

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/20/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Currently the Federation does not award Para-Driving Horse of the Year. Recognition of these horses and ponies will continue to bring attention to and grow the sport of Para-Driving. This rule change adds Para Driving Single Pony and Para Driving Single Horse to the Award Categories outlined in GR 1127 3.a and 3b.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Combined Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

GR1127 Driving, Combined

[...]

3. Award Categories. Awards will be given in the following award categories for the following divisions:

a. Open & Novice Advanced divisions: Combined Driving Single Horse, Combined Driving Pair Horses, Combined Driving Four-In-Hand Horses, Combined Driving Single Pony, Combined Driving Pair Ponies, and Combined Driving Four-In-Hand Ponies.

b. Intermediate, Preliminary, and Training divisions: Combined Driving Single Horse, Combined Driving Pair Horses, Combined Driving Four-in-hand Horses, Combined Driving Single Pony, Combined Driving Pair Ponies, Combined Driving Four-in-hand Ponies, Combined Driving Single Small Pony, Combined Driving Pair Small Ponies, Combined Driving Four-in-hand Small Ponies, Combined Driving Single Very Small Equine, Combined Driving Pair Very Small Equine, and Combined Driving Four-in-hand Very Small Equine.

c. Para-Driving awards will be given in the Para-Driving Single Pony and Para Driving Single Horse categories. Para drivers competing in able bodied Combined Driving divisions will earn HOTY points for the relevant Para-Driving awards in accordance with this section.

c. Horses and ponies competing in combinations (Pair or Four-in-Hand) will accrue points by the driver's entry. A unit for a pair consists of up to three horses or ponies and is still considered the same unit until at least half of the equines have changed. A unit for a four-in-hand consists of up to five horses or ponies and is still considered the same unit until at least half of the equines have changed. A new unit will constitute a new combination and will accrue points as a new entry for that driver.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	7/18/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

After experiencing an influx of inquiries regarding the wording of the Guest Card rules for the Welsh Division, the Licensed Officials Department evaluated the current Guest Card rules in conjunction with the USEF Welsh Committee. Through discussion, we came to the realization that the Welsh Guest Card language was outdated and unclear as written. We took the opportunity to reevaluate the Guest Card restrictions and opted to allow all types of Hunter judges, not just 'R's, to officiate Welsh Pony Hunter and Welsh Pleasure classes without a Guest Card. WPCSA Approved Welsh judges can officiate the Welsh Division with a Guest Card. Guest Judges (WPCSA Approved Judges with a Guest Card) would be restricted to a two-Guest-Card lifetime limit per GR1005.6.g.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Licensed Officials

Alina Brazzil

abrazzil@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

GR1005 Officiating Eligibility and Guest Cards

35. Welsh

- a. Federation Registered Hunter judges may officiate in "A" rated Welsh Pony Hunter classes and "A" rated Welsh Pleasure classes without a Guest Card. ~~Federation Registered Hunter judges shall officiate a maximum of two times in a lifetime for "A" rated Welsh Pleasure classes.~~
- b. ~~If a Guest Judge is not a Federation Hunter Judge, the Guest Judges must be a A Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America Approved Judge in order to~~ **is permitted to** officiate in any Welsh Division classes at Federation licensed regular or local competitions ~~with and must apply for a Guest Card.~~ **See GR1005.6.g.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The intent of the opportunity class is to allow emerging athletes an opportunity to compete without paying the high show entry fees with the hope of attracting more para athletes to the sport by making it more affordable. To make showing more affordable for riders who are just starting out in para dressage, many of the para riders start out on borrowed horses and this gives them a chance to experience licensed competition without additional fees, giving us an opportunity to grow our program from the grass roots. By offering para dressage classes as opportunity classes, more riders will have exposure to the licensed competition environment.

Proponent Details Contact Information

ParaEquestrian

Laureen Johnson

lkjohnson@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Disapproval 05/28/2024

Draft 2: The Council fully supports the intent of this proposal but feels the language needs to be adjusted to ensure that competition management receives a copy of the athlete's dispensation/classification certificate.

Council - Member Services

Draft 2: Recommends Disapproval 05/20/2024

Draft 2: The Council fully supports the intent of this proposal but feels the language needs to be adjusted to ensure that competition management receives a copy of the athlete's dispensation/classification certificate. This is essential for management to determine the athlete's eligibility, grade, and authorized competing aids. The Council would recommend approval of this proposal if the wording in the second to the last sentence in GR821.2.e.1.f is changed to read: "The rider must have a national dispensation/classification certificate or FEI classification on file with the Federation and must provide such certificate or classification to competition management."

GR821 Opportunity Classes.

2. Opportunity Classes:

e. Dressage classes may be offered as Opportunity classes at Dressage Competitions or Regular/Local Competitions with "Open" Dressage classes as described below:

1. Classes are limited to the following competition levels and dressage tests:

a. Level 1 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Fourth Level.

b. Level 2 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Third Level.

c. Level 3 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Second Level.

d. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may offer two Eventing Test of Choice classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c.

e. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may also offer two dressage seat equitation classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c.

f. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may offer up to two para dressage test of choice classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c. The rider must have a national dispensation/classification certificate or FEI classification on file with the Federation and must provide said certificate or classification to competition management. See DR119.12 – DR119.14. Riders are prohibited from riding above or below their classified grade.

g. Level 4 and Level 5 competitions may not offer Opportunity classes.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/21/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Licensed Officials Department has received questions regarding the interpretation of the mileage and day restriction conflict of interest rule for Hunter and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges. This rule is intended to clarify how the restriction is implemented in relation to Federation licensed rated hunter and hunter/jumper competitions.

As proposed, this rule would allow Hunter Judges to officiate back-to-back weeks within a 125 radial miles so long as they do not officiate the same section when the section is rated the same.

In the following examples, Week 1 and Week 2 are within 125 radial miles and 20-days of each other. Please note that sections at Hunter competitions are no longer referred to as "A" or "AA" rated. As defined in GR312, certain hunter sections and classes will hold the same rating of the competition (Premier, National, or Regional).

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Licensed Officials	Alina Brazzil abrazzil@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Intent Guide:

Hunter Judges		
Week 1	Week 2	Permitted or Not Permitted?
Officiate the Premier 3'6" Performance Hunter section	Officiate the National 3'6" Performance Hunter section	Permitted
Officiate the Premier 3'6" Performance Hunter section	Officiate the Premier 3'6" Performance Hunter section	Not permitted (same section with same rating)
Officiate the Premier 3'3" Performance Hunter section	Officiate the National 3'6" Performance Hunter section	Permitted
Officiate the Premier Performance Hunter section	Officiate the Premier Regular Pony Hunter section	Permitted
Officiate the Premier Performance Hunter section	Officiate the Regional Performance Hunter section	Permitted
Officiate the Premier rated International Hunter Derby class	Officiate the National rated National Hunter Derby class	Permitted
Officiate the Premier rated International Hunter Derby class	Officiate the Premier rated International Hunter Derby class	Not permitted (same Derby class with same rating)
Officiate the National rated International Hunter Derby class	Officiate the Regional rated National Hunter Derby class	Permitted

Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges		
Week 1	Week 2	Permitted or Not Permitted?
Officiate the USEF Hunter Seat Medal class at a Premier rated competition	Officiate the USEF Hunter Seat Medal class at a National rated competition	Not permitted (same class)
Officiate the ASPCA Horsemanship class at a Premier rated competition	Officiate the USEF Hunter Seat Medal class at a Premier rated competition	Permitted
Officiate the USEF Hunter Seat Medal class at a Premier rated competition	Officiate the USEF Hunter Seat Medal class at a Regional rated competition	Not permitted (same class)

GR 1039.3

~~3. A judge may not officiate more than one time within 125 radial miles during any 20-day period in the following circumstances:~~

- ~~a. In any one of the following classes at Premier and National rated competitions: ASPCA Horsemanship, Washington International Horse Show Equitation, USEF Show Jumping Talent Search, or the USEF Hunter Seat Medal at Premier or National rated competitions~~
- ~~b. In the same "A", Premier, or National rated section (Exception: Federation Licensed Special Competitions).~~
- ~~c. In the Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Friesian, Hackney, Morgan, National Show Horse, Roadster, or American Saddlebred division or section.~~

3. Within 125 radial miles during any 20-day period:

- a. Hunter Judges are:**
 - i. Prohibited from officiating the same section at the same rating.**
 - ii. Prohibited from officiating the same USHJA Hunter Derby class (Pony, National, or International) at the same rating.**

Exception: Hunter Judges officiating at Federation Licensed Special Competitions are not restricted by this rule.
- b. Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges are prohibited from officiating the same ASPCA Horsemanship, Washington International Horse Show Equitation, USEF Show Jumping Talent Search, or USEF Hunter Seat Medal class. Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges may officiate different classes more than once during that period.**
- c. Judge are prohibited from officiating more than once in the Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Friesian, Hackney, Morgan, National Show Horse, Roadster, or American Saddlebred division.**
- d. Judges are prohibited from officiating more than once in the same "A" rated section.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/24/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to improve member experience and processing times, the Federation is moving away from paper applications and replacing them with online applications. This rule change is to remove all references in the rulebook to paper application for horse and membership forms and the post competition report.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Bill Moroney	Lisa Owens lowens@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 411 (084-23)	

Committee Actions	
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 05/20/2024	Draft 1: The Council strongly feels that the forms need to remain available online for downloading, due to the large number of exhibitors in the Amish communities and exhibitors of Spanish speaking origin. These downloadable forms could be used for assistance in getting the information in the online format.
Council - Intl Discipline	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024	
Council - Member Services	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024	

GR201 Membership

1. Competing Membership(s)

Competing members are those individuals who desire to participate in Federation Licensed Competitions as Life or Active members as defined in Bylaw 212.

a. Life Member. Life Members are those persons who have made a single payment of the fee, established by the Federation. They shall be exempt from annual dues.

b. Active Member. Active Members are those Members who have paid the requisite annual dues. For purposes of these rules, 'Senior Active Members' are those Active or Life Members who have reached their 18th birthday. 'Junior Active Members' are those Active or Life Members who have not reached their 18th birthday, as provided for in GR128.

2. Non-competing Membership(s)

Non-competing members are those individuals who do not desire to participate in Federation Licensed Competitions. Non-competing members are not eligible to participate as a licensed official, rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, owner, lessee, agent, trainer, coach, competition manager, or competition secretary. The non-competing membership options are described on the membership application form.

GR203 Effective Date of Membership

1. Effective Date of Memberships

a. Membership is effective the date the correct application and fees are received **by** in the Federation office, with the following exceptions:

~~1. For applications submitted at Licensed Dressage Competitions, applications are considered effective on the date the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary provided the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary on that same day.~~

~~2.1. Applications completed online at any Dressage competition are effective the date the application is submitted.~~

~~3. For applications submitted at all Competitions other than Dressage Competitions, applications are considered effective on the start date of said Competition provided the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary and the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary during the period of the Competition.~~

~~4.2. Applications completed online at any competition other than Dressage are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, the start date of the Competition.~~

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

1. General Provisions.

[...]

h. License Modification. Any changes to the License agreement including location, dates, rating, level, or prize money, will require a license modification request and payment of a fee. Any modifications resulting in a conflict will result in the loss of Priority Date Holder status. Any modification not resulting in a conflict shall comply with the provisions set forth below in order to retain Priority Date Holder status. The Federation may or may not approve the requested changes. Exception: Eventing competitions without mileage conflict requesting changes outlined in GR302.1h5 must follow the Eventing competition modification process outlined in GR302.2g.

1. Holding a competition on a date(s) other than that approved shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the date(s) is received **in by** the Federation's ~~office~~ at least 30 calendar days prior to the competition and permission is duly given. Exception: Eventing competitions.
2. Holding a competition at a location other than as stated on the date application shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the location is received **in by** the Federation's ~~office~~ at least 60 calendar days prior to the competition date and permission is duly given. Exception: Eventing Competitions. For eventing competitions, requests for change of location must be received at least 240 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.

GR308 National Championships

The Federation shall have the exclusive right to designate national championships in the disciplines for which the Federation is designated as the National Governing Body by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and in the disciplines for which the Federation is designated as the National Federation by the Federation Equestre Internationale (Dressage, Driving, Endurance, Reining, Show Jumping, Three-Day Eventing, Para-Equestrian and Vaulting). The allocation of national championships in the foregoing disciplines, including issuance of date approvals, licensing of officials, approval of name and all copyright, trademark, trade name, television, video and other broadcast rights and all sponsorship matters shall be solely reserved to the CEO acting upon the advice and recommendation of the relevant Council. All persons or organizations, including affiliate organizations, organizing committees and/or competitions managements, wishing to receive Federation approval to hold a national championship in the foregoing divisions must apply to the Federation in writing on appropriate form(s) provided by the Federation and received by the Federation's ~~office~~ by the applicable deadline. The CEO shall be entitled to condition the Federation's designation and granting of approval for a national championship in any manner that they deem appropriate in their discretion.

GR501 Other Measurement Rules

For all measurements, references to the measurement form implies ~~either the paper or~~ electronic version of the form. The rules in Chapter 5 do not apply to measurement of entries in Hunter, Jumper, and Welsh Pony Divisions: refer to rules HJ126-138. For Combined Driving, see Appendix DC-A Measurement of Combined Driving Ponies. For Dressage, see DR135. For all other measurements, see GR502-518.

GR514 Results of Questioning or Protesting

1. The measurement card or valid measurement form of any pony that is required to transfer into another division or section must be surrendered to the competition steward or technical delegate who must forward it to the Federation ~~office~~ with their report.

GR1011 Special Judge

4. Application must be received **in by** the Federation ~~office~~ at least 21 days prior to the start of the competition. In cases where special applications are received prior to the competition, but less than 21 days prior, the competition must pay a processing fee. If management disputes that the application was not timely filed or that the above fine is not properly owing, it may request a procedural review of these issues before the CoChairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees, provided that the request is made in writing to the Federation within 30 days of management's receipt of the Federation's notice of fine, specifying the grounds for the procedural review. The Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees may waive a part or all of the fee upon a finding of good cause why the application was not

timely filed and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the fee.

GR1015 Special Steward

4. Application must be received ~~in~~ **by** the Federation ~~office~~ at least 21 days prior to the competition. In cases where the special applications are received prior to the competition, but less than 21 days prior, the competition must pay a processing fee. If management disputes that the application was not timely filed or that the above fine is not properly owing, it may request a procedural review of these issues before the Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees, provided that the request is made within 30 days of management's receipt of the Federation's notice of fine, specifying the grounds for the appeal. The Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees may waive a part or all of the fine upon a finding of good cause why the application was not timely filed and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the fee.

GR1024 Special Hunter Course Designer

4. Application must be received ~~in~~ **by** the Federation ~~office~~ at least 21 days prior to the start of the competition. In cases where special applications are received prior to the competition, but less than 21 days prior, the competition must pay a processing fee. If management disputes that the application was not timely filed or that the above fine is not properly owing, it may appeal in writing to the Federation within 30 days of management's receipt of the Federation's notice of fine, specifying the grounds for the appeal. The Federation's CEO or their designee, a special committee appointed by the President or the Hearing Committee will consider the appeal and may waive a part or all of the fee upon a finding of good cause why the application was not timely filed and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the fee.

GR1025 Special Jumper Course Designer

4. Application must be received ~~in~~ **by** the Federation ~~office~~ at least 21 days prior to the start of the competition. In cases where special applications are received prior to the competition, but less than 21 days prior, the competition must pay a processing fee. If management disputes that the application was not timely filed or that the above fine is not properly owing, it may appeal in writing to the Federation within 30 days of management's receipt of the Federation's notice of fine, specifying the grounds for the appeal. The Federation's CEO or their designee, a special committee appointed by the President or the Hearing Committee will consider the appeal and may waive a part or all of the fee upon a finding of good cause why the application was not timely filed and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the fee.

GR1101 Horse Identification Number and Horse Identification Form

1. All horses competing in Federation licensed competitions must be properly identified. For all such competitions, entries for each horse must include a Federation-issued Unique Horse Identification Number. Additionally, a Federation Recognized Discipline Affiliate may require horses to be registered with their organization, and if so, the entry must also include that registration number.
2. The Federation will issue only one Unique Horse ID Number per horse. This Unique Horse ID number must subsequently remain with the horse in perpetuity, and shall not be changed for any reason, including upgrade from Unique Horse ID to a Recording, change of ownership, change of name, or death.
3. Prior to submitting an application for a new Unique Horse ID number, it is the owner's responsibility to verify the current ID status of a horse through a Horse Recording/ID search, (the

assistance of Federation staff may be requested). Anyone who knowingly seeks to obtain an additional Unique Horse ID Number for a horse which has previously been issued one is subject to disciplinary action.

4. The Federation must be notified of any change of ownership and/or competition name of the horse.

5. Owners are requested to notify the Federation of corrections to previously submitted information, e.g., names, addresses, breed registration, pedigree, or markings.

6. A Unique Horse ID number can be upgraded to Federation recording. The Unique Horse ID Number will remain the same.

7. Applications for Unique Horse ID Numbers and/or recordings can be completed online at www.usef.org ~~using the Horse application form which can also be downloaded. The ID application form is also available on request from the Federation office, and from competition management.~~

8. Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors in their prize lists of the Unique Horse ID Number requirement, and availability of Horse ID Number application ~~forms~~ **on the Federation website.**

9. There will be no charge for Unique Horse ID Numbers that are issued via the internet to members of USEF or its affiliates for: 1) horses that are life recorded, registered or otherwise identified or listed with a USEF discipline affiliate, or 2) horses registered with a USEF breed affiliate. Horses not meeting the above criteria must have a completed USEF Horse application indicating on the application the request for a Horse ID before a number will be issued. This form can be completed on the internet, free of charge, at www.usef.org.

GR1102 Horse Recordings

1. Using each horse's Unique Horse ID number the Federation maintains the only official record of winnings for Federation awards, Federation ranking lists, Federation qualifying classes and Federation championships of horses at all Regular Competitions. To keep these records consistent, a horse should be recorded with the Federation in the same name of horse and owner under which it is exhibited at competitions. The Federation's horse recording records are not a title registry and the Federation does not decide, otherwise resolve, or become involved in ownership disputes.

2. Horses must be recorded in order to be eligible for National, Regional, or Zone Horse of the Year Awards (see GR1110), and to enter a USEF Show Jumping Ranking List class. (Exception: Horses entered in a USEF Show Jumping Ranking List class that are owned by a member of another National Federation and, have proof, in English, of current membership in good standing of their own National Federation, GR901.9, item 9.)

3. Horses must be recorded in order to be eligible to compete in USEF/USDF qualifying classes for dressage championships and will not be credited with qualifying for the Regional Finals for Dressage Championships until they are recorded in the name of the current owner or lessee of record and unless they are entered in qualifying classes under their official recorded names and ownership. The responsibility for such recording rests entirely with the exhibitor.

4. Horses competing in divisions restricted to a particular breed may be recorded with the Federation under any name but if registered in a Breed Registry, the registered name must also be given.

a. To maintain breeding identification, exhibitors may not shorten horses' names by dropping registered prefixes.

5. Horse recording applications are available ~~from the Federation office~~ or online at www.usef.org. The recording fee is discounted for the life of a horse if applied for from birth to December 31st of year foaled. A recording may also be activated on an annual basis, using each horse's Unique Horse ID number. Exception: Horses must be recorded for life to be eligible to receive FEI or National Passports. To qualify for the age discount, registration papers and/or other proof of age must be provided. The fees can be found on the horse recording application at www.usef.org.

6. Once a foal year has been submitted to the Federation office, the original date cannot be changed without a copy of the animal's breed registration papers or a signed statement from a veterinarian certifying the animal's age.

7. A horse's Federation Recording may be made retroactive to cover bad points earned at Federation Licensed Competitions (Exception: Dressage) so long as a complete horse recording is received by the Federation within ten days of the Federation sending notification of bad points earned to the owner.

GR1103 FEI Horse Passports

1. Horses must be life recorded with the Federation. To be listed in the passport, the owner(s) of the horse must be active member(s) of the Federation. The passport application and applicable fee must be submitted by the recorded owner (agent's signature is not acceptable) for a specific horse.

2. FEI passport applications can be found on the Federation website ~~or obtained from the Federation office~~. The horse's name on the passport must match its life recording with the Federation exactly.

