

**SLEDDOG and CANICROSS**  
**ITALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION**  
**(A.I.V.S.eC.)**

**DOPING FOR DOGS AT EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP ECF 2017**

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**1) PRELIMINARY NOTES**

In order to preserve the health and well-being of the dogs entered the European Championship ECF 2017 and in order to ensure sporting fairness and ethics of the event, during the Championship a Veterinarian of the ECF Vet Team will collect biological samples (e.g. Urine) from dogs in the race.

The sample collection criteria will be based on:

- ✓ Specialty (canicross / bike / scooter)
- ✓ Order of arrival (final arrival order or 1st or 2nd day partial arrival order )
- ✓ Random pick
- ✓ Targeted suspects

The samples, collected according to methods that prevent manipulations or alterations and ensure the integrity, will be examined in an anonymous way at the doping laboratories UNIRELAB in Milan by the ECF rules and following guidelines by WADA (World Anti Doping Agency). UNIRELAB is certified for the Quality Management System ISO 9001: 2008 - Cert. N ° 16941 and is affiliated with the Sleddog and Canicross Italian Veterinary Association as well as with the National Italian Kennel Club - ENCI.

**2) DEFINITIONS**

- a) The terms "PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES" identify those chemical substances, traceable in biological samples of dogs, whose intake is not allowed and whose activity is able to modify in any way and intensity athletic performance of dogs
- b) The term " PROHIBITED METHODS " identify the physical and medical procedures, whose use and application are not allowed and whose activity is able to modify in any way and intensity athletic performance of dogs
- c) The term "ALWAYS PROHIBITED" identify substances and methods whose use is never admitted, neither before nor during the course of the European Championship ECF.  
**N.B.** The discovery of these substances in biological samples of the competing dogs (either accidentally taken or used for medical therapies or maliciously administered) and / or evidence of use of prohibited methods, are always considered doping. The dog and the competitor with a positive test for these substances, may be subject to disqualification, after possible counter-analysis.
- d) The terms "PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE" identify substances and methods whose use is not allowed in the last 30 days prior to the European Championship ECF (from September 13 to October 12, 2017 included) or during its course (from 12 to October 15, 2017 included).

**N.B.** If these substances and / or methods had been used for therapeutic purposes (i.e. on prescription from a veterinarian) during the last month before the European Championship ECF, the competitor must submit to

the Veterinarian in charge of doping controls, an hour before the pre-race veterinary examination of the dog, the "DECLARATION OF TREATMENT ". In case the dog is chosen for the doping control, this declaration will be taken in consideration in the assessment of the laboratory results.

- e) The terms "SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL" identify substances for which the therapeutic use, based on a veterinary prescription, is allowed during the ECF European Championship, provided the competitor submits to the Veterinarian in charge of doping controls, an hour before the pre-race veterinary examination of the dog, the "FORM OF EXEMPTION F" (in case of use of drugs) or " FORM OF EXEMPTION T" (in case of use of thyroid hormones)

**N.B.** Findings in biological samples subjected to doping tests of these substances (even if used for medical therapies) is always considered doping if there has been no prior presentation of "FORMS OF EXEMPTION F or T".

• **FINAL NOTE ON THE FORMS TO BE SUBMITTED**

The forms that competitors must present in case of use of drugs during the competition or in the last 30 days before it, must be filled in by a Veterinarian (before the ECF Championship) and submitted by the competitor to the Veterinarian in charge of doping controls, an hour before the pre-race veterinary examination of the dog, in 3 cases:

1. The DECLARATION OF TREATMENT must be filled if the dog was treated in the month prior to the competition with SUBSTANCES OR METHODS PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE (see ANNEX 1).
2. The FORM OF EXEMPTION F must be filled if the dog is to be kept in therapy during the race with SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL (see ANNEX 2).
3. The FORM OF EXEMPTION T must be filled if the dog is to be kept in therapy during the race with THYROID HORMONES. The results of laboratory tests must also be attached (see ANNEX 3)

**N.B.** The presentation of the "FORMS OF EXEMPTION F or T" or of the "DECLARATION OF TREATMENT" are mandatory in the cases described above, but does not automatically imply the dog's admission to the competition. The decision on admission to the competition will be taken, case by case, on the clinical presentation at of the moment of the pre-race examination, which is made to ascertain the health of the dog.

