

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	1/27/2025	

Rule Change Intent

The committee wishes to clarify that bonnets and earmuffs are included as permitted equipment along with "Fly hoods", and subsequently wishes to remove earmuffs from the "exceptions for the warm-up ring" list.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Lexie Stovel lstovel@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD121 Tack

(...)

9. **Bonnets/earmuffs/fly hoods** (ear covers) should be discreet in color and design and should not cover the horse's eyes.

SUBCHAPTER WD-7 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

WD125 Warm Up Ring and Training Area

1. The restrictions regarding Prohibited Equipment (see WD122) apply to warm-up and other training areas; however, training martingales (only with snaffle rein or plain snaffle bridle), boots, **and** bandages (without magnets) **and earmuffs** are permitted. A training martingale consists of a divided strap attached to the girth that does not provide downward pull; the extension of each strap must be connected from the point of division only to the rein on the same side and must be free to slide. The rings through which the reins slide must be connected to a neck strap.