3. Group-rate passports are available for Pairs and Teams of driving horses as follows:

a. For Pairs of two, three, or four horses and Teams of four, five, or six horses (all horses with the same owner), the first FEI Horse passport is issued for the current individual rate and each additional FEI Horse passport (up to six) is issued for 50% of the cost of the initial passport. To qualify for this group rate, the passport applications for all horses in the Pair or Team must be submitted (by the owner) simultaneously and clearly marked "Driving Pair / Horses" or "Driving Team / Horses."

b. If an existing Pair or Team has FEI Horse passports and a horse is replaced, the new horse will be issued an FEI Horse Passport at the current individual rate (see also GR1103.5 and .6).

4. Group-rate passports are available for Pairs and Teams of driving ponies as follows:

a. For Pairs of two, three, or four ponies and Teams of four, five, or six ponies (all ponies with the same owner), the first FEI Pony Passport is issued for the current individual rate and each additional FEI Pony Passport (up to six) is issued for 50% of the cost of the initial passport. To qualify for this group rate, the passport applications for all ponies in the Pair or Team must be submitted (by the owner) simultaneously and clearly marked "Driving Pair / Ponies" or "Driving Team / Ponies."

b. If an existing Pair or Team has FEI Pony Passports and a pony is replaced, the new pony will be issued an FEI Pony Passport at the current individual rate (see also GR1103.5 and .6).

5. In accordance with GR1105 and GR1107, any change of the horse's name, or ownership must be recorded with and the passport sent in to the Federation for processing.

6. Passports in need of change of ownership or nationality must be submitted to the Federation; applications and fee structure are available on the Federation website ~~or obtained from the Federation office~~. The horse must be recorded with the National Federation of the new owner.

7. All passports sent to the Federation for processing will be reviewed for compliance with current FEI regulations including those for Equine Influenza.

8. Passports must be revalidated every four years. Applications are available on the Federation website or obtained from the Federation office.

9. Duplicate passports may be issued for lost or filled passports. The ~~request~~ **application** for a duplicate passport must be signed by the owner of record, and in the case the passport is filled, the old passport must **be sent to the USEF office accompany the letter of request**.

GR1105 Transfer of Ownership

1. Ownership of a Federation recorded horse may be transferred during the year without affecting the animal's points provided proper authorization and fee are received by the Federation ~~office~~.

Authorization for transfer of ownership of a horse holding a recording with the Federation may be submitted in the form of a signed Federation recording certificate or a proper bill of sale. Authorization

must be signed by the previously recorded owner(s). If these documents are unavailable, a Federation transfer affidavit may be obtained from the Federation office which must be completed, signed, notarized and returned to the Federation office with proof of ownership. Transfer documents and payment must be submitted online via the new owner's MY USEF account or mailed to the Federation office. A horse will not be eligible to receive points under its new ownership until the conditions of GR1110 and GR1111 are met. The fees can be found on the horse transfer form at www.usef.org.

2. Authorization for transfer of ownership of a horse or pony that is or has been in possession of a Federation measurement card may be submitted in the form of a bill of sale signed by the previous owner or a copy of breed registration papers issued to the new owner. There is no fee to transfer ownership of a horse or pony possessing only a Federation measurement card.

3. Authorization for transfer of ownership within a family (as defined in GR123) may be submitted **online** in writing and signed by the previous owner(s) and the new owner(s). There is no fee to transfer a horse/pony within a family.

GR1107 Change of Name

1. The recorded name of a horse competing in divisions that do not require breed registration may be changed by submission of the recording certificate to the Federation office accompanied by the required fee. The recorded name of a horse can also be changed by submitting the Horse Name Change Request form which lists the fee and can be found at www.usef.org. Name changes may also be submitted online via the owner's MY USEF account.

GR1110 General

1. Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received by the Federation offices. **For these points to count with respect to any competition, the required materials and fees must be received by the Federation on or before the first licensed day of such competition.** Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards defined in GR1132, GR1133 or GR1134, will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted **online** at Licensed Competitions:

a. For Dressage Competitions:

1. ~~Applications are considered effective on the date the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary provided the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary on that same day.~~

2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective the date the application is submitted.

b. For all Competitions other than Dressage Competitions:

1. ~~Applications are considered effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of said Competition provided the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary and the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary during the period of the Competition.~~

2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of the Competition.

2. ~~For points to count with respect to any competition, the required materials and fees must be received by the Federation office (or by the Competition Secretary - see below) on or before the first licensed day~~

of such competition. Furthermore, for points to count in Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, applicable materials and fees must be received by the USHJA office on or before the first licensed day of such competition. Exception: Applications for Federation and/or USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions:

1. For Dressage Competitions:

a. Applications are considered effective on the date the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary provided the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary on that same day.

2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective the date the application is submitted.

b. For all Competitions other than Dressage Competitions:

1. Applications are considered effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of said Competition provided the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary and the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary during the period of the Competition.

2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of the Competition.

GR1132 Hunter and Equitation Divisions

1. Eligibility

a. Points toward any Horse of the Year Award for the Hunter Division will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received **online** by the Federation offices. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards for the Hunter Division will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, transfer of ownership, name change, or addition of owner(s) and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and **USHJA Horse Recordings Registrations** submitted at Licensed Competitions.

b. USHJA Zone points toward any Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Division Rider of the Year Awards will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA registration, and rider's USEF and USHJA's active membership are received by the Federation and USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and USHJA Horse Registration submitted at Licensed Competitions.

GR1133 Pony Hunter Breeding and Hunter Breeding

1. Eligibility- Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received **online** by the Federation offices. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owners(s) and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the

USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions.

GR1134 Jumpers

1. Eligibility. Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received by the Federation office. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions.

GR1210 General

Apply annually to the Federation for dates for the competition.

1. Medal Classes.

- a. Competitions offering Hunter/Jumping Seat Medal classes must offer at least three additional classes under Federation rules suitable for those competitors who are eligible to compete in the Medal. These classes do not have to be Equitation classes.
- b. Competitions cannot restrict cross entries between Medal classes.
- c. NOTE: Permission to hold a Medal class will not be granted to more than one, one day Licensed Competition held on consecutive days with the same management at the same location.
- d. Following the holding of the USEF Hunter Seat Medal, the USEF Adult Equitation Class and/or the USEF Pony Medal Class, Competition Management shall forward to the Federation a total amount representing the per entry fee in each class.
- e. Following the holding of Federation Saddle Seat Medal and Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes, Competition Management shall forward to the Federation a total amount representing the per entry fee in each class.
- f. Following the holding of USEF Western Equitation Junior Medal and Adult Amateur Medal Classes, Competition Management shall forward to the Federation a fee per rider in each class.

2. National competition grounds must have a level surface area for measurement (when there are divisions that require measurement) in accordance with GR507.

3. See that animals required to be measured are correctly measured by the rules and order the measurement of any horse whose height or length of foot is protested by an exhibitor.

4. Competition management must place a minimum of one (1) sharps container per competition, regardless of whether stabling is provided.

- a. If stabling is provided, for every fifty (50) occupied stalls, one (1) sharps container must be provided for the disposal of needles and other disposable sharp instruments. These containers must be placed in visible, accessible, and convenient locations in barns housing competition horses.
- b. Sharps Containers: A sharps container is made of puncture-resistant plastic with leak-resistant sides and bottom. It has a tight fitting, puncture resistant lid, which does not allow sharps to come out of the container. Sharps containers must be properly labeled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container. Sharps containers must not be altered in any way from its manufactured form, such as

removal of security measures or drilling of the plastic. Sharps containers must be protected from the elements as to not collect rainwater.

c. It is competition management's responsibility to dispose of contents of sharps containers when the container is three-quarters (3/4) full, in accordance with community guidelines for proper disposal methods. Competition management may fine any individuals including trainers, owners, exhibitors, or their agents up to \$100.00 for improper disposal of needles or other sharp disposable instruments. d. If local law has more stringent requirements than the above, related to sharps containers or disposal, local law will prevail. Competitions that fail to place the required number of containers on the competition grounds or dispose of the contents properly will be considered in violation of the rules and may be subject to penalty as determined by the CEO or their designee and/or the Hearing Committee.

5. Competition Management is required to submit a Post Competition Report, along with the appropriate fees, to the Federation, ~~postmarked or~~ electronic date stamped within 10 calendar days after the close of the competition. Fees must be submitted by ~~cashier/company/personal~~ check, money order, credit card, or wire transfer; cash will not be accepted as proper payment. For purposes of this rule, a Post Competition Report shall include all appropriate fees ~~and the following properly completed forms: a Post Competition Report Form, Membership Applications and Horse Recording Applications.~~ A fine of \$100 will be imposed on any Competition Management which fails to submit any appropriate fees with the Post Competition Report ~~postmarked or~~ electronic date stamped within 10 calendar days after the end of the competition. Competition Management disputing that the fee/fine is properly owing may appeal in writing to the Federation within 30 days of the date of the notice of outstanding fees and fines. The Federation's CEO or their designee will consider the appeal and may waive part or all of the fine upon a finding of good cause why the payment was not submitted in a timely fashion and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the automatic penalty.

GR1213 Entries

1. The name of any exhibitor whose fees are not negotiable must be reported in writing to the Federation within 90 days of the close of the competition. (See GR913).
2. If there is a closing date, the competition must acknowledge all entries made by that date.
3. Ensure that no entry will compete until or unless the exhibitor and the rider, driver, or handler and trainer, or agent(s) of such person(s), have signed an entry blank, including all post entries. In the case of a rider, driver or handler under 18, their parent or guardian, or if not available, the trainer, must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf.
4. ~~Have available applications for amateur status.~~ If a rider or driver in amateur classes does not possess current amateur certification, the secretary must require the individual to complete the necessary **online status declaration** application (see GR1307).

GR1302 Duties

1. Every exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, and trainer or their agent(s) must sign an entry blank (see GR404 and GR908.2). In the case of a rider, driver, or handler under 18, their parent or guardian, or if not available, the trainer, must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf.
2. Every exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, and trainer or their agents must provide on the competition entry blank, all information required under Federation rules. Exhibitors are responsible for their own

errors and those of their agents in the preparation of entry blanks.

a. The following credentials must be made available to Competition Management. Competitions may, at their discretion, confirm any of the below electronically with the Federation Office:

1. Original or copies of Federation membership cards., ~~Exemption: Applications completed at the competition. The member will retain the pink copy of the membership application form which, when properly signed by Competition Secretary, is valid for 45 days from the date signed or until the membership card is received from the Federation.~~
2. Copies of Federation Measurement cards;
3. Federation Amateur Certification;
4. Federation horse recordings for USEF/USDF qualifying classes for dressage championships and USEF/USDF Dressage Championships (see DR127.2).
5. Registration papers showing proof of ownership or a copy of the registration papers with a Certificate of Eligibility to Show issued by the American Saddlebred Registry for horses entered in classes restricted to American Saddlebreds must be submitted either with entry form at the time of making entry or submitted to the show office before show numbers will be released. If a copy is sent with the entry form, the copy of registration papers will be returned when exhibitors pick up their numbers, if requested by the exhibitor. Original or copies of United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc., membership card, if applicable.

b. Exhibitors are urged to submit photostatic copy of all required credentials with their entry blanks. (Exception: measurement cards, see Rules GR502.1 and HJ135).

c. If an exhibitor does not submit the proper membership documentation to the competition and the competition cannot verify such information, (with the exception of Federation measurement cards) the exhibitor will be responsible to pay a Show Pass fee which is non-refundable.

GR1307 Amateur Status

1. Only Senior Active Members of the Federation may obtain amateur status. Every person who has reached their 18th birthday and competes in classes for amateurs under Federation rules must possess current amateur status issued by the Federation. Amateur status will be issued only ~~on receipt of the application properly signed, or~~ on receipt of an online status declaration, and is revocable at any time for cause. Any person who has not reached their 18th birthday is an amateur and does not require amateur status. Exceptions:

- a. Amateur status is not required for Arabian ATR/AATR Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 11 and Over classes or Opportunity classes or Lite Competitions except for the Dressage classes and divisions that are restricted to amateurs. If Opportunity classes are offered at Dressage Competitions or Regular/Local Competitions with "Open" Dressage classes and are restricted to amateurs, riders are required to have amateur status with the Federation.
- b. Equestrian Canada members in possession of current EC membership may sign for Federation Amateur status on a show by show basis at no cost.

2. Foreign riders requesting Federation Amateur status, must be a Senior, or Life Competing Member of the Federation.

3. There is no fee for amateur status. An amateur continues to be such until they have received a change in status from the Federation. Any amateur who wishes to be re-classified on the grounds that they have engaged in or is planning on engaging in activities which would prevent them from continuing to remain an amateur must notify the Federation in writing.

4. Any professional who wishes to be reclassified as an amateur on the grounds that they have not engaged in the activities which made them a professional within the last twelve months must complete the reclassification process outlined below.

- a. Such person shall submit to the Hearing Committee an amateur reclassification request which is supported by:
 - i. A notarized letter signed by themselves briefly outlining their previous horse related professional activities and outlining their current activities performed within the twelve months since professional activities have ceased;
 - ii. Two or more notarized letters from any Active Competing Federation members stating the relationship with the applicant, outlining the applicants activities for the previous twelve-month period, and testifying that the applicant has not engaged in any activities which would make them a professional as outlined in GR1306 during that period;
 - iii. A processing fee; and
 - iv. Sign and declare amateur status on a current **online** Federation membership application or through an online status declaration. The burden of proof of proving amateur status is on the applicant. The Hearing Committee may call for and/or consider any and all further evidence and facts which it deems pertinent. The decision of the Hearing Committee on the reclassification request shall be final.
 - v. EXCEPTION: Any amateur 25 and under, who has engaged in professional activities (as defined herein) may reapply for their amateur status utilizing a 3-month waiting period. The 3 month option is only available for a one-time use. Any subsequent application for amateur status would require a twelve-month waiting period.

Please contact the Federation office for information regarding international/professional licenses.

GR1308 Membership and Document Requirements

1. To be eligible to participate as a rider, driver, owner, handler, vaulter, longeur, lessee or agent at Federation Licensed Competitions, persons must be Members of the Federation as provided in GR202 or if not a member, must pay a Show Pass fee as provided in GR206 (for exceptions see GR901.9).
Exception: Applications for Federation Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted **online** at Licensed Competitions:
 - a. For Dressage Competitions:
 - ~~1. Applications are considered effective on the date the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary provided the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary on that same day.~~
 2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective the date the application is submitted.
 - b. For all Competitions other than Dressage Competitions:
 - ~~1. Applications are considered effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of said Competition provided the application and dues are received by the Competition Secretary and the application is signed and dated by the Competition Secretary during the period of the Competition.~~
 2. Applications completed online at the competition are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of the Competition.
 - c. Lessees are considered owners in connection with this membership requirement. When an entry is under multiple ownership, only one owner need be a Member or pay a Show Pass fee.
2. ~~Memberships completed at the competition must be forwarded to the Federation office within ten (10) days of the close of the competition as part of the full competition results, which are defined in GR1214. The member's copy of the application is valid for 45 days or until the membership card is~~

received from the Federation.

a. The following credentials must be available to Competition Management and the Federation steward/technical delegate. Competitions may, at their discretion, confirm any of the below electronically with the Federation office:

1. Amateur Status.
2. Copies of Junior Hunter and pony measurement cards.
3. Federation membership cards or a copy thereof. ~~Exception: Applications completed at the competition. The member will retain the pink copy of the membership application form which, when properly signed by the Competition Secretary, is valid for 45 days from the date signed.~~
4. Federation horse recordings for USEF/USDF qualifying classes for dressage championships (see DR127.2), and USEF/USDF Dressage Championships (see DR127.2).

AR110 Abbreviations of Class Specifications/Junior Exhibitor/Amateur Requirements/Ages

7. Adult Amateur Exhibitor Classes – Age

b. Every adult amateur contestant that has reached their 19th birthday as of December 1 of the previous calendar year must hold amateur status.

1. Every person who has reached their 19th birthday and competes in classes for amateurs under Federation rules must possess current amateur certification issued by the Federation. This certification must be available for inspection or the competitor must have lodged with the competition secretary, at least one hour prior to such class. An application form for such certification may be obtained *online* from the Federation. Certification will be issued only on receipt of the application properly signed and is revocable at any time for cause.

DR127 USEF/USDF Qualifying and Championship Classes and USEF/USDF National Championships for Dressage

1. The Federation recognizes special competitions for Dressage Championships. Competitions licensed by the Federation in the Competition category of “Dressage Competition” and who wish to hold qualifying classes for one or more of these Championships should request information from the International Disciplines Department at the Federation or from USDF. Dressage Competitions offering these classes shall make a complete report to the Federation and to USDF in order that membership and horse recordings can be checked. Complete results must be submitted to the Federation and USDF in compliance with GR1214, including names, addresses, individual membership numbers and horse recording numbers of all class entries and the number of all ribbon winners.

2. Unless specified otherwise in published selection procedures, all qualifying competitions for USEF/USDF Championships are open only to horses that have been recorded with the Federation, ridden by Junior Active, Senior Active, or Life Members. Annual or lifetime Horse Recording is required and horses with only HID numbers are not eligible. Horse owners must also be Junior Active, Senior Active or Life Members. If the horse has more than one owner, at least one owner must have both active Federation Junior Active, Senior Active or Life membership and active USDF Participating or Business Membership. For a business or farm to be the valid owner under this requirement, it must be listed as an owner of the horse with both the Federation and USDF. Responsibility to record their horse(s) with and become members of the Federation rests entirely with the competitors. Qualifications will not count until the applications and fees for the horse’s recording and rider’s and owner’s Junior Active, Senior Active, or Life Membership are received by the Federation, unless submitted according to the provisions of GR203.1 and GR1309.1. Horses must be entered in qualifying and championship classes under their official recorded names and ownership as specified in GR1102.3, and transfers of ownership or lease registrations must be completed in compliance with GR1105 and GR1108 prior to the competition in order for the horse to compete under the name of the new owner or lessee. It is further provided that

for qualifications to count with respect to any competition, such materials and fees must be received by the Federation office on or before the first recognized day of such competition, unless submitted according to the provisions of GR201.7 and GR1309.1. Qualifications are not retroactive. Competition secretaries of Federation Dressage Competitions are responsible to the Federation to ensure that horses in qualifying and championship classes are recorded in compliance with GR1102 and riders and owners are current members of the Federation and meet other requirements as set forth in the description of the Championship Classes, including that USDF membership and horse registration requirements are current. Copies of documents submitted by competitors to verify Federation and USDF membership and horse recording must be available in the competition office. Information on USDF membership and horse registration requirements is available through the USDF office. Affidavits will not be accepted for Federation or USDF membership or horse recording verification purposes for entry in Championship classes.

EQ111 Requirements for Specific Classes

5. USEF ADULT EQUITATION CLASS. Open to Amateur Senior Members of the Federation and USHJA. Application for membership and amateur certification can be made ~~online directly to the Federation, or the exhibitor can join prior to the class through the Federation Steward.~~ Only one rider per horse. To be shown over a course of not less than eight obstacles at 3'3". The course must include one combination which includes an oxer and two changes of direction after the first obstacle. Two or more tests of the top four competitors are required (See EQ113 for approved tests). To fill a class three competitors must complete the course. The winner will receive an embossed certificate from the Federation. Points will count as follows toward the annual USEF High Point Adult Equitation Rider Award. Classes where six (6) or more entries complete the course: 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Classes where three (3) to five (5) entries complete the course: 3, 2, 1. If there are 50 or more entries at the beginning of this class, it must be divided by every other number and run as two separate classes.

EQ119 Requirements for Specific Classes

12. USEF SADDLE SEAT MEDAL CLASS (17 & Under and Adult/Amateur).

a. Conditions Governing Competitors in USEF Saddle Seat Medal Classes

1. USEF Medal Classes are open to Individual Junior Members in good standing who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR128. Exception: Saddle Seat Adult Amateur classes are open to amateur riders 18 years of age or older. Affiliated Members are not eligible. No credit will be given for winnings before a competitor becomes a member.

2. Application for membership can be made directly to the Federation, ~~or the exhibitor can join prior to the class through the steward.~~

3. In Saddle Seat only the first place winner is eliminated from further qualifying classes during that year. In Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes a win does not eliminate a rider from further competition for the remainder of the year.

4. The winner of a Medal Class Final is no longer eligible to compete in Medal classes in the division in which the Final was won. (Exception: Winners of the Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final will be eliminated from further competition in Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes after two (2) consecutive or non-consecutive wins of the Final).

HJ127 General

1. Horses or ponies competing in any division, section, or class where height is a requirement must be measured. Measurements will be conducted in accordance with Subchapter HJ-7 Measurement.