The Veterinarians in charge will evaluate in particular:

- ✓ The data reported by Veterinarians on the FORMS, in relation to the conditions which led to the use (during the thirty days before the race) of substances or methods which are forbidden during the race, or in relation to the conditions which can motivate the use of substances under control, during the race itself.
- ✓ The possible consequences on the health and welfare of the dog, treated or under treatment, in relation to the participation in the competition.
- ✓ The possible consequences on the fairness of the event.

### **3) List of PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS and SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL**

The substances and methods listed below are divided into:

**A. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS:**

A.I ***SUBSTANCES AND METHODS ALWAYS PROHIBITED***

A.II ***SUBSTANCES AND METHODS PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE***

**B. SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL (PERMITTED DURING THE RACE)**

## **A. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS**

### **A.I**

- **SUBSTANCES (AND THEIR METABOLITES) ALWAYS PROHIBITED**

1. ANABOLIC STEROIDS AND SUBSTANCES HAVING SIMILAR EFFECT
2. HORMONES AND RELATED SUBSTANCES, HORMONE RELEASE FACTORS, HORMONES ANTAGONISTS (*OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED IN THE LIST OF 'SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL'*)
3. BETA BLOCKERS
4. DIURETICS AND / OR OTHER "MASKING AGENTS"
5. OTHER SUBSTANCES WITH EFFECT SIMILAR TO THOSE ABOVE DEFINED

- **METHODS ALWAYS PROHIBITED**

1. FORCED FEEDING OR WATERING
2. INCREASE OF BLOOD OXYGEN TRANSPORT (ES. AUTOHEMOTRANSFUSION)

### **A.II**

- **SUBSTANCES (AND THEIR METABOLITES) PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE**

1. ALCOHOL PER OS
2. LOCAL OR GENERAL ANESTHETICS
3. ANALGESICS ("PAINKILLERS")
4. ANTIBIOTICS (*OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED IN THE LIST OF "SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL"*)
5. ANTICHOLINERGICS
6. ANTIHISTAMINES
7. ANTI-INFLAMMATORY
  - A. CORTICOSTEROIDS
  - B. NSAIDs
  - C. ANTIPROSTAGLANDINS
  - D. DMSO
8. BRONCHODILATORS AND BETA 2 AGONIST
9. IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS AND IMMUNOMODULATORS
10. MUSCLE RELAXANTS
11. DRUGS REDUCING GASTROINTESTINAL MOTILITY
12. SEDATIVES, NARCOTICS AND ANTIEPILEPTICS
13. COUGH SUPPRESSORS
14. STIMULANTS (INCLUDING CAFFEINE AND THEOBROMINE)
15. SUBSTANCES THAT HAVE THE SAME EFFECTS OF THOSE LISTED ABOVE

- **METHODS PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE**

1. INTRAVENOUS FLUID
2. ACUPUNCTURE AND OTHER METHOD USED TO STIMULATE ACUPUNCTURE POINTS
3. THERAPY WITH INFRARED, ULTRASOUND, LASER, ELECTROMAGNETIC AND TENS EQUIPMENT
4. CHIROPRACTIC, OSTEOPATHIC AND OTHER TREATMENTS OF SPINAL MANIPULATION
5. REPLACEMENT OR CHEMICAL / PHYSICAL ALTERATION OF BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES TO BE TESTED

## **B. SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL (PERMITTED DURING THE RACE)**

1. ANTIBIOTICS PER OS OR INJECTABLE (*ONLY IF USED FOR SKIN WOUNDS*)
2. ANTIBIOTICS FOR TOPICAL USE (*SOLUTIONS, OINTMENTS, GEL AND CREAM FOR DERMATOLOGICAL USE; DROPS AND OINTMENTS FOR OPHTHALMIC USE; EAR DROPS, ETC.*)
3. ANTI- ACID AND ANTI GASTRIC ULCER PER OS (H2 RECEPTOR ANTAGONIST AND PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS) (*ES. OMEPRAZOLE AND DERIVATIVES, RANITIDINE, CIMETIDINE, FAMOTIDINE, SUCRALFATE, ETC.*)
4. REPRODUCTIVE HORMONES, HORMONAL RELEASE FACTORS OR RELATED SUBSTANCES PER OS OR FOR INJECTIONS:
  - a) *HORMONES FOR INDUCTION OF TEMPORARY INFERTILITY IN FEMALE, PROVIDED NOT CONTAINING TESTOSTERONE*
  - b) *HORMONES SIMILAR TO GNRH FOR INDUCTION OF TEMPORARY INFERTILITY IN MALE (ES. DESLORELIN)*
  - c) *ESTROGEN FOR THE TREATMENT OF URINARY INCONTINENCE IN SPAYED FEMALE (ES. ESTRIOL)*
  - d) *ESTROGEN FOR THE INDUCTION OF ABORTION IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL MATING (ES. ESTRADIOL)*
  - e) *ANTIPIROGESTINIC FOR INDUCTION OF ABORTION IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL MATING (ES. AGLEPRISTONE)*
  - f) *PROLACTIN INHIBITORS FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF LACTATION (ES. CABERGOLINE, BROMOCRIPTINE, METERGOLINE)*
  - g) *HORMONES ANTIANDROGENS FOR TREATMENT OF BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERTROPHY (ES. OSATERONE)*
5. THYROID HORMONE (\*)

