



ROAP Interference Survey Report

The ROAP Interference Survey was conducted in late fall of 2018. The goal of the survey was to get a better understanding of stakeholders' preferences as to how races should be adjudicated in North America. There are two philosophies with regards to interference, Category 1 and Category 2. Currently North America adjudicates under the Category 2 philosophy. All other major international racing jurisdictions adjudicate under the Category 1 philosophy.

The Category 2 philosophy states the stewards may disqualify if, in their professional opinion, the foul altered the finish of the race, regardless of whether that foul was accidental, willful, or the result of careless riding. Some also describe it as costing a horse the opportunity for a better placing.

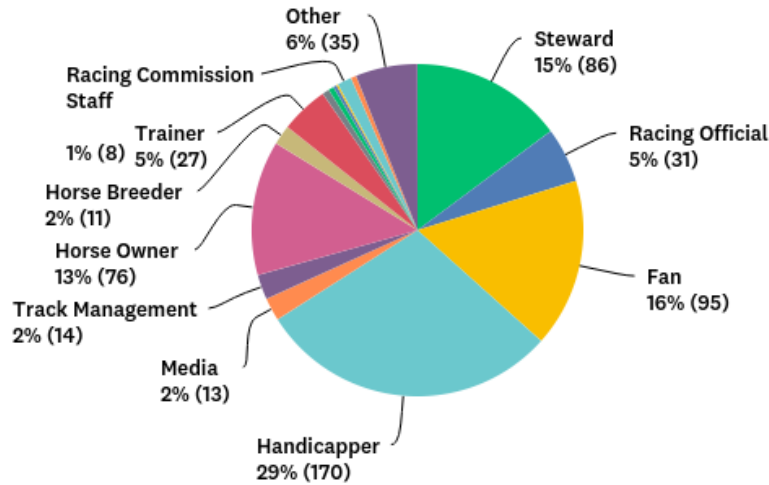
The Category 1 philosophy demotes or changes the placings only if the horse that caused the interference improved his position because of that interference. The overall placings of the horse that was interfered with is not necessarily taken into account, but rather how they finished relative to each other. There is an additional part of the Category 1 philosophy that states, in cases of dangerous riding, the horse can be disqualified.

Note that the term *disqualified* is used in North America when a horse's placing has changed as a result of a steward's decision. Internationally, the term used is *demotion* and the term *disqualified* is used only when a horse is taken completely out of the race.

Overall the survey received a good response. Some limitations to keep in mind when reviewing results of the video analysis are that these are preferences based solely on watching the films provided. Order of finish and margins were not provided, and jockey/starter interviews were not available for review. The films were only a brief view of the incident itself, not the entire race.

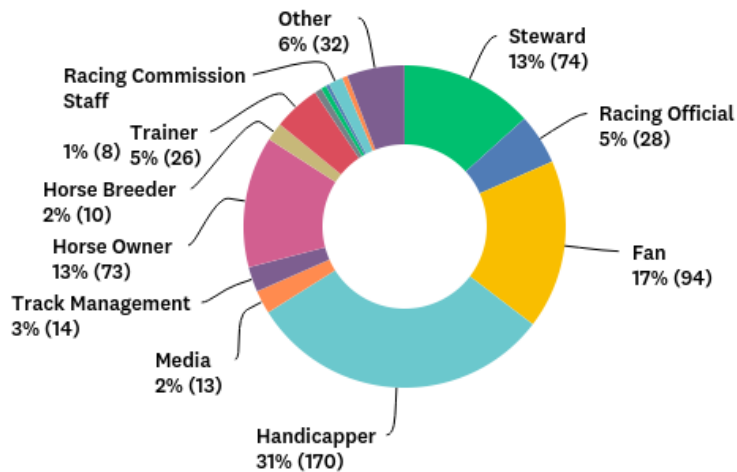
The survey received 579 total responses broken down by the following responders:

Q2 What is your primary position in the racing industry (check only one):



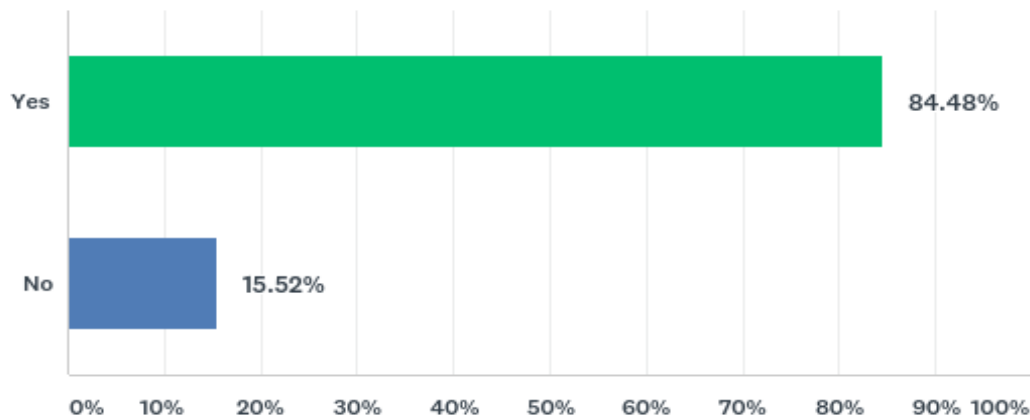
Before any data was reviewed, responses from outside of North America were removed, which left a total of 554 responses:

Q2 What is your primary position in the racing industry (check only one):



The largest groups to respond were handicappers at 170 and the stewards at 74. The *other category* included individuals who also identified as bettors, industry professionals, ADW employee, former commissioners, track management, and horsemen. The *other category* group was not segmented into applicable categories.