2. Competition Management is required to check measurement cards for horses or ponies showing in

divisions, sections, or classes where height is a requirement. Management shall not provide a back number to an animal entered in such sections unless the exhibitor or their agent is in possession of:

- a. the original or a copy of a measurement card issued by the Federation.
- b. a copy of a valid measurement form.

3. It is the responsibility of each owner to possess a valid measurement card for horses and ponies showing in divisions, sections, or classes where height is a requirement.

4. Failure to comply with this rule by the owner, trainer or competition may result in disciplinary action.

5. Competition management may, at its discretion, confirm any of the foregoing information electronically with the Federation office.

6. All horses and ponies that are presented for measurement of any kind are subject to drug testing.

7. Measurements must be performed by a steward certified to measure and the official competition veterinarian. The official competition veterinarian must confirm the age of the horse or pony and that it was jogged and is serviceably sound. Upon the official competition veterinarian's verification of soundness, the steward's measurement is final. The steward shall sign the measurement form. A steward may not measure a horse or pony that is owned by a member of their family or by any of theirs or their family member's clients. (See GR1041.4)

a. ~~Written or e~~Electronic reports of every measurement or attempt to measure must be ~~sent~~ **submitted** to the Federation office together with the Steward's Report, or the steward may be subject to penalties per Chapter GR7.

b. The steward shall be either a steward officiating at the competition or a steward authorized in writing to conduct the measurement by the Federation CEO or their designee. The steward must be certified to measure. If the official competition veterinarian is not present at the competition, or not available when on call (see GR1211.5) the measurement may be conducted by a steward and a judge officiating at the competition, or another steward officiating at the competition; however, the measurement will be for the purposes of that competition only and no measurement card will be issued. Measurement forms will be ~~sent~~ **submitted** to the Federation, but will not be given to the owner. (Exception: Exhibitors will not be penalized by having points withheld for measurement forms that are incorrectly filled out by USEF stewards and/or competition management and/or competition veterinarians.

8. Stewards who perform measurements and other competition officials present who measure horses or ponies at a competition are responsible for their true measurement and must use the Federation approved measurement stick (See HJ130). The names of the measuring stewards will be ~~printed~~ **displayed** on the measurement card and they and other measuring officials may be subject to penalties per Chapter GR7 if it is subsequently determined that a measurement is incorrect.

9. Measurements are solely for the internal use of the Federation, its Licensed Competitions and its licensed officials in connection with competing for prizes, and do not constitute any representation or warranty regarding measurement information; accordingly, the Federation, its Licensed Competitions and its licensed officials make no representation and shall have no liability whatsoever for measurement errors.

10. Measurements must take place at a Licensed Competition in which the horse or pony is entered to compete. Once the pony or horse has been measured the measurement is effective whether or not the pony or horse does in fact compete; whether or not the pony or horse competes, it is also subject to drug testing.

11. Measurement forms received by the Federation that have inconsistencies or errors may be denied a measurement card at the discretion of the Federation. If the horse or pony is denied a measurement

card, the Federation will notify the owner of the horse or pony and the horse or pony must be measured before they are eligible to show.

HJ129 Membership Requirements and Fees

Before any animal is measured the person presenting the animal must have in their possession the owner's Federation and USHJA membership number, ~~a signed statement signifying that membership has been applied for or proof of Equine Canada membership.~~

HJ130 Completing the Measurement Form

1. The measurement form must be filled out completely ~~in triplicate~~ before measurement takes place. Measurement cards will not be issued if the form is not completely filled out and legible. Exhibitors are cautioned to make sure their measurement forms are filled out accurately and completely.
 - a. It must include the name and date of the competition, the height of the animal, name, color and markings or absence thereof, sex, year foaled which must be verified by the official competition veterinarian at time of measurement.
 - b. It must include the name and email address of the owner and their Federation membership number, ~~if applicable~~, must be given.
 - c. The trainer who signs the entry blank at the competition must furnish the above information immediately before the pony is measured, this individual is certifying that all information is complete and correct and that they are 18 years or older. The form must be signed by the measurement official appointed to measure.
 - d. Disciplinary action pursuant to the Bylaws and GR7 may result for noncompliance with this Rule. If a horse or pony is presented for measurement by a person under the age of 18 and the measurement is submitted to the Federation office, the measurement will be invalid. The official completing the form must designate on the form that the owner is a current member or that the membership has been applied for (See HJ128) and that the horse or pony is entered in a class at that competition. ~~The white A copy is given~~ **provided** to the owner or trainer and a copy, is **returned submitted** to the Federation office.
 - e. No changes can be made to such information once the form is signed. Any alterations, scratch outs, or rewrites to any part of the height must be clearly indicated and initialed by the measuring official.
2. Before an animal is measured for a measurement card, the animal must be jogged for soundness on a firm, level surface with the official competition veterinarian in attendance, and show no evidence of lameness. If found to be lame by the official competition veterinarian, said animal cannot show at that competition and no measurement may be conducted. If an animal whose height has been protested is found to be lame by the official competition veterinarian, the measurement card will be held by the Federation and the owners must request an appeal measurement in order to reinstate the card.
3. Federation officials will not perform "courtesy", "trial", or repeat measurements. Once a pony or horse is presented for measurement, the owner/agent must accept the resulting measurement.
4. The owner will receive a copy which, when properly signed by the steward who made the measurement, is valid for 45 days from the time the animal is measured, regardless of age.
5. Once a foal year has been submitted to the Federation office, the original date cannot be changed without a copy of the animal's breed registration papers or a signed statement from a veterinarian certifying the animal's age.

JP100 Eligibility

1. In order to compete in any Jumper classes at licensed competitions as an exhibitor, rider, trainer, or their agent(s), a person must be an Active member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc., or pay a Show Pass fee to the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. Exception: Local Competitions, competitions restricted to a particular breed, and exceptions listed in GR901.9.

2. USHJA Horse Registrations

a. All horses competing in Federation licensed and/or USHJA sanctioned competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes (except those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9) not restricted by breed must be properly identified in accordance with GR1101, and must also be registered with USHJA (see GR1101.1). The USEF/USHJA registration number for each horse must be entered on all entry forms for licensed competitions. Effective 5/1/23

b. Applications for USHJA Registration can be completed online at www.ushja.org or www.usef.org using the USEF Horse Registration application form. ~~This form is also available from the USHJA or Federation office, or as a download from the USHJA or Federation website or from competition management.~~ Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement in their prize list.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to increase the pool of licensed Stewards and Technical Delegates (TDs) and to provide individuals interested in becoming stewards and TDs with officiating experience, the Federation approved the use of Applicant Stewards and Applicant TDs (subject to completion of certain requirements and training including Safe Sport, background check, and educational modules) to officiate at USEF Lite Competitions. This also helps USEF Lite competition organizers, who are often working with limited resources, offset the cost of hiring a steward or TD and provides them with a larger pool of eligible individuals who are in closer proximity to their competition. Since performing Federation measurements takes specialized training and additional certification (even for already licensed Steward and TDs), it would not be prudent to mandate the requirement for measurement cards at USEF Lite competitions for those classes limited by size of horse or pony. Many participants at USEF Lite competitions are not interested in using the competitions for purposes of earning points or qualification, but even if they are using USEF Lite competitions for eligibility for a USEF licensed championship or final, they would have to have possession of a valid Federation measurement card in order to be able to enter and compete at said championship or final, so those individuals will still have to be compliant with the measurement rules.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
CEO - Bill Moroney	Leslie Mangan lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions	
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline	
Draft 2: Recommends Disapproval 05/20/2024	Draft 2: The Council would approve of this rule change if the verbiage were removed from those breed/discipline chapters that do not require measurement cards or host classes based on the height of the horse or pony: Connemara, Friesian, and Morgan.
Council - Intl Discipline	
Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024	
Council - Member Services	
Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024	

SUBCHAPTER 3-B COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION

GR310 Restrictions on Local Competitions

[...]

7. Lite. Beginning December 1, 2022, Lite Competitions are a subtype of Local Licenses and are to be conducted in accordance with the General Chapters and applicable breed/discipline Chapter, except as stated otherwise below (Exception: Open Dressage classes are not permitted to be held at Lite Competitions):

[...]

7. Measurement

a. A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.

AR162 Height of Obstacles

1. Regular Hunter Divisions/Classes to be determined as follows (Note: any class offered at an AHA approved show that does not specifically adhere to the following nomenclature and specifications will be considered an unrated class):

[...]

k. 14.2 hands and under Working Hunter Over Fences - Open - 2'6" - must have a Federation measurement card or a Federation valid measurement form issued by the Federation in accordance with AR159.4. ***Exception: In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.***

l. 14.2 hands and under Working Hunter JTR, AATR, ATR, AOTR - 2'3" - must have a Federation measurement card or a valid Federation measurement form issued by the Federation in accordance with AR159.4. ***Exception: In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.***

m. 14.2 hand and under Green Hunter over Fences - Open - 2'3" - must have a Federation/EC measurement card or a valid Federation measurement form issued by the Federation in accordance with AR159.4. ***Exception: In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.***

CP114 Classification by Size

[...]

7. A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.

HJ127 General

1. Horses or ponies competing in any division, section or class where height is a requirement must be measured. Measurements will be conducted in accordance with Subchapter HJ-7 Measurement.

Exception: Lite competitions (see GR310.7)

2. Competition Management is required to check measurement cards for horses or ponies showing in divisions, sections, or classes where height is a requirement. ***Exception: Lite competitions (See GR310.7).*** Management shall not provide a back number to an animal entered in such sections unless the exhibitor or their agent is in possession of:

- a. the original or a copy of a measurement card issued by the Federation.
- b. a copy of a valid measurement form.

HK103 Height

[...]

2. Ponies shown in the Harness Pony and Roadster Pony sections must possess a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by the Federation. (See GR502).

Exception: ~~In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.~~

HK134 General

[...]

3. Ponies may not be shown in a Roadster performance class unless the owner possesses a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by the Federation or Management can confirm the measurement electronically with the Federation (see General Rules, GR502).

Exception: ~~In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.~~

NS106 Division of Classes

1. Classes may be divided according to:

- a. Sex or age of horse.
- b. Height—15.2 hands and under; over 15.2 hands. **A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.**
- c. Sex or Age of rider.
- d. With or without Championships.

NS147 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. Quality, animation and expression are paramount. Classes may be divided according to:

- a. Sex—Mares, Stallions/Geldings.
- b. Height—over 14.2 hands and not exceeding 15 hands; 15.2 hands and under; over 15.2 hands. **A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.**

RD101 Eligibility

[...]

2. Roadster Ponies: Registration is not required for ponies competing in the Roadster division. Ponies may not be shown in a performance class unless the owner possesses a current Measurement Card or valid Measurement Form issued by the Federation (see GR502).

Exception: ~~In Lite Competitions, (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.~~

All Roadster Ponies must be re-measured and issued new measurement cards prior to competing in licensed competitions for the year 2004 and beyond.

SB145 Division of Classes

1. Classes may be divided according to:

- a. Sex or age of horse.
- b. Height—over 15.2 hands; 15.2 hands and under; 14.2 hands and under. Entries 14.2 hands and under must possess a valid measurement card or form, the measurement to be done as per

SB204.3. **Exception: ~~In-Lite Competitions.~~ (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.**

SB204 Eligibility

1. Ponies must be ridden by Junior Exhibitors; therefore, manners are paramount and the ponies should have agreeable attitudes.
2. American Saddlebred-type Pony classes are restricted to mares and geldings 14.2 hands and under (see SB204.3c). The owner must possess a current USEF Measurement Card or a valid measurement form issued by the Federation. See GR502. **Exception: ~~In-Lite Competitions.~~ (see GR310.7) A Federation measurement card or form is not required for entry into Lite classes restricted by the height of the horse or pony. However, horses and ponies must be within the correct height range when competing in classes restricted by height.**

SP107 Height

2. A pony shall not be shown in a Performance class unless the owner is in possession of a current ASPC or Federation Measurement Card or valid measurement form issued by ASPC or the Federation or Management can confirm the measurement electronically with the Federation. (See GR502.) **Exception: ~~Lite competitions (See GR310.7).~~**

WL102 Height

2. Management shall not permit an animal to be shown in any Welsh performance class at a Federation Licensed Competition unless the person presenting the animal is in possession of one of the following:
 - a. A measurement card issued by the Federation bearing the date of August 15, 1993 or thereafter; **Exception: ~~Lite competitions (See GR310.7);~~** or
 - b. Certified measurement card applied for prior to December 1, 1987; **Exception: ~~Lite competitions (See GR310.7);~~** or
 - c. A copy of a valid measurement form. Competition management may, at its discretion, confirm any of the foregoing information electronically with the Federation Office. **Exception: ~~Lite competitions (See GR310.7).~~**
 - d. A copy of a valid permanent measurement card issued by WPCSA or two copies of a temporary measurement card issued by WPCSA.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/31/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

As horses converge from varying barns and locations to licensed competitions, maintaining the health and safety of equine competitors is of paramount importance. In an effort to ensure the continued health and safety of horses at licensed competitions, competitors must agree to comply with disease prevention biosecurity measures imposed by the Federation, competition management, and state or federal animal health officials. This rule change will ensure this requirement is clearly understood.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Veterinary	Katie Flynn kflynn@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 871 (073-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER 8-H EQUINE HEALTH AND ISOLATION

GR870 Competitor Biosecurity Requirements

All riders, drivers, vaulters, handlers, owners, trainers, coaches, grooms, agents, and lessors must abide by and comply with biosecurity measures and equine health requirements imposed by the Federation, Competition Management, and local, state, and federal animal health officials.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/31/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In order to ensure the highest levels of horse and human safety and health exist at licensed competitions, competition management must comply with applicable state and federal animal health requirements in effect. This rule will ensure this requirement is abided by.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Veterinary	Katie Flynn kflynn@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 870 (072-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER 8-H EQUINE HEALTH AND ISOLATION

GR871 Competition Management Biosecurity Requirements

Competition Management must ensure licensed competitions are conducted in accordance with all applicable Federation, local, state, and federal animal health requirements.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/23/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to effectively manage the eventing calendar in a timely and efficient way, the intent is to remove the FEI and Advanced levels for Eventing from the mileage charts in GR3. The CCI4*-L, CCI4*-S, CCI3*-L, and Advanced levels are all bid levels. Therefore, they have been exempt from mileage boundaries and their inclusion in this chart is no longer applicable. The inclusion of the CCI3*-S, CCI2*-L, CCI2*-S, and CCI1* creates a contradictory review process because it could be approved or disapproved through the mileage exemption process but then a different outcome may result from the process mandated by the Policies and Procedures, and as it stands the outcome of the mileage exemption process would prevail because they would not be able to secure a license. Mileage exemptions are just reviewed by the Priority Date Holder. The review process through the Policies and Procedures are more robust. It is the expectation that the review that is conducted per the will consider the implications of any addition with the surrounding competitions because more people get to weigh in on the request.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Eventing

Amber Braun

abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

GR314 Mileage: b. Mileage Boundaries for Eventing Competitions and the chart.

1. Mileage Boundaries for Eventing Competitions.

- a. Eventing competitions are categorized by level offered, and mileage is applied to the applicable competition. Where an Eventing competition hosts more than one level, the highest applicable mileage radius will apply. ~~Exception: For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the mileage rule will not apply to FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or Federation Advanced level competitions, or any other level hosted therewith, e.g. the mileage rule will not apply to a CCI3-S hosted with an Advanced level competition.~~
- ~~b. The USEA American Eventing Championship is not subject to the modification process, and is eligible for renewal at a new location as needed. For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the radius will be zero for CCI4-L, CCI4-S, Advanced, and CCI3-L levels and the mileage chart for remaining levels will apply only to those competitions not hosting FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or Federation Advanced levels:~~

Eventing Mileage Chart Areas 1, 2, 3, and 8	
Level	Radius
CCI4-L	600
CCI4-S	250
Advanced	200
CCI3-L	600
CCI3-S	200
Intermediate	200
CCI2-L	300
CCI2-S	400
Preliminary	100
CCI4	400
Modified	100

Eventing Mileage Chart Areas 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10	
Level	Radius
CCI4-L	600
CCI4-S	400
Advanced	400
CCI3-L	600
CCI3-S	200
Intermediate	300
CCI2-L	300
CCI2-S	200
Preliminary	200
CCI4	200
Modified	200

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	8/31/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Isolation of a sick horse is critical to protecting the health of all other horses on competition grounds. The intent of this rule change is to create a separate rule containing all the requirements of the isolation plan, outside of the requirements of the accident preparedness plan, to ease the access to this information. Competitions are currently required to have an isolation plan in place prior to the start of the competition, this rule change does not impose a new requirement to that effect. Currently, the Federation does not provide guidance as to the location or quantity of isolation stalls. Based on questions received from competition organizers, this rule will provide a formulaic approach to structuring of an isolation stabling plan.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Veterinary

Katie Flynn

kflynn@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

GR 873 (074-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

GR845 Accident Preparedness Plan

1. All competitions must have in place, prior to the start of the competition, an accident preparedness plan. ~~In addition, all competitions must have in place an isolation protocol for horses. Competitions must report to the Chief Administrator of the Drugs & Medications Program, within 24 hours, any horse identified to Competition Management as showing symptoms of infectious disease, put into isolation at the competition, or that departs the competition to receive treatment for a potential infectious disease.~~
2. Competition Management is responsible for ensuring that all appropriate competition officials and competition staff are advised of the accident preparedness plan ~~and isolation protocol for horses~~, and that they are distributed accordingly.
3. The accident preparedness plan ~~and protocol~~ must be given to the Steward or Technical Delegate prior to the start of the competition.
4. The Steward or Technical Delegate shall submit a copy of the accident preparedness plan ~~and protocol~~ to the Federation along with their Steward or Technical Delegate report.
5. At a minimum, the accident preparedness plan must include:
 - a. Emergency call/radio priority protocol;
 - b. List of emergency telephone numbers and directions to the competition that can be relayed to offsite responders; and
 - c. Name and contact information of the Safety Coordinator.

SUBCHAPTER 8-H EQUINE HEALTH AND ISOLATION

GR 874 Isolation Plan

1. ***All competitions that have onsite stabling of competition horses must have in place a written isolation protocol for horses. The isolation plan must be submitted to the Federation no later than 14 days prior to the start of the competition. The isolation plan must include at a minimum the requirements enumerated in the Federation's template isolation plan available on the Federation's website.***
 - a. ***An onsite isolation stabling plan is required if the Licensee of a competition is hosting competition(s) over more than ten consecutive days at the same location. For purposes of this rule, the ten consecutive days begin the first day stabling is open for horses entering the competition venue. The number of isolation stalls required is equivalent to one percent of the previous year's horse count up to a maximum of ten isolation stalls, if the competition has more than 1,000 horses.***
 - b. ***If offsite isolation stabling is contemplated in the isolation plan, an agreement between competition management and the isolation facility is required.***
2. ***Competition Management must report to the Federation's Equine Health and Biosecurity***

Veterinarian, within 24 hours, any horse identified to Competition Management as showing symptoms of infectious disease, put into isolation at the competition, or that departs the competition grounds to receive treatment for a potential infectious disease.

3. Competition Management is responsible for ensuring that all appropriate competition officials and competition staff are provided and aware of the isolation plan for horses prior to the start of the competition.

4. The isolation plan must be posted onsite during the competition.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Individuals conducting business with the Federation, either as licensed competition Licensee or as signatories of Farms, must be Senior Active Members of the Federation as these are benefits provided by the Federation. Ensuring compliance with all requirements of membership is a priority to the Federation and individuals associated with and representing the interests of licensed competitions and Farms recorded with the Federation must maintain compliance with those requirements.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
CEO - Bill Moroney	Leslie Mangan lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 05/20/2024	Draft 1: The Council strongly feels that downloadable forms need to be available for those within the Amish community or of Spanish speaking origin. The Council would like verbiage to be added into the rule informing that downloadable forms are available upon request and would be accepted.
Council - Intl Discipline	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024	
Council - Member Services	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024	

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

1. General Provisions.

a. License Duration. The duration of the License agreements will be one (1) year. All Licensed Competitions are subject to a Competition Evaluation.

[...]

j. A licensee may advertise a new or renewing competition prior to receiving a license provided that the advertising clearly and prominently states that the competition is pending Federation approval.

k. At least one of the Licensee's signatories who is authorized to legally bind the Licensee must be a Federation Senior Active Competing Member in good standing. See GR201.

GR1102 Horse Recordings

[...]

