

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SWEDISH TROTTING

2015



SVENSK TRAVSPORT
ETABLERAT 1925

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This text is an extract from paragraphs in the Rules and Regulations for Swedish trotting 2015 and is valid during the current year.

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RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SWEDISH TROTTING

Welcome to Sweden and Swedish trotting. The trotting sport differs throughout the world and with this summary we like to inform Guest Trainers and Drivers about the most important rules and regulations for Swedish trotting. All participants are required to acknowledge the rules and regulations in its entirety to take part.

The animal protection is the most important and the Animal Health and Welfare Act is always in focus. The Trainer is always responsible for the horse, before, during and after the race and always held responsible if prohibited equipment or substances are found in a doping control. The Trainer is also responsible for the Driver, making sure that he/she is fit to warm or compete with any eligible horse.

On the day of competition, the Panel of Judges is the highest authority in everything concerning the competitions, with the exception for the Racecourse Veterinary who represents the Swedish Board of Agriculture. Swedish Trotting Association is the central trotting organization, responsible for rules and regulations.

ENTRY APPLICATION

In Swedish Trotting Association's monthly report and on www.travsport.se you can find information about all Swedish trotting races. The entry application must contain name of the horse, driver and trainer. Information about where to send the application, and when to apply, will also be found in the monthly report.

PRE-COMPETITION

A horse that should be identified must be present on the racecourse two hours before the first start. All contact between the participants and the governing body will take place during the registration. It is during the registration you declare that your horse is present and collect your number badge. In some cases the horse must be identified. In this case you will be informed

about that during the registration.

The trainer is obliged to inform the registration body (in-skrivningen) if the horse will carry shoes or not in the race.

Alcohol and drugs are forbidden in Swedish trotting tracks. All drivers/riders will be tested before a race; and a retake can occur anytime during the day of competition. A breath test shall be done, by the latest, one hour before the actual start. Drug tests may also occur.

EQUIPMENT

Horse. Equipment regulations with pictured allowed equipment can be found on our website. Go to www.travsport.se/regelverk and then click on *utrustningsbestämmelser*.

In Sweden we have regulations to use back-pieces and breast-collars/breastplates when driving. This is something that differs between different trotting nations. It is also mandatory to use wheel disc covers, and the free space between the wheel and the shaft of the sulky must not be more than 60 mm.

In case of bad weather and bad track-conditions, the Equipage Controller may order the use of splash guards. Every equipage must make sure that splash guards are available if needed.

In monté, when the horse is mounted, saddled, it is mandatory to use back-piece, breast-collar/ breast-strap/breast-girth.

The horse's headstall must be comfortable for the horse as well as giving the Driver/Rider full control. Bit is mandatory and must not be thinner than 9 mm in diameter at the point of contact in the horse's mouth.

Examples of allowed bits:

- Ordinary trotting mouth bits
- Straight bits
- Crescendo bits
- Snaffle bits
- Dr. Bristol bits
- XT bits
- Slide mouth run-out bits

In monté is also Pessoa and Pelham bits, with a maximum of 80 mm power strengthening, allowed.

It is not allowed to:

Fit spikes, quill, bristles, burr, electronic/magnetic equipment etc. on headstall, head-collar, rein, head-pole, protectors or any other equipment.

If you have material defects/faults you need to contact the Equipage Controller. You have 5 minutes to attend to the problem. If it takes longer the Panel of Judges have the right to exclude the equipage.

Driver. Helmet with fastened chinstrap and a safety vest is mandatory when driving on the racetrack or in the paddock, stable area. White trousers or proper competition attire shall be worn as well as suitable shoes.

The whips can be from 90 to 125 cm long, snapper included.

Rider. Helmet with fastened chinstrap and a safety vest is mandatory when riding on the racetrack or in the paddock, stable area. Suitable shoes are tall boots or riding boots with heels and legs.

The riding-whips can be maximum 70 cm long, snapper included, with a diameter of minimum 8 mm. The snapper must be at least 3 cm wide.

Riders are not allowed to wear spurs.

