

Schedule 6 - Causing interference and improper use of whip

PART 1

Interference

Overtaking on the inside

1.1 Where a Rider attempts to pass another horse on the inside on an unrailed part of the course

1.1.1 the Rider must ensure that his horse has the speed to do so;

1.1.2 he must be clear of the horse which he has overtaken on the inside well before the next Obstacle or section of running rail;

1.1.3 he must ensure that he does not interfere in any way with the horse which he is overtaking; and

1.1.4 if he does cause interference it may be regarded as dangerous riding or careless riding.

2.1 The Rider being overtaken is entitled to maintain his line to the inside of the next Obstacle or section of running rail but he must not ride across to ride off any horse trying to pass him on the inside.

2.2 If he does ride across, such interference may be regarded as dangerous or improper riding.

False Rail

3.1 Paragraph 4 applies where a racecourse employs a rail configuration known as false rail.

3.2 A false rail is a running rail which

3.2.1 cuts away to an inner running rail (this can vary from three furlongs to one furlong from the winning post), and

3.2.2 is intended to prevent interference and give every horse, wherever it is positioned, the best opportunity of a clear run to the finish.

4.1 Where a Rider comes to the false rail he must either

4.1.1 cut quickly across to the inner running rail, providing such a manoeuvre will not cause any interference, or

4.1.2 keep straight.

4.2 Any Rider who allows his horse to gradually drift to the rail and in so doing causes the Rider behind to be taken off his intended line, and as a result has to 'take a pull' as he reaches the rail, is likely to be guilty of causing interference and in contravention of Rules 53 or 54.

4.3 A Rider will not be guilty of a riding offence if he allows his horse to drift slowly across to the rail provided that interference is not the result but, by allowing this to occur, it increases the risk of causing interference and therefore this practice should be avoided.

PART 2

Improper use of whip

5. The Stewards should hold an enquiry into any case where a Rider has used his whip contrary to Paragraph 6.

Improper riding

6.1 The following are examples of uses of the whip which may be regarded as improper riding for the purposes of Rule 54.3.

Example 1 Using the whip on a horse

6.1.1 with the whip arm above shoulder height;

6.1.2 rapidly without regard to their stride (that is, twice or more in one stride);

6.1.3 with excessive force;

6.1.4 without giving the horse time to respond.

Example 2 Using the whip on a horse which is

6.1.5 showing no response;

6.1.6 out of contention;

6.1.7 clearly winning;

6.1.8 past the winning post.

Example 3 Using the whip on a horse in any place except

6.1.9 on the quarters with the whip in either the backhand or forehand position;

6.1.10 down the shoulder with the whip in the backhand position;

unless exceptional circumstances prevail.

Example 4 Using the whip on a horse above the permitted level for frequency.

6.2 Use of the whip may be judged to be improper in other circumstances.

Procedure

7.1 Horses will be subject to an inspection by a Veterinary Officer after the race.

7.2 A Trainer must remove or adjust rugs or sheets for the purposes of any inspection.

7.3 The Veterinary Officer will report to the Stewards every horse which is wealed or injured.

8. A Trainer must attend any enquiry into a wealed or injured horse trained by him and, in the event of a finding that the Rider is in breach of one of the examples in Paragraph 6, may be liable to Disciplinary Action pursuant to Rule (C)45 (which requires trainers to give pre-race instructions to riders).