In response to “should there be a uniform interference rule for all jurisdictions,” 84% indicated YES:

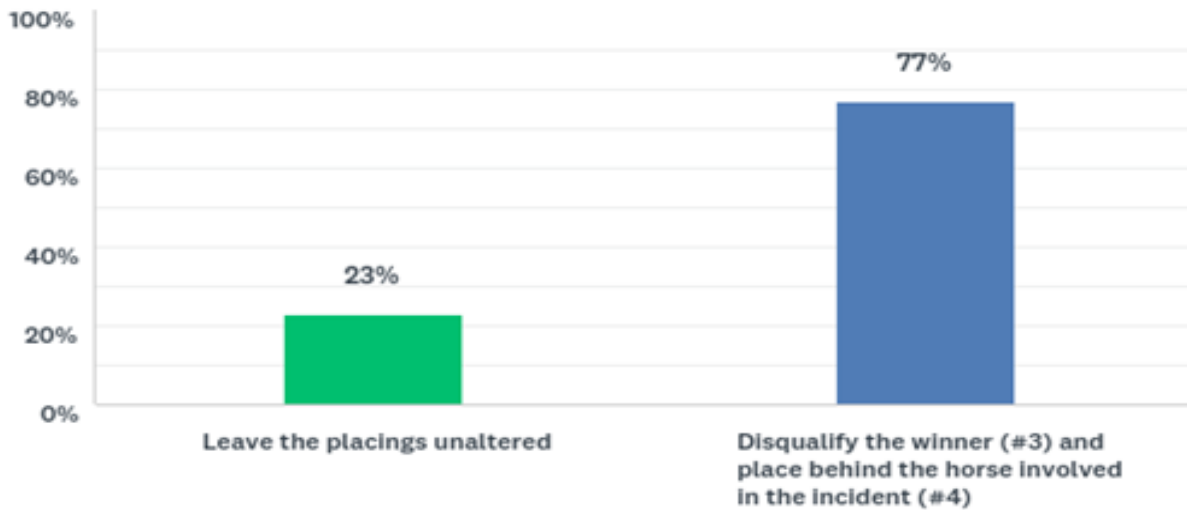


FILM ANALYSIS

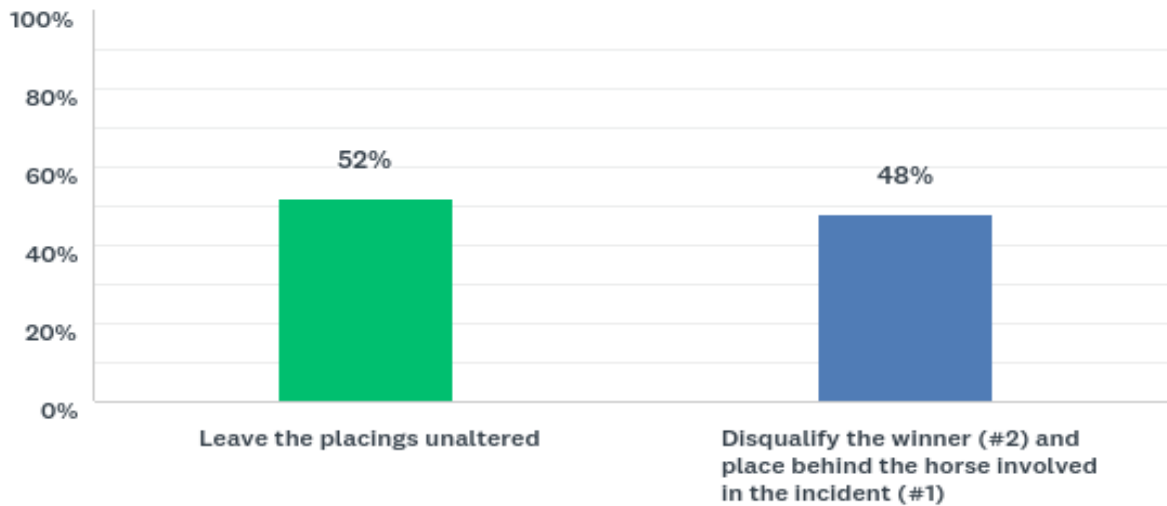
The survey was designed to enable responders to view four race films (two with incidents in the stretch, one with an incident in the turn with a clear winner, and one with an incident out of the gates). After reviewing the four films, responders were asked which rule language they preferred. Additionally, responders were allowed to add personal comments to each question, which resulted in more than 1,800 individual comments.

When looking at the responses to the films, the following results were observed. The two races with incidents in the stretch received mixed results (Q4, Q5). Both races under Category 1 would have resulted in no change and under Category 2 would have been a demotion/disqualification.

