香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

The Hong Kong Jockey Club

VETERINARY PRE-IMPORT EXAMINATION PROTOCOL

August 2026

Department of Veterinary Regulation
Welfare and Biosecurity Policy

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APPROVED BY	Head of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy
MAINTAINED BY	Department Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy
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PREFACE

The objectives of the Hong Kong Jockey Club pre-import examination are to direct and support the thorough examination of racehorses in an effort to identify and assess aspects of a veterinary nature that may affect a horse permanently imported into Hong Kong during its racing career.

The protocol has evolved over time with the aim of providing prospective or current owners with a multi-layered veterinary evaluation of each horse.

Despite thorough clinical examination, diagnostic imaging and testing, it will never be possible to detect all defects, abnormalities or potential problems. For this reason, **the pre-import examination in no way represents a guarantee that a horse will remain free of health issues or that it will have competitive success as a racehorse**.

The certificates of examination provide information on the status of a horse on the day of examination. This veterinary information should form only part of the information that must be considered a l o n g with other aspects such as performance, appearance and the opinions of other professionals, such as trainers, before deciding whether to purchase and / or import a horse into Hong Kong.

The HKJC does not recommend, accredit or endorse any examining veterinarian and as a result, cannot accept responsibility for the services performed or the accuracy, completeness or opinions offered by them (or their employees). Accordingly, prospective or current owners should choose an examining veterinary surgeon either known or recommended to them and satisfy themselves that the veterinarian they select has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience in the examination of Thoroughbred horses destined to race in Hong Kong.

While every effort has been made to cover common aspects of the veterinary examination of racehorses, the Hong Kong Jockey Club examination protocol is only a guideline, and each examining veterinarian must rely on his or her professional knowledge and judgment in the examination and assessment of any individual horse.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club and their nominated veterinarians serve to provide prospective or current owners and the Club with an independent, balanced professional opinion as to whether any condition or aspects identified during the examination process may affect a horse's suitability to race or preclude a horse's entry into Hong Kong.

The final certification and interpretation offered by the Club is provided as a free service to assist prospective or current owners in reaching an informed decision. Accordingly, the Club cannot be held liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense arising out of, or in connection with, the voluntary purchase or importation of a racehorse into Hong Kong.

The purchase and importation of any horse involves risk. At best the Hong Kong Jockey Club pre-import examination process will help to identify, assess and quantify that risk.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY REGULATION, WELFARE
AND BIOSECURITY POLICY

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) requires all horses to undergo a comprehensive physical examination to assess factors of a veterinary nature, such as general health and athletic soundness which could significantly prejudice a horse's suitability for use as a racehorse, prior to importation into Hong Kong.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRE-IMPORT VETERINARY EXAMINATION ARE

- To protect the interests of owners by preventing horses that have little realistic chance of racing successfully under Hong Kong conditions, as a result of significant pre-existing veterinary issues, from being imported.

- To ensure that the veterinary status of a horse, noted at the time of examination, is documented and disclosed to the prospective or current owner or agent so that they are aware of pre-existing veterinary issues that may significantly affect the future suitability of a horse to race, prior to importation.

- To ensure that the Club's limited stabling and training facilities are efficiently utilised by ensuring, as far as possible, horses that either require a prolonged period of rest and rehabilitation or which, because of significant pre-existing veterinary condition(s), have no realistic chance of being safe, economically viable racing propositions, are not imported into Hong Kong.

THE PROCESS OF VETERINARY EXAMINATION FOR IMPORT SUITABILITY

1.1 The process of examining and certifying a horse as suitable for importation into Hong Kong for use as a racehorse consists of three stages: –

i. An initial examination in accordance with the protocols of the Club by a veterinary surgeon appointed by the prospective or current owner or their agent.

ii. A review of the report provided by the examining veterinarian and associated diagnostic images by an experienced veterinary surgeon nominated by the Club to maintain a consistent standard of assessment and to act as a quality control.

iii. A final review and assessment of the examining and nominated veterinary surgeon's report by Club veterinarians who will: –

a. Confirm or revise the assessment of a horse's suitability for importation.

b. In the event that a condition of potential significance for racing in Hong Kong is identified by the examining or nominated veterinary surgeon, advise the owner of the veterinary classification via the Club's Department of Dual Site Stables Operations.

1.2 Prospective owners (or agents) are advised not to make any commitment to purchase a horse until they have been informed, in writing, of the veterinary classification of the horse by HKJC Department of Dual Site Stables Operations.

KEY AREAS OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 The examining veterinary surgeon is responsible for:

Pursuant to the requirements as set out in this Protocol, performing a full and thorough clinical examination; accurately identifying, describing and documenting any abnormal or undesirable findings; and offering a professional opinion as to the functional significance of any findings in a standard format.

2.2 The HKJC nominated veterinary surgeon is responsible for: -

Overseeing quality control by reviewing the reports and diagnostic images taken by the examining veterinary surgeon; confirming that the examination and diagnostic images (in terms of completeness, positioning, labelling, quality, etc.) are in accordance with the procedures and standards required under this Protocol; providing an independent, balanced and professional opinion as to the functional significance of any abnormal findings noted by the examining veterinary surgeon, or any other noteworthy findings, in a standard format.

2.3 The veterinary surgeons in the HKJC Department of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy are responsible for reviewing the veterinary reports of the examining and HKJC nominated veterinary surgeons to determine if any condition has been reported or identified that would preclude the importation of a horse.

2.4 The Department of Veterinary Clinical Services are responsible for reviewing each report and providing a second opinion to the HKJC Department of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy, if requested.

2.5 The Club will continually monitor and review the services provided by the HKJC nominated veterinary surgeons to ensure stakeholders receive a quality service.

STAGE ONE – THE INITIAL VETERINARY EXAMINATION

3.1 The examining veterinary surgeon can be appointed by a shipping or bloodstock agent, trainer, or may be engaged directly by the prospective or current owner of the horse. The HKJC does not accredit, recommend or endorse examining veterinary surgeons and therefore prospective or current owners are encouraged to research the credentials and reputation of veterinary surgeons recommended by agents and where possible, to use the services of a veterinarian known to them.

3.2 The Club strongly recommends that veterinarians performing HKJC examinations fulfill the following minimum criteria: –

a. Have at least five years working experience in thoroughbred racehorse practice.

b. Work in a recognised equine practice.

c. Have ***no*** business or other financial association with the vendor or current trainer of the horse - in other words ***no conflict of interest***.

d. Have a working knowledge of the HKJC prohibited substance rules and regulations, particularly with respect to the requirement that horses are prohibited from racing under the influence of any prohibited substances. The HKJC rules of racing and instructions are available at
http://www.hkjc. com/english/racinginfo/racing_rules_instr.asp

3.3 The examining veterinary surgeon has no relationship with the Club; their duty of care is to the prospective or current owner of the horse.

3.4 The examining veterinary surgeon must act wholly in the interests of the prospective Hong Kong owner of the horse and should not be the usual veterinary service provider for the vendor or current trainer of the horse being examined. In exceptional circumstances where this is not possible, **permission from the Club must first be obtained and the relationship of the examining veterinarian to all parties involved must be clearly stated on the examination reports** submitted to both the nominated veterinarian and to the Club.

3.5 Unless prior permission is sought from the Club, and only in exceptional circumstances, the nominated veterinarian used for assessment of the examining veterinarians report should be from the same country that the horse was examined in. HKJC nominated veterinary surgeons in Australia, New Zealand and Europe will serve as delegate nominated veterinarians in those regions where veterinary resources are limited or from which few horses are exported to Hong Kong (e.g. South Africa, the United States of America, Italy and Argentina etc.).

3.6 In regions where infectious diseases which may disqualify an infected horse from being permanently imported into Hong Kong (for example Equine Piroplasmosis) are present, or if a horse has recently been imported from such a region, the initial examining veterinary surgeon should be prepared to arrange the collection of samples for testing for disease(s) at the time of the initial examination – if requested by the prospective owner, owner or agent.

3.7 All diagnostic images obtained during the examination must be completed, accurately labelled and of high diagnostic quality. Copies of the digital images, both radiographic (in DICOM format) and ultrasonographic, must be submitted using the Asteris Keystone Portal to a nominated veterinary surgeon for review and rejected if they are improperly labelled, ill-positioned or of poor diagnostic quality.

3.8 Images must be labelled with the horse name / identification, date of image acquisition, limb, projection (radiographs) or position on limb (ultrasound) and name of examining veterinarian, as a minimum.

