

USE OF RIDING CROP

1. A jockey who elects to use a riding crop during a race may, without limitation:
 - a. Show or wave the crop without touching the horse;
 - b. Use the crop in underhand position without the wrist rising above the shoulder:
 1. prior to the final 1/4 mile of the race on the hind quarters or shoulder; or
 2. with both hands on the reins to tap the horse on the shoulder; or
 - c. Use the crop as necessary to control the horse for the safety of the horse and rider.
2. A jockey who elects to use a riding crop, except as permitted above, may not:
 - a. Use the crop more than **six times** during the race;
 - b. Use the crop more than **two times** without allowing the horse to respond by:
 1. pausing the use of the crop before resuming again;
 2. pushing on the horse with a rein in each hand with the crop in the up or down position;
 3. showing the horse the crop without making contact; or
 4. moving the crop from one hand to the other;
 - c. Use the crop before the start or after the finish of the race;
 - d. Use the crop on the head, flanks or other part of the horse than the shoulder and hind quarters;
 - e. Use the crop on a horse that is clearly out of contention or has obtained its maximum placing; or
 - f. Use the crop on a horse that is showing no response.
3. A jockey who elects to use a riding crop may not under any circumstance:
 - a. Use the crop in an excessive or brutal manner;
 - b. Use the crop to the extent of causing injury to the horse;
 - c. Use the crop from an arm position with the wrist above the helmet;
 - d. Willfully strike another rider or horse with the crop.
4. All licensees using a riding crop shall use only a crop that has been approved by the Commission and is subject to inspection by the stewards, clerk of scales, and outriders.
5. A licensee who gives instructions to a jockey to act in manner that would violate this rule, whether the jockey does so or not, shall be guilty of a violation of this rule.

RIDING CROP VIOLATION PENALTY SYSTEM

The following are recommended penalties for violation of the riding crop rule. The Stewards should evaluate each case on its merits and, where appropriate, determine whether there are aggravating or mitigating circumstances.

CROP RULE POINT SYSTEM:

CLASS 3 – 1-4 STRIKES OVER THE LIMIT

CLASS 2 – 5-9 STRIKES OVER THE LIMIT

CLASS 1 – 10 OR MORE STRIKES OVER THE LIMIT

Use of the crop for the safety of horse and rider does not count towards the total.

1st Offense (365-day period) in any jurisdiction:

Purses under \$25,000 –

Class 3 – minimum \$250 fine or 1-day suspension; 2 points

Class 2 – minimum \$500 fine or 2-day suspension; 5 points

Class 1 – minimum \$1000 fine or 3-day suspension; 10 points

Purses \$25,000 and over –

Class 3 – minimum \$500 fine or 1-day suspension; 2 points

Class 2 – minimum \$750 fine or 2-day suspension; 5 points

Class 1 – minimum \$1500 fine or 3-day suspension; 10 points

2nd Offense (365-day period) in any jurisdiction:

Purses under \$25,000 –

Class 3 - forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$500 fine, whichever is greater; 2 points

Class 2 – forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$750 fine, whichever is greater; 5 points

Class 1 – forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$1000 fine, whichever is greater; 10 points

Purses \$25,000 and over—

Class 3 - forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$750 fine, whichever is greater; 2 points

Class 2 –forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$1000 fine, whichever is greater; 5 points

Class 1 –forfeiture of 50% of mount fee or minimum \$1500 fine, whichever is greater; 10 points

3rd and Subsequent Offense (365-day period) in any jurisdiction:

Class 3 - forfeiture of 100% of mount fee or minimum \$1000 fine, whichever is greater; 5-day suspension; 2 points

Class 2 –forfeiture of 100% of mount fee or minimum \$1500 fine, whichever is greater; 7-day suspension; 5 points

Class 1 –forfeiture of 100% of mount fee or minimum \$2500 fine, whichever is greater; 10-day suspension; 10 points

Offense in Stakes Races with purses of \$75,000 and over (365-day period) in any jurisdiction:

Class 3 - forfeiture of 25% of mount fee or minimum \$1000 fine, whichever is greater; 2 points

Class 2 –forfeiture of 75% of mount fee or minimum \$1500 fine, whichever is greater; 3-day suspension; 5 points

Class 1 –forfeiture of 100% of mount fee or minimum \$2500 fine, whichever is greater; 10-day suspension; 10 points

MULTIPLE CROP VIOLATION MANDATORY ADDITIONAL SUSPENSIONS:

5-9 pts	3 days
10- 12pts	7 days
13-15pts	15 days
16 or more	30 days

TIME TO EXPUNGE POINTS PER PENALTY CLASS:

Class 3	6 months
Class 2	9 months
Class 1	1 year

The penalties provided for points accumulated as the result of multiple violations are mandatory and not discretionary.

The Stewards shall consider aggravating and mitigating circumstances in determining the appropriate penalty for each violation.

Mandatory suspensions are based on points accumulated for multiple violations and do not apply to a single violation.

Points are expunged from the date of final adjudication of the violation and not from the date of the violation.

All riders will be provided with the Crop Rule and Penalty System, in English and Spanish, and will be required to sign a copy as acknowledgement that the Crop Rule has been read and is understood.

GRACE PERIOD: From June 1-July 31, 2020, a warning will be issued for a rider's first and second Class 3 offense. The grace period will not apply to Class 2 and Class 1 violations, and all Classes in stakes races with purses of \$75,000 and over.