Question 4: Incident in Stretch

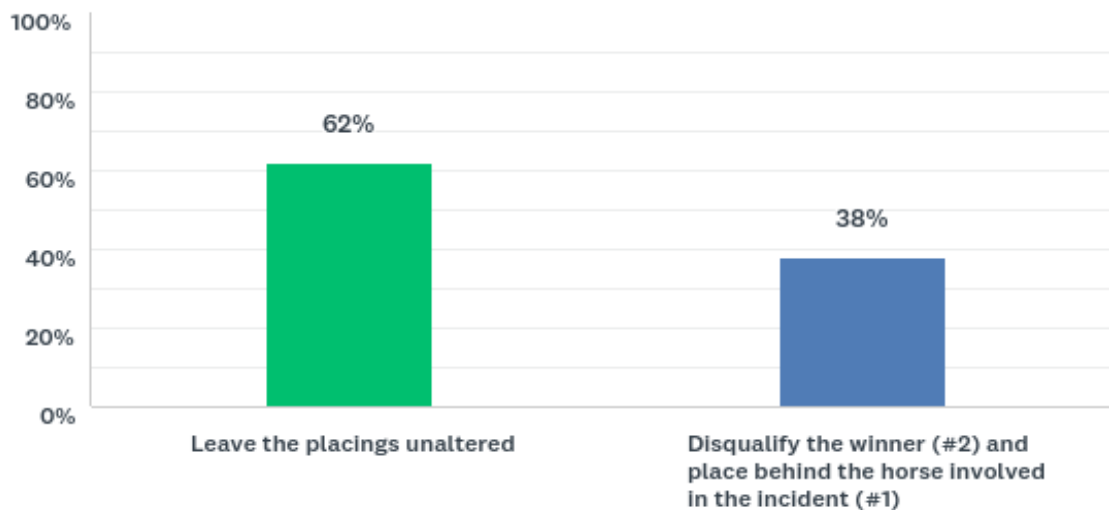


Question 5: Incident in Stretch



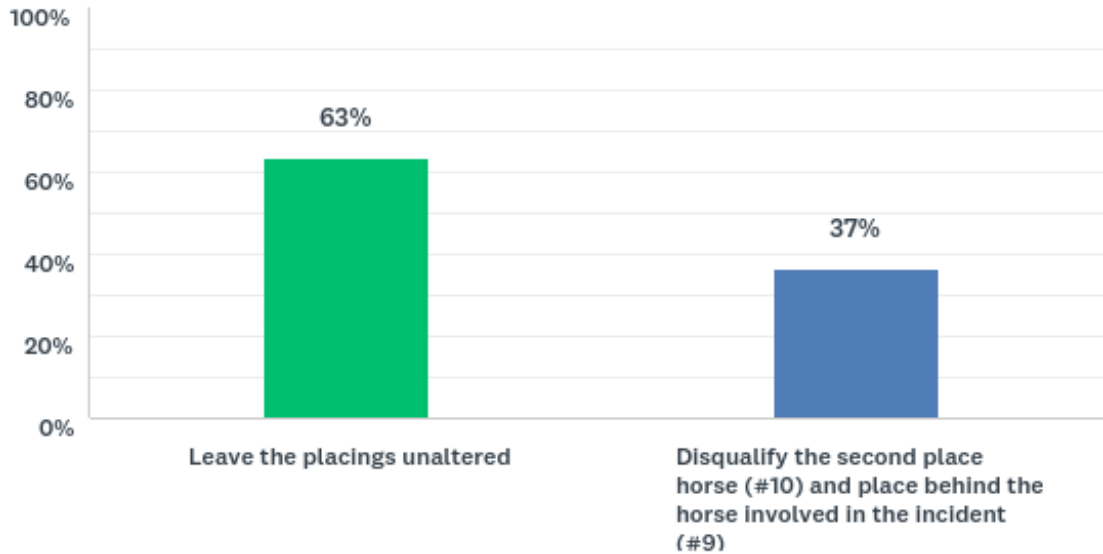
The third race (Q6) was an incident in the turn where the interferer won by a large margin. Under the Category 1 philosophy the placings would remain unaltered but under Category 2 it would depend on the wording in the individual state rule. Since the interfered horse crossed the wire in third approximately 5 lengths from the second-place horse, the final results could be different in individual state jurisdictions. Under Category 2, the stewards would need to determine if the incident altered the finish (or cost the horse a placing). The responders to the survey question preferred to leave the results alone 62% to 38%.

Question 6: Incident in Turn with clear winner

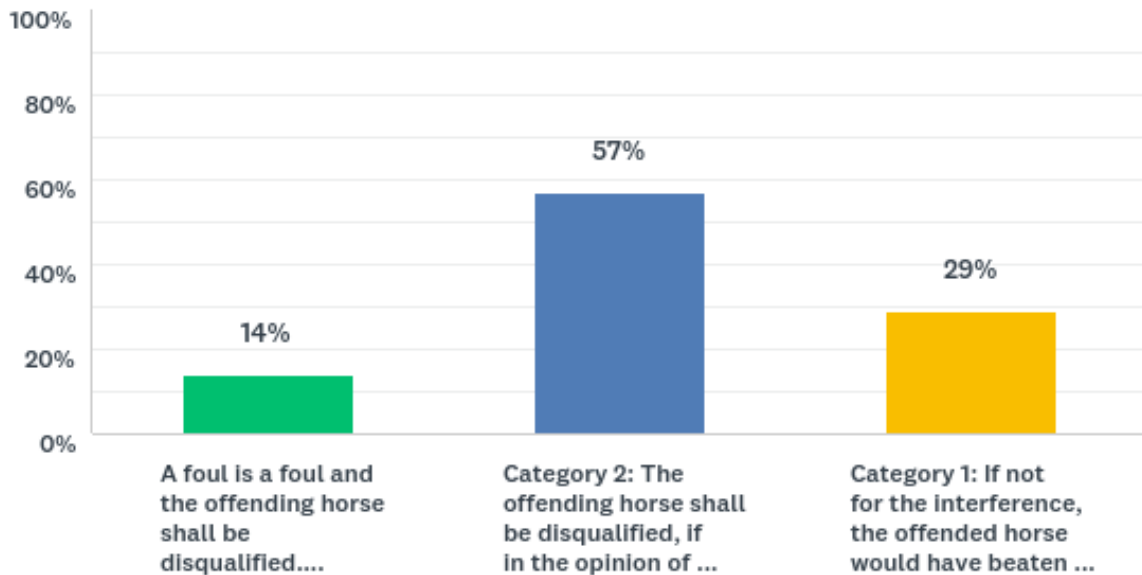


The fourth race (Q7) was an incident involving the start. Under category 1 there would be no change and under category 2 the results would also most likely remain unaltered, again depending on the wording in the individual jurisdiction. The respondents for this question indicated a preference to leave the results the same 63% to 37%.

