

ARCI-010-035 Running of the Race

A. Equipment

- (1) All riding crops are subject to inspection and approval by the stewards and the clerk of scales.
 - (a) Riding crops shall have a shaft and a flap and will be allowed in flat racing including training, only as follows.
 - (A) Maximum weight of eight ounces;
 - (B) Maximum length, including flap of 30 inches
 - (C) Minimum diameter of the shaft of one-half inch; and
 - (D) Shaft contact area must be smooth, with no protrusions or raised surface, and covered by shock absorbing material that gives a compression factor of at least one-millimeter through out its circumference.
 - (b) The flap is the only allowable attachment to the shaft and must meet these specifications:
 - (A) Length beyond the end of the shaft a maximum of one inch;
 - (B) Width a minimum of 0.8 inch and a maximum of 1.6 inches;
 - (C) No reinforcements or additions beyond the end of the shaft;
 - (D) No binding within seven inches of the end of the shaft; and
 - (E) Shock absorbing characteristics similar to those the contact area of the shaft.
- (2) No bridle shall exceed two pounds.
- (3) A horse's tongue may be tied down with clean bandages, gauze or tongue strap.
- (4) No licensee may add blinkers to a horse's equipment or discontinue their use without the prior approval of the starter, the paddock judge, and the stewards.
- (5) No licensee may change any equipment used on a horse its last race in this jurisdiction without approval of the paddock judge.

B. Racing Numbers

- (1) Each horse shall carry a conspicuous saddle cloth number corresponding to the official number given that horse on the official program.
- (2) In the case of a coupled entry that includes more than one horse, each horse in the entry shall carry the same number, with a different distinguishing letter following the number. As an example, two horses in the same entry shall appear in the official program as 1 and 1A.
- (3) Each horse in the mutuel field shall carry a separate number or may carry the same number with a distinguishing letter following the number.

C. Jockey Requirements

- (1) Jockeys shall report to the jockeys' quarters at the time designated by the association. Jockeys shall report their engagements and any overweight to the clerk of scales. Jockeys shall not leave the jockeys' quarters, except to ride in scheduled races, until all of their riding engagements of the day have been fulfilled except as approved by the stewards.

- (2) A jockey who has not fulfilled all riding engagements, who desires to leave the jockeys' quarters, must first receive the permission of the stewards and must be accompanied by an association security guard.
- (3) While in the jockeys' quarters, jockeys shall have no contact or communication with any person outside the jockeys' quarters other than Commission personnel and officials, an owner or trainer for whom the jockey is riding or a representative of the regular news media, except with the permission of the stewards. Any communication permitted by the stewards may be conducted only in the presence of the clerk of scales or other person designated by the stewards.
- (4) Jockeys shall be weighed out for their respective mounts by the clerk of scales not more than 30 minutes before post time for each race.
- (5) Only valets employed by the association shall assist jockeys in weighing out.
- (6) A jockey must wear a safety vest when riding in any official race. The safety vest shall ~~weigh no more than two pounds and be designed to provide shock absorbing protection to the upper body of at least a rating of five, as defined by the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA)~~ The safety vest shall meet one of the standards for safety vests outlined in ARCI-008-010 (Y)(2).
- (7) Weighing Out
 - (a) A jockey's weight shall include his/her clothing, boots, saddle and its attachments and any other equipment except the bridle, bit, blinkers, goggles, number cloth and safety equipment including helmet, vest, over-girth, reins and breast collar.
 - (b) Upon Stewards approval, jockeys may be allowed up to three (3) pounds more than published weights to account for inclement weather clothing and equipment.
- (8) Seven pounds is the limit of overweight any horse is permitted to carry.
- (9) Once jockeys have fulfilled their riding engagements for the day and have left the jockeys' quarters, they shall not be re-admitted to the jockeys' quarters until after the entire racing program for that day has been completed, except with permission of the stewards.