5. Horse recording applications are available from the Federation office or online at www.usef.org. **If the horse is recorded as owned by a Farm/Business, at least one owner of the Recorded Farm/Business must be a Federation Senior Active Competing Member in good standing. See GR201.** The recording fee is discounted for the life of a horse if applied for from birth to December 31st of year foaled. A recording may also be activated on an annual basis, using each horse's Unique Horse ID number. Exception: Horses must be recorded for life to be eligible to receive FEI or National Passports. To qualify for the age discount, registration papers and/or other proof of age must be provided. The fees can be found on the horse recording application at www.usef.org.

GR124 Farm/Business

1. Life Recorded Farm/Business. A Life Recorded Farm/Business is any farm, ranch, syndicate, partnership, corporation, business that attains Life Recording upon a single payment of the fee established by the Federation. ~~A Life Recorded Farm/Business shall have all the rights and privileges of membership and be subject to all liabilities and penalties, which may be imposed upon Members. They shall be exempt from annual dues.~~

GR202 Membership Requirements

4. If a horse(s) is owned by a farm or any other entity, at least one of the horse's **Farm/Business's** owners, ~~either Farm/Business or individual,~~ must **be a Federation Senior Active Competing Member in good standing. See GR201.** ~~also obtain an exhibitor registration pursuant to GR1106.~~

GR1106 Exhibitor Registration **Horse Recording Ownership Requirements**

1. Entries may be made in a name other than that of an individual for Horse of the Year Awards, provided such name (Stable/Farm, Corporation, etc.) is recorded with the Federation. Duplication of farm names is discouraged but not prohibited. Horses shown under a partnership, i.e., Smith & Smith, Jones & Jones, must be duly registered. All applications for registration of (Stable/Farm, Corporation, etc.) must be signed by each of the bona fide owners and accompanied by the required fee. The fees can be found on the Farm, Corporation, Syndicate or Partnership Recording application at www.usef.org.

2. In order for points to count toward Federation Horse of the Year Awards, at least one owner must be a Federation active Competing or Life member.

a. In order for points to count in Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, one owner of the Stable/Farm/Corporation, etc. must be an Active/Competing individual member of USHJA.

3. Additional owners (including members of the family of the owner) may be included at no extra fee. Authorization to include additional owners must be made in writing and must be signed by each bona fide owner and will be effective the day such authorization is received in the Federation office.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	9/1/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Amongst officials and competitors there is currently confusion surrounding when video can be used in rendering decisions and, if permitted, what video footage is permitted to be used. While some breeds and disciplines permit the use of video footage to aid in the making of decisions, the Federation's general rules are silent on the issue. With the addition of this definition, the use of video footage will be clarified and the integrity of the use of footage will be preserved by limiting the use to only official video footage.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
CEO - Bill Moroney	Leslie Mangan lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
EV 115 (194-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

GR150 – Official Video

Official video is footage captured by the videographer or production company approved by the Federation or licensed competition.

GR1219 Use of Official Video

At Federation licensed competitions, Judges are barred from reviewing video footage or other electronic media when making field of play decisions, unless stated otherwise in the breed or discipline division rules. If judges are permitted to review video footage under breed or disciplines division rules, only original unaltered Official Video footage is permitted to be reviewed. See GR150.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The nomenclature used throughout Chapter 3 is inconsistent and over time, confusion has arisen amongst competition Licensees. In an effort to provide clear processes and timelines, this rule change makes consistent the terms used throughout the chapter, adds definitions to commonly used terms, and updates written procedures to better align with practices.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
CEO - Bill Moroney	Leslie Mangan lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

CHAPTER 3 COMPETITION LICENSING

SUBCHAPTER 3-A COMPETITION LICENSE APPLICATIONS

GR301 Agreement

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

GR303 Competition Fees, Account Review, and Insurance

GR304 Competition Sale and Issuance of a New License

GR305 Cancellation of Competitions *or Classes*

GR306 Inactive Competitions

SUBCHAPTER 3-B COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION

GR307 Classification

GR308 National Championships

GR309 Special Competitions

GR310 Restrictions on Local Competitions

GR311 Awards Rating Classifications

GR312 Determining Ratings

GR313 Special Conditions

SUBCHAPTER 3-C COMPETITION MILEAGE

GR314 Mileage

SUBCHAPTER 3-D MILEAGE EXEMPTION AND COMPETITION LICENSE DISPUTES

GR315 Mileage Exemption

GR 316 License Application Disputes and Resolution

Preamble

The licensing authority, licensing decisions, and calendar management rest solely with the Federation. The Federation seeks to provide a competition environment that is in the best interest of the sport of Equestrian, provides sufficient opportunity for the development of equine and human athletes, and provides for viable competitions to meet the needs of the sport at all levels within a geographic area.

CHAPTER 3 COMPETITION LICENSING

SUBCHAPTER 3-A COMPETITION LICENSE APPLICATIONS

For Eventing *FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or Advanced level* competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, if there is a conflict between these rules and the USEF FEI Eventing Calendar Policies and Procedures, the latter shall prevail. It should be noted that nationally rated Eventing competitions hosted with a FEI Eventing competition are subject to the USEF FEI Eventing Calendar Policies and Procedures. Exception: For ~~Eventing competitions consisting exclusively of Showcases or Arena Eventing, occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the following rules apply regardless of level.~~

GR301 Agreement

1. All applications for a Federation license are accepted with the explicit agreement of competition Licensee that all classes (rated or unrated) to be held on a Federation licensed date must be recognized by the Federation and are governed by all applicable Federation rules, and that no unrecognized classes will be held on any date for which Federation recognition is requested, except ~~that:~~
 - a. Horse Trials at Eventing ~~competitions~~ ~~Competitions~~ below the Modified Level.
 - b. Eventing Tests at all levels.
 - c. Draft Horses classes.
 - d. Miniature Horse classes.
 - e. Non-affiliated National Breed or discipline association classes.
 - f. Vaulting levels/classes below A-Teams, B-Teams, C-Teams, Senior Teams, Junior Teams, Gold, Silver, Bronze, Senior and Junior Individuals, and Open Pas de Deux, Senior Pas de Deux and Junior Pas de Deux.
 - g. Academy classes.
 - h. ~~Qualifying classes for Youth Reining classes or Reining classes at USA Reining and NRHA approved competitions.~~
 - i. Exhibitions, **which are defined for purposes of these rules as a demonstration class(es) or competition in a non-competitive manner of a breed or discipline whether recognized in the Federation rules or not. The distribution of prize money is prohibited in exhibitions** for which there are no breed or division rules.
 - j. Hunter/Jumper competitions designated "Outreach" **competitions classes designated by USHJA at Hunter/Jumper competitions** and limited to either one competition day or multiple competition days with a maximum of two competition rings (one hunter ring and one jumper ring) per day.
 - k. ~~Unrecognized classes may be held in conjunction with or during a Federation~~ **licensed** Licensed Paso Fino competitions.
2. ~~These above named classes/levels can be held as~~ **are** unrecognized only provided a separate entry blank is used and the prize list and/or Omnibus **must** clearly states that ~~the classes are not recognized by the Federation.~~
3. Exception: FEI rules take precedence as to international classes and events over Federation rules at all FEI Sanctioned ~~competitions~~ ~~Competitions~~. Federation rules take precedence as to national classes and events which are not FEI Sanctioned at FEI Sanctioned ~~competitions~~ ~~Competitions~~.
4. **Competition Management is responsible for verifying eligibility of participants to compete and/or be on competitions grounds.**

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

1. General Provisions.
 - a. License Duration. The duration of the License **license** agreements will be one (1) year. All Licensed **licensed competitions** ~~Competitions~~ are subject to a Competition Evaluation.
 - b. Discretion to Approve or Deny Application. The approval of a new or renewal License **license application** ~~Application~~ shall not be unreasonably withheld. However, the Federation may reject a new or renewal License **license application** ~~Application~~, if the Chief Executive Officer determines that the Licensee is unsuitable to host a Federation competition based on any of the following factors or any other

factors that may be prejudicial to the best interest of the Federation or equestrian sport:

- i. Financial viability concerns;
 - ii. Safety matters;
 - iii. Failure to comply with any Federation rules;
 - iv. Breach of any Federation competition license agreement;
 - v. Information that the Licensee has a relationship with a third-party to host the competition for a fee or remuneration to the Licensee, or otherwise transfers benefits and obligations under the Federation ~~license agreement~~ **License Agreement** to another party for remuneration; or
 - vi. Licensee is not actively engaged in hosting the competition.
- c. Submission of Competition License Applications. Complete ~~license applications~~ **License Applications** must be accompanied by all appropriate fees. Applications should be sent to the Federation using a method that provides delivery confirmation. The Federation is not responsible for undelivered applications. Applications must be received by the date specified in the policies. Applications for competitions, which are not made in accordance with the preceding requirements, will not be considered. The Federation shall provide written acknowledgement to all license applicants within 14 working days of receiving a completed license application and the applicable fees. **The Federation processes requests and applications in the order in which they were received.**
- d. Holding of License Applications. License applications for competitions unable to be approved for any reason, excluding mileage conflicts and competitions that are awarded through a bid process, will be sent written notification by the Competitions Department and held for a period of 30 calendar days from the date of that notification to allow the competition in question to submit the information required, seek alternative dates, or make other license modifications. At the end of the 30-day period, if the application has not been completed or the 30-day period has not been extended by the Competitions ~~Licensing~~ Department following the submission of a written request, the application will be considered to have been withdrawn and the dues will be refunded less a withdrawal fee pursuant.
- i. Except as provided herein, there will be no holding of applications or dues, and applicants must reapply annually. Applications that seek approval for a ~~license~~ **License** to conduct a competition on a date that has been open for more than the web posting period will be accepted at any time with respect to the deadlines outlined in GR302. All applications for dates that have been open for more than the open date web posting period will be considered in the order received.
- e. Competition Inspection. The Federation shall determine when a competition venue requires inspection(s). If the competition facility is not complete at the time of inspection, the Licensee must submit evidence that the facility will be complete by the competition start date to the satisfaction of the Federation. Any Federation required inspection(s) of a competition venue will be conducted at the applicant's expense.
- f. Requests for Additional Information. The Federation may, at its discretion, request additional information from an applicant, *i.e. facility lease agreement, etc.* Applicants are expected to supply all relevant information with their application. The license will define the obligations of both the Federation and the Licensee and are subject to nonrenewal or termination by either party.
- g. Competition Calendar. Existing licensed dates and locations are posted on the Federation website. Competitions listed on the FEI calendar remain subject to Federation approval and may be removed from the FEI calendar if approval is not granted. When a date that has been licensed becomes available (New Open Date), it will be posted on the Federation website for 30 calendar days. Reasons a date may become available include, but are not limited to:
- i. A renewal license application and/or payment not being received by the Federation in accordance with the application requirements;
 - ii. ~~Non-renewal or denial of a license application~~ **Failure of the existing competition to achieve a satisfactory Competition Evaluation;**
 - iii. Licensee is not in "good standing" with the Federation, or any other issues that may be prejudicial to the best interest of the sport;
 - iv. A cancellation, withdrawal, or revocation of a license.
- h. License Modification. Any changes to the ~~license~~ **License** agreement **following its execution** including location, dates, rating, level, or prize money, will require a license modification request and payment of a fee. Any modifications resulting in a conflict will result in the loss of Priority Date Holder status. Any modification not resulting in a conflict shall comply with the provisions set forth below in order to retain Priority Date Holder status. The Federation may or may not approve the requested changes. Exception:

Eventing competitions offering intermediate level and below without mileage conflict requesting changes outlined in GR302.1h5 must follow the Eventing competition modification process outlined in GR302.2g

- i. Holding a competition on a date(s) other than that approved shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the date(s) is received in the Federation's office at least 30 calendar days prior to the competition and permission is duly given. Exception: Eventing competitions.
 - a. For Eventing competitions, requests for change of competition date(s) that add or drop a day from the competition license must be received at least 10 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.
 - b. For eventing competitions, requests for change of competition date(s) where the competition is requesting to move off the licensed or comparable week, must be received at least 120 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.
 - ii. Holding a competition at a location other than ~~that approved as stated on the date application~~ shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the location is received in the Federation's office at least 60 calendar days prior to the competition date and permission is duly given. Exception: Eventing Competitions. For eventing competitions, requests for change of location must be received at least 120 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.
 - iii. Failure to obtain the permission of the Federation at least 30 calendar days prior to the competition to add a division, not offer an approved division, or change the rating of an approved division, constitutes a violation of the rules. Exception: Eventing ~~competitions~~ **Competitions**.
 - a. For Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below, requests to add a level above the highest level currently licensed, must be received at least 120 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition. Requests to cancel a level must be received at least 10 calendar days prior to the first day of competition.
 - iv. A Licensee requesting a license modification involving a change of location that results in a mileage conflict may request to maintain Priority Date Holder status at the new location. Competitions that **exist within the applicable mileage and those that have pending applications within the applicable mileage, will** ~~would be impacted by the change of location~~ shall have the opportunity to submit written comments to the Federation prior to a determination. If a Licensee's request to maintain Priority Date Holder Status is denied, the Licensee may still request a mileage exemption.
 - v. For Eventing competitions, offering Intermediate level and below, any substantive change to the competition license (including request to add a level above the highest level currently licensed, change in location, change in comparable or licensed week) without mileage conflict shall follow the Eventing competition modification process outlined in GR302.42g. ***The USEA American Eventing Championship is not subject to the modification process and is eligible for renewal at a new location and/or date.***
 - i. Competitions that are not conducted in accordance with the terms of the license agreement will have breached the terms of the license agreement. Such breach may result in cancellation or nonrenewal of the license agreement, the Licensee may be ineligible for a license in the future, or other penalties under the provisions of GR707.
 - j. A ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** may advertise a new or renewing competition prior to receiving a license provided that the advertising clearly and prominently states that the competition is pending Federation approval.
 - k. ***For purposes of these rules, a Priority Date Holder is a Licensee whose competition is afforded mileage protection under these rules or a pending competition applicant against whom there would be a mileage conflict or mileage exemption request if the competition application is approved.***
2. New Competitions Without Mileage Conflicts.
- a. License applications for new competitions will be accepted beginning December 1 of each year for the subsequent competition year.
 - b. A competition year begins on December 1 of the prior calendar year.
 - c. Applicants should refer to the Federation ~~competitions calendar~~ **Competitions Calendar** for open dates.
 - d. Applications for a new competition license agreement must be made on the form provided by the Federation and received by the Federation at least ~~30~~ **60** calendar days prior to the start date of the competition. ***If applications for a new competition license are received by the Federation between 60 and 30 days prior to the start date of the competition, it will be subject to applicable late fees.*** ~~The Federation may accept applications for a new competition license agreement, subject to applicable~~

~~late fees, between 60 and 30 calendar days prior to the start date of the competition. Exception: Eventing competitions, see GR302.2g4.~~

- e. In the event that an applicant competition has a mileage conflict with an existing competition(s), **the application will be denied and** the applicant may seek a mileage exemption in accordance with GR315.
- f. License **applications** Applications for new competitions that the Federation disapproves for any reason, including mileage conflicts, will be sent written notification by the Federation.
- g. ~~Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below without mileage conflict:~~
 - i. ~~Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below without mileage conflict must submit a competition application or a request for modification to an existing competition or license, to the Federation no later than 120 calendar days prior to the start of competition. Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below with mileage conflicts are bound by the application timelines outlined in GR315 Mileage Exemption.~~
 - ii. ~~Within 30 calendar days of receiving a new Eventing competition application or request for modification, the Federation's Competitions Department will notify the USEA of the application or request.~~
 - iii. ~~Within 30 calendar days of receiving the application(s) and/or request(s) for modification from the Federation, the USEA shall provide the Federation with its recommendations regarding endorsement or licensure for all provided applications/requests.~~
 - iv. ~~Within 15 calendar days of receipt of written comments from the USEA, the Federation CEO, or their designee, will convene with the Competitions Department to review all materials submitted with the competition application, and to provide a decision on the application.~~
 - v. ~~Within 7 calendar days of the decision, the Federation's Competitions Department will issue a decision letter to the applicant.~~

3. Renewing Competitions.

- a. License renewals, including the applicable fees, must be received within 60 calendar days of the last day of the licensed competition.
 - i. License renewal applications received more than 60 calendar days after the last day of the applicable competition under an existing license will be considered as a new application consistent with GR302. A Licensee may request to renew their competition license by completing the applicable information on the post-competition report providing that the Licensee signs this report and submits the applicable fee.
 - ii. The Federation shall notify a Licensee in writing as soon as possible, but no more than 90 days from receipt of a renewal request, if there are conflicts or other issues preventing renewal.
 - iii. The Federation shall provide a **license agreement** License Agreement to a Licensee as soon as possible, but not later than 90 days from receipt of a renewal request, if there are no conflicts or other issues preventing renewal.
- b. **A competition seeking renewal with a change to location, comparable date(s), rating(s), level(s), prize money, or breed(s) and/or discipline(s) offered will, for purposes of these rules, be renewed in accordance with these rules and simultaneously reviewed as a modification in accordance with GR302.1.h. A competition seeking renewal and a modification that results in a mileage conflict will be denied and may undergo the mileage exemption process in accordance with GR315.** A competition will be eligible for renewal on comparable dates at the same location as long as the following conditions are met:
 - i. The renewal and applicable fee is submitted within 60 calendar days after the last day of the current year's competition;
 - ii. The competition has a satisfactory Competition Evaluation;
 - iii. The Licensee is in good standing and does not have any outstanding dues, fines or fees owed to the Federation;
 - iv. A renewal is subject in all respects to the mileage rule and all other applicable rules, policies, and procedures in existence at the time of renewal.
- c. Competition Evaluation
 - i. To the extent appropriate, additional information on the applicable Competition Evaluation process and procedures will be referenced in the **license** License agreement. It is the responsibility of the Licensee to comply with all applicable published or otherwise noticed requirements for **licensed**

competitions Licensed Competitions.

- ii. Federation **licensed competitions Licensed Competitions** will be subject to a Competition Evaluation. The Evaluation is utilized to assist the Federation in determining if renewal of a license and the continued use of Federation dates are in the best interest of the sport of equestrian.
 - iii. Competition Evaluations will be conducted in accordance with Federation **Competition Evaluation competition evaluation** processes and procedures in addition to Competition Evaluation Reports, reports from Federation assigned Stewards and Technical Delegates, and Recognized Affiliate evaluation reports.
- d. Date Rotation. For competitions beginning December 1, 2008 or later, the following provisions will be in effect
- i. For the 2009 competition year and thereafter, comparable dates will be based on a competition's 2006 dates using the Memorial Day Date Rotation Axis. Under the Memorial Day Date Rotation Axis, all Federation competition dates rotate in conjunction with Memorial Day.
 - ii. ~~For the 2009 competition year, any competition that did not hold a license for the 2006 competition year, but received a license for the 2007 and/or 2008 competition year, will have priority over new competitions requesting dates. However, competitions with licenses for the 2006 competition year will have priority over any of the above mentioned competitions.~~
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4. Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below without mileage conflict:

- i. **Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below without mileage conflict must submit a competition application or a request for modification to an existing competition or license, to the Federation no later than 120 calendar days prior to the start of competition. Eventing competitions offering Intermediate level and below with mileage conflicts are bound by the application timelines outlined in GR315 Mileage Exemption.**
- ii. **Within 30 calendar days of receiving a new Eventing competition application or request for modification, the Federation's Competitions Department will notify the USEA of the application or request.**
- iii. **Within 30 calendar days of receiving the application(s) and/or request(s) for modification from the Federation, the USEA shall provide the Federation with its recommendations regarding endorsement or licensure for all provided applications/requests.**
- iv. **Within 15 calendar days of receipt of written comments from the USEA, the Federation CEO, or their designee, will convene with the Competitions Department to review all materials submitted with the competition application, and to provide a decision on the application.**
- v. **Within 7 calendar days of the decision, the Federation's Competitions Department will issue a decision letter to the applicant.**

GR303 Competition Fees, Account Review, and Insurance

- 1. Competition Fees. Competition fees will be posted to the Federation website and noted on applicable competition forms. Any changes to competition fees will be posted on the Federation website and will apply to the next competition year.
- 2. No competition dates will be licensed for a Licensee that has outstanding past due fees, fines, or other obligations of 60 days or more owing to the Federation with respect to any past **licensed competitions Licensed Competitions**.
- 3. Any Licensee who fails to pay sums owed to the Federation, or who makes payment for fees to the Federation which is not negotiable, will be notified by the Federation of its indebtedness and subject to the applicable policies of the Federation. The Federation will provide Licensees with online access to review their entire competition accounts.
 - a. If any Licensee affected by GR303.3 disputes that the amounts in question are owed or unpaid, the Licensee may request to have a procedural review by the Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees, provided their written statement specifying the grounds for such review is received at the Federation's office, along with a fee, in accordance with the applicable policies. The fee will be refunded if the dispute is settled in favor of the Licensee.
 - b. In the event a Licensee makes non-negotiable payment for fees to the Federation on three or more

occasions, said Licensee is subject to further disciplinary action.

