

CHAPTER 313 OFFICIALS AND RULES OF HORSE RACING

SUBCHAPTER D RUNNING OF THE RACE

RULE § 313.405 CROPS [WHIPS] AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

1 (a) The use of a crop [whip] is not required and a jockey who uses a crop [whip] during
2 a race may do so only in a manner consistent with using the jockey's best efforts to win.

3 The correct uses of a crop [whip] include:

4 (1) showing the crop [whip] to the horse before hitting the horse;

5 (2) using the crop [whip] in rhythm to the horse's stride; and

6 (3) using the crop [whip] as an aid to keep a horse running straight.

7 ~~[(b) A whip used in races must be at least 1/4-inch in diameter and have a looped
8 leather "popper" affixed to one end. The whip must have at least three rows of leather
9 feathers above the popper and each feather must be at least one inch long. The popper
10 must be at least 1 1/4 inch wide and three inches long. A whip may not exceed one
11 pound in weight or 31 inches in length, including the popper.]~~

12 (b) All riding crops are subject to inspection and approval by the stewards and the clerk
13 of scales. Riding crops shall have a shaft and a flap and will be allowed only as follows:

14 (1) maximum weight of eight ounces;

15 (2) maximum length, including flap, of 30 inches;

16 (3) minimum diameter of the shaft of three-eighths inch;

17 (4) shaft contact area must be smooth, with no protrusions or raised surface, and
18 covered by shock absorbing material that gives a compression factor of at least one
19 millimeter throughout its circumference; and

20 (5) the flap is the only allowable attachment to the shaft and must meet these
21 specifications:

22 (A) length beyond the end of the shaft shall not exceed one inch;

23 (B) width shall be between 0.8 inch and 1.6 inches;

24 (C) no reinforcements or additions beyond the end of the shaft;

25 (D) no binding within seven inches of the end of the shaft; and

26 (E) shock absorbing characteristics similar to those of the contact area of the
27 shaft.

28 (c) If a jockey is to ride without a crop [whip], the stewards shall ensure that fact is
29 announced over the public address system.

30 (d) A jockey may not strike [whip] a horse:

31 (1) on the head, flanks, or on any part of the horse's body other than the shoulders
32 or hind quarters;

33 (2) excessively or brutally causing welts or breaks in the skin;

34 (3) in the post parade except when necessary to control the horse;

35 (4) when the horse is clearly out of the race or has obtained its maximum placing; or

36 (5) persistently, if the horse is not responding to the crop [~~whip~~].

37 (e) A jockey may not ride in a race unless the jockey wears a safety vest meeting the
38 requirements of §311.218 of this title (relating to Safety Equipment). A safety vest may
39 weigh no more than two pounds.

40