

History

The California equine industry sponsored legislation in 1971 to prevent misuse of drugs and medications in equines (horses, mules and donkeys) in public shows and sales. The resulting law is found in the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) Sections 24000-24018. The Equine Medication Monitoring Program (EMMP) managed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) monitors horses in public show, competitions and sales through random sample collection for chemical analysis.

The intent of the EMMP is to ensure the integrity of public horse shows, competitions and sales through the control of performance and disposition enhancing drugs and permitting limited therapeutic use of drugs at horse shows and competitions. To fund EMMP, event managers collect a fee of \$5.00 for each horse being entered in a show/competition or being consigned to a sale.

Event Manager - Definition

The Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) section 24001 defines an "event manager" as the person in charge and financially responsible for the event. The event manager is legally responsible for registering the event with the EMMP and for assessing, collecting, and remitting event fees to the program. "Event managers" include horse show secretaries or managers, competitive event managers, and horse sale managers or sale owners. Event managers are personally liable for the payment of fees and applicable late fee penalties to the department as provided by law.

Event Definition

An "event" is defined in FAC section 24001 as any public horse show, competition, or sale in which money, goods, or services are exchanged for the right to compete for a single set of placings leading to points or awards at the show or competition, or to permit a horse to be consigned for sale.

Event Exemptions

The following events are **exempt** from EMMP regulations:

- Competitions under the jurisdiction of the California Horse Racing Board
- Sales consigning exclusively racing stock
- Rodeo-related competitions when held apart from a horse show, including both rough stock and timed performance competitions
- Roping club events, cattle team penning, gymkhanas, and barrel racing when held apart from a horse show
- Parade horse competitions
- Public horse shows and competitions whose total cumulative fees, to enter into any one or all classes, do not exceed four dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$4.99) **and** which do not last longer than one day. Grounds fees, stall fees, or any other fee composed of money, goods, or services, which is assessed to permit competitors or consignors to enter into an event, are considered a part of the total cumulative fee.



For more information about EMMP contact:
Animal Health Branch
1220 N Street, Room A-107
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax (916) 653-2215

PROGRAM INQUIRIES

Event Registration and Administration:
(916) 657-5230 or (916) 657-5050

Drugs and Medications:
Dr. Katie Flynn
Equine Staff Veterinarian
(916) 651-9335

Event Manager Responsibilities

An event manager is responsible for:

1. Filing an *Application To Register Equine Event* (Form 76-024A) with the EMMP at least thirty (30) days before the event is to begin.
 - A civil penalty of \$100 - \$2500 may apply for failure to register an event.
2. Collecting the fee of \$5.00 for each horse being entered or consigned to the event.
3. Remitting the fees collected and submitting the *Assessment Report For Registered Event* page (Form 76-024A) to EMMP within fifteen (15) days of the final day of the event.
 - A civil penalty of 10% of the amount due plus 1 1/2% interest/month on the unpaid balance calculated from the date of the event will be levied on an event manager that fails to remit collected fees within fifteen (15) days of the final day of the event.
4. Retaining event records for two (2) years after the final day of the event. To enable verification of the collection and remittance of appropriate event fees, event records must be made available, if requested, for inspection and photocopying by EMMP staff.
5. Collecting, signing, and promptly submitting exhibitor or consignor Drug Declaration Forms (Form 76-027) to the EMMP.

An event manager that fails to comply with EMMP regulations is subject to suspension from hosting or managing an event for a period of between 90-365 days for each violation. An event manager who violates such a suspension by hosting or managing an event during the suspension period is subject to civil penalties for each violation.

Prohibited Substances

Prohibited substances are drugs or medications that affect the performance or disposition of the horse, mask or interfere with laboratory testing for chemicals, or are metabolites or derivatives of a prohibited substance. Prohibited substances affecting performance or disposition of equines include stimulants, depressants, tranquilizers, anesthetics, local anesthetics, sedative analgesics, anabolic steroids, corticosteroids, and soring agents.

Restricted Use of NSAIDs

It is acceptable for the therapeutic administration of NSAIDs to horses prior to and during registered horse shows and competitions, if the dose or combined doses of drugs do not exceed the maximum detectable regulatory limits in plasma (FAC section 24011.5). Detection of three or more NSAIDs in a sample obtained from a horse at a show or competition is a violation of the medication rule. However, detection of phenylbutazone (Bute) and flunixin (Banamine) in the same plasma sample is a violation.

Withdrawal from Sale or Competition

- A horse that has been given a prohibited substance must be withdrawn from show or competition for a minimum of 24 hours after administration of the prohibited substance.
- A horse that has been given a prohibited substance or NSAID cannot be sold at a public sale for a minimum of 72 hours after administration of the prohibited substance or NSAID.
- The horse must be withdrawn from show or competition for 90 days following the administration of an anabolic steroid.
- The horse must be withdrawn from show or competition for 45 days following administration of reserpine or fluphenazine.

Drug Declaration Form (Form 76-027)

An **owner/exhibitor/trainer** must complete and file a drug declaration form with an event manager for any horse at an event that has received a prohibited substance or NSAID within the **three (3) days** prior to the day being shown.

A public **horse sale consignor** must complete and file a drug declaration form with a sale manager for any horse that has received a prohibited substance or NSAID **within the five (5) days** prior to the day of the sale.

Drug Declaration Form Completion

The drug declaration form must have complete information including:

- The name and signature of the owner, trainer, or licensed veterinarian who administered the product(s)
- The name, strength, dose and the route of administration of the product(s)
- The date and time of product administration
- The diagnosis of the attending veterinarian for the horse and the reason for the product administration
- The name, breed, age, color and sex of the horse that received the product(s).

The owner/exhibitor/trainer is to submit the completed drug declaration form to the event manager within one hour of administration of the product(s) at the event. If the product administration occurs at a time other than during show or sale hours, the owner or trainer should submit the completed form within one hour after an event manager returns to duty.

An event manager must sign, date and submit drug declaration forms to the EMMP. Properly filed drug declarations are given consideration if and when the chemical analysis of a sample obtained from a horse at a public horse show, competition, or sale indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or NSAID.



**Animal Health and Food Safety
Services**

Equine Medication Monitoring Program



***Information for
Event Managers***

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