



## MANDATORY 14 DAY STAND-DOWN PERIOD AFTER INTRA-ARTICULAR ADMINISTRATION OF CORTICOSTEROIDS

British Horseracing Authority (BHA) would like to advise trainers and their veterinary surgeons of a new Rule requiring a mandatory 14 day Stand-Down period from racing following administration of any intra-articular (“into the joint”) corticosteroids. This Rule will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

The Rule, an addition to Schedule (B) 3 – Requirements for horse to run, will read as follows:

*“The horse must not have been administered any intra-articular corticosteroid on the day of the race or on any of the fourteen days before the day of the race in which the horse is declared to run”.*

### To note

1. For the purpose of clarification the 14 day Stand-Down period equates to 16 regular days when including the day of administration and day of racing.
2. Corticosteroid preparations that are subject to this Rule include, but are not limited to: triamcinolone acetonide, betamethasone, dexamethasone and methylprednisolone preparations.
3. The minimum stand-down period is intended as a minimum period before racing within which **any** corticosteroid preparation must not be administered intra-articularly, including the shorter-acting corticosteroids. The stand-down period must not be confused with the Withdrawal Time of the particular drug used, as recommended by the treating veterinary surgeon. For certain corticosteroids the Withdrawal Time may be longer than the minimum stand-down period as prescribed by the Rules.
4. The administration of intra-articular corticosteroids is a “treatment” according to Rule (C) 13.4 and therefore must be recorded by a trainer in accordance with the Rules.

For any questions, or further advice, please contact BHA Equine Health and Welfare Department at [equine@britishhorseracing.com](mailto:equine@britishhorseracing.com) or 020 7152 0090.