

## AUSTRALIAN HARNESS RACING RULES

### PART 9 – DRIVERS - WHIPS

The following amendments to Rules 156 and 156A were approved at the Annual General Meeting on 12 October 2009 and will take effect on 1 January 2010:

“156. (1) A driver shall only use a *non modified* whip of the type approved by the Controlling Body.

**(2) A driver shall at all times hold a rein in each hand unless adjusting approved gear.**

- (3)**
- (a) A whip shall not be used so as to obstruct, strike or endanger another driver or horse;
  - (b) a driver shall not use a whip excessively;
  - (c) a driver shall not allow a whip to project outside the sulky;
  - (d) a whip shall not be used in a prodding or jabbing motion;
  - (e) (Rule 156(2)(e) repealed – AHRC approved 30th March 2007);
  - (f) a horse shall not be whipped after it has passed the winning post at the finish of a race, its run is finished, or if it cannot maintain or improve its position in the race.

**(4)** For the purposes of sub-rule **(3)** (b) a driver shall be deemed to have used a whip excessively in the following circumstances which are not exclusive:-

- (a) if the tip of the whip is drawn back further than the driver’s shoulder;
- (b) if the whip action involves more than a wrist and elbow action.
- (c) If the reins are lengthened so as to result in loose reining**
- (d) If the whip is used other than in a flicking motion.**

**(5)** A person who fails to comply with any provision of sub rule (1), (2) **or** (3) is guilty of an offence.

“156A. The approved whip is a flexible whip of black or dark tan colour with a core of fibreglass with a handle base and shaft and *either a leather keeper to a maximum of 60 millimetres in*

***length and 20 millimetres in width or a non rigid tip*** amounting to a maximum overall length of **1600 millimetres.”**