

Medications Issue Shocker: USEF & Farmer-Glefke Resolve Litigation

USEF has resolved the litigation with Kelley Farmer and Larry Glefke for their alleged July 2016 GABA violation. USEF is voiding the proceeding from the outset and vacating all penalties and suspensions, thereby restoring Ms. Farmer and Mr. Glefke to active membership effective July 1, 2017. They are free to enjoy all privileges of membership including participation in competition.

“The USEF must always treat its members fairly,” said Murray S. Kessler, President of the USEF. Kessler continued, “Late in the arbitration discovery process, the legal teams for USEF and Ms. Farmer and Mr. Glefke learned about errors in the laboratory’s handling of the blood sample in this case, that the USEF hearing committee was unaware of. Simply said, these errors were serious enough that we no longer can rely on the validity of the test and therefore, regret any negative impact that this had on Ms. Farmer and Mr. Glefke.”

All our members must be treated fairly. Accordingly, we are setting aside the suspensions as the USEF’s procedural integrity must be pristine in order to fairly protect our competitors. I have ordered a thorough compliance audit of the laboratory to ensure that what occurred in this case never happens again and that the proper procedures and checks are in place to be certain of that. I can assure our membership that any necessary corrective action will be taken.”

Importantly, USEF continues to be committed to aggressively investigating all reported drugs and medications violations as well as enforcing the rules. Maintaining a fair and level playing field and ensuring the welfare of our horses remains a top priority for USEF.

Press release provided by the US Equestrian Communications Department.

USHJA Weighs In: Letter from USHJA president Mary Babick

February 2018 - USEF & USHJA Drug Rules Shocker

Written by CRM

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USHJA has continually advocated for measures to raise the bar for integrity in our sport. It is not surprising that USEF's announcement regarding a mistake in its laboratory has caused outrage for USHJA and our members. Trust is a fragile thing, and at this moment our collective trust in the system has been compromised.

USEF has committed to a thorough independent audit of its laboratory and drug testing process. USHJA has demanded answers. I strongly believe it is in USHJA's best interest to await the results of this crucial review.

More importantly, this incident only further highlights the importance of the USHJA Sport Integrity Task Force, created last year. We will march forward in 2018 to further develop our guide for clean sport within the Hunter and Jumper disciplines. Please join me in keeping focus and staying on course!

Press release provided by USHJA.