



**NZTR REVISED PENALTY GUIDELINES FOR WHIP RULE AND  
CARELESS RIDING RULE BREACHES IN JUMPS AND HIGHWEIGHT RACES**

(Issued under Rule 106 of the Rules of Racing)

These revised guidelines replace all previous penalty Guidelines for Whip Rule and Careless Riding Rule Breaches in Jumps and Highweight Races. They come into force from 12:01 am on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The penalties in this Guideline apply to Riders who hold **only** a Class D Rider's Licence (Jumps Licence). Riders who hold a Class A Rider's Licence (Jockey's Licence) or a Class B Rider's Licence (Apprentice Licence) in addition to a Class D Rider's Licence, will receive penalties in accordance with the Guidelines applicable to Flat Races as if the breach had occurred in a Flat Race. A suspension imposed on a Rider who holds a Class A Licence or a Class B Licence as well as a Class D Licence will apply to all race meetings and not just Race Days as defined in these penalty guidelines.

NZTR's position continues to be that the excessive, unnecessary or improper use of the whip during racing is unacceptable (particularly where repeated) and must be denounced and discouraged by way of a penalty. The following guidelines are the starting point for penalties for breaches of Rules 638(3)(g) (Highweight Races) and 638(3)(h) (Jumping Races) noting that more severe penalties may be imposed should the circumstances warrant, for example, where the whip is used with excessive force or where there are significantly more than four additional strikes, or the whip is used on significantly more than four consecutive strides.

**1. Whip Offences**

- 1.1. For breaches of Rule 638 (3)(h)(i), using the whip more than 10 times prior to the 100m mark; or
- 1.2. For breaches of Rule 638(3)(g)(i), using the whip more than 5 times prior to the 100m mark **in a Highweight Race.**

<i>Offence</i>	<i>1 additional strike</i>	<i>2 additional strikes</i>	<i>3 additional strikes</i>	<i>4 or more additional strikes</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Warning	\$250	\$500	Suspension 1 Race Day
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$250	\$500	Suspension 1 Race Day	Suspension 2 Race Days
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$500	Suspension 1 Race Day	Suspension 2 Race Days	Suspension 3 Race Days
4 <sup>th</sup>	Suspension 4 Races	Suspension 2 Race Days	Suspension 3 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Days
5 <sup>th</sup> and following	Suspension +3 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Day	Suspension +3 Race Days

- 1.3. For breaches of Rule 638(3)(h)(ii), using the whip in consecutive strides; or  
 1.4. For breaches of Rule 638(3)(g)(ii), using the whip in consecutive strides **in a Highweight Race**.

<i>Offence</i>	<i>2 Consecutive Strides</i>	<i>3 Consecutive Strides</i>	<i>4 or more Consecutive Strides</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Warning	\$300	Suspension 1 Race Days
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$150	\$500	Suspension 2 Race Days
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$300	Suspension 2 Race Days	Suspension 3 Race Days
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$500	Suspension +3 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Days
5 <sup>th</sup> and following	Suspension 2 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Days	Suspension +3 Race Days

For penalty setting purposes under rule 638(3)(g) and 638(3)(h) only those breaches of the same sub-Rule are to be taken into account. Use of the whip prior to the 100 metres and use in consecutive strides are to be treated as separate not cumulative categories of breach when determining the frequency of offending.

### General Whip Penalty Provisions

- A “Race Day” means any day on which either Jumps Racing or Highweight Racing is scheduled to take place.
- No warnings will be issued for breaches of the whip Rules in any Prestige Jumping race.
- In all breaches of the whip Rules in any Prestige Jumping race, a fine will be imposed in addition to any suspension provided for in the tables above. The starting point for any such fine will be an amount equal to 50% of the Jockey’s share of the stake earned by their mount or the starting point on the whip penalty table, whichever is greater, and may be in addition to any suspension imposed as above.
- When considering an appropriate penalty, a rider’s whip record over the preceding 6 months will be taken into account.

**Reminder – use of the whip other than during a race**

The whip should not be used inappropriately on a horse at any time. In particular, excessive, unnecessary or improper use of the whip outside of a race may be regarded as misconduct under Rule 340 of the Rules.

### 2. Careless Riding

Low-range starting point	Suspension 1 Race Day
Mid-range starting point	Suspension 2 Race Days
High-range starting point	Suspension 3 Race Days

Further provisions:

- A “Race Day” means any day on which either Jumps Racing or Highweight Racing is scheduled to take place.
- Penalties may be increased where a Jockey repeatedly breaches the careless riding rules.
- In cases of careless riding in Prestige Jumping races, a fine will be imposed in addition to any suspension. The starting point for any such fine will be an amount equal to 50% of the Jockey’s share of the stake earned by their mount.
- Concessions may be considered with respect to fines imposed on Apprentice Jockeys.
- When considering the penalty for careless riding, a rider’s record over the preceding 12 months will be taken into account.

### **3. Deferment of Penalties:**

If, at the time the suspension is imposed, the Rider is engaged to ride a horse or horses in a race(s) during the next 7-day period after the day on which the suspension is imposed, then the suspension will be effective as set out in Rule 1106(2)(b) or Rule 1106(3)(b), however if the Rider is engaged to ride a horse in a race on the 8th, 9th or 10th day after the day on which the suspension is imposed then the suspension will be effective from the earlier of:

- 3.1. the completion of such engagements within that period; or
  - 3.2. from the day immediately following the 10th day after the day the suspension was imposed.
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