individual case allow) before a Horse trained by such person is qualified to be entered for or run in any Point to Point Steeplechase. Any person not holding such a permit who purports to enter or run a Horse in a Point to Point Steeplechase shall be in breach of these Regulations and Rules and subject to sanction thereunder.
- (ii) Any person who holds a Handlers Permit shall care for and train any Horse in strict compliance with the Regulations and Rules as the case may be and in accordance with instructions issued from time to time by the Directors of the INHSC or Directors of the IHRB.
- (iii) Rules 148 (i) to (x) and (xi) (a), (b), (c), (g) and (h) shall apply to Handlers and shall be read as if the word "Handler" appeared where the word "Trainer" appears in any part of Rule 148.
- (iv) The Acting Stewards have power to sanction a Handler who commits a breach of any of these Regulations or Rules a sum not exceeding €500, and/or if they deem necessary, they may refer the matter to a Senior Racing Official for further investigation or to the Referrals Committee, who shall decide thereon.

- (v) The Referrals Committee and the Appeals Body each has power to cancel the permit of any Handler or to suspend such permit for such period as they may deem appropriate for any breach by a Handler of these Regulations or Rules.
- (vi) A Handler running a Horse in colours which differs from those recorded at the Office of the INHSC, shall be fined not less than €20 by the Acting Stewards. However, the Acting Stewards may grant permission for an alteration of colours if an Owner runs more than one Horse in any one race.
- (vii) All Handlers shall furnish annually evidence that they hold current Public Liability Insurance cover and Employers Liability Insurance cover. Such insurance must cover the "Training of Racehorses" and the IHRB must be listed as a "Notice Party".
- (viii) No person under the age of 18 years shall be the holder of a Handlers Permit.
- (ix) Subject to a right of appeal to the Appeals Body, the Directors of the INHSC have the right to issue, refuse to issue, suspend or withdraw Handlers Permits and to impose such conditions to any permit as they think fit. In order to exercise its functions under this Regulation, the Directors of the INHSC shall be entitled to receive a report from The Registrar, in relation to any permit holder. They may require any applicant for a Handlers Permit to show that such person is a fit and proper person to hold such a permit. The Directors of the INHSC may refuse an application or suspend or withdraw a Handlers Permit if an applicant is or becomes a Disqualified Person or is subject to any form of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings in Ireland or in any other jurisdiction. An applicant for the grant or renewal of a Handlers Permit or a permit holder must inform the Office of the INHSC of any such bankruptcy or insolvency.

Riders

- (b) (i) The Directors of the IHRB may grant, withdraw or suspend a Permit to Ride as a Qualified Rider.
- (ii) No person other than a Qualified Rider under INHS Rules shall ride in any race at a Point to Point Meeting except as provided under the provisions of Regulation 23 (b) (iii) (b).
- (iii) (a) All Riders shall ride in Point to Point Steeplechases in strict compliance with the Regulations and Rules issued from time to time by the Directors of the INHSC or Directors of the IHRB.
- (b) A Rider who currently holds a permit to ride issued by a foreign Turf Authority shall not be permitted to ride in Ireland unless they present a current valid Amateur Riders

licence/permit from a recognised Turf Authority and sign a declaration at scales agreeing to be bound by the Regulations and Rules and stating the country from which they hold a current licence/permit, the type of licence/permit held, and that they are free from injury and not subject to any suspension or medical restriction imposed by a Turf Authority at the time of signing. Subject to the approval of the Acting Stewards the Rider shall produce the necessary documentation prior to weighing out.

- (iv) Person's holding or who have held a professional jockey's licence under any recognised Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing in any country shall not be eligible to ride in any Point to Point Steeplechase (except as provided in Rule 136).
- (v) A Rider, who is also a Handler, may not ride in a Point to Point Steeplechase against a horse they train, unless they are riding a horse they also train.
- (vi) All Riders, when mounted on a Horse, must wear a helmet that:
 - (a) It is of the correct size for the Rider, in serviceable condition, with the chin strap properly adjusted and always fastened when mounted.
 - (b) Must not have a chin cup, cradle, or draw lace; the chin strap must pass under the jaw and be secured by a quick-release buckle. Metal hooks are expressly forbidden.
 - (c) Any helmet subjected to severe impact, or worn by a Rider who has suffered concussion, must be replaced.

An IHRB Medical Officer or the Chief Medical Officer may direct replacement after inspection.

All helmets must comply with at least two different international helmet testing standards and carry evidence of quality testing from recognised organisations. Further guidance on approved standards and testing requirements is available at www.ihrb.ie/jockey-safety-information

- (vii) No person under the age of 17 years shall ride in a Point to Point Steeplechase.
- (viii) A levy of €10 shall be paid by each Owner to the Qualified Riders' Accident Fund CLG (QRAF) in respect of each entry. This amount shall be paid with the entry fee for the Horse for transmission to the QRAF.

- (ix) Custom-fitted mouth guards are mandatory for all Riders while riding in any race under these Regulations unless a prior exemption has been granted by the Chief Medical Officer. Riders must be in possession of a mouth guard on mounting and must have it in use prior to the start of any race. Mouth guards may be removed on pulling up. A Rider who fails to comply with the foregoing shall be reported to the Acting Stewards and liable to sanction under Regulation 22 (v).
- (x) A Rider shall not weigh out or attempt to weigh out, or ride or attempt to ride in a Point to Point Steeplechase unless they are wearing a body protector of a pattern approved by the Directors of the IHRB. Offending Riders shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).
- (xi) The Rider shall be responsible that such body protector is in a condition suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. Offending Riders shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).
- (xii) The minimum standard which body protectors must meet is EN13158:2018 Level 2 (Racesafe modified version as approved in 2023) or such other standard as approved by the IHRB. There must not be an attachment between the body protector and the saddle or girths. Body protectors must be worn with a harness (crotch strap) by Riders when weighing out, weighing in and during a race. Body protectors must not be modified in any way other than the Racesafe modified version as approved by the IHRB and must be in a serviceable condition. An IHRB Medical Officer or the Chief Medical Officer may direct that a body protector be replaced post inspection. Offending Riders shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).
- (xiii) Any Rider who has been declared unfit to ride by the Chief Medical Officer or their designated agent in races under the Regulations or Rules, may not ride in any race for such period as is specified in the declaration, or if no period is specified, until they are passed as fit to ride by the Chief Medical Officer or their designated agent. A Rider must present a fitness to ride certificate to the IHRB Medical Officer on duty at the Point to Point Meeting where they resume riding otherwise, they shall not be permitted to ride on that day.
- (xiv) (a) In all Point to Point Steeplechase races, with the exception of races confined to Novice Riders, Riders permitted to ride under INHS Rules who have not ridden more than 20 winners will receive an allowance of 5lbs. For the purpose of this Regulation, winners shall include all wins in Point to Point Steeplechases since September 1st 2005, and all races under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing.

- (b) The allowance shall be determined at midnight on Monday prior to the closing of entries. However, should a Point to Point Meeting be rescheduled with original entries to stand, the allowance shall be determined at midnight on Monday prior to the rescheduled fixture.
- (c) After the determination of the allowance, should a Rider exceed the maximum number of winners permissible in (a), they shall still be entitled to claim the allowance at those Point to Point Meetings for which their allowance has already been determined in accordance with (b).
- (xv) Claiming Riders must notify the Office of the IHRB immediately after riding a winner outside of Ireland. Failure to do so shall be a breach of this Regulation and the Rider shall be fined not less than €100.

Weighing Out

- 24.** (i) At each Point to Point Meeting a Clerk of the Scales shall be appointed to weigh out and weigh in the Riders in all races. A digital type weighing scales shall be provided together with a weight for testing the accuracy of the scales.
- (ii) (a) (i) All runners and Riders must be declared to the Clerk of the Scales at least one hour before the advertised time of starting of each race. A declaration shall not be accepted for a Horse, unless the Passport for the Horse being declared is presented to the Clerk of the Scales at time of declaration.
- (ii) A Horse entered in more than one race at a Point to Point Meeting shall only be permitted to run in one race.
- (iii) A declaration shall not be accepted for a Horse unless a vaccination certificate against equine influenza in accordance with the provisions of Rule 91 has been approved by the IHRB by 12 noon on the day following the closing of entries. However, should a Point to Point Meeting be rescheduled with original entries to stand, the vaccination certificate against equine influenza must be approved by 12 noon on the Wednesday prior to the rescheduled fixture.
- (b) Every Rider shall declare to the Clerk of the Scales at the time of weighing out the weight that the Horse which they are to ride is to carry, including allowances to Riders in accordance with Regulation 23 (b) (xiv), and if such declared weight be in excess of the correct weight the Horse shall not on that account be liable to disqualification.

- (c) The saddle, together with any weight cloth, pad or clothing (excluding number cloth) to be carried by a Horse while racing must be put into the scales and included in the Rider's weight. Lead must only be carried in a lead cloth or saddle pouch. Under no circumstances are Riders permitted to carry lead on any part of their person. Any breach of this Regulation shall render the Rider liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).
- (d) A Rider shall not be weighed out to carry more than 5lbs overweight, except under exceptional circumstances, and then only when permission of the Acting Stewards has been obtained. The Acting Stewards shall furnish a report to The Registrar of the circumstances which led them to grant such permission. Overweight shall be calculated from the weight allotted to the Horse in the race after deduction from this weight of any allowance which the Rider may be entitled to claim.
- (e) A Rider shall not weigh out or attempt to weigh out for, or ride or attempt to ride in, any race under these Regulations with stirrup irons which are not approved by the Directors of the IHRB. Only stirrup irons which have been manufactured from aluminium, carbon fibre, steel, technopolymer or titanium may be used.
- (f) When a race is divided, the following provisions shall be observed:

If an Owner or Handler shall have two or more Horses declared as runners or left in the race at the time at which the division is made such Horses shall, so far as is possible, be placed in different divisions of the race, and the division in which each of such Horses shall be placed shall be determined by lot.

The remainder of the Horses declared as runners for the race or left in at the time at which the division is made shall be divided between the different divisions of the race, such divisions to be determined by lot.

- (g) A Rider, from the time of weighing out to the time of weighing in, shall not use or be in possession of any timepiece, electronic appliance or optical instrument unless permission has been granted by the Directors of the INHSC.
- (iii) A declared runner shall not be withdrawn without permission of the Acting Stewards. Should the Acting Stewards not be satisfied with the explanation offered, they will deal with the matter in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 22.

- (iv) Prior to each race, Horses which are about to run therein shall parade in the parade ring at a reasonable time before the signal to mount is given. The number to be worn by each Horse shall be clearly displayed by means of the number cloth.

- 25.** (i) Every Rider must be weighed for a specific Horse by the Clerk of the Scales at the appointed place, not less than a quarter of an hour before the time fixed for the race wearing the colours printed on the racecard to be carried by that Horse or such altered colours as have been permitted by the Acting Stewards at not less than the correct weight they should carry in the race, and the numbers shall then be exhibited without delay. In exceptional cases the Acting Stewards may extend the time allowed for weighing or declaring weight.
- (ii) Every Horse running in a Race shall carry a number cloth bearing a number corresponding with its number on the racecard. The number cloth must be presented to the Clerk of the Scales at the time of weighing out and prior to weighing in shall be returned to the person appointed to receive it.

When saddling Horses, number cloths should be placed over the lead cloth to ensure the number is clearly visible.

When a Horse wears a sheet or rug in the parade ring, such sheet or rug shall be so adjusted that the number cloth is visible.

The Handler is responsible to ensure the correct number is worn and that the number is clearly visible. Failure to comply with this Regulation shall not disqualify a Horse but the Handler responsible may be liable to sanction at the discretion of the Acting Stewards.

- 26.** When a Rider has been declared for a specified Horse, no change of Rider may be made after the time laid down in Regulation 24 (ii) (a) (i) without the permission of the Acting Stewards.
- 27.** (i) A Horse shall not run in blinkers, eye cover, eye shield or visor. Any Horse which runs in contravention of this Regulation shall be disqualified in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 47 and the Handler shall be liable to sanction under the provisions of Regulation 22.
- (ii) A Horse may run in a Hood and/or Sheepskin Cheek Pieces.
- 28.** No whip or substitute for a whip, bridle, rings, plates or anything worn on a Horse's legs, cap or helmet, Hood, Sheepskin Cheek Pieces, Tongue Strap, muzzle, martingale, breastplate or number cloth shall be allowed in the scales either in weighing out or weighing in.

29. (i) The weight structure in Point to Point Steeplechases shall include a 3lbs allowance for a Rider's body protector and shall read as follows:

Maiden Races:	4yo:	11st 11lbs.
	5yo and upwards:	12st 2lbs.

Maiden Races confined to Mares:	11st 11lbs.
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Ladies Races:	11st 11lbs.
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Opens and Winners Races:	4yo:	11st 11lbs.
	5yo and upwards:	12st 2lbs.

Mares shall be allowed 5lbs in all races with the exception of races confined to mares.

- (ii) There shall be no penalties in Point to Point Steeplechases.

Starting

30. (i) The starter, or their authorised substitute, must satisfy themselves that the correct number of declared runners as displayed on the racecard for each race is present at the start and they shall give all instructions necessary for securing a fair start.
- (ii) Races must be started by a flyaway tape mechanism, and in the event of malfunction or other difficulty, the starter may use a red flag.
- (iii) The flyaway tape mechanism shall be attached to a solid fixture alongside the starter's rostrum and shall not be handheld.
- (iv) The starter shall direct that the Horses be positioned, at such reasonable distance behind the marker poles as the starter thinks necessary.
- (v) The starter shall instruct that all runners line up behind the marker poles and shall ask the Riders to move forward at a walk and in a controlled manner through the marker poles before a start is effected.
- (vi) The starter has power to direct that any unruly Horse be removed and placed at such a distance to one side of, or behind the other runners, that it cannot gain any advantage itself, or cause a danger to, or prejudice the chances of other Horses and Riders engaged in the race.
- (vii) Permission may be given by the starter for a Horse to be held and lead in, or the starter may themselves order an unruly Horse to be held and lead in.

- (viii) The starter has power to order or to allow a Horse to be withdrawn if in their opinion it is unfit to race. If any unruly Horse unduly delays the start or refuses to come into line or in the opinion of the starter may present or cause danger to other Horses or Riders or prejudice their chances, the starter may order such Horse to be withdrawn, if withdrawn, it shall be deemed not to have started and the behaviour shall be reported to the Acting Stewards.
- (ix) Should the tapes be broken by a Horse or its Rider or should the starter consider for whatever reason that a fair start has not been effected, they shall declare it a false start and they shall signal this by waving a red flag and communicating such by radio communication to the Fence Marshalls positioned at each fence. On this signal the Fence Marshalls shall raise and wave an orange flag to denote a false start. The Riders shall thereupon return to the start. The starter's decision as to the fairness of the start shall be final.
- (x) If a start shall be declared a "false start" by the starter, the Horses shall be started again as soon as practicable. In the event of any Horse completing a circuit of the course from a start declared to be a "false start" the Horse shall by order of the Acting Stewards be withdrawn from the race.

Note: Completing a circuit of the course shall be determined as a Horse having jumped all of the fences in the first circuit.

- (xi) In all races a Rider shall not:
 - (a) Proceed past the marker poles positioned at the start or attempt to line up or take a position for the start before being instructed to do so by the starter.
 - (b) Put a Horse into a trot or canter with a view to taking any advantage before the race is started.
 - (c) Turn or face their Horse backwards from the starting line, having been instructed by the starter to come forward.
 - (d) Hang behind the other runners unless they have informed the starter that a Horse is to be "dropped in".
- (xii) In all races a Rider shall:
 - (a) Take all reasonable measures to take part in the race when it has been started.
 - (b) Comply with any instruction from the starter.
 - (c) Comply with the orange flag signal from the Fence Marshalls denoting a false start.

