

WHIP RULES AND PENALTY GUIDELINES

Whip Use AHRR 156(2) & 156(3)

AHRR 156(2)

- 156(2) (a) A driver shall only apply the whip in a wrist only flicking motion whilst holding a rein in each hand with the tip of the whip pointed forward in an action which does not engage the shoulder.
- (b) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (a), “wrist only flicking motion” means: -
- (i) Ensuring no force is generated by the use of the elbow or shoulder when applying the whip.
 - (ii) The forearm is not raised beyond forty-five degrees relative to the racing surface.
 - (iii) Not applying the whip with overt force.

AHRR 156(3)

- (3) A driver shall not use a whip in an unapproved manner.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-rule (3) a driver shall be deemed to have used the whip in an unapproved manner in the following circumstances which are not exclusive: -
- (a) If the whip is applied excessively, continuously and/or without allowing the horse time to respond.
 - (b) If the whip is applied when the horse:
 - (i) is not visibly responding;
 - (ii) is not in contention;
 - (iii) cannot maintain or improve its position;
 - (iv) is clearly winning;
 - (v) has passed the winning post at the finish of a race.
 - (c) If the reins are lengthened so as to result in loose reining regardless of whether the whip is being used at the same time.
 - (d) If the whip is used in a prodding or jabbing fashion.
- (5) A driver shall not use the whip in a manner which causes injury to a horse.
- (6) A whip shall not be used so as to obstruct, strike or endanger another driver or horse.
- (7) A driver shall not allow a whip to project outside the sulky.
- (8) A person who fails to comply with any provision of this Rule is guilty of an offence.

Minimum Penalty Guidelines

In effect from 1 October 2020

156(2)

1ST Offence:	Minimum \$200 fine
2ND Offence within a 56 day period:	Minimum \$400 fine
3RD Offence within a 56 day period:	Minimum 2 race dates suspension of licence to drive in races plus \$200 fine
4TH Offence and greater within a 56 day period:	Minimum 4 race dates suspension of licence to drive in races plus \$400 fine

- Any breach of the Rules which is considered deliberate, blatant or displays a win at all cost attitude may result in higher penalties being imposed than those above.
- Increased penalties may apply in races with prizemoney of \$15,000 or greater.
- **6 Offences within a 12 Month period will incur an additional 4 race date suspension as well as the penalty imposed as above**

156(3)

1ST Offence:	Minimum \$100 fine
2ND Offence within a 56 day period:	Minimum \$200 fine
3RD Offence within a 56 day period:	Minimum 2 race dates suspension of licence to drive in races plus \$100 fine
4TH Offence and greater within a 56 day period:	Minimum 4 race dates suspension of licence to drive in races plus \$200 fine

- **6 Offences within a 12-month period will incur an additional 2 race dates suspension as well as the penalty imposed as above.**
- **The length of any suspension incurred during the 56 day periods referred to above will be added to the 56 day period.**

❖ **Breaches of 156(2) & 156(3) shall be dealt with separately.**

- **Feature Races** - Increased penalties may be imposed should the offence occur in a feature race. *For the purposes of these guidelines a feature race is deemed to be a race of \$15,000 prizemoney or greater.*
- **156(5)** A driver shall not use the whip in a manner which causes injury to a horse – Penalty on merit.
- **156(6)** A whip shall not be used so as to obstruct, strike or endanger another driver or horse – Penalty on merit.
- **156(7)** A driver shall not allow a whip to project outside the sulky - Reprimand/\$50/\$100 (within a 56 day period)