D. Paddock to Post

- (1) Each horse shall carry the full weight assigned for that race from the paddock to the starting post, and shall parade past the stewards' stand, unless excused by the stewards. The post parade shall not exceed 12 minutes, unless otherwise ordered by the stewards. It shall be the duty of the stewards to ensure that the horses arrive at the starting gate as near to post time as possible.
- (2) After the horses enter the track, no jockey may dismount nor entrust his horse to the care of an attendant unless, because of accident occurring to the jockey, the horse or the equipment, and with the prior consent of the starter. During any delay during which a jockey is permitted to dismount, all other jockeys may dismount and their horses may be attended by others. After the horses enter the track, only the jockey, an assistant starter, the official veterinarian, the racing veterinarian or an outrider or pony rider may touch the horse before the start of the race.

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- (3) If a jockey is injured on the way to the post, the horse shall be returned to the paddock or any other area designated by the stewards, re-saddled with the appropriate weight and remounted with a replacement jockey.
- (4) After passing the stewards' stand in parade, the horses may break formation and proceed to the post in any manner unless otherwise directed by the stewards. Once at the post, the horses shall be started without unnecessary delay.
- (5) Horses shall arrive at the starting post in post position order.
- (6) In case of accident to a jockey or his/her mount or equipment, the stewards or the starter may permit the jockey to dismount and the horse to be cared for during the delay, and may permit all jockeys to dismount and all horses to be attended to during the delay.
- (7) If a horse throws its jockey on the way from the paddock to the post, the horse must be returned to the point where the jockey was thrown, where it shall be remounted and then proceed over the route of the parade to the post. The horse must carry its assigned weight from paddock to post and from post to finish.
- (8) If a horse leaves the course while moving from paddock to post, the horse shall be returned to the course at the nearest practical point to that at which it left the course, and shall complete its parade to the post from the point at which it left the course unless ordered scratched by the stewards.
- (9) No person shall willfully delay the arrival of a horse at the post.
- (10) The starter shall load horses into the starting gate in any order deemed necessary to ensure a safe and fair start. Only the jockey, the racing veterinarian, the starter or an assistant starter shall handle a horse at the post.

E. Post to Finish

(1) The Start

- (a) The starter is responsible for assuring that each participant receives a fair start.
- (b) If, when the starter dispatches the field, any door at the front of the starting gate stalls should not open properly due to a mechanical failure or malfunction or should any action by any starting personnel directly cause a horse to receive an unfair start, the stewards may declare such a horse a non-starter.
- (c) Should a horse, not scratched prior to the start, not be in the starting gate stall thereby causing it to be left when the field is dispatched by the starter, the horse shall be declared a non-starter by the stewards.
- (d) Should an accident or malfunction of the starting gate, or other unforeseeable event compromise the fairness of the race or the safety of race participants, the stewards may declare individual horses to be non-starters, exclude individual horses from all pari-mutuel pools or declare a "no contest" and refund all wagers except as otherwise provided in the rules involving multi-race wagers.

(2) Interference, Jostling or Striking

- (a) A jockey shall not ride carelessly or willfully so as to permit his/her mount to interfere with, impede or intimidate any other horse in the race.
- (b) No jockey shall carelessly or willfully jostle, strike or touch another jockey or another jockey's horse or equipment.

