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# Constitution of the International Trotting Association as amended August 2017

# 1. Name

The name of the Federation is "The International Trotting Association." ITA

It is understood that outside the countries of The European Trotting Union the term "trotting" refers to both trotting and pacing.

# 2. Objectives

The objectives for which the Association is formed are:

- To determine strategies for the promotion and enhancement of trotting, globally.
- To stimulate public and government interest in trotting.
- To encourage uniform international rules and regulations concerning the export and import of trotting horses and races throughout the world and data exchange of racelines and race earnings and to encourage their development, implementation and maintenance.
- To implement and modify the provisions of the International Agreement on Trotting Races (appendix 1) subject to any local restrictions which may apply in member countries.
- To encourage uniform methods of identification of trotting horses.
- To encourage and promote interest in the breeding, training and care, equine research and veterinary science relating to trotting horses.
- To determine and encourage the uniform use of politics and rules amongst trotting administrations.
- To promote an electronic communication process between the farious federation members in order to establish and update, regularly, a common database, including the performance of the trotter, race results and all other information sources to facilitate the business of the Federation and its members.
- To share information from an administrative viewpoint to improve the understanding of racing issues, internationally.

# 3. Membership

# A) Membership

Membership in the Association (listed in appendix 2) shall be open to the governing bodies of all countries (or groups of countries) that pursue the above objectives and actively conduct trotting races.

There shall be only one ITA member per country.

The candidate for membership shall provide evidence of its role and responsibility in trotting and breeding and racing and shall undertake to fulfill its obligation as set out in the Constitution.

- Should a member not attend several consecutive biennial meetings of the International Trotting Association, the country's membership should be reviewed by the Constitution Committee, which may take such action as is necessary.
- B) Lifetime Membership

Lifetime membership may be accorded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the industry and this Association, upon the recommendation of the Constitution and Regulation Committee and upon acceptance by the General Assembly. Such members may take part in all discussions but shall not have the right to vote.

C) New Membership

Applications for new membership of the Association shall be made to the President at least three months before the next scheduled biennial meeting of the Association and should contain the required report on trotting races and breeding in the candidate country. Such application to be considered at the next General Assembly.

# 4. Meetings

- A) Meetings of the Association shall be held at least once every two years, circulating between the countries in the order of: Europe North America Europe –Australasia (Australia and New Zealand).
- B) Each member country shall be entitled to be represented at all meetings of the Association by two delegates duly appointed in writing by the respective member country. The delegate or delegates so appointed need not be nationals or residents in the country they are representing, and substitute delegates may from time to time be appointed by the respective member countries. Delegates so appointed shall be the representative entitled to participate in the conference meeting and vote on any motion thereat.
- C) Every member country shall, in addition to its official delegates, be entitled to have not more than four official observers duly appointed by the member countries. These observers shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the Conference. The official observers shall not speak at International Trotting Association meetings unless given permission to do so. Notwithstanding the above, interested persons who shall be classified as visitors may attend meetings of the International Trotting Association, providing they obtain the accreditation of the member country of which they are resident.
- D) Voting at Association meetings shall be done by the delegates present and in the event of an equality of votes the President of the conference shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote with the exception of changes to the constitution where the provisions of clause 9 apply.
- E) At all meetings of the Association, the proceedings shall be communicated to all participants in the original languages of the Association, which will be: English, French and the language(s) of the host country at its discretion.
- F) All papers delivered at each meeting of the Association shall be presented in all official languages.
- G) The host country for any conference may invite a non-member country to attend the conference as an observer nation. Attendees from that nation shall have the same rights as clause 4 C).

# 5. Officers

- A) There shall be a President and Secretary and other such officers as the General Assembly may appoint.
- B) The President shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current conference and shall hold office until the first day of the next succeeding biennial conference.
- C) The Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the host country of the current conference by which time the official minutes will have been prepared and distributed. In any event not later than 120 days following the conclusion of the conference a new Secretary shall be appointed from the official delegation of the next host country.
- D) In the event of the death or loss of qualification of any officer a replacement shall be made by the delegation from the country of the incumbent officer.

# 6. Minutes

On the appointment of each President and Secretary all minutes taken and other records of the Association shall be forwarded immediately to the incoming Secretary and a copy of such minutes and documents retained for recorded purposes.

All reports and minutes must be prepared and sent to members and other conference attendees within two months of the conclusion of the World Trotting Conference.

# 7. Standing Committees

- A) There shall be an Advisory Committee comprising the two immediate Past Presidents and a delegate from the incoming host country whose functions shall be to advise and assist the President in ensuring continuity between conferences and assistance to the incoming host country in the planning of the next conference timetable.
- B) There shall be the following Standing Committees, each of which shall elect its own Chairman at the first meeting of the Committee:
  - 1. Constitution and Regulation
  - 2. Equine Health and Integrity
  - 3. Breeding
  - 4. Marketing and Business Development
  - 5. Racing and Wagering

It is suggested that at least two meetings of each Committee be held over the course of the Conference. Meetings of these Standing Committees are to be scheduled as part of the conference timetable.

C) Only one WTC delegate per member country is eligible to be a member of the Constitution and Regulation Committee. This Committee would meet, separate to the other committees, largely to review and confirm the ITA Constitution. The other four committees would meet over the course of the conference, with delegates and observers eligible to attend two of the four committees. Members of the other Standing Committees and special Committees shall comprise official delegates.

- D) The President, with the approval of the Conference, may appoint ad hoc committees to study and consider subject which may come up from time to time. The ad hoc committees once they have completed their studies and made their reports will be automatically disbanded.
- E) In the event of death or loss of qualification of any committee member, a new appointment may be made by the member country concerned.

# 8. Member Country Fees

- A) Each member country shall pay an annual fee to the Association. This annual fee shall be collected by the designated host country for the next coming biennial meeting of the Association. The annual fee shall be set by the General Assembly of the Association (based on UET categories Group 1 -\$1,000 USD, Group 2 - \$500 USD, Group 3 - \$250 USD). The said fee shall be due and payable on or before July 1st of each year. Should the fee not be paid when due, then membership may at the discretion of the Constitution Committee be considered to have lapsed.
- B) Each member country shall pay a registration fee for each appointed delegate, observer or visitor attending any meeting of the Association. Such fee shall be set by, and paid to the host country Fees: Up to US\$2,000 for Conference attendees and up to US\$2,000 for accompanying persons.
- C) All conference fees shall be notified to all member countries at least six months prior to the opening of the Conference.

# 9. Changes to the Constitution

Changes to the Constitution of the International Trotting Association may be proposed by notice of Motion in writing to the Secretary General of the Association not later than two months prior to the next meeting of the Association and the Secretary General shall immediately on receipt notify all member countries. Such alterations to the Constitution must be considered by Constitution and Regulation Committee.

Any changes to the Constitution recommended by the Constitution and Regulation Committee shall then be considered by General Assembly. Approval by the General Assembly shall require a two thirds majority of those delegates present and voting.

