

# **ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EQUINE PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES & PRACTICES**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **A. Purpose**

1. The Advisory Council on Equine Prohibited Substances & Practices (**Advisory Council**) is a committee of the IFHA Executive Council.
2. The primary objectives of the Advisory Council are to:
  - a. promote good practice, harmonisation and information exchange across racing nations in relation to doping control matters;
  - b. enhance the control of prohibited substances and prohibited practices to improve the integrity of racing and welfare of horses;
  - c. raise awareness amongst participants and other stakeholders of doping control matters, including to help lift industry standards;
  - d. work with other IFHA technical committees and external bodies in relation to doping control matters; and
  - e. generally advise and assist the IFHA Executive Council on matters related to doping control.

### **B. Membership**

3. The Advisory Council is composed of the following members:
  - a. Chair – appointed by the IFHA Executive Council;
  - b. Vice Chair – appointed by the IFHA Executive Council;
  - c. Secretary – appointed by the IFHA Executive Council;
  - d. IFHA Senior Technical Advisor;
  - e. one nominee designated by the US Jockey Club, Breeders' Cup and the Jockey Club of Canada (jointly);
  - f. one nominee designated by Racing Australia;
  - g. one nominee designated by the Hong Kong Jockey Club;
  - h. one nominee designated by the Japan Racing Association;
  - i. one nominee designated by France Galop;
  - j. one nominee designated by the British Horseracing Authority;
  - k. one nominee designated by the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board;
  - l. one nominee designated by the Asian Racing Federation;
  - m. one nominee designated by the European Horserace Scientific Liaison Committee;

- n. one nominee designated by OSAF;
  - o. one nominee designated by the U.S. Horseracing Integrity Welfare Unit;
  - p. Chair of the International Group of Specialist Regulatory Veterinarians (IGSRV) (ex-officio member);
  - q. President of the Association of Official Racing Chemists (AORC) (ex-officio member);
  - r. Chair of the IFHA Gene Doping Control Subcommittee (ex-officio member);
  - s. Executive Director of the IFHA (ex-officio member);
  - t. up to two other members as appointed by the IFHA Executive Council in its discretion from time to time.
4. The Advisory Council is a technical, skills-based committee and, as such, only individuals with experience in racing chemistry, veterinary science, doping control or racing regulation may be appointed to it.
  5. The Advisory Council is assisted by members of the IFHA Executive Office.
  6. Except in exceptional circumstances and with the prior written approval of the Chair, a member of the Advisory Council is not permitted to assign or delegate any of his/her membership responsibilities to another person.
  7. Each member of the Advisory Council is appointed as a member for a term not exceeding four years (as notified by the relevant nominating body), after which the member is eligible for re-nomination/re-appointment.
  8. The IFHA Executive Council is required to appoint the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary (who may or may not be members designated by a racing authority or regional racing federation), and approve the appointment of each member of the Advisory Council. The Executive Council retains sole discretion to:
    - a. approve or reject any nomination for membership;
    - b. cancel any officeholder appointment or membership approval previously given.
  9. When appointing or nominating a member for the Advisory Council, the relevant body should give due consideration to promoting diversity of members.
  10. Members of the Advisory Council must agree to be bound by the IFHA Code of Conduct.

## **C. Functions**

11. The general roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council are to:
  - a. advise on and propose amendments to the IFHA International Agreement on Breeding, Racing & Wagering in relation to doping control matters;
  - b. develop and harmonise International Screening Limits, International Residue Limits, detection times, thresholds and performance specifications;
  - c. determine whether certain substances and practices should be classified as prohibited;
  - d. provide recommendations on standards of testing and research;
  - e. stimulate and coordinate relevant research and development in the laboratories of IFHA member countries;
  - f. compile statistics and prepare reports on prohibited substances testing conducted by IFHA members;
  - g. promote information and intelligence sharing/liaison between racing laboratories globally;
  - h. work with the IFHA Horse Welfare Committee and the IFHA International Harmonisation of Racing Rules Committee (including holding joint meetings as required) in relation to doping control matters of common interest;
  - i. collaborate and consult with external bodies (e.g. IGSRV, AORC) in relation to doping control matters; and
  - j. provide advice and reports to the IFHA Executive Council in relation to regulatory matters concerning equine prohibited substances and practices.

## **D. Meetings**

12. The Advisory Council shall meet at least annually, and hold any other meetings at the call of the Chair as necessary to fulfil its roles and responsibilities.
13. The Chair will determine whether any meeting is held in person or virtually.
14. The Chair may, in his/her discretion, approve a limited number of observers to attend Advisory Council meetings.
15. In exceptional circumstances and with the prior written approval of the Chair, a member may appoint a proxy to attend a meeting in his/her place.

16. Any observers or proxy who attends a meeting must agree to be bound by the IFHA Code of Conduct.

## **E. Reporting**

17. The Advisory Council shall provide an annual report in relation to its operation and achievements to the IFHA Executive Council, and provide reports on specific matters at any other times as requested by the IFHA Executive Council.

*Approved by the IFHA Executive Council on 5 October 2025.*