Question 7: Incident coming out of gate



In terms of responder's preference to the actual wording of the rule language (note only 538 responded to this question), 57% responded a Category 2 preference with 29% favoring Category 1, and 14% preferring a foul is a foul philosophy.

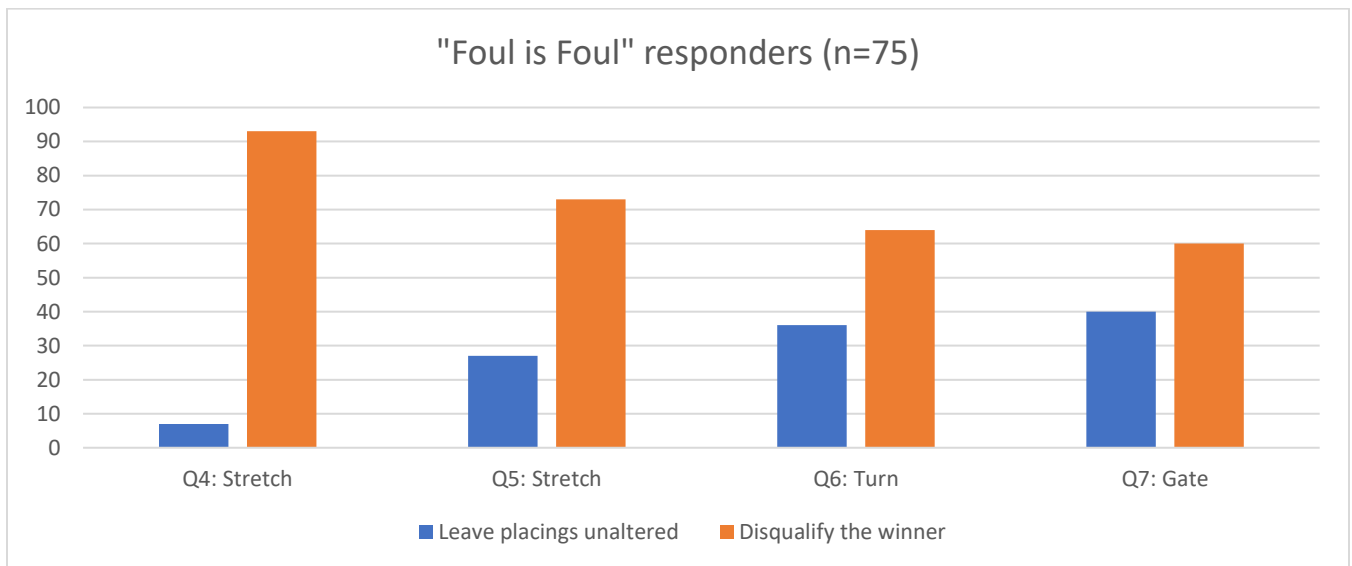


SEGMENTATION of RESULTS

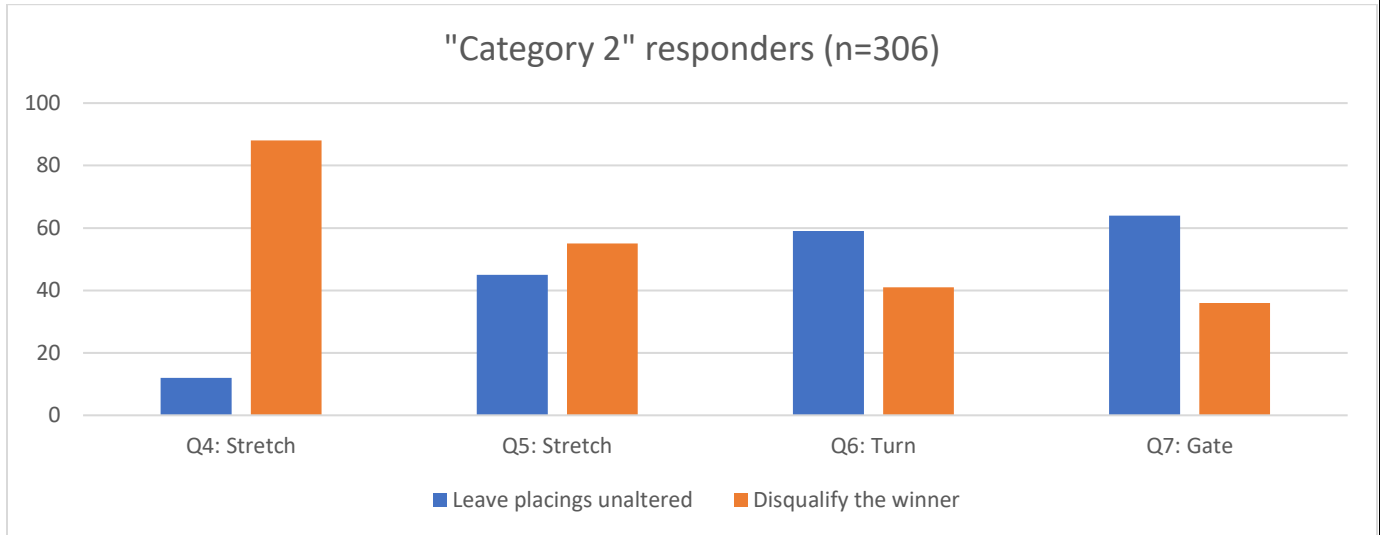
Note: all remaining graphs are in percentages

Interestingly, when controlling for the selection of the rule philosophies (including a foul is a foul), the responses to film questions held steady. This could indicate a need for more education with regards to the interpretation of rule language and its applications. Additionally, more education may be needed on what is considered a foul (how it's defined) in general.

