Register of Emirates Racing Authority Approved Gear



Approved by the ERA
October 2014

Introduction

The purpose of "The Register of ERA Approved Gear" is to indicate to local and visiting trainers the acceptable usage, condition and requirements for equipment that may be worn by a horse during a race, official trial or trackwork.

The following ERA Rules relating to equipment should be noted:

51(vii) - If the Horse is to run in a Hood, Blinkers, Visor, Cheek Pieces, Tongue Tie, Ear Plugs, Shadow Roll or Pacifier, they must be declared by the prescribed time, as per the conditions book, on the ERA declaration form or ERA online Trainers site. Trainers must indicate the use of equipment for the first time, a change in equipment, or the discontinuance of use of equipment. Only gear and conditions of use that have been approved and included in the Register of ERA Approved Gear, may be used on any horse in a race, official trial or trackwork. Provided that the Stewards may approve other gear to be used. Failure to declare the correct change or application for a late equipment change may result in the Trainer or Authorised Agent being fined.

61A - All equipment used in trackwork, official trials and Races is subject to the Register of ERA Approved Gear and the approval of Stewards pursuant to the conditions of Rule 8(xi).

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Blinkers / Visor

Blinkers



Blinkers are a garment fitted over a horse's head with holes for eyes and ears, one or both the eyeholes being fitted with cowls (which may be extended) cutting out all vision to the rear, but permitting full forward vision.

Visor



Visor is a garment similar to Blinkers in which both cowls have holes cut in them permitting limited side or rear vision.
The ERA has no restriction on the application or removal of these pieces of equipment. One Cupped Blinkers/Visors may be used; however, the trainer must indicate this on the declaration form.
Blinkers and Visor must be worn under the bridle.

Pacifiers



Pacifiers are a garment similar to Blinkers incorporating gauze over the eyepieces, but without cowls. Pacifiers must be of a strong mesh that will resume its normal shape after compression. Pacifiers must be worn under the bridle. Pacifiers may also be worn in conjunction with Blinkers. The removal of Pacifiers may be ordered by the Stewards if Stewards deem the condition of the track unsuitable for the use of Pacifiers.



Cheek Pieces



Cheek Pieces are two lamb's wool (or synthetic) rolls which attach to the cheek straps of a bridle and preclude a rearward view. Cheek Pieces are also known as Winkers. There is no restriction on colours for Cheek Pieces.

Hood



Hood is a garment similar to Blinkers incorporating ear covers but without the eye cowls. A Hood is also known as Ear Muffs. A hood shall be made of neoprene (wetsuit) material, vinyl or cloth and must be worn under the bridle. No items, including Ear Plugs, are allowed to be placed into the ear of the horse when wearing a Hood.

Ear Plugs

Ear Plugs is a piece of equipment that is placed into the ears of the Horse. Only a design approved by the Stewards shall be permitted to be used on horses in races. Under no circumstances are Ear Plugs allowed to be removed during the running of a race. With prior approval from the Stewards, Ear Plugs will be allowed to be worn in the parade ring and be removed when the horse arrives at the start.

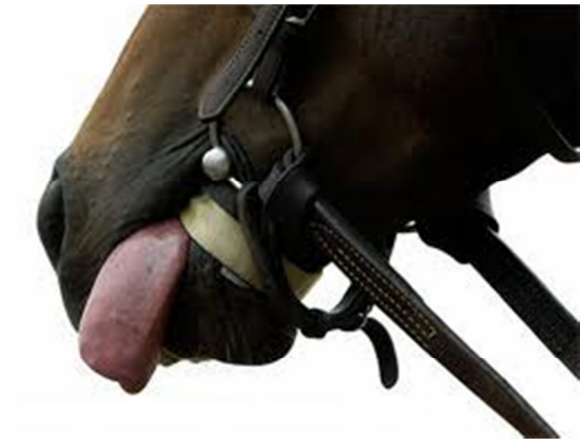


Shadow Roll



Shadow Roll is a piece of equipment made of lamb's wool (or a synthetic material) that is fitted over the nasal bone of the horse. A Shadow Roll is also known as a Nose Roll.