The Acting Stewards shall impose a penalty in accordance with the penalty guidelines as approved by the Directors of the IHRB for any breaches of this Regulation.

Starter

31. The starter shall:

- be clearly identified with an orange bib
- mount the rostrum after the runners have arrived at the start
- ensure that the starting tape mechanism is in place when all runners have arrived at the start
- inform all Riders concerning the procedure for effecting a fair start
- have at least one assistant who can attend to the needs of Horses and Riders
- not be involved in tightening girths
- ensure that coloured marker poles are positioned a reasonable distance back from the starting tape mechanism
- alert Riders that the area between the marker poles and starting tape mechanism shall be considered out of bounds until they call the runners forward at a walk and in a controlled manner to effect a fair start.

The Acting Stewards shall impose a sanction in accordance with the penalty guidelines as approved by the Directors of the IHRB, should a Rider be found to have entered this area prior to being called forward by the starter.

Running

32. (i) When interference has been caused by:

- (a) Dangerous riding in any part of a race the Horse shall, on an objection under Regulation 47 which under Rule 264 includes a Stewards Enquiry, be disqualified and the placings amended.
- (b) Careless or improper riding or by accident in any part of a race the Horse shall, on an objection under Regulation 47 which under Rule 264 includes a Stewards Enquiry, be placed behind the Horse or Horses with which it has interfered if the Acting Stewards are satisfied that the interference improved its placing in relation to the Horse or Horses with which it interfered. If they are not so satisfied, they shall overrule the objection and order that the placings shall remain unaltered.

With regard to (b) above, when deciding whether they are so satisfied the Acting Stewards shall make no allowance for any ground which the incident may have cost the Horse causing the interference.

- (ii) For the purpose of the application of (i) (b) the placing of a Horse interfered with shall be that decided by the Judge.
- (iii) The Rider of any Horse who, in the opinion of the Acting Stewards has been guilty of dangerous, careless or improper riding at any time whilst on the racecourse and whether before or after any race shall be guilty of an offence.
- (iv) For the purpose of this Regulation the following definitions apply:

1. Dangerous Riding

A Rider is guilty of dangerous riding if they cause serious interference by:

- (a) purposely interfering with another Horse or Rider, or
- (b) riding in a way which is far below that of a competent and careful Rider and where it would be obvious to such a competent and careful Rider that riding in that way was likely to endanger the safety of another Horse or Rider.

2. Careless riding

A Rider is guilty of careless riding if they fail to take reasonable steps to avoid causing interference or cause interference by inattention or misjudgement.

3. Improper riding

Improper riding covers cases of improper use of the whip or striking other Riders or Horses and may also include other forms of misconduct in the course of riding such as riding that would be dangerous as defined above but for the fact that it did not cause serious interference.

- 33.** (i) (a) If the Horse runs the wrong side of a direction post, flag or doll, or misses a fence its Rider shall turn back and ride the course correctly from such point or they shall pull up.

They shall not otherwise continue in the race, nor shall they rejoin the race during a later circuit of races run over more than one circuit of the course. Any Horse doing so shall be disqualified and its Rider reported to the Acting Stewards.

- (b) During the running of a race a Rider who has parted company with their mount at an obstacle or at any other section of the course shall not re-mount and continue to race. Should they do so, the Horse shall be disqualified on objection in accordance with Regulation 47, the placings amended, and

the Rider shall be liable to sanction by the Acting Stewards or the Referrals Committee.

- (c) In courses where fences are constructed out of line with existing boundaries the spaces between the fences shall be considered as fields or enclosures for the purpose of these Regulations.

(ii)

- (a) If a Horse refuses any fence in a race, the Rider shall not continue to race. If they do so, the Horse shall be disqualified on objection in accordance with Regulation 47, the placings amended, and the Rider shall be liable to sanction by the Acting Stewards or the Referrals Committee.

- (b) A Rider must pull up their Horse whenever it is lame or injured, it has no more to give or has tailed off through fatigue or has a problem which is materially affecting its performance. A Rider found by the Acting Stewards to be in breach of this Regulation shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).

- (iii) If a race has been run by all the Horses over a wrong course or distance, it shall be void provided always that the Acting Stewards for special cause may declare the race valid.

- (iv) When a warning disc has been placed in a fence in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 20, the fence shall not be jumped and any Horse doing so shall be disqualified on objection in accordance with Regulation 47, the placings amended, and the Rider shall be liable to sanction by the Acting Stewards or the Referrals Committee.

When a situation arises at a fence which causes the Fence Marshalls, for reason of safety, to direct the runners to by-pass the fence on the side which has not been designated for by-passing, the side originally designated for by-passing shall be deemed to be a wrong course and any Horse which bypasses on that side will be disqualified on objection in accordance with Regulation 47, the placings amended, and the Rider shall be liable to sanction by the Acting Stewards or the Referrals Committee.

Fence Marshalls shall decide on what action to take in such an emergency situation.

- (v) Every Horse which runs in a race shall be run on its merits and the Rider of every Horse shall take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that their Horse is given a full opportunity to win or of obtaining the best possible place.

- (vi) Mares shall not be allowed to run in a Point to Point Steeplechase after 120 days of pregnancy. A breach of this Regulation shall be deemed an offence, and the Handler shall be liable to sanction by the Referrals Committee.
- (vii) When a pink and yellow flag is raised during the course of a race, it shall signal the race to be stopped in the interest of safety and the race shall be declared void. Any Rider who ignores the stop race flag shall be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).

Walking Over

- 34.** In walking over for a race, in no case shall it be necessary for a Horse to “walk-over” the entire course, but if at the time fixed for weighing out only one Horse shall have been weighed out, that Horse shall be ridden past the Judge’s podium and shall then be deemed the winner.

Dead Heats

- 35.** When Horses run a dead-heat, the dead-heat shall not be run off.
- 36.** Each Horse that divides a prize for first place shall be deemed a winner.
- 37.** When two Horses run a dead-heat for first place all prizes to which the first and second Horses would be entitled to, shall be divided equally between them, and this principle shall be observed in dividing the prizes whatever the number of dead-heaters.
- 38.** Deleted.
- 39.** If the dividing Owners cannot agree as to which of them is to have a cup or other prize, which cannot be divided, the question shall be determined by lot, by the Acting Stewards, who shall decide what sum of money shall be paid by the Owner who takes such cup or other indivisible prize to the other Owner or Owners.

Weighing In

- 40.** Immediately after pulling up, the Riders of the Horses placed by the Judge in each race must ride their Horses to the place appointed for unsaddling which should be as near as possible to the weigh in area. The other Riders may dismount within a reasonable distance.
- 41.** Every Rider including those who have failed to finish the race, must present themselves to be weighed by the Clerk of the Scales at once and must bring with them to the scales everything that the Horse has carried in the entirety of the race except as provided in Regulation 28.

- 42.** When the Riders have weighed in to the satisfaction of the Clerk of the Scales at not less than the weight at which they weighed out, except for the allowance under Regulation 44 (i), the Acting Stewards shall authorise the Winner All Right announcement on the public address system and/or by any other means available.

Provided they shall not authorise this until:

- (a) The period allowed for objections, under Regulation 47, has lapsed.
- (b) Any objections which may have been lodged on grounds mentioned in Regulation 47 have been decided.
- (c) No objection on any grounds other than those mentioned in Regulation 47 shall be entertained prior to the Winner All Right announcement. After the Winner All Right announcement has been made, no alteration shall be made to the winner or placed Horses.

When an objection has been lodged, an announcement should be made on the public address system stating briefly the grounds of the objection and when an objection has been determined the Acting Stewards decision shall be announced.

- (d) Handlers (or their representatives) who have had runners in a race and Riders who have ridden in a race, must remain at the Point to Point Meeting and be available to the Acting Stewards until 10 minutes after the Winner All Right announcement has been made unless permission has been granted by the Acting Stewards.
- 43.** (i) Should a Rider be too ill to weigh in, their Horse shall not be disqualified on that account, provided that the Rider weighed out at not less than their proper weight.
- (ii) Any Rider who has parted company with their mount at an obstacle or at any other section of the course during the running of a race shall report as soon as possible to the IHRB Medical Officer. Failure to do so shall leave the Rider subject to sanction by the Acting Stewards or the Referrals Committee.
- 44.** (i) If a Rider cannot draw the weight at which they weighed out, the Clerk of the Scales shall allow the Rider 2lbs. If the Rider cannot then draw the weight, the Horse will be disqualified, and the placings amended.
- (ii) A Rider who weighs in at more than 4lbs above the correct weight shall be reported to the Acting Stewards and may be subject to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v). A Horse shall not be disqualified from a race in respect of any overweight carried.
 - (iii) If a Rider does not present themselves to weigh in, their Horse shall be disqualified, and the placings amended, unless they can satisfy

the Acting Stewards that there were justifiable reasons for such failure to present and provided that the Rider weighed out at not less than their proper weight.

The Acting Stewards shall impose a sanction in accordance with the penalty guidelines as approved by the Directors of the IHRB for any breaches of this Regulation.

- (iv) If a Horse carries less than the weight it should carry in accordance with the conditions of the race, it shall on an objection under Regulation 48 be disqualified and the placings amended.

Objections

- 45.** Objections shall be determined by the Acting Stewards and their decision shall be subject to appeal to the Appeals Body, so far as it relates to points involving the interpretation of these Regulations and Rules, or to any question other than a question of fact, on which there shall be no appeal, unless by consent of the Directors of the IHRB.
- 46.** Every objection shall be in writing and must be accompanied by a deposit of €100 and must be signed by the Owner, Handler or the Rider of some Horse engaged in the race, and must, in cases coming under Regulation 47 be made to the Clerk of the Scales and in other cases to The Registrar of the INHSC.

An objection may also be made without deposit by an Acting Steward or an Official of a Point to Point Meeting in their official capacity.

- 47.** An objection to a Horse on the grounds:
 - (a) of interference; or
 - (b) of the Horse not having run the proper course; or
 - (c) that an incorrect Horse ran; or
 - (d) of any other matter occurring during the running of a race; or
 - (e) of any matter specified in Regulation 33 (i)(b), (ii)(a) or 44 (iii); or
 - (f) that the Rider could not draw the weight at which they weighed out in accordance with Regulation 44 (i)

must be made at or before the Riders of the winner and placed Horses have weighed in, or before the Acting Stewards have authorised the Winner All Right announcement unless under special circumstances the Acting Stewards are satisfied that it could not have been made within that time.

48. An objection must be made within one month after the conclusion of the Point to Point Meeting on the grounds:

- (i) (a) of mis-statement, omission or error in the entry under which a Horse has run; or
- (b) that the weight at which a Rider weighed out was less than the correct weight; or
- (c) that the Horse or Rider was not qualified under the conditions of the race; or
- (d) that the Judge made an error in the placing of any Horse in a race

An objection must be made within two years after the conclusion of the Point to Point Meeting on the grounds:

- (e) that the Horse which ran was not the Horse or of the age which it was represented to be at the time of entry; or
- (f) that the Horse has run in contravention of the Regulations relating to Unrecognised Meetings and suspension from running; or
- (g) that at time of running the Horse was ineligible to be entered or run in any race; or
- (h) that the Horse or its Owner was disqualified by reason of any default entered in the Forfeit List.

An objection under Regulation 48 (i) may not be made until after the Winner All Right announcement has been made.

Pending the determination of an objection, any prize which the Horse objected to may have won or may win in the race, shall be withheld until the objection be determined.

- (ii) All objections under Regulation 48 must be made to The Registrar of the INHSC.
- (iii) An objection on any other ground not specified in the foregoing section of this Regulation, must be made within one month of the race being run, save in the case of fraud, when there shall be no limit to the time for objection, provided the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body are satisfied there has been no unnecessary delay on the part of the objector in the making of the objection.

49. When an objection is made by an Official under Regulation 48 (i) it shall be made without deposit and, when made by a Senior Racing Official under these Regulations and Rules, the matter shall be referred directly to the Referrals Committee.

Appeals

- 50.** The decision of the Acting Stewards on any matter may be the subject of an appeal to the Appeals Body by any Owner, Handler or Rider of any Horse running in the race or any person dealt with by, or making a complaint to, the Acting Stewards.

Notice of appeal, accompanied by a deposit of €500 and giving the specific reasons for the appeal signed by the appellant, must be given within 48 hours of the decision to The Registrar of the INHSC. Such appeal shall be by way of a full-rehearing and the decision of the Appeals Body shall be final.

The Appeals Body may confirm or reverse the decision of the Acting Stewards wholly or partly as they think fit but they cannot increase any penalty imposed beyond the limits imposed on the Acting Stewards of a meeting under Regulation 22.

Prizes

- 51.** The Clerk of the Course shall pay over the prizes to the persons entitled on receipt of the grant payment from Horse Racing Ireland.

Handicaps

- 52.** No race at a Point to Point Meeting shall be a handicap.

Postponements

- 53.** If, owing to the weather, the state of the ground or other circumstances, a Point to Point Meeting cannot be held on the allotted day, a certificate signed by two Acting Stewards and the Clerk of the Course, setting out the reason shall at once be forwarded to the Office of the INHSC and a new date may be applied for.

Schooling

- 54.** (i) Fences and other obstacles shall not be jumped prior to the start of any race. The Rider of any Horse so doing shall be fined not less than €200 or be liable to sanction in accordance with Regulation 22 (v).
- (ii) Post-race schooling at a Point to Point Meeting on a Point to Point Raceday is prohibited.
- (iii) Only races approved by the Directors of the INHSC may take place at a Point to Point Meeting on a Point to Point Raceday.

55. Breast Plate/Breast Girth

All Horses running in Point to Point Steeplechases must be properly fitted with a breast plate or breast girth. Any case of a Horse running in contravention of this Regulation will result in the Handler being fined €75. The Horse shall not be disqualified.

56. Deleted

57. Riders Declared Unfit to Ride

1. All Riders, with riding engagements at a Point to Point Meeting who are on the Alert Sheet should be cleared by the Chief Medical Officer in advance of being declared to ride and must present themselves to the IHRB Medical Officer on duty for clearance prior to their first ride on the Raceday.
2. A Rider on the Alert Sheet shall not present themselves to be weighed out for or ride in any Point to Point Steeplechase until they have been examined and declared fit to ride by the Chief Medical Officer or an IHRB Medical Officer.
3. If a Rider suffers a fall or is injured in any way they must present to the IHRB Medical Officer before being weighed out for any subsequent race or before leaving the Point to Point Meeting. If through confirmed incapacity the Rider cannot do this the IHRB Medical Officer will make alternative arrangements for recording details of the injury suffered.
4. For certain injuries or other medical conditions, a medical report from a medical specialist may be required to be submitted to the Chief Medical Officer before the Chief Medical Officer can make an assessment as to the fitness of the Rider to resume race riding.
5. If a Rider is of the opinion that they are fit to resume riding before the date specified by the Chief Medical Officer, other than in cases of concussion, an application may be made to the Chief Medical Officer for the matter to be referred for an independent medical opinion.
6. As the result of illness, injury or accident a Rider may be restricted from riding in races until a stated period has elapsed, following a recommendation to that effect by the Chief Medical Officer or an IHRB Medical Officer to the Acting Stewards and a Rider shall not be permitted to ride until such time as the Chief Medical Officer has confirmed medical clearance. On such date that the Rider is deemed fit to ride their name will be removed from the Alert Sheet.
7. Special protocols for dealing with concussion are set out below:
 - (a) Whenever a Rider suffers a suspected concussion, the IHRB Medical Officer in attendance at the racecourse or at the Point to Point Meeting will carry out a standardised medical assessment.
 - (b) If a diagnosis of concussion is made the IHRB Medical Officer will report the matter to the Acting Stewards. The Acting Stewards shall restrict the Rider from riding in accordance with Rule 14 (i) (d). The Rider may present themselves for a two part post-concussion evaluation but

only after a minimum six day period has elapsed, such period commencing on and from the day of the diagnosis. The report from the post-concussion evaluation will be sent to the Chief Medical Officer

- (c) If the Neuro-psychological tests are judged by the testing psychologist to be abnormal (i.e. a failure to return to baseline levels in those with a baseline test or a significant deviation from age and education related norms in those without a baseline test) or if a Rider fails the sports physician assessment, then the Rider will be restricted from riding by the Chief Medical Officer until such time as the Chief Medical Officer is satisfied, following receipt of the results of further post-concussion evaluations that it is safe for the Rider to resume riding. The Rider may only present for such a test within a time frame permitted by the Chief Medical Officer. The Rider may continue to present for further post-concussion evaluations after intervals of 14 days.