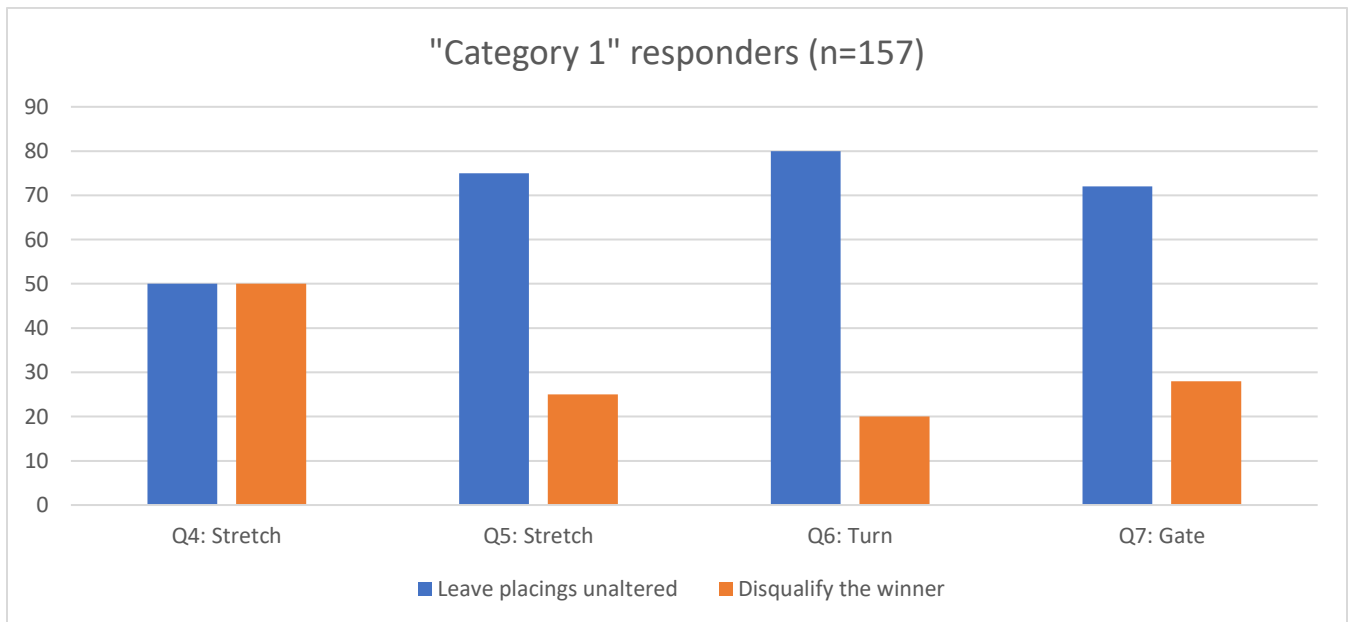
Controlling for responders who indicated they preferred the "foul is a foul" rule language (75 total responders), they indicated the following preferences with respect to the film analysis.



Controlling for responders who indicated they preferred the Category 2 rule language (306 total responders), they indicated the follow preferences with respect to the film analysis.



Controlling for responders who indicated they preferred the Category 1 rule language (157 total responders), they indicated the follow preferences with respect to the film analysis.

