

**Ontario
Racing
Commission**

**Commission
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August 12, 2009

THOROUGHBRED DIRECTIVE NUMBER 4 – 2009 RULES OF THOROUGHBRED RACING 2009

The Ontario Racing Commission at its meeting of Thursday, July 9, 2009 resolved that the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing 2009 be amended by the promulgation of the following Rules, effective September 1, 2009.

Chapter 9 JOCKEYS

Rule 9.27.01 In any race where a jockey will be riding without a riding crop, the association is responsible for making an announcement over the public address system and in the program.

Rule 9.27.02 Riding crops shall meet the following specifications and/or requirements:

- a) Be a humane or cushion riding crop, unaltered from original manufacture;
- b) Be no more than 30 inches in length;
- c) Have affixed to the end a padded "popper" which is no shorter than 6.5 " in length and not less than 7/8" in width. The popper shall consist of two layers sewn down each side with no sewing at the top 1/2" inch of the popper.
- d) Have a popper with an outer covering consisting of a material approved by the stewards that does not harden over time. Material such as Clariino, Vinyl, Nogohide, or Leather, will not be allowed.
- e) Have a popper with an inner layer consisting of memory foam or closed cell foam .015 -.025 inch in thickness, folded over and sewn down each side, with the outer covering to form a hollow channel.
- f) Be subject to inspection and approval by the Stewards.

Use of a riding crop in a race where the type of riding crop has not been approved by the Stewards or does not meet the requirements of the rule will lead to disqualification of the horse.

Rule 9.27.03 The possession or use on a horse of any goading device, or chain, or spur, or mechanical or electrical device other than a riding crop used in the manner prescribed by the rules upon a horse shall constitute a violation.

Rule 9.27.04 The Stewards shall have the authority to disallow the use of any equipment that they feel is unsafe or not in the best interests of racing.

Rule 9.27.05 At any time while on the grounds of an association, it is an offence for a jockey, or rider, or the person in control of the horse, to engage in any of the following actions with respect to their riding 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 9.27.06 The riding crop shall not be used on a horse in a race where the horse:

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

Rule 9.27.07 At any time while on the grounds of an association, it is an offence for a jockey, or rider, or the person in control of the horse, to use the riding crop to hit or make contact with the horse as follows:

- a) To raise their hand(s) above their shoulder; or
- b) To hit another horse; or
- c) To cut or severely welt a horse.

Rule 9.27.08 Violation of any of the provisions in Rule 9.27.05 to 9.27.07 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 3 – 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