

OSAF NEWS

ORGANIZACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE FOMENTO DEL PURA SANGRE DE CARRERA

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTING AFTER RACE DISTRESS SYNDROME



In line with the work being carried out by OSAF, trying to share the best practices and experience in the different issues that are involved in our activity, a letter of recommendation was circulated between the racecourses members of our Organization, which comprises a series of measures suggested by the Veterinary Service of San Isidro Racecourse, which we find appropriate and worth sharing publicly, for the prevention of AFTER RACE DISTRESS SYNDROME.

From OSAF, we suggest making the efforts necessary to implement the following actions in order to prevent, assist and rapidly recover racechorses which suffer from this clinical condition, especially in times of high temperature during summer:

- 1. Keep hose points with fresh water after the finish line, in the parade ring and the road from the track to the veterinary department area.
- 2. Keep an area reserved for the recovery of horses, with shades and a long hose in the veterinary area.
- 3. Keep barrells with iced water in the vehicle driving around the track.
- 4. Rig a tractor with a water tank to spray in case of distress syndrome on track.
- 5. Have long neckfolds ready with pockets for cold gel pads to apply on the jugular area and behind the ears.
- 6. Keep a medicine chest and emergency protocol in case there is no favorable results with the aforementioned measures.
- 7. Take a blood sample prior to applying medication (in case it is necessary to apply any), in order to check for forbidden substances.
- 8. Take a blood sample to evaluate blood gasses and in order to make a profile of the performance of the affected horses.
- 9. Register temperature, humidity and wind, in order to identify the days of greater risk in which this clinical conditions often happen.
- 10. Take the precausions for the horses not to be immediately placed inside a box, nor travel in closed confimenent immediately after a race.
- 11. Notify the staff moving the horses that they should be moved in times of lower temperatures during the day.
- 12. Bear in mind the use of diuretics.
- 13. Do not withhold water from the horse at any time during the day in which it will be subject to high temperatures.