3.9 The examining veterinary surgeon must review all of the diagnostic images acquired during the examination, accurately document any notable findings and offer an opinion as to the functional significance of each finding on a horse's future suitability to train and race in Hong Kong.

3.10 The Club may exercise its right to refuse to accept certification from an individual veterinary surgeon if, in the opinion of the Club, the standard of service provided does not meet that required under this Protocol.

3.11 The Asteris Keystone Community Portal must be used as the platform for submitting all diagnostic images to Club nominated veterinarians. No other form of image submission will be accepted. The URL and contact details of each nominated veterinarian will be provided by Asteris and the Club.

3.12 There is liability on the part of the examining veterinary surgeon to a person who purchases a horse or an owner who imports a horse and is influenced by, or relies upon, an examining veterinary report. Accordingly, the examining veterinary surgeon may be held accountable if they have failed to exercise reasonable care, or have not met the requisite standard of care in the course of the examination and / or the preparation of their reports.

3.13 The examining veterinary surgeon must confirm the identity of the horse presented by scanning the horse's microchip and referring to official identification documents. The veterinary clinical and diagnostic examinations must be performed in accordance with the Hong Kong Jockey Club Veterinary Pre-Import Examination Protocol as outlined in this document.

3.14 The examining veterinary surgeon must perform the following examinations, provide a detailed description of any abnormalities detected in the required format and provide an opinion on the potential functional significance of any findings for suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong.

OBTAIN DETAILS OF ANY RELEVANT HISTORY

3.15 The examining veterinary surgeon must obtain the clinical history of a horse from an appropriate representative of the vendor and identify that person on the certificate. Relevant clinical history includes, but is not limited to –

- Recent medical treatments or prohibited substance administration, especially anabolic steroids / bisphosphonates# and intra-synovial joint medication.
- Previous surgery, recent injury or illness.

- Farriery or shoeing issues (such as quarter cracks) and the use of non- standard shoes or plates during training or racing.
- Incidents of epistaxis or blood in the trachea.
- Incidents of irregular heart rhythm or other cardiac abnormality.
- Outstanding Racing Authority restrictions or Steward's embargos.
- Past performances (Racing and Barrier Trials).
- Specific tack used such as tongue-ties, cross nose-bands or Cornell Collars.
- Training history and current level of work*.
- Known vices (stable or ridden) and temperament.

In accordance with the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' Article 6E, any horse administered any of the substances listed as 'not to be administered to racehorses at any time in their career', including and especially anabolic steroids, will not be permitted to race. If however, any such substance(s) were administered under exceptional circumstances and in accordance with the IFHA'S exceptional use for therapeutic purposes facility, the horse shall be considered ineligible to race until a minimum of six months has elapsed after administration. Note that internationally, the use of any bisphosphonate, other than for the purpose of diagnostic imaging (Bonescan) is now prohibited.

* Ideally the horse should be in full training at the time of the veterinary examination. If the horse is in early training or is coming off a lay-off period and has been in work for only a brief period of time, this must be documented in the examination report.

PERFORM A FIVE-STAGE VETERINARY EXAMINATION FOR RACING SUITABILITY

3.16 The five stages of the veterinary examination for racing suitability are:

1. A preliminary physical examination at rest to detect clinically apparent signs of injury, disease or physical abnormality including: auscultation of the heart and lungs; examination of both eyes with an ophthalmoscope; examination of the teeth and oral cavity; and palpation and manipulation of limbs and feet.
2. A trot-up (in-hand) on firm level ground with observation for lameness and performance of flexion tests.
3. Strenuous exercise must be ridden at sufficient pace (half-pace or faster) to allow for the evaluation of the horse's gait and assessment during increased respiratory effort and heart rate. The examining veterinarian must listen for 'wind' abnormalities and perform post-exercise auscultation of the heart and lungs.
4. A rest period of 20 – 30 minutes following exercise with close monitoring of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems for any abnormality and quality of recovery.

5. Repeat physical examination and trot-up to look for signs of injury or the exacerbation of previously noted injury made evident by the exercise phase of the examination.

PERFORM AN ENDOSCOPY OF THE UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT

3.17 The endoscopic examination must be performed within 60 minutes following the exercise phase of the five-stage vetting. This examination should also include observation of at least three swallows, nasal occlusion and visualisation to the level of the thoracic inlet. The endoscope must be passed up both nostrils to assess the condition of the nasal passages. If sedation or a nasal twitch is used it should be noted on the submitted reports.

***A video endoscopic recording between 30 to 45 seconds long taken within one hour post exercise should be forwarded to the nominated veterinarian using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal.**

3.18 Any horse reported to show laryngeal function of Lane grade 3 or worse, or Havemeyer grade 3.1 or worse; noted to make an abnormal noise or high-pitched inspiratory noise; or that has undergone any type of throat surgery must be subject to a dynamic video endoscopic examination. The video of this procedure must be forwarded to the nominated veterinary surgeon, and subsequently the Club, for review.

3.19 Resting laryngeal function must be described using the **LANE GRADING SYSTEM or HAVEMEYER GRADING SYSTEM as** below: -

LANE GRADING:

GRADE 1

All movements, both adductory and abductory, are synchronised and symmetrical regardless of whether sedated or examined before or after exercise.

GRADE 2

All major movements are symmetrical and a full range is achieved. Transient asynchrony, flutter or delayed opening may be seen.

GRADE 3

Asymmetry of the rima glottidis at rest due to reduced motility by the left arytenoid cartilage and vocal fold. On occasions, typically after swallowing or during nostril occlusion, full symmetrical abduction is achieved.

GRADE 4

There is consistent asymmetry of the rima glottidis with some residual active motility by the left arytenoid cartilage and vocal fold. Full abduction is not achieved at any stage.

GRADE 5

True hemiplegia. There is obvious and consistent asymmetry of the rima glottidis with no residual active motility by the left arytenoid cartilage and vocal fold. No responses to the 'slap' test are provoked.

HAVEMEYER GRADING

GRADE I

All arytenoid cartilage movements are synchronous and symmetrical and full arytenoid cartilage abduction can be achieved and maintained.

GRADE II

Arytenoid cartilage movements are asynchronous and/or asymmetric at times but full arytenoid cartilage abduction can be achieved and maintained.

- **Sub-Grade 1**: Transient asynchrony, flutter or delayed movements are seen.
- **Sub-Grade 2**: There is asymmetry of the rima glottides much of the time due to reduced mobility of the affected arytenoid and vocal fold but there are occasions, typically after swallowing or nasal occlusion when full symmetrical abduction is achieved and maintained.

GRADE III

Arytenoid cartilage movements are asynchronous and / or asymmetric. Full arytenoid cartilage abduction cannot be achieved and maintained.

- **Sub-Grade 1**: There is asymmetry of the rima glottides much of the time due to reduced mobility of the arytenoid and vocal fold but there are occasions, typically after swallowing or nasal occlusion when full symmetrical abduction is achieved but not maintained.
- **Sub-Grade 2**: Obvious arytenoid abductor deficit and arytenoid asymmetry. Full abduction is never achieved.
- **Sub-Grade 3**: Marked but not total arytenoid abductor deficit and asymmetry with little arytenoid movement. Full abduction is never achieved.

GRADE IV

Completed immobility of the arytenoid cartilage and vocal fold

3.20 **Dynamic laryngeal function must be described using the RAKESTRAW GRADING SYSTEM below: -**

Laryngeal Grade A	Full abduction of the arytenoid cartilages during inspiration.
Laryngeal Grade B	Partial abduction of the left arytenoid cartilages between full abduction and the resting position.
Laryngeal Grade C	Midline or paramedian position including collapse into the right half of the rima glottidis.

EXERCISE INDUCED PULMONARY HAEMORRHAGE SYNDROME (EIPHS)

3.21 The presence of blood in the upper airways after the exercise component of the examination must be reported and the following EIPHS grading system used: –

GRADE 0
No blood detected in the pharynx, larynx, trachea or main stem bronchi.

GRADE 1
One or more flecks, or two or less short (less than 1/4 length of the trachea), narrow (less than 10% of the tracheal) streams of blood in the trachea or main stem bronchi.

GRADE 2
One long stream of blood (greater than 1/2 length of trachea) or greater than two short streams occupying less than 1/3 of the tracheal circumference.

