

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD
TITLE 4. CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
ARTICLE 8. RUNNING THE RACE
PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF
RULE 1688. USE OF RIDING CROP

1688. Use of Riding Crop

(a) In all races where a jockey will not ride with a riding crop, an announcement shall be made over the public address system of such fact.

(b) Although the use of a riding crop is not required, any jockey or exercise rider who uses a riding crop during a race or training is prohibited from using a riding crop on a horse:

(1) during training, except when necessary for the safety of horse or rider;

(21) on the head, flanks, or on any parts of its body other than the shoulders or hind quarters;

(32) during the post parade or after the finish, except when necessary to control the horse;

(43) excessively or brutally causing welts or breaks in the skin;

(54) when the horse is clearly out of the race or has obtained its maximum placing;

(65) persistently even though the horse is showing no response under the riding crop; ~~or~~

(76) more than two ~~three~~ times in succession without giving the horse a chance to respond before using the riding crop again; or

(8) more than six times during a race, excluding showing or waiving the crop or tapping the horse on the shoulder as defined in subsection (d).

~~(c) Subsections (b)(2) and (4) shall not apply to jockeys and exercise riders during training.~~

~~(c)~~ Correct uses of the riding crop are:

~~(1) showing horses the riding crop before hitting them;~~showing or waiving the crop without touching the horse, or

~~(2) using the riding crop in rhythm with the horse's stride; and~~in an underhanded position with the crop always at or below the shoulder level of the jockey;

~~(3) tapping the horse on the shoulder with the crop in the down position while having both hands;~~using the riding crop as an aid to maintain a horse running straight.

(A) holding onto the reins, and

(B) touching the neck of the horse.

(d) Absent mitigating circumstances, which includes but is not limited to use of the riding crop for the safety of horse and rider, if a jockey or exercise rider rides in a manner contrary to this rule, the stewards shall impose a maximum fine of \$1,000 and a minimum suspension of three days. In trial heats, the suspension shall include the subsequent related stakes race.

(e) the jockey or exercise rider shall not be penalized if, in the opinion of the stewards, the use of the crop was necessary for the safety of the horse or rider.

Authority: Sections 19420, 19440 and 19562,
Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Sections 19440, 19481 and 19562,
Business and Professions Code.