# **10. World Driving Championship**

At the General Assembly of each meeting of the Association, the host country will provide a report on the conduct of the World Driving Championship. This report will outline any recommended changes to the rules for the conduct of the next championship, which will be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.6/38

# Appendix 1 International Agreement on Trotting Races

# CHAPTER I REGULATIONS REGARDING BREEDING

# Article 1 – Registration in a Stud-Book

Any «trotter» born in a country whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall be entered in a stud-book recognized by the competent Authorities of each country concerned. A list of the current trotters' stud-books is given hereafter (appendix 1).

There shall be no discrimination on the basis of foaling places or breeder's nationality when recording a foal in the list below-mentioned.

# Article 2 – Registration Criteria

"Stud- seramdoorb fo tsil eht hcihw ni retsiger eht snaem «koob- and their foals are recorded and recognized as being of the Trotter horse breed (under internationally accepted selection criteria, defined in appendix 2), as well as the list of stallions recognized in accordance with the same criteria and, where applicable, the list of imported foreign horses recorded in the stud-book of their country of origin.

# Article 3 – Recognition of Stud-Books

Each country whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall recognize the validity of the stud-books of the other signatory countries, providing all entries are made and guaranteed by the competent authority in the country concerned, or by any duly empowered body.

# Article 4 – Identity Checks

Any horses recorded in a stud-book of a country whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall be submitted to identity checks by the relevant Stud-Book authority. Such checks shall be recorded in the horse's documents of origin or identification issued for each horse by the competent authority, and/ or on its passport.

Countries whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall set up a specific identification procedure through a standardized detailed description or possibly freeze or lip branding or microchip implant. The location of the microchip shall be indicated on all registration documents.

Moreover, the signatory countries undertake to set up blood typing records for each new foal.

All foals shall be identified at birth by DNA typing

# Article 5 – Registration of names

The name assigned to a foal registered by the competent authority in a signatory country:

- shall comprise no more than 20 characters (including blank spaces);
- shall not use those of stallions, horses or broodmares notorious for their performance in international racing.

The countries that are signatories to this Agreement undertake to prohibit any change in the name of a horse registered in the relevant Stud Book once it has taken part in a public race. Furthermore, before

that first racing event any change in a horse's name is subject to the prior authorization of the Authority that has originally registered the name. If any horse has been exported into a country the country of origin shall be notified of any name changes.

The registered names of horses coming from abroad shall have suffixes added to them specifying the country of origin of the horse, in accordance with the International code (ISO 3166).

A list of protected names is published by UET and is available on the UET web-site.

# Article 6 – Registration document

For each new foal, the Stud-Book authority concerned shall issue a registration document or passport to be forwarded to the national trot racing authorities.

The registration document or passport shall include the data required to identify the foal: name, breed, date of birth, UELN number, sex, colour, description, pedigree (sire, dam, damsire), identity number, breeder's name and name of the issuing body.

Countries whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall establish a standard document for all horses entered in the stud-book mentioned in article 2.

# Article 7 – Registration

When a horse is exported and when its Stud Book of origin is divided into several sections, countries whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement shall indicate which section of that Stud Book the horse was registered in.

# Article 8 - Export certificate

A trotter imported into a country cannot be registered in the stud-book of that country unless an export certificate issued less than 6 months previously has been delivered by the keeper authority of the stud-book in its country of origin. Electronic issuance of Export Certificates shall be accepted.

# Article 9 - Cloning

No trotter conceived by means of cloning, genetic engineering or sperm selection shall be allowed to participate in races organized in countries whose Racing Authorities are signatories to this Agreement, nor be registered in a Trotter Stud Book.

# Article 10 – Mare gestation

No mare shall be allowed to participate in races 4 months after the last covering date. A covered mare may be allowed to continue to run if she is declared empty.

No mare shall be allowed to participate in races until 6 months have elapsed following the birth of a foal (live foal). In case of abortion or of a stillborn foal after 4 months or more of gestation, the mare may be authorized to run again after a minimum period of 3 months following said event.

# Article 11 - Limitation of breeding cards per stallion

A foal may be registered in a Stud-Book only when a breeding certificate has been duly delivered for registration purposes by the owner of the stallion or his representative, regardless of the method of reproduction. Each country shall keep, for each stallion, a register of mares he has covered.

In the case of insemination with transported semen, providing the Stud-Book regulations so allow, each dose of semen must be accompanied by a certificate, certifying the origin of the semen and the date of collection.

The number of breeding cards issued annually for one stallion may not exceed 150 for progeny to be registered in a Stud Book, regardless of the insemination method used.

The use of semen from a dead or disappeared stallion is forbidden beyond the end of the year following his death or disappearance. No foal may be registered beyond this time limit.

Recommendation:

To avoid the risk of inbreeding, it is recommended that the number of breeding cards per stallion be limited to the maximum allowed by the stud-book of the country, it being understood that this limit should not exceed 15% of the national stock of trotter mares.

# Article 12 - Embryo Transfer

A mare is allowed to give birth to one foal only per year (except in case of twins). In the case of a birth arising from an embryo transfer method, only the first foal born worldwide may be registered in one Stud-Book. The embryo transfer donor mare must be approved and embryo transfer (E.T.) must be mentioned in the foal's registration documents.

No mare with foal at foot may be exported before December 31 of the year of birth of that foal.

Both mares (donor and host) involved in the embryo transfer shall be considered as covered.

# **Appendix 1 - Stud Books of UET member countries**

The only trotter Stud-Books existing in UET member countries and recognized by the countries whose Racing Authorities that are signatories to this Agreement are as follows:

OFFICIAL NAME	MAIN CHARACTERISTICS Kept by the Austrian Federation. Open to the progeny born in Austria of mares registered in this Stud-Book and covered	
AUSTRIA RETSIGERTHCUZ SEHCSIHCIERRETSÖ		
	in Austria, and to trotter foals born outside Austria from Austrian-registered or foreign mares imported into Austria, providing such mares were imported with their foal, during the year of its birth	
BELGIUM STUD-BOOK DU TROTTEUR BELGE DENMARK	Kept by the Belgian FederationSection 1: open only to the progeny of horses registered in the Stud-Book of an Association approved by ITA and/ or UET under certain conditions. Section 2: open to horses registered in the Stud-Book of an Association approved by ITA and/ or UET under certain conditions Section 3: open to horses born and identified in Belgium as from 2010 whose sire and dam are registered in the Stud Book of a foreign Association approved by ITA and/ or UET under certain conditions.	
DANSK TRAVERSTAMBOK	Kept by the Danish Federation of Trotting Races. Open to the progeny of Danish mares and to the progeny of imported foreign mares recognized by the Danish Federation.	
FINLAND		
SUKUKIRJA	Kept by the Finnish Federation (Suomen Hippos). Open to the progeny of recognized stallions and mares registered in this studbook and to those which are imported and recognized by Suomen Hippos.	
FRANCE		
STUD-BOOK DU TROTTEUR FRANCAIS	Kept by the IFCE. Closed register, with some occasional exceptions as decided by rules.	
GERMANY	<b>.</b>	
DEUTSCHES TRABERGESTÜTBUCH	Kept by the German Federation (H.V.T.). This Stud-Book is open only to Trotters produced by registered sires and dams and to those which are imported and recognized by the Federation.	