GRADE 3
Multiple, distinct streams of blood covering more than 1/3 of the tracheal circumference. No blood pooling at the thoracic inlet.

GRADE 4
Multiple, coalescing streams of blood covering greater than 90% of the tracheal surface. Blood pooling at the thoracic inlet.

3.22 Grade three or four EIPHS (or epistaxis as a result of EIPHS) at the time of the clinical examination may be considered unacceptable for permanent importation into Hong Kong.

RADIOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOL

3.23 Radiographs should (ideally) be obtained on the day of the five-stage veterinary examination. If the radiographs are obtained prior to this examination, please document both the acquisition date/s, as well as the level of activity or training completed by the horse in the interim period.

3.24 Properly labelled radiographs of diagnostic quality of the following joints must be obtained. The minimum number of views required is Fifty Four (54): –

CARPUS – 5 VIEWS
DPa / D55°L - PaMO / D75°M - PaLO / Flexed LM / Flexed D60°Pr - Distal Oblique view of Distal Carpal Bones.

FRONT FETLOCK – 7 VIEWS
(Please ensure sufficient collimation to include the pastern joints)
DPa / D45°L - PaMO / D45°M - PaLO / Flexed LM / LM / 2 x Flexed DDi - PaPr Oblique (of two slightly different proximal-distal angles – refer to guideline in protocol annex).

HIND FETLOCK – 6 VIEWS
(Please ensure sufficient collimation to include the pastern joints)
DPl / D45°L - PlMO / D45°M - PlLO / LM / 2 x Flexed PlPr - DDi Oblique (of two slightly different proximal-distal angles – refer to guideline in protocol annex)

HOCK – 4 VIEWS
DPl / D65°M-PlLO / D10°L - PlMO / LM

STIFLE – 3 VIEWS
LM / CD - CR / CdL - CrMO

FRONT FOOT – 2 OR 3 VIEWS
LM and D60°Pr-PaDiO views of P3 and separately, the navicular bone, of which the outline should be clearly discernable on the images.

3.25 Additional radiographs of structures that warrant further evaluation or additional projections of any lesions identified should be obtained at the discretion of the examining veterinary surgeon. Additional views may also be requested by the nominated veterinary surgeon or the Club.

PERFORM AN ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE STRUCTURES OF THE PALMAR METACARPAL REGION – THE SUPERFICIAL FLEXOR TENDONS AND THE SUSPENSORY LIGAMENTS (INCLUDING THE ORIGIN AND BRANCHES)

3.26 A recognised standard approach for the examination of the structures and for recording findings must be used, including: –

- Clipping over the structures to be examined – unless the examining veterinary surgeon is of the opinion the hair coat is sufficiently fine so as to permit adequate evaluation without clipping.

- Labelling all still images and whenever possible, orientating lateral, dorsal/ cranial or proximal on the left of the image.

- Using appropriate standoff, gain, depth and focal zones.

- Performing evaluation of the flexor tendons and recording sequential still transverse and longitudinal images using the classifications 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B and L1, L2 and L3.

- Performing evaluation of the suspensory origin and body and recording sequential still transverse and longitudinal images using the classification 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B and L1 and L2. Performing evaluation of forelimb suspensory branches and recording sequential still transverse and longitudinal images using the classification 3A, 3B and L3.

- Performing evaluation of the sesamoid / suspensory interface and recording a still longitudinal image labelled L4.

- Measuring and documenting the cross-sectional areas (in square centimeters) of the superficial digital flexor tendon at levels 1A, 2A and 3A and the suspensory branches at 3B; recording these data on the veterinary examination report; and supplying the nominated veterinary surgeon, and subsequently the Club, with still images showing evidence of these measurements and traces of the outlines, for review. Reports will be considered incomplete and thus rejected if this information is omitted.

- Tendons measuring greater than 1.3 cm2 between zones 2A and 3A may be considered to have an increased rating based on a holistic clinical and ultrasonographic examination. Tendons measuring greater than 1.6cm2 between zones 2A and 3A may be considered as unacceptable for importation to Hong Kong after a holistic clinical and ultrasonographic assessment.

- Describing lesions in terms of cross-sectional area, echogenicity, fiber pattern, longitudinal distribution and the percentage of cross-sectional area affected.

3.27 Any evidence of thickening or pathology to the structures at the plantar aspect of the metatarsal region, the structures at the palmar / plantar aspect of the pastern or within the digital tendon sheath should be examined ultrasonographically and relevant images submitted to the nominated veterinarian for review.

3.28 **HISTORY OF PREVIOUS HEART IRREGULARITY**

- Any horse with a history of a single previous heart irregularity must satisfy the below requirements before being acceptable for importation into Hong Kong for the purpose of racing:

  1) Be free of any official embargos.

  2) Have successfully raced and/or barrier trialed without a repeat episode of any heart irregularity at least once.

  3) Undertake a dynamic ECG examination with the results assessed by a specialist veterinary cardiologist, with equine experience, and be cleared to continue training and racing.

  4) Be categorized as High in the HKJC Pre-import Veterinary Protocol with an obligation for the owner to export the horse from Hong Kong if it is retired due to any cardiac condition.

- Any horse with a history of two heart irregularities within 12 months of each other, three heart irregularities at any time or having suffered a heart irregularity considered to be of ongoing significance to the horses' safety, welfare or ability to perform acceptably, will be deemed unacceptable for importation into Hong Kong.

3.29 **PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE BLOOD SAMPLE COLLECTION AND SCREENING**

A blood sample must be collected on the same day immediately after the exercise component of the five-stage examination to detect the presence of prohibited substances to which the horse may have been exposed.

A first blood sample must be screened for the presence of: –

- Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
- Anabolic steroids
- Synthetic corticosteroids
- Local anaesthetics and analgesics

- Sedatives and tranquillisers
- Diuretics

A second blood sample must also be taken for screening for Bisphosphonates and forwarded to the HKJC Racing Laboratory for processing.

3.30 The blood samples must be properly labelled, stored and transported as soon as possible to a listed Club Import Reference Laboratories in the case of the first blood sample, and in the case of the second blood sample (Testing for Bisphosphonates) sent to the HKJC Racing Laboratory.

3.31 The date of collection and dispatch must be recorded on the veterinary examination report.

3.32 Suspicious screening findings should be discussed with the Club, but will ordinarily result in the veterinary examination being regarded as null and void.

3.33 A copy of the analytical test report must be forwarded to the nominated veterinary surgeon, and subsequently the Club.

3.34 The Club's currently listed Import Reference Laboratories **and their contact details are provided below: -**

HKJC LISTED REFERENCE ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES

NAME AND ADDRESS	CONTACT DETAILS
Australian Racing Forensic Laboratory Level 11, 51 Druitt Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia	+61 2 8344 5000 +61 2 8344 5002
Racing Analytical Services Limited 400 Epsom Road Flemington VIC 3031 Australia	+61 3 9376 6760
New Zealand Racing Laboratory Services 686 Rosebank Road Avondale Auckland 1746 New Zealand	+64 9 828 0470
Laboratoire des Courses Hippiques 15 rue de Paradis 91370 Verrieres Le Buisson France	+33 1 6975 2828 +33 1 6975 2820
The Laboratory of Racing Chemistry 1731-2, Tsurutamachi, Utsunomiya, Tochigi, 320-0851, Japan website: https://www.lrc.or.jp/english/	+81-28-647-4459
LGC Newmarket Road Fordham, Cambridgeshire, CB7 5WW United Kingdom	+44 1638 724 412
Institute of Biochemistry - **German Sport University Cologne** Am Sportpark Muengersdorf 6 D-50933 Köln Germany	+49 221 4982 7070
The National Horseracing Authority of Southern Africa Turffontein Racecourse Turf Club Street Turffontein Johannesburg 2190 South Africa	+27 11 434 4599

Please contact the Hong Kong Jockey Club for testing advice in the USA.

THE TIMING OF THE INITIAL VETERINARY EXAMINATION

4.1 The initial veterinary examination must be performed within 30 days of the horse entering pre-export quarantine for shipment to Hong Kong.

4.2 **Save for exceptional circumstances and only with the prior permission of the Club, horses should not enter quarantine until all stages of the HKJC import protocol have been completed and final import approval granted by the Club.**

4.3 Any horse that fails to enter pre-export quarantine within 30 days of the initial veterinary examination, through no fault of the prospective owner / owner, must be subject to a repeat veterinary examination, including prohibited substance testing as referenced above, and endoscopic examination of the upper respiratory tract.

