

NHBPA Board Resolution, July 24, 2011***NHBPA Lasix Policy Stemming from International Race Day Medication Summit***

WHEREAS, the National HBPA Board of Directors, having previously met on Friday, April 15, 2011 when it unanimously agreed that it could not support the Association of Racing Commissioners International ("RCI") March 28, 2011 five-year plan to eliminate the race day use of medication – namely furosemide ("Lasix") - as it is currently written agrees that;

WHEREAS, based in part on National HBPA's objection, an International Summit on Race Day Medication ("Summit") was sponsored by the RMTC, AAEP and NTRA in early May, 2011 to study the issue of race day usage of Lasix;

WHEREAS, the National HBPA participated in the summit which presented many viewpoints both for and against the race day use of Lasix and is a member of two sub-committees formed to prepare a proposed policy on the race day use of Lasix to be presented at the August 4, 2011 follow-up meeting of the RMTC;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National HBPA Board of Directors supports a national race day Lasix policy which has been discussed by one of the summit sub-committees and which would allow the race day use of Lasix in accordance with current practices as agreed to by horsemen, track operators and regulators, provided that:

1. Lasix (furosemide) be the designated race day medication approved for usage to prevent the occurrence of Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage (EIPH);
2. Any use of adjunct bleeder medications be banned; and,
3. Race day administration of Lasix be restricted to regulatory veterinarians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, based on the 2011 National HBPA Summer Convention Medication Forum and, specifically, data related to the safety hazards to both horse and rider in cases of sudden extreme EIPH / Epistaxis in horses that have not received race day administration of Lasix, the National HBPA Board of Directors also encourages the National HBPA staff, its Medication Committee Chair and its Veterinary Advisor to share these findings with the RCI so that the issue of horse and rider safety is properly considered in the context of race day use of Lasix.