

TITLE 325. OKLAHOMA HORSE RACING COMMISSION

CHAPTER 60. RUNNING THE RACE

325:60-1-6. Weighing out

All Jockeys taking part in a race ~~must~~ shall be weighed out by the Clerk of Scales no more than one hour preceding the time designated for the race. Any overweight in excess of one pound shall be declared by the Jockey to the Clerk of Scales, who shall report ~~such~~ the overweight and any change in Jockeys to the Stewards for the immediate public announcement. A Jockey ~~must~~ shall be neat in appearance and ~~must~~ shall wear a conventional riding costume. A Jockey's weight shall include his/her clothing, boots, saddle and its attachments, and any other equipment except the whip, bridle, bit or reins, safety helmet, safety vest, blinkers, goggles and number cloth. ~~A safety vest shall be worn by the Jockey and shall weigh no more than two pounds, and shall be designed to provide shock absorbing protection to the upper body of at least a rating of five as defined by the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA).~~

325:60-1-9. Prohibited use of equipment

~~Jockeys are prohibited from whipping a horse excessively, brutally, or upon the head, except when necessary to control the horse in an emergency. No mechanical or electrical devices or appliances other than the ordinary whip or approved twitch shall be possessed by any person or used on any horse at any time, whether in a race or otherwise.~~

(a) A jockey shall only use a riding crop in a manner consistent with exerting his/her best efforts to obtain a maximum placing that affects purse distribution or wagering pools.

(b) When a jockey will ride without a riding crop, an announcement shall be made over the public-address system.

(c) No electrical or mechanical device or other expedient designed to increase or retard the speed of a horse, other than the riding crop approved by the stewards, shall be possessed by anyone or applied to any horse at any time on the grounds of the association during the meeting.

(d) The riding crop shall only be used for safety, correction, and limited encouragement, and shall be used in an appropriate, proportionate, and professional manner. However, stimulus provided by the use of the riding crop shall be monitored so as not to compromise the welfare of the horse.

(e) Except in extreme circumstances, all riders shall use a riding crop as follows:

(1) After showing the horse the riding crop, and/or tapping the horse with the riding crop down, giving the horse time to respond before using it;

(2) After using the riding crop up to three (3) times in succession, giving the horse time to respond before using it again. Time to respond shall be at least three (3) complete strides and one (1) of the following actions by a jockey:

(A) Pausing the use of the riding crop on the horse;

(B) Pushing on the horse with a rein in each hand, keeping the riding crop in the up or down position;

(C) Showing the horse the riding crop without making contact; or

(D) Moving the riding crop from one hand to the other; and

(3) In rhythm with the horse's stride.

(f) When deciding whether to review the jockey's use of the riding crop, Stewards shall consider how the jockey has used the riding crop during the course of the entire race, with particular attention to its use in the closing stages, and these factors:

- (1) The manner in which the riding crop was used;
- (2) The purpose for which the riding crop was used;
- (3) The distance over which the riding crop was used and whether the number of times it was used was reasonable and necessary; and
- (4) Whether the horse was continuing to respond.
- (g) If there is a review by the Stewards, use of the riding crop may be determined appropriate in the following circumstances:
 - (1) To keep a horse in contention or to maintain a challenging position prior to what would be considered the closing stages of a race;
 - (2) To maintain a horse's focus and concentration;
 - (3) To correct a horse that is noticeably hanging;
 - (4) To assure the horse maintains a straight course; and
 - (5) When there is only light contact with the horse.
- (h) Prohibited use of the riding crop includes, but is not limited to, striking a horse:
 - (1) On the head, flanks, or on any other part of its body other than the shoulders or hind quarters except when necessary to control a horse;
 - (2) During the post parade or after the finish of the race except when necessary to control the horse;
 - (3) Excessively or brutally causing welts or breaks in the skin;
 - (4) When the horse is clearly out of the race or has obtained its maximum placing;
 - (5) Persistently, even though the horse is showing no response under the riding crop; and
 - (6) With another rider or striking the rider of another horse.
- (i) After the race, horses shall be subject to inspection by a Racing Veterinarian or Official Veterinarian looking for cuts, welts, or bruises in the skin. Any adverse findings shall be reported to the Stewards.

325:60-1-11. Safety equipment required

- (a) Helmets. Any person mounted on a horse or stable pony on association grounds ~~must~~ shall wear a properly secured safety helmet at all times. Additionally, all members of the starting gate crew ~~must~~ shall adhere to this regulation at all times while performing their duties or handling a horse. For the purpose of this regulation, a member of the starting crew means any person licensed as an assistant starter or any person who handles a horse in the starting gate. The helmet ~~must~~ shall comply with one of the following minimum safety standards or later revisions:
 - (1) American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM 1163);
 - (2) European Standards (EN-1384 or PAS-015 or VG1);
 - (3) Australian/New Zealand Standards (AS/NZ 3838; or ARB HS 2012); or
 - (4) Snell Equestrian Standard 2001.
- (b) Vests. Any person mounted on a horse or stable pony on the association grounds ~~must~~ shall wear a properly-secured safety vest at all times. Additionally, all members of the starting gate crew ~~must~~ shall also adhere to this regulation at all times while performing their duties or handling a horse. For the purpose of this regulation, a member of the starting gate crew means any person licensed as an assistant starter or any person who handles a horse at the starting gate. The safety vest ~~must~~ shall comply with one of the following minimum standards or later revisions:
 - (1) British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA):2000 Level 1;

- (2) Euro Norm (EN) 13158:2000 Level 1;
 - (3) American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F2681-08 or F1937;
 - (4) Shoe and Allied Trade Research Association (SATRA) Jockey Vest Document M6 Issue 3; ~~or~~
 - (5) Australian Racing Board (ARB) Standard 1.1998; or
 - (6) With the approval of the Executive Director, vests for Starting Gate Crew may comply with the following: EN13158:2018 Standard Impact Testing only Impact Test Level 1 or higher.
- (c) A safety helmet or a safety vest shall not be altered in any manner nor shall the product marking be removed or defaced.
- (d) All required safety equipment ~~so required are~~ is subject to approval of the Stewards, Safety Steward, or Commission.