

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

# Memorandum

**Date :** October 16, 2015

**To :** California Fairs, Los Alamitos Race Course and Other Inclosures  
Official and Attending Veterinarians  
PCQHRA, AQHA and Horsemen

**From :** Rick Baedeker, CHRB Executive Director  
Rick M. Arthur, DVM, Equine Medical

**Subject :** Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) Requirements for Quarter Horses at  
CHRB Inclosures

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) and Equine Piroplasmiasis (EP) has continued to be a problem in California's racing Quarter Horse population. Since 2012, thirty-six (36) EIA positives and nineteen (19) EP positives have been identified, including two EIA positive Quarter Horses in the last month. Ten of these horses were dual infected with both organisms. An investigation conducted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) identified a high-risk population of Quarter Horses participating in unsanctioned which has spilled over into sanctioned Quarter Horse racing. Risky practices are believed to have contributed to transmission of these diseases, such as the sharing of needles and other medical equipment or the use of illegally obtained, contaminated foreign blood products. Based on the increase in detection, the CDFA recommends increased surveillance in the high-risk population of racing Quarter Horses.

More recently, an Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA/Coggins) positive horse was identified on the grounds at Los Alamitos resulting in a quarantine of over 25 race horses. More importantly, an EIA positive horse puts ALL horses at Los Alamitos at risk and invites a wider quarantine that could potentially impact all racing at the track.

Effective November 1, 2015 any Quarter Horse not continuously housed at a CHRB enclosure for the previous 60 days must have a negative Coggins (EIA test) dated after September 1, 2015, in order to start at a CHRB-licensed race track.

Effective November 15, 2015, a Quarter Horse not continuously housed at a CHRB enclosure for the previous 60 days must have a negative Coggins dated within the last 90 days to be allowed to enter a CHRB inclosure.

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