



PERMANENT IMPORT TESTING FOR HORSES SOLD AT BLOODSTOCK AUCTIONS

Effective on 2 March 2015, the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) implemented new Equine Anti-Doping Rules. The object of the Rules is to ensuring that British Racing remains at the forefront of preventing, deterring and detecting doping in racing, and ensuring a level playing field for participants of British Racing.

The information contained in the FAQ's below is a summary only, and should be read in conjunction with the Equine Anti-Doping Manual (G). These FAQ's should not be considered a replacement for the Rules, which are binding, and which shall prevail in the case of any inconsistency. Additional information may also be found in the Guide to the British Horseracing Authority's Equine Anti-Doping Rules. Further enquiries should be directed to anti-doping@britishhorseracing.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Does my horse require testing?

Any horse that is permanently imported into Great Britain (GB) must have a sample collected, and that sample be reported as negative, prior to it being permitted to race in GB. However, a horse imported from an exempt country and meeting the relevant criteria does not require testing (see below).

2. Which countries are exempt from testing?

Exempt ("bubble") Countries are currently; France, Ireland, Germany, Hong Kong, Sweden & Norway. A horse does not require a Permanent Import test where it has spent **at least 12 consecutive months** in an exempt country immediately prior to the date of importation.

3. What happens if I do not submit whereabouts and an imported horse is not tested?

The BHA Rules of Racing require whereabouts to be submitted within **seven** Business Days of arrival. To complete whereabouts please go to the following link <https://britishhorseracing.wufoo.eu/forms/whereabouts-information-permanent-import/>. For a horse imported just prior to sale at a Bloodstock auction where the Responsible Person would like testing to be conducted prior to sale, whereabouts (**for the horse's location once in GB**) should be submitted as soon as possible, and prior to arrival in GB. The BHA will endeavour to facilitate testing, but this is not guaranteed.

For a horse sold at a Bloodstock auction, but not in GB for seven Business Days prior to sale, the vendor may elect not to submit whereabouts. However, where the Responsible Person elects not to submit whereabouts they should speak directly to the sales company for further information on the steps that will be taken. The purchaser may elect to have the Permanent Import test conducted at fall of the hammer. If this option is not selected the horse will require testing after sale if it remains in GB.

Failure to provide the required information within the specified timeframes, or providing inaccurate information may result in a filing failure/missed test – see BHA Rules part 5 & 6 of Schedule (G) 2, and Guide.

4. How do I identify if a horse requires testing?

Below is a check list of questions that may assist you in determining whether your horse requires testing:

- a) Has the horse been imported from a non-exempt country, or has it spent less than 12 months in an exempt ("bubble") country?



- b) If no (to point a.) the horse does not require testing.
- c) If yes (to point a.), has the horse had a BHA Permanent Import test (contact BHA to clarify if unknown)?
- d) If yes (to point a.), did the horse sell through a public auction in a non-exempt country? For example, horses sold at Keeneland in USA may have had 'BHA Badged' Permanent Import test collected at point of sale. Subject to terms (please check Keeneland Conditions of Sale) this counts as its import test for GB and therefore it doesn't require testing on arrival in GB.
- e) If unsure if a horse has been/requires testing contact the BHA at anti-doping@britishhorseracing.com, or 0207 152 0000 (Trish Hill or Tessa Muir) providing as much detail as you are aware of.

5. What happens when my horse is tested?

Samples will be collected by a BHA Approved Person, in accordance with the sample collection procedures detailed in the Rules of Racing. **Note: testing may be conducted unannounced.** Samples can not be collected by your own veterinary surgeon.

6. Which drugs are being tested for?

The BHA published a list on its Rules of Racing website (<http://rules.britishhorseracing.com/>, Schedule (G) 1. Prohibited List) of those substances and methods which are prohibited. The Permanent Import test is concerned with those **substances and methods prohibited at all times** but the BHA reserves the right to test for any such substance listed within Schedule (G) 1.

7. How much does the test cost?

The 2017 cost of the Permanent Import test is **£415 + VAT** (routine turnaround). Priority turnaround may be possible, please contact the BHA to discuss.

8. Who pays for the test?

In accordance with the BHA Rules, testing is conducted at the Responsible Persons expense (i.e. the owner at the time of testing).

9. How long will it take to get the result?

Results for routine turnaround are usually reported to the BHA within 10 Business Days following collection of the sample. It may be possible for priority turn around, and individuals requiring this service should contact the BHA directly to discuss available options and associated costs.

10. What happens if the test is positive?

If an actionable sample taken as part of the BHA's equine anti-doping testing programme tests positive for a substance which is prohibited at all time, the BHA will provisionally suspend the horse from participating in races run under the BHA Rules, pending a full hearing. The person responsible for the horse may also be provisionally suspended. The BHA will carry out an investigation into the circumstances of the positive test, and where the Responsible Person is charged the case will be considered by a Disciplinary Panel.

11. Can I have my horse tested before it travels to Great Britain to be sold at a Bloodstock Auction?

No, generally a horse can not be tested prior to travelling to Great Britain to be sold at a Bloodstock auction.

12. What other key requirements should I consider?

Ensure the Export Certificate is logged with the General Stud Book within **90 days of arrival**. Note: this requirement is applicable to **all** horses, including those from exempt ("bubble") countries.