

MEASUREMENT GUIDE



Guidelines for Arabian, Hackney, Saddlebred, & Shetland Measurements

BEFORE THE COMPETITION

- ✓ Confirm that your horse/pony needs to be measured. Shetlands may use a current ASPC measurement.
- ✓ Confirm the date, time, and location where the measurements will be taking place. If you have questions, please contact competition management, or refer to the competition prize list.
- ✓ The horse/pony must be entered into the competition before it can be measured.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of the Owner to have the horse/pony accustomed to the application of a measurement stick.
- ✓ The owner must be an active USEF member.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEASUREMENT CARDS

- Animals 6 years old or older will receive a card which does not have to be renewed. Animals measured in December immediately preceding the calendar year in which they turn six will be issued a measurement card that does not have to be renewed.
- Animals 5 years old and under will receive a **Temporary card** and must be measured each year until they turn 6 years old. Temporary cards expire at the end of the competition year.

HEIGHT SECTIONS

- **Arabian** - 14.2 hands
- **Hackney** - 14.2 hands
 - Harness - 12.2 hands
 - Roadster Ponies to Bike - 52 inches and under
 - Roadster Ponies to Bike - 50 inches and under
 - Roadster Ponies Under Saddle and Roadster Ponies to Wagon - 54 inches and under
- **Saddlebred** – 14.3 hands
- **Shetland**
 - Over Division – 43 to 46 inches (2-year-olds - 42 to 44.5 inches, Yearlings – 41 to 43 inches)
 - Under Division – 43 inches and under (2-year-olds – 42 inches and under, Yearlings – 41 inches and under)
 - Current ASPC measurement may be used.

WHO WILL BE CONDUCTING MEASUREMENTS?

- The measurement is performed by the C2 Steward and either the Competition Vet, a Judge, or another Steward.
- The animal is not jogged for soundness.

BEFORE THE MEASUREMENT

- Consult the prize list or contact show management for measurement schedule at the competition.
- It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the horse/pony is prepared for measurement. Horse/Pony should be calm and relaxed and accustomed to the application of a measurement stick.
- The presenter of the horse/pony must be 18 or older.

PRESENTATION OF ANIMAL

- The animal must stand square with its front legs vertical to the ground and the back of hocks vertical with the point of the quarters. The head must be held low enough to reveal the highest point of withers and no lower. Blinkers are allowed.
- Hackney pony's head should be lower than withers.
- The measurement surface must be level, a concrete or paved surface is most desirable, but a sheet of heavy plywood can be used. If no suitable surface is available, measurement will be for competition only.

SHOEING

- Shetlands may be presented with or without shoes regardless of how they are shown.
- Saddlebred ponies must be presented unshod and can measure up to 14.3.
 - A 1/4" pad or plate may be used and deducted from measurement.

DURING THE MEASUREMENT

- The Steward will review the form with the presenter. Any missing or incorrect information will be corrected.
- The Steward will conduct the measurement and complete the measurement form.
- The measurement form will be uploaded or submitted online to USEF and a verification emailed to the owner.

HEEL MEASUREMENTS

- Heel heights will be taken using a metal ruler and measuring from the skin on the lower side of the coronary band to the ground, with the ruler perpendicular to the ground.
- Arabians do not require heel heights.

APPEALS AND PROTESTS

- An Appeal can be filed **within 7 days of the date of measurement**. The owner will supply a list of at least three competitions with a three-week notice of the start date, and the Federation will select a location as convenient as possible. Testing Vet fees will apply. Blood and urine samples will be taken. Lasix may be administered. Please review GR515 and GR516. All inquiries should be sent to measurements@usef.org.
- An owner/trainer may protest the height of only one horse/pony competing in a class in which he/she is also competing.
 - The protest form will be completed and filed with the Steward at the competition.
 - The animal's heel must be measured immediately upon exiting the arena and will be accompanied by an Official until the measurement is completed, which will be done within one hour of the conclusion of the session.
 - If the animal has a Temporary card and the heel height is at or lower than what's on the card, no height measurement will be taken.
 - If an Arabian is protested, the animal will be measured for height.