Tongue Tie



Tongue Tie means a piece of equipment that is looped around the tongue and either attached to the bit or secured around the jaw. Tongue Ties must be either nylon-stocking, leather strap or rubber band and be at least 15mm in width. Tongue Ties must be clearly visible at all times.





Starting Equipment

Barrier Blanket



Blindfold

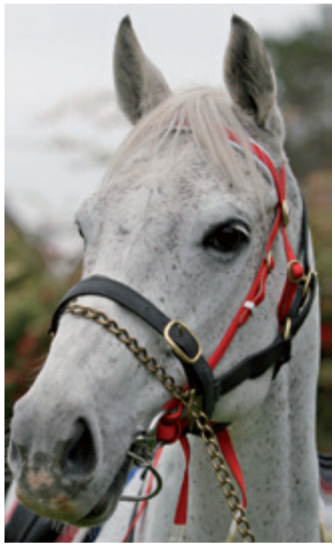


Barrier Blanket



Only horses which have been approved by the ERA starter are permitted to wear **Starting Equipment** to assist in the loading into and jumping from the barrier, unless cleared from their home Authority with such equipment or with the prior approval from the Stewards. All Starting Equipment and loading requests shall be made at the time of declaration in writing to the Stewards.

Stallion Chain



Other Approved Gear (do not need to be declared)

Brow Band



Nasal Strip



Cheekers



Bubble Cheekers



Cross Over Noseband



Bit Lifter



Bandages and Boots (do not need to be declared)



Trainers must ensure that **Bandages** are correctly fitted to the horse's leg and conform to the ERA Rules of Racing Instruction 2, relating to bandaging. Note: standard **bandages** must be stitched with a thread of contrasting colour and self-adhesive bandages (Equisport, Coflex or Vetrap) must either be stitched or rapt with electrical tape with a contrasting colour. Elastoplast bandages must be stitched at the outside join.









Boots should be of a design approved by the Stewards and permitted on both the front and hind legs. Such boots as Shin boots, Tendon boots, Bell boots, Scalping boots, Brushing boots and Hock boots are all approved. Velcro boots must be fastened with electrical tape.



Bits (do not need to be declared)

The ERA has **6** categories of bits approved for use:

1. Standard bits; all Dee bits and Egg butt snaffle bits and loose ring snaffles.
2. Lugging bits; Ring bit, JR Lugging bit.
3. Norton bits; Norton citation bit, Victor race bit.
4. Tongue Control Bits.
5. Butterfly Bit.
6. Rubber bits; any rubber bit used must be reinforced with steel through the centre.

Pictures below refer to some of the more common bits used in the UAE. For any clarification please contact the ERA Stewards.

Racing Dee Bit



Dexter Ring Bit



Loose Ring Snaffle



Thick Hollow Ring



Norton Bit



Tongue Control Bit



Butterfly Bit



Dee Bit with rubber covered snaffle mouth



Shoes

At all times the conditions of shoeing under the provisions of ERA Rule 63A must be adhered to.

Front shoes approved on all surfaces

Kerckheart King's Plate



Bonded Plate



Fast Break



Victory Plate



Also approved: Silver Queen, Victory Plates, St Croix, Queens Plate XT and Super Sound Smart Bond.

Hind shoes approved on all surfaces

Kerckheart King's Plate



Queen's Plate XT



Also approved: Victory Plates and St Croix.

Hind shoes approved on Dirt only

¼ Toe Grab



Blocks



Thoro'bred Plain *(Also approved; Tradition XT (2mm), Tradition Low Toe (3.5mm) & Tradition Regular toe (5.5mm).*



Heart Bar



Egg Bar



Glue on Polyflex Shoe