- (c) No jockey shall unnecessarily cause his/her horse to shorten its stride so as to give the appearance of having suffered a foul.
- (3) Maintaining a Straight Course
- (a) When the way is clear in a race, a horse may be ridden to any part of the course, but if any horse swerves, or is ridden to either side, so as to interfere with, impede or intimidate any other horse, it is a foul.
 - (b) The offending horse may be disqualified, if in the opinion of the stewards, the foul altered the finish of the race, regardless of whether the foul was accidental, willful or the result of careless riding.
 - (c) If the stewards determine the foul was intentional, or due to careless riding, the jockey may be held responsible.
 - (d) In a straightaway race, every horse must maintain position as nearly as possible in the lane in which it starts. If a horse is ridden, drifts or swerves out of its lane in such a manner that it interferes with, impedes or intimidates another horse, it is a foul and may result in the disqualification of the offending horse.
- (4) Disqualification
- (a) When the stewards determine that a horse shall be disqualified for interference, they may place the offending horse behind such horses as in their judgment it interfered with, or they may place it last.
 - (b) If a horse is disqualified for a foul, any horse or horses in the same race owned or trained by the same interests, whether coupled or uncoupled may also be disqualified.
 - (c) When a horse is disqualified for interference in a time trial race, for the purposes of qualifying only, it shall receive the time of the horse it is placed behind plus one-hundredth of a second penalty or more exact measurement if photo finish equipment permits, and shall be eligible to qualify for the finals or consolations of the race on the basis of the assigned time.
 - (d) Possession of any electrical or mechanical stimulating or shocking device by a jockey, horse owner, trainer or other person authorized to handle or attend to a horse shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of these rules and is sufficient grounds for the stewards to scratch or disqualify the horse.
 - (e) The stewards may determine that a horse shall be unplaced for the purpose of purse distribution and time trial qualification.
- (5) Multiple Disqualifications. Should the stewards determine that there is more than one incident of interference in a race where disqualification is warranted, the stewards shall deal with the incidents in the order in which the incident occurs during the race from start to finish; except in the case where the same horses are involved in multiple incidents. Once a horse has been disqualified, it should remain placed behind the horse with which it interfered. The stewards shall make a conscious effort to place and maintain as placed, every and all horses placed behind others for interference.
- (6) Horses Shall be Ridden Out. All horses shall be ridden out in every race. A jockey shall not ease up or coast to the finish, without reasonable cause, even if the horse has no apparent chance to win prize money. A jockey shall give a best effort during a race, and each horse shall be ridden to win.

(7) Use of Riding Crop

- (a) Although the use of a riding crop is not required, any jockey who uses a riding crop during a race shall do so only in a manner consistent with exerting his/her best efforts to win.
- (b) In all races where a jockey will ride without a riding crop, an announcement of such fact shall be made over the public address system.
- (c) No electrical or mechanical device or other expedient designed to increase or retard the speed of a horse, other than the riding crop approved by the stewards, shall be possessed by anyone, or applied by anyone to the horse at any time on the grounds of the association during the meeting, whether in a race or otherwise.
- (d) Riding crops shall not be used on two-year-old horses before April 1 of each year.
- (e) The riding crop shall only be used for safety, correction and encouragement.
- (f) All riders should comply with the following when using a riding crop:
 - (A) Showing the horse the riding crop and giving it time to respond before hitting it;
 - (B) Having used the riding crop, giving the horse a chance to respond before using it again;
 - (C) Using the riding crop in rhythm with the horse's stride.
- (g) Prohibited use of the riding crop includes but are not limited to striking a horse:
 - (A) on the head, flanks or on any other part of its body other than the shoulders or hind quarters except when necessary to control a horse;
 - (B) during the post parade or after the finish of the race except when necessary to control the horse;
 - (C) excessively or brutally causing welts or breaks in the skin;
 - (D) when the horse is clearly out of the race or has obtained its maximum placing;
 - (E) persistently even though the horse is showing no response under the riding crop; or
 - (F) striking another rider or horse.
- (h) After the race, horses will be subject to inspection by a racing or official veterinarian looking for cuts, welts or bruises in the skin. Any adverse findings shall be reported to the stewards.
- (i) The giving of instructions by any licensee that if obeyed would lead to a violation of this rule may result in disciplinary action also being taken against the licensee who gave such instructions

(7) Horse Leaving the Racecourse. If a horse leaves the racecourse during a race, it must turn back and resume the race from the point at which it originally left the course.