4. A Licensee may request an account review from the Federation. The request must be submitted in writing and a fee for each competition and each requested account review year will be charged. An account review is an investigation into a Licensee's financial dealings with the Federation. If material staff error is discovered, the fee will be refunded.
5. ~~A Licensee may request a research of Federation records concerning the history of a competition date. The request must be submitted in writing and a fee will be charged per each request. The fee must accompany the request. If material staff error is discovered, the fee will be refunded.~~
6. Competition Licensees must provide the Federation with a valid certificate of insurance, which names the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. as an additional insured for each day of the competition, including set-up and take-down days, with at least \$1,000,000.00 coverage for third party general liability and \$50,000.00 coverage for equipment and property. Such certificate of insurance must be received by the Federation at least 15 days prior to the first day of the competition.

Noncompliance with this rule will result in a fine and/or termination of the ~~Competition~~ **competition license agreement** ~~License Agreement~~ and cancellation of the competition pursuant to GR304, in accordance with the following:

- a. Fine. A ~~Competition~~ **competition** Licensee will be issued a fine when a certificate of insurance is not received at least 15 days prior to the start of the competition, or a deficiency is not cured at least 10 days prior to the first day of the competition.
 - b. Termination of the ~~license agreement~~ **license agreement** ~~License Agreement~~ and cancellation of the competition pursuant to GR304 will occur when a certificate of insurance is not received by the Federation at least 10 days prior to the start of the competition, or deficiencies are not cured at least 10 days prior to the start of the competition. If this occurs, but the competition still goes forward, then the Competition Licensee must notify all competition participants, in writing, that the competition is not a Federation ~~licensed competitions~~ **licensed competitions**.
7. Any competition that states in the prize list that the competition is licensed before the competition has been granted licensing by the Federation may be subject to a penalty.

GR304 Competition Sale and Issuance of a New License

1. A Federation ~~Competition~~ **competition license** ~~License agreement~~ is the Federation document giving a Licensee permission to conduct a Federation event on a given date, at a given venue, and at a given rating and/or level.
2. ~~Competition Sale. A Licensee does not own the date on the Federation competition calendar~~ **Competition License. A Federation Competition competition license License Agreement agreement is a governance tool and not a commodity. As such, neither a Federation competition license agreement nor placement on the Federation competition calendar can be conveyed in a sale of a competition. A new Federation competition license agreement must be obtained by the purchaser in order to maintain a date on the Federation competition calendar. a sale of a competition should be contingent on Federation approval and issuance of a new license**
3. Issuance of a New Competition License. The granting of a new license to a Purchaser **of a competition** Licensee ~~will not be unreasonably denied; will be determined in the Federation's sole discretion and is~~ subject to **any certain conditions deemed warranted by the Federation** or criteria including date, venue, rating, and/or level of the competition and completion of applicable forms and submission of a fee. The Purchaser Licensee will retain the applicable Priority Date Holder protections of the **existing** Seller Licensee, **as approved by the Federation**. The Issuance of a new Competition License is subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a. ~~The issuance of a new Competition License due to a competition sale is subject to the approval of the Federation, following consultation with the applicable Recognized Affiliate;~~
 - b. ~~The final decision to approve or deny the issuance of a new Competition License is at the sole discretion of the Federation;~~
 - c. ~~In considering the approval or disapproval of the issuance of a new Competition License, the Federation shall consider the best interest of the sport including consideration of the growth and development of the~~

- sport. The Federation may consider concentration of dates in the control of a single Licensee or group of related Licensees when determining the appropriateness of the issuance of a new competition license;
- d. The Purchaser Licensee must have demonstrated an ability to comply with rules, requirements, and standards that are in effect or established for the Competition Rating and/or Level at the time the issuance of a new Competition License;
- e. Both the Seller and the Purchaser of the competition must disclose all proposed terms of the competition sale and must apply and obtain Federation approval before the issuance of a new license can be completed. All information will be considered confidential. Prior to any such approval or denial by the Federation, the Recognized National or FEI Affiliate, if any, may be consulted in regard to the request for issuance of a new license. The Federation may share, on a confidential basis, with the Recognized National or FEI Affiliate all of the terms or conditions of the issuance of a new Competition License, and all special conditions or other considerations. Such approval or denial by the Federation shall not subject the Federation to any liability or obligate it to any third party. Both Seller and Purchaser of the competition must agree to indemnify and hold harmless both the Federation and the Recognized National or FEI Affiliate from any liability or legal expense arising from approval or denial of the agreement. Failure to completely disclose terms and conditions of a competition sale may result in termination of the License by the Federation and any sanctions, penalties, or other remedies available to the Federation.
4. The Seller Licensee shall remain financially responsible until the following conditions are met:
 - a. Payment of the applicable fees;
 - b. The Federation issues written approval of the issuance of a new competition license; and
 - c. Seller has met all other financial obligations to the Federation.
 5. The Purchaser Licensee will have the right to apply for renewal of comparable dates upon issuance of a new competition license.

GR305 Cancellation of Competitions or Classes

1. A Licensee may cancel an existing **licensed competition** ~~Licensed Competition~~ by notifying the Federation of the cancellation and returning the License to the Federation not less than 300 calendar days prior to next competition date under the ~~License~~ **license without penalty**.
 - a. ~~When~~ **If** a Cancellation is received more than 90 calendar days but less than 300 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition date under the ~~license~~ **License**, 75% of competition dues will be refunded, subject to a minimum processing fee.
 - b. If written notice of a cancellation is received less than 90 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition, the Licensee will forfeit the application fee and will also be assessed a processing fee equal to that of the minimum competition dues, unless the cancellation is due to an Act of God under GR305.4.
2. If a **licensed competition** ~~Licensed Competition~~ is cancelled for two consecutive years for a reason other than an act of God, or due to extenuating circumstances approved by the CEO or their Designee, **or Inactive for one year and cancelled the following year**, the applicable license will not be eligible for renewal or application for a new license by the same ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** or any entity associated with the same ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** for a period of two years. If the ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity.
3. Cancellation of 50% or more of Open Dressage classes as listed in the prize list by any Recognized competition for two consecutive years for any reason other than Acts of God shall constitute relinquishment of comparable dates and loss of priority date status.
4. Competitions declaring cancellation due to an Act of God must provide written documentation, such as newspaper articles or photographs of the extenuating circumstances. Absent severe and unusual circumstances, such as hurricane winds, floods, tornadoes, or blizzards, weather conditions shall not be considered Acts of God. The CEO or their designee shall decide whether a cancellation is due to an Act of God. Any Licensee that cancels three or more competitions in a competition year shall not have priority for comparable dates for the cancelled competitions for the following competition year. However, this provision shall not be applicable to a competition cancelled due to an Act of God, loss of a facility, or due to extenuating circumstances, based upon a review by the CEO or their designee.

GR306 Inactive Competitions

1. Any *previously licensed competition* ~~Licensed Competition~~ held the ~~previous~~ year *prior* that notifies the Federation, *prior to obtaining its renewal and* at least 120 days prior to its competition date that it will not hold a competition that year, may retain Inactive status for a fee in addition to the application and/or competition fees. In such cases, the renewal license application will be subject to the current fees.
2. An Inactive ~~Competition~~ *competition* will be listed as "Inactive" on the Federation website and other Federation competition lists, and will retain its date priority for the following year, provided it meets the applicable date and competition requirements of the Federation.
3. If an Inactive ~~Competition~~ *competition* cancels the following year, that cancellation will constitute a second cancellation in a row per GR305, and the applicable license will be revoked and not eligible for renewal or application for a new license by the same ~~licensee~~ *Licensee* or any entity associated with the same ~~licensee~~ *Licensee* for a period of two years. If the ~~licensee~~ *Licensee* is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity. This provision shall not be applicable to a competition cancelled due to an Act of God or due to extenuating circumstances approved by the CEO or their designee.

SUBCHAPTER 3-B COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION

GR307 Classification

1. ~~Licensed Competitions~~ Competitions may *are licensed classified as Regular, Local, or Special.* be classified as ~~Regular Competitions, Local Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Driving Competitions, Endurance Competitions, Reining Competitions, and Vaulting Competitions.~~
2. *Competitions may be licensed for any individual breed or discipline or combination thereof for which division rules exist in this Rulebook. Ratings and levels as defined by the division chapter will apply.* Divisions and sections of ~~Regular Competitions~~ *competitions* are classified as follows for the purpose of reckoning points toward the Federation Annual Horse of the Year Awards (*HOTY*). (Exception: Jumper Division, see GR1133):
 - a. ~~A, B, or C; or Premier (previously referred to as "AA"), National (previously referred to as "A"), or Regional (previously referred to as "B"), hunter, or~~
 - b. ~~To include any of the following, individually or combined:~~
 - i. ~~Andalusian/Lusitano;~~
 - ii. ~~Arabian;~~
 - iii. ~~Connemara;~~
 - iv. ~~Carriage Pleasure Driving;~~
 - v. ~~English Pleasure;~~
 - vi. ~~Friesian;~~
 - vii. ~~Hackney;~~
 - viii. ~~National Show Horse;~~
 - ix. ~~Morgan;~~
 - x. ~~Paso Fino;~~
 - xi. ~~Parade Horse & Saddle Horse or Pony, Western Equipment;~~
 - xii. ~~Reining Horse;~~
 - xiii. ~~Roadster;~~
 - xiv. ~~American Saddlebred;~~
 - xv. ~~Shetland;~~
 - xvi. ~~Welsh Pony;~~
 - xvii. ~~Western; and~~
 - xviii. ~~Western Dressage,~~
 - xix. ~~English Pleasure.~~
3. ~~Divisions and sections of Local, Dressage, Driving Competitions~~ *competitions*, ~~Endurance Competitions~~ *competitions*, ~~Reining Competitions~~ *competitions*, ~~Vaulting Competitions~~ *competitions*, and ~~Eventing Competitions~~ *competitions* are not rated. However, ~~Dressage Competitions~~ *competitions* are categorized by levels.
4. Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes must be held at a competition that holds at a minimum, a Regional Hunter Rating. Competitions choosing to offer only Hunter and/or Jumping Seat Equitation classes must obtain a Regional Hunter ~~license~~ *License*, and the Regional mileage will apply (see GR314 Mileage).

5. Federation Endorsed ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**, Divisions, or Levels or those events receiving approval pursuant to the Federation Bylaws.
 - a. Eventing competitions may be eligible for either licensure or endorsed designation. The Federation may endorse Eventing competitions at the Training Level and below. The Federation may license Eventing competitions at the Modified Level and above. An Eventing **licensed competition** ~~Licensed Competitions~~ and an Eventing Endorsed ~~Competition~~ **competition** may run concurrently.
6. Heritage Designations
 - a. Heritage designations are reserved for those competitions within the sport of equestrian that have been established for a long period of time and that exemplify the best characteristics of equestrian sport, uphold high standards at their designated rating or level, demonstrate sustainability and value within the community, and continue to contribute toward the development and promotion of the sport of equestrian, both within the sport and as well as within the broader community, by achieving, maintaining, and promoting the equestrian ideals of sportsmanship and competition.
 - b. Approval for all Heritage Designations requires:
 - i. Documented recommendation by the Federation Recognized Affiliate Association primarily represented by the competition;
 - ii. Approval by the Federation CEO;
 - iii. Heritage Designation will be granted for a period of five years. In order to maintain the designation, each competition must successfully undergo a review process every five years thereafter.
 - c. Heritage designation may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Federation Board of Directors if the competition no longer fulfills the requirements when applying for redesignation.
 - d. Eligibility for Heritage Designation requires:
 - i. Minimum of 25 consecutive years of operation with a Federation license excluding any Act of God and a clean compliance record with no major compliance issues;
 - ii. Invitation from the representing affiliate to the license holder to apply for Heritage status;
 - iii. The ~~Competition~~ **competition** must be in good standing with both the Federation and the representing affiliate;
 - iv. Significant contribution to and support from the community where the competition is held. The application should include evidence of a mutually supportive relationship by documenting how the community is benefitted, and how the community supports the competition. A symbiotic relationship is to be demonstrated through submission of letters from community leaders displaying community support, and feedback collected from competitors that have attended the competition in the past.
 - v. Significant contribution to the ideals of equestrian sport such as sportsmanship, horsemanship, and uniting the equine community;
 - vi. Recognition by the equestrian community as a competition that exemplifies the best characteristics of sport at its designated rating or level, upholds high standards, and demonstrates sustainability with high quality and unique character.
 - e. Heritage competitions are permitted and encouraged to advertise their status as Heritage competitions. The Federation will support Heritage competitions through promotional and marketing materials.
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GR308 National Championships

The Federation shall have the exclusive right to designate national championships in the disciplines for which the Federation is designated as the National Governing Body by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and in the disciplines for which the Federation is designated as the National Federation by the Federation Equestre Internationale (Dressage, Driving, Endurance, ~~Reining~~, Show Jumping, Three-Day Eventing, Para-Equestrian and Vaulting). The allocation of national championships in the foregoing disciplines, including issuance of date approvals, licensing of officials, approval of name and all copyright, trademark, trade name, television, video and other broadcast rights and all sponsorship matters shall be solely reserved to the CEO acting upon the advice and recommendation of the relevant Council. All persons or organizations, including affiliate organizations, organizing committees and/or competitions managements, wishing to receive Federation approval to hold a national championship in the foregoing divisions must apply to the Federation in writing on appropriate form(s) provided by the Federation and received by the Federation's office by the applicable deadline.

The CEO shall be entitled to condition the Federation's designation and granting of approval for a national championship in any manner that they deem appropriate in their discretion.

GR309 Special Competitions

For the purposes of this rule, the term "Special" relates to the type of competition license and is not associated with the merits or quality of the competition.

1. The Federation Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, may approve or deny an application for Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** status in accordance with Federation rules, policy and procedure. If approved, a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** will be added to the USEF ~~Competition~~ **competition calendar** ~~Calendar~~ without regard for existing mileage rules and conflicts and will receive no mileage protection from new or existing competitions. A Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** may be held as a stand-alone event or in conjunction with an existing Federation ~~licensed competition~~ **Licensed Competitions**. A Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** may not fully meet the requirements to obtain a Federation ~~competition license~~ **Competition License**.
2. Special Competitions are categorized in the following manner and shall be reviewed in accordance with Section 4.
 - a. Category I – FEI-named ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** and FEI Championships which are part of a competitive bid process, including but not limited to Olympic Games or Trials; Pan Am Games or Trials; World Equestrian Games or Trials; World Cup Finals or Qualifiers; Nations Cup Finals or Qualifiers; and Nations Cup CIOs. These competitions may or may not include additional FEI-only classes.; **or**
 - b. Category II - Federation National Finals, Federation National Championships and Federation Mandatory Outings, which do not fully meet the requirements to obtain a Federation ~~competition license~~ **Competition License**.; **or**
 - c. Category III - Federation Recognized Affiliate Organization Championships or Finals which do not fully meet the requirements to obtain a Federation ~~competition license~~ **Competition License**.; **or**
 - d. Category IV - A competition for which Federation breed or discipline rules do not exist that an applicant wishes to have approved by the Federation and which the Board of Directors, in their sole discretion, deems to be in the best interest of the sport.
3. Application Process.
 - a. An application for consideration of a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** must be submitted to the Federation a minimum of 180 days in advance of the start date of the proposed competition. Generally, an application should not be submitted more than 365 days prior to the start date of the proposed competition. However, unusual circumstances may require an earlier submission. Such circumstances must be included on the application and will be considered in the review process.
 - b. An application for a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** will not be considered complete and will not be processed until all applicable fees have been paid, except when the application is part of a competitive application or bid process (e.g. FEI World Cup Qualifiers, certain USEF National Championships, etc.). When an application is part of a competitive application or bid process, the fee will not be required until a determination is made regarding the awarding of the competition.
 - c. An application for a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** must include the following:
 - i. All classes, sections, demonstrations, and exhibitions to be held during the proposed competition dates, including all prize money, bonus money, or other awards;
 - ii. The basis for competition's inability to meet Federation rules regarding competition licensing; and
 - iii. The basis for competition's inability to meet Federation rules regarding specific breed/discipline rules.
 - d. The inability to meet Federation rules under section (ii) or (iii) above shall not result from a need to obtain an exception to existing Federation rules, or program requirements, or from circumstances within the applicant's control. However, the Federation recognizes that situations may arise whereby an applicant cannot meet Federation rules due to the actions of the FEI or the Federation and such actions may qualify as permissible explanation.
 - e. Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** are not intended as a means of circumventing the Federation's licensing rules in GR Chapter 3. If an application for a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** includes an FEI competition not identified in Section 2(a) above, a national competition, or a combination of both which creates a mileage conflict, that portion of the application will be required to utilize the Mileage Exemption

process for approval. In the event of a need for a mileage exemption, the Federation may alter the timelines set forth in GR315.

- f. For licensing purposes, all jumper prize money from FEI and national competitions will be combined and counted in determining a competition's Jumper Level.
 - g. If a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** is combined with an existing priority date holder competition, the priority date holder competition will retain priority status at its original rating and/or level.
4. Application Review Process.
Depending on the category of a Special ~~Competition~~ **competition**, the application may be reviewed by one or more entities of the Federation and its Recognized Affiliates before being submitted to the **Federation** Board of Directors, **Executive Committee**, or **Federation CEO** for their consideration and final decision. The Board of Directors reserves the right to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to review applications and render a final decision.
- a. Applications for a Category I competition shall be reviewed by the applicable Federation Councils **and approved by the Federation CEO**.
 - b. Applications for a Category II or III competition shall be reviewed by the applicable Federation Committees and Councils **and approved by the Federation CEO**.
 - c. Applications for a Category IV competition shall be reviewed by the applicable Federation Recognized Affiliates, Committees and Councils **and approved by the Federation Executive Committee or Board of Directors**.
5. Modifications or Amendments to an Approved Special ~~Competition~~ **competition**.
Modifications or amendments to an approved Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** are not permitted unless approved by the Federation in writing. A modification to an approved Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** must be approved in writing by the Federation after review by the CEO or their designee, following consultation with the Director of Competition Services or their designee and the Director of Sport or their designee(s) for the applicable breed or discipline. Modifications to an approved Special ~~Competition~~ **competition** must be received by the Federation at least 30 days prior to the start of competition.