4.4 The HKJC will only consider accepting repeat (and limited) veterinary examination reports if –

a. The horse has not raced or taken part in any test or trial in the period since the initial veterinary examination.

b. The person responsible for the management of the horse during the period subsequent to the initial veterinary examination provides a written report stating that, to the best of their knowledge, there has been no change in the horse's soundness and health status and that there is no history of any incident or illness that may have the potential to impact the horse's suitability for importation or health.

c. The examining veterinary surgeon is of the opinion that there is no evidence that the horse has suffered any injury or medical condition that would likely affect its suitability for importation since the initial examination.

d. The prospective owner / owner certifies they have no objection to waiving the full examination requirement.

4.5 The extent of the repeat veterinary examination requirement is dependent on the time elapsed since the initial examination and the quarantine entry date.

4.6 If the prospective owner / owner accepts a limited examination, they must acknowledge that the examination will be limited in its scope and as such, that it may fail to detect important clinical factors that could impact on a horses' suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong.

VETERINARY RE-EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

DAYS SINCE EXAM	EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS
31 – 60 days	1. **Two-Stage Vetting –** a. A preliminary physical examination at rest. b. Trot-up (in-hand) with observation for lameness and performance of flexion tests. 2. **An endoscopic examination.** 3. **Blood collection** on the day of the examination – screened for substances listed in section 3.29.
61 – 180 days	1. **Five-Stage Vetting –** a. Preliminary physical examination at rest. b. Trot-up (in-hand) with observation for lameness and performance of flexion tests. c. Observation at exercise within the limits of a horse's fitness – for example, exercise on the lunge is acceptable. d. Rest period of 20 – 30 minutes. e. Repeat physical examination and trot-up. 2. **An endoscopic examination** at rest before and within 30 minutes after exercise. 3. **Blood collection** on the day of the examination – screened for substances listed in section 3.29.
> 180 days	**Repeat Full HKJC Veterinary Examination** Complete examination – including repeat radiographic and ultrasonographic examinations, and HKJC nominated veterinarian review.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF A HORSE FOR IMPORTATION

5.1 The Club does not require a rigid PASS or FAIL assessment of a horse, however all veterinarians involved in the process of examining a horse or reviewing the findings of an examination must disclose the detection of any condition that may have potential significance for the future suitability of a horse for racing in Hong Kong.

5.2 The examining veterinary surgeon should assess a horse on the basis of a pre-purchase examination. However, the prospective owner or owner should accept that any information or opinion provided by a HKJC nominated veterinary surgeon or a HKJC veterinary surgeon shall be for the limited purpose of considering approval for importation at the time of the initial examination and such information, opinion and/or approval for importation shall not be relied upon as a warranty or guarantee on the part of the relevant veterinary surgeon or the Club in respect to the horse's health or future racing suitability. The information or opinion is provided to a prospective owner for reference only and any purchase of a horse must be based on the judgment of the prospective owner.

5.3 If no significant abnormalities are detected, the examining veterinary surgeon should certify the horse as acceptable for further assessment by the nominated veterinarian for importation into Hong Kong for use as a racehorse with no abnormality detected that could significantly affect the future suitability for racing and training in Hong Kong – bearing in mind that the certification and diagnostic images obtained from the examination will be reviewed by a nominated and Club veterinary surgeons and that all horses are inspected on arrival in Hong Kong.

5.4 If abnormalities are detected during an examination, the initial examining veterinary surgeon must: –

- Document the abnormality by providing a detailed description and supportive diagnostic images, including photographs and video, if appropriate.

- Provide an opinion on the potential significance of the abnormality for future training and racing in Hong Kong if requested to do so.

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS

5.5 If an examining veterinary surgeon is uncertain of the potential significance of a pre-existing condition(s) it is strongly recommended that he or she discuss the finding(s) with a Club nominated veterinary surgeon, who may also wish to consult with a HKJC veterinarian.

CONDITIONS THAT MAY RENDER A HORSE UNSUITABLE FOR IMPORTATION

5.6 The following list of 'unacceptable' conditions is provided as a guideline for initial examining veterinary surgeons. The examining veterinary surgeon should, however, apply his or her clinical judgment in assessing the significance of any abnormalities detected with regard to a horse's future suitability for training and racing under Hong Kong conditions.

5.7 Pre-existing conditions that may render a horse unacceptable for importation into Hong Kong because of high potential significance to affect a horse's suitability for racing include, but are not limited to, the following –

- The presence of lameness at the time of examination which, in the opinion of the examining veterinary surgeon, may have a significant impact on the health, welfare and suitability of a horse for training and racing.

- Fractures with a high potential to affect a horse's suitability for racing.

- Radiographic evidence of moderate to advanced osteoarthritis in any high motion joint.

- Laminitis.

- Extensive disruption of subchondral bone: - in particular, palmar osteochondral disease (POD) of the metacarpophalangeal and/or metatarsophalangeal joints associated with focal radiolucencies in the palmar condyles, disruption of the outline of subchondral bone and focal sclerosis of the palmar condyles; and secondary POD features such as basilar and apical osteophytes on the proximal sesamoid bones, flattening of the palmar condyles and cavitation of the dorsodistal aspect of the third metacarpal bone (supracondylar lysis).

- Bone cysts – depending on location, severity and clinical implications.

- Sesamoiditis – moderate radiographic changes to the sesamoids determined to be clinically relevant and/or with ultrasonographic evidence of suspensory ligament branch desmopathy.

- Ultrasonographic evidence of significant injury to the superficial digital flexor tendons or suspensory apparatus, including core lesions, disruption/ abnormal fibre pattern and/or significantly enlarged cross-sectional area.

- Evidence or history of neurectomy.

- Significant hoof capsule distortion / deformity with the potential to be of clinical consequence for training, racing and future soundness.

- Wobbler syndrome or other neurological disorder.

- A history of epistaxis resulting from exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPHS) or EIPHS of grade three or four on endoscopic examination.

- Pharyngeal / laryngeal developmental anomalies (for example rostral displacement palatopharyngeal arch and severe hypoplastic epiglottis).

- Cleft palate.

- Chrondropathy and/or chondritis of the larynx or epiglottis with significant clinical implications.

- Persistent displacement of the soft palate.

- Ethmoid haematoma.

- Marked narrowing of nasal passage, chonchal enlargement or septal deviation.

- A history of any clinically significant heart irregularity or myocardial damage with the potential to affect training, racing performance or safety or a history of multiple episodes of a heart irregularity as per section 3.28 in this protocol.

- Blindness in one eye.

- Stable vices which, in the opinion of the examining veterinary surgeon, may have a significant impact on the suitability of the horse for training or racing.

- Any other condition considered to be of clinical functional significance by the examining veterinary surgeon.

MAKING A RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The examining veterinary surgeon must, after consideration of the guidelines provided and, exercise his or her own clinical judgment and when necessary, consultation with a Club nominated veterinary surgeon, report their findings using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal in a timely manner.

6.2 The Examining veterinarian report **should not be considered as a final assessment of the suitability for import into Hong Kong and is not designed as a pre-purchase examination.**

STAGE TWO – THE NOMINATED VETERINARY SURGEON REVIEW

7.1 To provide independent review and quality control, the Club has nominated a number of experienced and reputable equine veterinarians in major exporting regions to review the certification and diagnostic images provided by examining veterinary surgeons on behalf of a prospective owner / owner and the Club.

7.2 The purpose of the review is to: –

a. Provide quality control for the certification and diagnostic imaging made available by examining veterinary surgeons.

b. To assure, as far as is possible, consistency in the assessment and decision making with respect to the likely significance of conditions detected during the veterinary examination for importation into Hong Kong.

7.3 The nominated veterinary surgeon should not be the normal veterinary service provider to the vendor or current trainer.

7.4 The Club expects nominated veterinary surgeons to reject any certification not provided in the format required by the Club and/or when the diagnostic images (radiographic and ultrasonographic) provided are not of diagnostic quality, are improperly labelled, poorly positioned or incomplete.

7.5 The Club expects nominated veterinary surgeons to be stringent and consistent with regard to quality of radiographic and ultrasound images. Nominated veterinary surgeons should not review unsatisfactory images, but rather, should request for such images to be reacquired and resubmitted.

7.6 The Club may revoke HKJC appointed nominated veterinarian status – and refuse to accept certification from any nominated veterinary surgeon – if in the opinion of the Club, the standard of service provided does not meet the standard required under this protocol.

