

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

ATTENTION DRIVERS

WHIP USE

Due to ongoing scrutiny by various animal welfare groups the use of whips by all drivers will be continued to be closely monitored.

Drivers found to be in breach of the whip rules clearly outlined under the provisions of National Rule 156(1, 2, 3 & 4) will be no longer issued with reprimands.

Breaches under rule 156 will be met initially with a fine. However penalties will increase if the driver re-offends under the same rule within a 28 day period. Continuing breaches may incur a suspension of a driver's license.

Particular attention will be given to, but is not limited to:

- **A driver using the whip when it is apparent that the horse cannot improve its position or its run has ended (out of contention).**
- **A driver using the whip after they have passed the winning post.**
- **A driver striking a horse every stride.**
- **A driver that uses the whip with an extravagant action e.g. drawing the whip back behind the helmet OR outside the confines of the sulky.**

Yours faithfully,

Michael Beattie
Chairman of Stewards

