

STAFF ANALYSIS

DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE BOARD REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT, PURSUANT TO CHRB RULE 1581 (RACING SECRETARY TO ESTABLISH CONDITIONS), BETWEEN THE LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION AND THE PACIFIC COAST QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION REGARDING ENTRY CONDITIONS AND INTRA-ARTICULAR INJECTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE RACE MEET RUNNING DECEMBER 24, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 22, 2026 AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE.

Regular Board Meeting
January 14, 2026

ISSUE:

Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (LAQHRA) would like to establish new eligibility conditions for intra-articular joint injections and NSAIDs. Per CHRB Rule 1581, Racing Secretary to Establish Conditions, a condition based on a participating horse's use or non-use of a drug substance or medication requires approval from the horsemen's organization and the Board.

RULE:

1581. Racing Secretary to Establish Conditions.

The racing secretary may establish the conditions for any race, the allowances or handicaps to be established for specific races, the procedures for the acceptance of entries and declarations, and such other conditions as are necessary to provide and conduct the association's race meeting. **Any conditions that are based on a participating horse's use or non-use of a drug substance or medication, or the presence or lack of presence of a drug substance or medication in a biological test sample taken from a participating horse, shall be agreed to in advance in writing by the acknowledged horsemen's organization, which, in the case of Thoroughbreds, shall be the owner's organization, and approved by the Board before entries are taken for the race.** If such conditions are based on the results of a biological test sample other than an official test sample collected by the CHRB, a description of the testing methods and procedures the racing association or fair will use to collect and analyze the biological test samples shall be submitted to the Board for approval. For purposes of this section, "biological test sample" refers to any biological sample, including but not limited to, blood, urine, hair, tissue, or saliva, that is taken from a horse.

ANALYSIS:

Pursuant to CHRB Rule 1581, any condition involving medication must be agreed to by the horsemen's organization, which in this case is the Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association (PCQHRA). Additionally, any agreement must be approved by the Board before entries are taken based on these agreed upon conditions. The signed agreement ("Intra-Articular Joint Injection Policy Agreement") between LAQHRA and PCQHRA is attached for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for Board discussion and action.

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INTRA-ARTICULAR JOINT INJECTION POLICY AGREEMENT

This Intra-Articular Joint Injection Policy Agreement (Agreement) is entered into and effective as of January 5, 2026, by and between Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (LAQHRA) and Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Assoc. (PCQHRA), who shall be referred to herein collectively as the "Parties."

RECITALS

- A. The Parties acknowledge and agree that nothing herein is intended to diminish or circumvent CHRB regulations pertaining to the administration of intra-articular injections including, but not limited to, CHRB Rules 1841.1, 1866.3, and 1867.2.
- B. Pursuant to CHRB Rule 1851, the Parties have agreed to the establishment of a Policy intended to enhance the control of the process and conditions under which horses receiving intra-articular joint injections may be permitted to nominate, enter, and compete in races conducted at LAQHRA, through the establishment of race conditions and/or a House Rule by the Racing Secretary, pursuant to this Agreement.
- C. Recognizing that this Policy constitutes a first effort to imposes such conditions and/or House Rule on the processes under which horses receiving intra-articular joint injections may be permitted to nominate, enter, and compete in races conducted at LAQHRA, the Parties acknowledge and agree that they enter into this Agreement with the express intent to evaluate the Policy on an ongoing basis and to seek means to improve judiciously its terms and enforcement as is justified by their collective experiences, with the consent of the CHRB.

AGREEMENT

With reference to the foregoing Recitals, which are hereby incorporated by reference, and in exchange for good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency and receipt of which are hereby acknowledged by LAQHRA and PCQHRA, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Term.** This Agreement shall take effect on **January 5, 2026**, and shall continue through **December 26, 2026** (Term).

The Parties may enter into a new agreement that satisfies the requirements of CHRB Rule 1851 prior to the conclusion of the Term, however the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement shall continue to remain in effect and binding on the Parties until such time as the Parties enter into such a new agreement or until any Party terminates this agreement upon seventy-two (72) hours' notice.

2. **Policy.** The Parties hereby agree that, pursuant to CHRB Rule (1581), the LAQHRA Racing Secretary may establish, initially, an Intra-Articular Joint Injection Policy as follows:
 - a) **General Provision:** The administration of any intra-articular injection substance may only occur after and based upon a clinical evaluation, diagnosis, and/or finding warranting such administration made by the licensed attending veterinarian.
 - b) **For Trial Races:** The intra-articular injection of any product, into any intra-articular space, is prohibited within **30 days of a Trial race.**

The day of treatment is considered 'Day 1' and the injected horse is eligible to race on Day 30.

