

**Ontario
Racing
Commission**

**Commission
des courses
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STANARDBRED DIRECTIVE NUMBER 5 – 2009 RULES OF STANARDBRED RACING 2008

The Ontario Racing Commission at its meeting of Thursday, May 28, 2009 resolved that the Rules of Standardbred Racing 2008 be amended by the promulgation of the following Rules, effective September 1, 2009

Chapter 22 RACING RULES

Rule 22.18 Delete

Rule 22.20 Whips shall:

- a) be no more than 48 inches in length, not including the snapper;
- b) be made of a material other than rawhide;
- c) include a snapper that is no less than 6 inches and no more than 12 inches in length; and
- d) not include a snapper that is altered from original manufacture or knotted.

Rule 22.21 The possession or use on a horse of any goading device, or chain, or spur, or mechanical or electrical device other than a whip used in the manner prescribed by the rules upon a horse shall constitute a violation.

Rule 22.21.01 Delete, replaced by Rule 22.21

Rule 22.21.02 Delete, replaced by Rule 22.21

Rule 22.22 The Judges shall have the authority to disallow the use of any equipment or harness that they feel is unsafe or not in the best interests of racing.

Rule 22.23.01 At any time while on the grounds of an association, it is an offence for a driver, or the person in control of the horse, to engage in any of the following actions with respect to their-driving conduct:

- a) Indiscriminate action, which is characterized by unrestrained or careless activity;
- b) Excessive action, which is characterized by unreasonable quantity or degree;
- c) Aggressive action, which is characterized by inhumane, severe or brutal activity.

Rule 22.23.02 The whip shall not be used on a horse in a race

- a) where the horse is not visibly responding; or
- b) where the horse is not in contention for a meaningful position.

Rule 22.23.03 At any time while on the grounds of a association, it is an offence for a driver, or the person in control of the horse, to use the whip to hit or make contact with the horse as follows:

- a) To raise their hand(s) above their head;
- b) To cause the whip to move back beyond a 90-degree angle relative to the track;
- c) To cause any portion of the whip to be outside the confines of the wheels of the race bike;
- d) To strike the shaft of the race bike, or the horse below the level of the shaft of the race bike;
- e) To cut or severely welt a horse.

Rule 22.23.04 A driver, or the person in control of the horse, is required to:

- a) keep a line in each hand for the entire race, from the starter's call to the gate until the finish of the race, except for the purpose of adjusting equipment;
- b) keep both hands in front of their body;
- c) keep their hands below their head; and
- d) have control of their horse at all times when on the racetrack.

Rule 22.23.05 Violation of any of the provisions in Rule 22.23.01 to 22.23.04 may result in any of the following penalties:

- a) Fine;
- b) Suspension;
- c) Placement;
- d) Disqualification; and/or
- e) Any other penalty as ordered.

Further particulars in respect to the penalties are provided in *Policy Directive 2 – 2009*, which also provides principles which serve as a guide for interpretation. The directive may be modified from time to time by the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Original signed

Rob McKinney
Acting Executive Director