8. Neuro-psychological (NP) testing

Testing must take place at IHRB approved clinics, which are at 3 regional centres and takes about 60 minutes to complete. The centres are located in private (independent) clinics or G.P. surgeries and trained nurses at each location carry out the NP testing on behalf of the IHRB. Should none of the approved clinics be operating during the Christmas/New Year or Easter periods, a Rider may arrange to have the testing carried out in the United Kingdom in a clinic approved by the IHRB and the evaluation carried out by a Clinical Neuropsychologist approved by the IHRB, who shall submit the results of the evaluation to the Chief Medical Officer. Each Rider is required to complete a computerised test as approved by the Chief Medical Officer together with a series of pen and paper tests (SCOLP, Digit Span, SDMT: Symbol Digit Modalities Test, Colour Trails, STROOP). The various tests are then evaluated by one of a team of Clinical Neuropsychologists retained by the IHRB and the results are forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer. The Rider must also present for assessment by an IHRB approved sports physician who shall report the results of such assessment to the Chief Medical Officer. The Rider will be declared fit to ride and removed from the Alert Sheet should the Chief Medical Officer be satisfied with the results of the test and assessment of the Rider.

9. Frequency of Neuro-psychological (NP) baseline testing

All persons holding a Jockey's licence, or a Qualified Riders permit will be required under this Regulation to complete the Neuro-psychological baseline test once every two years and following any diagnosis of concussion, a post-concussion evaluation. Failure to do so may result in

the suspension of the Rider's licence/permit by the Licensing Committee, following a report from the Chief Medical Officer. Notwithstanding the above requirement a person diagnosed with concussion within the two-year period will also be required to repeat the Neuro-psychological baseline test before the time of the annual renewal of the licence/permit.

10. Post-concussion evaluation

A post-concussion evaluation shall consist of a neuro-psychological test carried out in accordance with Paragraph 7 (c) above and a physical examination by a sports physician appointed by the IHRB, the results of which shall be forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer. In addition to this test and examination the Rider may be required by the Chief Medical Officer to attend for examination before a consultant neurologist or neurosurgeon.

11. Approved Clinics

Mallow - Red House Surgery
Phone - 022-21478
www.redhousefamilypractice.com

Naas - Vista Primary Care Centre
Phone - 045-848731
www.vistaprimarycare.com

Santry - Sports Surgery Clinic
Phone - 01-5262300
www.sportssurgeryclinic.com

and such other Clinics which may be approved from time to time by the IHRB.

58.**WHIPS**

A whip shall not be used in a race unless it conforms to the following specifications and has been approved in advance by the Directors of the IHRB.

1. Riders may only use an air-cushioned whip conforming to the following specifications:

- (a) the maximum length (including flap) shall not exceed 70 centimetres
- (b) there shall be no binding within 17 centimetres of the end of the flap
- (c) the minimum diameter for a whip shall be 1 centimetre
- (d) the overall weight shall not exceed 160 grams
- (e) the contact area of the shaft shall be smooth, with no protrusion or raised surface, and covered by shock absorbing material throughout its circumference such that it gives a compression factor of at least 6 millimetres
- (f) the downward vertical tip deflection, caused by a 1 kg mass located 57 centimetres from the clamped end of a riding whip, shall be between 12-15 centimetres.

2. The use of worn whips is prohibited.

3. The use of the whip in the following circumstances is prohibited:

- (a) The hitting of a Horse in front of the saddle while the whip is held in the forehand position, unless exceptional circumstances prevail.
- (b) The unnecessary hitting of a Horse after its chance of winning or being placed is clearly gone.
- (c) The unnecessary hitting of a Horse that clearly has its race won or has obtained its maximum placing.
- (d) The hitting of a Horse after the Winning Post has been reached.
- (e) The hitting of a Horse other than down the shoulder or on the hind quarters.
- (f) The hitting of a Horse with excessive force.

When determining whether or not excessive force was used by a Rider, the Acting Stewards may take into account if a Horse was marked and the manner in which the whip appears to have been used.

- (g) The hitting of a Horse with excessive frequency.

When determining whether or not the whip was used with excessive frequency the Acting Stewards shall take into account if the Rider appeared to have hit their mount with the whip 9 times or more during a race when their whip-hand had left the reins.

- (h) The use of the whip with the arm being or appearing to be above shoulder height in the opinion of the Acting Stewards.
 - (i) The use of the whip without allowing or appearing to allow their mount at least three strides to respond.
- 4. In determining whether an enquiry is required the Acting Stewards may consider the following:
 - (a) How the Rider has used the whip during the course of the entire race, with particular attention to its use in the closing stages;
 - (b) The manner in which the whip was used, including the degree of force;
 - (c) The purpose for which the whip was used.
- 5. If the Acting Stewards are satisfied that a Rider is in breach of this Regulation and/or the Acting Stewards are satisfied that riding instructions given by a Handler or an Owner(s) have contributed to a breach of these Regulations, then such persons shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Regulation 22.
- 6. The Acting Stewards shall impose a penalty in accordance with the penalty guidelines as approved by the Directors of the IHRB.
- 7. In the investigation of alleged breaches of this Regulation, it is recommended that the IHRB Veterinary Officer is asked to clinically examine the Horse.

SPURS

The use of spurs while riding at a Point to Point Meeting is prohibited.

RULES OF RACING and

IRISH NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLECHASE RULES

RULES 4, 14 (i) (c), (d), 18, 19, 19 A, 19 C, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 78, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90 (ii),(v),(vi), 91, 96, 125 (v)(c), 136, 148 (i) to (x),(xi) (a), (b), (c), (g), (h), 225, 257, 260, 264, 267, 271 to 280, 296 and 297, R7 Dope Testing of Riders and R14 Taking of Samples from Horses.

These Rules shall apply to Handlers and shall be read as if the word “Handler” appeared where the word “Trainer” appears in any part of these Rules.

4. When the last day for doing anything under these Rules falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Public Holiday it may be done on the first day thereafter that the Office of the IHRB or the Registry Office is open for general business, save as otherwise specified in these Rules.

14. (i) (c) Following a report to the Raceday Stewards pursuant to Rule 277(iii) the Rider in question shall immediately be stood down and restricted from riding on that day by the Raceday Stewards. If the concentration level is found to be in excess of 22 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath the matter shall also be referred to the Referrals Committee.

- (d) Following a report from the IHRB Medical Officer to the Raceday Stewards pursuant to Regulation R11 7(b) the Rider in question shall immediately be stood down and restricted from riding by the Raceday Stewards until certified fit to ride by the Chief Medical Officer.

18. (i) The Raceday Stewards have power to order the withdrawal of a Horse from a Race.

- (ii) They have power at any time to order an examination or test by the IHRB Veterinary Officer of any Horse declared to run on a Raceday.

If the IHRB Veterinary Officer is, for whatever reason, of the opinion that a Horse is in a condition which would preclude it from obtaining its best possible place such opinion shall be reported to the Raceday Stewards who may order the withdrawal of the Horse from the Race and/or to deal with the matter under Rule 14.

- (iii) They have power to order Samples be taken from any Horse declared to run on a Raceday. Such Samples are to be taken in substantial compliance with any regulations published by the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20(v); the current version of the relevant Regulation is Regulation 14 relating to ‘Taking of Samples from Horses’.

- (iv) The Raceday Stewards have power to refuse to allow a Horse duly entered to run in any Race.
 - (v) The Raceday Stewards may refuse to allow any Horse which has been declared to run in a Race but which has not arrived at the Racecourse at least an hour before the advertised time of the Race to run in such Race. The Trainer of any Horse withdrawn by the Raceday Stewards for this reason may be liable to sanction under Rule 14.
- 19.**
- (i) The members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be appointed by the IHRB. Members of the Disciplinary Panel may be appointed by the IHRB from time to time to a Referrals Committee or Appeals Body to conduct and determine a particular case or cases or appeal or appeals.
 - (ii) The term of appointment of all of the members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be three years unless otherwise determined by the IHRB and members may be re-appointed. Members of the Disciplinary Panel may be removed by the IHRB at any time.
 - (iii) The Disciplinary Panel may adopt such rules of procedure for the conduct of hearings at first instance and appeals as it thinks appropriate and, if such rules are in place, they shall be available to all parties.

19A. REFERRALS COMMITTEE

Powers and Appointment of the Referrals Committee

1. The members of a Referrals Committee shall be appointed by the IHRB from the Disciplinary Panel from time to time.
2. Where an issue is referred to the Referrals Committee pursuant to these Rules, the IHRB shall determine the size and composition of the Referrals Committee to hear the matter (e.g. 1, 3 or 5 persons). An uneven number must always sit at hearing and in the event of disagreement, the view of the majority shall prevail.
3. Each of the Referrals Committee members appointed to hear a matter shall (i) have had no involvement in the investigation of, or decision to proceed with, the matter and (ii) shall not have been involved as a Raceday Steward in the matter.
4. Hearings before the Referrals Committee shall be presided over by a Chairperson appointed by the IHRB.
5. The evidence at a hearing of the Referrals Committee may be recorded either by a stenographer or using electronic means and

such records may be considered by the Appeals Body at the hearing of any appeal.

6. The Referrals Committee shall have all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the performance of its function of hearing and determining all issues referred to it pursuant to these Rules, including, without limitation, the powers of the Raceday Stewards, the disciplinary powers of the Directors of IHRB and the following additional powers:
 - (i) to decide upon such matters as may be referred to it pursuant to these Rules;
 - (ii) to impose sanctions, in accordance with these Rules, including the power to (a) withdraw or suspend the licence of any person for any period of time, (b) impose a fine, for each breach of Rule, not exceeding €100,000 on any person who is subject to these Rules, (c) subject to Rule 270, suspend any person who is subject to these Rules for any period, (d) suspend a penalty or suspension or part of a penalty or suspension under such terms and conditions as it may decide and/or (e) to declare a person a Disqualified Person;
 - (iii) to provisionally or temporarily suspend the licence of any person or to suspend any Horse from running, pending the outcome of a substantive hearing, where it determines it necessary to do so to protect the integrity and/or reputation of Irish racing;
 - (iv) to accept or refuse to accept or cancel any registration under these Rules;
 - (v) when considering any matter before it, to consider in the alternative, whether the evidence and materials presented disclose a possible breach of a Rule or Rules other than the Rule or Rules initially under consideration and subject to notifying any person potentially affected and giving the person a reasonable opportunity to deal with the issue of whether there has been such a breach of a different Rule or Rules or part of a Rule, to make a finding that there was such a breach of a different Rule or Rules;
 - (vi) the power, whether on the application of a party to a hearing or of its own volition:
 - (a) to appoint an expert to assist or advise it on a specific issue or issues, such expert to be and remain impartial and independent of the parties;
 - (b) to expedite or to adjourn, postpone or suspend its proceedings, upon such terms as it shall determine, where fairness so requires;
 - (c) to extend or abbreviate any time-limit provided by these Rules or by the Referral Committee's own orders;
 - (d) to conduct such enquiries as appear necessary or expedient in order to ascertain the facts;

- (e) to direct one or more parties to supply it and/or the other party or parties with further particulars of the case of that party, including details of all witnesses that party intends to call at any hearing together with details of the evidence to be given by those witnesses and that party shall comply with that direction;
- (f) to establish a schedule for the exchange of written submissions and evidence, including witness statements and/or expert reports, in advance of the hearing or to require one or more of the parties to produce relevant documents and/or other relevant materials in the possession or control of that party, and that party shall comply with that requirement;
- (g) to order that preliminary questions be heard and determined in advance of other issues in the case;
- (h) subject to the consent of the parties, to consolidate the proceedings with other substantially similar or related proceedings and/or order that concurrent hearings be held in relation to such proceedings;
- (vii) to decide on the admissibility, relevance and weight of any evidence (including the testimony of any factual or expert witness) and in doing so shall not be bound by any legal rules in relation to such matters;
- (viii) to impose a fine not exceeding €10,000 should it decide that any complaint or objection made has been made frivolously and without good grounds by the complainant or objector;
- (ix) to suspend a Horse or Horses from running in any Race or particular Races for such period or periods as it thinks fit;
- (x) to disqualify a Horse from a Race or Races and/or to declare a Horse ineligible to be entered or run in any Race for such time as it shall determine;
- (xi) to decide on any matter that may be placed before it under the Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases.

19C. APPEALS BODY

Powers and Appointment of the Appeals Body

1. The members of an Appeals Body shall be appointed by the IHRB from the Disciplinary Panel from time to time.
2. Where an appeal is made to the Appeals Body pursuant to these Rules, the IHRB shall determine the size and composition of the Appeals Body to hear the appeal (e.g. 1, 3 or 5 persons) and shall appoint a Chairperson of the Appeals Body. An uneven number must always sit at hearing and in the event of disagreement, the view of the majority shall prevail.

3. Each of the Appeals Body members appointed by the IHRB to hear an appeal shall
 - (i) have had no involvement in the investigation of the matter, and
 - (ii) shall not have been involved in the matter as a Raceday Steward or as a member of the Referrals Committee which heard the matter.
4. The Appeals Body shall have the following jurisdiction:
 - (i) To hear and determine appeals against decisions of the Raceday Stewards, the Referrals Committee and/or the Licensing Committee;
 - (ii) In its absolute discretion to hear and adjudicate on appeals against any decision of Horse Racing Ireland exercising the Registry Office functions referred to in Section 10(2)(b) of the Irish Horseracing Industry Act 1994 as substituted by Section 5 of the Horse Racing Ireland Act 2016.
5. An appeal shall be limited to a review of the issues and evidence which were before the initial decision maker subject to the provisions of Rule 256 and/or the discretion of the Appeals Body having considered an application for a de novo hearing.
6. The Appeals Body shall have all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the performance of its function of hearing, determining and adjudicating appeals pursuant to these Rules, including, without limitation, all of the powers of the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee, the Raceday Stewards or Horse Racing Ireland as applicable with changes deemed to have been made to reflect the different context. For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeals Body shall have the power to increase, decrease, remove or suspend, in accordance with these Rules, any sanction, suspension, fine or other penalty imposed by the Referrals Committee, Licensing Committee or the Raceday Stewards, as the case may be.

20. Directors of the IHRB

Powers of the Directors of the IHRB

The Directors of the IHRB have all the powers of the Raceday Stewards and the following additional powers:

- (i) To determine before the Race Meeting whether that Race Meeting may be held having regard to:
 - (a) the safety of Horses and Riders both on and off the racetrack,

- (b) the condition in respect of safety of fences, hurdles or other obstacles on the racetrack,
 - (c) the condition of the running surface of the racetrack,
 - (d) the efficiency of the management of the Racecourse in respect of the holding of Races at that Race Meeting, and
 - (e) any other matter that might affect the safe operation of Races at the Race Meeting.
- (ii) To grant, withdraw or suspend licences to Officials and Riders, Jockeys' Valets, Authorised Riders Agents and to Trainers.
- (iii) To grant, withdraw or suspend permission to ride to Qualified Riders.
- (iv) To issue and to publish in the Irish Racing Calendar from time to time such Rules, Regulations or Notices as they may think fit.
- (v) To publish from time to time in such a manner as they deem appropriate:
 - (a) decisions of the Referrals Committee, Appeals Body, Handicapping Appeals Body or the Licensing Committee;
 - (b) a schedule of prohibited substances including any thresholds therefor and
 - (c) regulations for the taking of Samples.