GR310 Restrictions on Local Competitions

1. The total cash prizes shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Except ~~Open Western Division (see GR310.5)~~, 100% sweepstakes, and Reining ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**; not including value of trophies offered; **Western Division competitions may retain Local competition status regardless of the amount of prize money offered**. For Hunter and/or Jumper Lite competitions, the value of any in-kind gifts and awards shall count toward the total amount of prize money offered and cannot exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) total for the competition.
2. The designation Local ~~Competition~~ **competition** must be stated on the cover of the prize list.
3. The Federation and applicable Federation Recognized Affiliate Association non-member/~~Show Pass~~ fee will not apply. **The following Federation membership and USEF Safe Sport requirements apply at Local competitions:**
 - a. **Any individual acting as a Trainer or Coach or signing an entry blank as Trainer or Coach, must be an Active Competing Member of the Federation and must have completed the SafeSport Training prior to the first day of competition.**
4. Local ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** benefit from all the general rules of the Federation and must abide by applicable division rules unless class specifications are printed otherwise in the prize list.
5. ~~Western Division competitions may retain Local Competition status regardless of the amount of prize money offered.~~
6. Hunter Division competitions or competitions restricted to Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation must obtain a Regular ~~Competition~~ **competition license** License or a Lite competition license. Competitions offering any Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Medal classes with a National Year-End Final are not eligible for Lite competition status and must obtain a Regular competition license.
7. Lite. Beginning December 1, 2022, Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** are a subtype of **the Local competition license** Licenses **Category** and are to be conducted in accordance with the General **Rules** Chapters and applicable breed/discipline Chapter **s** except as stated otherwise below (Exception: Open Dressage classes are not permitted to be held at Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**):

2. License requirements
 - a. Eligibility Requirements. The following competitions are eligible to be licensed as Lite:
 - i. A first-time competition;
 - ii. A competition that has only ever been run as a Lite competition in the past three (3) years; or
 - iii. ~~A competition that has not been Federation *licensed*~~ **Licensed** in the past three (3) years; or
 - iv. A competition that does not meet the above criteria may submit a request to be licensed as Lite. The licensing request will be reviewed and a decision will be rendered in the Federation's Chief Executive Officer's sole discretion.
 - b. ~~Licensing~~ **Requirements**.
 - i. License applications and a copy of the prize list must be submitted thirty (30) days prior to the first day of competition.
 - ii. Competitions may operate under a Lite license for no more than three (3) consecutive years.
 - iii. ~~The *licensees*~~ **Licensees** of (i) Lite ~~*licensed competition*~~ **Licensed Competitions** that have operated for three (3) consecutive years or (ii) competitions that have operated under a regular competition license in any of the previous three (3) year(s) are prohibited from submitting a new application for comparable dates in an attempt to downgrade to a Lite license by the same ~~*licensee*~~ **Licensee** or any entity associated with the ~~*licensee*~~ **Licensee** for a period of two (2) years. If the ~~*licensee*~~ **Licensee** is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity.
- ~~3. Membership Requirements~~
 - a. ~~Any individual signing an entry blank as Trainer or Coach, must be an Active Competing Member of the Federation.~~
- ~~4. Safe Sport Requirements~~
 - a. ~~Any individual signing an entry blank as Trainer or Coach, must have completed the Safe Sport Training prior to the first day of competition.~~
 - b. ~~Competition Manager(s), Secretary, and any person acting in the role of a licensed official are bound by all requirements of the USEF Safe Sport Policy.~~
5. Steward and Technical Delegate requirements
 - a. Competitions must have at least one Steward or Technical Delegate who meets the following criteria:
 - i. Enrolled in and pursuing a Federation Steward or Technical Delegate license and have completed the Designated Applicant Training; or
 - ii. Licensed Federation Steward or Technical Delegate.
- ~~6. Federation Horse of The Year (*National* HOTY) Points~~
 - a. For HOTY Points Associated with the Horse. Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** will award half-value points to all USEF Recorded horses, whose owner is a Federation Active Competing Member and meets any applicable breed/discipline required memberships. Exception: No Federation National or USHJA Zone HOTY points will be awarded at Hunter and/or Jumper Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**.
 - b. For HOTY Points Associated with the Rider. Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** will award half-value points to all riders who are Federation Active Competing Members and meet any applicable breed/discipline required memberships. Exception: No Federation National or USHJA Zone HOTY points will be awarded at Hunter and/or Jumper Lite ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**.
7. Prize List requirements
 - a. A Prize List is required to be submitted to the Federation for review thirty (30) days prior to the start of the competition.
 - b. Prize Lists are required to include all statements listed under GR901
 - i. Exceptions: GR901.9 and 901.12

BOD 6/20/23 Effective 12/1/23

GR311 Awards Rating Classifications

1. For the purpose of equalizing competitions for the National ~~HOTY Horse of the Year~~ Awards, divisions and sections of Regular ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** fall into one of three classifications: "A," "B," or "C" rated or Premier, National, or Regional Hunter.
2. In the Hunter division, points for ribbons won in any rated section will be awarded in two awards channels using the applicable point chart. Channel I includes Premier and National rated hunter competitions and Channel II includes Regional rated hunter competitions. Points earned in a channel are exclusive to that award channel.
 - a. In the Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9", Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, High Performance Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'3" and 3'6", Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" and High Performance Conformation Hunter, standings for the National ~~Horse of the Year~~ **HOTY** Awards based on money won will be determined by dollars won in the horses respective sections. See GR1132.

GR312 Determining Ratings

1. A division or section rating or classification is determined from the number of classes, amount of cash premiums offered in these classes and the holding of required classes in certain divisions. A competition may not offer the minimum requirements for a rating higher than the rating approved by the Federation. Exception: Hunter competitions. See Ratings Charts.
2. A competition may qualify for several different ratings. Some competitions will earn an "A" or "B" rating in all divisions and sections; others may earn a combination of ratings. Exception: Hunter competitions will qualify for one rating, Regional, National or Premier. If more than the minimum number of classes is offered, prize money should be increased proportionately.
3. The Paso Fino Division is rated "C" regardless of the number of classes or amount of prize money offered. A competition may apply for an "A" rating if offering a minimum of \$2,000 and prior year competition had more than 250 horses. The PFHA National show shall be an "A" rated Federation **licensed competition** ~~Licensed Competition~~ as per PF155.1i. Exception: the Paso Fino Division may be offered at Local ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**.
4. In Stake classes in "A" and "B" divisions or sections or at Premier and National hunter competitions, competitions must guarantee amount offered as prize money except where the monies offered in other classes are sufficient to meet the ~~Horse of the Year~~ **HOTY** Award minimum requirements. In such cases, Stake classes may run as sweepstakes.
5. The Connemara and Half-bred Connemara is "C" rated, regardless of the number of classes or amount of prize money offered. Exception: the Connemara and Half-bred Connemara Division may be offered at Local ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**.
6. Rated Hunter Section & Classes

HUNTER SECTION RATINGS AND CLASSES	Premier/National ("AA"/"A") Min-Max Required Classes	Premier/National ("AA"/"A") Min Money	Regional ("B") Multi-Day Comp Min/Max Required Classes	Regional ("B") One Day Comp Min/Max Required Classes	Regional ("B") Min
Open Hunter Sections					
Green Conformation Hunter	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
High Performance Conformation Hunter	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
High Performance Hunter	3-5	750	3-5***	3-4***	0
Performance Hunter 3'3"	3-5	400	3-5***	3-4***	0
Performance Hunter 3'6"	3-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0

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Green Hunter Sections						
Green Hunter 3'0"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Hunter 3'3"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Hunter 3'6"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Hunter 3'9"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Young Hunter Sections						
Young Hunter 5 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Young Hunter 6 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Young Hunter 7 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Amateur Owner Hunter Sections						
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" 18-35	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" 36 & over	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" 18-35	4-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" 36 & over	4-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Junior Hunter Sections						
Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Hunter & Green Hunter Pony Section						
Small Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Medium Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Large Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Small Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Medium Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Green Large Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0	
Children's Hunter Sections+						

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Children's Hunter Younger	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Older	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Pony Small/Medium	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Pony Large	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
LowChildren's Hunter Horse	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
LowChildren's Hunter Pony	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Adult Amateur Hunter Sections+					
Adult Amateur Hunter Younger	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Adult Amateur Hunter Middle	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Adult Amateur Hunter Older	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Low Adult Amateur Hunter	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Ladies Side Saddle	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Hunter Breeding	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Small Hunter	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Thoroughbred Hunter	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter Sections					
USHJA Hunter 2'0"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'3"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'6"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'9"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 3'0"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Other Rated Classes					
USHJA International Hunter Derby					
USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome					
USHJA National Hunter Derby					
USHJA Green Hunter Incentive					
USHJA Green Hunter Challenge					
USHJA Pony Hunter Derby					
Hunter Classics					

(+ Denotes sections which may have USHJA Zone Specifications that govern number of classes and prize money)

(*See HU163.3, HU117 regarding Model Classes, and other class requirements).

See HU154.2 for requirements regarding minimum number of classes to award a championship.

***No more than two (2) one-day Regional competitions or one (1) multi-day Regional competition may be held by the same ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** or any entity associated with the same ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** during any calendar week (Monday through Sunday). If the ~~licensee~~ **Licensee** is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity. (See HJ112 and HJ113).

7. All classes offered in a licensed Open Western Division shall be conducted in accordance with GR818, unless the competition has applied for and received a rating. (See ratings chart GR312.)
8. Any breed-restricted division, or combination of breed-restricted divisions, may be offered at Local Regular ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**, in accordance with GR310.
9. IMPORTANT: See Chapter HU and HJ. There are special conditions and requirements for determining the ratings of Hunter sections. Management's attention is directed to these conditions in particular, HU131 and HJ127 - 133.

Section. If a section is divided in any way (by age: Jr and Adult or divided by section: A/B, C/D, Half/Part) each split section must meet the minimum requirements for prize money and number of classes.	*A* Rating Requirements	
	minimum number classes	minimum prize money
Welsh		
Welsh English Pleasure Sec. A & B, 12.2 & Under (junior to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh English Pleasure Sec B, over 12.2 & up to 14.2 (junior to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh English Pleasure Sec C & D (junior/adult to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh English Pleasure Sec A & B (adult to ride)	3	\$50
Half/Part-Bred Welsh English Pleasure (junior/ adult to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh Pleasure Driving Sec A & B (junior/adult to drive)	3	\$50
Welsh Hunter Sec A & B (junior to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh Hunter Sec C & D (junior/adult to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh Hunter Sec A & B (adult to ride)	3	\$50
Half/Part-Bred Welsh Hunter (junior/adult to ride)	3	\$50
Welsh Western Pleasure Sections A, B, C, D and Half/Part-Bred Welsh (junior/ adult to ride)	3	\$50

Section. If a section is divided in any way (by age: Jr and Adult or divided by section: A/B, C/D, Half/Part) each split section must meet the minimum requirements for prize money and number of classes.	*A* Rating Requirements	
	minimum number classes	minimum prize money
Western **		
Reining	2	\$100
Trail	2	\$100
Pleasure	2	\$100

Any class or section not meeting the requirements shown in this chart will be rated *C.*

*Western Division competitions may retain Local ~~Competition~~ **competition** status regardless of the amount of prize money offered.

GR313 Special Conditions

1. Monies offered to classes restricted to established futurity/maturity programs, local restricted jackpots, sweepstakes, or other breed specific programs offered by a recognized breed affiliate or by the National Reining Horse Association will not be included in tabulation of competition dues or in determining division ratings.
2. The following classes do not count toward the minimum number of classes nor toward the minimum prize money required for any division or section rating; these following classes do not count toward HOTY awards unless included in the specific division award rules:

- a. Breeding;
- b. Classes restricted as to area;
- c. Classes, such as Maiden, Novice, Limit and other such rider restricted classes, which restrict the number of ribbons won by any rider, handler or driver, e.g., except for Select, Choice, and Elite classes in the Arabian Division.
- d. Owners, except in Amateur Owner sections and Paso Fino Division;
- e. Classes that do not count toward a Hunter or Jumper Championship;
- f. Bareback, Grooms, Consolation, Races, Parades, Command, Cutting classes, and except in the Paso Fino Divisions, Costume classes, Calcutta classes;
- g. Exhibitions;
- h. Classes restricted to one breed (except in one breed divisions), type or color;
- i. Classes restricted to horse or rider (e.g. age or sex, unless complementary classes are offered for other entries). Ladies classes will count toward the rating requirement even if complementary classes for Gentlemen are not offered;
- j. Any class in which the judging specifications are not in accordance with the Federation;
- k. Opportunity classes;
- l. Academy classes;
- m. Classes held as part of a USHJA Outreach competition.

SUBCHAPTER 3-C COMPETITION MILEAGE

GR314 Mileage

1. Determining Applicable Mileage.
 - a. Mileage is applied Division by Division as defined in the Federation Rulebook.
 - b. To determine a mile radius, the distance shall be measured using mapping software to measure the distance between the locations where the competitions are being conducted (i.e. address of the facility where each of the competitions will be held or the longitude and latitude if an exact address does not exist), except between Long Island and the mainland. Application of this process will not adversely affect the license rights of competitions already licensed.
 - c. In any instance where the shortest road mileage distance between the competition facility locations is greater than one and one half (1 1/2) times the radial mileage between the competition facility locations, the required mileage distances between competitions shall be based upon the road mileage distance rather than radial mileage.
 - d. Mileage between competitions within Zones or Regions utilizing different mileage will be subjected to the lower of the mileage requirements.
 - e. Long Island, N.Y. The distances between competitions held on Long Island, NY, and competitions held on the mainland shall be determined by measuring a straight line distance from the point at which Interstate Highway 278 (across the Triborough Bridge) intersects the shore of Long Island, to the location where the Long Island competition is being conducted (i.e. address of the facility where each of the competitions will be held or the longitude and latitude if an exact address does not exist) and by measuring the mile radius from the bridge to the location where the other competition is being conducted (i.e. address of the facility where each of the competitions will be held or the longitude and latitude if an exact address does not exist). The application of this process will not adversely affect the license rights of competitions already licensed.
 - f. If the mileage between competitions is less than the applicable distance specified by this rule, conflicting dates may be approved by the Federation in accordance with GR315 and providing all other requirements for recognition are met.
 - g. The foregoing distance rules do not apply to events comprised exclusively of classes recognized by the FEI and the USOPC (example: Olympic Trials or Olympic Games). The National Championships for Dressage and Dressage ~~Competitions~~ ~~competitions~~ offering Federation High Performance qualifying or selection trials, or observation classes and National classes held in conjunction with a CDI are exempted from the mileage rule. When a CDI is approved on one or more days where another competition has date priority, national classes can only be held on the day of the FEI Jog and on days where at least one CDI class is held or is not held due to no entries. When CDI classes are not held on all approved CDI dates

(except due to no entries) the competition might not be granted approval for those dates in subsequent years. Certain competitions held in conjunction with events also holding FEI competitions and/or selection trials for international competitions, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, may be exempted from the mileage rule.

- ~~h. Existing competition is a licensed competition that may or may not be within the mileage indicated of the new license applicant.~~
- ~~i. Proposals to change mileage rule or rules may be submitted for consideration by the Federation Board of Directors. Any such mileage rule change will have an effective date of December 1 of the following calendar year. In no event will changes to mileage become effective in less than 12 months from the date of the rule change approval. Proposals for mileage rule changes submitted by Affiliates may only be considered after they have been considered at the annual meeting of the appropriate recognized National Affiliate.~~

2. Mileage Boundaries. Mileage consideration may be applicable to more than one mileage provision.

- a. The below divisions will be conducted under the following mileage:
 - a. Andalusian/Lusitano: 250 miles;
 - b. Arabian: 250 miles;
 - c. Friesian: 250 miles;
 - d. Hackney: 100 miles;
 - e. Morgan: 100 miles;
 - f. National Show Horse: 50 miles;
 - g. Roadster: 100 miles;
 - h. Shetland: 100 miles;
 - i. American Saddlebred: 100 miles;
 - j. Local Regular: Any breed competition restricted to one breed or multi-breed competition including any of the above listed breeds (1-9), regardless of number of classes offered: 50 miles;
 - k. Western Dressage: 100 miles.
- b. Mileage Boundaries for Hunter and/or Jumper Sections.
 - a. Hunter and/or Jumper competitions are categorized by Rating and/or Level. Additional criteria required for each Rating and/or Level in the Hunter and Jumper Mileage Charts can be found on the Federation website at www.usef.org under **Competitions competitions**.
 - b. Jumper Levels are based on the prize money offered. See JP104.
 - c. Hunter mileage shall be independent of the Jumper mileage and applied separately to each division of a competition
 - d. The distances between **licensed competitions** ~~Licensed Competitions~~ held in USHJA Zones 1 & 2 (ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NJ, NY, and PA) offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H1 & J1) shown below effective 12-01-22.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H1 USHJA Zones 1&2				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier ("AA")	National ("A")	Regional ("B")
	Premier ("AA")	125	125	0
	National ("A")	125	125	0
Regional ("B")	0	0	50	

Jumper Mileage Chart – J1 USHJA 1 & 2						
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	Level 5 & 6	125	125	90	0	0

Level 4	125	125	90	0	0
Level 3	90	90	75	0	0
Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
Level 1	0	0	0	0	0

5. The distances between **licensed competitions** ~~Licensed Competitions~~ held in USHJA Zones 3 thru 10 and Canada [with the exception of Florida in the first trimester - December through March – see GR314.5] offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H2 & J2) shown below effective 12-01-22.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H2 USHJA Zones 3 thru 12 and Canada (excluding FL in 1st trimester)				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier ("AA")	National ("A")	Regional ("B")
	Premier ("AA")	250	250	0
	National ("A")	250	250	0
Regional ("B")	0	0	50	

Jumper Mileage Chart – J2 USHJA Zones 3 thru 12 and Canada (excluding FL in 1st trimester)						
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	Level 5 & 6	250	250	100	0	0
	Level 4	250	250	100	0	0
	Level 3	200	200	100	0	0
	Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
	Level 1	0	0	0	0	0

6. The distances between **licensed competitions** ~~Licensed Competitions~~ held in Florida in the first trimester (December through March) offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H3 & J3) shown below effective 12-01-08.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H3 (1st trimester Florida)				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier ("AA")	National ("A")	Regional ("B")
	Premier ("AA")	225	200	0
	National ("A")	200	200	0
Regional ("B")	0	0	50	

Jumper Mileage Chart – J3 (1st trimester Florida)					
--	--	--	--	--	--

Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Level 5 & 6		225	200	100	0	0
Level 4		200	200	100	0	0
Level 3		200	200	100	0	0
Level 2		0	0	0	0	0
Level 1		0	0	0	0	0

3. Mileage Boundaries for Dressage Competitions.

- a. In the case of a Regular or Local ~~Competition~~ **competition** holding Open Dressage Division classes, the question of conflict shall be determined with reference only to those dates, inclusive, during which Open Dressage classes are to be held. See DR127.15 for a map of USDF regions.
- b. Applicable Mileage:
 - i. A 75 mile radius shall apply to Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** held in contiguous USDF regions, for which different distances are specified, in the case of Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**, Regular ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**, or Local ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** holding "open" Dressage Division classes.
 - ii. A 50-mile radius shall apply for Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** in USDF Regions 1, 2, 6, & 8 holding "open" Dressage classes (excluding competitions restricted to one breed).
 - iii. A 100-mile radius shall apply for Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** in USDF Regions 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 holding "open" Dressage classes (excluding competitions restricted to one breed).
- c. Two or more Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** may not be held at the same or adjacent locations on the same days.
 - i. Exception: Dressage ~~Competitions~~ **competitions** that are limited to Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes may be held at the same or adjacent location or within the applicable mileage radius as another Dressage ~~Competition~~ **competition** that does not offer Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes.
- d. All dressage competitions are categorized by Level. See DR126 for criteria for each level.

4. Mileage Boundaries for Eventing ~~Competitions~~ **competitions**.

- a. Eventing competitions are categorized by level offered, and mileage is applied to the applicant competition. Where an Eventing competition hosts more than one level, the highest applicable mileage radius will apply, *e.g. an Intermediate and Modified applicant competition runs against a Priority Date Holder CCI2-L competition in Area 2, the applicable mileage is 200 miles (the applicant competition's highest applicable mileage radius tied to its Intermediate level)*. Exception: For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the mileage rule will not apply to FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or ~~Federation~~ Advanced level competitions, or any other level hosted therewith, e.g. the mileage rule will not apply to a CCI3-S hosted with an Advanced level competition.
- b. ~~The USEA American Eventing Championship is not subject to the modification process, and is eligible for renewal at a new location as needed.~~ For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the radius will be zero for CCI4-L, CCI4-S, Advanced, and CCI3-L levels, **including any lower levels hosted at these competitions**, and the mileage chart for remaining levels will apply only to those competitions not hosting FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or ~~Federation~~ Advanced levels:

Level	Radius
CCI4-L	600
CCI4-S	250

Level	Radius
CCI4-L	600
CCI4-S	400

Advanced	200
CCI3-L	600
CCI3-S	200
Intermediate	200
CCI2-L	300
CCI2-S	100
Preliminary	100
CCI1	100
Modified	100

Advanced	400
CCI3-L	600
CCI3-S	200
Intermediate	300
CCI2-L	300
CCI2-S	200
Preliminary	200
CCI1	200
Modified	200

SUBCHAPTER 3-D MILEAGE EXEMPTION AND COMPETITION LICENSE DISPUTES

GR315 Mileage Exemption

1. Mileage Exemption. When a competition license application is denied by the Federation due to a mileage conflict, the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ may seek a mileage exemption to allow the competition to occur. The decision to grant a mileage exemption is discretionary and made by the Federation Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, based on the criteria enumerated below.
2. The Federation may consider different criteria in determining whether a mileage exemption is warranted. The relative weight accorded to each such criteria is in the sole discretion of the Federation Chief Executive Officer, or their designee. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Competition Standards: Priority Date Holder's adherence to competition standards.
 - i. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition may alleviate concerns about the safety and welfare of horses, competitors, and/or spectators for a given rating and/or level at a Priority Date Holder's competition;
 - ii. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition may enable a Priority Date Holder to better achieve the competition standards for a given rating and/or level;
 - iii. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition may alleviate overcrowding of horses and/or competitors in a given geographic area at a given venue.
 - b. Competition and Calendar Factors:
 - i. a Priority Date Holder's costs to competitors or offered ratings and/or levels;
 - ii. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition serves a need that the Priority Date Holder does not serve as to the schedule of classes, sections, and divisions, which may be too limited;
 - iii. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition should be given an opportunity to enter the marketplace where a Priority Date Holder seemingly dominates the calendar in a given geographical area, ~~which may create unilateral competition effects;~~
 - iv. Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition alleviates the negative impact on competitors that may occur when the number of consecutive competitions of the same rating and/or level in a given geographic area ~~at a given venue creates unilateral competition effects.~~
 - v. For Eventing competitions; Federation **licensed** ~~Licensed~~ Eventing **competitions** ~~Competitions~~ occurring a minimum of two weeks prior to, and two weeks following the applicant competition, will be taken into consideration when determining the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition's impact on the competition calendar, regardless of mileage boundary.
 - c. Sport Growth and Visibility:

Whether the **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition may create growth and visibility of the sport in one of the following ways, which is not exclusive:

 - i. The **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition is warranted due to community support and/or involvement;
 - ii. The **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition may broaden access to competitors at all levels of the sport;
 - iii. The **applicant** ~~Applicant~~ competition is unique and provides exceptional promotional benefits to the sport.