LIBRO GENEALOGICO DEL CAVALLO TROTTATORE ITALIANO	Kept by U.N.I.R.E under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. Closed Register. Exceptions possible.
THE NEDERLANDS DRAVERSTAMBOEK	Kept by the Dutch Federation of trotting races. Section 1: open to native horses only. Section 2: open to imported horses only.
NORWAY NORSK TRAVERSTAMBOK FOR VARMBLODHESTER	Kept by the Norwegian Federation of trotting races (D.N.T.). Open to the progeny of registered mares and approved stallions owned by Norwegian breeders.
RUSSIA	
STATE STUD BOOK OF RUSSIAN TROTTER	S Kept by the All Russian Breeding Horse Research Institute for Horse breeding under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture in Russia. Open only to the progeny of mares either registered in the stud book or recorded in the register of imported horses, and of a sire entered either in one of the stud-books or in a foreign stub-book recognized by All- Russian Research Institute for Horse breeding. No special requirements as regards breeders nationalities.
SPAIN	
LIBRO GENEALOGICO DEL CABALLO TROTADOR ESPAÑOL SWEDEN	Kept by the Ministerio de Defensa, organismo autónomo; «FONDO DE EXPLOTACION DE LOS SERVICIOS DE CRIA CABALLAR Y REMONTA.)
SVENSK TRAVSTAMBOK FÖR VARMBLODIGA HÄSTAR SWITZERLAND	Kept by the Swedish Federation of trotting) S.T.). Open to the progeny of Swedish mares and the progeny of imported foreign mares and registered stallions from studbooks recognized by the Swedish Federation.
STUD-BOOK SUISSE POUR CHEVAUX	Kont by the Dreading Committee of the
TROTTEURS	Kept by the Breeding Committee of the Swiss Trotting Federation, delegated by the Swiss Federal Department of Agriculture. Open to any foal entered in the Stud-Book of any country. The foal concerned must be in Switzerland before the end of its birth year.

# **Appendix 2 - Stud Book Registration Conditions**

- 1. The Stud-Book authorities mentioned in Appendix 1 shall draw up the conditions for registration in the Stud-Book they keep:
  - every horse shall be duly identified by the competent authority which shall issue a registration document or a passport and make the registration;
  - parentage check shall be done by DNA typing;
  - identification of a trotter shall include a record of its description and verification that the registration conditions for the Stud-Book have been met, as well as the verification of the description carried out at the latest when qualifying for racing.
    - registration in a stud-book :
       V' according to parentage registration (for the progeny of sires and mares already registered in that Stud-Book);
      - V' by decision of the Stud-Book authority.
- 2. The organization delegated to keep each stud-book shall lay down the selection criteria for stallion licensing:
  - all breeding stock (stallions and mares) must be approved by the competent authority;
  - such approval shall only be given to a male horse already registered in a Stud-Book, accompanied by a registration and identity documents;
  - approval shall be granted according to selection requirements established by the competent authority;
- 3. A trotter may be allowed to be registered as a sire in a stud-book other than his stud-book of origin, providing he meets the conditions of approval for stallion licensing as determined by the authorities in charge of that other Stud-Book according to article 4 of EU Directive 90/427.

# CHAPTER II HEALTH REGULATIONS

# Article 1 - Health information

The Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement undertake to inform one another, through UET's secretariat, about infectious diseases and epidemics, involving horses domiciled in their countries.

They shall exchange information on the state of health of horses as well as on any measures taken to improve prevention against contagious diseases.

They undertake to report any equine notifiable diseases (Dourine, Glanders, Venezuelian Equine Encephalomyelitis, Infectious Equine Anemia, Rabies, Anthrax, African Horse Sickness).

UET's secretariat shall establish co-operation with the O.I.E. in order to exchange information.

# **Article 2 - Vaccinations**

The Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall enforce compulsory vaccination requirements in their respective countries, in particular vaccination against Equine Influenza. Vaccinations shall be recorded on the horse's passport or on a special health document, certified by the duly accredited veterinary authority, in the country where the horse is domiciled.

# Article 3 - Vaccination against Equine Influenza

Any horse coming from one of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement, to participate in a race organized in another signatory country, shall have been vaccinated against Equine Influenza:

- according to the timing requirements of the sanitary authorities in the country of origin, for the primary injections;
- within a period not exceeding twelve months for the booster injections.

A certificate proving compliance with the above-mentioned conditions shall be presented to the competent authorities before any horse shall be allowed to enter a racetrack or a training center.

# **Article 4 - Hygiene requirements**

The vehicles and stalls used on race courses and/or in training centers to house horses coming from abroad shall be regularly disinfected, especially when a horse vacates the stall and is replaced by another.

As far as possible, foreign horses shall be stabled separately upon their arrival in the country, and subjected to a health check.

# Article 5 - Administrative measures - Health certificate

A passport or document of identity stating name, sex, breed, origin, age and methods of identification shall be provided for each trotter entering a country that is signatory to this Agreement. These documents shall contain, or be accompanied by a health certificate issued by the veterinary authority in accordance with the health regulations applicable in the horse's country of origin. They shall be checked whenever a horse is imported.

#### Article 6 - Health regulations governing races

Any horse entering a country that is signatory to this Agreement, from any country signatory to this Agreement, to take part in a race, shall be subjected to a health check, within the time-limit set by the Animal Health Authorities in the horse's country of origin, prior to the horse's departure and by those of

the host country upon arrival. Any horse suspected by the veterinarian authority of suffering from or being contaminated by an infectious disease, shall be quarantined.

The Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall ban from racing any horse which does not fulfill the health requirements of the host country or does not fulfill the timing requirements for compulsory vaccination in said country.

# CHAPTER III RACING REGULATIONS

# Article 1 – Organization of races

Each Racing Authority in charge of trotting races in its country shall organize:

- races reserved to trotters entered in at least one of the Stud-Books defined in chapter I;
- international races open to all recognized trotter breeds duly registered in a Trotter Stud-Book recognized at the international level by an official body approved by the national authority of the country of origin of this stud-book.
- European races reserved to trotters foaled in one country that is signatory to this Agreement and registered in one of the Stud-Books mentioned in chapter I.

# Article 2 – Eligibility to enter a race

Races shall be open to horses of a certain age or gender category or, according to a classification based on winnings or speed records.

# Article 3 – Inspections

Before each race, horses, drivers and equipment (carriage, sulky, helmet, etc.) shall be inspected.

Before each race, if a horse is lame or suffering from another health problem, it may be prevented from racing, either by the veterinarian or by the Stewards (Racing Authority).

# Article 4 – Definition of race categories

On proposal of the Breeding Committee, UET shall define race categories according to specific criteria (see appendix 3).

# **Article 5 – Performance recording**

Every national Federation is responsible for keeping a comprehensive record of each horse's performance (position in the finishing order, distance covered, running time, winnings, etc.). In the event of permanent export of a horse, the national Federation of the receiving country shall be responsible for those records.