7.7 Nominated veterinary surgeons must also submit all radiographs (in DICOM format), ultrasonographic images and endoscopic videos to the Club, in addition to any other ancillary diagnostic information, such as photographs and laboratory test results, using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal. Dynamic video endoscopy examinations can be submitted via a separate online method due to the limitations of file size in Asteris Keystone Community Portal.

7.8 Nominated veterinary surgeons must submit their completed report to the Club using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal.

7.9 The nominated veterinary surgeon may request further examination (or diagnostic investigation) of any horse to establish its suitability for importation.

7.10 The nominated veterinary surgeon is expected to play a role in the education of examining veterinary surgeons in regards to the requirements of the Club, and to provide a liaison service between examining veterinary surgeons, agents and the Club.

7.11 Any horse reported to have laryngeal hemiplegia of Lane grade three or higher or noted to make an abnormal noise or high-pitched inspiratory noise or that has undergone any type of throat surgery, must be subject to a dynamic video endoscopic examination – the video of which must be forwarded to the Club for review using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal or digital share file if required.

7.12 The nominated veterinary surgeon's recommendation must be provided in the following format:

This horse is **ACCEPTABLE FOR IMPORTATION** with no abnormality that could significantly affect the future suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong detected during the veterinary examination and assessment.

OR

This horse is acceptable with findings of **LOW** potential significance for future suitability to train or race in Hong Kong detected during the examination and assessment.

Unlikely to be of clinical significance.

OR

This horse is acceptable with findings of **LOW/MODERATE** potential significance for future suitability to train and race in Hong Kong detected during the examination and assessment

Minor changes unlikely to significantly affect future soundness or racing frequency.

OR

This horse is acceptable with findings of **MODERATE** potential significance for future suitability to train or race in Hong Kong detected during the examination and assessment.

Possibility of requiring increased veterinary management and/or affecting racing frequency and longevity.

OR

This horse is acceptable with findings of **MODERATE/HIGH** potential significance for future suitability to train or race in Hong Kong detected during the examination and assessment.

Noted findings may require increased veterinary management, affect the horse's soundness, racing frequency, racing longevity or have the potential to deteriorate further with training and racing.

This horse is acceptable with findings of **HIGH** potential significance for future suitability to train or race in Hong Kong detected during the examination and assessment.

Possibility of requiring increased veterinary management and/or affecting racing frequency and longevity.

OR

This horse **DOES NOT** meet the requirements of the HKJC for permanent importation.

7.13 The nominated veterinary surgeon is not an employee of the Club, but rather an independent contractor that provides a service to the Club to maintain quality standards and facilitate the consistent assessment of horses for importation into Hong Kong.

7.14 The HKJC will provide nominated veterinarians with feedback on their classification of horses compared to the final risk categorisation of horses by the Club.

7.15 Nominated veterinary surgeon reports should only be shared with the HKJC until a final determination has been made by HKJC veterinarians on the horses suitability for import into HK, and should NOT be shared with 3rd parties prior to the final sign off by the HKJC.

STAGE THREE – SUITABILITY FOR IMPORTATION ASSESSMENT BY THE CLUB

8.1 When the examination has been completed by the examining veterinary surgeon, and the certification and diagnostic images have been forwarded to the nominated veterinary surgeon, reviewed and commented upon, the nominated veterinary surgeon must then forward a report, using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal, to the Hong Kong Jockey Club for a final review and consideration of suitability for importation into Hong Kong.

8.2 The final opinion offered by the HKJC is provided as a free service to assist prospective owners / owners in reaching an informed decision on the purchase or importation of a horse. As such, the Club cannot be held liable for any loss, cost or expense arising out of, or in connection with, the purchase or importation of a horse.

8.3 Diagnostic images forwarded to the HKJC shall become part of each horses' veterinary history, but will not routinely be reviewed by Club veterinarians except for special circumstances where Club veterinarians consider review necessary in the overall assessment of importation suitability.

8.4 The Hong Kong Jockey Club reserves the right to refuse the importation of any horse deemed to be unsuitable and also, to inform prospective owners, current owners or agents of any concerns about either the process of examination or the veterinary condition of a horse that may arise from the review of the veterinary certification, diagnostic images or veterinary procedures.

NOTIFICATION OF THE PROSPECTIVE OWNER

9.1 When conditions of potential significance for future training and racing in Hong Kong are detected and reported, the Club will notify the prospective owner / owner of the horse and advise them to seek expert guidance from their trainer and their own veterinary advisor to assist them in deciding whether to proceed with the importation of the horse. If an owner decides to proceed with the importation of a horse with a pre-existing condition(s) of potential significance, the Club requires the prospective owner / owner to acknowledge receipt of the Club's advice and of the risks associated with importing the horse in writing.

9.2 The objective of the veterinary examination is not to block the importation of horses with minor pre-existing veterinary findings, but to ensure, as far as possible, that these findings are disclosed and that the prospective owner / owner is provided with the opportunity to make an informed decision on whether or not to proceed with the importation of a horse.

9.3 The HKJC pre-import examination provides an assessment of the horse at the time of the examination. Information or opinion provided in the process, as well as the consent to import, is not, and cannot be, considered as a warranty or guarantee on the part of the HKJC nominated veterinary surgeon of the Club as to a horse's veterinary suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong.

9.4 **Save for exceptional circumstances and only with the prior permission of the Club, horses should not enter quarantine until all stages of the HKJC import protocol have been completed and final import approval granted by the Club.**

9.5 The following definitions are meant as a guide to understanding the classification terms and are not, and cannot be, considered as a warranty or guarantee on the part of the HKJC veterinarians or HKJC nominated veterinarians as to the horse's veterinary suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong. They are not designed to discourage the importation of a horse into Hong Kong but instead ensure that all findings are disclosed to owners, or prospective owners, so that this information can be used in conjunction with the advice of other professionals including trainers and agents to make a fully informed decision.

a. Low Risk: unlikely to be of clinical significance.

b. Low to Moderate: minor changes unlikely to significantly affect future soundness or racing frequency.

c. Moderate: possibility of requiring increased veterinary management and/or affecting racing frequency and longevity.

d. Moderate to High: noted findings may require increased veterinary management, affect the horse's soundness, racing frequency, racing longevity or have the potential to deteriorate further with training and racing.

e. High: if the documented findings become clinically evident, or progress, it will be likely that soundness, racing frequency and racing longevity will be affected. It must also be acknowledged that any horses in this category may have a requirement to be exported at the owners' expense applied to the conditions of import (as per the HKJC pre-import report).

RETENTION OF VETERINARY RECORDS AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGES

10.1 All relevant documentation must be retained for at least seven years. All ancillary diagnostic images and certification of horses for importation into Hong Kong submitted using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal will be archived by Asteris for a period of seven years.

10.2 All imported horses are examined by Club veterinarians (and trainers) on arrival in Hong Kong and any non-disclosed, pre-existing conditions detected during these examinations will be actively investigated.

10.3 Evidence of improper certification or negligence will be followed-up and may be reported to the relevant Veterinary Board and/or the Racing Authority in the country of origin of the horse.

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE TEMPLATES

11.1 The HKJC veterinary certificate templates must be used and are available through the Department of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy and the listed Nominated Veterinarians.

SPELLING AND REHABILITATION

12.1 Horses sent overseas for spelling or rehabilitation must undergo a veterinary examination to establish their general health, soundness and satisfactory recovery from a previously diagnosed injury or illness prior to re-importation into Hong Kong.

12.2 Essentially, all horses sent overseas for spelling or rehabilitation must be subject (as a minimum) to a two-stage veterinary examination, endoscopic examination of the upper respiratory tract and blood test – collected on the same day and immediately before / after the examination, as specified in section 3.29. Furthermore, the person responsible for the management and care of a horse during spelling or rehabilitation must provide a written report confirming no new injury or illness during the period away from Hong Kong.

12.3 Note: Any horse that has raced or taken part in any test or trial will be required to undergo a complete full five-stage veterinary examination.

12.4 Horses exported overseas for rehabilitation may be required to undergo additional diagnostic evaluation prior to re-importation. Please consult the HKJC Department of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy for further advice.