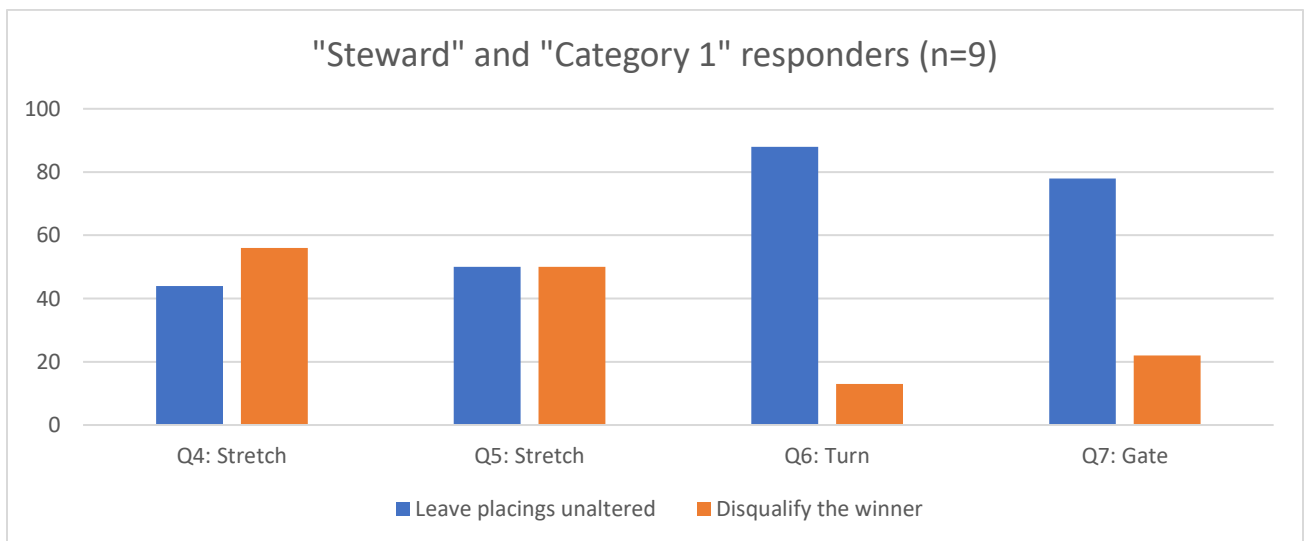
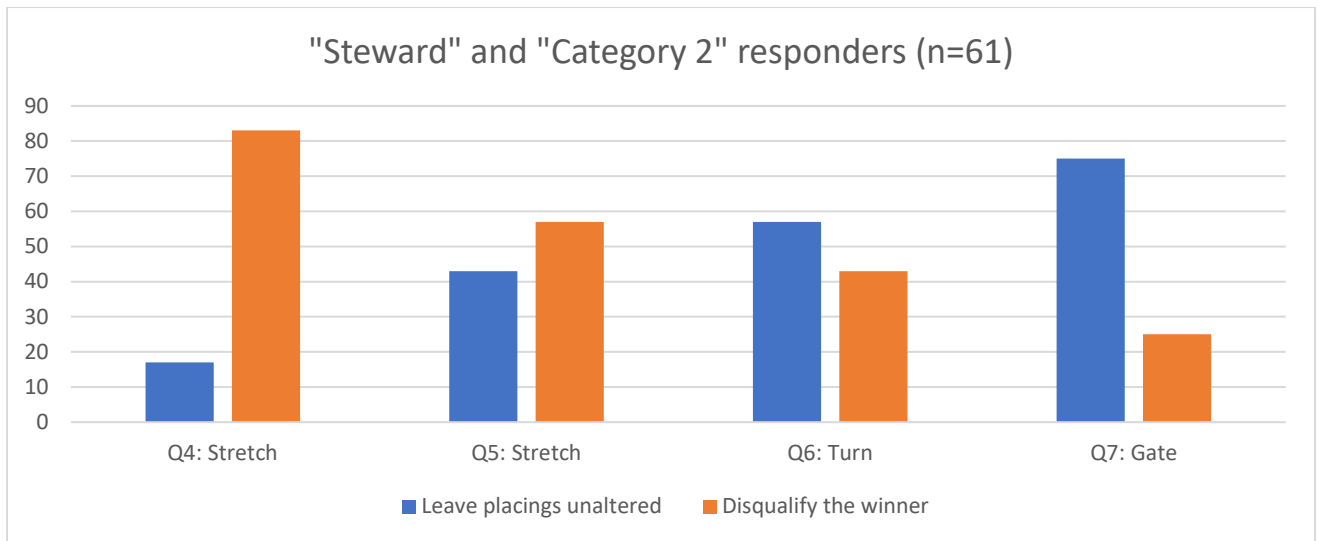


SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEWS

The supplemental reviews below account for 240 responders. The remaining responders not included in the supplement indicated they were Fans, Other, Track Management, Media, and Commission/staff.

