



ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA



8.22.3006 PADDOCK TO POST

- (1) Only bandages authorized or approved by the track veterinarian may be used on a horse during a race, and all other bandages or leg coverings shall be removed before the horse reports to the paddock.
- (2) Horses must be in the paddock at least 20 minutes before post time.
- (3) Permission must be obtained from a steward to exercise a horse between races unless the horse is being warmed up on the way to and just prior to entering the paddock for the next race to be run. When a horse is being so warmed up before entering the paddock, his official program number shall be displayed by the rider.
- (4) In a race each horse shall carry a conspicuous saddlecloth number and a head number, corresponding to his number on the official program. In the case of an entry each horse making up the entry shall carry the same number on head and saddlecloth with a distinguishing letter. For example, 1-1A. In the case of a field the horses comprising the field shall carry an individual number, i.e. 9, 10, 11, 12 and so on.
- (5) After the horses enter the track, no jockey shall dismount and no horse shall be entitled to the care of an attendant without consent of the stewards or the starter, and the horse must be free of all hands other than those of the jockey or assistant starter before the starter releases the barrier.
- (6) In case of an accident to a jockey, his mount or equipment, the stewards or the starter may permit the jockey to dismount and the horse to be cared for during the delay and may permit all jockeys to dismount and all horses to be attended during the delay.
- (7) All horses shall parade, and, under penalty of disqualification, shall carry their weight from the paddock to the starting post, such parade to pass the steward's stand.
- (8) After entering the track, not more than 12 minutes shall be consumed in the parade of the horses to post except in cases of unavoidable delay. After passing the stand twice, horses will be allowed to break formation and canter, warm up or go as they please to the post. When horses have reached the post, they shall be started without unnecessary delay.
- (9) If a jockey is injured on the way to the post so as to require another jockey, the horse shall be taken to the paddock and another jockey obtained.
- (10) No person shall willfully delay the arrival of a horse at the post.
- (11) No person other than the rider shall be permitted to strike a horse, or attempt by shouting or otherwise to assist it in getting a start.

- (12) Whips and/or blinders may be used on two-year olds and other first starters if such use is approved by the official starter and/or the stewards prior to the time of entry. The absence of whips shall be made known by the announcer prior to the start of the race.
- (13) Equine nasal strips may be used if declared at the time of entry. Use of such strips must be noted in the racing program. A horse that wins a race while using the nasal strip must race with the nasal strip for the next race. If the horse does not win while using the nasal strip, the horse is not required to use it in the next race.

Authorizing statute(s): 23-4-104, 23-4-202, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 23-4-104, MCA

History: Eff. 12/31/72; AMD, Eff. 5/5/74; EMERG, AMD, Eff. 7/3/74; AMD, Eff. 10/5/74; AMD, Eff. 4/4/75; AMD, Eff. 5/6/76; AMD, Eff. 4/4/77; AMD, Eff. 8/4/77; EMERG, AMD, 1978 MAR p. 995, Eff. 7/5/78; AMD, 1979 MAR p. 39, Eff. 1/21/79; TRANS, from Dept. of Prof. & Occup. Lic., Ch. 274, L. 1981, Eff. 7/1/81; AMD, 1994 MAR p. 1282, Eff. 5/13/94; AMD, 2000 MAR p. 953, Eff. 4/14/00; TRANS, from Dept. of Commerce, 2002 MAR p. 1500; TRANS, from 32.28.806, 2015 MAR p. 2252, Eff. 12/25/15; AMD, Notice No. 2025-89, Eff. 4/26/25.