

Explanatory paragraph: This is an amendment to 15.2.5 NMAC, Section 13, effective October 15, 2014. In 15.2.5.13 NMAC, Subsection B through E were not published as there were no changes.

15.2.5.13 RUNNING OF THE RACE:

A. EQUIPMENT.

(1) All riding crops are subject to inspection and approval by the stewards and the clerk of scales. This rule will become effective December 10, 2010.

(a) For all thoroughbred races (measured in furlongs) the riding crops shall have a shaft, a flap and will be allowed in flat racing including training. No riding crop shall weigh more than eight ounces nor exceed 30 inches in length, including the shaft. No riding crop shall be used unless the shaft is a minimum of one-half inch in diameter; and the shaft contact area must be smooth, with no protrusions or raised surface and covered by shock absorbing material that gives a compression factor of at least one-millimeter throughout its circumference.

(b) The flap is the only allowable attachment to the shaft and must meet the following specifications. The length beyond the end of the shaft shall be a maximum of one inch with a minimum width of .08 inch and a maximum of 1.6 inches. There shall be no reinforcements or additions beyond the end of the shaft. There shall be no binding within seven inches of the end of the shaft and the flap must include shock absorbing characteristics similar to those of the contact area of the shaft.

(c) For all quarter horse races (measured in yards) riding crops will be allowed in flat racing including training. No riding crop shall weigh more than one pound nor exceed 31 inches in length, including the popper. No riding crop shall be used unless it has affixed to the end a looped popper not less than one and one-quarter (1 ¼) inches in width, and not over three (3) inches in length, and be feathered above the popper with no less than three (3) rows of feathers, each feather not less than one (1) inch in length. There shall be no holes in the popper.

(2) No bridle shall exceed two pounds.

(3) Reins. No jockey, apprentice jockey, exercise person or any person mounted on a horse shall ride, breeze, exercise, gallop or workout a horse on the grounds of a facility under the jurisdiction of the commission unless the horse is equipped with a nylon rein or a safety rein. A safety rein is a rein with a wire or nylon cord stitched into the traditional leather rein during the manufacturing process and the safety cord is attached to the bit with a metal clasp.

(4) Toe grabs with a height greater than two millimeters worn on the front shoes of thoroughbred horses while racing are prohibited. The horse shall be scratched and the trainer may be subject to fine.

(5) A horse's tongue may be tied down with clean bandages, gauze or tongue strap.

(6) No licensee may add blinkers to a horse's equipment or discontinue their use without the prior approval of the starter, the paddock judge, and the stewards.

(7) No licensee may change any equipment used on a horse in its last race without approval of the paddock judge or stewards.

(8) Any licensed assistant starter and any licensee mounted on a horse or stable pony on the association's racing surface (racetrack surface) must wear a properly fastened New Mexico racing commission approved protective helmet and safety vest. ~~[The safety vest worn by a jockey shall weigh no more than two pounds and all vests 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).]~~

(a) The helmet worn must comply with one of the following minimum safety standards or later revisions:

(i) American society for testing materials (ASTM 1163); or,

(ii) UK standards (EN-1384 and PAS-015); or,

(iii) Australian/New Zealand standard (AS/NZ 3838).

(b) The safety vest worn by a jockey shall weigh no more than two pounds and must comply with one of the following minimum standards or later revisions:

(i) British equestrian trade association (BETA):2000 level 1; or,

(ii) euro norm (EN) 13158:2000 1; or,

(iii) American society for testing and materials (ASTM) F2681-08 or F1937; or,

(iv) shoe and allied trade research association (SATRA) jockey vests document M6 Issue 3; or,

(v) Australian racing board (ARB) standard 1.1998.

(c) A safety helmet or safety vest shall not be altered in any manner nor shall the product marking be removed or defaced.

[15.2.5.13 NMAC - Rp, 15 NMAC 2.5.13, 03/15/01; A, 08/30/07; A, 12/01/08; A, 06/30/09; A, 09/15/09; A, 08/16/10; A, 09/01/10; A, 10/15/14]