



Deutscher Polo Verband e.V. Jenischstr. 26 . D-22609 Hamburg

To all
DPV members

Deutscher Polo Verband e.V.
Jenischstr. 26 . D-22609 Hamburg
Tel. 040 82 24 12 20 Fax 040 82 06 89
info@poloverband.com

31.01.2013

Horse Doping incident during the German High Goal Championship 2012 Berlin Maifeld

Dear DPV members and Polo players,

The game of Kings is the king of games... Polo is a sport, loved and played by sportsmen and sportswoman for now over 100 years in Germany. German polo is organised under the rules and regulations of the German Polo Association (DPV), which was founded in 1972, bringing all polo clubs and members in Germany together.

Like in all Sports, misuse of forbidden substances on horses and players is a negative way of gaining an (unfair) advantage. The DPV as the only authority in German polo has set the main focus lately on animal protection / pony welfare. Based on the German Tierschutzgesetz (animal protection LAW) §3 1b. it is strictly forbidden to use any drugs on animals / horses either in training or competition.

In 2012 the DPV started to test randomly polo ponies in competition for drugs / misuse of forbidden substances. All results turned out to be negative, with the exception of one test that proved to be positive on Phenylbutazon and Oxyphenbutazon. Due to a lack of analysis methods of the laboratory we have not been able to quantify doubtless the level of the medication.

We informed and questioned the involved player and separately also the horse owner (in this case not the same person) about this severe finding / incident. Both of them understood that it was a drug misuse even though both substance Phenylbutazon and Oxyphenbutazon are not forbidden doping drugs in some neighbour countries like the UK, which are organised under the HPA regulations.

Polo in Germany has obtained in the last years respect and reputation as a sport and not only as social events.

Due to a lack of experience and improper testing procedures, in this incident, the DPV is not able to prosecute the respective player / horse owner as stated in the regulations of the DPV rules. We have taken this case as an important step towards improving our procedures and processes to be ready for the new polo season 2013.

Thus the current incident will remain without prosecution, but with a serious warning and strict controls in the next game they participate.

This should be understood as a warning to all players, horse owners, grooms and people involved, that the DPV will make unexpected doping tests during many polo matches at different tournaments in Germany starting this year!

/ .. 2



Seite 2 von 2 vom 31.01.2013

We reserve the right to test horses of these players without any prior information on any polo tournament in Germany on drugs outside the random selection of horses to be tested.

We also want every player, horse owner, groom, veterinarian, ferrier, truck driver etc. to understand that the use of drugs and misuse of forbidden substances also any other mistreatment either deliberate or careless is a severe delict and will be prosecuted.

The DPV will be more present on pony welfare and drug testing.

Any incidence will follow in sanctions!

The already in 2006 established doping committee will establish approved procedures nationwide for doping controls on horses but also players with the help of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).

A so-called "standard for the implementation of medication control in horses in training" was drawn up by NADA based on the requirements of the national anti doping code and a performance audit of procedure for the national sports programs. Therefore German Equestrian Federation (FN), German Olympic Committee (DOKR) and NADA has launched Drug testing of high performance horses in training in Germany in a pioneering expansion of anti doping measures. The first horses in training that were tested under the new program were at Warendorf, the national training center in November 2012.

We want everybody to be aware that misuse of forbidden substances harms our beloved horses. Doping destroys the respect and reputation Polo has obtained as a sport. Misuse of forbidden substances kills the idea of a good and fair competition on the field.

Kind regards / Mit sportlichen Grüßen

Deutscher Polo Verband e.V.
The Steward Committee