Racing Integrity Board
New Zealand

Changes to race day sampling

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Why we are making these changes

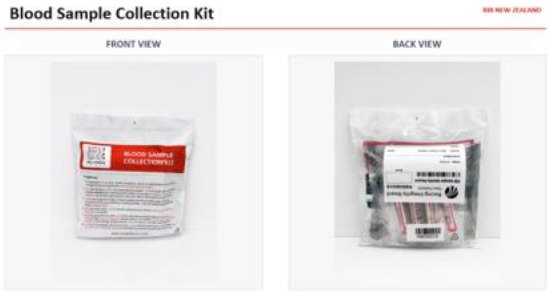
Following a review of our sampling processes, the Racing Integrity Board (RIB) is introducing pre-packaged sampling kits, single-use urine collection bags and digital sampling software. These improvements build on existing controls and support best practice, making sampling simpler and more efficient while further strengthening hygiene, sample integrity and traceability.

What is changing?

Pre-packaged kits for urine, blood and hair

Individually packaged kits will be used for urine, blood and hair samples. Each pouch will be opened in front of the stable representative immediately before sampling, and the completed sample pack will be sealed immediately afterwards. The kits support hygienic handling and provide tamper-evident packaging, with representatives able to observe the process from opening through to sealing.





Single-use urine collection bags

Urine will be collected in a disposable bag fitted to a collection holder. A fresh bag is used for each animal and discarded after use, removing the need to clean a collection vessel between animals and supporting biosecurity.

As each collection bag is used only once, a separate control rinse sample is no longer required. Urine will be divided between two official sample pottles, correctly identified and securely sealed, with only those two pottles sent to the laboratory.

Digital sampling records

The new RIB sampling software uses a phone mounted in the collection holder to scan animal identification, sampling packs, and barcoded licence ID cards. Required information is populated in real time, linking the animal, sample and representative in the digital record.



Phone mount and collection holder used with the digital sampling system

Digital recording replaces manual data entry and paper sampling records, reducing transcription errors, administrative work and the need for intensive checking after race meetings. It also supports the chain of custody from collection through to laboratory submission.

What you need to do

Going forward, please bring your barcoded licence ID card to every race meeting and ensure anyone representing your stable does the same. Having it ready for scanning is crucial to speeding up identification and recording.

Continue to witness sample collection, identification and sealing. Existing RIB sampling requirements and responsibilities remain in place and sampling staff will guide you through the updated process.

Supporting the rollout

RIB staff will be available to explain the changes and assist participants throughout the rollout.