The current version of which schedule ("Schedule of Prohibited Substances") is published on the IHRB website.
- (vi) To grant, withdraw or suspend licences to Racecourses.
- (vii) (a) To accept or refuse to accept entries and declarations where circumstances dictate that the intervention of the Directors of the IHRB is required and where it is in the best interest of racing to refuse to allow a Horse duly entered or declared, to run in any Race and at their discretion direct that the stake(s) be remitted to the Owner.
- (b) To declare a Race void or to sanction the reopening of a Race in the event of insufficient entries being received at the time of entry.
- (viii) To allow or refuse to allow any person to act or continue to act as an Authorised Agent, Authorised Representative, Authorised Riders' Agent or Jockey's Valet.
- (ix) To accept or refuse to accept or to cancel any registration under these Rules, notwithstanding any implications to the contrary whether contained in these Rules or elsewhere.
- (x) To prohibit any person from acting in any official capacity in connection with a Race Meeting.
- (xi) To investigate and to cause to be investigated any case which appears to them to require their intervention (whether or not referred to them by the Raceday Stewards) and decide thereon.

- (xii) To enquire into, in such manner as they shall from time to time direct, and deal with and to refer to the Referrals Committee or the Licensing Committee all or any matters which in their opinion relate directly or indirectly to racing whether such matters arise in Ireland or elsewhere.
- (xiii) To receive from time to time reports from Raceday Stewards, the Referrals or Licensing Committee or Appeals Body or Senior Racing Officials or other persons and to act and cause others to act in such a way as the Directors of the IHRB consider it necessary upon such reports.
- (xiv) (a) To impose a disqualification on any person for such period as they think fit. To refuse to grant a licence to any person or to withdraw a licence to train, licence to ride, permission to ride, licence to act as an Authorised Agent, Authorised Representative, Authorised Riders' Agent or Jockeys' Valet for such periods as they think fit and to publish by any means the period of such withdrawal, or disqualification.
- (b) To make exclusion orders pursuant to these Rules and any Statutory or other authority vested in them.
- (xv) To declare any person a Disqualified Person.
- (xvi) Generally, to exercise all or any of the powers conferred upon them by these Rules or Memorandum and Articles of Association of the IHRB or which they consider necessary for enforcing all or any of them. If any situation arises which is not governed by these Rules or the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the IHRB, the Directors of the IHRB shall have power to deal with the matter in such a manner as they consider reasonable and fair and their decision in this connection shall be final.
- (xvii)
 1. To make arrangements for any person appointed by them from time to time to enter without notice the Training Establishment of a Trainer or the establishment where a Horse is stabled during the period specified under Rule 147(iii) whilst under the care of an Overseas Trainer for the purposes of:
 - (a) inspecting facilities and premises and any relevant documentation or records to determine whether the Rules of Racing, I.N.H.S. Rules, Regulations, Instructions and Orders issued under these Rules are being complied with; and/or
 - (b) inspecting, examining or testing all Horses on the Trainer's Training Establishment or otherwise in their Care and Control whether or not such Horse has been entered for a Race or has run in a Race, which may include the taking of Samples for subsequent analysis. Such Samples are to be taken in substantial

compliance with any regulations published by the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20(v); the current version of the relevant Regulation is Regulation 14 relating to 'The Taking of Samples From Horses'.

- (c) This Rule shall apply to the Training Establishment or other premises wheresoever situated where a Horse is stabled which has been entered for a Race in Ireland.
- 2. To make arrangements for any person appointed by them from time to time to enter any location where a Horse may be found for the purposes of inspecting examining or testing such a Horse which may include the taking of Samples for subsequent analysis. Such samples are to be taken in substantial compliance with any Regulations published by the Directors of the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20(v), the current version of which is found in Regulation R14.
- (xviii) The IHRB may publish their decisions or the decisions of the Committees of the IHRB in respect of any matter within their jurisdiction or control. Such publication on the IHRB website or elsewhere shall be deemed to be sufficient notice to all parties interested in or affected by the decision. Every such decision shall, save where otherwise provided, be final and conclusive.
- (xix) To appoint members to the Disciplinary Panel, the Handicapping Appeals Body, the Licensing Committee, and any other Committee as the Directors of the IHRB shall deem necessary or appropriate;
 - (a) to adopt rules of procedure in respect of Committees as may be appointed under this Rule.
 - (b) to appoint at their discretion a Senior Racing Official to sit on a Referrals Committee.
- (xx) To appoint a Doping Control Officer. The functions of the Doping Control Officer shall be: –
 - (a) to organise the carrying out of Dope Tests;
 - (b) to organise the carrying out of a Dope Test on a specific Rider;
 - (c) to appoint persons to carry out Dope Tests or to organise Dope Tests or to assist with the carrying out or organisation of Dope Tests;
 - (d) to investigate or cause to be investigated any alleged or potential Doping Offence;
 - (e) to refer any matter relating to any alleged or potential Doping Offence to the Referrals Committee;
 - (f) to prosecute alleged Doping Offences before the Referrals Committee and Appeals Body;

- (g) to enquire into any matter the Doping Control Officer considers relevant to Doping Offences or alleged or potential Doping Offences;
- (h) to take such other action the Doping Control Officer considers appropriate to prevent the commission of a Doping Offence;
- (i) to carry out any other functions conferred on the Doping Control Officer by these Rules;
- (j) to organise the carrying out of alcohol breath tests; and
- (k) to appoint persons to carry out alcohol breath tests, and/or to organise alcohol breath tests, and/or to assist with the carrying out and/or organisation of alcohol breath tests.

The Directors of the IHRB may confer such additional functions on the Doping Control Officer as they in their discretion consider appropriate. The Doping Control Officer shall have all such powers as are necessary for or incidental to the performance of the functions of the office.

- (xxi) To publish from time to time in such a manner as they deem appropriate:
 - (a) a level of concentration of alcohol for the purposes of Rule 277(iii) and
 - (b) procedures for the conduct of alcohol breath tests.
- (xxii) To set aside a decision of the Raceday Stewards where it has become apparent that there was a material error made or where otherwise considered appropriate. Upon exercising this power, the matter may be referred to a Senior Racing Official for investigation and all affected parties shall be notified.
- (xxiii) (a) The Directors of the IHRB shall have the authority to regulate and oversee media attendance at hearings. They may establish rules governing media access, conduct, and reporting to ensure compliance with IHRB Standards, Protocols, and Guidelines. The Directors also have the power to restrict or prohibit media attendance if deemed necessary in the interest of fairness, confidentiality, or the integrity of proceedings.
- (b) Representatives of the media attending hearings must comply with the IHRB Guidelines and any instructions issued by the IHRB, the Chairperson, or Directors.
- (c) Hearings of the Referrals Committee or Appeals Body shall be open to media representatives unless the Chairperson directs otherwise. When attending a hearing, the media must respect all instructions and notices as issued by the IHRB, the Chairperson or Directors. The Chairperson may also impose

restrictions on the publication of certain matters arising during the hearing.

- (d) The deliberations of Disciplinary Panels shall be conducted in private.
 - (e) All hearings shall be recorded by the IHRB, and such recordings shall remain confidential and be the sole property of the IHRB.
 - (f) Transcripts of these recordings shall not be made public. No person shall have the right to access or compel the production of a recording, copy, or transcript except where required by law, if they are an interested party, and upon payment of the relevant administrative fee.
- 21.** When a Horse has been examined or tested and Samples taken pursuant to Rule 18 or to Rule 20(xvii) and such examination or test or an analysis of such Samples shows the presence of a Prohibited Substance as set out in the Schedule of Prohibited Substances, the IHRB shall have the power to refuse to allow the Horse to run if duly entered in any Race until the decision of the Referrals Committee.
- 22.** (i) The IHRB shall be entitled to modify, suspend or delete any Rule or Regulation or to introduce any new Rule or Regulation for such period or periods as deemed necessary without advance notice. Any such action under this Rule shall be published on the IHRB website or elsewhere.
- (ii) The Directors of the IHRB may enlarge or abridge any of the times fixed by these Rules or Regulations issued pursuant to these Rules for the taking of any step or the doing of any act and may also declare any step taken or any act done to be sufficient, even though not taken or done within the time or in the manner prescribed by these Rules or any Rules or Regulations for the time being in force and the Directors of the IHRB may direct that non-compliance with any of the Rules or Regulation in force shall not render what was done or not done void.
- 23.** The Directors of the IHRB take no cognisance of any disputes or claims with respect to bets.
- 26.** The Directors of the IHRB may delegate to Senior Racing Officials any investigative or administrative but not executive powers, including the power to refer to and present cases before the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee and the Appeals Body.

Appeals against Decisions

- 27.** (i) If it appears to the IHRB that a sanction imposed was unduly lenient or if no sanction was imposed, following a finding of a breach of Rule either by:
- (a) the Raceday Stewards on a Raceday, they may apply to the Referrals Committee to review the sanction or the decision not to impose a sanction, or
 - (b) the Licensing Committee or by the Referrals Committee they may apply to the Appeals Body to review the sanction or the decision not to impose a sanction.
- (ii) On the review of a sanction or in the case where no sanction was imposed for a breach of Rule the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, shall be entitled where it considers the sanction imposed to be too lenient or where no sanction was imposed to:
- (a) impose a greater sanction than that originally imposed, or
 - (b) impose a sanction where no sanction was imposed, or
 - (c) confirm the sanction or the decision not to impose a sanction if it is satisfied that the sanction originally imposed or the decision not to impose a sanction was correct.
- Any sanction imposed by the Referrals Committee, or the Appeals Body under this Rule shall be one which could have been imposed at the original hearing.
- (iii) If it appears to the IHRB that new evidence is available which was not presented to the hearing in a case where no breach of the Rules was found:
- (a) by the Raceday Stewards on a Raceday, they may ask the Referrals Committee to conduct a fresh hearing in the matter at which such new evidence shall be adduced, or
 - (b) by the Referrals Committee, they may ask the Appeals Body to conduct a fresh hearing in the matter at which such new evidence shall be adduced.
- (iv) In a case where new evidence is being adduced:
- (a) the Referrals Committee, on finding that a breach of the Rules has occurred, may impose a sanction which could have been imposed by the Raceday Stewards at the original hearing, or
 - (b) the Appeals Body, on finding that a breach of the Rules has occurred, may impose a sanction which could have been imposed, as the case may be, by the Raceday Stewards or the Referrals Committee.
- (v) An application under paragraph (i) of this Rule shall be made on written notice to the person on whom the sanction, or no sanction, was imposed within 14 days, or in the case of paragraph (iii) within

3 months, from the day on which the decision was made at the enquiry by the Raceday Stewards, or as the case may be, by the Licensing Committee or Referrals Committee.

- (vi) The Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body may refuse an application to review a sanction or a decision not to impose a sanction or a failure to find that a breach of the Rules had been committed.
- (vii) Where it appears to the IHRB that the Raceday Stewards may have erred by not making a finding of breach or by finding no breach had been committed, a Senior Racing Official may investigate and refer the matter to the Referrals Committee, or the Licensing Committee as deemed appropriate.

Steeplechases for Hunters

- 78.**
- (i) In all cases where the conditions of Steeplechases require as a qualification that a Hunters Certificate be Registered at the Office of the IHRB, then the registration of such Certificate on the prescribed form issued by the Stewards of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Committee, signed by a Master of a recognised Pack of Hounds, or persons appointed by the Master, must be lodged at the Office of the IHRB with the appropriate fee for registration and publication in the Irish Racing Calendar.
 - (ii) The name of the person authorised by the appointed Master to sign Certificates shall be notified to the IHRB together with a specimen signature of that person.
 - (iii) A Horse that has run in a Race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechase, Point to Point Steeplechase, Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after 1st September and before 1st December shall not be qualified to run in a Steeplechase confined to Horses with a valid Hunters Certificate, from the date of running in such Race up to 25th December.
 - (iv) A Horse that has run in a Race under any Rules of Racing or Steeplechasing (Hunters Steeplechase, Point to Point Steeplechase, Private Sweepstakes excluded) on or after 1st December shall not be qualified to run in a Steeplechase confined to Horses with a valid Hunters Certificate, from the date of running in such Race up to the first Monday in June of the following year.

Passports

- 85.**
- (i) Trainers shall ensure that Passports shall accompany the Horse at all times.
 - (ii) The Passport is not a deed of ownership.

- (iii) The Passport must be readily available for inspection by the IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant upon request.
- (iv) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any Horse to enter Racecourse Property on a designated Raceday unless the Trainer has available for inspection by the IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant, a valid Passport and vaccination certificate endorsed in accordance with Rule 91 by a Veterinary Surgeon (who is neither the Owner nor the Trainer of the Horse) or by a Turf Authority stating that the Horse has received the vaccinations required in accordance with these Rules.
- (v) The Trainer is responsible for confirming that the equine influenza vaccination certification of the Horse is up to date and completely recorded in the Passport whether digital or paper and endorsing same accordingly.
- (vi) Each recipient of a Horse must immediately check the identity of the Horse from the markings contained in the Passport and any other relevant information. This must be undertaken on each occasion that a Horse and Passport are received.

Discrepancies must be reported immediately to the Racing/Stud Book Authority (as appropriate) of the country in which the Horse is currently resident.
- (vii) The Passport must contain records of all vaccinations.
- (viii) The Passport of each Horse on the Trainer's Training Establishment or otherwise in their Care and Control, must be returned to the Racing/Stud Book Authority (as appropriate) of the country in which the Horse is currently resident when the Horse:
 - (a) is gelded; or
 - (b) its appearance is significantly different to the passport description (e.g. coat colour, white markings etc.); or
 - (c) dies
 along with notification of the relevant change.
- (ix) The Passport is invalidated if the seal (spine) is damaged or broken. In this event the Trainer must make immediate contact with the Racing Authority/Stud Book Authority (as appropriate) of the country in which the Horse is currently resident.
- (x) The loss of a Passport must be notified immediately to the Racing Authority/Stud Book Authority (as appropriate) of the country in which the Horse is currently resident.

Registration of Names of Horses

- 86.** (i) (a) A Horse shall not be qualified to start for any Race under these Rules until it has been duly named and registered in accordance with this Rule and in compliance with HRI Directive 16 and not before the Monday following registration of the name, except when the name has previously been registered in Great Britain.
- (b) HRI maintains a register of racehorse names for the administration of Horse racing in Ireland. The conditions and particulars of Horse naming and maintenance thereafter are outlined in HRI Directive 16.
- (ii) A name or, by permission of the Directors of the IHRB, a change of, or cancellation of name, can only be registered by application to the Registry Office on the prescribed form.
- (iii) Application to register a name for any Horse domiciled outside Ireland must be made to the Racing or Stud Book Authority of the relevant country.
- (iv) When a name is registered for a Horse foaled outside Ireland a letter code will be added to denote the country of origin.
- (v) If the same name be simultaneously claimed for two or more Horses the order of priority shall be determined by lot at the Registry Office.
- (vi) A name may not be changed or cancelled for any Horse:
- (a) Whose name has been registered by any recognised Turf Authority, except with the permission of that Turf Authority, or
- (b) Which has run under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority, or has run in a Point to Point Steeplechase, or
- (c) Which has been registered either as a Broodmare or as a Stallion in the General Stud Book or in Weatherbys Non-Thoroughbred Register or in the Stud Book or Non-Thoroughbred Register of any recognised Turf Authority.
- (vii) For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that an application to register the name of any Horse will be refused unless it and its sire and dam are each the produce of a natural service or covering and unless a natural gestation took place in and delivery was from the body of the mare in which the foal was conceived and if a name is registered for a Horse produced by other means the registration shall be void.

