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Dear Piet

In answer to your email of 14 May 2018 and to serve as a reply for the information of all owners of competing equine athletes, the following –

1. All competing horses are to be vaccinated once each calendar year with a registered vaccine against African Horse Sickness (AHS).
2. Currently there is only one such vaccine registered for use in horses in Namibia. This is the live, inactivated African Horse Sickness vaccine produced by Onderstepoort Biological Products.
3. The use of any unregistered product will NOT be accepted as sufficient for a horse to be entered into competition. As a result of this, all the implications, complications and risks of using such a product should be clearly explained by the veterinarian administering the product.

NAMEF rules deem African Horse Sickness vaccination to be compulsory.

FEI rules refer to the vaccination of Equine Influenza and any other vaccination recommended by the Organising Committee in the country where the competition takes place. These rules also state that it is the responsibility of the Veterinary Delegate to ensure that the biosecurity at the event is strictly controlled.

Any non-registered product used to control AHS –

1. Cannot be called a vaccine
2. Is not proven to protect a horse from African Horse Sickness
3. Is a possible biosecurity risk

I trust this is clear.

Regards,



Dr IJM Baines