- d. In addition, the Federation will consider the following factors in determining whether a mileage exemption should be granted:
 - i. Geographic location and time of year with regard to concentration and migration of competitors;
 - ii. Experience and expertise of competition management;
 - iii. Competitions outside of boundary mileage of Priority Date Holder and **applicant Applicant Competition competition**, which may affect density and competitive level of competitors;
 - iv. Density and competitive level of competitors in a given geographic area at a given time of year; and
 - v. Any other circumstances that the Federation may deem to support, further, promote, or advance the best interests of the sport.

3. Mileage Exemption Procedure

An **applicant Applicant** may first contact the Priority Date Holder(s) and seek cooperation in running the proposed event.

- a. ~~If the Priority Date Holder(s) agrees to the exemption request, then the terms and conditions of any agreement must be fully disclosed to the Federation in writing along with submission of the Mileage Exemption Response Form. Submission of these materials indicates that the parties acknowledge and agree that the Federation is not responsible for the enforcement or performance of the terms and conditions of the agreement and that the parties expressly waive any claim against the Federation for failure to perform.~~
- b. ~~If the Priority Date Holder(s) does not agree to the exemption request, then the~~ **The applicant Applicant** shall submit the Mileage Exemption Request Form to the Federation in accordance with these rules. The **applicant Applicant** shall submit the Mileage Exemption Request Form, fully completed, to the Federation no earlier than 360 calendar days and no later than 180 calendar days before the start date of the proposed competition. The fully completed Mileage Exemption Request Form must be accompanied with the non-refundable application fee. A mileage exemption request will not be accepted unless the Mileage Exemption Request Form is fully completed and the application fee is paid in full. Within 21 days of acceptance of a properly submitted request and application fee, the Federation will notify the **applicant Applicant** and the Priority Date Holder(s) that the request is being processed. The notification will include a copy of the submitted Mileage Exemption Request Form and a Mileage Exemption Response Form for the Priority Date Holder(s) to complete. The Priority Date Holder(s) has 10 calendar days from the date of the Notification letter to submit to the Federation, with a copy to the **applicant Applicant**, a fully completed Mileage Exemption Response Form. The Priority Date Holder(s) must provide written comments explaining the basis for their objection to the mileage exemption request, based on the criteria listed in paragraph 2 above.
- c. ***If the Priority Date Holder(s) agrees to the exemption request, then the terms and conditions of any agreement must be fully disclosed to the Federation in writing along with submission of the Mileage Exemption Response Form. Submission of these materials indicates that the parties acknowledge and agree that the Federation is not responsible for the enforcement or performance of the terms and conditions of the agreement and that the parties expressly waive any claim against the Federation for failure to perform.***
- d. In the case of mileage exemption renewal requests where an agreement has been reached with the affected competition(s), the following applies: Within 15 calendar days of receipt of a completed Mileage Exemption Response Form and the terms and conditions of an agreement, if such agreement was reached between the affected parties, the request will be reviewed by the Federation and a determination will be made whether to grant the renewal request.
- e. In the case of first time mileage exemption requests or renewal requests where an agreement could not be reached with the affected competition(s) or the affected competition(s) failed to timely respond, the following applies: Within 10 calendar days of receipt of a completed Mileage Exemption Response Form from Priority Date Holder(s) objecting to the request, or the expiration of the 10 day response period if no completed Mileage Exemption Response Form is submitted, the Federation will notify the applicable Recognized Breed/Discipline Affiliate and provide all documentation received in the process from any party. Within the time prescribed by the Federation, the applicable Recognized Breed/Discipline Affiliate is invited to submit written feedback for consideration by the Federation in reaching a decision whether to approve or disapprove the request, including specific feedback on the criteria listed in paragraph 2 above. If the Federation learns that an individual with a conflict of interest was present when an Affiliate

considers its recommendation under this Chapter, then such recommendation will be not be considered by the Federation.

- f. ***For Hunter, Jumper, Hunter/Jumper licensed competitions in Florida occurring within the first trimester of the competition year, the mileage exemption process shall be governed in accordance with the timeline posted on the Federation's website.***
4. Modifications or amendments to an approved exemption are not permitted unless approved by the Federation in writing.
5. Mileage Exemptions are granted for one year only. Approval in one year does not guarantee future approval of a mileage exemption request.
6. ***All licensed competitions*** Licensed Competitions operating under an approved mileage exemption shall have the applicable mileage protection against new competitions pursuant to these rules. Additionally, these competitions will have the applicable mileage protection for the following year's comparable dates, provided that the license application and applicable fees are received within 60 calendar days of the last day of the current year's competition. This does not preclude the Federation from granting additional mileage exemption requests for new competitions to be held within any mileage boundary.
7. Competitions with an approved mileage exemption which have been held for two or more consecutive years may apply for designation as a perpetual mileage exemption. If approved, the competition shall apply annually for renewal under GR 302.3. To be eligible for this designation, the competition must indicate this request on the application and pay the requisite mileage exemption fee. Any conditions associated with the approved mileage exemption shall remain in place. Upon receiving this designation, any changes to location, rating and/or level will result in loss of this designation and the competition will be required to apply for a mileage exemption. Designated perpetual mileage exemption competitions shall have the applicable mileage protection against new competitions. This does not preclude the Federation from granting additional mileage exemption requests for new competitions to be held within any mileage boundary. The Federation may revoke this designation at any time.
8. The Federation will provide a written decision to the ***applicant*** Applicant and Priority Date Holder(s) within 30 days of receipt of the Recognized Affiliate ***or Federation committee's*** recommendation, ***whichever is later***. If the 30-day time period cannot be met, the parties will be notified in writing when they can expect to receive a decision. ***Subject to GR315.3.f above, for Hunter, Jumper, Hunter/Jumper licensed competitions in Florida occurring within the first trimester of the competition year, the Federation will provide a written decision to the applicant and Priority Date Holder(s) in accordance with the schedule posted on the Federation's website.***
9. Computing Time. For purposes of computing time ***related to the timelines established in the Mileage Exemption and license Modification processes*** under ***this Chapter GR315***, the following rules apply:
 - a. exclude the day of the event that triggers the period;
 - b. count every day, including intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, excluding legal holidays and week days that the Federation offices are closed;
 - c. include the last day of the period, but if the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or day that the Federation offices are closed, the period continues to run until the end of the next day that the office is open.

BOD 6/2023 Effective 12/1/23

GR 316 License Application Disputes and Resolution

1. Any competition license applicant may dispute the denial of a license application or renewal. In addition, a Mileage Exemption Request applicant and Priority Date Holder(s) may dispute a mileage exemption request decision. The initiation of a license dispute can be made by submitting a fully completed Federation Mileage Exemption Dispute Form to disputes@usef.org and to the Federation General Counsel within 10 calendar days of the date on the Federation notice of the approval or denial, along with the filing fee. The submission must include the basis for the appeal.
2. Upon notification by the Federation of a properly filed dispute, the affected parties will have 10 calendar days to file a substantive response. License disputes will be decided by the Federation Hearing Committee in accordance with the Federation rules and procedures. The Hearing Committee Panel may review the decision based upon the parties' written submissions and the record below. The parties may be represented by counsel. In its discretion, the Hearing Committee Panel may hold a hearing. Hearings will be conducted via videoconference or teleconference as directed by the Hearing Committee Panel. The Hearing Committee

Panel shall only determine whether the challenged decision was made in accordance with the Federation rules. The Hearing Committee shall issue a written decision as soon as practicable. If the appealing party prevails, half of the fee shall be refunded.

3. The Hearing Committee's decision is final and not appealable within the Federation.

GR111 Competition Dates

A competition or competition date begins at 12:01 am on the calendar date on which the first class (or Horse Inspection, if applicable) is scheduled and ends at midnight on the calendar date on which the last class is scheduled.

For purposes of Chapter 3 of these rules, an "existing competition" is a licensed or comparable competition.

GR152 Rule Change Procedures

These rules may be added to, altered or amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of those present as provided herein below. The Federation Legislative Committee is responsible for review, analysis, and oversight of the Federation's rule change process, subject to review and approval by the Board of Directors. Rule Change Categories: Standard, Clarification, Extraordinary, and FEI.

Federation Senior Staff, Federation Committees, Recognized Affiliate Associations (Recognized Associations and International Discipline Associations), and eligible Individual Federation members may propose rule changes. Individual Federation members are eligible so long as the member is a Lifetime member or has held a Federation Senior Active membership for at least five (5) consecutive years. If an Individual Federation member is ineligible to submit a rule change due to these requirements, the member may contact the appropriate Recognized Affiliate Association or Federation committee and request that either one consider proposing their desired rule change.

[...]

4. FEI Rule Changes. In order to comply in a timely manner with changes in FEI rules, which may be published by the FEI outside the Federation's normal rule change schedule, certification is waived and the Board of Directors may consider and act to conform to any FEI rule change as deemed necessary.
5. ***Proposals to change mileage boundaries herein may be submitted for consideration by the Federation Board of Directors. Any such mileage rule change will have an effective date of December 1 of the following calendar year. In no event will changes to mileage become effective in less than 12 months from the date of the rule change approval. Proposals for mileage rule changes submitted by Affiliates may only be considered after they have been considered at the annual meeting of the appropriate recognized National Affiliate.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To ensure jurisdiction over USEF member's conduct relating to cruelty or abuse to actions that occur outside of a competition environment, regardless of any action taken in a civil or criminal court. Ensuring jurisdiction in this context aids in protecting the social license to operate and shows that supports USEF's no tolerance of equine cruelty or abuse by its members.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
CEO - Bill Moroney	Leslie Mangan lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 838 (109-23)	

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024 **Draft 1:** The Council approves under the condition that if Tracking #109-23 is approved, the language in this proposal would be amended to match where necessary.

Council - Intl Discipline
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024 **Draft 1:** The Council recommends approval of this proposal but wants to note that the language in GR702.1.f should be changed from "cruelty and abuse" to "unethical treatment" to align with the definition in GR838.

GR702 Violations

1. A violation is any act prejudicial to the best interests of the Federation, including but not limited to the following:

[...]

f. Physical assault upon a person and/or ~~cruelty~~ ***unethical treatment*** to ~~a~~ ***the*** horse, as defined in GR838, ***cruelty, or abuse to the horse.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to improve member experience and processing times, the Federation is moving away from paper applications and replacing them with online applications. This rule change is intended to remove the paper forms related to drug and medication administration from the rulebook. These forms are available electronically. As the forms are submitted electronically, the timing of submission has been adjusted to prior to the first time the horse competes.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Veterinary	Stephen Schumacher sschumacher@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 201 (067-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

GR411 Conditions For Therapeutic Administrations of Prohibited Substances

1. A horse and/or pony exhibiting at a Licensed Competition pursuant to the Therapeutic Substance Provisions that receives any medication which contains a prohibited substance is not eligible for competition unless all of the following requirements have been met and the facts are furnished in writing on a timely-submitted official Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form online. **A form is timely-submitted when the electronic form is submitted following administration and before the horse competes (See (i) for paper forms):**

[...]

i. Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form filed **following administration and prior to the horse competing**, with the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative within one hour after administration or one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative returns to duty if administration is at a time other than during competition hours. If an online form cannot be submitted due to lack of internet or phone service, a paper form may be submitted. This option may only be used when submitting the online form is impossible. **The form must be filed with the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative within one hour after administration. If administration occurred outside of competition hours, the form must be filed within one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative returns to duty if administration took place at a time other than during competition hours.**

GR 414 Prohibited Practices

2. The above exceptions are permitted only when (i) the substance is administered by a licensed veterinarian and no less than 6 hours prior to competing; and (ii) the "Trainer" as defined under General Rule 404 properly files, or causes to be properly filed, an Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form **following administration and prior to the horse competing** with the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative within one hour after the administration of the substance or one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours. The Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative shall sign and record the time of receipt on the Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form.

[...]

4. Shockwave Therapy may only be administered by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. If sedation is required for Shockwave Therapy, only sedation performed by a licensed veterinarian and administered at the same time as the Shockwave Therapy will be considered therapeutic and GR411 will apply. No sedation associated with Shockwave Therapy will be considered therapeutic if administered within 24 hours prior to competition. No horse may be treated with Shockwave Therapy within the 3 days preceding competition with the following exception:

a. Shockwave Therapy may be administered by a licensed veterinarian within the 3 day prohibited period, but no closer than 12 hours prior to competing, and is limited to application to the back and dorsal pelvis areas. No Shockwave Therapy is permitted within the 12 hours prior to competing. This exception is permitted only when the "Trainer" as defined under GR404

properly files, or causes to be properly filed, an Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form ***after administration and prior to the horse competing. If an online form cannot be submitted due to lack of internet or phone service, a paper form may be submitted. The form must be filed*** with the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative within one hour after the administration of Shockwave Therapy. ***If administration occurred outside of competition hours, the form must be filed within*** ~~of~~ one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours. The Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative shall sign and record the time of receipt on the Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/20/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Single entry divisions are common in Combined Driving. Updating the points chart to recognize the completion of single entry events will continue to encourage Drivers to pursue HOTY points and participate in Federation licensed competitions. This rule change updates the table in GR 1127.2 to include a single point for competitors that are the only entry in the category, with the stipulation that competitor will need to compete in the same category at three events in the competition year in order to earn the points for single entry events.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Combined Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

If 16 or more competitors have started	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
1st	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	6	4	1
2nd	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	3	1	
3rd	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	1		
4th	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
5th	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1				
6th	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1					
7th	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1						
8th	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1							
9th	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1								
10th	7	6	5	4	3	2	1									
11th	6	5	4	3	2	1										
12th	5	4	3	2	1											
13th	4	3	2	1												
14th	3	2	1													
15th	2	1														
16th	1															

a. If only a single competitor completes the Combined Driving competition, they will receive a single point for the completion so long as the competitor competes in the same category in at least three competitions in the same competition year.

2-4.b. Half Points will be awarded for all categories at Short Format Driving Events where three (3) phases of Dressage, Modified Marathon, and Cones are included.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

Horse wellbeing is paramount to USEF and this proposal modernizes the horse abuse rule. This proposal accompanies GR702, a standard rule change currently under consideration. The effective date for this EO should align with the effective date for GR702 should the Board approve it.

Rule Change Intent

This proposal is intended to achieve the following: (1) expand the scope of USEF's jurisdiction to include horse abuse that occurs outside of competition, including at home facilities; (2) clarify examples of what constitutes abuse in our sport; (3) mandate reporting of horse abuse; and (4) clarify that competition management and officials are empowered to eliminate, disqualify, and issue warnings for horse abuse at competitions.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USEF Officers

Leslie Mangan

lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

GR 702 (082-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER 8-F WELFARE OF THE HORSE

GR838 *Unethical Treatment of the Horse—Cruelty to and Abuse of a Horse*

For purposes of this rule, the following definitions apply:

A Covered Horse is defined as any horse that is or has been recorded with the Federation, has participated or is entered to participate in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition, or is on the grounds of a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition or is in the care, custody, and control of a Participant.

A Participant is defined as any person who holds or has held a Federation membership; participated in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition as a rider, vaulter, driver, handler, exhibitor, trainer, coach, groom, competition veterinarian, or support personnel for any of these identified roles; or is present on the grounds of a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition.

1. Any Participant engaging in the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is subject to penalty. Except in exigent circumstances, the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is defined as any action or inaction that may negatively compromise the Covered Horse's health, safety, or well-being. It may include any action(s) or inaction(s) that causes or is likely to cause a horse pain, a state of obvious distress, or unnecessary discomfort.

Examples of Unethical Treatment of a Horse may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Misuse or excessive use of a whip, spur, or bit;*
- b. Misuse of any equipment or device, including tack;*
- c. Creation of hyper or hypo-sensitization of any physical part of a Covered Horse to enhance performance;*
- d. Any practice or use of devices or objects used to enhance a Covered Horse's performance based on fear or intimidation;*
- e. Training, riding, or competing a Covered Horse with raw, bleeding, or irritated skin or welts consistent with excessive, persistent, or inappropriate use of equipment, including spurs; and*
- f. Continued riding, driving, or lunging an obviously exhausted, lame, or injured Covered Horse.*

2. A Participant is subject to penalty for the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse that occurs at or in connection with a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Additionally, any person who directs another as to the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse is subject to penalty.

3. A Participant is subject to penalty for the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse that occurs after November 30, 2024 somewhere other than at or in connection with a USEF Licensed or Endorsed Competition. For the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse under this paragraph that occurs off U.S. soil by a Participant who is a member of a foreign National Federation, the Federation will refer the matter to the relevant National Federation and FEI for resolution.

4. Any Participant who personally witnesses the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse at or in direct connection with a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition, must immediately report it to a Federation Licensed Official at the competition.

5. Any Participant who personally witnesses the Unethical Treatment of a Covered Horse outside of a Federation Licensed Competition, should report it to the Federation and the relevant local authorities as soon as practicable.

6. A veterinarian may be appointed by the Federation, Competition Management, or a Licensed Official to inspect any horse on competition grounds, or any horse stabled off grounds that is entered to compete in a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Refusal to submit an animal for such examination shall constitute a violation of this rule, and the owner and/or trainer may be subject to penalty by the Federation.

7. A Federation Licensed Official, Competition Management, or competition veterinarian at a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition may issue an official written warning, elimination, or disqualification against any Participant they deem to have Unethically Treated a Covered Horse on competition grounds or directly related to a Federation Licensed or Endorsed Competition. Additionally, any person may be removed from the competition grounds for Unethical Treatment of a Horse. Any report received of alleged Unethical Treatment or penalties imposed on a person(s) as a result of Unethical Treatment must be reported to the Federation. A Participant may be subject to further penalty by the Federation.

8. Anyone reporting a violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed is a violation. Any allegations that prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense and will be considered a violation of this rule, subjecting the reporting party to penalty by the Federation.

9. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Federation may pursue disciplinary action pursuant Bylaw 705.2(b).

