

AAR131. Use of the Whip

- 1(a) Only padded whips of a design and specifications approved by a panel appointed by the Racing Australia may be carried in races, official trials or jump-outs or trackwork.
 - (b) Every such whip must be in a satisfactory condition and must not be modified in any way.
 - (c) The Stewards may confiscate any whip which in their opinion is not in a satisfactory condition or has been modified.
 - (d) Any rider who has been found guilty of a breach of this subrule may be penalized. Provided that the master and/or other person who is in charge of an apprentice jockey at the relevant time may also be penalized unless he satisfies the Stewards that he took all proper care to ensure the apprentice complied with the rule.
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- (2) When using the whip, both hands must remain holding the reins,
 - (a) the reins cannot be crossed and held in one hand.
 - (b) the hand used to control the whip must remain in contact with the reins.
 - (c) use of the whip is restricted to the girthing area through to the shoulder and lower neck area.
 - (d) the tip of the whip is not to be raised above the horses wither.
 - (e) when changing the whip hand, the whip cannot be used until both hands are in contact with the reins.
 - (3) The Stewards may penalize any rider who in a race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork, or elsewhere uses his whip in an excessive, unnecessary or improper manner.
 - (4) Without affecting the generality of subrule (3) of this rule, the Stewards may penalize any rider \ who in a race, official trial or jump-out uses his whip -
 - (a) forward of the horse's lower neck or in the vicinity of its head; or
 - (b) using an action that raises his arm above shoulder height; or
 - (c) when his horse is out of contention; or
 - (d) when his horse is showing no response; or
 - (e) after passing the winning post; or
 - (f) causing injury to his horse; or
 - (g) when his horse is clearly winning ; or
 - (h) has no reasonable prospect of improving or losing its position, or
 - (i) in such manner that the seam of the flap is the point of contact with the horse, unless the rider satisfies the Stewards that this was neither deliberate nor reckless.
 - (5) (a) In a race, official trial or jump-out prior to the 100 metre mark:
 - (i) The rider may at his discretion use the whip with a slapping motion down the shoulder, with the whip hand remaining on the reins.
 - (b) In the final 100 metres of a race, official trial or jump-out, a rider may, subject to the other requirements of this rule, use his whip at his discretion as outlined in subrule(2)
 - (6) (a) Any trainer, owner or authorized agent must not give instructions to a rider regarding the use of the whip which, if carried out, might result in a breach of this rule.
 - (b) No person may offer inducements to a rider, to use the whip in such a way that, if carried out, might result in a breach of this rule.
 - (7) Any person who fails to comply with any provisions of this rule is guilty of an offence.
 - (8) An owner or his authorized representative, trainer, rider or Steward may lodge an objection against the placing of a horse where the rider during the race contravenes these rules.