

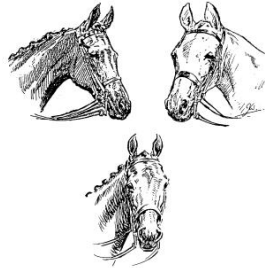
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BSHA Medication Control Programme

Testing & Sampling Procedure 2025

This document sets out the Testing and Sampling procedures according to BSHA regulations and applies to any animal competing in any BSHA sponsored class.

This procedure should be read in conjunction with the rules and regulations of the BSHA.

The aim of the programme is to ensure that all horses shown under BSHA rules will compete on their merits, without the aid of performance enhancing drugs, prohibited substances, or appearance-enhancing drugs.

The MCP Programme is designed to align as far as practical with other leading equestrian authorities.

The list of prohibited substances as per the FEI.org website:

<https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2025%20Prohibited%20Substances%20List.pdf>

MCP Officials:

1. **MCP Testing Officer:** usually a veterinary surgeon approved by the BSHA Board
2. **MCP Testing Steward:** selected on a regional basis from experienced and senior officials.

The BSHA Board will appoint a **Senior Testing Officer** and a **Senior Testing Steward** to oversee the whole programme and appoint regional officials as and when appropriate.

For 2025 the Senior Testing Officer is JMK and the Senior Testing Steward is LJK

The testing laboratory: the appointment of a laboratory will be at the discretion of the BSHA.

The selection of horses for testing:

Horses to be tested will be selected by one of the following methods:

- i. Winners of classes
- ii. Random selection
- iii. Spot testing – horses giving rise for concern to any official

The testing protocol:

Once a horse has been selected for sampling, the Testing Steward will notify the rider/handler that the horse is to be tested at the end of the class.

From that time, the Testing Steward and the appointed **Person Responsible** who can be the rider/handler/owner, or their appointed representative will be responsible for accompanying the horse from the time it leaves the ring until the testing process is complete. The person responsible must be over 18 years of age.

Any representative is entitled to witness the sampling procedure.

Refusal to permit the acquisition of testing samples or a refusal to sign relevant documents will be considered a serious violation of the **BSHA Medication Control Programme Code** and render the connections of the horse liable to sanctions under the BSHA Medication Control Programme Code. A copy of this code is available on request.

Testing facilities:

- a. designated testing stables should be available and not used for any other purpose – stables used for treating horses are not suitable for MCP Testing
- b. stables should be thoroughly cleaned before use
- c. stables should be in a quiet area away from distraction whenever possible.
- d. testing facilities should be agreed by the appropriate show officials and approved by the Testing Officials
- e. if possible, a second stable or similar should be available for Testing Officials to use as a base/office, a table and chair to facilitate completion of documentation is very helpful

Testing kits:

- a. each kit will have a unique set of bar codes to identify the samples, these are to be attached to each document, including the receipt placed in the horse's passport
- b. tamperproof containers and bags are included in each kit

The testing officials will be responsible for the security of the samples and their onward dispatch to the designated laboratory.

BSHA sampling procedure:

- a. the selected horse can return to the stable area but must not enter its stable
- b. the horse can be untacked and washed off
- c. the horse must not be fed but may have a drink of water at the steward's discretion
- d. the horse's passport should accompany the horse to permit identification by the MCP officials. If the passport is not available, the identity of the horse can be confirmed by its **microchip number** and **BSHA registered name**.
- e. sampling should always be conducted under conditions of strict hygiene
- f. when testing is completed the person responsible will countersign the relevant documents and the MCP Testing Officer will make an entry in the horse's passport to confirm the date and the testing venue
- g. a unique bar-coded receipt will also be placed in the horse's passport
- h. if urine is to be collected, a time will be set after which, if the horse has not urinated, only blood will be collected
- i. the Testing Official has discretion to sample a selected horse in the most appropriate location if the Testing Official deems it essential to avoid distress to the horse
- j. the **person responsible** will stay with the horse until testing and documentation has been completed after which the horse is returned to the care of the person responsible and may return to its stable
- k. a copy of the relevant documents and bar codes will be retained by the BSHA