Qualification of Horses

- 87. (i)** A Horse is not qualified to be entered or run for any Race:
- (a) Unless it and its sire and dam are each the produce of a natural service or covering and unless a natural gestation took place in, and delivery was from, the body of the mare in which the Horse was conceived.
 - (b) If and so long as it is in the ownership or part ownership of a Disqualified Person, or so long as any Disqualified Person has any interest in such Horse's winnings in such Race (except as under Rule 89).
 - (c) If and so long as it is in the stable of, or under the care and management of a Disqualified Person, but when such a person incurs disqualification under Rule 167 (Forfeit List) the Horse shall be qualified to be entered or run until 14 days have elapsed from the date of publication in the Forfeit List.
 - (d) If and so long as it is:
 - (i) in the Forfeit List, or
 - (ii) in the Official Forfeit List or list of Arrears officially notified by a Turf Authority of any country.
 - (e) If the conditions exclude the Horse from the Race.
 - (f) Scheduled to be run during any period for which the Horse has been restricted from running by the Raceday Stewards, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body.
- (ii)** A Horse is not qualified to start for any Race:
- (a) If a vaccine has been administered within the previous seven days. For the avoidance of doubt there must be six clear days between vaccination and Raceday.
 - (b) If a tracheostomy procedure has been performed within the previous 7 days. For the avoidance of doubt there must be 6 clear days between the procedure and Raceday.
 - (c) If an intra-articular injection of glucocorticoids has been administered within the previous 15 days. For the avoidance of doubt there must be 14 clear days between the injection and Raceday.
 - (d) If it has been administered any substance (by injection, orally or any other method) other than normal feed and water offered by mouth from midnight of the day of the Race Meeting unless an IHRB Veterinary Officer grants a special dispensation.
 - (e) If it has been the subject of a neurectomy operation.
 - (f) If it has been administered any bisphosphonate
 - (i) on the day of the Race or on any of the thirty days before the day of the Race in which the Horse is declared to run.

- (ii) and/or if it is less than 4 years of age, with age being taken from the 1st January and foaled on or after the 1st January 2020.
 - (g) It is trained by an unlicensed person or following the running of a Race is found to have been trained by an unlicensed person when running in such Race.
 - (h) If the Rider nominated to ride is not qualified according to the conditions of the Race or following the running of a Race the Horse is found to have been ridden by a person not qualified to ride in such Race.
 - (i) Unless it is currently registered with Weatherbys Ireland within the meaning of the 2014 Regulations and in compliance with Rule 88(i) or in the case of any Horse which is trained outside of Ireland registered with the relevant Stud Book Authority.
- 88.**
- (i) An Owner of any Horse shall ensure that the registration of such Horse with Weatherbys Ireland is kept up to date and that on the occasion of any change of ownership the Statutory Equine (Transfer of Ownership) Form prescribed by the 2014 Regulations is completed and lodged with Weatherbys Ireland within 30 days of such change.
 - (ii) An Owner shall ensure that any Horse which that person owns is kept at all times at a Registered Equine Premises and shall on request from the IHRB furnish the Equine Premises Registration Number of the premises where such Horse is being kept.
 - (iii) It shall be a breach of this Rule for any person to knowingly provide inaccurate or misleading information concerning the location of a Horse to the IHRB or any person appointed by them to investigate such matter.

Identification

- 90.**
- (ii) The Trainer is responsible for having checked that the markings of the Horse are accurately and completely recorded in the Passport and endorsing the Passport accordingly.
 - (v) If the Horse can be positively identified but there are discrepancies in the markings as recorded in the Passport, the Trainer shall have thirty (30) days to update the Passport. If the discrepancies have not been corrected to the satisfaction of an IHRB Veterinary Officer/Assistant by the expiration of the thirty (30) day period, the Horse shall not be eligible to start until the Passport has been corrected to the satisfaction of an IHRB Veterinary Officer/Assistant.
 - (vi) No Trainer shall present a Horse to Race where the Horse in question is not the Horse identified in the passport and/or is not the Horse declared to run for the Race in question.

Equine Influenza Vaccinations

- 91.** (i) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any Horse, including a companion Horse or a lead Horse, to enter Racecourse Property on a designated Raceday unless it is certified by a Veterinary Surgeon as vaccinated against equine influenza in accordance with the following:
- (1) A primary course of vaccination which shall comprise:
 - (a) First vaccination; and
 - (b) Second vaccination between 21 and 60 days after the first; and
 - (c) Third vaccination between 120 and 180 days after the second; or
 - (d) Any other schedule of primary vaccination which at the time of vaccination was deemed compliant by the IHRB and/or another Turf Authority.
 - (2) Booster equine influenza vaccination administered within six months or at such interval(s) as the IHRB may direct.
- (ii) A Horse shall not be qualified to start if a vaccine has been administered within the previous seven days. For the avoidance of doubt there must be six clear days between vaccination and Raceday.
- (iii) Notwithstanding the provisions contained in this Rule a Horse may run in a Race before receiving the third vaccination of the primary course.
- (v) Vaccinations shall only be administered and certified by a registered Veterinary Surgeon.
- (vi) Once a Horse is in a Trainer's Care and Control, vaccinations may not be administered nor certified by a Veterinary Surgeon who has an involvement in the Horse as an Owner (including Company Ownership, Racing Syndicate or Racing Club), Trainer or Handler.
- (vii) In exceptional circumstances where it is not possible to update the vaccination certification in the Passport and with the prior permission of the CVO, written confirmation of vaccination status in accordance with Rule 91 may be accepted from a Veterinary Surgeon or a Turf Authority.
- (viii) The Trainer is responsible for ensuring compliance with this Rule for all Horses under their care and control.

Adverse Analytical Findings in Equines

- 96.** (i) When a Horse has been examined or tested and Samples taken pursuant to Rule 18 and such examination or test or an analysis of such Samples shows the presence of any Prohibited Substance, unless the concentration of the Prohibited Substance is below the threshold level for that substance (if any) as set out in the Schedule of Prohibited Substances available on the IHRB website, it shall be a breach of these Rules and the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body as the case may be, shall direct that:

- the Horse be restricted from running for such time as it shall determine;
- the Horse be disqualified from the Race(s) in question, the placings amended and the stake forfeited;
- the Trainer of the Horse be fined not less than €1,000; and/or
- the Trainer's licence be withdrawn for such period as it may consider appropriate.

It shall not be a defence that the Prohibited Substance was administered under the supervision of a Veterinary Surgeon as part of a course of treatment prescribed by the Veterinary Surgeon or that the administration of the Prohibited Substance ceased at a time recommended by the Veterinary Surgeon.

- (ii) When a Horse has been examined or tested and Samples taken pursuant to Rule 20(xvii) and such examination or test or an analysis of such Samples shows the presence of any Prohibited Substance, unless the concentration of the Prohibited Substance is below the threshold level for that substance (if any) as set out in the schedule of Prohibited Substances available on the IHRB website, it shall be a breach of these Rules and the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body as the case may be, may direct that:

- the Horse be restricted from running for such time as it shall determine;
- the Trainer and/or the Owner of the Horse be fined not less than €1,000; and/or
- the Trainer's licence be withdrawn for such period as it may consider appropriate.

However, in cases where the Prohibited Substance found is:

- (a) not a Prohibited Substance which is prohibited at all times; and
- (b) can be traced to the clinical treatment of the Horse with an Authorised Medicine which has been properly recorded in the Medicines Register maintained by the Trainer and

verified in writing by the stable's Veterinary Surgeon (if applicable),
no further action shall be taken.

- (iii) When a Horse has been examined or tested and Samples taken pursuant to Rule 18 or to Rule 20(xvii) and such examination or test or an analysis of such Samples shows the presence of a Prohibited Substance which is prohibited at all times as set out in the schedule of Prohibited Substances, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, may direct that:
- the Horse be disqualified, the placings amended and the stake forfeited in relation to any Race or Races in which the Horse took part before or following the taking of such Sample and prior to the decision of the Referrals Committee, regardless of the result of a Sample or Samples taken (if any) on the day of such subsequent Race or Races;
 - the Horse be restricted from running for such time as it shall determine;
 - the Trainer and/or the Owner be fined not less than €1,000; and/or
 - the Trainer's licence be withdrawn for such period as it may consider appropriate.
- (iv) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person who
- holds a licence from the IHRB or
 - is an Owner or
 - is a Handler within the meaning of the current Regulations for Point to Point Steeplechases or
 - is a registered member of stable staff and/or a current holder of an AIR Card
- (a) to be in possession of or have on their premises or
- (b) to administer or cause or direct or permit to be administered to a Horse while under their care any of the following substances:
- Prohibited Animal Remedies as defined in the Animal Remedies Act 1993 or substances the possession of which is rendered unlawful by Regulations made under that Act or any other Statutory Instrument in particular the European Union (Veterinary Medicinal Products and Medicated Feed) Regulations 2022

- substances contained in the schedule of substances prohibited at all times as published on the IHRB website.

125. (v) (c) A Rider shall not ride on any Raceday on which they have been suspended from riding by the Raceday Stewards, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, subject to the provisions of Rule 270 or on any Raceday which coincides with a Raceday in a foreign jurisdiction on which they have been suspended from riding by the foreign Turf Authority, subject to the provisions of Regulation R18.

136. A person who holds or who last held a Jockeys licence under these Rules, or who holds or last held a Jockeys licence under the Rules of any Turf Authority, shall not be qualified to become a Qualified Rider under I.N.H.S. Rules where that person has:

- (i) ridden more than twenty-five winners as a Jockey under these Rules and or as a Jockey under the Rules of any Turf Authority prior to application to become a Qualified Rider.
- (ii) previously had an application to revert to amateur status approved by the Licensing Committee or by any Turf Authority outside of Ireland.

An application from such person must be forwarded to the Office of the IHRB stating the licence type held and period(s) when the licence was issued by the IHRB or by any Turf Authority and the total number of winners ridden. Such application shall be decided upon by the Licensing Committee.

- 148.** (i) A Trainer shall be responsible (except where otherwise provided in these Rules) for everything connected with the welfare, training and running of all Horses under the care of that Trainer and shall be liable to any sanction available to the Raceday Stewards, the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, unless the Trainer provides a satisfactory explanation. The members of a Training Partnership shall be jointly and severally liable for any such responsibility and liabilities.
- (ii) For the purpose of Rule 20 (xvii) any Trainer, Owner or other person who in the opinion of IHRB unreasonably refuses any appointed person access to a Training Establishment or any location where a Horse may be found for the purposes of inspecting examining or testing such a Horse and/or fails to comply with reasonable requests made by such appointed person, including in relation to inspection of the Medicines Register, may be guilty of a breach of these Rules and the matter shall be referred to the Referrals Committee for consideration.
- (iii) A Trainer shall ensure that they and each staff member and any other person with access to medicines is fully conversant with the Rules and Regulations relating to Prohibited Substances, the

administration of medicines to Horses and the current statutory Animal Remedies Regulations. A Trainer shall comply and shall ensure that all staff comply with these Rules and Regulations and shall be responsible for the safe keeping and administration of medicines. It shall be a breach of these Rules for a Trainer not to do so.

- (iv) Each Trainer must keep a completed Medicines Register in the manner prescribed in respect of each Training Establishment and must ensure that the use of all medicines is carefully recorded in the Medicines Register and to include the following information:

Date of administration to Horse	=	Insert any date on which the animal remedy was administered
Authorised name of animal remedy administered (including brand and generic name)	=	Insert the name of the brand and the generic name of the drug administered
Route of administration	=	Enter the route of administration i.e. Oral (O) Topical (T) Intravenous (I/V), Intramuscular (I/M) Subcutaneous (S/C) Intra articular (I/A)
Quantity of animal remedy administered	=	Enter the quantity given each time there is an administration
Reason for administration	=	Specify the reason for the administration e.g. lameness etc.
Name of person who administered remedy	=	This should be the person who actually gave the drug to the Horse. Prescription only medicines (POM) must also be authorised by the Trainer's Veterinary Surgeon
Name of prescribing Veterinary Surgeon (when applicable)	=	Enter the Veterinary Surgeon's name who prescribed the medicines
Recommended withdrawal time (if applicable)	=	The withdrawal time recommended by the Veterinary Surgeon should be entered
Trainer's Signature	=	The Trainer should sign as having authorised all administrations

- (v) All entries should be made on the same day the animal remedy is given.
- (vi) The Trainer must ensure that only the appropriate prescribed medicines are used, and that they are withdrawn at the correct time prior to racing, in accordance with the professional judgement and opinion of the Veterinary Surgeon.
- (vii) Only authorised medicines administered in compliance with the requirements of current medicines legislation may be administered to Horses.
- (viii) The Medicines Register must be made available for inspection when requested by the IHRB, the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Appeals Body as the case may be or by persons authorised by any of the foregoing. The Medicines Register must be kept for a minimum period of one year after the last entry.
- (ix) Failure to keep a completed Medicines Register in the manner prescribed or to make the Medicines Register available for inspection when requested to do so shall be a breach of these Rules.
- (x) When the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body are of the opinion that a Trainer has failed to exercise adequate supervision (not amounting to misconduct) over the Horses or employees under their charge they may withdraw suspend or refuse their licence to train Horses.
- (xi) (a) A Trainer shall ensure that any Horse declared to run in any Race is not suffering from an active skin disease including, but not limited to, ringworm.

If visible evidence of a recent skin disease exists, a Horse will not be permitted to run in any Race unless a veterinary certificate accompanies the Horse to the Race Meeting and is furnished to the IHRB Veterinary Officer on arrival. This certificate must confirm that an examination of the Horse was carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon within the 3 days prior to the Raceday and that the skin disease is no longer active nor contagious.

Once accepted, this certificate will remain valid for subsequent occasions the Horse is declared to run while visible evidence of a skin disease remains.

If a certificate is not furnished as above to the IHRB Veterinary Officer or if the IHRB Veterinary Officer is of the opinion that there is a material negative change to the skin condition since the date of certification they shall refer the matter to the Raceday Stewards who may order that the Horse, be withdrawn.

Samples may be taken by the IHRB Veterinary Officer from any Horse where evidence of recent skin disease exists. If

a subsequent analysis of these Samples proves positive for the presence of a contagious skin disease, the matter will be referred to the Referrals Committee.

- (b) Trainers must ensure that any riders riding Horses under the Trainer's care use approved safety equipment (Helmet, Body Protector, Riding Boots) of a serviceable and approved standard when riding out at all times. Any Trainer contravening this Rule will be reported to the Licensing and/or the Referrals Committee and shall be liable to a fine of not less than €200 for each rider found to be in breach.
 - (c) A Trainer shall be responsible for the qualification of their Horses and the correct weight that they should carry in any Race. If a Horse is declared which is subsequently found with an incorrect weight or to be 'not qualified', the Trainer shall be liable to any sanction available to the Raceday Stewards, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, unless the Trainer provides a satisfactory explanation.
 - (g) When a Rider as a result of a fall on the Racecourse is adjudged to be concussed and consequently prohibited from riding by the IHRB Medical Officer, then during that period, they shall not ride work or be asked to ride work for or by any Trainer. Any breach of this Rule shall render the Trainer liable to sanction.
 - (h) In order to facilitate the carrying out of inspections of Training Establishments and/or the examination of Horses and the taking of Samples from Horses, a Trainer shall arrange that, in the absence of the Trainer from the Training Establishment, some responsible person will be present who will be in a position to facilitate those carrying out the inspection or testing on behalf of the IHRB.
- 225.** When a Horse has slipped or fallen on the flat in a Race the Raceday Stewards shall enquire into the reason and order the examination of the Horse. If, in their opinion, inadequate or inappropriate shoeing of the Horse was a contributory factor to the slip or fall the Trainer may be liable to a fine of not less than €130. The Regulation dealing with the shoeing of Horses is contained in Regulation 16 relating to the 'Weigh Room and Parade Ring' - Shoes and Calkins. See ION 13 - Shoes and Calkins.
- 257.** Notes, recordings or statements may be taken at any enquiry or hearing on a Racecourse or elsewhere, in written form or mechanically or electronically recorded or by any other means and such notes, recordings or statements may be considered by the Licensing Committee or the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body at any hearing or appeal or any other matter whatsoever brought before them for their decision. No recording devices may be used at any enquiry or hearing other than the recording equipment provided or used by the IHRB. A transcript of the evidence given will be made available to an appellant upon request in the event of an Appeal being successfully

lodged. They may also view a video recording or film of any Race under consideration by them. In considering the running of a Horse, they may have regard to the form generally of that Horse including any relevant comparison of its performances in different Races.