Responsibility for the upkeep of horse data sheets:

If a horse or a driver takes part in a race abroad, the National Federation of the organizing country undertakes to provide, on the first working day after the race, the Federation of the country where the horse is registered (\*) and the Federation of the country where the horse is trained, with the technical data of the race (racecourse, date, name of race, distance, barrier draw, finishing position, running time, driver's name, amounts won, penalty if any, etc.).

(\*) registered means registered as a foal in the Stud-Book of a country or transferred to the import Register of another country.

# Article 6 - Participation

Regulations concerning:

- distances: races shall be run on a minimum distance of 1.600 metres;
- pre-race operations (see Article 3);
- the start: the start shall be either a tape start, with electric eye, or a mobile start or a moving start.

# I. DISQUALIFICATION

1. Definition

A horse that is disqualified is one that loses the benefit of the position it would have been assigned otherwise. When a horse is disqualified during the race, it is no longer allowed to continue the race.

# 2. Gaits

A horse shall run the entire course in the trotting gait. If a horse breaks stride, it should immediately be pulled back to the trot, without interfering with other competitors.

A. A horse shall be disqualified:

- a) if it breaks stride during the race and covers more than 100 meters or if it takes more than 15 strides in gallop or pacing;
- b) if it breaks stride more than twice (gallop or pace);
- c) If it takes a single stride at the gallop or pace in the last part of the race, clearly marked out by a red and white sign before the winning post. The sign is positioned at 100 m minimum to 200 m maximum from the winning post, according to the length and shape of the track;
- d) if it breaks stride (gallop or pace), thereby gaining an advantage over the other competitors.

B. A horse may be disqualified:

- a) if it moves at an irregular gait, thereby gaining an advantage over other competitors;
- b) if it moves at an irregular gait ; furthermore, the trainer and the driver may be subject to penalties.

# 3. Incidents

A horse shall be disqualified:

- a) if it takes the wrong course;
- b) if it covers a distance; other than the prescribed distance,
- c) if, during the race, by changing line, it interferes with one or several competitors, thereby gaining advantage over them;
- d) if it covers part of the course without its driver;
- e) if it crosses the marks that materialize the track boundary to overtake a competitor or to gain any sort of advantage.

# 4. Decision

The decision to disqualify a horse on account of its gaits or a race incident shall be taken:

- either immediately, while the race is ongoing
- or after an enquiry and before the finishing order has been made official.

The decision to disqualify in these cases shall be irrevocable and no appeal or protest shall be lodged during the race day.

Irrespective of whether the horse is disqualified, its driver too may be penalized by a caution, a fine or a suspension if he is deemed responsible.

# **II. DEMOTION**

1. Definition

A horse that is demoted is one that loses its place at the finish and is placed back to one or more positions.

2. Incident

Independently from disqualification, in the case of an incident on the course, a horse that interferes with one or several contending horses in the home stretch, is liable to be demoted behind the horse(s) it interfered with, but maintained in the classification ahead of those unaffected by the incident.

3. Decision

A decision to demote shall be taken before the finishing order is made official..

Such decision may not be appealed on the day of the race.

Irrespective of whether a horse has been demoted, the driver may be penalized if held responsible.

# **III. SUSPENSION**

1. Definition

A horse that is suspended is one that is banned from racing for a certain period.

2. Conditions

A horse shall be suspended from all races or from a certain category of races, when so decided on account of:

- a racing incident.
- unruly behaviour.
- insufficient preparation.
- Performance considered as inadequate or inconsistent.
- several disqualifications (or reports) for irregular gaits.

If a horse has been disqualified 3 times in succession on account of its gaits, it may be suspended from racing for at least 15 days or be allowed to requalify by running a qualification race.

# Article 7 – Horse Identification

Before taking part in their first race, every horse's description shall be checked and their identity confirmed. A blood sample may be taken for confirmation after the race to be compared to the blood types registered for each horse with the Federation in charge.

Any Racing Authority that is signatory to this Agreement and that has not opted for microchip identification shall be requested to consult UET before taking any decision.

# Article 8 -Presence of alcohol in the blood

Any jockey/driver may be subject to a check of his physical fitness to participate in a race, especially by means of a breathalyzer test.

Stewards may prohibit a driver from participating in a race, if the alcohol level in his blood exceeds the limit authorized in the organizing country.

Annual Race Min. purse Max % r. Conditions Date Track € check G 1 100 000 0,5% No restriction on national races. Sand cinder Fixed date, Board No .handicaps Same start for all unless otherwise , except where age conditions decided by the apply. Committee G2 45000 1% Board Sand cinder G3  $25\ 000$ 2% Board Any kind \_

**Appendix 3 - Group Races** 

# CHAPTER IV ANTI-DOPING RULES

# Article 1 - Objective

The objective is to protect the integrity of horseracing, through controlling the use of substances capable of giving a horse an advantage or being disadvantaged in a race, contrary to the horse's inherent merits.

# **Article 2 - Sampling**

To establish whether a prohibited substance is present in a horse's body, samples shall be taken from horses that have run in a race. Horseracing Authorities may also take samples at any other time, according to their own rules. Sample means a sample from any part, or in contact with any part, of the horse.

Each Federation shall organize biological sampling for at least 10% of the races organized every year.

At the request of the Federation that is host to the event, a horse that has participated in a race organized in a country that is a signatory to this Agreement and likely to be re-entered in a race in that country, may, if domiciled in another country, be submitted to biological sampling performed by an accredited authority in its country of residence.

Costs thus incurred shall be paid by the Racing Federation requesting the sampling. Samples – accompanied, if need be, by a veterinary prescription detailing current treatments – shall be packaged in conditions meeting satisfactory scientific standards and promptly dispatched, by express mail, to the laboratory accredited by the Federation of the country where the horse resides so that tests can be performed in accordance with the regulatory procedures in force in that country.

If a horse cannot be checked in accordance with the abovementioned legal procedures, its participation in any race may be disallowed.

# **Article 3 - Samples**

A sample collected under a secure chain of custody shall be split into an A sample and a B sample.

If the A sample is reported to contain prohibited substance(s), the B sample may be analysed for that/ those substance(s) either systematically or optionally at the trainer's or owner's request.

# Article 4 – Presence of prohibited substances

In the event of a Horseracing Authority finding a prohibited substance in a sample taken from a horse which is entered or has run in a race within its jurisdiction but which is trained abroad, the Horseracing Authority where the horse is trained is to be informed and shall provide assistance when requested.

If the A sample is reported to contain one or several prohibited substances, the horse in question shall not be allowed to race before the Federation concerned has lifted the ban, on the basis of its own regulations relating to investigation of a presumed positive case.

# Article 5 – Horse Disqualification

A horse shall be disqualified whenever a sample taken contains a prohibited substance. The trainer of the horse shall be penalized.

# **Article 6 – Fines and penalties**

The fine imposed on a trainer for a positive doping test shall be no less than  $500 \notin$  and, when anabolic agents have been detected, no less than 5.000 €.

Penalties imposed on the offender:

- first offence: the training licence may be withdrawn, and if the trainer and driver are the same • person, the latter's driving/riding licence may be withdrawn.
- second offence or first offence involving anabolic agents: the training licence may be suspended and, where applicable, the driver shall be suspended for at least one month.

