

For the avoidance of doubt, the conviction of a crime by any Individual Member, or determination that such Individual Member was found liable in a civil court proceeding involving claims of abuse, neglect, or mistreatment of a horse or other animal shall constitute “cause”.

C. Temporary Suspensions.

If the Board determines it to be in the best interests of the Association, the Board of Governors may temporarily suspend any Member from participating in any manner in the affairs and events of the Association, provided that the Member is given an opportunity to respond and a determination by the Board of Governors regarding the imposition of a penalty is made within seven (7) calendar days of the time such temporary suspension becomes effective.

**PART III:
SPORT PROTEST PROCEDURES**

Introduction

These Sport Protest Procedures are intended to provide a process by which disagreements with the non-discretionary decisions of a Tournament Committee or Officials of a USPA Event (as defined in the Tournament Conditions) may be protested.

A. Protests.

Any disagreement with the non-discretionary decisions of the Tournament Committee and/or Officials conducting a USPA Event may be protested, provided that notice of the disagreement is delivered verbally to any of the following within twenty-four (24) hours after the disagreement arises: a member of the Tournament Committee, a Circuit Governor, the Chief Executive Officer, or the Chairman of the Association.

B. Filing of Protests.

1. A protest may be filed by (a) any aggrieved Individual Member who is also a participant in the Event, (b) an Official of the Event, or (c) an Officer or Governor of the Association.
2. All protests must be: (a) filed in writing, (b) received within forty-eight (48) hours of the Event in which the disagreement arose, (c) signed by the protesting party, (d) addressed to the Association, and (e) delivered to the Chairman or Chief Executive Officer.

C. Protest Investigations and Rulings.

The Chief Executive Officer, or his or her designee, shall make an investigation of the protest and shall report findings to the Executive Committee. A ruling on the protest shall be issued by the Executive Committee within forty-eight (48) hours after receipt

of such findings from the Chief Executive Officer; provided, however, that any proposal to expel/remove/terminate a Member from the Association shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Governors. The protesting party will be notified of the decision in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the issuance of the Executive Committee's ruling.

PART IV: EQUINE DRUGS AND MEDICATIONS RULES VIOLATION PROCEDURES

Introduction

These Equine Drugs and Medications Rules Procedures are intended to provide a disciplinary procedures process for violations of the Equine Drugs and Medications Rules.

A. Application and Incorporation.

These Equine Drug and Medications Rules Violation Procedures shall apply to all charges and proceedings arising out of alleged violations of the Equine Drugs and Medications Rules of the Association. The Equine Drugs and Medication Rules of the Association are incorporated herein by reference.

B. Equine Drugs and Medications Rules Violation

Any Responsible Party(ies) (as defined in Rule 6.2 of the Association's Equine Drugs and Medications Rules) found, after hearing and appeal, if any appeal, to have violated the Equine Drugs and Medications Rules of the Association, or having failed to obey a penalty imposed hereunder, shall be deemed to have committed an Equine Drugs and Medications Rule Violation (each, an "EDM Violation").

C. Initiation of Charges, Record.

1. Initiation of Charges. Initiation of a charge by complaint under this Rule for an alleged violation of the Equine Drugs and Medications Rules (an "EDM Violation Complaint" or "EDM Charge") shall be made by the Chairman of the Association or his designee; provided, however that:

- a. If the EDM Violation Complaint is based upon equine blood sampling, that both of two samples taken from a horse which forms the basis for the alleged EDM Violation have tested positive for drugs or medications in violation of the Association's Equine Drugs and Medications Rules; and
- b. All EDM Violation Complaints shall be: (i) in writing, describing in reasonable detail the alleged EDM Violation; (ii) received by the Responsible Party(ies) within seventy-two (72) hours of the receipt of the Association of either (a) an EDM Violation Complaint (if the allegations are not based upon testing); or (b)

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