(8) Order of Finish

- (a) The official order of finish shall be decided by the stewards with the aid the photo finish system, and in the absence of the photo finish film record, the video replay. The photo finish and video replay are only aids in the stewards' decision. The decision of the stewards shall be final in all cases.
- (b) The nose of the horse shall determine the placement of the horse in relationship to other horses in the race.

(9) Returning After the Finish

- (a) After a race has been run, the jockey shall ride promptly to the place designated by the stewards, dismount and report to the clerk of scales to be weighed in. Jockeys shall weigh in with all pieces of equipment with which they weighed out.
- (b) If a jockey is prevented from riding to the designated unsaddling area because of an accident or illness to the jockey or the horse, the jockey may walk or be transported to the scales, or may be excused from weighing in by the stewards.

(10) Unsaddling

- (a) Only persons authorized by the stewards may assist the jockey with unsaddling the horse after the race.
- (b) No one shall place a covering over a horse before it is unsaddled.

(11) Weighing In

- (a) A jockey shall weigh in ~~at least~~ at no less than the same weight at which he/she weighed out, and if under that weight, and after consideration of mitigating circumstances by the board of stewards, by more than two pounds, his/her mount ~~shall~~ may be disqualified from any portion of the purse money.
- (b) In the event of such disqualification, all monies wagered on the horse shall be refunded unless the race has been declared official.
- (c) A jockey's weight shall include clothing, boots, saddle and its attachments and any other equipment except the bridle, bit, blinkers, number cloth and over-girth, reins and breast collar.
- (d) Upon approval of the stewards, the jockeys may be allowed up to three (3) pounds more than published weights to account for inclement weather clothing and equipment.
- (e) The post-race weight of jockeys includes any sweat, dirt and mud that have accumulated on the jockey, jockey's clothing, jockey's safety equipment and over-girth. This accounts for additional weight, depending on specific equipment, as well as weather, track and racing conditions.
- ~~(e) No jockey shall weigh in at more than two pounds over the proper or declared weight, excluding the weight attributed to inclement weather conditions and/or of health and safety equipment approved by the stewards.~~

(12) Dead Heats

- (a) When two horses run a dead heat for first place, all purses or prizes to which first and second horses would have been entitled shall be divided equally between them; and this applies in dividing all purses or prizes whatever the number of horses running a dead heat and whatever places for which the dead heat is run.
- (b) In a dead heat for first place, each horse involved shall be deemed a winner and liable to penalty for the amount it shall receive.
- (c) When a dead heat is run for second place and an objection is made to the winner of the race, and sustained, the horses which ran a dead heat shall be deemed to have run a dead heat for first place.
- (d) If the dividing owners cannot agree as to which of them is to have a cup or other prize which cannot be divided, the question shall be determined by lot by the stewards.

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(13) Time Trials

In absence of specific conditions for a particular race that set forth criteria to address the situations that may arise from the running of time trials to determine the eligible horses to participate in finals, these rules shall apply:

