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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

JANUARY 30, 2002

CLENBUTEROL LEVEL APPROVED

SACRAMENTO, CA – A regulatory amendment adding clenbuterol to the list of therapeutic medications for which trace levels are permitted in post-race equine urine samples received final approval Wednesday from the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).

The California Horse Racing Board adopted the regulation November 30, then submitted it to OAL for the required administrative review. The CHRB sent letters Wednesday notifying horsemen's organizations, veterinarians, stewards, laboratories, and racing associations that clenbuterol now is permitted at a level not to exceed 5 nanograms per milliliter in an official post-race urine test.

The Board approved the regulation based on research by scientists at the University of California at Davis indicating that this concentration will not alter the athletic performance of a horse. Based on separate studies, it is recommended that clenbuterol be administered at the level of 0.8 micrograms per kilogram of body weight, so that the urine concentration will be below 5 ng/ml by four days after the last drug administration.

Clenbuterol is the only drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration for equine use in the treatment of respiratory disease. It is widely used throughout the world as part of legitimate veterinary treatment to promote the health and welfare of the horse. This regulation conforms to recommendations by the American Association of Equine Practitioners relating to residual therapeutic drugs.

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