



Safety & Integrity Alliance

2009 Symposium on Racing & Gaming

Accredited Tracks

- Churchill Downs
- Keeneland
- Delaware Park
- Pimlico (Provisional Accreditation)
- Belmont Park
- Hollywood Park
- Calder
- Monmouth Park



Accredited Tracks

- Arlington Park
- Del Mar
- Saratoga
- Turfway Park
- Oak Tree/Santa Anita
- Aqueduct – Pending
- Woodbine – Pending
- Fairgrounds – Pending

Early 2010, inspecting at Gulfstream Park
and Golden Gate Fields



Accreditation Process

1) Application

- In-depth questions aimed toward confirmation of compliance to Code of Standards
- Requires tremendous cooperation from regulatory body

2) Inspection

- Team comprised of three inspectors
 - Regulatory Veterinarian
 - Track Safety Supervisor
 - Representative of Alliance
- Operations are “Graded” – Best Practice to Deficient



What do tracks get out of process?

- Self-examination of operations
- Independent assessment of operations, based on Code of Standards
- Education regarding regulatory practices
- Sharing of best practices



Best Practices Definition During Inspection

- Is there any better way to perform?
- Is any other racetrack doing it better?



Best Practices Participation in Equine Injury Database

- What we are looking for?
 - Participation in E.I.D. for all racing injuries and a mechanism currently in place to record injury data from morning training injuries
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Hollywood Park
 - Del Mar
 - Oak Tree/Santa Anita
 - In Process in multiple locations



Best Practices Pre-Race Veterinary Examinations

- What we are looking for?
 - Adoption of recommendations of AAEP
 - Every horse in every race examined in a safe location, jogged both ways, palpated, etc.
 - Recording data to be used in future
 - Observations in paddock, warm-up & starting gate
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Many locations are doing an outstanding job
 - Kentucky
 - California
 - New York
 - Delaware Park
 - Monmouth
 - Arlington Park
 - Woodbine



Best Practices Post-Race Veterinary Examinations

- What we are looking for?
 - At least two veterinarians observing horses jogging back to be unsaddled
 - Ability to take photos for overuse of the crop
 - Follow-up with practitioner or trainer
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Many locations doing great job
 - Woodbine exceptional in that veterinarians met with riders prior to the meet and asked them to jog horses back for a better look at every horse



Best Practices Post-Mortem Veterinary Examinations

- What we are looking for?
 - Board certified pathologist looking at all deceased horses and recording data to be used to conduct research
 - Blood samples taken prior to euthanasia
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California tracks, where any horse that dies within the racetrack enclosure is sent to a board certified laboratory for full necropsy, from which data is gathered for EID and CA Post Mortem report; Fair Grounds



Best Practices Veterinarian's List

- What we are looking for?
 - Lists stored and shared in RTO
 - List maintained and up-to-date
 - List adhered to
 - Procedures in place for why horses are added and how they are removed
 - Blood drawn before removal workouts
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Aspects from different tracks were good
 - Horses at Delaware Park cannot enter until bloodwork comes back
 - Woodbine has three “categories” for Vet's List



Best Practices Shoes and Hoof Care

- What we are looking for?
 - Having a Toe Grab Rule through the regulatory body
 - Participation in data collection, where shoes worn in every race are inputted and data is provided to EID
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California tracks currently are collecting data for research



Best Practices Riding Crop

- What we are looking for?
 - Full regulatory adoption of use of new crop as well as adoption of crop use guidelines – with enforcement
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Delaware Park
 - Woodbine
 - Kentucky tracks
 - Santa Anita
 - Several tracks since inspection
 - California
 - New York



Best Practices Safety Helmet

- What we are looking for?
 - Full regulatory adoption of model rule requiring minimum manufacturing standards
 - Helmet worn by all people on horseback, on track and on way to track
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Kentucky tracks have fully adopted regulation
 - In process in California
 - Assistant starters at Woodbine and Delaware Park wear helmets



Best Practices Safety Vest

- What we are looking for?
 - Full regulatory adoption of model rule requiring minimum manufacturing standards
 - Vest worn by all people on horseback, on track and on way to track and assistant starters in morning and afternoon
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Kentucky tracks have fully adopted regulation
 - Woodbine – valets in paddock also wear vests



Best Practices Padded Starting Gate

- What we are looking for?
 - Ample padding in starting gate where padding covers all potentially dangerous areas
- Where did we find best practices?
 - “Best Pad” equipment
 - Keeneland
 - Churchill Downs
 - Arlington Park
 - Calder
 - Custom-made starting gate
 - Woodbine



Best Practices “Best Pads” Starting Gate



Best Practices Equine Ambulance

- What we are looking for?
 - Hydraulic “Kimzey” type ambulances, well stocked, well positioned, dedicated staff and help, communications in place, screen available
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Tracks that have two Kimzeys
 - Kentucky tracks
 - New York tracks
 - California tracks
 - Arlington Park