# Recommendation

Suspension of the horse for one month minimum or until a new test proves that the horse is again free of any prohibited substance. Any horse tested positive for anabolic steroids or growth hormones shall be suspended and banned from racing and breeding for at least 2 years.

The horse concerned must present a negative test result before being allowed to race and breed again.

Any horse imported to a UET country for breeding purposes shall, as from January 1st, 2012, be tested in particular on basis of the hair testing method, for anabolic steroids and/or growth hormones.

# Article 7 - The trainer's responsibilities

The trainer shall always be responsible for:

- the feeding, management, protection and security of the horses in his care;
- taking all reasonable precautions with the horses in his care to avoid their exposure to • prohibited substances contrary to the rules of the Horseracing Authority;
- keeping informed of the possible consequences of treatment given to his horses.

# Article 8 – Prohibited substances - Raceday regulations

With the exception of veterinarians authorized by the Stewards or Horseracing Authority, nobody shall shall bring into the stables of a racecourse on a raceday either a prohibited substance or any means of administering such a substance.

# **Article 9 – Treatment of a horse**

After a horse has raced and before it is discharged from any requirements for post race sampling, no treatment with prohibited substances shall be allowed without official permission.

# Article 10 - Prohibited substances

The following are prohibited substances :

- substances capable at any time of acting on one or more of the following mammalian body systems:
  - $\checkmark$  the nervous system,
  - $\checkmark$  the cardiovascular system,
  - $\checkmark$  the respiratory system,
  - $\checkmark$  the digestive system,
  - $\checkmark$  the urinary system,
  - $\checkmark$  the reproductive system,
  - $\checkmark$  the musculoskeletal system,
  - $\checkmark$  the blood system,
  - the immune system except for the licensed vaccines
     the endocrine system,
- endocrine secretions and their synthetic counterparts,
- masking agents.

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# Article 11 – Finding of a prohibited substance

A finding of a prohibited substance means a finding of the substance itself or a metabolite of the substance or an isomer of the substance or an isomer of a metabolite. The finding of any scientific indicator of administration or other exposure to a prohibited substance is also equivalent to the finding of the substance.

# Article 12 - Help for the trainers and veterinarians

With the objective of helping trainers and their veterinary advisers, horseracing authorities may include in their own rules examples of prohibited substances.

# Article 13 - Classification of prohibited substances

With the objective of providing guidance to horseracing tribunals, Horseracing Authorities may produce a classification of prohibited substances.

# **Article 14 - Thresholds**

Thresholds can only be adopted for:

- substances endogenous to the horse
- substances arising from plants traditionally grazed or harvested as equine feed
- substances in equine feed arising from contamination during cultivation, processing or treatment, storage or transportation.

# **Article 15 - Authorized thresholds**

Substances below the following thresholds are not actionable:

SUBSTANCE	THRESHOLD
Arsenic	0,3 microgram total arsenic per milliliter in urine.
Boldenone	0,015 microgram free and conjugated boldenone per milliliter in urine from male horses (other than geldings).
Carbon dioxide	36 millimoles available carbon dioxide per litre in plasma.
Dimethyl sulphoxide	15 micrograms dimeéthyl sulphoxide per milliliter in urine or 1 microgram dimethyl sulphoxide per milliliter in plasma.
Estranediol	the mass of free and conjugated $5\alpha$ -estrane- $3\beta$ , $17\alpha$ -diol to the mass of free and conjugated $5(10)$ -estrene- $3\beta$ , $17\alpha$ -diol in urine from male horses (other than geldings) at a ratio of 1.
Hydrocortisone	1 microgram hydrocortisone per millilitre in urine
Salicylic acid	750 micrograms salicylic acid per milliliter in urine or 6,5 micrograms salicylic acid per milliliter in plasma
Testosterone	<ul> <li>0.02 microgram free and conjugated testosterone per milliliter in urine from geldings.</li> <li>0,055 microgram free and conjugated testosterone per milliliter in urine from fillies and mares (unless in foal).</li> </ul>
Theobromine	2 micrograms theobromine per milliliter in urine.
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# **Article 16 - Laboratories**

The official laboratories shall use harmonized limits of detection for screening legitimate therapeutic drugs.

The aim of signatory countries is that their laboratories should:

- be accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, and to the supplementary document ILAC-G7, Accreditation requirements and operating criteria for horseracing laboratories.
- conform with the Guide for establishing the presence of prohibited substances (Part B of ILAC-G7)
- meet the performance specification of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (Part C of ILAC-G7)
- take part in inter-laboratory comparisons (clause 5.9 (b) of ISO/IEC 17025 : 1999 n.d.t. : l'Accord de la FIAH dit "2005" et non pas "1999")

List of approved laboratories (appendix 4).

# Article 17 -- Infringement prevention

With the objective of preventing infringements, Horseracing Authorities may at their discretion:

- make available detection times
- give forewarning of new or modified tests
- provide an analytical service to establish whether a sample from a horse entered to race contains prohibited substances as specified by the trainer.

# **Appendix 4 - List of laboratories**

#### AUSTRIA

HORSERACING FORENSIC LABORATORY Newmarket Road, Fordham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5WW - UK <u>E-mail: info@hfl.co.uk</u> t. +44.16381720500 - f. +44.11638172420

LABORATOIRE DES COURSES HIPPIQUES (LC.H.) 15, rue du Paradis, 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson – France t. +33.169752823 - f. +33.169752823

THE RACING LABORATORY The Hong-Kong Jockey Club - Sha lin Racecourse - Sha Tin, N.I HONG KONG

#### BELGIUM

LABORATOIRE DES COURSES HIPPIQUES (LC.H.) 15, rue du Paradis, 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson – France t. +33.169752823 - f. +33.169752823

#### DENMARK

NATIONAL VETERINARY INSTITUTE Head of Chem Dept: Prof. Ulf Bondesson, 751 89 Uppsala – SWEDEN t. +46.18674000 - f. +46.18674099

#### **FINLAND**

UNITED LABORATORIES Ltd. Höyläämötie 14, PL 222, 00381 Helsinki - FINLAND

#### FRANCE

LABORATOIRE DES COURSES HIPPIQUES DE LA FEDERATION NATIONALE DES COURSES (LC.H.) 15, rue du Paradis, 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson – FRANCE

NATIONAL HORSERACING AUTHORITY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA PO Box 74439, Turffontein 2140 - SOUTH AFRICA

HORSERACING FORENSIC LABORATORY Newmarket Road, Fordham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5WW – GRANDE BRETAGNE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, RACING LABORATORY Sha lin Racecourse - Sha Tin, N.I HONG KONG

MAURITIUS TURF CLUB LABORATORY Champ de Mars – Port Louis – ILE MAURICE

# ITALIE

UNIRELAB Via Gramsci,70 20019 Settimo Milanese

> SVENSK TRAVSPORT Box 25101 – 161 02 Bromma - Tel: 46(8) 475 26 00 - Email: info@wtc2019.se Web: wtc2019.se

# NETHERLANDS

HORSERACING FORENSIC LABORATORY Newmarket Road, Fordham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5WW – UK <u>E-mail: info@hfl.co.uk</u> t. +44.16381720500 - f. +44.11638172420

