Ontario Racing Commission Commission des courses de l'Ontario

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Preamble

The Ontario Racing Commission is committed to working with Industry stakeholders to expand the medication control program beyond existing pre-race, post-race testing and retention requirements;

As a result of concerns brought forward by the Industry regarding alleged misuse of cobalt:

The Ontario Racing Commission responded to this concern by working with the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency (CPMA) to develop a partnership to allow for enhanced testing of Official Samples once the CPMA has completed their testing.

Amended GENERAL DIRECTIVE NO. 2/2015

Enhanced Testing for Cobalt

Effective August 1, 2015 all horses that have been selected to provide an Official Sample as defined by the CPMA and its' regulations will have their samples subjected to enhanced testing by the ORC for the presence of cobalt.

Any sample where Cobalt is detected at a level of 50 ng/ml or more in blood will be deemed to be a violation of the Rules of Standardbred Racing 2012, Rules of Thoroughbred Racing 2012 and the *Racing Commission Act 2000* and the following regulatory action against the owner and/or trainer of the horse will result:

- Disqualification of the horse from the race;
- Return and redistribution of all earnings from that race;
- The horse will be made ineligible to race until:
 - o The owner of the horse produces a negative test result; and
 - o The ORC investigation is complete
- Any other penalties that the Director or his designate deems appropriate.

In addition to horses that have been selected to provide an Official Sample, if a horse has been claimed the new owner and/or trainer of record may request that the claimed horse be tested for cobalt according to Racing Forensics protocol. Where cobalt is detected at a level of 50 ng/mL or more in the blood sample regulatory action will be imposed against the original owner and/or trainer of record of the horse, and the claimant has the option to return the horse to the original owner and the claiming price will be returned to the claimant. The request to return the horse shall be made in accordance with the procedure outlined in Rule 15.20.01 of the Rules of Standardbred Racing and Rule 12.32 of the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing. If the horse is not

returned, the current owner will be required to provide the negative test result.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Jean Major

Executive Director