

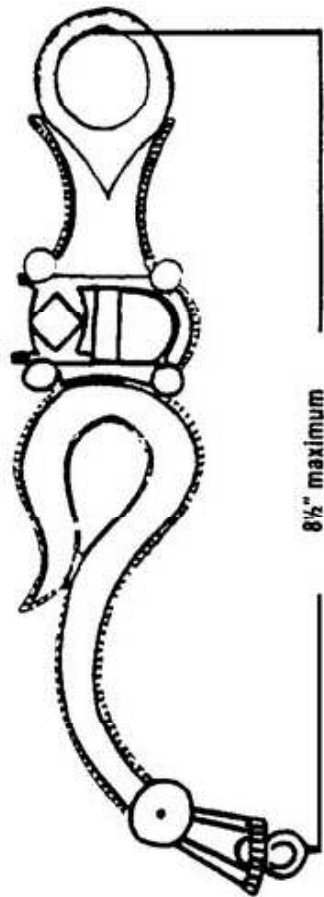


Western Equipment **Is it Legal?**

Test your Knowledge!



Shank Bits



To measure the bit length, use a vertical line from the upper most part of the headstall slot to the rein ring.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Bars may be inlaid but must be smooth or latex wrapped.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Rollers attached to the center of the bit are acceptable, and may extend below the bar.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



The very short, smooth, rounded rivets used to join the mouthpiece together and extend a tiny bit below the bar of the bit will not intimidate a horse.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Nothing may protrude above or **below** the mouthpiece (bar) such as extensions, prongs or rivets designed to intimidate the horse.



Not legal.



- Nothing may protrude **above or** below the mouthpiece (bar) such as extensions, prongs or rivets designed to intimidate the horse.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Jointed mouthpieces are acceptable and may consist of two or three pieces and may have one or two joints.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Jointed with legal port height.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Jointed with bar that is flat, 3/8" – 3/4"
measured top to bottom, with maximum
length of 2"



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Half-breed – style & height are legal.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Spade – legal style and port height.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Not legal due to height of port; must be no higher than 3 ½" maximum. Rollers & covers acceptable.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Rigid donut mouthpiece— not legal.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Slip or gag bit
– not legal



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



This style of curb bit is legal as long as the shank length and mouthpiece meet the rule requirements.



Legal or Not legal?



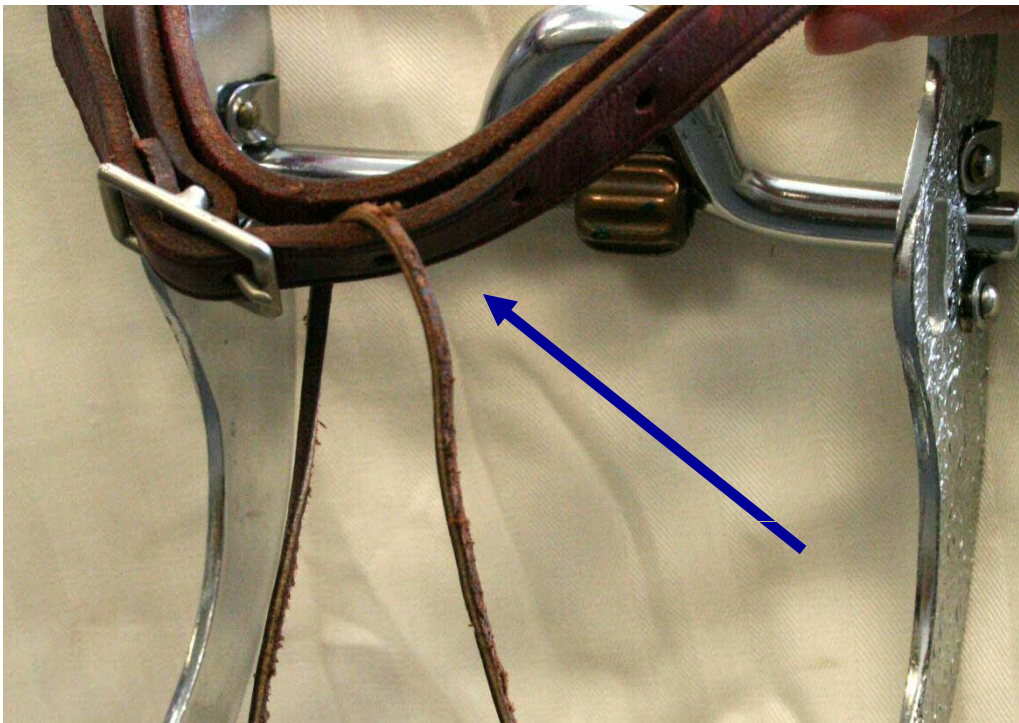
Legal.



