



## **MONTE RACING POLICIES**

### **Purpose**

To clearly outline to participants and other industry stakeholders the interpretations of Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Stewards of various Monte racing rules and the policies that apply.

### **Background**

It has become apparent to HRV Stewards that various Monte racing rules require policies to further clarify the circumstances in which these rules will be applied and interpreted so as to avoid any confusion.

### **Rider Minimum Age**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 334(2) states: *An unlicensed person or a person who holds a stable hand licence pursuant to Part 4 of these Rules must complete at least three (3) Monte trials to the satisfaction of the Stewards .*

**Policy for Rule 334(2):** For the purposes of this rule an unlicensed person or a person who holds a stable hand licence must have also attained the age of sixteen (16) years old.

### **Horses Breaking Gait – Final 200m**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 331(1) states: *A horse that in the opinion of the Stewards gallops in the final 200 metres of a race shall be disqualified from the race.*

**Policy for Rule 331(1):** For the purposes of this rule “gallops” means breaking gait by galloping or pacing clear of any interference.

### **Approved whips – Monte races, trials and trackwork**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 321(1) states: *A rider shall only use a non-modified whip of a design and specification approved by the controlling body.*

**Policy for Rule 321(1):** For the purposes of this rule only whips of a padded style and which are approved by the Australian Racing Board are to be used in Monte races, trials or trackwork.

For ease of reference below are the current padded whips approved by the Australian Racing Board:

**Zilco**

<http://www.zilco.com.au/products/970801>

**Persuader**

<http://www.hylandsportswear.com/persuader-padded-whip-p-2297.html>

**Enforcer**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/whips/enforcer-padded-jockey-whip>

**Pro-Cush**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/whips/old-mill-ireland-pro-cush-padded-whip>

**Lite-Touch**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/whips/international-lite-touch-padded-flap-made-in-usa>

**McKey – Slick Stick**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/whips/mckey-slick-stick-padded-whip>

**Licensee Penalty Application**

Any penalty issued against a licensee in accordance with the provisions of ARHR 256(2) subsequent to an offence under Part 22 (Monte Racing) of the ARHR it shall be applicable in all harness racing events. For the sake of clarity, where licensees participate in both driven and ridden harness racing events, a two week suspension imposed in a Monte race for a riding offence would also result in the person concerned being suspended from driving in races for that period. Monte riders that do not hold a licence to *drive* in races, may be suspended from competing in a specified number of monte races.

**Horse Embargoes**

Any embargo (ODS, ODM, Stood down from racing etc.) placed upon a horse in accordance with ARHR 15(1)(aa), ARHR 134 and/or the 'Victorian Racing Policies & Procedures' shall be reciprocal in all harness racing events, unless otherwise specified. For the sake of clarity, a horse which is stood down pending a satisfactory trial in a sulky race is not permitted to compete in Monte races until this requirement is met. A horse which is placed ODS in a Monte race is also ODS in sulky races. A horse that is stood down to trial in a monte race will be required to trial under the same conditions to have such embargo lifted and the same applies for a conventional or sulky event. Meaning that if a horse is stood down for an unsatisfactory performance in a monte race, such horse will be required to trial satisfactorily in a monte trial to have the embargo lifted, unless permission is otherwise granted by the HRV Stewards.

Horses completing monte trials for qualification or to have an embargo (such as SD1T) lifted, are required to complete the trial within the following mile rate:

Track Circumference	Mobile	Stand
900m-1000m+	2.08.0	2.10.0
800m or Less	2.11.0	2.13.0

**The approved gear which is outlined below is specific for Monte Racing ONLY.**

**Approved helmets – Monte races**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 323 states: *A rider shall when mounted on a horse wear a properly affixed helmet which has been entered in the helmet register approved by Harness Racing Australia.*

**Policy for Rule 323:** Helmets which meet the following requirements of the Australian Racing Board for use in thoroughbred racing may also be used:

- (a) The following standards are approved by the Australian Racing Board:
  - (i) AS/NZS 3838 2003;
  - (ii) United States (US) ASTM F11 63-01;
  - (iii) British Standards (BS) EN 1384/1996 onwards.
  - (iv) United States (US) ASTM F11 63-04a(11)
- (b) all helmets must be fitted with a nylon interlocking chinstrap clip attachment.
- (c) all helmets must be clearly marked with a date of manufacture.
- (d) the use of helmets is subject to the conditions of Australian Rule of Racing 87AA.

**AR87AA.**

(1) Every rider shall be responsible for the care and condition of his helmet.

(2) A helmet is not regarded as serviceable and must be immediately replaced by the rider when –

- (a) It sustains a serve impact, or
- (b) The wearer suffers from concussion following a fall.

**Approved Safety Vests – Monte races**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 324 states: *A rider shall when mounted on a horse wear a properly fastened safety vest which has been approved by Harness Racing Australia.*

**Policy for Rule 324:** The following vests which are approved for use by the Australian Racing board may also be used:

#### **Hows Racesafe**

<http://www.zilco.com.au/products/235131>

#### **Ozvest**

(No link available)

#### **Racelite Pro**

<https://www.facebook.com/TopJockShop/photos/pb.436139153128881.-2207520000.1442123643./478580018884794/?type=1&theater>

#### **Vipa 1**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/vests/vipa-1-lightweight-body-protector>

#### **Vipa**

<http://www.markeysaddlery.com.au/vests/vipa-body-protector>

#### **USG Flexi Race**

<https://www.greggrantsaddlery.com.au/categories/rider/body-protectors--air-vests/usg-flexi-race-body-protector-SX40098657>

#### **Approved Stirrups – Monte races**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 327 states: *A rider shall when mounted on a horse use stirrups approved by the controlling body.*

**Policy for Rule 327:** Safety stirrups shall be used when a boot with a heel is worn. In the instance a rider wears race boots with no heel, race irons must be used.

#### **Approved Reins – Monte races**

Australian Rule of Harness Racing (ARHR) 322(1) states: *A rider shall only use reins of a design and specification approved by the Controlling Body.*

**Policy for Rule 322(1):** Reins used must meet the following conditions:

- (a) reins may not be made of leather;
- (b) reins must have rubber grips;
- (c) reins must have rubber or leather keepers or stoppers, when buckles and rings are both used.