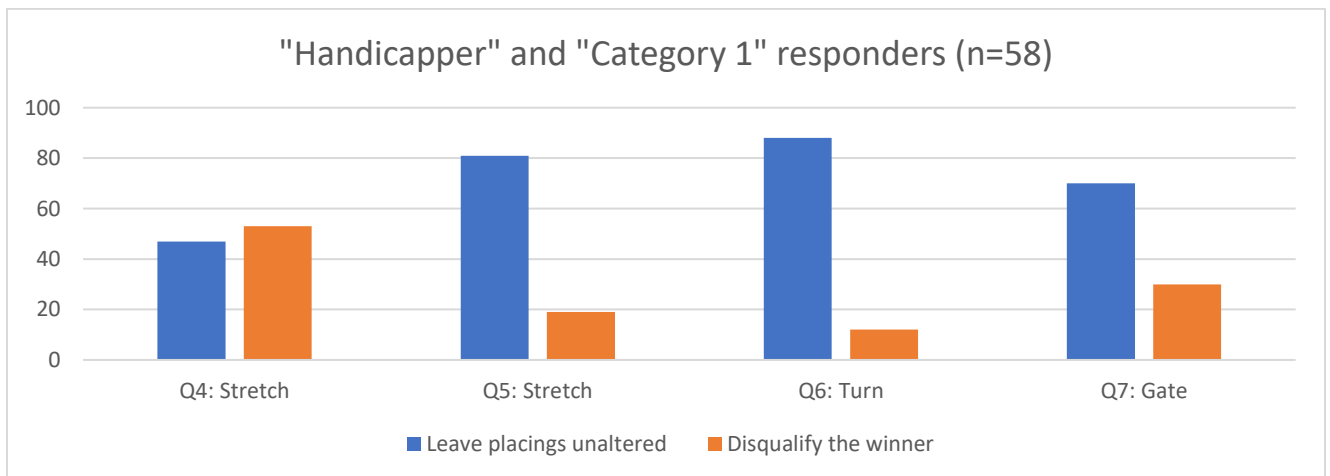
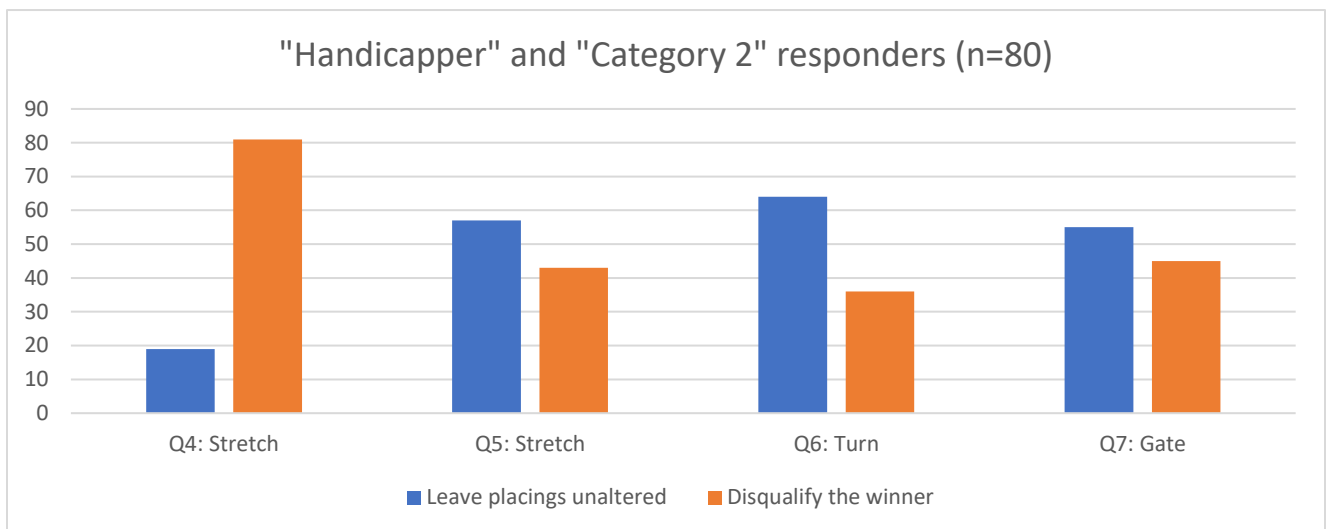
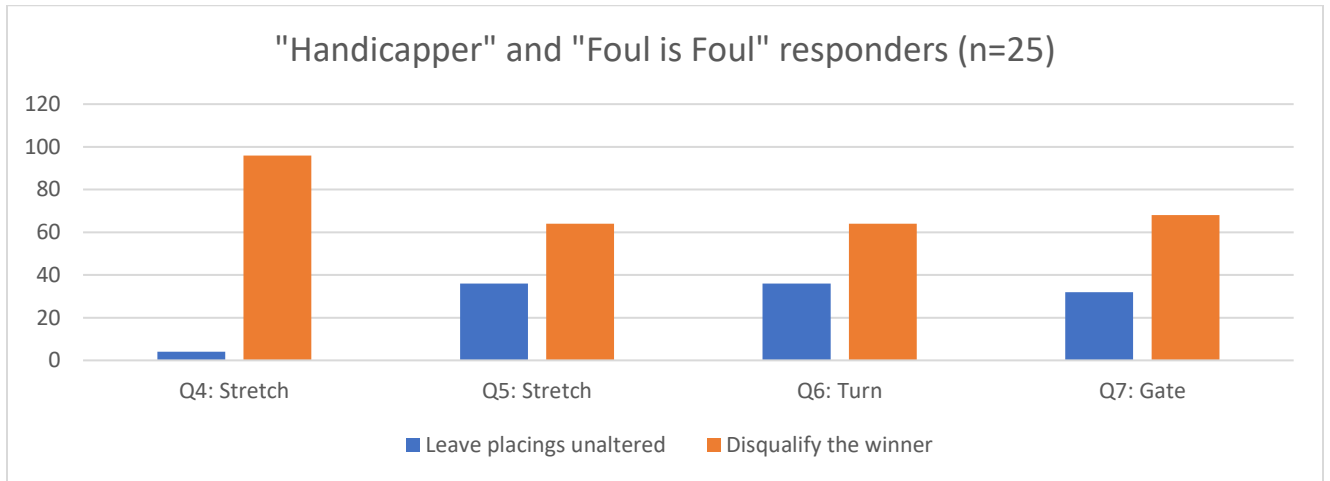
Filtered to Steward and Category responses only

Total responders: 72 (Note: there were only three 'Foul is a Foul' responders, who are not included in charts below.)