LABORATOIRE DES COURSES HIPPIQUES (LC.H.) 15, rue du Paradis, 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson – France t. +33.169752823 - f. +33.169752823

#### NORWAY

NATIONAL VETERINARY INSTITUTE Head of Chem Dept: Prof. Ulf Bondesson, 751 89 Uppsala – SWEDEN t. +46.18674000 - f. +46.18674099

#### SPAIN

LABORATORIO DE CONTROL DE DOPAJE Departament de Farmacologia i Toxicologia Institut Municipal d'Investigacio Medica IMIM Ooctor Aiguader 80 (Zona Hospital dei Mar), 08003 Barcelona – SPAIN t. +34.932211009 - f. +34.932213237

#### SWEDEN

NATIONAL VETERINARY INSTITUTE Head of Chem Dept: Prof. Ulf Bondesson, 751 89 Uppsala – SWEDEN t. +46.18674000 - f. +46.18674099

#### SWITZERLAND

LABORATOIRE DES COURSES HIPPIQUE (L.C.H.) 15, rue du Paradis, 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson – FRANCE t. +33.169752823 - f. +33.169752823

# CHAPTER V REGULATIONS REGARDING PERSONS

# **Article 1 - Registration of owners**

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall keep a record of the owners of stallions, broodmares, foals and race horses in their respective countries. The following conditions shall be met: ownership and any changes of ownership shall be duly entered and updated in a reliable and easily controllable way; the register shall be regularly updated, it should also be possible to check any agreement on ownership status (joint ownership, leasing).

# **Article 2 - Issuing of licences**

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall keep a register of the trainers of horses likely to take part in races organized in those countries. They shall set up regulations regarding the right to train, to enter and to race a horse.

Every person who has a regular training activity in a country shall have a licence issued by the appropriate Federation of that country. Such person shall fulfill the specific conditions in that country, in order to obtain the national licence.

Owner and driver licences are issued by the Federation of the country in which the persons concerned have their main place of residence.

# **Article 3 - Authorizations**

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall set up rules regulating the issue of training and driving licences, both professional and amateur. They shall keep the official register of individuals authorized to train and drive.

In every country, criteria shall be established to differentiate between professional and amateur licences, as well as between training and driving, including, in this last case, a special category for apprentices.

No driving licence will be issued or renewed, unless a medical certificate certifying the fitness of the person concerned to exercise this activity has been presented.

An apprentice is a person who:

holds a special annually renewable licence,

is no less than 16 years old,

is enrolled in a vocational training course approved by a public authority and/or the national Federation,

is employed by a trainer authorized to train apprentices.

A professional driver/jockey is a person:

who holds an annually renewable professional licence,

who has received vocational training or is engaged in a professional activity relating to trotting,

whose main source of livelihood is driving,

who is recognized as a professional by the relevant official Authority.

An amateur driver is a person who:

holds an annually renewable amateur licence, is no less than 16 years old, has received training and has passed a qualification test, receives no remuneration for his driving activity.

There are two types of annually renewable training licences:

professional trainer licence,

amateur trainer licence.

A professional trainer is a person:

who holds an annually renewable professional trainer licence,

who has received vocational training or has been engaged in a professional activity relating to trotting,

whose main source of livelihood is training,

who is recognized as a professional by the relevant official Authority,

who is authorized to train horses belonging to different owners.

An amateur trainer is a person who:

holds an annually renewable amateur trainer licence,

has received vocational training or has been engaged in a professional activity relating to trotting,

is authorized to train a limited number of horses which belong to him or his spouse and/or a single other owner.

Only a horse registered on a training list may be entered in races.

# **Article 4– Penalty enforcement**

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall apply the penalties set out in the case of infringement of their rules concerning horses, owners, holders of ownership rights, trainers or drivers.

The penalties imposed in one country apply in other countries that are signatories to this Agreement, provided they are duly notified for the purposes of application.

Furthermore, except in the case of special agreements between countries, the signatory countries undertake to issue a document certifying that an owner, trainer or driver who plans to conduct his activity in a foreign country, is duly registered in his country of origin and that he is not currently under any suspension preventing him from racing, training or driving.

# Article 5 – Penalty Extension to Member Countries

An 8 day-period of notification shall be granted before a driver's penalty becomes effective except in the country where the penalty was pronounced.

# Article 6–Penalty extension and enforcement - Responsibility

Participation in a race or a simple written expression of the intention to take part in a race in another country implies full acceptance of the Racing Rules of this country provided that these rules include no provisions contrary to the International Agreement on Trotting Races as signed by said country.

Disciplinary penalties, imposed in one country, shall apply in all countries that are signatories to this Agreement, provided they are duly notified for the purposes of enforcement, within four

days of the date the penalty was pronounced and, in any case, prior to the date it comes into effect.

Any infringement of the regulations must be immediately notified to the offender by the competent Racing Authority; this decision shall indicate the penalty imposed and state the reasons thereof, albeit summarily.

The holder of the licence or the authorization shall be present on the track during the 15 minutes following confirmation of the finishing order of the last race in which he participated. If absent, the penalty shall be notified to him by letter, it being understood that the penalty shall, in any case, also be notified to UET.

No country may contest or challenge the penalty or decide not to enforce it.

Conversely, the penalty shall be recognized and appealable, except if it applies to questions not subject to appeal.

The person subject to the penalty is held responsible for failure to enforce or apply the penalty. In such a case, the Federation which issued the licence to the offender may institute further disciplinary proceedings against the latter, who in spite of being duly informed of the penalty, failed to abide by it.

If a person, already officially registered for participation in a race, is penalized, he shall be allowed to pursue that commitment provided the deadline for start declaration has expired.

In addition, if the country's regulations so provide the ban from racing shall not apply to Group I races.

# CHAPTER VI ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

# Article 1 - Guaranteed money for entries

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement, which forward an entry in a race to be run in a foreign country, shall undertake to pay the entry and forfeit dues, should an owner default.

# Article 2 – Payments of winnings

The Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement undertake to pay to a foreign owner the amount won by his horse in one of these countries, within three months as of the date of the race. The amount of prize money shall always be credited in the currency of the country in which the race was organized. No action may be taken against the organizing Racing Authority for any loss arising from exchange rate fluctuations at the time of transfer.

# **Article 3 - Payment of fines**

When a jockey/driver fails to pay a fine imposed in a country party to this Agreement, the Racing Authorities of said country may apply to the Racing Authority of the country that issued the jockey's/driver's licence to ensure prompt payment of the fine.

If no follow-up is given to the request, the procedure of Article 6 shall be instituted.

# **Article 4 - Exchange rate calculation**

For the purpose of qualifications and distance handicaps, amounts won shall be reckoned according to the Rules of Racing of the countries concerned, either on the date of entry or on the date of declaration of starters, in accordance with the «exchange rate chart» drawn up each year by UET.

# **Article 5 - Exchange rate chart**

This chart is valid from January 1st until December 31st of the current year. It shall be adjusted if a fluctuation of at least 15 % is observed in the rate set, lasting for more than one month.