Best Practices Safety Research

- What we are looking for?
 - Proficiency in research in two areas
 - Track Surface Research (programs like RSTL)
 - Equine research through contributions to universities, Grayson, RMTC, Morris, etc.
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Many places
 - California tracks
 - Kentucky tracks
 - New York tracks
 - Arlington Park, Calder

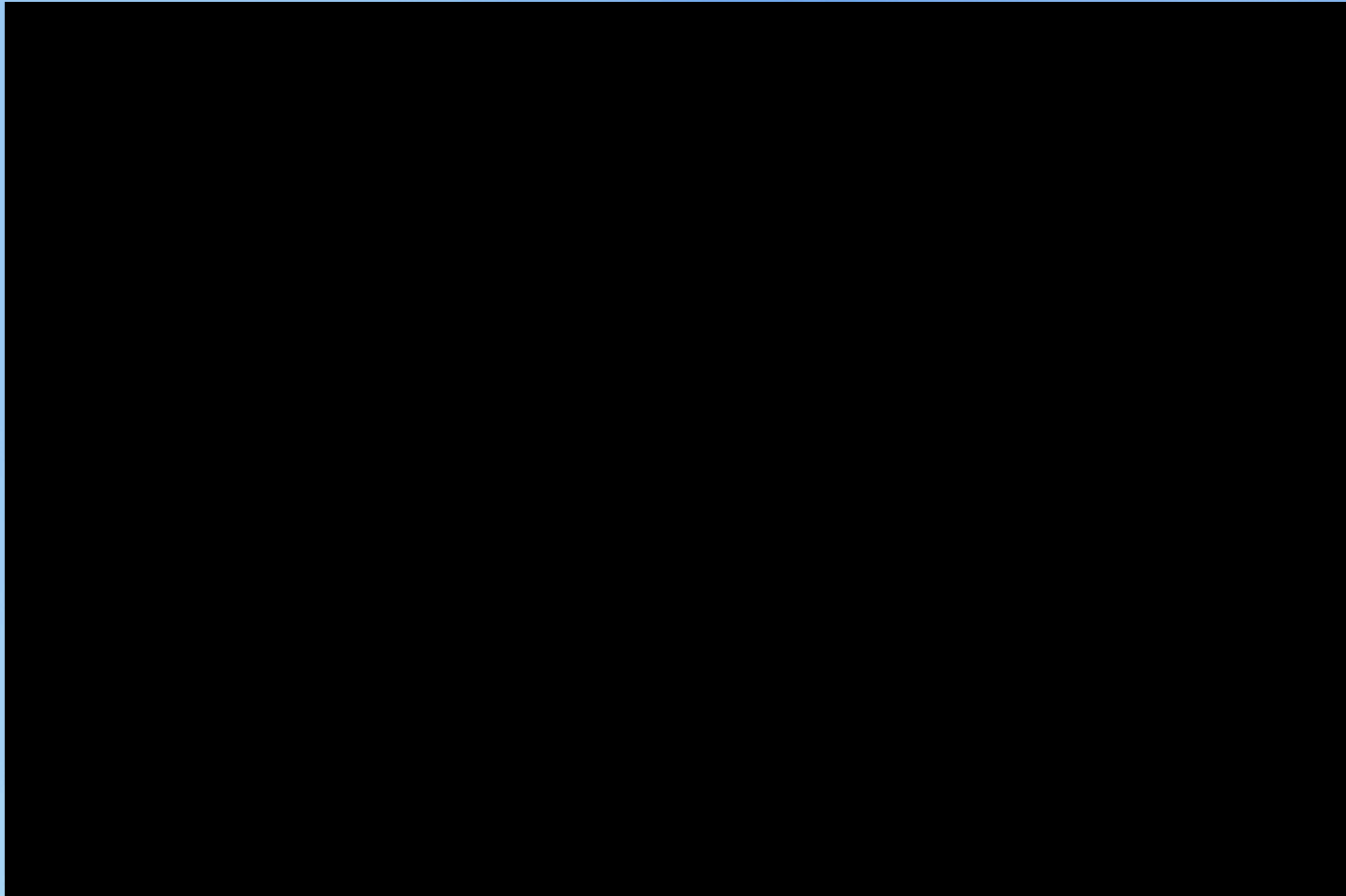


Best Practices Safety Training and Continuing Education

- What we are looking for?
 - Participation in industry-wide education programs (e.g., starters, track superintendants, farriers, as well as Groom Elite or development programs annually)
- Where did we find best practices?
 - CA tracks have CHSA program for all horse handlers as well as track employees
 - Arlington Park employee training



Best Practices Safety Training and Continuing Education



Best Practices Catastrophic Injury Planning and Procedures

- What we are looking for?
 - Written procedures, all participants know their roles, communications plans in place, sufficient assistance from peripheral employees (assistant starters, valets)
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Arlington Park was demonstrably the best in this area



Best Practices Uniform Medication Rules and Penalties

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Uniform Medication Model Rules adopted by the racing commission.
 - Penalties for drug rule violations strictly enforced by stewards and commission
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - Kentucky



Best Practices Alkalinizing Substances (TC02)

