

USE OF THE WHIP REGULATIONS

The following Regulation is made by the Board pursuant to Rule 869(2) of the Rules of Harness Racing, effective 30 November 2017.

Breach	Penalty Guide
<p>(a) No horseman shall use a whip not approved by the Stipendiary Stewards. Specifications for approved whips are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black only • The overall shaft length permitted is 1,200 mm • Shaft shall only be fibreglass or equivalent • Leather keeper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximum of 60 mm in length - Maximum of 20 mm in width or a non rigid tip • Tassel maximum of 200 mm in length 	Case by case on merits
<p>(b) No horseman is permitted to use their whip in a striking motion on more than ten occasions inside the final 400 metres. This is inclusive of "backhanders" and the use applies to the horse, harness and/or sulky.</p>	<p>Sliding scale 1st offence: - 11-13 \$200 - 14-16 \$300 - 17+ \$500</p>
<p>(c) No horseman is permitted to use their whip in an uninterrupted manner. Whether a horseman is using the whip free of the rein or retaining a hand or hands on the rein(s) the use must be sufficiently disrupted by any of the alternative actions listed below and distinct pauses must be visible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Running the reins over the horse's rump - Using the whip in a pushing motion through the horse's tail - Holding the whip on the horse's tail or rump 	\$300
<p>(d) No horseman shall apply the whip to a runner which is out of contention for either a stake or dividend bearing place or on any horse which is not responding or unable to hold its position in the race.</p>	\$300
<p>(e) No horseman shall use their whip after the finishing post.</p>	\$300
<p>(f) The whip must not be used excessively prior to the final 400 metres.</p>	\$300
<p>(g) No horseman shall use their whip in such a way that it baulks, inconveniences, impedes or strikes another horse or horseman.</p>	Case by case on merits
<p>(h) No horseman shall allow their whip to project outside the confines of the sulky, including making contact with the sulky wheels. The whip shall also not be drawn back further than the sulky seat and used with undue force.</p>	\$300
<p>(i) No horseman shall use the whip with the handle end pointed forwards.</p>	\$500
<p>(j) No horseman shall apply the whip lower than the level of the sulky shafts.</p>	\$300
<p>(k) No horseman is permitted to use the whip when their foot is free of the sulky footrest (in conjunction with Rule 867).</p>	\$300
<p>(l) No horseman shall use a metal lined or other modified whip.</p>	One year disqualification & fine of \$2,000
<p>(m) No horseman shall use the ends of their reins as a whip.</p>	\$300