



COLORADO
Department of Revenue

Enforcement Division - Racing

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N O T I C E

TO: All Horsepersons at Arapahoe Park's 2017 Race Meet

FROM: Dan Hartman, Director, Division of Racing Events

RE: Implementation of New Guidelines and Required Testing for Equine Piroplasmosis in Racing Quarter Horses

DATE: April 3, 2017

Due to the statistically high rate of Equine Piroplasmosis seen in racehorses, specifically racing quarter horses, State Veterinarians Keith Roehr and Carl Heckendorf from the Department of Agriculture, have provided guidance, in order to secure the health and wellbeing of contestant horses and business continuity of the track, the Division of Racing Events require a test for Equine Piroplasmosis at the upcoming race meet at Arapahoe Park. More information regarding Equine Piroplasmosis is available at the Division office should you want it.

At this stage of our understanding of the disease, we must recognize that given the information we have received from the Colorado Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture, there is an increase in the incidence rate of the disease in the equine population with the racing quarter horses being the highest risk, while minimal, there is the potential for an appearance of Equine Piroplasmosis and resultant quarantine for this disease at Arapahoe Park's upcoming meet. Therefore, all Quarter horses coming to Arapahoe Park for the meet will need to be tested and obtain negative test results for Equine Piroplasmosis within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the grounds of Arapahoe Park. The tests to be administered need to be for both types of protozoa, Theileria equi and Babesia caballi. Negative test results are to be attached to the health certificate, along with the other requirements, the Coggins test, and et.al. Additionally, your veterinarian must include this information on the health certificate:

“I personally inspected this animal and it does not display clinical signs of Equine Piroplasmosis, and I inspected and treated this animal for ticks with an approved synthetic Pyrethroid Spray Product.”

In addition to the required negative test results for Equine Piroplasmosis to be obtained within thirty (30) days prior to entering Arapahoe Park, all horses leaving Arapahoe Park during the season will not be allowed to re-enter without a **new** negative test result attached to a health certificate.

Additionally, approval must be obtained from the General Manager and Director of Racing of Arapahoe Park before horses will be allowed re-entry to the racetrack premises.

Please make sure that the necessary tests are performed prior to arriving at Arapahoe Park. **No quarter horses will enter the grounds** without the above testing having been performed and without proper documentation. **Should anyone bring quarter horses to the racetrack without the proper test results, that person and his/her horses would be turned away and not allowed to access the grounds.**

Some items of note:

- One major way that Equine Piroplasmosis is transmitted is from ticks that host the disease. Arapahoe Park management will be taking steps to manage and spray for ticks. This may mean that horse trailers may be parked in one spot and sprayed for any type of ticks and parasites.
- Horses being imported into the United States from other countries as well as unsanitary animal husbandry and veterinary practices involving sharing of needles may also contribute to the spread of this and other diseases. To that end, all veterinarians shall use sterile, disposable needles and syringes for all treatments to horses. Such materials should be considered potentially hazardous waste and properly disposed after each single use.
- Samples may be submitted to Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (CSUVDL). Please call (970)-297-1281 with any submission questions. Each horse that is tested must also have an official individual identification which can be a tattoo, electronic microchip, or a unique brand.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office, Arapahoe Park or your horse representative.

Colorado Racing Commission contact person:	Mark Brown–303-205-2956 (main office) 303-690-6910 (Arapahoe Park)
Arapahoe Park contact person:	Bill Powers – 303-690-2400