

HORSE RIDING CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.**EXCESSIVE USE OF WHIP, SPURS, BIT**

1. Excessive use of the whip, spurs and/or bit as defined below, constitutes cruelty and is considered a breach of the HRCAV Code of Conduct punishable by disqualification from the event (under Event Rule 37), fines or suspension (under Complaint Handling Rule 6).
2. WHIP – the whip must only be used as an aid to encourage the horse forward when normal aids of seat and legs are not producing the desired response, or as a reprimand immediately after a disobedience. The whip should be used on the horse's shoulder or on the body behind the rider's leg. It is considered excessive if the whip is used:
 - to vent a rider's temper
 - on the horse's head or neck
 - over arm (eg; whip in right hand used on left flank)
 - after a horse has jumped the last fence on a course
 - after elimination
 - more than three times for any one incident
 - with such force that the horse is marked
3. SPURS - Use of spurs to reprimand a horse or any use which leads to the horse being marked constitutes excessive use.
4. BIT - Use of the bit to reprimand a horse constitutes excessive use.