# **Article 6 - Forfeit list procedure**

At the documented request of the Racing Authority that has added a person's name on the forfeit list on account of arrears, the Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement are required to extend this penalty to their own races until the amount has been paid in the country which initiated the procedure.

A person on a forfeit list loses the right to enter or ride any horse in any race until the outstanding amount has been paid. Similarly, a horse for which amounts are due shall not be entered or take part in any race if it is concerned by the forfeit list.

# Article 7 - Payment of drivers'fees

Unless otherwise agreed to, drivers' riding fees are paid in keeping with the rules and rates applied in the country in which the race takes place.

# CHAPTER VII REGULATIONS REGARDING EQUIPMENT

# **Article 1 - Conformity**

During the race, jockeys and drivers shall use equipment and wear riding gear that are compliant with the rules of racing in the country where the race is taking place.

# Article 2 - Sulky

To be admitted for international and European races, sulkies must comply with the following standards:

- maximum width: 1.65 m,
- wheels equipped with spoke protecting discs,
- two shafts,
- distance between the fork and the wheel : maximum 6 cm.

Sulkies used for racing must be approved in the trainer's country of origin.

# Article 3 - Helmet

Each country shall define its own compulsory standards.

Helmets shall be worn for races and heats as from entry on to the track.

# Article 4 - Whip

Where whips are allowed, drivers shall abide by the rules of racing of the country organizing the race. Notwithstanding, the whip shall not be longer than 140 cm.

Furthermore, drivers shall refrain from any brutality, or any action that may otherwise interfere with their competitors' performance, especially by lateral or backward movements, or by excessive use of the whip. They must comply with the regulation of the organizing country, if more restrictive.

Throughout the whole race, the drivers must hold the reins in both hands and use the whip only in the forward direction without lateral or backward movements.

In the last 500 meters, the use of the whip which may stay gentle and limited must not exceed 7 hits including no more than 3 in the last 200 meters. Federation may apply more restrictive measures

Federation may apply more restrictive measures.

Any infringement of this regulation or any abusive use of the whip in the home stretch will be punished as follows.

Fines, according to the amount of the race purse and not less than:

- 1st infringement: 40 €
- 2nd infringement:  $80 \in$
- 3rd infringement: 150 €

and/or

Depending on the seriousness of the infringement committed, the driver concerned may be suspended from driving.

# Article 5 - Racing gear

Racing gear includes:

- Helmet, safety vest (must conform to the standards EN 13158 or EC 1621-2 combined with a specific protection for the thoracic cage), jacket and light-colored breeches.
- In the event of rain: rubberized jackets and breeches are authorized.

Provisions regarding the safety vest shall be applied as of January 1st, 2013 at the latest.

# Article 6 - Advertising on jackets

Drivers who are supplied with jackets under an advertising contract may drive in their usual gear, unless this is disallowed by regulations pertaining to advertising in the organizing country.

In which case the driver shall wear a jacket provided by the Racing Authority.

# Article 7 – Equipment and harnesses

The use of any equipment or harness in a race, which might hurt the horse, or harm its physical integrity, is forbidden.

In particular, the following are banned:

- reins equipped with spikes liable to hurt the horse's neck,
- electrical stimulators,
- bits liable to injure the mouth of the horse,
- harnesses liable to harm the integrity of the horse,
- harnesses that make the horse totally blind,
- hobbles,
- any equipment or operation that facilitates unnatural breathing in the horse.

A horse is considered as shod when its hooves are fitted with a stiff and visible protective piece which provides its protective function during the race (except resin).

A horse is considered unshod when its hooves :

- are not fitted with a protective piece,
- are protected solely with resin.

The declaration that a horse will take part in a race as shod or unshod shall be made no less than 1 hour before the starting time of the race concerned.

# Article 8 - Animal Welfare

Any horse which has undergone a neurectomy, defined as the section of the nerves of one or more of its limbs, is banned from racing.

# CHAPTER VIII REGULATIONS ON WAGERING

# Article 1 – Designation of the term wagering

In the international agreement, the term wagering shall be taken to include, without limitation, totalizator, pari-mutuel, fixed-odds or any form of bookmaking and/or betting exchange operations by whatever means (including, without limitation, electronic and telecommunications media through the Internet, interactive TV, telephone, mobile phone and other «hand-held» devices).

# Article 2 – Jurisdictional integrity

Each Trot Racing Authority signatory to this Agreement shall respect the jurisdictional integrity of every other signatory Authority in the area of wagering on races.

# Article 3 – Use of data

Racing events, and the related images and data may be used for wagering purposes only with the express consent of the organization staging those racing events and/or its authorized licensees and franchisees and/or other relevant right holders.

# Article 4 – Wagering abroad

Wagering opportunities shall be offered in another country only with the express consent of that country's relevant national and racing authorities, if so required, and in compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements of that country.

# Article 5 – Support from the national country's government

All Trot Racing Authorities of the countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall inform their respective governments or supervisory institutions of their adoption and observance of this Chapter. Subject to article 6 of this chapter, they shall undertake every possible effort to lobby for legislative and/or regulatory support and to prevent wagering operators conducting business in the areas that come under the jurisdiction of those governments from acting in breach of article 3 and 4 thereof.

# **Article 6 – Obligations**

Where a signatory to this Agreement is a body that does not have direct control over wagering, then the obligations contained arising from the adoption of this chapter shall be read as being a commitment of best endeavours to promote enforcement of this chapter in the area within its cope.

# Article 7 Funding of races

In order to preserve the funding of the horse industries in race-organizing countries and consistent with the right of ownership they enjoy over the events they organize, the accredited horseracing authorities empowered in the countries that are signatories to this Agreement undertake as follows, subject to inclusion of the provisions in article 6 above.:

- to ensure that in their respective countries a minimum fee of 8% of the amount collected from domestic betting by authorized betting operators on races organized under their auspices is paid to the horse racing industry.
- to ensure that horse racing authorities receive a minimum fee of 3% of the amount collected abroad from betting on their races with appropriate protocols applied so that only authorized betting operators are permitted to undertake wagering on trotting races organized in another country.

- to enter into a contract for the use of data and images pertaining to the races they organize, or for which they hold a licence, only with the Horseracing Authorities of the country where such data are used by approved operators to organize bets.
- aside from agreements already in existence at 1st January 2010, to waive any direct agreement with betting operators regarding said usage of horseracing events

# **Article 8 – Integrity of wagering**

The Trot Racing Authorities of countries that are signatories to this Agreement shall strive to ensure complete integrity and security of their respective operations. Every effort shall be made to ensure that wagering is conducted fairly and not used as a means for any illegal activities, in particular, for money laundering.

# **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The UET requires all those involved in harness racing to adhere to the Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

# 1. At all stages during the preparation and presentation for racing, the horses' welfare should take precedence over all other demands.

# f) Good horse management

Stabling, feeding and training must be compatible with good horse management and must not compromise their welfare. Any practices which could cause physical or mental suffering, whether in stables, training, transport or racing, should not be tolerated.

# g) Training methods

Training methods which cause fear or impose undue restrictions on the normal behavior of racehorses should not be used. Horses should only be given training schedules which match their physical capabilities and level of maturity. They should not be subjected to programmes for which they have not been prepared.

