

VIRGINIA RACING COMMISSION

**CHAPTER 150.
HARNESS RACING.**

11 VAC 10-150-130. Racing.

Although a leading horse is entitled to any part of the racing surface, except after selecting his position in the home stretch, the driver of the leading horse and any other driver committing any of the following acts shall be subject to disciplinary action:

1. Changing either to the right or left during any part of the race when another horse is so near him that it causes the other horse to shorten its stride or make a break;

2. Jostling, striking, hooking wheels or interfering with another horse or driver;

3. Crossing sharply in front of a horse or crossing over in front of a field of horses in a reckless manner, endangering other drivers;

4. Swerving in and out or pulling up quickly;

5. Crowding a horse or driver;

6. Carrying a horse out;

7. Causing confusion or interference among trailing horses;

8. Letting a horse pass inside needlessly or otherwise helping another horse to improve his position in the race;

9. Committing any act which shall impede the progress of another horse or causing him to break;

10. Changing course after selecting a position in the home stretch;

11. Swerving in and out, or bear in and out, in a manner so as to interfere with another horse, cause another driver to change course or take back;

12. Driving in a careless or reckless manner;

13. Loud shouting or other improper conduct; and

14. Kicking a horse which shall be defined as a blow or thrust with the foot against any part of the horse's body or to impel by striking with the foot. Removal of a foot from the stirrups in and of itself shall not constitute the offense of kicking. ~~The disciplinary action for kicking a horse shall not be less than a nine day suspension~~ The stewards shall assess a minimum fine of \$200, a suspension or both disciplinary actions for the first violation, and any subsequent violation shall result in a suspension.