

| Rule Change Type | Effective Date | Draft Received | Board Action |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Extraordinary | 4/1/2025 | 1/28/2025 | Approved 1/25/2025 |

Extraordinary Change Reason

horse welfare

Rule Change Intent

The rulebook currently contains different rules that address prohibited practices. In an effort to streamline and improve the rulebook, this rule change combines some existing prohibited practices in a single rule, while expanding the list to include other important sections, including obscuring the visibility of horses stabled on competition grounds, excessive use of draw reins, and augmented nosebands.

Regarding stabling, this proposal supports equine and human safety and wellbeing by ensuring the inside of stalls are observable by persons outside of the stalls and considers the variances in construction of stalls and venues, recognizing that in situations when the stall's original construction is such that the inside cannot be observed may occur, but is not the norm.

Proponent Details Contact Information

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Linked Rules Comments

GR839 ~~Attention Getting Devices Prohibited Practices and Equipment~~

The following contains a non-exhaustive list of practices and equipment that are prohibited. Where there is a conflict with the division rules, the more restrictive rule will prevail.

1. ***Attention Getting Devices.*** Attention getting devices and/or other noisemakers (including but not limited to tape measures, blow horns, altered bamboo poles, explosives, etc.) are not allowed in and around the make up/schooling/warm-up and competition rings during scheduled competition sessions. (Except for the National Show Horse division.) Use of explosives and fire extinguishers by or for exhibitors/competitors (except in the case of fire) is not allowed on competition grounds at any time.
2. ~~***Augmented Nosebands.***~~ *Any noseband with an interior that is abrasive is prohibited, except nosebands made of rope or rawhide.*
3. ***Poling.*** *Manual poling, or the use of offsets, is prohibited.*

GR843 Poling

~~Manual poling, or the use of offsets, is prohibited on competition grounds.~~