



ILLINOIS RACING BOARD

**For Immediate Release
May 14, 2009**

IRB ADOPTS ARCI MODEL RULE ON RIDING CROPS

The Illinois Racing Board unanimously voted at its May 12, 2009 meeting to approve the initiation of rulemaking to adopt the Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI) model rule on riding crops.

Crop specifications include a maximum weight of eight ounces, maximum length of 30 inches, and requires shock absorbing material covering a minimum of the topmost seven inches of the crop. The model rule also gives guidance to jockeys on the appropriate use of the crop. The model rule has been supported by nearly every national industry trade association including the Jockeys' Guild.

Proposed rules are effective only after they have been through the 90 day rulemaking process, which includes input from the general public and the Illinois General Assembly.

In other related business, the Board approved the initiation of rulemaking to adopt the RCI model rules on issues including TCO2 testing and Furosemide.

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