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB NOMINATED VETERINARY SURGEONS

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CONDITIONS AND DISCLAIMERS REQUIRED BY THE EQUINE ETERINARIANS OF THE NEW ZEALAND VETERINARY ASSOCIATION (NZVA) FOR HORSES EXAMINED IN NEW ZEALAND

1 On the advice of the NZVA, no judgment is made about this horse's soundness, suitability for purchase or otherwise.

2 The certifying veterinarian takes no responsibility for, nor warrants the accuracy of, any information provided in the owner's statement, including that given relating to the non-administration of drugs, freedom of vice, pre- existing dis- eases or abnormalities, existing performance or suitability for intended use.

3 Where this examination and report are requested for the purpose of a business they are deemed to have been carried out upon the basis that the examining veterinarian's liability, howsoever arising, shall be no greater than the sum equivalent to 100 times the fee charged for the provision of this report. In addition, liability for consequential losses of any nature is also excluded.

4 This contract is governed by New Zealand law.

5 The Buyer / Buyer's Agent irrevocably agrees that the Courts of New Zealand will have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all disputes under or in connection with this contract. The Buyer / Buyer's Agent further acknowledges that New Zealand is the forum conveniens for the hearing and determination of all disputes in connection with this contract.

6 Owners of X-rays: The Buyer / Buyer's Agent acknowledges that any radiographs taken in the course of this examination are the property of the veterinary practice listed herein, but it is further acknowledged by the practice that copies of the radiographs will be supplied at the Buyer / Buyer's Agent's request and expense.

7 In addition, the nature and extent of this report has been determined by particular request. In the circumstances the examining veterinary disclaims any liability whatsoever to any party other than the party directly responsible for requesting and paying for the services rendered.

8 Where an opinion has taken into consideration input from another professional, e.g. the taking and interpretation of radiographs, then in arriving at the opinion the veterinarian has accepted as accurate the information supplied

9 Reliance upon this report will constitute an acceptance of the limitations of liability referred to above.

CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY EXAMINATION FOR A RACEHORSE TO BE IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG

This examination must be completed within 30 days of quarantine entry

香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ON BEHALF AND AT THE REQUEST OF

Name

I HAVE EXAMINED AND VERIFIED THE IDENTITY OF THE HORSE DESCRIBED BELOW AT THE PROPERTY

Name and Address

THE HORSE WAS PRESENTED BY

Name	Position
At (place of examination)	
On (date and time)	
How long is this horse reported to be under the care of the current trainer?	

HORSE DETAILS

Name			
Microchip*		Passport No.	
Sex	Colour	Date of Birth	Height
Sire		Dam	
Brand Left		Brand Right	
Shipping Agent		Quarantine Entry Date	
Hong Kong Trainer (if known)			
Hong Kong Prospective Owner / Owner or Agent			

** All horses imported into Hong Kong must have an ISO 11784 / 11785 compliant microchip.*

EXAMINING VETERINARY SURGEON DETAILS

Name	Practice
Telephone	Email

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge that the information disclosed below is complete and correct: -

Are you the usual veterinarian for the current trainer, vendor or selling agent?			◯ Yes ◯ No
If yes, please indicate to who you provide services	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent
Is the current trainer, vendor or selling agent a client of your practice?			◯ Yes ◯ No
If yes, please indicate to who your practice provides services	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent
Do you have any financial involvement in the sale of this horse, other than fee for veterinary service?			◯ Yes ◯ No

A. REPORT OF RELEVANT HISTORY (REPORTED AFTER DUE ENQUIRY OR OTHERWISE KNOWN)

History of epistaxis attributable to EIPH?	◯ Yes	◯ No
Vices (stable or ridden) – i.e. bites, kicks, weaves, box walks, windsucks / crib bites?	◯ Yes	◯ No
Is the horse a headshaker?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of previous surgery, recent illness or injury?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of farriery issues or a need to wear non-standard shoes / plates in training or racing?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of cardiac dysrhythmia / abnormality?	◯ Yes	◯ No
Outstanding racing restriction / embargo?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of recurrent exercise induced rhabdomyolysis?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of lameness?	◯ Yes	◯ No
Lameness diagnosis (if known)		
Level of training at time of examination	◯ Early race-training	◯ Returning from rest or lay-off ◯ Full race-training
Length of time in training		

RECENT MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION HISTORY

Date of last Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug (NSAID) administration:		
Reason for NSAID treatment, where applicable		
Date of last intra-synovial treatment		
Joints treated, where applicable		
History of anabolic steroid administration within the last six months?	◯ Yes	◯ No
History of bisphosphonate administration?	◯ Yes	◯ No

REPORT OF RELEVANT HISTORY

RACING HISTORY

Has the horse raced / trialled?	◯ Yes	◯ No
Performance records		

B. FIVE-STAGE VETERINARY EXAMINATION

	WNL = *Within Normal Limits*	AB = *Abnormal*
Skin and hair coat	○ WNL	○ AB
Body condition	○ WNL	○ AB
Body temperature	○ WNL	○ AB
Evidence of stable vices	○ WNL	○ AB
Eyes (eyelids, cornea, pupil, menace, PLR or discharge)	○ WNL	○ AB

NERVOUS SYSTEM

Demeanour and temperament	○ WNL	○ AB
Posture and ability to back and turn	○ WNL	○ AB

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

Dentition and mouth	○ WNL	○ AB
Abdominal sounds	○ WNL	○ AB

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

Heart rate beats / minute		
Heart rhythm	○ WNL	○ AB
Cardiac auscultation	○ WNL	○ AB
Jugular veins and mucus membranes	○ WNL	○ AB

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

Nose (discharge / airflow / stridor / symmetry)	○ WNL	○ AB
Sinus (symmetry / percussion)	○ WNL	○ AB
Chest (auscultation / respiratory rate)	○ WNL	○ AB

UROGENITAL SYSTEM

External genitalia (conformation and appearance)		○ WNL	○ AB
If male entire – presence of two testicles	○ Not Applicable	○ Yes	○ No

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM

Conformation	○ WNL	○ AB
Hooves	○ WNL	○ AB
Symmetry of hindquarters	○ WNL	○ AB
Back flexibility and muscling	○ WNL	○ AB

	LEFT FORE	RIGHT FORE	LEFT HIND	RIGHT HIND
Shod	◯ Yes ◯ No	◯ Yes ◯ No	◯ Yes ◯ No	◯ Yes ◯ No
Hoof tester response	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB
Limb palpation	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB
Flexion test response	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB	◯ WNL ◯ AB
Comments				
Assessment of action at the trot: ◯ WNL ◯ AB				
Comments				

OBSERVATION AT EXERCISE

Abnormal respiratory noise?	◯ Yes ◯ No	Quality of movement	◯ WNL ◯ AB
Ridden vices observed?	◯ Yes ◯ No	Recovery rate and re-examination	◯ WNL ◯ AB
Description of abnormal respiratory noise, if applicable –			

C. ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION *Must be performed within 60 minutes following strenuous exercise*

Sedative used?	◯ Yes ◯ No	Nasal twitch used?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Evidence of blood in the airways?	◯ Yes ◯ No	EIPH	◯ 0 ◯ 1 ◯ 2 ◯ 3 ◯ 4
Lane laryngeal grading*	◯ 1 ◯ 2 ◯ 3 ◯ 4 ◯ 5	Havemeyer laryngeal grading*	
Video endoscopic examination of 30-45 seconds duration taken within one hour post-exercise including confirmation of the horses identity, date and time of examination uploaded			◯ Yes ◯ No
Comments			

**** Any horse reported to show Lane grade III or Havemeyer grade 3.1 Laryngeal Function; noted to make an abnormal noise or high-pitched inspiratory noise; or that has undergone any type of throat surgery must be subject to a dynamic video endoscopic examination, the video of which must be forwarded to the nominated veterinary surgeon and subsequently to the Club for review.***

Please note that any horse found to have Lane IV or V Laryngeal Function or Rakestraw grade B or C after dynamic assessment may be considered unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong.

D. RADIOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION

Copies of the digital images (in DICOM format) must be submitted using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal to a Club nominated veterinary surgeon. The examining veterinarian must review all of the diagnostic images obtained during the examination, accurately document any notable findings and offer an opinion as to the functional effect of these findings on a horse's current and future veterinary suitability to train and race in Hong Kong.