### **(\*) EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE USE OF THYROID HORMONE:**

The oral use of thyroid hormones before and during the race, due to a specific prescription of the attending veterinarian for dogs with thyroid diseases, is allowed only if, at least one hour prior to the pre-race veterinary inspection:

- The FORM OF EXEMPTION T is presented to the Chief Veterinary, together with a laboratory reports bearing the identification of the subject being treated and the identification data of the laboratory itself.  
The laboratory reports must include the values determined for T4, Free T4 and cTSH:
  - a) at the time of diagnosis (values that must be lower than the minimum limit indicated as normal range by the laboratory)
  - b) at least 4 weeks after the start of hormone therapy (values that must not be higher than the maximum limit set as normal range by the laboratory).

**NB** Scientific research has shown that dogs like "Alaskan Husky" have lower physiological hormone levels (particularly in the period of training and competition) compared to standard values for other breeds (\* / \*\*).

The range for these subjects, according to the literature mentioned below, are the following

T4 = 5.3 to 40.3 nmol / L (0.41 to 3.13 ug / dL)

Free T4 = from 3.0 to 24.0 pmol / L (0.23-1.86 ng / dL)

cTSH = 8.0 to 37.0 mU / L (0.1-0.68 ng / mL)

For these subjects the veterinarian will take into consideration the therapeutic use of thyroid hormones only if the detection of laboratory values below the minimum, as described above, was accompanied by actual clinical hypothyroidism suspicious symptoms.

\* Effects of racing and nontraining on plasma thyroid hormone Concentrations in sled dogs. Lee JA, Hinchcliff KW, Piercy RJ, Schmidt KE, Nelson S Jr. J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2004 Jan 15; 224 (2): 226-31.

\*\* Alterations in thyroid hormone Concentrations in healthy sled dogs before and after athletic conditioning. Evason MD, Carr AP, Taylor SM, Waldner CL. Am J Vet Res. 2004 Sep; 65 (3): 333-7.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE**

THE SUBSTANCES LISTED BELOW CAN BE USED BEFORE AND/OR DURING THE COMPETITION WITHOUT PRESENTING ANY OF THE ABOVE FORMS, AS LONG AS THEY DO NOT CONTAIN SUBSTANCES LISTED AMONG THOSE “ALWAYS PROHIBITED” OR “PROHIBITED DURING THE RACE”.

**ALL COMPETITORS MUST BE AWARE THAT SOME OF THESE SUBSTANCES MAY HOWEVER COINTAIN PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (EVEN IF NOT LISTED IN THE DECLARATION OF INGREDIENTS) WHICH CAN CAUSE A POSITIVE DOPING TEST.**

- **INSECT REPELLENTS, INSECTICIDES, ACARICIDES**
- **ANTHELMINTICS**
- **NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS**
- **JOINT PROTECTION SUPPLEMENTS PER OS**
- **PREBIOTICS AND PROBIOTICS**
- **ANTIDIARRHEAL ADSORBENTS (es. bentonite, kaolin, pectin, montmorillonite, etc.)**
- **SOLUTIONS, OINTMENTS, POWDER, GEL AND CREAM FOR DERMATOLOGICAL USE**
- **SOLUTIONS, OINTMENTS, OIL, GEL AND CREAM FOR MASSAGE**
- **DROPS AND OINTMENTS FOR OPHTHALMIC USE**
- **EAR DROPS**
- **“NATURAL”, HERBAL, HOMEOPATHIC, “TRADITIONALCHINESE” REMEDIES, SUPPLEMENTS AND DRUGS**

**IN CASE THE COMPETITOR NEEDS MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DOPING CONTROL RULES, PLEASE CONTACT THE ECF 2017 CHIEF VETERINARIAN (dr Sergio Maffi), VIA EMAIL:**

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