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- i. The only currently recognized exception to this Policy is for the exclusive purpose of intra-articular diagnostic anesthesia.
 - ii. Other than for diagnostic anesthesia, the intra-articular administration of any substance into a high motion joint (fetlock/carpus) shall require documented diagnostic imaging be performed within the preceding seven (7) days of the procedure. The diagnostic procedure shall include a detailed imaging report with clinical findings that **MUST** be submitted by the attending veterinarian to the Official Vet within 48 hours of performing those diagnostics.
 - iii. All horses participating in Trials must be on the grounds at least 30 days prior to that trial race.
 - iv. Any horse that leaves the grounds at LARC, for any reason, prior to a Final will be ineligible to start in the Final. The only exception to this condition will be for the purpose of receiving advanced diagnostic imaging, which must be pre-approved by either a LAQHRA/LARC association or CHRB regulatory veterinarian.
 - v. The administration of any CHRB-approved NSAID is limited to a single administration, by any route, within seven (7) days of race, and which does not otherwise exceed current CHRB regulatory thresholds.
- c) **For Quarter Horse Final races and all Quarter Horse Stakes:** Intra-articular injection of any product, into any intra-articular space, is prohibited within **14 days of a Final or Stakes race.**
- i. Other than for diagnostic anesthesia, the intra-articular administration of any substance into a high motion joint (fetlock/carpus) shall require documented diagnostic imaging be performed within the preceding seven (7) days of the procedure. The diagnostic procedure shall include a detailed imaging report with clinical findings that **MUST** be submitted by the attending veterinarian to the Official Vet within 48 hours of performing those diagnostics.
 - ii. The administration of any CHRB-approved NSAID is limited to a single administration, by any route, within seven (7) days of race, and which does not otherwise exceed current CHRB regulatory thresholds.
- d) **Additional Requirements:** Six (6) months of complete and accurate veterinary treatment records shall be submitted to the LAQHRA Association Veterinarian upon the arrival of any horse shipped in to race at LARC that has not been stabled at a CHRB-licensed racing or training facility continuously for the six (6) months preceding the race for which it is entered.
- Failure by the trainer to provide accurate and complete veterinary treatment records shall result in the horse being deemed ineligible to start and the imposition of sanctions and/or penalties against the trainer and owner(s) of such horse(s) by the LAQHRA, as a condition

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of further participation in the race meet.

PCQHRA COVENANTS

The PCQHRA covenants that it will take all steps necessary to ensure that all owners and trainers take the steps necessary to comply with:

1. The Policy and the terms of this Agreement; and,
2. All CHRB Rules and other provisions of the Horse Racing Law as may be required and necessary to effectuate the Policy and this Agreement's purpose.

MISCELLANEOUS

Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the Parties relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements or understandings, either oral or written, and may not be changed or terminated orally.

Except as specifically provided herein, this Agreement may be amended only by writing signed by the Parties.

Applicable Law. This Agreement, including all matters of construction, validity, and performance, shall be governed, construed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, as applied to contracts executed and to be fully performed in California by citizens of California and without reference to principles of conflicts of law.

Venue of any action arising out of this Agreement shall be heard first in an applicable state court of California, County of Orange, and absent jurisdiction in such county and State, then in the applicable federal court in either the Central or Southern District of California.

Waiver & Remedies. The failure by one Party to require performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect that Party's right to require performance at any time thereafter, nor shall a waiver by one Party of a breach by the other Party be considered a waiver of any or all subsequent breaches by the breaching Party.

All rights and remedies provided in this Agreement are cumulative and not exclusive of any other rights or remedies that may be available to the Parties, whether provided by law, equity, statute, or in any other agreement between the Parties, or otherwise.

Counterparts. This Agreement and all amendments hereto hereafter may be executed in several counterparts and each counterpart shall constitute a duplicate original of the same instrument. LAQHRA and PCQHRA agree that copies of this Agreement sent by email (in PDF or similar format) or fax, and the signatures thereon, shall be deemed valid executed originals of this Agreement.

Severability. Any provision hereof prohibited by or otherwise unlawful or unenforceable under any applicable law, rule, or regulation shall be ineffective without affecting any other provision or enforcement of this Agreement.

No Third Party Beneficiaries. The provisions of this Agreement are not intended to be for the benefit of, or enforceable by, any party other than LAQHRA, LARC, and PCQHRA.

Except for LAQHRA and PCQHRA, no person shall have any right to rely upon or enforce any of the terms and provisions of this Agreement.


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Except for LAQHRA and PCQHRA, no person shall have any right to rely upon or enforce any of the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

The Parties have entered into this Agreement as of the date first written above.

LARC

By: 
Cathy Monji-Alfred
President

PCQHRA

By: 
Vince Genco
President