Have the minimum number of radiographic views (54) been acquired?	○ Yes	○ No
Are all radiographs properly labelled and of diagnostic quality?	○ Yes	○ No
Radiographic examination comments		

E. ULTRASOUND EXAMINATION

Both fore tendons and suspensory ligaments including their branches must evaluated and sequential still transverse and longitudinal images using the classifications 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B and L1, L2 and L3 recorded. The sesamoid / suspensory interface must be examined and a still longitudinal imaged, labelled L4 recorded. Any evidence of thickening or pathology to the structures at the plantar aspect of the metatarsal region, the structures at the palmar / plantar aspect of the pastern or within the digital tendon sheath should be examined ultrasonographically and significant images recorded for review.

Cross-sectional areas (in square centimetres) of the superficial digital flexor tendon at levels 1A, 2A and 3A and the suspensory branches at 3B must be recorded below and still images showing evidence of these measurements and traces of the outlines must be supplied to the nominated veterinarian for review using the Asteris Keystone Community Portal. Reports will be considered incomplete and thus rejected if this information is omitted or not supplied to the HKJC nominated veterinarian for review.

Clinical examination of the tendons and suspensory ligament	○ WNL	○ AB

CROSS SECTIONAL MEASUREMENTS

STRUCTURE	SUPERFICIAL DIGITAL FLEXOR TENDON			SUSP. LATERAL	SUSP. MEDIAL
REGION	1a	2a	3a	3b	3b
LEFT FORE					
RIGHT FORE					

Ultrasonographic examination comments: -

F. BLOOD SAMPLE COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION FOR PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE TESTING

A blood sample must be taken on the day of, and as soon as possible after, the five-stage veterinary clinical examination to be screened for the prohibited substances detailed in the HKJC veterinary protocol by a racing laboratory listed by the Club. A copy of the laboratory test report must be supplied to the nominated veterinary surgeon and the Club.

Collected on the same day and as soon as possible after the exercise phase of the five-stage vetting?	○ Yes
Date of blood sample collection	
Date of blood sample dispatch to a HKJC listed racing laboratory	
Blood sample result	○ Negative ○ Positive ○ Pending

G. REPORTED OR NOTED FINDINGS UNLIKELY TO REPRESENT A MEASURABLE RISK (ADDITIONAL NOTES IF REQUIRED)

H. IN MY OPINION, ON THE BALANCE OF PROBABILITIES, THIS HORSE IS

◯ ACCEPTABLE FOR REVIEW BY THE NOMINATED VETERINARIAN	◯ UNACCEPTABLE FOR REVIEW BY THE NOMINATED VETERINARIAN
With any significant finding(s) that could significantly affect the future suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong detected during the veterinary examination and assessment of this horse listed below.	The horse does **NOT** meet the requirements of the Hong Kong Jockey Club criteria for permanent importation as a result of the finding(s) listed below.

Findings and assessment of their significance for future training and racing in Hong Kong:

LIMITATIONS OF THE EXAMINATION

I omitted stage(s) of the standard procedure because

EXAMINING VETERINARY SURGEON'S CERTIFICATION

Signature	Name
	Date
Practice Name	
Address	
Email	Telephone

1. The aim of this examination is to identify and assess factors of a veterinary nature that could prejudice a horse's suitability for training or racing in Hong Kong at the time of the examination. No judgment, assurance or guarantee is made about a horse's future suitability or ability as a racehorse.
2. The examining veterinarian takes no responsibility for, nor warrants the accuracy of any information provided by the owner or carer of the horse, including that relating to the non-administration of medication, freedom from vices, pre-existing or previous disease or abnormality, past performance or suitability for intended use.
3. If any part of the five-stage veterinary examination is omitted, the opinion given will be based purely upon those parts of the examination that were completed. Incomplete examinations may not identify clinical signs of disease, injury or abnormality that may only be revealed as part of the procedure that was omitted.
4. This certification serves to identify the horse that was examined, but it is not the responsibility of the examining veterinary surgeon to ascertain that the declared seller has legal title to the horse. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to satisfy themselves as to the ownership of the horse.
5. This examination does not include examination of the inside of the prepuce (sheath), a detailed mouth / oral examination with a speculum, a height measurement or any examination for pregnancy.
6. The prospective owner / owner or agent must acknowledge that the diagnostic images obtained during the course of this examination are the property of the veterinary practice listed herein, but it is further acknowledged by the practice that copies of these images will be supplied to the nominated veterinary surgeon and the Hong Kong Jockey Club at the initiating parties expense.
7. The examining veterinarian and / or the Hong Kong Jockey Club are not liable for any incident or injury that occurs at the time of, or as a result of, any veterinary examination performed at the request of a prospective owner / owner, agent, nominated veterinarian or the HKJC.

SAVE

CONDITIONS AND DISCLAIMERS REQUIRED BY THE NEW ZEALAND EQUINE VETERINARY ASSOCIATION FOR HORSES EXAMINED IN NEW ZEALAND

1 On the advice of the New Zealand Equine Veterinary Association, no judgment is made about this horse's soundness, suitability for purchase or otherwise.

2 The certifying veterinarian takes no responsibility for, nor warrants the accuracy of, any information provided in the owner's statement, including that given relating to the non-administration of drugs, freedom of vice, pre- existing dis- eases or abnormalities, existing performance or suitability for intended use.

3 Where this examination and report are requested for the purpose of a business they are deemed to have been carried out upon the basis that the examining veterinarian's liability, howsoever arising, shall be no greater than the sum equivalent to 100 times the fee charged for the provision of this report. In addition, liability for consequential losses of any nature is also excluded.

4 This contract is governed by New Zealand law.

5 The Buyer / Buyer's Agent irrevocably agrees that the Courts of New Zealand will have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all disputes under or in connection with this contract. The Buyer / Buyer's Agent further acknowledges that New Zealand is the forum conveniens for the hearing and determination of all disputes in connection with this contract.

6 Owners of X-rays: The Buyer / Buyer's Agent acknowledges that any radiographs taken in the course of this examination are the property of the veterinary practice listed herein, but it is further acknowledged by the practice that copies of the radiographs will be supplied at the Buyer / Buyer's Agent's request and expense.

7 In addition, the nature and extent of this report has been determined by particular request. In the circumstances the examining veterinary disclaims any liability whatsoever to any party other than the party directly responsible for requesting and paying for the services rendered.

8 Where an opinion has taken into consideration input from another professional, e.g. the taking and interpretation of radiographs, then in arriving at the opinion the veterinarian has accepted as accurate the information supplied

9 Reliance upon this report will constitute an acceptance of the limitations of liability referred to above.

(Form 2)

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB NOMINATED VETERINARIAN CERTIFICATE FOR THE IMPORTATION OF RACEHORSES INTO HONG KONG

NOMINATED VETERINARIAN

HORSE DETAILS

Name	
Microchip*	Passport No.
Sex	Colour
Date of Birth	Height
Sire	Dam
Brand Left	Brand Right
Shipping Agent	Quarantine Entry Date
Hong Kong Trainer (if known)	
Hong Kong Prospective Owner / Owner / Agent	

**All horses imported into Hong Kong must have an ISO 11784 / 11785 compliant microchip.*

EXAMINING VETERINARY SURGEON INFORMATION

Name	Date of Examination
Practice	
Telephone	Email

BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED

Is the examining veterinarian the usual veterinary provider to the vendor, agent or current trainer?	◯ Yes	◯ No	
If yes, to whom does the veterinarian reportedly provide services?	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent
Is the vendor, agent or current trainer listed to be a client of the examining veterinarian's practice?	◯ Yes	◯ No	
If yes, to whom does the practice reportedly provide services?	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent

1. HISTORY

The history provided is complete and reveals **NO** evidence of any condition that would be likely to significantly affect the horse's future suitability, or render it unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong –

◯ Agree ◯ Disagree

2. FIVE-STAGE VETERINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Based on the information provided, the complete five-stage veterinary examination procedure has been performed in accordance with the HKJC veterinary pre-import examination protocol and there is **NO** evidence of any condition that would be likely to significantly affect the horse's future suitability, or render it unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong –

○ Agree ○ Disagree

3. ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION

A review of the endoscopic report/video provided by the examining veterinary surgeon reveals **NO** evidence of any condition that would be likely to significantly affect the horse's future suitability, or render it unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong –

○ Agree ○ Disagree

4. ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION

A review of the ultrasonographic report provided by the examining veterinary surgeon reveals **NO** evidence of any condition that would be likely to significantly affect the horse's future suitability, or render it unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong –

○ Agree ○ Disagree

Ultrasound images provided with evidence of cross-sectional measurements and outlines at required zones? ○ Yes ○ No

