



**IN THE MATTER OF THE RACING COMMISSION ACT, S.O. 2000, c.20;  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE USE OF THE WHIP INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS a Working Group was brought together by the Director to discuss and review possible industry changes to Thoroughbred Racing;

AND WHEREAS the Thoroughbred Working Group represented many facets of the industry, including participants, associations, veterinarians and racetracks;

AND WHEREAS the Thoroughbred Working Group recognizes the importance of the issues related to the use of the whip in Thoroughbred racing;

AND WHEREAS the Thoroughbred Working Group has recommended to the Director that a pilot be instituted to assess the viability of a proposal with respect to the type of whip used and encouragement style;

NOW THEREFORE, the Director hereby orders the following:

- I. A Pilot shall be put in place and shall commence on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 through to, and including Sunday, June 28, 2009;
- II. The Pilot shall apply at Woodbine Racetrack;
- III. The ORC Stewards assigned to Woodbine Racetrack during the Pilot shall be required to conduct duties in accordance with the following temporary amendment to the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing:

**Rule 9.27.01** Although the use of a whip is not required, any jockey who uses a whip during a race shall do so as follows:

- a) in a manner consistent with exerting best efforts to win;
- b) once the whip is in use, will limit action to no more than 2 consecutive strikes, allowing the horse a reasonable time to respond.**

**Rule 9.27.05** Jockeys' whips shall not exceed 30 inches in length including a rubber or natural stitched or open leather looped popper 1 and ½ inches in width. There shall be 3 rows of feathers at least 1 inch in length. **Lite Touch whips not to exceed 30 inches in length are also permitted. Jockeys are required to use the Lite Touch whip in the first and second race of any card;**

- IV. All participants at Woodbine Racetrack during the Pilot shall be required to comply with the following temporary amendment to the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing:

**Rule 9.27.01** Although the use of a whip is not required, any jockey who uses a whip during a race shall do so as follows:

- a) in a manner consistent with exerting best efforts to win;
- b) once the whip is in use, will limit action to no more than 2 consecutive strikes, allowing the horse a reasonable time to respond.**

**Rule 9.27.05** Jockeys' whips shall not exceed 30 inches in length including a rubber or natural stitched or open leather looped popper 1 and ½ inches in width. There shall be 3 rows of feathers at least 1 inch in length. **Lite Touch whips not to exceed 30 inches in length are**



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**also permitted. Jockeys are required to use the Lite Touch whip in the first and second race of any card;**

- V. Any appeals filed (pursuant to Rule 13.19 of the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing) in respect of violations of the temporary amendments to Rules 9.27.01 and 9.27.05, shall be determined in accordance with the temporary amendments in place at the time of the alleged violation;
- VI. Effective Monday, June 29, 2009, Rules 9.27.01 and 9.27.05 shall revert back and shall be adjudicated according to the approved rules contained in the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing.

DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2009.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

*Original signed*

John L. Blakney  
Executive Director