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Alkalinizing Substances Model Rule adopted by the racing commission
 - Pre-race sampling of every horse in every race and post race testing
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - Keeneland



Best Practices Anabolic Steroids

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Anabolic Steroid Model Rule adopted by the racing commission
 - Post-race sampling and post race testing at appropriate threshold levels
- Where did we find best practices?
 - All States



Best Practices Shock Wave Therapy

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Shock Wave Therapy Model Rule adopted by the racing commission
 - Reporting of Shock Wave Therapy by Licensed vets only
 - 10 day pre-race withdrawal time
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - NYRA, where security escorts horses for treatment



Best Practices Out-of-Competition Testing

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Out-of-Competition Model Rule adopted by the racing commission
 - Implementation of pre-entry testing for Epogen and other blood-doping agents
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - New Jersey



Best Practices Frozen Sample Testing

- What we are looking for?
 - RMTC/RCI Frozen Sample Model Rule adopted by the racing commission
 - Racing commission and testing laboratory freezing samples for future testing
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - Florida
 - Kentucky
 - NYRA



Best Practices Independent Security Assessment

- What we are looking for?

Security assessment performed by the Thoroughbred Racing and Protective Bureau or other qualified track security organization in the past 12 months
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Nearly all applicants have enlisted TRPB for assessments
 - Tracks have communicated that this is a valuable tool



Best Practices Security Plan

- What we are looking for?
 - Detailed plan for security program
 - Club House & Grandstand
 - Racetrack
 - Barn Area
 - Restricted Areas within Enclosure
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Arlington Park
 - Churchill
 - Del Mar
 - Hollywood Park
 - Keeneland
 - NYRA



Best Practices Security Training

- What we are looking for?
 - Periodically participation of security staff training programs
 - Specific training regarding horse handling
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Arlington Park
 - Churchill
 - Del Mar
 - Hollywood Park
 - Keeneland
 - NYRA
 - Santa Anita
 - Woodbine



Best Practices Random Inspection of Test Barn

- What we are looking for?
 - Random inspections of test barn operations performed on a periodic basis
- Where did we find best practices?
 - California
 - Kentucky



Best Practices Jockey Weigh-out/Weigh-in Procedures

- What we are looking for?
 - Adoption of RCI Model Rule on weighing procedures for jockeys
 - Following Jockeys' Guild recommendation on allowances for safety equipment and cold weather gear
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Most jurisdictions we have visited have adopted the model rules



Best Practices

Jockey Health Information

- What we are looking for?
 - Participation in the Jockey Health Information System to provide on-line medical records to hospitals for injured jockeys
- Where did we find best practices?
 - All tracks are participating, either before we inspected or as a result of inspection



Best Practices

Human Ambulance Support

- What we are looking for?
 - Properly equipped ambulances on racetrack during training and racing hours
 - Ambulances staffed by paramedics
 - Procedures for transportation of injured racing participants
 - Pre-arranged relationship with nearest trauma center and/or hospital emergency room
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Keeneland



Best Practices Aftercare and Transition of Retired Racehorses

- What we are looking for?
 - Support of programs to facilitate the transition and aftercare of retired racehorses
 - Provide on-site racehorse transition facility and responsible personnel
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Turfway Park
 - Woodbine
 - California
 - NYRA
 - Monmouth



Best Practices Compliance Program

- What we are looking for?
 - Documentation demonstrating the design, implementation, and maintenance of a Safety Compliance Program
 - Designation of Compliance Officer
- Where did we find best practices?
 - Turfway Park
 - Del Mar



Best Practices Not Part of Code

- Woodbine Infectious Disease Prevention
- California Safety Steward
- Delaware Park Safety Committee



Accreditation Inspectors' Viewpoints

- Accredited racetracks are communicating and cooperating with each other on safety issues
- Regulatory and track veterinarians are having more input with commissions and racetracks on safety and welfare issues
- Horsemen, jockeys, track management, racing officials and fans appreciate the opportunity to talk to the NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance Inspectors about safety and welfare issues



Accreditation Inspectors' Viewpoints

- Communications with starting gate crews has increased recording of schooling records that can be data-based and shared with other starters
- Cooperation with track superintendents has led to more participation in Dr. Mick Peterson's Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory



Take-Aways

- Process is working
 - At least five tracks have established relationships with aftercare facilities for retired Thoroughbreds
 - Delaware adopted RCI Lasix Model Rule
 - Maryland adopted RMTTC/RCI Medication Rules
- Aftercare of Retired Racetrack Thoroughbred
 - In drafting the Code of Standards, we found out many tracks did not believe this was their problem
- Tracks are learning the importance of and how to improve backstretch security



Take-Aways

- Near Future
 - Input at inspections from more stakeholders
 - Fans
 - Owners
- Longer-Term
 - Items to be addressed by Alliance Advisory Committee for possible addition to Code of Standards
 - Safety Rail
 - Increased Programs for Thoroughbred Aftercare
 - Human Ambulance Paramedic Support
 - Wagering Integrity
- Ultimate goal is for owners, trainers, jockeys, fans and bettors only participate at accredited tracks





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