The total weight of the Rider including his/her attire, safety vest, helmet and saddle with accessories must not weigh less than 65 kg. Weighing in will take place both before and after the race. If the Rider weighs less than 65 kg after the race, the equipage will be disqualified.

PRE-RACE

All horses and drivers are assembled before the race at the starting-gate where the Veterinary and the Equipage Controller check horses, drivers and their equipment. Equipages are then paraded

in number order in front of the audience, following commands given by the Equipage Controller.

After the parade, all equipages complete a trial start in front of the audience. Adjustments to the equipment are allowed after the parade under indulgence of the Racecourse Officials. See page 4.

Immediately after the parade the Speaker announces that the start will commence in five minutes. The following time references are always used by the Speaker:

Start om fem minuter – Start in five minutes,

Start om tre minuter – Start in three minutes,

Start om en minut – Start in one minute,

Till start – Take your positions,

all equipages drive/ride the shortest way to their starting positions for the standing start and to the assembly point for the auto start/line start.

45 sekunder – 45 seconds,

30 sekunder – 30 seconds,

15 sekunder – 15 seconds,

Klart för start – Ready for start,

all equipages are at their starting positions.

STARTING PROCEDURES

The race is started with a standing start or auto start. If a motorized starting gate can't be used for an auto start, a line start shall be used. §58, if the same equipage cause for a recall or interrupt the start more than once, the equipage will be excluded from the race.

Auto start. The maximum number of equipages in an auto start is limited to 15, but in most cases the number is a maximum of 12. When there are 12 equipages, the race is started in two tiers behind the gate. Equipages with event number 1-8 starts in the first tier, directly behind the starting gate. Equipages with event number 9-12 starts in the second tier and are free to choose between two tracks as follows:

- Equipage no. 9, behind no. 1 or 2
- Equipage no. 10, behind no. 3 or 4
- Equipage no. 11, behind no. 5 or 6
- Equipage no. 12, behind no. 7 or 8.

In the event of a withdrawal/cancellation from the competition, equipages can be moved to the next available inside lane. However, equipages can never be moved from the back tier to the front tier.

Equipage 1-8 shall be placed about 100 meters behind the starting line, well connected to the gate, and in the correct lane. Equipage 9-12 shall be positioned behind and in the correct lane. If this is not observed a recall can be ordered and sanctions imposed.

AUTO START (1640 m)

GATE SPEED

The gate shall increase speed gradually. The final increase of speed from 38 km/h to 52 km/h takes place when the car reaches the stretch.

REASONS FOR A RE-START

The basic principle is that the chief starter judges the situation from case to case, referring to the following reasons for a re-start:

- disturbing the other competitors
- equipment failure
- gaining advantage in an unlawful manner

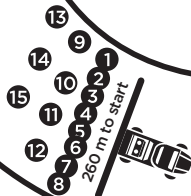

There is no reason for a re-start if a horse gallops or is disruptive after the gate has been set in motion unless the horse disturbs or hinders the other competitors.

The finishing line
.....