The Licensing Committee, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body may appoint a legal assessor to be present during the hearing of any matter to be determined under these Rules. Such person shall be a qualified Lawyer and shall be available to assist any person or persons determining such matters. Such assistance shall be given in relation to the conduct of the hearing and shall be given in the presence of all persons attending the hearing.

- 260.** (a) In the event of an appeal against a decision of the Raceday Stewards, the Licensing Committee or the Referrals Committee being withdrawn or dismissed, or the period of suspension being varied any suspension imposed will start, either on the date originally imposed or, in exceptional circumstances on such date as the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body shall direct.
- (b) An appeal against a suspension shall not be withdrawn within 72 hours of the commencement of the suspension date without the consent of the IHRB.

- 264.** An enquiry by the Raceday Stewards may be called for mandatorily by any Raceday Stewards or by any Raceday Stewards' Secretary without deposit. Such enquiry shall have the force and consequences of an objection.

If such enquiry is into matters contained in Rule 262(iv) the announcement under Rule 229 shall operate as if it were an objection. If such enquiry is into matters not contained in Rule 262(iv) it may be called for mandatorily by any of the foregoing or by any Official in the Race Meeting in their official capacity. Nothing in this Rule shall prevent any person entitled to object under Rule 262 exercising their rights in accordance with the Rule within the time limits therein set out.

- 267.** (i) Costs and/or expenses incurred by the IHRB in connection with any Appeal, Referral, Enquiry, Investigation or any other matter in accordance with these Rules, or by the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Appeals Body in relation to determining any matter, shall be paid by such person or persons and in such proportions as the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Appeals Body may direct. Any deposit which may have been paid may be forfeited as part of the award of costs and expenses.
- (ii) Awarding Costs: The award of costs and expenses shall be at the discretion of the Referrals Committee, Appeals Body or Licensing Committee as the case may be. Unless the Referrals Committee, Appeals Body or Licensing Committee provide

otherwise any costs awarded against any party shall be recoverable on a party and party basis.

- (iii) In determining the liability for and apportionment of costs and expenses, the Referrals Committee, Appeals Body or Licensing Committee may have regard to behaviour that is unreasonable, frivolous, or vexatious, where such behaviour is held to have directly caused expense by contributing to the duration or complexity of hearings, or a party has acted with wilful disregard for fairness, truth, or these Rules.
- (iv) **Amount of Costs:** In the event of the amount of such costs not being agreed, the Bill of Costs shall be submitted for adjudication to a mutually agreed independent legal costs accountant whose decision thereon shall be final and binding. The expense of the legal costs accountant shall be borne by the party seeking adjudication. In the event of disagreement as to the identity of the independent legal costs accountant, the IHRB shall request the President for the time being of the Institute of Legal Costs Accountants to nominate such accountant and his nomination shall be accepted by the parties in dispute. The independent legal costs accountant shall, having given each party an opportunity to make submissions (oral or written or both at the accountant's discretion), adjudicate on the matters in dispute and decide on the amount due on foot of the Bill of Costs. The legal costs accountant shall certify the amount due and such certificate shall be final and binding on the parties.
- (v) **Recovery of Costs:** Costs awarded by the Appeals Body, Referrals Committee or Licensing Committee shall be payable forthwith upon them being agreed or on the issue of a Certificate by the independent legal costs accountant.
- (vi) **Enforcement of Orders:** Costs awarded but not paid shall be recoverable as a simple contract debt by summary proceedings instituted in any court of competent jurisdiction in Ireland or Northern Ireland at the option of IHRB. In addition, and without prejudice to the institution of such proceedings, any deposit which may have been paid may be forfeited in part discharge of such costs. In addition, and without prejudice to the foregoing, a failure to pay costs shall be a valid ground for the IHRB to refuse to renew any license, permit or permission until such costs have been discharged in full.
- (vii) **Right to Appeal:** Any party subject to a costs order by the Referrals Committee or Licensing Committee has the right to appeal the decision. Appeals may be submitted to an Appeals Body in accordance with the Rules of Racing, which will review the order and may confirm, amend, or set aside the costs order as it deems appropriate.

Preserving the Good Reputation of Horseracing

271. The standard of proof to be applied in all Stewards Enquiries and in all cases before the Licensing Committee, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body shall be the balance of probabilities.

272. Any person involved in horseracing who, within the jurisdiction of the IHRB:

- (i) whether verbally or by conduct or behaviour, acts in a manner which is prejudicial to the integrity, proper conduct or good reputation of horseracing (whether or not such behaviour or conduct, verbal or otherwise is associated directly with horseracing); or
- (ii) supplies misleading information to or gives false evidence to an Official, at a Stewards Enquiry or at a hearing by the Referrals Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Appeals Body; or
- (iii) abuses, misleads, intimidates, threatens or interferes with any person including any Official involved with the administration or the control of racing

shall be in breach of these Rules and liable to sanction.

273. (i) Any person who administers or attempts to administer or causes to be administered or connives at the administration to a Horse of any Prohibited Substance shall be guilty of a breach of these Rules and may be declared a Disqualified Person or otherwise penalised by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, in accordance with its powers under these Rules.

Any person who interferes with, or obstructs, or evades, or refuses or fails to submit to, or attempts to interfere with or obstruct the taking of Samples from a Horse pursuant to Rule 18 or Rule 20 (xvii), or interferes or tampers with such a Sample once taken, shall be guilty of a breach of these Rules and may be declared a Disqualified Person or otherwise penalised by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, in accordance with its powers under these Rules.

- (ii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to give or offer or promise directly or indirectly any bribe in any form to any person having official duties in relation to a Race or Horse or to any Trainer or Authorised Representative or to any other person having charge of, or access to, any Horse.
- (iii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person having official duties in relation to a Race, or any Trainer, Rider, Agent, or other person having charge of or access to any Horse to accept, or offer to accept, any bribe in any form.
- (iv) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to:

- (a) enter or cause to be entered or to start for any Race a Horse which they know or ought to have known to be ineligible to be entered or run or that has run at an Unrecognised Meeting, or
 - (b) start for any Race a Horse which they know or ought to have known to be restricted from running.
- (v) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to knowingly act in the capacity of part Owner or Trainer of any Horse in which a Jockey possesses any interest or make any bet with or on behalf of any Jockey or otherwise aid or abet in any breach of these Rules.
- (vi) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person alone or jointly with any other person or persons to deter or prevent or conspire or attempt to deter or prevent a Horse from winning a Race or from running to its maximum ability.
- (vii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to fraudulently obtain information respecting a Trial from any person or persons engaged in it or in the service of the Owner or Trainer of the Horses tried or respecting any Horse notified to HRI pursuant to Rule 148 (xii) from any person in such service.
- (viii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person alone or jointly with any other person or persons to engage in any corrupt or fraudulent practice in relation to racing in Ireland or elsewhere.
- (ix) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person alone or jointly with any other person or persons to encourage or aid any other person to engage in any corrupt or fraudulent practice in relation to racing in Ireland or elsewhere.
- (x) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to intimidate or prevent or attempt to intimidate or prevent any other person or persons from complying with and observing these Rules.
- (xi) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person being, or having been, in the service of an Owner or Trainer of a Horse, which has been notified to HRI pursuant to Rule 148 (xii) or being or having been, engaged in or in connection with the Trial of a Horse to convey or give any information respecting the said Horse or the said Trial to any person without the permission of the Owner of the said Horse.
- (xii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person alone or jointly with any other person or persons to engage in any violent or improper conduct on any Racecourse, land or premises owned, used, licensed or controlled by the Raceday Stewards of any Race Meeting.
- (xiii) It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person to do any act which in the opinion of the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body is likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the IHRB or which is likely to cause serious damage to the interests of horseracing

in Ireland whether or not such an act shall otherwise amount to a breach of these Rules or any Regulation or instruction made thereunder.

Should the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body be satisfied that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of the sub-paragraphs of this Rule, the person or persons so offending may at the discretion of the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body be declared a Disqualified Person or dealt with in such other manner, including the disqualification, restriction from running of the Horse and forfeiture of the stakes, as the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body may decide.

(xiv)

1. It shall be a breach of the Rules of Racing and I.N.H.S. Rules for any Jockey to:
 - (a) Bet on or to lay any Horse to lose a Race with any person or Betting Organisation or to instruct any person on their behalf to do so or to benefit from or to receive the whole or any part of the proceeds of such an act.
 - (b) Associate or communicate directly or indirectly with any Betting Organisation on or from property owned, used or controlled by the executive of a Racecourse which for the purposes of this Rule will include any area used for the parking of vehicles at the Racecourse, save in the context of the normal commercial running of the day's racing relating to prize-giving, meeting with sponsors or when the person in question is the Owner of the Horse for whom the Jockey is engaged to ride.
 - (c) Be present in the betting ring during a Race Meeting unless they can satisfy the Raceday Stewards that they had good reason to be there.
 - (d) Receive presents in connection with Races from persons other than the Owners of the Horses they ride in such Races or other than prizes or mementos given in connection with the normal running of a Race Meeting.
2. It shall be a breach of the Rules of Racing and I.N.H.S. Rules for any Qualified Rider to:

Bet on or lay any Horse to lose a Race with any person or Betting Organisation in any Race in which they are riding or to instruct any person on their behalf to do so or to benefit from or to receive the whole or any part of the proceeds of such an act.
3. It shall be a breach of the Rules of Racing and I.N.H.S. Rules for any Jockeys' Valet, Valets' Assistant or Authorised Riders Agent during the term of their licence or in respect of any meeting at which they are attending to:

- (a) Bet on or to lay any Horse to lose a Race with any person or Betting Organisation or to instruct any person on their behalf to do so or to benefit from or to receive the whole or any part of the proceeds of such an act.
 - (b) Associate or communicate directly or indirectly with any Betting Organisation on or from property owned, used or controlled by the Racecourse Executive.
 - (c) Be present in the betting ring during a Race Meeting, unless they can satisfy the Raceday Stewards that they had good reason to be there.
- 4. It shall be a breach of these Rules for:

A Trainer, in respect of any Horse under their care or control, or the holder of an AIR Card in respect of any Horse under the care and control of the Trainer by whom they are either directly or indirectly employed, or a person who is or has been directly involved in the preparation of a Horse for racing, or an Owner in respect of any Horse they own or a Shadow Owner in respect of any Horse of which they are a Shadow Owner

 - (a) to lay any such Horse to lose a Race with any person or Betting Organisation or to instruct any person on their behalf to do so, and/or
 - (b) to benefit from or to receive the whole or any part of the proceeds of such an act.
- 5. It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person mentioned in paragraph (xiv) 1, 2, 3, or 4 of this Rule to convey knowledge of any information pertaining to a Horse's condition or well-being, (which may negatively affect its likely performance or participation in any Race, and which is not in the Public Domain) in circumstances where they know or ought reasonably to have known that such knowledge may be used for the purpose of laying that Horse to lose any Race with any person or Betting Organisation.
- 6. It shall be a breach of these Rules for any person involved in horseracing to obtain knowledge of a Horse's condition or wellbeing, as mentioned in paragraph (xiv) 5 of this Rule, and to use such knowledge to lay that Horse to lose any Race with any person or Betting Organisation.
- 7. It shall be a breach of the Rules of Racing and I.N.H.S. Rules for any person involved in horseracing who has knowledge of an intended breach of Rule 212(a) concerning a Horse running in a Race to lay that Horse to lose that Race with any person or Betting Organisation.

Note: The term Owner when used in this Rule shall be deemed to include any person provided for in the definition

of 'Owner' and in the case of Multiple Ownership, all persons involved in that ownership.

- 274.** (i) Any person on whom disqualification has been imposed by the Turf Authority of any other country or who has been convicted of any criminal offence prejudicial to racing in this country or any other country shall be referred by a Senior Racing Official to the Referrals Committee.
- (ii) When the IHRB receives notification from a foreign Turf Authority of a sanction (other than a sanction declaring a person a Disqualified Person) imposed by that Turf Authority for a breach of the Rules of Racing in the jurisdiction of that Turf Authority on:
- (a) a person holding a licence/permit from the IHRB, or
 - (b) an Owner registered in Ireland, or
 - (c) a Horse in a Trainer's Care and Control in Ireland.

such sanction shall have effect under these Rules unless it is established to the satisfaction of the Referrals Committee on application under the provisions of Regulation 18 relating to 'Sanctions imposed by a Foreign Turf Authority' that the sanction should not have effect under these Rules.

- 275.** (i) Any Horse which has been the subject of fraudulent practice may, at the discretion of the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, be disqualified from the Race(s) in question, the placings amended accordingly, and the stake forfeited and/or may be declared ineligible to be entered or run in any Race(s) for such time as they shall determine.
- (ii) Any Horse which is found to have run at an Unrecognised Meeting shall be disqualified, the placings amended and the stake forfeited by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body from any Race or Races run subsequent to the date of the Horse first running at an Unrecognised Meeting and/or may be declared ineligible to be entered or run in any Race for a period of not less than two years, such penalty may apply in respect of each occasion on which the Horse has run at an Unrecognised Meeting.
- (iii) Every Official (other than in the course of their duties), Trainer, Jockey or Qualified Rider, who participates in any capacity other than as a spectator at any Unrecognised Meeting is liable to be declared a Disqualified Person by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body.
- (iv) Application may be made to the Referrals Committee by the Owner of a Horse, to review any penalty previously imposed on that Horse as a consequence of participating at an Unrecognised Meeting.

276. A Disqualified Person is not eligible to:

- (i) act as Raceday Steward or Official at any Recognised Meeting;
- (ii) act as Authorised Agent, Authorised Representative, Authorised Riders' Agent or Jockeys' Valet under these Rules;
- (iii) subscribe for, or enter or own, or train, or run, or ride a Horse in any Race at any Recognised Meeting;
- (iv) be a member or trustee of a Recognised Club or shareholder or director of a Recognised Company or to enter into or remain a party to any partnerships, leases, syndicates, contingencies or other agreements under these Rules;
- (v) enter any part of a Racecourse, Stand or Enclosure other than those areas to which the general public is permitted access;
- (vi) enter or be granted entry to any licensed premises to engage in providing services;
- (vii) be employed in any capacity by a Trainer unless an application to employ the individual has been approved by the Licensing Committee which may be subject to such conditions as the Licensing Committee at their discretion may impose.

When a person is declared a Disqualified Person all agreements or registrations under these Rules already entered into by that person shall become void with the exception of the registration of names of Horses. The fact that any registrations or agreements may have become void shall not prevent Horse Racing Ireland from enforcing any obligations of the Disqualified Persons under those registrations or agreements.

Any person who becomes a Disqualified Person shall continue to be bound by these Rules during any period of disqualification.