- (a) Except in cases where the starting gate physically restricts the number of horses starting, each time trial shall consist of no more than 10 horses.
- (b) The time trials shall be raced under the same conditions as the finals. If the time trials are conducted on the same day, the horses with the 10 fastest times shall qualify to participate in the finals. If the time trials are conducted on two days, the horses with the five fastest times on the first day and the horses with the five fastest times on the second day shall qualify to participate in the finals. When time trials are conducted on two days, the racing secretary shall make his/her best effort to split owners with more than one entry into separate days and/or time trials.
- (c) If the association's starting gate has less than 10 stalls, then the maximum number of qualifiers will correspond to the maximum number of starting gate post positions.
- (d) Except in races around the turn, if only 11 or 12 horses are entered to run in time trials from a gate with 12 or more stalls, the association may choose to run finals only. If 11 or 12 horses participate in the finals, only the first 10 finishers will receive purse money.
- (e) In the time trials, horses shall qualify on the basis of time and order of finish. The times of the horses in the time trial will be determined to the limit of the timer. The only exception is when two or more horses have the same time in the same trial heat. Then the order of finish shall also determine the preference in qualifying for the finals. Should two or more horses in different time trials have the same qualifying time to the limit of the timer for the final qualifying position(s), then a draw by public lot shall be conducted as directed by the stewards. Qualifying times in separate trials shall not be determined beyond the limit of the timer by comparing and/or enlarging photo-finish images.
- (f) Except in the case of a disqualification, under no circumstances shall a horse qualify ahead of a horse that finished ahead of that horse in the official order of finish in a time trial.
- (g) Should a horse be disqualified for interference during the running of a time trial, it shall receive the time of the horse it is immediately placed behind plus one hundredth of a second, or the maximum accuracy of the electronic timing device. No adjustments will be made in the times recorded in the time trials to account for head-wind, tail-wind, off-track, etc. If a horse is disqualified for interference with another horse causing loss of rider or the horse not to finish the race, the disqualified horse shall be given no time plus and that horse should not be eligible to run in the finals.
- (h) Should a malfunction occur with electronic timer on any time trial, finalists from that time trial will then be determined by official hand timing operated by three official and disinterested persons. The average of the three hand times will be utilized for the winning time, unless one of the hand times is clearly incorrect. In such cases, the average of the two accurate hand times will be utilized for the winning time: other horses shall be given times according to the order and margins of finish with the aid of the photo finish, if available.

- (i) When there is a malfunction of the timer during some time trials, but the timer operates correctly in other time trials, the accurate electronic times shall not be discarded, nor shall the average of hand times be used for all time trials.
- (j) If the accuracy of the electronic timer and/or the average of the hand times are questioned, the video of a time trial may be used by the stewards to estimate the winning time by counting the number of video frames in the race from the moment the starting gate stall doors are fully open parallel to the racing track. When the timer malfunctions and there are no hand times, the stewards may select qualifiers based on the video.
- (k) Should there be a malfunction of the starting gate, and one or more stall doors not open or open after the exact moment when the starter dispatches the field, the stewards may declare the horses with malfunctioning stall doors non-starters or may allow any horse whose stall door opened late, but still ran a time fast enough to qualify to be declared a starter for qualifying purposes. If a horse breaks through the stall door, or the stall door opens prior to the exact moment the starter purposely dispatches the field, the horse may be declared a non-starter and the stewards may direct that all entry fees refunded. If one or more, but not all stall doors, open at the exact moment the starter purposely dispatches the field, these horses should be considered starters for qualifying purposes, and placed according to their electronic time. If the electronic timer malfunctions in this instance, the average of the hand times, or if not available, the video may be utilized for horses declared starters.
- (l) If a horse should be scratched from the time trials, the horse's owner shall not be eligible for a refund of the fees paid and shall not be allowed to enter the final. If a horse that qualified for the final should be unable to enter due to racing soundness, or scratched for any reason other than a positive drug test or a rule violation, the horse shall be deemed to have earned and the owner will receive, last place money. If more than one horse is scratched then those purse monies shall be added together and divided equally among those owners.
- (m) If a qualifier for a final or consolation is disqualified for ineligibility or a rule violation after the time trials are declared official, but prior to entry for the final or consolation, the non-qualifier with the next fastest time shall replace the disqualified horse. If a qualifier is disqualified after entry for a final or consolation for any reason other than racing unsoundness, illness or death, if necessary, the purse shall be redistributed among the remaining qualifiers.

Adopted in Version 1.4 ARCI 8/27/02 NAPRA 10/2/02

Version 2.1 to 3.0 ARCI 4/3/04 NAPRA 4/3/04: Amended new rule language

Version 4.1 to 4.2 ARCI 3/26/08; Amended language to include multiple disqualifications

Version 4.3 to 4.4 ARCI Board 12/10/08: Amended riding crop and jockey weight language