A light lip strap is permissible. This should be attached to the chinstrap in such a way that it does not form a knot or significant lump under the horse's chin.



Legal.



Threading the lip strap between the layers of the chinstrap is also legal.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



This rein is stiff for the four inches closest to the bit.

It would be legal if loose enough to not lock onto the bit.



BOSALS/HACKAMORES



Hackamore

- A hackamore includes a bosal rounded in shape and constructed of flexible braided rawhide or leather.
- Must have a flexible nonmetallic core, be attached to a suitable headstall and have a maximum diameter of $\frac{3}{4}$ " at the cheek.
- Attached reins may be hair, rope or leather.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



Smooth electric tape is legal.

No other material of any kind is to be used on conjunction with a bosal, i.e., steel, metal or chains (Exception: smooth plastic electrical tape is acceptable.)



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Latex or bandage material wrap is illegal.



Legal or Not legal?

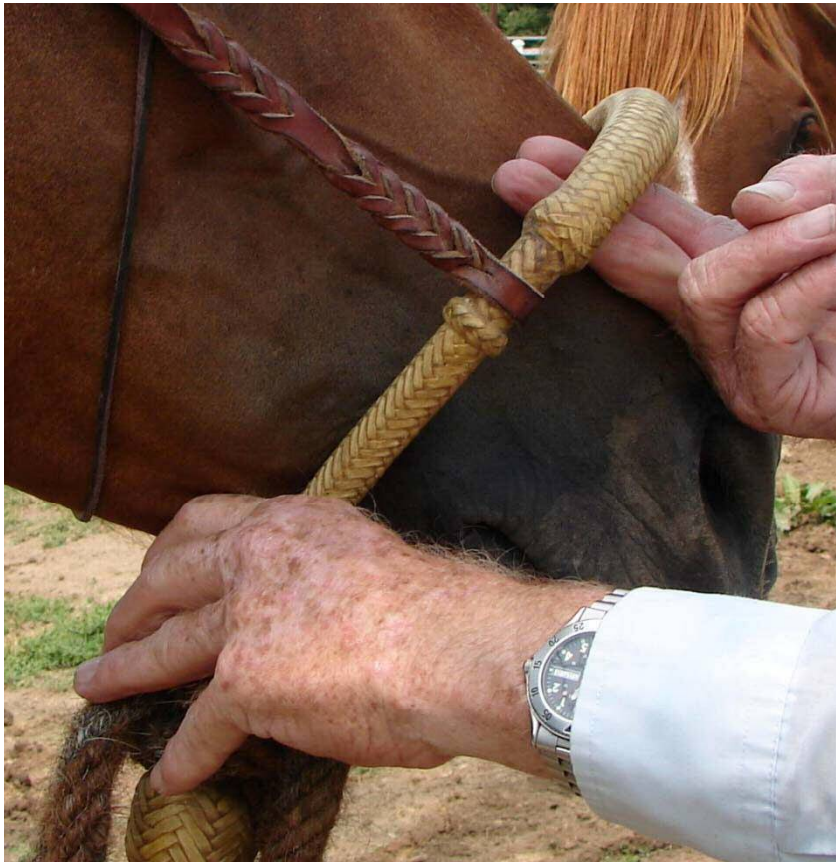


Not legal

This 'pencil' bosal is legal for schooling when used as a cavesson with a bit.



Checking for flexibility of bosal.



CURB STRAPS/CHAINS



Legal or Not legal?



