



May 22, 2008

Mr. John Blakney  
Executive Director  
Ontario Racing Commission

Subject: Track Rule regarding use of whips

Dear Sir:

At this time Kawartha Downs is seeking permission for the following addition to our track rules:

**Drivers must keep a line in both hands for the duration of the race.**  
( penalty assessed equivalent to violation of provision ORC rule 22.23d )

After reading comments from individuals in the sport and upon review of feedback we have received from racing fans we feel this is an appropriate time to make such a change regarding the conduct of drivers in a race. Perception is the watch word of the day and the response we receive from patrons, particularly first time visitors is that the whipping and sound of the whipping is something they find objectionable and question they necessity for it at all.

We realize from talking to drivers that not carrying a whip may have safety concerns for them and suggest that with the request we are making this will strike a balance between public perception and the concerns of drivers.

Sincerely,  
David Gilders  
On behalf of Kawartha Downs