

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	8/29/2024	

Rule Change Intent

ADD: FR184 TACK RULE 6: WHIPS ARE ALLOWED

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

FR184 Tack

1. Any Western type headstall without noseband in conjunction with any standard Western bit shall be allowed.
2. Bits: A standard Western bit is one that has a shank with a maximum overall length of 8 1/2 inches. The mouthpiece shall consist of a metal bar which is from 3/8 inch to 3/4 inch in diameter, varying from the straight bar to a full spade. Jointed mouthpieces are permitted. Flat leather chinstrap, other than the buckle(s), which must be at least 1/2 inch in width. Any device made of wire, metal, or rawhide used in conjunction with or as part of leather chinstrap is prohibited. Curb chains are also allowed and must be at least 1/2 inch in width and lie flat against the jaw. Hackamore or snaffle bits (smooth mouth) will be permitted on Junior Horses. Mechanical Hackamores are prohibited. Junior Horses are permitted to show in all other Western classes with a snaffle bit or hackamore and riders may use two hands. Once a Junior Horse is shown in a standard Western bit, it may not go back and be shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore in the Western division. A hackamore includes a bosal rounded in shape and constructed of braided rawhide or leather and must have a flexible non-metallic core attached to a suitable headstall.
3. Split reins or closed reins with romal are equally acceptable. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trail Horse Class. Two hands may be used when a Junior Horse is being shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore. When split reins are used and the ends fall on the side of the reining hand, one finger between the reins is permitted. When using Romal or if the split reins fall on the opposite side of the reining hand, no finger is allowed in between the reins. Rider may hold romal or ends of split reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided they are held with at least 16 inches of rein between the hands. When a hackamore is used, attached reins may be of hair, rope, or leather.
4. Martingales or tie downs are prohibited.
5. Entries shall be shown with a stock saddle; silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Sidesaddles are also permitted with proper attire.
6. Whips are **permitted** ~~not allowed other than with a sidesaddle.~~