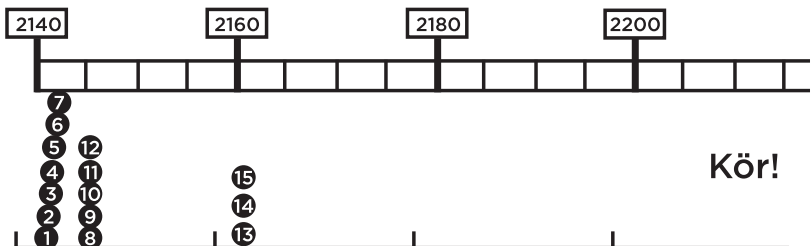
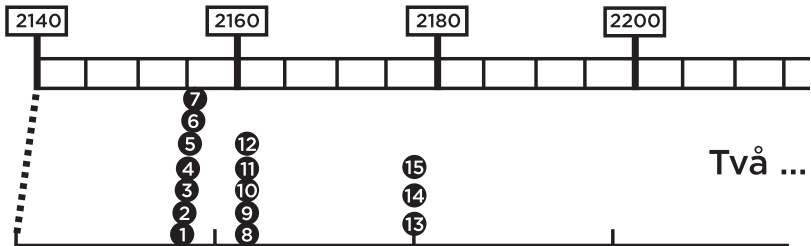
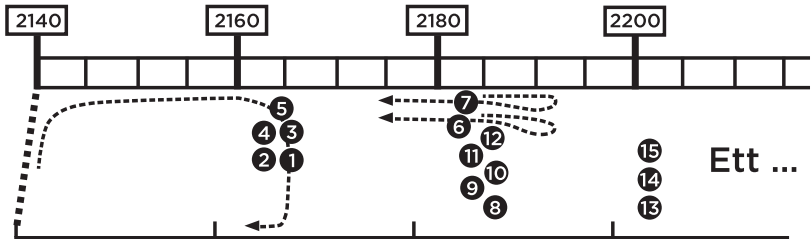
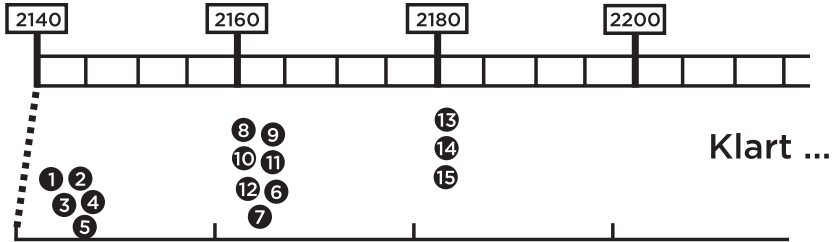
The assembly area approx
150 m

Start 1640 m
.....

100 m to the start
The horses are
now assembled



STANDING START



LINE START (1640 m)

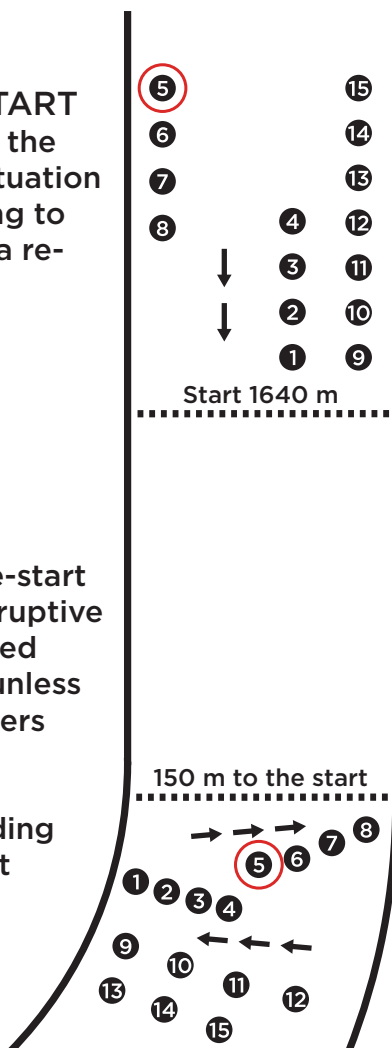
REASONS FOR A RE-START

The basic principle is that the chief starter judges the situation from case to case, referring to the following reasons for a re-start:

- Disturbing the other competitors.
- Equipment failure.
- Gaining advantage in an unlawful manner.

There is no reason for a re-start if a horse gallops or is disruptive after the horses have turned towards the starting line unless the horse disturbs or hinders the other competitors.

Equipage on lane 5 is leading the driving up and it is not allowed to overtake that equipage as long as that horse isn't galloping.



THE RACE

Horses shall be competitively driven/ridden to achieve the best possible position, without putting the horse under abnormal stress. Leading equipage shall take the inner lane. Driving between or outside the lanes are not allowed and can lead to disqualification if the equipage gains advantage by doing so.

On the finishing stretch, a trotting horse can't change lane if there is no horse in front on the same lane. Narrow driving/riding, jostling or excessive/reckless use of the whip is examples of violations which can result in sanctions.

Goading. The whip can only be used for correction or light prompting up to 400 meters from the finishing line. After that the whip can be used a couple of separate times for gentle goading. Administering several blows in quick succession is forbidden. The whip can't be used again before the horse has had a chance to respond to prior goading or on a horse whose position obviously can't be improved.

