



INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON TROTTING RACES

Chapter VII – Regulations regarding equipment

Article 4 - Whip

Where whips are allowed, drivers shall abide by the provisions of the rules of the country organizer of the race.

The whip shall be used merely to give a signal to the horse.

The whip can be used, in particular, to steering the horse in a situation where the safety of humans and animals is endangered.

During the whole race the driver/jockeys must hold the reins in both hands.

In addition, and in general, it is prohibited to:

- make corrections using hands or feet;
- use the reins to move the bit roughly into/through the mouth;
- pull the reins under the tail in order to encourage the horse;
- engage in any behaviour that could be considered animal-unfriendly;
- use or carry the whip in any other way than described in this article.

For harness races:

The whip shall not be longer than 140 cm, included the lash.

When the driver uses the whip, only wrist flicking motion is tolerated. Consequently, no force can be generated by shoulder or elbow movement.

The whip can only be used in the forward direction without lateral or backward movements.

For *monté* races:

The whip model shall meet the following minimum requirements:

- Total length of the whip less than 70 cm
- Body diameter more than 1 cm
- The whip must be fitted with a foam padding (length more than 10 cm and width of more than 2 cm).

The whip can only be used with the tip pointing downwards.

Horsereading Authority may apply more restrictive measures.

Any infringement of this regulation will be punished by:

- Fines, according to the amount of the race purse and not less than:
 - 1st infringement : 50 €
 - 2nd infringement : 100 €
 - 3rd infringement : 200 € or 5 % maximum from the total purse of the race
- (And/or) Depending on the seriousness of the infringement committed, the driver concerned may be temporarily suspended from driving.