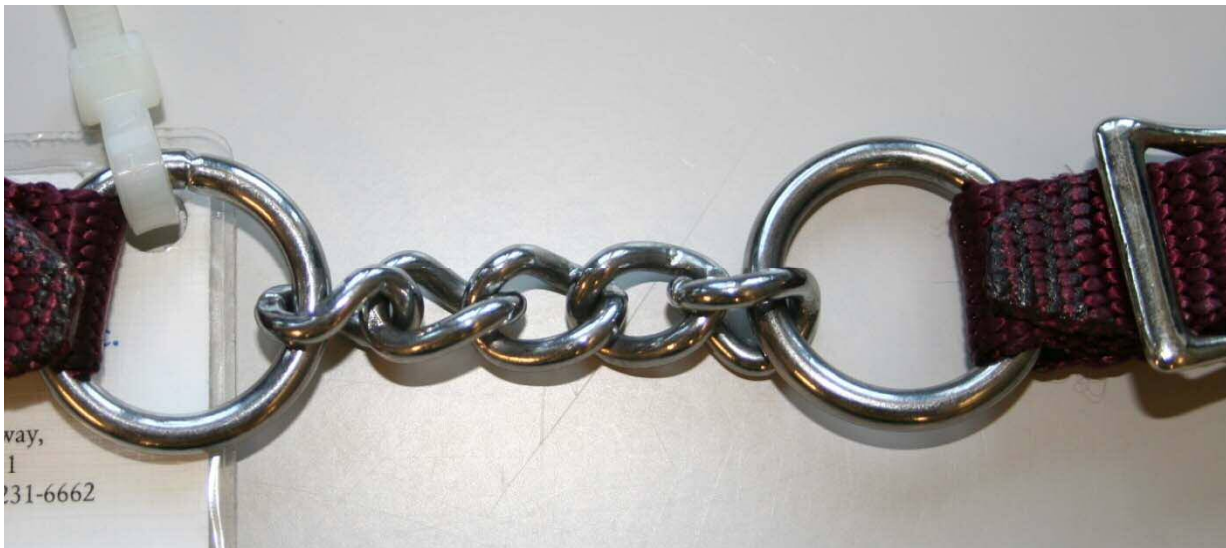
Legal.



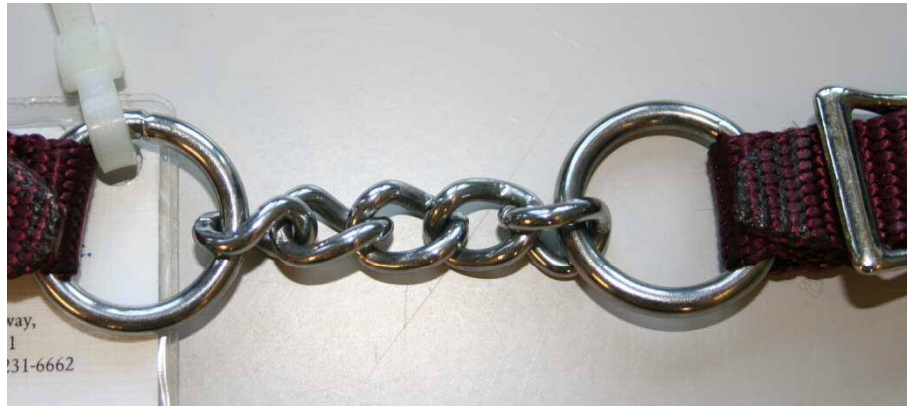
Curb chains and leather chin straps may be used but must be flat and at least 1/2" in width and lie flat against the jaws of the horse. This curb chain is legal as long as it is not twisted and does not have any additional support behind the chain.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



This curb chain is less than 1/2" in width.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



No wire, rawhide, metal or other substance can be used in conjunction with or as part of the leather chinstrap, or curb chains. This has a round bar welded on the inside of the chain.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



This chinstrap has tacks on the inside.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Rounded, rolled, braided or rawhide curb straps are prohibited when used with a shank bit.



SNAFFLE BITS



Snaffle Bits

- A standard snaffle is defined as a center jointed single rounded, unwrapped smooth mouthpiece of 5/16" to 3/4" diameter metal as measured from ring to 1" in from the ring with a gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle.
- The rings may be from 2" to 4" outside diameter or either loose type, eggbutt, dee, or center counted without cheeks.



Snaffle Bits

- New rules effective 12/1/2009
- *The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachment hooks.*
- *Closed reins, such as a mecate, are prohibited with a snaffle bit.*



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.



This snaffle is center jointed single rounded, unwrapped smooth mouthpiece of 5/16" to 3/4" diameter metal as measured from ring to 1" in from the ring with a gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Snaffle is not single, not smooth, not center-jointed and not 5/16" in diameter.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



Snaffle is not “rounded”; is too narrow, and its rings are too small.