# h) Foot care and shoeing

Foot care and shoeing must be of high standard. Horseshoes should be designed and fitted to minimize the risk of injury.

# i) Transport

During transportation, horses must be protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent staff. Competent handlers must be available to manage the horses.

All journeys must be planned carefully, and the horses must be allowed rest periods with access to food and water according to EU regulations.

# j) Materiel and harness

It is forbidden to use any equipment or material in a race which might hurt the horse, or modify its physical integrity. It is especially forbidden to use:

- reins equipped with prickles liable to hurt the neck,
- electrical stimulators,
- bits liable to hurt the mouth of the horse,
- harness liable to cause damage to the integrity of the horse,
- harness that renders the horse totally blind,
- hobbles,
- any equipment or surgery that results in unnatural breathing of the horse.

# 2. Horses should be in a fit and healthy condition before being allowed to race.

a) Health status and veterinary inspections

Racing should be restricted to fit horses.

No horse showing symptoms of disease, lameness or other ailment or pre-existing clinical conditions should be raced. Whenever there is any doubt, a veterinary inspection should be requested and this should be undertaken before the horse is allowed to race.

Horses with severe or recurrent clinical conditions, e.g. "bleeders" should on veterinary advice, be temporarily or permanently be excluded from racing.

b) Doping and medication

Abuse of medication or doping is a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated.

Otherwise, after any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before racing. One of the main goals of rules controlling the use of drugs should be to protect the welfare of the horse and the safety of the drivers. Additionally these rules should prevent unfair competition and the masking of defects which might be passed on at stud.

c) Immaturity

Horses mature at widely different rates. Training and racing schedules should be carefully planned to minimize the risk of musculo-skeletal injuries.

- d) Prohibited Practices
- Any surgical procedures which threaten the horse's welfare and/or the safety of other horses, riders or drivers should not be allowed in racing. Thus, it is forbidden to race :

Any horse which has undergone a neurectomy, defined as the section of the nerves of one or more of its limbs.

Any horse which has undergone a surgery of nostrils without therapeutic justification.

- To insert a tube into a horse's nostril, direct it to the stomach and feed the animal a bakingsoda solution (Milkshaking) is prohibited.
- It is not permitted to use cryotherapy devices on racetracks.
- Inappropriate use of extracorporal shock wave therapy in a manner that may desensitize any limb structures is forbidden.

# e) Pregnant Mares

Mares should not be raced beyond 120 days of pregnancy.

Moreover, a mare that gave birth cannot take part in a race in 150 days from the date of birth of its foal.

# 3. Conditions at race meetings should not jeopardize horses' welfare

# a) Surface conditions

Race tracks should be designed and maintained to reduce risk factors which lead to injuries. Particular attention should be made to uneven racing surfaces and extremes of surface quality.

# b) Extreme weather

Common sense should be used when racing in extreme weather. Provision should be made to cool horses quickly after racing in hot/or humid conditions. Horses which have raced in cold weather should be moved inside as soon as possible.

# c) Misuse of the whip

If drivers use a whip, it must be in conformity with the racing rules of the country organizing the race and, in any case, it must not be longer than 140 cm.

Moreover, drivers must abstain from any brutality or any gesture that may otherwise interfere with their competitors' performances, especially by lateral or backward movements, or by an excessive use of the whip. For instance, abuse of the whip cannot be condoned to make a beaten horse run faster, if a horse is unable to respond, or if a horse is clearly winning.

During the whole race the drivers must hold the reins in both hands and use the whip in the forward direction without lateral or backward movements.

In the last 500 meters, the use of the whip, which may stay gentle and limited, must not exceed 7 hits, and a maximum of three hits in the last 200 meters. A more restrictive number may be decided by a Federation.

Any infringement of this regulation or any abusive use of the whip in the home stretch will be punished as follows:

Fines and/or temporary license suspension, according to the amount of the race purse and/ or the importance of the infringement committed.

# d) Racecourse stabling

Racecourse stabling should be safe, hygienic, comfortable and well-ventilated. Fresh drinking water and water for cleaning the horse after racing should be available.

# 4. Every effort should be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have raced, and that they are treated humanely when their racing careers are over.

# a) Veterinary treatment

Veterinary expertise should always be available at race meetings. If required the horse should be transported to the nearest referral centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured horses should be given full supportive treatment before transport.

# b) Racing injuries

The incidence of injuries sustained in racing should be monitored. Track conditions, frequency of racing, immaturity, and any other risk factors, should be carefully examined to indicate ways to minimize severe injuries.

# c) Euthanasia

If injuries are sufficiently severe, the horse may need to be euthanized on humane grounds. Euthanasia should be undertaken as soon as possible with the sole aim of minimizing suffering.

# d) Retirement

Owners should make every effort to ensure that their horses are sympathetically and humanely treated when they leave racing. Racehorses should be permanently identified and registered, so their welfare in retirement can be monitored.

# Appendix 2 Membership list

AUSTRALIA

Harness Racing Australia Inc Mr. Andrew KELLY Chief Executive Mr. Michael TARANTO Chairman

AUSTRIA Zentrale für Traber-Zuch und Rennen in Österreich Mr. Peter Truzla President Mr. Michael Hinger General Secretary

**BELGIUM** Federation Belge des Courses Hippiques Mr. Achille CASSART

CANADA Standardbred Canada Mr. Dan GALL President & CEO

FINLAND Suomen Hippos R.Y. Mr. Juha REHULA Chairman Mr. Vesa MÄKINEN Chief Executive

FRANCE Societe du Cheval Français (LeTROT)

**GERMANY** Hauptverband für Traber-Zucht E.v. Mr. Heinz TELL President Mrs. Anja BARTHA Director of Breeding

**GREAT BRITAIN The British Harness Racing Association** Mr. James McInally Vice Chairman Mrs. Gwenan THOMAS Chief Executive IRELAND

Irish Harness Racing Club Mr. Mark FLANAGAN Chairman Mr. James O'SULLIVAN General Secretary

ITALY Ministry of Agriculture

NEW ZEALAND Harness Racing New Zealand

NORWAY DNT Mr. Knut WEUM Chairman Mr. Svein Morten BUER General Secretary

RUSSIA Commonwealth Trotting Association of Russia (CTA)

SERBIA Udruženje za Kasaki Sport Srbije Mr. Tomislav VISNNJIC President of Commission for international relationship Mr. Dusko LODJINOVIC Member of Commission for international relationship

SOUTH AFRICA Trotting South Africa Mr. Chopelikaya SIMOTO Chairman Mr. D.A. Latimer Chief Executive

SPAIN FBT SWEDEN Svensk Travsport Mrs. Marjaana ALAVIUHKOLA President Mr. Ulf HÖRNBERG Chief Executive

# SWITZERLAND

Suisse Trot Mr. Jean-Pierre KRATZER President Mr. Denis ROUX General Secretary

# UNITED STATES USTA

EUROPE UET Mrs. Marjaana ALAVIUHKOLA President Mr. Guillaume MAUPAS General Secretary