

ARCI-006-050 Starter

A. General Authority

The starter shall:

- (1) have complete jurisdiction over the starting gate, the starting of horses and the authority to give orders not in conflict with the rules as may be required to ensure all participants an equal opportunity to a fair start;
- (2) appoint and supervise assistant starters who have demonstrated they are adequately trained to safely handle horses in the starting gate. In emergency situations, the starter may appoint qualified individuals to act as substitute assistant starters;
- (3) ensure that at least one assistant starter is available for each horse in a race;
- (4) assign the starting gate stall positions to assistant starters and notify the assistant starters of their respective stall positions **not** more than 10 minutes before post time for the race;
- (5) assess the ability of each person applying for a jockey's license in breaking from the starting gate and working a horse in the company of other horses, and shall make said assessment known to the stewards; and
- (6) load horses into the gate in any order deemed necessary to ensure a safe and fair start;:-**
- ~~(6)~~(7) Immediately report to the stewards any false starts, impeded starts or unfair starts.**

B. Assistant Starters

With respect to an official race, the assistant starters shall not:

- (1) handle or take charge of any horse in the starting gate without the expressed permission of the starter;
- (2) impede the start of a race;
- (3) apply a whip or other device, with the exception of steward-approved twitches, to assist in loading a horse into the starting gate;
- (4) slap, boot or otherwise dispatch a horse from the starting gate;
- (5) strike or use abusive language to a jockey; or
- (6) accept or solicit any gratuity or payment other than his/her regular salary, directly or indirectly, for services in starting a race.

C. Starter's List

No horse shall be permitted to start in a race unless approval is given by the starter. The starter shall maintain a Starter's List of all horses which are ineligible to be entered in any race because of poor or inconsistent behavior or performance in the starting gate. Such horse shall be refused entry until it has demonstrated to the starter that it has been satisfactorily schooled in the gate and can be removed from the Starter's List. Schooling shall be under the direct supervision of the starter.

D. Report Violations

The starter and assistant starter shall report all unauthorized activities to the stewards.