



# International Mounted Games Association Rules Committee

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## ***Rule Change Request Document***

Name:	<b>Mark Crowe</b>
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Country:	<b>Ireland / Chief Referee</b>
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### Summary of Change Requested:

GR3.1 deals with pony abuse, with the sanctions being elimination or referral to the ground jury. Since this rule was written we have implemented yellow and red cards, so this request is being updated to include sanctions as yellow card, elimination, red card or referral to the ground jury. The latter is relevant when it is an outside the arena incident.

### Current Rule Book Wording:

GR3.1. Abuse of ponies is not permitted at any time anywhere on the showground where a competition is held. The referee can eliminate a rider, pair or team from a race or from the competition or can refer the matter to the Ground Jury or disciplinary committee at his/her discretion if they are deemed to have abused a pony or allowed any other person to abuse a pony.

Abuse is defined as intentionally acting in a way that may cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a pony.

Abuse includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- to whip, hit or beat a pony with any object or with a hand or leg
- to jab a pony in the mouth with the bit
- to ride an obviously exhausted, unfit, lame or injured pony
- to abnormally sensitise any part of a pony
- to leave a pony without adequate food or drink
- to use ill-fitting tack

### Suggested New Rule Book Wording:

GR3.1. Abuse of ponies is not permitted at any time anywhere on the showground where a competition is held. The referee **may yellow card, eliminate from a race or red card a rider, pair or team**; or can refer the matter to the Ground Jury or disciplinary committee at his/her discretion if they are deemed to have abused a pony or allowed any other person to abuse a pony.

Abuse is defined as intentionally acting in a way that may cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a pony.

Abuse includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- to whip, hit or beat a pony with any object or with a hand or leg
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- to abnormally sensitise any part of a pony
- to leave a pony without adequate food or drink
- to use ill-fitting tack

### Reason for Change Request:

To get this rule in line with the rules on Yellow and Red cards.

**For Internal Use Only:**

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Reference:	2023 - 04
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Submission Date:	15/12/2023
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Decision Date:	01/01/2024
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Votes	
Jens Martin	<b>In Favour</b>
Mark Crowe	<b>In Favour</b>
Margaret Welsby	<b>In Favour</b>
Warwick Slade	<b>In Favour</b>
Robin Donnay	<b>In Favour</b>
Alun Whitney	<b>In Favour</b>
Total In Favour:	<b>6</b>
Total Not In Favour:	<b>0</b>

Result:	Change Accepted
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Actual Adopted New Rule Book Wording:

The referee **may yellow/red card the rider, or eliminate the rider, pair or team from a race; may also** refer the matter to the Ground Jury or disciplinary committee at his/her discretion if they are deemed to have abused a pony or allowed any other person to abuse a pony.

Reason for Decision:

Make Sense.

Implementation Date:	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2024
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