5. RADIOGRAPHIC REPORT AND RADIOGRAPHS

A review of the radiographs and report provided by the examining veterinary surgeon reveal **NO** evidence of any condition that would be likely to significantly affect the horse's future suitability, or render it unsuitable for importation into Hong Kong

	◯ Agree ◯ Disagree
All radiographic images correctly labelled and of diagnostic quality (adequately exposed and positioned)?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Please confirm you have personally assessed all of the radiographic projections required	◯ Yes ◯ No
Comments	

6. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND TEST RESULTS

Sample reported to be collected on the day of the exercise phase of the veterinary examination?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Negative blood sample test result sighted and forwarded to the HKJC?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Is this horse reported to have been previously administered an anabolic steroid or bisphosphonate?	◯ Yes ◯ No

OPINION OF THE HKJC NOMINATED VETERINARIAN

From the documentation provided, the full HKJC examination for veterinary suitability for importation has been completed and the veterinary certification and diagnostic images are of an acceptable standard. Based on the information supplied, and with the clear understanding that I have not personally conducted any component of the examination myself *(beyond the review of the certification and diagnostic images tendered by the examining veterinary surgeon)* and am not the normal veterinary service provider to the vendor or current trainer, the following advice is provided to the Club –

○ **ACCEPTABLE** FOR IMPORTATION	○ **UNACCEPTABLE** FOR IMPORTATION
In my opinion, the horse described in this document **MEETS** the Hong Kong Jockey Club's criteria for permanent importation into Hong Kong as a racehorse.	In my opinion, the horse described in this document does **NOT** meet the Hong Kong Jockey Club's criteria for permanent importation into Hong Kong.

In my opinion, within the confines and limitations of the examinations performed and findings reported, and on the balance of probabilities, the horse described in this document is **ACCEPTABLE** for importation in to Hong Kong as a racehorse with findings of significance for future suitability to train and race categorised as:

○ LOW ○ LOW *to* MODERATE ○ MODERATE ○ MODERATE *to* HIGH ○ HIGH #

7. REPORTED OR NOTED FINDINGS UNLIKELY TO REPRESENT A MEASURABLE RISK

The veterinary examination has revealed the following findings considered **UNLIKELY** to represent a measurable risk with reference to the horse's future suitability to train and race in Hong Kong. If you have any questions or concerns relating to the findings listed below, the Hong Kong Jockey Club advises that you discuss them with a Department of Veterinary Clinical Services veterinary surgeon.

HKJC NOMINATED VETERINARIAN

Signature	Name
	Practice name
	Email
Date	Telephone
Address	

The veterinary opinion expressed in this certificate is based solely on the standard procedures of examination agreed by the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The aim of these procedures is to identify and assess factors of a veterinary nature that could prejudice a horse's suitability for training and racing in Hong Kong at the time of the examination. No judgment, assurance or guarantee is made about a horse's future suitability or ability as a racehorse or its future health or soundness.

The examination provides information regarding existing medical condition(s) and the horse's overall health on the day of examination. The procedures are not intended to be used as a prognosis for future health, soundness or athletic performance.

Furthermore, the prospective owner / owner or agent must be aware that this examination does not involve an in depth evaluation of the horse's temperament, ability, or aptitude as a racehorse and accept that the examination may not reveal subtle unsoundness and disorders or conditions that may not be readily apparent during the examination. Accordingly, the decision to purchase or import a horse into Hong Kong is solely the choice and responsibility of the prospective owner / owner or agent.

The opinions expressed by the Hong Kong Jockey Club and the nominated veterinarian are based entirely on reports tendered and as such, neither party may be held liable for any claims arising directly or indirectly from the performance of the initial veterinary examination(s).

Diagnostic images forwarded to the HKJC shall become part of each horses' veterinary history, but will not routinely be reviewed by HKJC veterinarians unless in special circumstances where a Club veterinarian considers it necessary to review the same for the assessment.

 # Any horse assessed to have findings of HIGH potential significance for future suitability to race must, should they prove to be unable to cope with training and racing in Hong Kong and if considered suitable by a veterinary surgeon of the Club, be exported for retirement.

OWNER / MANAGER / TRAINER / CAREGIVER REPORT AND STATEMENT OF HISTORY

Please answer the below questions to the best of your knowledge

香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Owner / Manager / Trainer / Caregiver Name			
Address			
Horse Name			
Microchip		Passport No.	
Sex	Colour	Date of Birth	Height
Sire		Dam	
Agent Name		Telephone	

HORSE HISTORY

How long has this horse been under your personal care?	
History of injury or illness (e.g. rhabdomyolysis), lameness or colic?	◯ Yes ◯ No
History of surgery, other than castration?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Has the horse ever bled from a nostril or been diagnosed with a 'heart irregularity'?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Stable or ridden vices (i.e. weaves, box walks, windsucks / crib bites or head-shaker)?	◯ Yes ◯ No
History of farriery issues or a need to wear non-standard shoes / plates in training or racing?	◯ Yes ◯ No
If you have answered yes to any of the above, please provide details:	
Has this horse received an anabolic steroid in the last six months?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Has this horse ever received a bisphosphonate (i.e. Tildren, Osphos etc.)?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Date of last NSAID administration and reason	
Date of last intra-synovial treatment and structure(s) treated	
Who is the horse's usual veterinary attendant?	
Has the horse recently been attended to by a veterinarian and if so, for what reason?	
Is the horse in training / spelling?	◯ Training ◯ Spelling
How long has the horse been training / spelling?	
Does this horse have a current racing restriction or embargo?	◯ Yes ◯ No
Please provide details of any knowledge you have of this horse's past performances or outstanding racing restriction / embargo:	

CERTIFICATION

Signature	Name
	Date

(Form 4)

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB VETERINARY RE-EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE

HORSE DETAILS

Name		Microchip	
Sire		Dam	
Colour	Sex	Brand Left	Brand Right
Initial examination date		Re-examination date	

EXAMINING VETERINARY SURGEON DETAILS

Name	Practice
Telephone	Email

RE-EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

◯ **31-60 day veterinary re-examination** Two-Stage vetting, blood sample collection on day of (and immediately before or after trot-up) examination, and endoscopic examination.	◯ **61-180 day veterinary re-examination** Five-Stage vetting, blood sample collection on day of (and immediately before or after exercise) examination, and endoscopic examination within 60 minutes after exercise.

VETERINARY EXAMINATION FINDINGS

◯ In my opinion, there is no clinical indication for further radiographic or ultrasound examinations to confirm the suitability of the above described horse for importation into Hong Kong for racing purposes. Further, there is no evidence that this horse has suffered any injury or medical condition that would be likely to affect its suitability for importation since the initial veterinary examination – other than that stated below.

◯ I acknowledge that I have read the findings and risk assessment of the initial clinical veterinary examination.

Comments

Lane Laryngeal grading ◯ 1 ◯ 2 ◯ 3 ◯ 4 ◯ 5	Havemeyer laryngeal grading:

Blood sample collected on the day of the veterinary re-examination for prohibited substance screening? ◯ Yes

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Are you the usual veterinarian for the current trainer, vendor or selling agent?		◯ Yes	◯ No
If yes, please indicate to whom you provide services	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent
Is the current trainer, vendor or selling agent a client of your practice?		◯ Yes	◯ No
If yes, please indicate to whom your practice provides servic	◯ Current Trainer	◯ Vendor	◯ Selling Agent
Do you have any financial involvement in the sale of this horse, other than fee for veterinary service?		◯ Yes	◯ No

VETERINARY SURGEONS CERTIFICATION

Examining veterinarian signature	Name	
	Date	
Nominated veterinarian signature	Name	Date
	Acceptable with initial comments noted	◯ Yes
DVRWBP veterinary officer signature	Name	Date
	Acceptable with initial comments noted	◯ Yes

(Form 5)

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB
REPEAT VETERINARY EXAMINATION
CARER AND MANAGER REPORT

Horse Name	
Microchip	Passport No.
Sex	Colour
Sire	Dam
Brand Left	Brand Right

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

How long has this horse been under your personal care?	
Has the above horse raced or participated in any test/trial since the initial veterinary examination?	○ Yes ○ No
Has the above horse received any medical treatment since the time of the initial examination?	○ Yes ○ No
Has there been any change in the above horse's soundness or health status since the initial examination?	○ Yes ○ No
If you have answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide details below:	

CERTIFICATION

Signature	Name
	Date