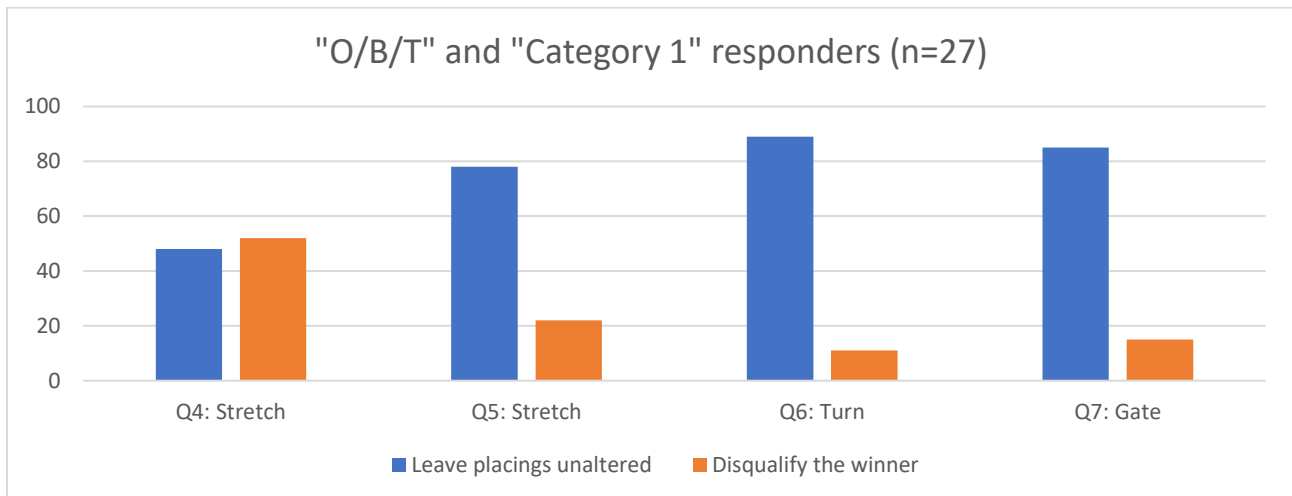
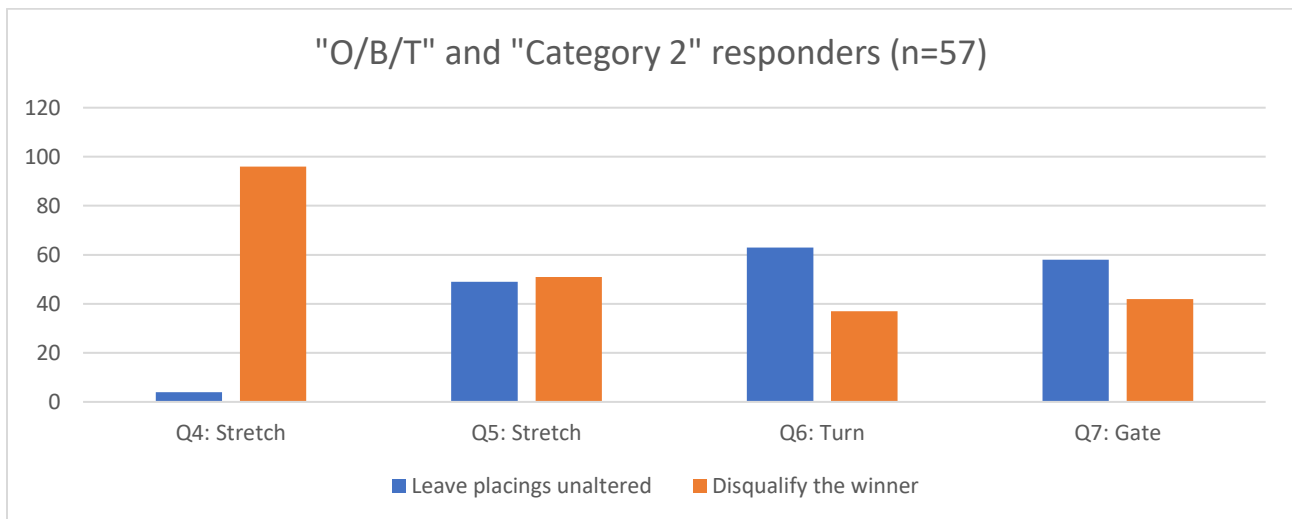
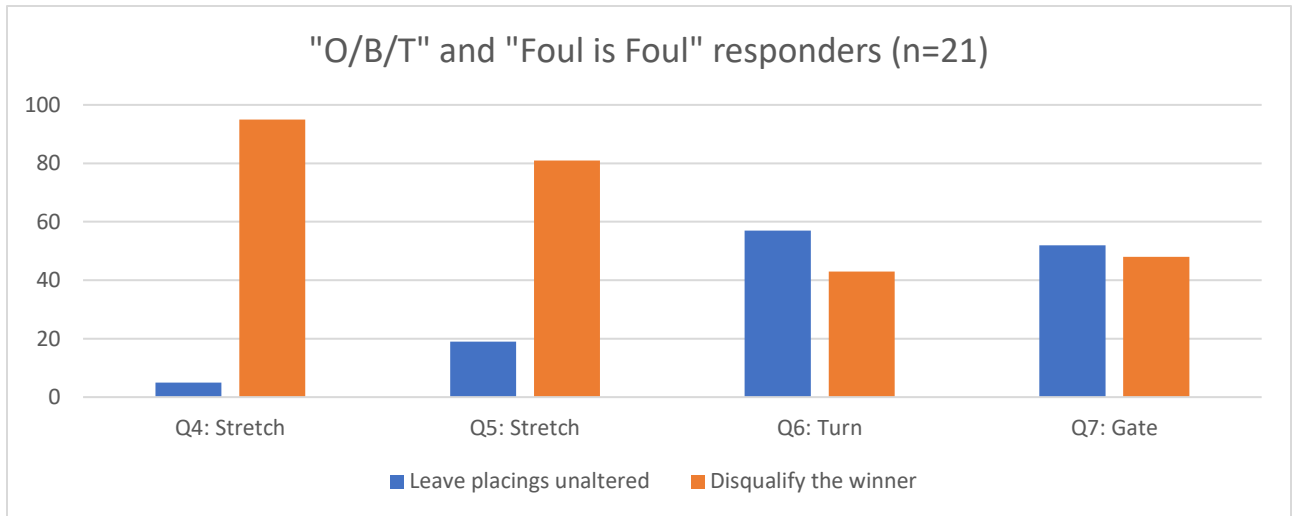
Filtered to Handicapper and Category responses only

Total responders: 163



Filtered to Owner/Breeder/Trainer responders only

Total responses: 109 (Owner, 73; Breeder, 10; Trainer, 26)



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