

Schedule 4 - Equipment

1. In this Schedule

Hood means a garment similar to blinkers, incorporating ear covers but without eye cowls;

Blinkers means a garment fitted over a horse's head with holes for the eyes and ears, one or both eyeholes being fitted with cowls cutting out all vision to the rear but permitting full forward vision;

Visor means a garment similar to blinkers in which one or both cowls have holes cut in them permitting limited side or rear vision;

Eyeshield means a garment similar to blinkers except that in place of the eye cowls both eyes are covered with a mesh or other transparent material;

Eyecover means a garment similar to blinkers except that in place of the eye cowls one eye only is completely covered by an opaque cover;

Cheek Pieces means two strips of sheepskin of equal size or any other similar material or device which is attached to the cheek pieces of the bridle;

Tongue Strap means any device used to tie down a horse's tongue.

2. The following are illustrations of items listed. They are used as a visual interpretation of Paragraph 3, in order to avoid confusion at the declaration stage under Rule (F)89. Trainers are reminded that only the seven items referred to in Paragraph 3 are to be declared (i.e. hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, cheek pieces, or a combination of them or a tongue strap). The declaration may be changed only in the circumstances set out in Paragraph 5.6.

Requirement to declare certain equipment

3.1 A declaration must be made to The Racing Calendar Office in any case where a horse is to run in a hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, cheek pieces or a tongue strap.

3.2 If a horse is to run in a hood fitted with blinkers, both must be declared.

3.3 Any other combination of hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover or cheek pieces must also be declared.

3.4 The declaration must be made

3.4.1 by the time fixed for making declarations to run under Rule (F)89, and

3.4.2 in such manner as the Authority may direct.

3.5 Where a declaration to run under Rule (F)89 has been made but the Trainer has either not declared or mistakenly declared a hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, cheek pieces (or any combination) or a tongue strap, the Trainer may add or remove the item if

3.5.1 he pays the appropriate fee, and

3.5.2 the request is received within two hours of the time fixed under Rule (F)89.

Prohibition on horse wearing any other head or ear garments

4.1 No horse may run in a race wearing a garment fitted over its head or ears other than a hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, cheek pieces or any combination of these.

4.2 In particular, the following are prohibited

4.2.1 the wearing of any form of attachment to the hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, or cheek pieces,

4.2.2 the use of blinding hoods, and

4.2.3 the use of any form of shutter hood.

4.3 Paragraph 4.2.2 does not apply when the horse is entering starting stalls under the supervision of the Starter.

4.4 A visor must not be modified in any way by covering the holes cut in the cowls.

Wearing equipment that has been declared

5.1 This Paragraph applies where a declaration made under Paragraph 3 in respect of

5.1.1 a tongue strap, or

5.1.2 any other equipment listed in Paragraph 3.

5.2 When a horse has been declared to run with a tongue strap, the Veterinary Officer must be satisfied:

5.2.1 with the material of the tongue strap,

5.2.2 with the way in which it is applied, and

5.2.3 that no device shall encircle the horse's tongue and be attached either directly or indirectly to the bridle.

5.3 If a Trainer cannot fasten the tongue strap or if it comes loose and cannot be refitted

5.3.1 the horse may still run, but

5.3.2 if the horse does not run (whether at the insistence of the Trainer or because it is withdrawn by the Starter) the Stewards will waive the financial penalty for non-runners which would otherwise be imposed under Rule (F)96.

5.4 The Starter or Veterinary Surgeon will not attempt to refit a tongue strap which comes loose on the way to the start.

5.5 Subject to Paragraph 5.6

5.5.1 all other declared equipment must be worn by the horse on the way to the start and during the race, and

5.5.2 if the equipment is not worn on the way to the start, the horse may not run and must be withdrawn by the Starter.

5.6 Where a declaration for the horse to wear any hood, blinkers, visor, eyeshield, eyecover, cheek pieces (or any combination) has been made incorrectly, the Trainer may substitute the incorrectly declared garment but only if

5.6.1 he pays the appropriate financial penalty, and

5.6.2 the request is received prior to the deadline specified in Rule 22.3.

5.7. Where a declaration for the horse to run with a tongue strap has been made in error, it may still run without a tongue strap but only if the Trainer pays the appropriate financial penalty.

Wearing equipment without a declaration

6.1 Subject to Paragraph 5.3 and 6.2

6.1.1 if no declaration has been made under Paragraph 3 in respect of an item listed in Paragraph 3.1, the horse must not wear the item on the way to the start or during the race, and

6.1.2 if it does wear the item on the way to the start, the horse may not run and will be withdrawn by the Starter.

6.2 If no declaration has been made under Paragraph 3 in respect of a tongue strap, the horse must not wear the item on the way to the start or during the race, and

6.2.1 if it does the horse may still run but only if the Trainer pays the appropriate financial penalty.

Shoes

7.1 The following types of shoes are prohibited:

7.1.1 Shoes which have protrusions on the ground surface other than calkins or studs on the hind, limited to 3/8" in height,

7.1.2 American type toe-grab plates, and

7.1.3 Shoes with a sharp flange.

7.2 Horses running in Flat races conducted on turf must enter the Parade Ring fully shod, except with the permission of the Authority. Permission under this Paragraph 7.2 must be obtained prior to the time fixed for making declarations to run under Rule (F)89, or may in exceptional circumstances be granted by the Stewards.

7.2.1 National Hunt Flat Races conducted on turf are excluded from the provisions of Paragraph

7.2.

Nasal dilators or supports or bells

8. Nasal dilators or supports or bells are not permitted to be worn on any horse in the Parade Ring or in a race.

Lip chains

9.1 Lip chains may not be worn by any horse on Racecourse Property unless approval has been obtained from a Veterinary Officer.

9.2 If such an approval is obtained, the lip chain may only be used

9.2.1 by an experienced handler, and

9.2.2 in a sensitive manner.

9.3 Any failure to comply with these requirements will result in Disciplinary Action.

Number cloths

10. Every horse running in a race must carry a number cloth.

Bits

11.1 Veterinary Officers will take note of the biting of every horse brought into the paddock.

11.2 Only bits which meet with the approval of the Veterinary Officer will be permitted.

11.3 No horse is permitted to run in a bitless bridle.

Rider's and Trainer' responsibilities

12. The following contain further provisions as to equipment and tack for racing

12.1 Rules (D)36 to (D)39 set out requirements applying to Riders, and

12.2 Rules (C)36, (C)43 and (C)44 set out requirements applying to Trainers.

BLINKERS



CHEEK PIECES



HOOD



VISOR



Differentiated from blinkers by an aperture in the cowl. This can be a slit as shown above or may be circular or diamond shaped.

EYESHIELD



(May also be made of a transparent material. However, such eyeshields must have adequate ventilation, and may be unsuitable for use in wet conditions on all weather tracks, where the kickback is liable to stick to the eyeshield)

EYECOVER

