

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	1/30/2025	

Rule Change Intent

Currently the Dressage Seat Equitation/Medal rules and USDF judging Guidelines do not address what should happen in the event an exhibitor does not complete the pattern as it is written. The other equitation divisions do specify whether the off-pattern situation would be penalized or cause elimination. This proposal adds clarity and consistency to the rules so both judges and exhibitors have the same understanding for both an off pattern situation or in the event a rider does not complete a phase of the class. The references to the individual tests are also being updated to include both the DR and AR sections that apply.

AHA Resolution 11-24

Proponent Details Contact Information

AHA

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Linked Rules Comments



SUBCHAPTER AR-28 EQUITATION SECTION

AR298 Dressage Seat Equitation

(...)

11. In Regional and National Championship shows, all riders in a class must perform independent tests. The judges may, at their discretion, choose to require independent tests in Recognized shows, and they may select any number of riders in the class to perform one or more independent tests.
 - a. ***When a pattern is provided: A rider going off pattern will not result in an elimination but will be penalized.***
 - b. ***If the class requires both rail and pattern and the rider does not complete both sections, they will be eliminated.***

AR299 AHA Medal Class Requirements

(...)

20. Class specification for AHA Medal classes are as follows:

(...)

- f. AHA Dressage Seat Medal class (Requires Dressage Judge).

1. ***In addition to rail work, all contestants are required to perform three or more individual tests from DR133, AR298.9, or AR298.10.***
2. ***A rider going off pattern will not result in elimination but will be penalized.***
3. ***If a rider does not complete both the rail and the pattern phases of the class, they will be eliminated.***

- ~~g. In addition to rail work, all contestants are required to perform three or more individual tests from DR133.~~