

2026 Iowa Quarter Horse Hair Testing Protocol

Commission Hair Testing

- 1) Commission will conduct hair testing on all Stakes races. Additional hair testing during the racing season at Prairie Meadows will be at the discretion of IRGC and the State Vet's Office. Any horse on PMR&C grounds is subject to hair testing at any time.
 - **Stabling of Quarter Horse Finalists.** If a horse is a finalist for a stake race that had nomination, sustaining and/or late supplemental payments in order to be eligible to participate and qualified through time trials, the horse shall remain on facility premises until the running of the final. If a horse becomes a finalist for a stake race that does not run qualifying time trials due to not having enough entrants to run trials, that horse must be stabled on facility premises by the date time trials were scheduled and remain on facility premises until the running of the final. A horse removed from facility premises or is not stabled on facility premises by the date time trials were scheduled, will not be allowed to enter for the final or will be scratched from the final and will not be eligible for a refund of the fees paid or earn any purse monies from the final.
 - Commission will collect hair samples from the 10 fastest qualifiers plus 2 "Also Eligible" horses (the 11th and 12th fastest timed horses) on all stakes that had nomination, sustaining and/or late supplemental payments in order to be eligible to participate. If no trials are necessary and the race to be run as a "Final Only", the horses that entered for trials and remain eligible for the Final, will have hair samples collected for testing prior to entering for the final of that stake race. Per agreement with AQHA Racing Challenge, up to 3 "Also Eligible" horses will have hair samples taken from qualifying trials.
 - Commission will collect hair samples from all 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in stakes races that did not require a nomination, sustaining and/or late supplemental payment in order to be eligible to participate.
 - Commission could collect hair samples on a random basis from horses during racing or out-of-competition.
- 2) Commission will perform the testing under the following terms and guidelines:
 - Commission reserves the right to test any horse on PMR&C grounds at any time. Failure to make a horse available for hair testing as requested by State Vet will result in the horse being placed on the Vet's List and ineligible to enter any races at PMR&C until a negative hair test is received under terms and conditions required by the State Vet.
 - Trial Races: Each qualifying horse will report to the test barn or trainer/owner will otherwise make horse available on a date and at a time/schedule specified by the State Vet. Failure to report to the test barn or as otherwise scheduled will result in horse automatically being placed on the Vet's List and ineligible for the stakes final as well as a loss of the purse from the qualifying race. Horse will remain on Vet's List until a negative hair test is received under terms and conditions required by State Vet. If no trials are necessary (race to be run as a "Final Only") all horses entered for trials will be hair tested under the terms and guidelines explained here.
 - Owner/trainer is responsible for any/all costs associated with subsequent hair testing to remove horse from Vet's List.
 - The hair sample will be collected in a manner prescribed by the State Vet and state lab with normal chain of custody protocol (i.e. trainer witnesses sample collection/labeling etc.).
 - NO split samples will be collected.
 - The hair sample will be sent to the state lab for processing.
 - **The determination of the state lab regarding the results of hair testing is FINAL. Horses with a positive hair test waive the right to appeal this determination or seek a stay to allow a horse to continue to compete absent a negative hair test.**
 - Hair testing will focus on any long acting compounds that have muscle-building effects and that are prohibited from being present at any level (i.e. zero-tolerance drugs). Common drugs being tested include (but are NOT limited to): Clenbuterol, Ractopamine, Zilpaterol, Albuterol, Bambuterol, Pirbuterol, Anabolic steroids, boldenone esters, testosterone esters, and nandrolone esters, stanozol.
 - A horse that qualified in a trial race for a stake final and subsequently has a positive hair test as a part of the stakes race testing will lose its purse from the qualifying trial race. A horse that ran in a stake race without qualifying trials and subsequently has a positive hair test as a part of the stakes race testing will lose its purse and the stakes purse monies will be reallocated based on the number of starters after ineligible/disqualified horses in accordance with the stakes race purse distribution percentages.
- 3) IQHRA will provide a resolution or some other type of written documentation that establishes that the association supports this hair testing and the terms and protocol as outlined.