

Doping and Medication Review Panel-GRB Update 2018

The Doping and Medication Advisory Panel (DMAP) was established by the GBGB Board in September 2010 following the Anti-Doping and Medication Control review.

The Doping and Medication Review Panel has continued this work since April 2012 to advise and oversee the GBGB's anti-doping strategy, and is now chaired by the Veterinary Director GBGB, Dr Gower, supported by Professor Tim Morris (Independent Scientific Advisor) Simon Hudson (LGC, Fordham), Clive Pearce (LGC, Fordham), Ruth Schiller (LGC, Fordham), Duncan Gibson (GBGB Welfare and Integrity Manager), Mark Bird (Director of Regulation, GBGB) and Paul Illingworth (Senior Stipendiary Steward, GBGB).

This document, produced at the end of 2018, updates key achievements reported in 2016 are as follows;

Organisational Focus

- Membership of DMAP and defined Terms of Reference approved by GBGB
- A procedure for producing a "Statement of Opinion" for all drug positives introduced
- The introduction of Penalty Guidelines to formalise the investigative and judicial process relating to positive samples.
- Clarity in recording and authorising screening limits and other sensitivity controls

Sampling Policy

- Quarterly sampling strategies are produced
- Point of Registration (PoR) sampling introduced in May 2011
- All PoR samples analysed since 2017, and the substance list reviewed
- A revised and extended Elective Test has been introduced
- The Rules of Racing have been amended to require samples to be collected from any greyhounds that die suddenly at a racecourse
- Hair sampling protocols established

Improving Understanding

- Research proposing to establish whether morphine metabolites in urine are from feed contamination or exogenous administration.
- Further research projects
 - Norethisterone as an oestrus suppressant (2010)
 - Recommended threshold for Procaine (2011)
 - Differentiating pharmaceutical morphine from natural opioids in poppy seeds (feeding of bread 2011)
 - Point of Registration Sampling Pilot (2010)
 - Boldenone/boldione detection in Greyhounds (2012)
 - Urinary clearance of Stanozolol (2013)
 - Screening Limit for Testosterone (2012) leading to banning of testosterone as an oestrus suppressant from January 2013.
 - Detection of 5-HTP (2014)
 - Evaluation of endogenous levels of cobalt (2014 jointly with BHA)
 - Development of laboratory methodology for the use of greyhound hair as a matrix for drug testing (2014)
 - New standards for drug administration studies.
 - Performance of drug administration studies, for example butylscopolamine
 - Cooperation with cooperation Greyhounds Australasia on administration studies and thresholds
 - Publication of results and Detection Times

Improving Cost Effectiveness

- A competitive tender process to appoint a laboratory was completed in August 2010.
- 3 Year extension to sampling contract with LGC Sports Sciences (HFL Fordham) until 30 September 2016 with 3 options available to GBGB on operational spend, and a further extension upon review until September 2019.
- Agreed 5 business days screening results with confirmatory analysis 14 days thereafter.
- Non-routine target tests established for rhEPO and growth hormones.
- Active cooperation and information exchange with Greyhounds Australasia

Improving Oestrus Suppression Options

- DMRP has worked with the Veterinary Medicines Directorate to introduce norethisterone as a permitted suppressant.
- DMRP has banned the administration of testosterone, previously used as an oestrus suppressant.
- Research completed to test the hypothesis that spaying does not adversely affect the performance of a racing bitch

Improving Understanding

- A new and regularly updated Anti-Doping section has been added to the GBGB website and can be accessed at <http://www.gbgb.org.uk/AntiDoping.aspx>
- A first list of 'Permitted Treatments' (for first aid) has been finalised and approved
- Advice given to trainers and stipendiary stewards to maintain Treatment Books correctly.
- Notices have been circulated to racecourses to be displayed on notice boards in paddock areas
- A Resource Folder has been produced to present Anti-Doping and Medication Guidelines
- A Trainers Guide to Medication has been produced and updated. (2018)
- DMRP members sit on UK and International anti-doping committees
- Advisory Calendar notices on the feeding of red meat, the use of herbal remedies, abuse of vitamin and mineral supplements

DMRP Strategy Summary

- £640k Annual Spend on Drug Sampling and Research
- £400k Spend on Racecourse Integrity
- £180k spend on Integrity Field Force
- 6 Stipendiary Stewards
- 1 Investigating Officer
- 2 full-time and 1 part-time Sampling Officers
- 9,000 Samples per Annum
- Pre-race, Post-race, Intelligence-led
- All Category 1 Competitions
- Sales Trials
- Point of Registration Sampling
- Quarterly Strategy Meetings with LGC/HFL
- Review of all Screening Findings

Doping in Animal Sports Intelligence Exchange

- LGC
- Greyhounds Australasia
- ICC
- AORC

LGC, Fordham (formerly HFL)

- LGC is one of the world's premier independent drug surveillance laboratories, providing unrivalled and internationally trusted expertise in all aspects of doping control for sports.
- They have over 50 years' experience working with professionals in animal sports, whether in horseracing, equestrian sports or greyhound racing.
- They also provide animal feed testing and sample management; and also offer veterinary services, giving vets and purchasers confidence that bloodstock and pre-purchase examinations are accurate.
- LGC are a long-term collaborator with the Veterinary Defence Service.
- LGC is one of the world's premier independent drug surveillance laboratories, providing unrivalled and internationally trusted expertise in all aspects of doping control for sports.
- Applying the equine testing and research experience, LGC have a history of supporting the sport of greyhound racing, testing samples for a comprehensive range of prohibited substances thereby helping to protect the integrity of the sport and the welfare of the greyhounds. The Lab has a track record of constantly improving greyhound-specific testing and research services, and constantly evolve their testing procedures. They work to exacting internal standards and quality assurance processes for every test that they carry out, working within a strict accreditation to the ISO17025 standard

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Veterinary Director GBGB