

## CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD



# Memorandum

**Date** : January 3, 2011

**To** : Racing Associations and Other Interested Parties

**From** : Kirk Breed, Executive Director  
Rick M. Arthur, DVM, Equine Medical Director

**Subject** : EQUINE PIROPLASMOSIS

Effective January 1, 2011, no Quarter Horse shall be allowed entry onto a CHRB racing enclosure from another state without verification that required testing equine piroplasmosis testing has been completed. All Quarter Horses (racing and nonracing) seeking entry onto a CHRB racing inclosure from another state must be accompanied with a certificate demonstrating the horse(s) has been tested for piroplasmosis by a C-ELISA assay for both *Theilerta equi* and *Babesia caballi* and reported to be negative. The testing shall be performed and the results reported by a laboratory certified and approved by the USDA to conduct the testing and shall be completed on a blood sample collected from the horse during the 6 month period preceding the animal's entry onto the grounds.

The requirement of testing for piroplasmosis will continue through 2011. The equine piroplasmosis situation will be monitored and the testing requirement for equine piroplasmosis and/or frequency may be altered as deemed appropriate including an expansion of this requirement to other breeds and horses entering CHRB inclosures from within the state. Recent cases of equine piroplasmosis have been traced to improper and unhygienic veterinary procedures performed by non-veterinarians at unsanctioned racing events. Any horse suspected of participating in unsanctioned racing may be required to undergo equine piroplasmosis testing.

This testing is in addition to the established health requirements that include each horse entering California from another state demonstrate that they have tested negative for equine infectious anemia (Coggins) and accompanied with a veterinary inspection certificate.

For further information on equine piroplasmosis see:

[www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/fs\\_equipir.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_equipir.pdf)

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_diseases/piroplasmosis/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/piroplasmosis/)

Feel free to contact Dr. Arthur directly should you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this directive.

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