



## MEMORANDUM

To: Dan Fick  
Ed Martin  
Mike Ziegler  
Jennifer Voss-Franco

FROM: Terry Meyocks *TJM*

DATE: April 27, 2009

SUBJECT: Jockey Weighing Out/Weighing In Procedures

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In reference to my conversation with members of the Sub-Committee for Model Rules this past week as well as Dan Fick and Mike Ziegler today, it is extremely important considering what has happened again in our industry, the rules listed below be specific and consistent for each regarding weighing in and out. There is a lack of understanding of the rule within our industry concerning what is being included in the weight as well as any additional clothing that jockeys use in cold and inclement weather, which has been the rule of thumb for many decades.

I have also attached programs with different verbage from NYRA and Arlington Park on this issue and how they inform the betting public on what is and what is not included in the weight. In the NYRA policy it clearly states *"This accounts for additional weight, depending on specific equipment, as well as weather, track and racing conditions"*.

We may have to further change the language of the Model Rules, but until then if we can continue to educate the racing commissioners, racing officials, owners and the racing fans on the uniformity of these procedures, it would be greatly appreciated.

### ARCI-010-035 Running of the Race

#### A. Equipment

- (7) A jockey's weight shall include his/her clothing, boots, saddle and its attachments and any other equipment except the bridle, bit, blinkers, goggles, number cloth and safety equipment including helmet, vest, over-girth, reins and breast collar.

#### (11) Weighing In

- (c) No jockey shall weigh in at more than two pounds over the proper or declared weight, excluding the weight attributed to inclement weather conditions and/or of health and safety equipment approved by the stewards.

Published in Daily programs at all NYRA tracks.

#### NEW YORK RULES ON JOCKEY WEIGHTS

##### **Pre-Race Weigh-Out of Jockeys**

##### **4033.2 Equipment weighed with jockey.**

If a horse runs in a muzzle, martingale, breastplate or clothing, it must be put on the scale and included in the jockey's weight.

##### **4033.2 Equipment not weighed.**

No whip, blinkers or number cloth shall be allowed on the scales nor shall any bridle, safety vest or safety helmet approved by the stewards be weighed. A safety vest shall weigh no more than two pounds and shall be designed to provide shock-absorbing protection to the upper body, as evidenced by a label with at least a rating of five, by the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA).

*Note: Jockeys competing at NYRA tracks are each allotted a two-pound allowance for the safety vest when weighing out before a race. A jockey equipped with a safety vest and weighing out prior to the race at 120 pounds is officially recorded at 118 pounds.*

##### **Post Race Weigh-In of Jockeys.**

In the interest of public awareness, it should also be noted that the post-race weighing of jockeys includes a number of items that are not recorded as part of the official weight. These items typically include the safety vest, safety helmet, over girth, shammy and any sweat, dirt or mud that may have accumulated on the jockey, jockey's clothing and overgirth. This accounts for additional weight, depending on specific equipment, as well as weather, track and racing conditions.

