



Date: 1/16/2024

To: All Horsemen Racing at Saratoga Casino Hotel

From: SCH Management

Subject: New Racetrack Rules

Please see the attached rules regarding whipping, safety straps, safety vests and helmets. All horsemen competing at Saratoga Casino Hotel (SCH) are required to review these rules and sign off on them in the designated space provided. You must sign the documents in order to participate in racing at SCH. If you fail to do so, you will be denied racing privileges.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Your safety and that of the horses is our number one priority.

## **Saratoga Casino Hotel Whipping Rules**

Drivers shall comply with the rules of the New York State Gaming Commission, in particular NYRCC §4117.8 (Whips, goads and head poles). Additionally, all drivers at Saratoga Casino Hotel shall comply with the following whipping rules:

1. Drivers shall keep a line in each hand for the entire race, except as may be necessary to adjust equipment. One hand whipping is prohibited at all times on the racetrack.
2. Whipping shall be restricted to wrist action only, and the whipping arm shall not be raised above the driver's shoulder. Drivers shall not move their whipping arm in an exaggerated manner.
3. The use of the whip shall be confined to an area above and between the sulky shafts.
4. A driver may use a whip only in the conventional manner. Brutal, excessive, unnecessary or indiscriminate use of the whip is prohibited. The following actions shall be considered excessive or indiscriminate use of the whip:
  - (a) causing visible injury
  - (b) whipping a horse during the post parade or after a race
  - (c) whipping under the arch or shafts of the sulky
  - (d) whipping more than three times in succession without giving the horse time to respond
  - (e) whipping when the horse is not advancing its position in the race or is out of contention.
5. No goading device other than a whip that is permitted by the New York State Gaming Commission rules shall be used upon a horse while racing, training or at any other time on SCH premises.

Non-compliance with any of the above rules will result in disciplinary action as follows:

First Offense: Warning.

Second Offense: One (1) day driving suspension.

Third Offense: Two (2) day driving suspension.

Fourth Offense: Driver must meet with Saratoga Casino Hotel racetrack management.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read, understand and agree to abide by the  
(print name)  
Saratoga Casino Hotel whipping rules.

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Signature

### Safety Strap Requirement

When a steering bar is used, safety straps that connect to both the driving bit and the steering bar must be used.

### Helmet Requirement

Every person shall wear a protective safety helmet, properly fastened, at all times when mounted on horseback or on a jog cart or sulky. Helmet shall meet the standards and requirements as set forth in the Snell Memorial Foundation or Department of Transportation. Trainers are responsible for enforcing this rule with their grooms.

### Safety Vest Requirement

All drivers shall wear a safety vest at all times while on the racetrack during a race. The vest shall be in accordance with Association of Racing Commissioners International Model Rules, as defined by the British Equestrian Track Association (BETA). Drivers will have until April 1, 2024 to comply. No driver will be permitted to race without a safety vest after this date.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read, understand and agree to abide by the  
(print name)  
above policies.

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Signature