- 277.**
- (i) A Rider shall not commit, or engage in, any Doping Offence at any time.
 - (ii) It is the personal responsibility of a Rider to ensure that they do not commit, or engage in, any Doping Offence. It is also the personal responsibility of every Rider to acquaint themselves with all the provisions of these Rules and any procedural guidelines published by the IHRB and with all Banned Substances and Banned Methods. A Rider is responsible for any Banned Substance detected in samples provided by them. Accordingly, where a Banned Substance is detected in a sample provided by a Rider, the presumption shall be, until the contrary is proved, that the Rider committed a Doping Offence.
 - (iii) Any Rider nominated to ride on any Raceday shall submit to an alcohol breath test, including any repeat tests, at the request of the Doping Control Officer or any person appointed by the Doping Control Officer pursuant to Rule 20(xx). Such alcohol breath tests

shall be conducted in substantial compliance with the Alcohol Testing Procedures as published on the IHRB website.

Where the result of an alcohol breath test indicates a concentration of alcohol exceeding the level published by the Directors of the IHRB pursuant to Rule 20(xxi) or where the Rider refuses to submit to any alcohol breath test, the Rider shall be in breach of these Rules and the Doping Control Officer or any person appointed by the Doping Control Officer pursuant to Rule 20 (xx), shall report the matter to the Raceday Stewards, who shall deal with the matter in accordance with Rule 14(i)(c).

No liability shall attach to the Directors of the IHRB or any other body or person for any inconvenience or loss resulting from an alcohol breath test.

- 278.** (i) Dope Tests may be carried out at any time and in any place without prior notice, they may be random or specific and a Rider shall submit to a Dope Test whenever requested to do so. Where a Dope Test takes place, other than at a Race Meeting, the analysis of samples will be confined to substances and methods specified as prohibited at all times in the World Anti-Doping Code Prohibited List as may be updated from time to time and published by WADA. No liability shall attach to the Directors of the IHRB or any other body or person for any inconvenience or loss resulting from a Dope Test.
- (ii) A Doping Offence occurs when:
- (a) a Banned Substance is found to be present in a Rider's body tissue or fluids, or
 - (b) a Rider admits having used or taken advantage of a Banned Substance and/or a Banned Method, or
 - (c) a Rider is found to have used or taken advantage of a Banned Substance and/or a Banned Method, or
 - (d) a Rider fails or refuses to provide a sample for, or to submit to, a Dope Test having been requested to do so, or
 - (e) a Rider fails to sign the Doping Control Notification Form acknowledging notification of the requirement to report to the Doping Control Station or fails to report to the Doping Control Station by the time indicated on the Doping Control Notification Form, or
 - (f) a Rider fails or refuses to comply with any provision of the Rules relating to Doping Offences, having been requested to do so, or
 - (g) a Rider interferes with or obstructs or attempts to interfere with or obstructs the conduct of a Dope Test or the carrying out of these Rules, or
 - (h) a Rider fails to declare, before submitting to a Dope Test, the

use of a Banned Substance that is allowed under certain circumstances.

- (iii) The IHRB may publish from time to time procedures for the conduct of Dope Tests, such procedures will be published on the IHRB website.
- (iv) Dope Tests shall be presumed to have been conducted in accordance with the WADA International Standards for Testing and Laboratories and the results of Dope Tests shall be presumed to be scientifically correct. The onus of rebutting this presumption shall be on the Rider concerned.
- (v) Upon application by the Doping Control Officer, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body may provisionally suspend a Rider from any or all events or activities organised or authorised by or held under these Rules wherever held pending a decision by the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body pursuant to Rule 279.
- (vi) The procedure upon the receipt of Dope Test results shall be as set out in this Rule.
 - (a) (i) Any Rider whose "A" sample discloses the presence of a Banned Substance or use of a Banned Method shall be so notified in writing by the Doping Control Officer. The Rider shall have the right to request that their "B" sample be analysed to determine whether that sample discloses the same Banned Substance(s) or use of a Banned Method detected in the "A" sample.
 - (ii) Save as otherwise provided in this Rule, the cost of the "B" sample analysis and all reasonable related administrative, legal, and ancillary costs shall be borne by the Rider. Any such request must be made within fourteen days of the said notification to the Rider. The IHRB shall provide an itemised breakdown of these costs within a reasonable time, specifying the payment deadline and demand. Where any dispute arises regarding the liability or amount of these costs, it shall be determined by the Referrals Committee at the hearing with an appeal against such determinations thereafter to the Appeals Body in accordance with the general provisions relating to Appeals in these Rules.
 - (iii) In the event that the Rider fails to pay such costs within the specified payment deadline, the IHRB shall have the right to take enforcement action including but not limited to refusing to issue or renew any licences or permits held by the Rider or taking legal action to recover the costs through summary proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction in Ireland.

- (b) A Rider may accept the results of the "A" sample analysis by advising the Doping Control Officer, within fourteen days of the date of the said notification. Notwithstanding such acceptance, the Doping Control Officer may still, at their discretion, make arrangements to have the "B" sample analysed, in which case, the cost of the "B" sample analysis shall be borne by the IHRB.
 - (c) A Rider who has neither accepted the results of the "A" sample analysis nor requested that their "B" sample be analysed within fourteen days of the date of the said notification shall be deemed to have accepted the results of the "A" sample analysis. In this event, there shall be no obligation on the Doping Control Officer to have the "B" sample analysed but the Doping Control Officer may still, at their discretion, make arrangements to have the "B" sample analysed, in which case, the cost of the "B" sample analysis shall be borne by the IHRB.
 - (d) At any "B" sample analysis, other than where the "B" sample is being analysed at the request of the Doping Control Officer, the Rider concerned and/or their legal representative and/or other representative are entitled to be present at their own expense. A representative of the Doping Control Officer is entitled to be present at all "B" sample analyses.
 - (e) If a "B" sample analysis does not disclose the presence of a Banned Substance or use of a Banned Method the entire test shall be considered negative. The Rider shall be notified and no further action shall be taken. Any suspension imposed on the Rider who was tested shall be withdrawn with immediate effect and the cost of the "B" sample analysis shall be borne by the IHRB.
 - (f) Where the "B" sample analysis discloses the presence of a Banned Substance or the use of a Banned Method or where the Doping Control Officer believes that a Doping Offence, that does not involve the provision of a sample, may have been committed, the Rider concerned, shall be notified in writing.
- 279.** (i) Where the Doping Control Officer believes that a Doping Offence may have been committed, the matter shall be referred to the Referrals Committee. The Rider concerned shall:
- (a) be notified that the matter has been referred to the Referrals Committee;
 - (b) be provided with relevant reports and documentation in relation to the Doping Offence;
 - (c) be informed of their entitlement to a hearing before the Referrals Committee and to be legally represented at such a hearing.

- (ii) In proceedings before the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, any certificate, notice or form shall be, until the contrary is proved, sufficient evidence of:
 - (a) the qualifications and authority of any official who carried out, or assisted in the carrying out of, any Dope Test of any Rider who is the subject matter of the proceedings, to carry out, or to assist in the carrying out of, such Dope Test; and
 - (b) the authority of the official who signed the certificate, notice or form to sign that certificate, notice or form; and
 - (c) the facts stated in the certificate, notice or form including, but not limited to, the results of any Dope Test of any Rider.
- (iii) The onus of proving that a Rider has committed a Doping Offence is upon the Doping Control Officer which onus shall be discharged on the balance of probabilities. The Referrals Committee and the Appeals Body shall be entitled to receive such evidence as each thinks fit notwithstanding that the evidence may not be legally admissible in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (iv) (a) Where the Referrals Committee decides that a Rider has committed a Doping Offence then they shall determine the penalty to be imposed.
- (b) The findings of a prohibited substance in a Rider cannot lead to the disqualification of a Horse.
- (v) The Rider shall have a right of appeal against a decision of the Referrals Committee to the Appeals Body. Such an appeal will be determined under the provisions of Rule 256. The Appeals Body shall have the power to allow any appeal or vary any decision or sanction under appeal. There shall be no appeal of the decision of the Appeals Body.
- (vi) At a hearing before the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, the Rider and the Doping Control Officer may be represented, legally or otherwise, and shall have the right to give and call evidence and to address the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body.
- The Rider concerned may make written representations to either or both the Referrals Committee and the Appeals Body.
- Failure of the Rider concerned to attend having received notice of the hearing or to answer any question shall not prevent a decision being reached. All hearings shall be in private.
- (vii) The Referrals Committee and the Appeals Body shall have unfettered discretion in all matters coming before them including whether or not to hold a hearing.
- (viii) No proceedings of, or penalty imposed by, the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body shall be quashed, varied or held invalid by reason only of any defect, irregularity, omission or departure from the procedures set out in accordance with these

Rules or in any Regulation relating to the Dope Testing of Riders, provided there has been no miscarriage of justice.

- 280.** (i) Where the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body determines that a Rider has committed a Doping Offence, they shall apply one or more of the following sanctions:
- (a) fine the Rider;
 - (b) reprimand the Rider;
 - (c) suspend the Rider;
 - (d) any other sanction the Referrals Committee or the Appeals Body, as the case may be, thinks fit.
- (ii) The above penalties may be applied to a Rider regardless of any other penalty, its duration or timing or whether current or past, howsoever imposed. However, the Referrals Committee and the Appeals Body may take previous penalties imposed into account in making their respective decisions. Confirmation from the IHRB as to any other previous penalty and the facts and circumstances pertaining thereto shall be, until the contrary is proved, sufficient evidence of any other previous penalty and the facts and circumstances pertaining thereto.
- (iii) The Directors of the IHRB may recognise the anti-doping rules and penalties of the Turf Authority of any country and of other bodies and may take such reciprocal action as they consider necessary in respect of such rules and penalties.

Qualified Riders' Accident Fund

- 296.** The Qualified Riders' Accident Fund is incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee and is administered by the Directors of that company in accordance with their Articles of Association and any Regulations made thereunder. The Qualified Riders' Accident Fund CLG remains a recipient of contributions as outlined within these Rules and in line with the figures and apportionment as determined by the IHRB, in consultation with the Directors of the Qualified Riders' Accident Fund CLG. Any queries in relation to this fund can be directed via the Office of the IHRB.

Jockeys' Emergency Fund

- 297.** The Jockeys' Emergency Fund is a recipient of contributions as outlined within these Rules and in line with the figures and apportionment as determined by the IHRB in consultation with the Trustees. Any queries in relation to this fund can be directed via the Office of the IHRB.

R7

DOPE TESTING OF RIDERS

ALCOHOL BREATH TESTING CONCENTRATION LEVEL OF ALCOHOL

Pursuant to Rule 20(xxi) of the Rules of Racing and the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules, the Directors of the IHRB hereby publish that the level of concentration of alcohol referred to in Rule 277(iii) shall be a concentration of alcohol in excess of 22 micrograms per 100 millilitres in breath.

ALCOHOL TESTING STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Directors of the IHRB publish procedures on the IHRB website, pursuant to Rule 20(xxi). These procedures should be followed as far as is reasonably practicable. However, any deviation or deviations from the procedures shall not invalidate a finding of an alcohol breath test offence under Rule 277(iii) unless it is shown that the result of any such deviation or deviations was such as to cast real and substantial doubt on the integrity and reliability of such a finding.

ANTI-DOPING PROCEDURES

The Directors of the IHRB publish these procedures on the IHRB website, pursuant to Rule 278 (iii). These procedures should be followed as far as is reasonably practicable. However, any deviation or deviations from the procedures set out therein shall not invalidate a finding of a Doping Offence under Rule 278(ii) unless it is shown that the result of any such deviation or deviations was such as to cast real and substantial doubt on the integrity and reliability of such a finding.

BANNED SUBSTANCES AND BANNED METHODS

Take notice that, pursuant to the Rules of Racing and Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules, and in particular the definition of “Banned Substances” and “Banned Methods” contained therein, the Directors of the IHRB, having adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”) Prohibited List International Standard which came into effect on 1 January 2003 as amended from time to time (commonly referred to as the “Prohibited List”) and having approved same for purposes of the said Rules and definitions, hereby notify all concerned of the following, pursuant to the current Prohibited List as published on the WADA website <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/content/what-is-prohibited>

Use of particular substances may be permitted under a Therapeutic Use Exemption in the treatment of particular medical conditions but only with the express permission of the Chief Medical Officer.

R14

TAKING OF SAMPLES FROM HORSES

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED AT THE RACECOURSE SAMPLING UNIT

When a Horse is taken to the Racecourse Sampling Unit for Sample collection, a head collar and lead rope, bucket, scraper, cooler and muzzle should be available for the Horse in the Racecourse Sampling Unit. These must be supplied by the Trainer or their representative. The Horse's Passport must be available at the same time, as the Horse's identity will be verified before sampling.

PROCEDURES FOR SAMPLING HORSES

The following are the procedures for the sampling of Horses published pursuant to Rule 20(v) of the Rules of Racing.

Definitions: In paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 the words Responsible Person means the Trainer or their representative or the Owner or the person in charge of the premises where the Horse is located. In paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 those words shall mean the Trainer or the Owner. In paragraph 7 the words Responsible Person means the Trainer or their representative.

IN ALL LOCATIONS

1. The Horse selected for sampling shall be identified to the IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant by the Responsible Person. The Responsible Person shall bring the Horse to the Sampling Unit and shall produce the Horse's passport upon request to the IHRB Veterinary Officer or veterinary assistant who shall then identify the Horse against its passport. The IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant identifying the Horse should initial beside the "Passport ☐ " (box) on the Sample documentation.
2. If the IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant is not satisfied as to the ability of the Responsible Person because of a lack of command of English to understand the requirements (or procedures) for testing they may request the Trainer or an Authorised Representative to nominate another person to act as the Responsible Person.
3. The urine sample and/or the hair sample is collected by the IHRB Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Assistant in the presence of the Responsible Person and split into an "A" Sample and a "B" Sample, both of which are then sealed in the presence of the Responsible Person. Where blood Samples are collected, the IHRB Veterinary Officer collects the blood Sample in the presence of the Responsible Person and splits it into an "A" Sample and a "B" Sample both of which

are then sealed in the presence of the Responsible Person. The Responsible Person shall then print their name on and sign the sampling record document as a witness to the collection and sealing procedure.

4. The IHRB shall then arrange for the “A” Sample to be sent to the designated Laboratory for analysis and shall retain the “B” Sample in a secure environment. On receipt of the Laboratory Report on the “A” Sample, the Office of the IHRB shall advise the Responsible Person if the Report from the Laboratory indicates that a breach of the Rules governing Prohibited Substances may have been committed and inform the Responsible Person that he/she has the right, within 4 days, to require the “B” sample to be sent to a designated Laboratory for analysis, at the expense of the Responsible Person, in default of which the Laboratory Report will be placed before the Referrals Committee.
5. If the Responsible Person requires the “B” Sample to be sent for analysis, the Office of the IHRB shall arrange for the “B” Sample to be sent to a designated Laboratory. The IHRB will advise the Responsible Person of their entitlement to have themselves, the Owner or a similar suitably qualified person attend the analysis of the “B” sample, should they so wish. On receipt of the Laboratory Report, the IHRB shall advise the Responsible Person of the result of the analysis. If the Report on the “B” Sample also indicates that a breach of the Rules governing Prohibited Substances may have been committed the IHRB shall advise the Responsible Person that the two Laboratory Reports will be placed before the Referrals Committee.
6. If the report on the “B” sample indicates that a breach of the Rules has not been committed, the entire test shall be considered negative, and the Responsible Person shall be entitled to a refund of the cost of the analysis of the “B” Sample.
7. For screening sampling for total carbon dioxide concentration, the Horse will be identified by an IHRB Official, and blood Samples taken for screening by the IHRB Veterinary Officer in the presence of the Responsible Person. These screening Samples will not be split into A and B portions as with conventional regulatory samples. However, if analysis of one or more of these Samples indicates that regulatory sampling is required, this will be undertaken in accordance with this Regulation with the exception that the B portion of the regulatory Sample will always be analysed, and at the same designated Laboratory that conducted the A portion analysis.

