Our Mission

To develop and promote national uniform rules, policies and testing; coordinate research and educational programs seeking to ensure the integrity of racing and the health and welfare of racehorses and participants; and develop programs to protect the interests of the racing public.

Collection Procedures – Tail

- Identify the horse – check tattoo and/or markings from the official foal papers to ensure you have identified the correct horse for sampling
- Put new, clean gloves on hands
- The tail must be at least 4 ½ inches long (see diagram)
- The sampled hair must be clean of debris and dry (do not sample wet hair)
- Clean the comb and scissors with alcohol and allow to air dry before sampling each horse
- Identify the area to be sampled – to find the appropriate hair, flip the tail and locate hair near the base of the tail. If the tail hair is more than one color, a dark color is preferable to a light color, regardless of location
- Comb the tail in the sampling area, if necessary, to remove tangles
- Grasp a section of the tail hair the diameter of a No. 2 pencil
- Cut the tail hair as close to the body as possible
- Place a twist tie or binder around the cut end
- Loop the hair in a loose knot and place into an evidence bag
- Seal the evidence bag and affix a sticker to the bag to indicate the sample number
- Complete the sample submission form, have the witness sign it and record the witness’ racing license number

Additional Information

If sampling multiple horses, make certain to clean the comb/scissors between each horse.

After collection, samples should be kept in a secure location at room temperature until they are ready for transport. A tracking number should be requested for all sample shipments.
The purpose of hair sampling is to collect a usable cross-section of hair to test for prohibited substances.

As with all other biological sample collection, integrity of the sample and chain of custody procedures must be followed.

**Items You Will Need**

- Horse identification information (e.g., tattoo number, foal papers/markings, microchip number)
- Gloves
- Comb
- Scissors
- Binders / twist ties
- Alcohol wipes or equivalent (enough to clean equipment between each sample)
- Evidence bags
- Chain of custody forms
- Pen
- Witness’ racing license number
- Sampler’s racing license number

**Collection Procedures – Mane**

- Identify the horse – check tattoo and/or markings from the official foal papers to ensure you have identified the correct horse for sampling
- Put new, clean gloves on hands
- The mane must be 4 ½ inches long (see diagram below). If the mane is shorter use the tail sampling procedures
- The sampled hair must be clean of debris and dry (do not sample wet hair)
- Clean the comb and scissors with alcohol and allow to air dry before sampling each horse
- Identify the area to be sampled – middle third of the neck on the underside of the mane is preferred. If the mane is more than one color, a dark color is preferable to a light color, regardless of location
- Comb the mane in the sampling area, if necessary, to remove tangles
- Grasp a section of the mane the diameter of a No. 2 pencil
- Cut the mane as close to the body as possible
- Place a twist tie or binder around the cut end
- Loop the mane in a loose knot and place into an evidence bag
- Seal the evidence bag and affix a sticker to the bag to indicate the sample number
- Complete the sample submission form, have the witness sign it and record the witness’ racing license number

![](Hair Sample Should be This Long)