

Anti-Doping/Medication Control Results for 2022

The Chair of the ARCI Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee, Duncan Patterson of Delaware, informed the ARCI Board this week that the overall results of the Anti-Doping and Medication Control program for 2022 indicate a significant compliance with the rules and the overall program remains comparable to those governed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

Patterson's report aggregates official programmatic data from individual States to report the results of horse racing's Anti-Doping/Medication Control program for 2022 reflecting thoroughbred, quarter horse, and standardbred contests.

The report shows data from all States except Texas, Maine, Montana, and North Dakota.

In 2022, US state racing commissions sent over 206,498 biological samples to a network of independent testing laboratories. These samples included 23,116 samples taken out of competition and 183,382 post-race.

"11.2% of horses tested nationwide were out of competition although only seventeen states had an out of competition testing program," said RCI President Ed Martin who noted that an expansion of out of competition testing in thoroughbred racing is an anticipated result of the HISA program.

The 2022 program was conducted entirely by State Racing Commissions. In 2023, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority is responsible for most thoroughbred testing that occurs after May 22, 2023.

"There were 842 adverse analytical findings indicating the presence of a substance that should not be in the sample and a likely violation of the rules," Patterson said. "The overwhelming majority of samples tested - 99.59% - were found to be compliant with the rules which were substantially consistent, but not totally uniform, across the jurisdictions."

As a result of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act, all thoroughbred races now have uniform rules. State rules governing Standardbred and Quarter Horse racing are substantially similar but not totally uniform as there are minor variations.

Consistent with prior years, the majority of substances detected are indicative of a therapeutic overage (at least 59.2%). Instances that can be clearly described as doping reflect 16% of the substances found, or just 0.02% of all samples tested.

Individual substances are categorized pursuant to the ARCI's Uniform Classification Guidelines for Foreign Substances on a scale of one to five as to the seriousness of a

finding in terms of appropriateness to be present in a horse and the ability to affect performance.

The categories of substances detected in 2022 were as follows:

Classification	Number	Percentage	
1	37	4.39	Doping
2	98	11.64	Doping
3	200	23.75	(Depends on substance)
4	468	55.58	Therapeutic Overage
5	29	3.44	Therapeutic Overage

Patterson reported that horseracing’s program with a 0.41 adverse finding rate is comparable to Olympic sport. “The testing done for the Olympics and other sports covered by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) have shown similar results with 99.35% of samples having no issue,” he said.

The following “Total Samples Analyzed” chart from WADA’s 2021 Report summarizes the results of all the samples WADA-accredited Laboratories analyzed and reported into WADA’s Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS):

	Samples Analyzed	AAFs	%
Olympic Sports	207008	1,013	0.49
Non-Olympic Sports	34422	547	1.59%
TOTAL	241430	1560	0.65%

Patterson noted the magnitude of the anti-doping/medication control program in US horseracing. “Worldwide tests for WADA totaled 241,430 in 2021. In 2022 US state racing commissions conducted over 206,498 tests not including four states that did not report” he reported.

The following chart shows a state by state comparison for the 2022 program:

Agency	Total Tests	Total AAFs	AAF %	Clear %
Arizona Dept. of Gaming; Racing Div.	3,630	18	0.005	99.995
Arkansas Racing & Gaming Comm. (flat)	2,524	5	0.002	99.998

California Horse Racing Board	30,210	114	0.004	99.996
Colorado	747	23	0.031	99.969
Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Comm.	2,080	5	0.240	99.760
Florida Dept. of Pari Mutuel Wagering	8,904	71	0.008	99.992
Idaho State Racing Comm.	320	15	0.047	99.953
Illinois Racing Board	4,171	6	0.001	99.999
Indiana Horse Racing Comm.	8,590	23	0.003	99.997
Iowa Racing Comm.	3,151	10	0.003	99.997
Kentucky Horse Racing Comm.	4,875	11	0.002	99.998
Louisiana State Racing Comm.	7,940	159	0.020	99.980
Maine State Harness Racing Commission	DNR			
Maryland Racing Comm.	9,543	31	0.003	99.997
Michigan Gaming Control Board	1,343	2	0.001	99.999
Minnesota Racing Comm.	4,537	9	0.002	99.998
Montana Board of Horse Racing	DNR			
N Dakota Racing Comm.	DNR			
Nebraska Racing Comm.	1,116	0	0.000	100.000
New Jersey	14,601	30	0.002	99.998
New Mexico Racing Commission	8,619	71	0.008	99.992
New York State Gaming Comm.	30,725	34	0.001	99.999
Ohio St. RC	18,719	82	0.004	99.996
Oklahoma HRC	7,932	55	0.007	99.993
Oregon Racing Comm.	188	3	0.016	99.984
Pennsylvania Racing Commission	22,818	91	0.004	99.996
S Dakota	52	0	0.000	100.000
Texas Racing Comm.	DNR			
Virginia Racing Comm.	1,609	10	0.006	99.994
Washington Horse Racing Comm.	985	14	0.014	99.986

West Virginia Racing Commission	5,723	22	0.004	99.996
Wyoming Pari-Mutuel Comm.	861	12	0.014	99.986