



HEALTH, SAFETY AND REGULATORY MEASURES 2008

FACT SHEET
January 23, 2008

Measure	Trainer Transfer Guidelines
Overview	The Ontario Racing Commission (ORC) is committed to improved communication to the horse racing community. It has determined that the industry should have access to more information regarding the criteria used and the decisions made surrounding trainer transfers.
Effective Date	Currently applied. Issuance of Directive on policy on January 31, 2008.
Background	<p>When a trainer is suspended, for example in the case of a positive test, the owner(s) of horses in that stable can apply to the Judges/Stewards to have their horses transferred to another trainer. Incidents have occurred in the past that call into question why horses have been transferred to certain individuals where there appears to be a close relationship with the original trainer.</p> <p>In current practice, the Judges/Stewards apply a certain criteria to determining if the proposed trainer is suitable to receive care of the horses. These criteria and the reasons of the officials were not, however, well known to the racing community or the public.</p> <p>While there is a need to document the “rules” applied in these cases, it is in the best interests of racing that the officials be able to maintain a degree of discretion in order to be able to assess situations on a case by case basis.</p> <p>The factors to be considered by the Officials are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the degree of closeness of any relationship, whether it be fiduciary, employee/employer and/or family in nature;2. the past conduct of the proposed trainer; and3. the licensing history of the proposed trainer.
Rules	No rule change required. Publication of Policy Directive.