SAMPLING UNIT

It is the responsibility of Trainers to ensure that winning Horses are presented without delay to the Sampling Unit for the collection of samples.

Where one of a Trainer's Horses is taken to the Racecourse Sampling Unit, the option exists for the stable employee in charge of the animal to require that a cooler be kept on the Horse while it is detained in the Sampling Box.

SCHEDULE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS

Pursuant to Rule 20(v) of the Rules of Racing and the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Rules, the Directors of the IHRB publish a schedule of Prohibited Substances, threshold levels where applicable, and prohibited methods on the IHRB website and give notice that each item referred to therein is a Prohibited Substance as defined or a prohibited method within these Rules.

INSTRUCTIONS ORDERS AND NOTICES

ION 1

DUTIES OF IHRB REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING POINT TO POINT MEETINGS

1. The IHRB Representative has the powers of an Acting Steward and shall act as such (see Regulation 22 (iii)).
2. The IHRB Representative shall arrive at least one and a half hours before the advertised time of the first race.
3. The IHRB Representative shall watch the running of all races closely so that they can express their opinion to the Acting Stewards with regard to any incident which may take place during a race, whether there is an objection or not. If they think that an enquiry is desirable, they should inform the Acting Stewards at once.
4. The IHRB Representative shall advise the Acting Stewards on any question which may arise regarding the interpretation of the Regulations and/or Rules, or on any matter of procedure in the holding of a Stewards Enquiry. They shall attend all Stewards Enquiries, take such notes as they consider useful, and after an Enquiry take any further action or make any further report to the Directors of the INHSC as they may consider necessary.
5. Should the Acting Stewards forward any case to the Referrals Committee, it shall be the duty of the Stewards Secretary on duty to ensure that a complete report of the case is forwarded to the Office of the IHRB.
6. When the Acting Stewards, after hearing the evidence in the case of any person brought before them, decide to take disciplinary action against such person, the IHRB Representative and the Stewards Secretary on duty shall make available, if required, the disciplinary record of that person.
7. The IHRB Representative shall ensure that before the time of declaration for the first race the maximum number of Horses to be permitted to run in each race has been established by the Acting Stewards.
8. The IHRB Representative should satisfy themselves, following consultation with the Stewards Secretaries, that:
 - (a) The weighing scales are accurate.
 - (b) The Clerk of the Scales sees that Hunters Certificates for all runners have been registered and published.

- (c) The Regulation for declaration of runners and Riders (Regulation 24) is adhered to.
 - (d) The time-period in the case of objections (Regulation 47) is adhered to.
 - (e) The placed Horses are unsaddled in an enclosure adjacent to the weigh tent.
 - (f) The course was satisfactory and not interfered with before racing.
9. The IHRB Representative should complete their report form without delay and furnish this to The Registrar of the INHSC.

ION 2

NOTES ON CONSTRUCTION OF POINT TO POINT FENCES

1. The Birch in the fences should be sloping away from the Horses as they take off. This not only helps them to slide over the fence if they hit it hard but also the birch bends downwards when hit. Birch that has been put in vertically and cut at a slope does not have the same effect and causes more falls. This sloping may be achieved in the case of portable fences by digging in the landing side of the frame about three inches. In the case of permanent fences, the top horizontal bars of the frame can be on the landing side of the fence and the bottom ones on the take-off side. Care must be taken that the horizontal bars of the frame, in particular the top back one are strongly attached to the upright and not just nailed on. The nails may pull out if the fence is hit hard so they should either be bolted or wired on to the uprights.
2. It is important that there should be a good artificial apron on the take-off side of the fence so that Horses take off sufficiently in front of the fence to get their knees up before they reach the top of the fence. The take-off edge of the artificial apron should be at least the height of the fence away from the fence.
3. Birch before packing should be six to eight ft. high. If it is higher the butts should be cut off to reduce the length. Thus, after packing the fence, the birch is easier to trim with hedging shears and there are no heavy sticks at the top of the fence, it also makes the work easier.
4. It is not permitted to use a bank or wall in lieu of a wooden frame to support the back of the fence.
5. Where a bank or wall exists behind a bush fence the bush fence must be at least 2ft. 6in. higher than the bank or wall.

ION 3

DIMENSIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF POINT TO POINT FENCES

(See also Regulation 9)

The Directors of the INHSC have issued the following instructions regarding the construction and erection of Point to Point fences.

Fences

1. Minimum height 4ft. 4in.
2. In upright type, the toe board shall be placed 5ft. 9in. from the back of the frame.
3. In sloping fences, the toe board shall be 5ft. 3in. from the back of the frame.
4. Toe boards and knee boards must be white.
5. In upright fences the artificial aprons shall be brought up to within 10in. of the top of the fences and shall be secured by means of a gorse rail firmly attached to the frame.
6. Artificial aprons are mandatory with the exception of banks races and shall be approved in advance by the Inspector of Courses.
7. The tops of the fences should not be left square, but the front edge should be rounded off to leave a flat top of approximately 10in. thick.
8. Fences whose height and rake can be altered by means of an adjustable chain will not be permitted.
9. Toe Boards must be used on all fences. The boards may be either rounded or flat. If flat boards are used, they should be 2 in. thick and 10in. high. If a round pole is used, it should be not less than 9in. in diameter and should have a flat side to prevent Horses getting their toes under it. Poles without a flat side should be sunk into the ground. Where "Easyfix" or "O'Connell" Artificial Aprons are in use, toe boards must consist of a half round pole.
10. Fences must be well packed, and the birch used must be in good condition. Fence sections must be securely fastened together and firmly anchored to the ground.
11. Sloping fences should be erected approximately 18in. off vertical.
12. Tracks and fences for Saturday meetings will normally be inspected on the previous Thursday and for Sunday meetings on the previous Friday.

If for any reason the Inspector refuses to approve the track or the fences, the Hunt committee shall be given 24 hours to rectify the position wherever possible. A second inspection will then be held at the expense of the Hunt. If the Inspector is still not satisfied, the meeting shall be cancelled.

13. The Directors of the INHSC are concerned that many Point to Point Courses are not properly prepared when the Inspector of Courses arrives. It is expected that all fences, wings and artificial aprons be in place, that all boards be adequately painted and that the track be clearly marked out at the time of inspection.

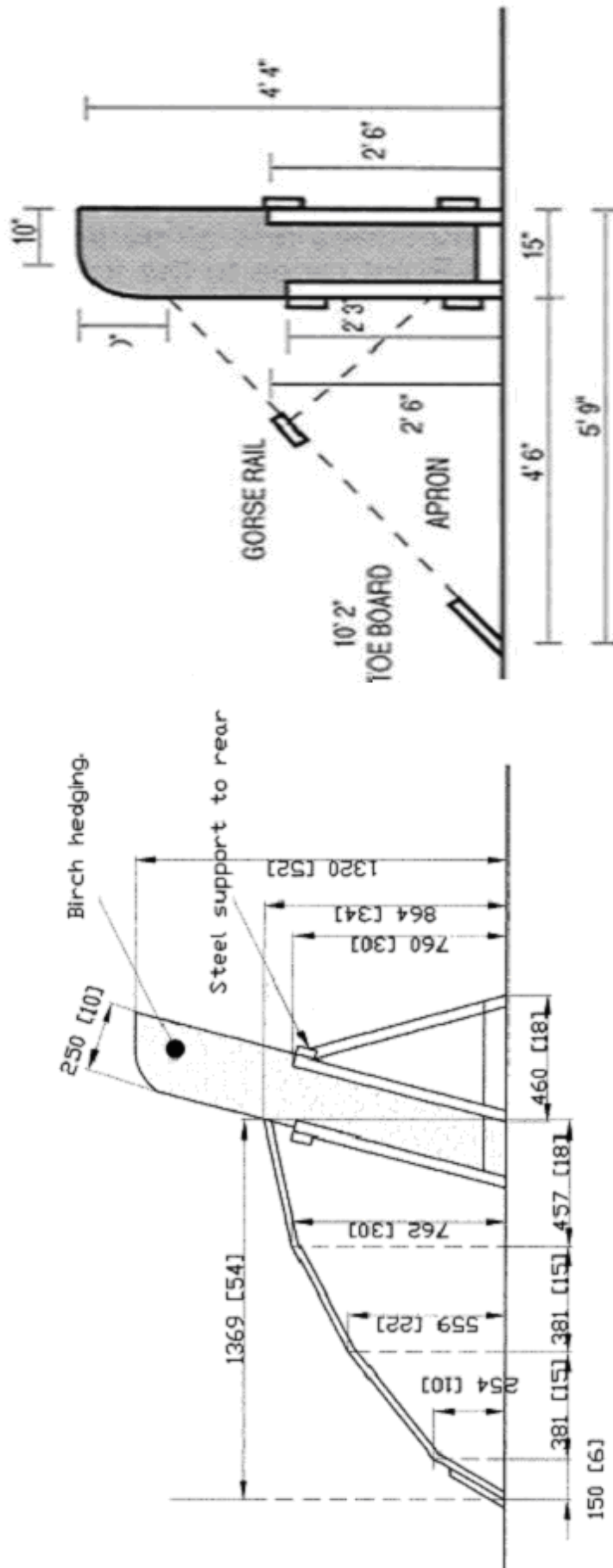
Regulation Fences

14.

- (i) The artificial apron on a Regulation Fence shall not entirely fill the ditch.
- (ii) It will not be permitted to leave the grass showing between the toe board and the artificial apron and the ditch must either be dug out or the sod turned over, or alternatively sprayed with weed killer. Wood chip could be spread in this area either.
- (iii) Toe boards should be at least 12 to 14 in. in height and 3 in. thick and the front edge should be rounded. They should be white and securely fixed about two in. below ground level and 5ft. from the front of the fence.
- (iv) Regulation fences should normally be between 4ft. 4in. and 4ft. 6in. in height.
- (v) The depth of the fence should be between 15in. and 20in. with the front edge rounded.

Wings

All wings shall be of plastic construction and shall not be less than 6 metres in length and shall be not less than 1ft higher than the fence at the point where the wings and fence meet. The first fence shall have on both sides a second plastic wing in place or a plastic rail of similar measurement. Normally wings should be spread by at least 3ft, but this figure may be reduced somewhat where a wider spread would tend to make Horses on the rail substantially alter their course.



Dimensions for Bush Fences on Point-to-Point Courses.

ION 4

THE FOLLOWING POINTS SHOULD BE NOTED BY PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ISSUING OF HUNTERS CERTIFICATES

1. Two copies (original and carbon copy) of each Hunters Certificate should be sent to the Office of the INHSC (the bottom copy should be retained in the Hunters Certificate Book for reference by the person issuing the Hunters Certificates).
2. Full Details should be given on all Hunters Certificates. Failure to do so will result in a delay of Registration.

ION 5

NOTICE TO POINT TO POINT OWNERS / HANDLERS

All Point to Point Owners will be required to complete and submit a Point to Point Owner form to the Office of the INHSC as specified in Regulation 18. Owners, having completed this form on the first occasion will then be issued with a unique reference number. This reference number will be required when an application is made to a Master of a Hunt for a Hunters Certificate.

All Point to Point Handlers will be required to complete and submit a Point to Point Handler form annually, to the Office of the INHSC. Handlers who complete this form will then be issued with a unique reference number. This reference number will be required when an application is made to a Master of a Hunt for a Hunters Certificate.

Please note that a Hunters Certificates will not be Registered if the Owner's and Handler's unique reference numbers are not included on a Hunters Certificate.

Owners & Handlers Point to Point forms are available to download on the IHRB website.

ION 6

COLLECTION OF QRAF LEVY

Receivers of Entries and the Hunt holding the Point to Point Meeting shall be responsible for the collection of the Qualified Riders Accident Fund levy from Owners (Regulation 23 (b) (viii)).

ION 7

HUNTER CHASE LICENCE

Person's training Horses may apply for a Hunter Chase Licence in order to run Horses in:

- (i) Hunter Steeplechases; or
- (ii) Races that require Horses to hold a Hunters Certificate; or
- (iii) Races where Rule 78 is suspended enabling runners (other than the winner) to retain their Hunters Certificate e.g. Point to Point I.N.H flat races, Cross Country & Banks races.

ION 8

OVERTAKING ON THE INSIDE

Acting Stewards and Riders are asked to note the following guidelines for overtaking on the inside on an unrailed section of the course:

1. Before attempting to pass another Horse on the inside, where the course is unrailed, the Rider should be satisfied that their Horse has the speed to do so. Before reaching the next obstacle, doll or section of running rail, they must be clear of the Horse they have overtaken on the inside and it is their responsibility to ensure that they do not cause interference to the overtaken Horse. Interference caused in this manner may be considered careless riding.
2. The Rider being overtaken on the inside is entitled to hold their line to the inside of the next obstacle, doll or section of rail, but they must not move their Horse across in an attempt to interfere with the overtaking Horse. If they do so, it may be considered intentional interference.

ION 9

JUDGE

The Judge's podium shall be positioned at least 7 metres back from and in line with the winning post. The area between the podium and the winning post shall be kept clear to ensure that the Judge has an unobstructed view of Horses passing the winning post.

ION 10

COMMENTARIES

The Clerk of the Course should ensure that the commentator shall not adjudicate on the public address system their version of the placings in the event of close finishes, thereby pre-empting the decision of the Judge. Neither

should they make any other comment before, during or after a race which may wrongly interpret or pre-empt the actions of any Official on duty.

ION 11

RACE CONDITIONS

Should a discrepancy arise between the conditions of a race as printed on the entry form and on the racecard, cognisance should only be taken of the entry form. If the issue is still the subject of query, then the Directors of the INHSC shall determine the matter.

ION 12

NOTICE FOR THE USE OF TONGUE STRAPS AT POINT TO POINTS

Tongue straps must be made of either:

- (a) Nylon material
- (b) Non-self-adhesive, crepe/stretch bandages e.g. Lenkelast bandages
- (c) Adjustable synthetic tongue strap with a Velcro closure
- (d) Leather tongue straps

For the avoidance of doubt, rubber elastic bands or self-adhesive bandages e.g. vetrap will not be permitted to be used as tongue straps.

The following guidelines must be complied with if a Tongue Strap is being fitted to a Horse declared to run in a Point to Point Steeplechase.

1. All tongue straps must be looped but not tied around the tongue and secured comfortably around the lower jaw.
2. The tongue strap shouldn't be tied so tightly that blood flow is restricted.
3. The tongue strap should be tied such that the effective width is not less than 15mm so as to avoid a tourniquet effect.
4. Tongue straps must not be secured to either the bit or the bridle due to the risk of damage to a Horse's tongue should the bridle be dislodged in an incident.
5. Tongue straps must be clearly visible at all times
6. The groom in charge of the Horse must inform the IHRB Microchip Official prior to entering the parade ring that the Horse is wearing a tongue strap.
7. Tongue straps must be removed as soon as practical post-race.

ION 13

SHOES & CALKINS

A Horse shall not enter the Parade Ring or run in shoes which have protrusions on the ground surface unless they comply with the following:

Front Shoes

On front shoes, it is permitted to use four No. 2 nails, two inserted on the inside and two on the outside of each shoe, protrusions of which must be limited to ¼ in. The use of nails on the front of the shoes and the use of American toe grab plates or those with a sharp flange is forbidden.

Hind Shoes

On hind shoes, it is permitted to use calkins provided they are limited to ¼ in. in height. No other protrusions are allowed.

ION 14

MICROCHIP READERS

The Directors of the INHSC recommend that all Point to Point Handlers possess a microchip reader available for their use, to ensure that the microchip(s) implanted in all Horses in their care and control, correspond with the microchip number recorded in that Horses Passport.

ION 15

HORSE'S EQUIPMENT

In the interests of safety, a Horse must be equipped with a bridle or a chifney which may be attached to a head collar other than when in a horsebox or stabled, or when in a horsebox or stabled at the direction of an IHRB Official.

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