



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Virginia Racing Commission
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	11 VAC 10-180-10 <u>et seq.</u>
Regulation title	Medication
Action title	To amend chapter 180
Final agency action date	March 16, 2005
Document preparation date	March 23, 2005

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 21 (02) and 58 (99).

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

Based on the recommendations of the Virginia Racing Commission's Medication and Safety Committee, changes have been made to medication rules for horse racing in Virginia. The Virginia Racing Commission decided to adopt the uniform medication rules as recommended by the Mid-Atlantic Medication Policy, which closely resembles the model rules policy established by the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium, which is composed of 27 representatives of organizations with direct interest in horse-drugging issues. One objective of the rule changes is to make the medication rules uniform throughout the Mid-Atlantic region as Colonial Downs relies on horses coming from other states in this region to race here in Virginia. The rule changes will also create a more level playing field for the horsemen who compete in Virginia and protect the integrity of the horse racing industry. The main rule changes include the institution of pre race testing for excessive bicarbonate levels and revised trainer penalties for such offenses.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

On March 16, 2005, the Virginia Racing Commission adopted the final amendments to its regulation "Medication" (11 VAC 10-180-10 et seq.) at its regular monthly meeting.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

The amendments will have no impact on the family or family stability.