

Rule 2163(c) Amendment Summary

This Amendment of Rule 2163(c) is a new subparagraph adding requirements and conditions for the use of a riding crop.

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2163 (c) (1) Although the use of a riding crop is not required, any jockey who uses a riding crop during a race shall do so only for safety, correction and encouragement;

- (2) All riders shall comply with the following when using a riding crop:
- (a) Showing the horse the riding crop and giving it time to respond before hitting it;
 - (b) Having used the riding crop, giving the horse a chance to respond before using it again;
 - (c) Using the riding crop in rhythm with the horse's stride.
- (3) Prohibited uses of the riding crop includes but are not limited to striking a horse:
- (a) On the head, flanks or any other part of its body other than the shoulders or hind quarters except when necessary to control a horse;
 - (b) During the post parade or after the finish of the race except when necessary to control the horse;
 - (c) Excessively or brutally causing welts or breaks in the skin;
 - (d) When the horse clearly is out of the race or has obtained its maximum placing;
 - (e) Persistently hitting the horse even though the horse is showing no response under the riding crop, or
 - (f) Striking another rider or horse.
- (4) All riding crops are subject to inspection and approval of the Stewards and Clerk of Scales.
- (5) Riding crops shall have a shaft and flap and weigh a maximum of eight (8) ounces; have a maximum length, including flap, of 30 inches; a minimum shaft diameter of one-half inch and the shaft contact area must be smooth with no protrusions or raised surface and covered by shock absorbing material that gives a compression factors of at least one-millimeter throughout its circumference.

- (6) The flap is the only allowable attachment to the shaft and the length must not be more than one inch beyond the end of the shaft, a minimum width of 0.8 inch and a maximum of 1.6 inches, no reinforcements or additions beyond the end of the shaft, and shock absorbing characteristics similar to those of the contact area of the shaft.