



## **HOW TESTING WORKS**

To ensure that the integrity of the sport, the safeguarding of horse welfare and the Rules are adhered to, BHA has developed sophisticated testing procedures to detect drugs. Samples collected for testing include: urine, blood and hair.

All regulatory samples are sent to the BHA's contract laboratory, LGC (formerly HFL sports science), near Newmarket, one of the world's premier independent drug surveillance laboratories. The 'A' sample is analysed for Prohibited Substances and the 'B' sample is stored and only analysed if required.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IN THE CASE OF A POSITIVE TEST?**

1. If a Prohibited Substance is detected in the 'A' sample, the Trainer and Owner of the horse are notified by BHA and an investigation to try and determine the source of the Prohibited Substance will be carried out.
2. The Trainer and/or Owner can elect to have the 'B' sample undergo counter-analysis, either at LGC or by another approved laboratory.
3. If the 'B' sample is negative, then BHA will consider whether to take disciplinary action based on any other evidence available to them.
4. If disciplinary action is taken, a hearing before the Disciplinary Panel will be conducted and the Panel will decide the appropriate sanction that should be imposed against the Trainer or Owner (in case of Hunter Chase). The horse is usually disqualified from the race in which the positive sample was obtained and the Trainer or Owner is likely to be fined. The results of the disciplinary hearing will be published in our [Disciplinary Results](#) section.

There is usually an identifiable explanation for positive samples relating to stable error or veterinary treatments having been administered with an insufficient withdrawal time prior to raceday.