Legal Not legal?



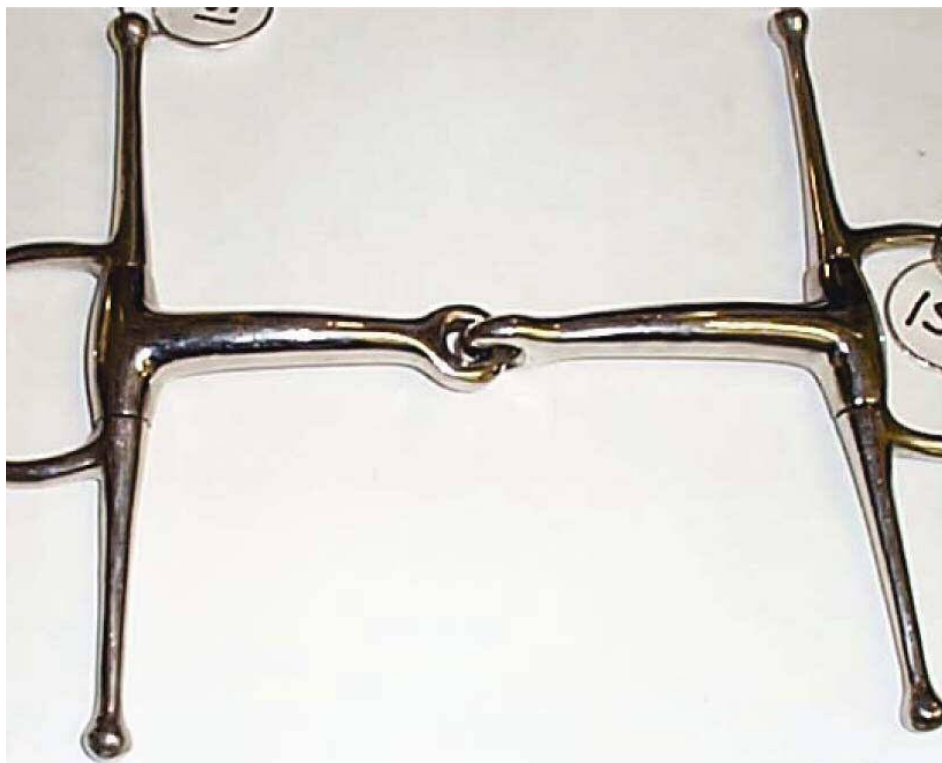
Legal.



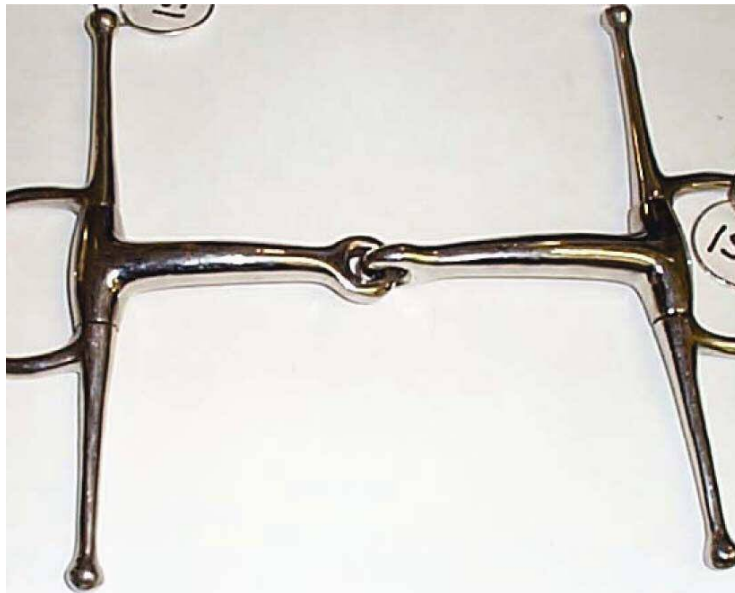
Shown above is an eggbutt snaffle and a dee ring snaffle. Both are legal rings.



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.



This snaffle is illegal in Western classes because it has “full-cheeks.”



Legal or Not legal?



Not legal.

The 'hooks' on the snaffle make it's use not legal in Western division classes.



Legal or Not legal?



Legal.

As long as the reins are attached above the curb strap, any style of strap may be used.