If excessive use is suspected, the Racecourse Veterinary will examine the horse in question. The Veterinary can report any animal cruelty to the Swedish Board of Agriculture and the case will then involve legal consequences. Prize money will be retained by the Swedish Trotting Association until the case is settled. If the accused is found guilty, the prize money will be distributed to the other contestants according to their finishing positions in the actual race.

When driving, all goading or corrections must be effected with the whip pointed forward, and with one rein in each hand. Goading with the whip pointed backwards, kicking, boxing, excessive goading with the reins or administering blows to the sulky and equipment is not allowed. The Driver must have both feet in the stirrups of the sulky unless side shafts are used.

When mounted, all goading or corrections must be effected with one rein in each hand. Raising the arm holding the whip above shoulder height or administering blows to the horse's head, groin or belly is not allowed.

Open stretch. Open stretch means that there is an extra lane which can be used to the left of the leading equipage, but only on the home stretch. The open stretch lane is not included in the actual racetrack and it is forbidden to use it until the home stretch.

A trotting equipage shall after passing the home stretch curve keep the lane if there is no horse in front of it in the same lane.

Sanctions can be imposed for unlawful use of the open stretch. If the horse gains ground and the competition result is affected, the horse can be disqualified.

Prohibited gaits. Prohibited gaits are gallop and amble.

An equipage will be disqualified if it:

- gallops more than twice
- gallops more than 150 meters during the first half lap of the race
- gallops more than 100 meters during the remaining part of the race
- gallops during the last 100 meters stretch, or
- gains advantage by galloping

When galloping or ambling amongst the other horses the driver must: Be alert - take to the outside – and pull back to the correct gait. It is not allowed to steer inwards, and never inside the track marks.

Breaking gait. Horses must not break gait. A horse breaking gait may be prohibited from starting or registering.

Breaking gait is not grounds for disqualification.

Sanctions. Sanctions can occur if rules and regulations are broken. Sanctions can be warnings, fines, driving bans and occasionally can admittance to the racecourse be denied. The sanctions are imposed by the Panel of Judges.

All fines depends on the sum of the first prize in the actual race, the higher the amount, the higher the fine. However, the fine can't

exceed 200.000 SEK for one single violation. (This does not apply to doping, see below.)

Suspension from racing in Sweden will also lead to suspension in other countries. The Swedish Trotting Association can lift the driving ban imposed in Sweden, for the regular driver of the horse, for some major events. If the Driver doesn't respect the imposed suspension, the Swedish Trotting Association will transform the suspension into a fine.

PROHIBITED MEDICATIONS, DRUGS ETC.

The Panel of Judges, the Racecourse Veterinary or other person authorized by the Swedish Trotting Association decides which horses shall be tested. Doping tests can be administered at other times, apart from during the competition. Body fluids or other samples must not contain any substance not normally present in a horse or can be related to natural forage. There are internationally agreed levels which must not be exceeded for certain naturally present, forage related, and special substances.

If prohibited substances are found, the normal sanction is a fine. If it can be proved that the doping was intentional, the license will be withdrawn for at least two years. If intention can't be proved, the sanction will be a fine, from 10.000 SEK up to 1.000.000 SEK.

Withdrawal times are used in Sweden. A withdrawal time list is available for a wide range of various preparations, substances and treatments. Usage of substances not on the list is at your own risk and there are no fixed withdrawal times. The withdrawal time list is published on our website. Go to www.travsport.se/artikel/karenstidslistor and click on Drug regulations & withdrawal times in the right column.

Cooling with water is allowed. Cooling using other methods, treatment with electric equipment and magnetic therapy on the day of competition on the racetrack or in the paddock area is not allowed. Treatment with growth hormones, radioactive implants and blood supply or other measures to increase the amount of

red blood cells (called high altitude training) is forbidden. Horses treated with anabolic steroids or growth hormones can be permanently banned from entering a race.

An English version of paragraphs 43-44, general rules and regulations for use of medical substances, can be found on our website. Go to www.travsport.se/artikel/karenstidslistor and click on Drug regulations & withdrawal times in the right column.



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