1. Cruelty to or the abuse of a horse present on the grounds of any Licensed Competition is forbidden, constitutes a violation under Chapter 7, and renders the offender subject to penalty. The Show Committee, or Competition Management in the absence of a Show Committee must bar violators from further participation for the remainder of the competition. It is the duty of the competition officials to report to the Federation any person who indulges in this practice for such further action as may be deemed appropriate.
2. Any person or trainer, as defined by Federation rules, who presents for competition a horse that exhibits signs of recent cruelty or abuse will be subject to penalty under this rule.
3. The Federation or the Judge, Steward, or TD may appoint a veterinarian to inspect any animal on competition grounds or entered to compete. Refusal to submit an animal for examination by an authorized veterinarian after due notification shall constitute a violation.
4. The following are included under the words Cruelty and Abuse but are not limited thereto:
 - a. Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, before or during a competition, by any person,
 - b. except in emergency situations any striking of the horse's head (on the poll and forward of the poll) with the whip shall be deemed excessive.
 - c. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement;
 - d. Use of any substance or method to induce temporary heat.
 - e. Manual poling with any object;
 - f. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jump;
 - g. Use of electric device in schooling or showing;
 - h. Use of shackles, hock hobbles and similar devices (not to be construed as rubber or elastic exercising devices);
 - i. Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores around the coronets, pasterns, or legs;
 - j. Use of any explosive (e.g., fire crackers, torpedoes, fire extinguishers except in case of fire, etc.) or laser beam devices; anywhere on the competition grounds, except in an exhibition or if required in

- class specifications.
- k. Withholding of feed and water for prolonged periods;
 - l. Letting blood from a horse for other than diagnostic purposes;
 - m. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person;
 - n. Use of any object that prevents the horse's ability to close its mouth. (Exception: use of an oral speculum by a veterinarian or equine dentist to provide legitimate dental/oral medical care.)
 - o. Soring and/or the use of an action device on any limb of a Tennessee Walking Horse, Racking Horse, or Spotted Saddle Horse (each a breed not recognized by the Federation) in any class at a Federation Licensed Competition is prohibited. An action device is defined by the USDA as any boot, collar, chain, roller, or other device that encircles or is placed upon the lower extremity of the leg of a horse in such a manner that it can rotate around the leg or slide up and down the leg so as to cause friction or strike the hoof, coronet band, fetlock joint or pastern of the horse. (Protective bell boots or heel boots are specifically excluded from this definition). The use of a weighted shoe, pad, wedge, in conjunction with a hoof band or other device or material (commonly referred to as a performance package) placed on, inserted in, or attached to any limb of a Tennessee Walking Horse,
 - a Racking Horse, or Spotted Saddle Horse (each a breed not recognized by the Federation) constructed to artificially alter the gait of such a horse, and which are not protective or therapeutic in nature at a Federation Licensed Competition is prohibited.
 - p. Soring of any horse, including but not limited to the application of caustic chemicals to a horse's legs or hooves, in order to cause pain and/or affect a horse's performance, and/or used as a training technique.
5. Any action(s) against a horse by any person, which are deemed excessive by a Federation judge, Federation steward, technical delegate or competition veterinarian, in the competition ring or anywhere on the competition grounds or evidence of action(s) described above on a horse on competition grounds may be punished by official warning or elimination. Such action(s) could include but are not limited to excessive or inappropriate use of equipment, including but not limited to the whip or spurs. Evidence may include raw, bleeding, or irritated skin, or welts consistent with excessive use or inappropriate use of equipment

For the purposes of this rule, the term "soring" is defined by the Horse Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. §1821:

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	12/22/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

The Maclay specifications have already been updated for the 2024 qualifying period, and the rule is being adjusted to reflect the newest specifications.

Rule Change Intent

The current 2024 Maclay class specifications are posted on the National Horse Show website (www.nhs.org), and these changes will align the language in the USEF rule book with those class specifications. Proposed changes include updates to the qualifying criteria, changing the timeline for posting the point requirements, removing language about specs being posted on the USEF website, and adding a reference to a definition.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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National Hunter Committee

Hattie Carter

hcarter@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

SUBCHAPTER EQ-2 HUNTER/JUMPING SEAT EQUITATION SECTION

EQ111 Requirements for Specific Classes

6. ASPCA HORSEMANSHIP CLASS. Open to Junior members of USEF or ~~Equine Canada~~ who have not reached their 18th birthday *in accordance with GR127*. Rider and trainer (or coach when applicable, see GR108) must be current members of the ASPCA/NHSAA. Fees are payable online by credit card to the National Horse Show Association of America by visiting www.nhs.org and clicking the ASPCA Maclay tab at the top of the page. All contestants are required to perform over at least eight fences at 3'6" with or without wings. The course must include at least two changes of direction, a combination including an oxer, and 1/3 of the obstacles must be oxers. A liverpool or water is prohibited in ASPCA Maclay classes including Regionals and Finals. In addition, all courses must include at least three of the following: bending line, narrow jump (5'6"-8'), rollback turn, fence at the end of the ring, long approach to a single jump. Two cumulative refusals in the ASPCA Maclay Finals will result in elimination, see EQ108.1. A minimum of twelve riders, if available, are required to show at a walk, trot and canter. To be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of horse. The Under Saddle performance of those riders selected to show under saddle shall count 50%. Only one rider per horse (See EQ113 for approved tests). To fill a class three (3) competitors must complete the course. If 50 or more entries are received the class must be divided by every other number and run as two separate classes.

- a. For the point and qualifying system, see ~~the Federation website at www.usef.org and the National Horse Show website at www.nhs.org. Point system will be set no later than **December 1st each year**. ~~fifteen (15) days prior to the start of the qualifying period. Once a rider has obtained the point requirements of their state of residence, as defined in these rules, the rider is qualified to compete in the ASPCA Maclay Finals for that competition year. Competing in an ASPCA Maclay Regional Finals in that competition year is optional for any riders qualified for the ASPCA Maclay Finals.~~ Riders may compete in a total of fourteen (14) ASPCA Maclay classes in a single qualifying period. Any rider who continues to compete after they have competed in fourteen (14) qualifying classes will no longer be eligible to compete in the ASPCA Maclay Regionals ~~Finals~~ or the ASPCA Maclay Finals. (Exception: If a rider is not yet qualified for the ASPCA Maclay **Regionals Finals** based on the point requirements of their state of residence after fourteen (14) classes, that the rider may continue to compete until qualified ~~for the Finals~~. However, upon qualifying, that rider must stop competing in Maclay classes or they will no longer be eligible to compete in any ASPCA Maclay Regionals ~~Finals~~ or the ASPCA Maclay Finals. ~~)).~~ It is the rider's responsibility to calculate and know their points as well as the number of classes in which they have competed. For complete details on application to offer this class, as well as instructions on submitting results, competition management should contact the National Horse Show. See the National Horse Show website at www.nhs.org for contact information. Classes held at competitions with a start date after August 31 will count toward the next year's finals. Any rider in their final junior year may not compete in any qualifying classes held at a competition with a start date after August 31 of that competition year. Effective 12/1/22~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

Currently the specifications for how Amateur to bike championships should run are incorrect. They should match the specs for the qualifying classes. This creates confusion amongst exhibitors and trainers.

Rule Change Intent

To update the specifications for the Amateur to bike classes in qualifying and championship classes. Currently they are inconsistent with how the classes are run.

Speed is a key component to the judging of the Amateur to bike classes. It was previously excluded from the specifications in how to judge the class. The committee is asking that speed be included and that the Amateur to Bike Championship specifications match. Currently, the championship class is under a separate set of specifications which creates an unfairness and inconsistencies with how the classes are to be judged. By adjusting the language in RD114.7 & 8, it creates clarity and a level playing field for all.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Roadster	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

RD114 Roadster Ponies

1. Classes for Roadster ponies to Bike are restricted to ponies 13 hands (52" and under). If entries warrant two sections may be offered: a) Roadster Ponies to Bike 50" and under; b) Roadster Ponies to Bike over 50" but not to exceed 52". If two sections are offered, competition management may offer a championship/stake for each section. In Under Saddle classes and Roadster Pony to Wagon classes entries may not exceed 54". Ponies may not be shown in a performance class unless the owner possesses a current Measurement Card or valid Measurement Form issued by the Federation (see GR502).
2. During the line up in classes restricted to Junior Exhibitors and Amateurs, one attendant is permitted to head the pony. The attendant must not touch the entry except for safety reasons. During a workout the attendant may uncheck and hold the entry. However, when the workout is over the pony must be rechecked and the attendant must move away from the pony. The attendant must take no action that would affect the performance of any animal.
3. Roadster Pony classes may be judged by judges licensed in the Hackney Pony Division. In all Ladies, Amateur, and Junior Exhibitor roadster pony classes, the judge(s) must walk the line up. If a judging panel is being used to officiate these classes, all judges must comply with this rule.
4. If no Junior Exhibitor qualifying or championship classes are offered at a competition, then junior exhibitors may enter the Amateur or Ladies qualifying or championship classes but protective headgear is required (See GR801.4, .7 and .8). If an amateur championship is not offered, ponies shown in junior exhibitor classes are eligible for the open championship. Junior Exhibitors are allowed to show in Open Roadster Pony to Wagon classes and amateur or open Roaster Pony to Bike classes if Junior Exhibitor or Amateur classes are not offered. The use of protective headgear is required by Junior Exhibitors in these classes.
5. Roadster ponies shall enter the ring in a clockwise manner and be shown first at a jog-trot and road gait, then reversed and shown at a jog-trot, road gait, and then at speed.
6. SINGLE ROADSTER PONY, OPEN, LIMIT, NOVICE, JUNIOR (4 years old & under) TO BIKE. To be judged on performance, speed, presence, quality, conformation, and manners.
7. AMATEUR TO BIKE: To be judged on manners, performance, **speed**, presence, quality, and conformation.
8. **AMATEUR TO BIKE CHAMPIONSHIP: To be judged on manners, performance, speed, presence, quality, and conformation.**
9. SINGLE ROADSTER PONY JUNIOR EXHIBITOR OR LADIES TO BIKE. To be judged on manners, presence, quality, performance, speed and conformation.
10. SINGLE ROADSTER PONY JUNIOR EXHIBITOR, ~~AMATEUR~~ OR LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP TO BIKE. To be eligible ponies must be entered, shown by a Junior Exhibitor, ~~Amateur~~ or Lady and judged in any qualifying class having the same judging specifications. ~~If an amateur ladies class is not offered, amateur ladies showing in the open ladies class will be qualified for the amateur championship.~~ To be judged on manners, presence, quality, performance, speed and conformation.
11. [...]

***renumber accordingly.*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

Rule Change Intent

By removing the time requirements for potential Controlled Warmups at Short Format Events, the officials gain flexibility during the competition to protect the welfare of equines and Drivers.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC944 The Course

1. General

1.1 Maximum Distances and speeds must not be exceeded.

1.2 These speeds may be reduced by the Technical Delegate and the President of Jury in the case of adverse weather or ground conditions.

1.3 The Marathon Course must consist of two sections (A and B or Controlled Warm-up and B) and a Cool Down in all classes and levels. The Beginner division will not use a Section A, but can use a Controlled Warm-up.

1.3.1 At Short Format Driving Events, a Modified Marathon will consist of an optional Controlled Warm-up and Section B with 3-5 obstacles. No formal Cool Down section is required.

1.4 The total distance in Section B should be approximately one km per obstacle and preferably not less than 700m between two consecutive obstacles. The total distance in Section B must include the distances through the obstacles.

1.4.1 At Short Format Driving Events, the total distance in a Modified Marathon Section B should be approximately one kilometer per obstacle and preferably not less than 500m between two consecutive obstacles.

1.5 The distances between the end of one section and the start of the next must not be included in the total length and time of the course.

1.6 As an alternative option to the Section A, there can be a controlled warm-up with a maximum time allowed of 30 minutes in a designated warm-up arena of minimum 5000 square meters, properly supervised, with a judge in attendance.

1.6.1 ~~At Short Format Driving Events, when using the Controlled Warm-up, it can be reduced to a minimum of 20 minutes and an official is not required to be present. The Technical Delegate can approve a Warm-up area of any adequate size to accommodate 3 or more entries at a time and the warm-up obstacle is optional.~~ **At Short Format Driving Events, a controlled Warm-up may be used but is not required. The Technical Delegate must approve a Warm-up area of any adequate size to accommodate 3 or more entries at a time and the warm-up obstacle is optional.**

1.7 Before the start of Section B, a marathon-type warm-up, made of any material and situated in a separated area, must be provided. Each athlete may use the Warm-up obstacle for a maximum of 2 minutes. Grooms must be on the Carriage during the Warm-up Obstacle, failure to comply will incur a Yellow Warning Card. Grooms may dismount when the turnout is standing still with no penalty.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	10/26/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Saddlebred committee has worked hand in hand with ASHBA on this proposal. It is the desire to restrict the Masters classes to amateur riders/drivers ages 60years and older. The riding ability of those aged 50 or 60 years is a large gap. The committee felt it was more appropriate to seperate at 60.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
American Saddlebred	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SB103 General, Soundness, and Welfare

1. [...]

14. Master classes are restricted to amateur rider/drivers age ~~50-60~~ years and older. Classes are to be judged according to amateur class specifications. Master classes are never to be stripped for conformation judging.

15. [...]

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/15/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To encourage and promote safe riding for beginning and developing lower level jumper riders while promoting a steady progression through the levels offered in jumper classes.

This is an effort to promote safety in lower height divisions of jumper competition. Success in the show ring will be defined and rewarded by clear rounds and prompt and efficient riding and by understanding the clock/time aspect of our sport by rewarding those who ride the appropriate track at the correct pace.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USHJA

Katie Patrick

kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

JP118 Sections/Classes Restricted to Junior, Amateur or Young Riders

JP118 Sections/Classes Restricted to Junior, Amateur or Young Riders

(new .3 and renumber) 3. Jumper classes held below .90m that are restricted to Junior and/or Amateurs, must not be scored under Table II, Sec .1 (see JP 146.2) or Table III (see JP 148). Courses must not include combinations (see JP 127).

JP119 Sections/Classes Restricted to Ponies

1. Pony Jumper [...]
 - a. [...]
 - e. *e. Pony Jumper classes held below .90m must not be scored under Table II, Sec .1 (see JP 146.2) or Table III (see JP 148). Courses must not include combinations (see JP 127).* In Pony Jumper sections to avoid over-emphasis on speed jump-offs, it is recommended that management write sections with initial class(es) scored under Table IV (Optimum Time) or as "clear round" events (all entrants without jumping or time faults remain equal); Final class(es) only to have a jump-off against the clock to determine show championship.

[...]

GR -General

Sub-Chapter 8-C Competitions and Class Conditions and Eligibility

GR821 Opportunity Classes

1. [...]
2. Opportunity Classes:
 - a. [...]
 - g. Opportunity Classes for Hunter/Jumper/Equitation Divisions
 1. [...]
 3. *All Opportunity classes and divisions must have fences 2'6" or below Opportunity Jumper classes must not be scored under Table II, Sec.1 (see JP146.2) or Table III (see JP148). Courses must not include combinations (see JP127).*
 4. [...]

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Endurance Sport Committee is requesting to refer directly to the FEI Novice Qualifications rules within the FEI Rules to avoid any conflicts between the two sets of rules. There are some additional requirements USEF has set for athletes and horses seeking Novice Qualifications, those will continue to be included.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Endurance	Nicole Zerbee nzerbee@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

SUBCHAPTER EN-1 ATHLETE

EN106 FEI Novice Qualifications

1. Horses and riders must each successfully complete (not necessarily as a combination) two novice rides of 40-79 km (in one day) and two novice rides of 80-100 km. Of the four (4) required rides, at least two (2) must be completed at Federation Licensed Competitions and no more than two (2) of the required rides may be completed at non-Federation Licensed Competitions authorized by the Federation. The required 80-100 km rides may be completed either as:

- a. two single-day events, or
- b. one single-day event and one multi-day event (for the multi-day event, 40-50km must be completed per day for two consecutive days at the same competition). All qualifications must be met no later than the definite entry deadline for the horse's and/or rider's first CEI 1* as published in the FEI Definite Schedule for that Event, including the Mandatory Out of Competition Period. All FEI registration and/or passport requirements must be completed prior to the submission of the novice qualifications.

2. Horses must meet the FEI age requirements. For competition purposes, any horse is considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the actual date of foaling.

3. A rider may participate in any FEI Endurance Event (subject to applicable qualification criteria) from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 14.

4. Results for novice qualifications must include a Loop or interval time, final ride time, and placing.

5. Exemptions from novice qualification requirements: the Federation will request the FEI to exempt a rider or horse from the novice qualifications under the following circumstances:

- a. The horse may be granted the exemption if:
 1. it is eight (8) years or older at the time of the request;
 2. in the three (3) years prior to the request it has successfully completed a minimum of 480 km in competitions over distances of 80 km, including at least one competition of 80km or more at the age of eight (8) or older;
 3. The FEI Mandatory Out of Competition Period is completed, if applicable.
- b. The rider will be granted the exemption only if they have successfully completed a minimum of 480 km in competitions over 80 km or more in the three years prior to the request.
- c. Results used for an exemption must include a final ride time and placing.

6. When submitting results from rides at non-Federation Licensed Competitions authorized by the Federation, riders must provide the Federation with a completed Reporting Form or copy of Logbook.

The FEI Novice Qualifications process must be completed in accordance with the FEI Endurance Rules with the below additions.

1. *Of the four (4) required rides, at least two (2) must be completed at Federation Licensed Competitions and no more than two (2) of the required rides may be completed at non-Federation Licensed Competitions authorized by the Federation.*
2. *All qualifications must be met no later than the definite entry deadline for the horse's and/or rider's first CEI 1* as published in the FEI Definite Schedule for that Event, including the Mandatory Out of Competition Period.*
3. *All FEI registration and/or passport requirements must be completed prior to the submission of the novice qualifications.*
4. *When submitting results from rides at non-Federation Licensed Competitions authorized by the Federation, riders must provide the Federation with a completed Reporting Form or copy of Logbook.*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	10/26/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The fall of a horse/rider should be considered a major fault and should no longer be cause for elimination. Eliminated entries are ineligible to receive an award regardless of the number of competitors in a class. By updating the language in the chart, it will create consistency throughout the chapter.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
American Saddlebred	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SB161 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE. (Open, Amateur, Masters, Maiden, Novice, Limit, Mares, Geldings, Junior Horse, OTR, Ladies, Gentlemen, Junior Exhibitor, Youth.) To be shown at a flat walk, jog- trot, lope. To stand quietly and back readily. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trail Horse Class. The rider's hand is to be around reins. When end of split reins fall on side of reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between reins is allowed. Rider may hold romal or end of split reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16" of rein between the hands. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation.
2. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE WALK /JOG. For riders 12 years of age and under. Horses to be shown and judged in accordance with other Western Country Pleasure classes with the exception that horses will not be asked to halt on the rail or back. Riders must never have been judged in a class at a licensed or non-licensed competition that required a canter or lope. Headers will be permitted in the lineup and will be called in by the announcer after the class has lined up and before they are judged. One attendant without whip will be permitted to head each horse during the lineup.
3. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE PROSPECT. Open only to horses competing during their first or second competition years as Western Country Pleasure horses, according to the records of ASHBA. May be shown by a professional, amateur, or junior exhibitor. Hackamores and snaffle bits are permitted. To be shown at a flat walk, jog-trot, and lope. To stand quietly and back readily. Only one hand may be used on reins (two hands are permitted for Hackamores and snaffle bits) and hands must not be changed. The rider's hand is to be around reins. When end of split reins fall on side of reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between reins is allowed. Rider may hold romal or end of split reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16" of rein between the hands. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation.
4. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE CHAMPIONSHIP (Open, Amateur, Masters, Junior Exhibitor, Youth). To be eligible, horse must have been entered, shown and judged in a designated qualifying class. To be shown at a flat walk, jog-trot and lope on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint (ridden with one hand on reins, refer to SB161.1 and SB159). To stand quietly and back readily. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation.
5. WESTERN SHOW PLEASURE. Shown at a flat walk, jog-trot and lope and ridden with one hand on the reins. (See SB161.1 and SB159). Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence and quality; 25% on total conformation.
6. SADDLE & BRIDLE'S SHATNER WESTERN PLEASURE CLASS. Please refer to the website for "Saddle & Bridle" Magazine at www.saddleandbridle.com.
7. SADDLE & BRIDLE'S WORKING WESTERN PLEASURE CLASS. Please refer to the website for "Saddle & Bridle" Magazine at www.saddleandbridle.com.
8. WESTERN TRAIL. Shown over and through a minimum of five obstacles and at a flat walk, jog-trot and lope on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trial Horse Class (two hands are permitted for Hackamores and snaffle bits.) Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence and quality; 25% on total conformation.
9. WESTERN PAIRS. Shown at a flat walk, jog-trot and lope (ridden with one hand on reins, refer to SB161.1 and SB159). Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence, quality and conformation; 25% on uniformity and neatness of attire.
10. VERSATILITY. Shown with Western Equipment at a flat walk, jog-trot and lope both ways of the ring. Then shown with English Equipment at a flat walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring. Change of equipment for both horse and rider to be made in the ring. Each phase of the competition to count 50%. Prize list to specify whether riders must be the same in both phases of the class.

	GOOD	MINOR FAULTS	MAJOR FAULTS	ELIMINATION
WALK	Ground covering Flat footed Good attitude	Slow Disinterested Not attentive	Nervous Jogging not walking	
JOG	Easy riding Free action Consistent Steady	Too slow Too fast	Not performing a two-beat jog Failing to jog both front and back Hard or rough riding	
LOPE	Easy riding Good motion Consistent Steady	Too slow Too fast	Wrong lead Pulling Not performing a three-beat lope Hard or rough riding	
BACK	Proper flexion Readily responsive Back in straight line	Hesitant Not backing straight	Throwing head Gaping mouth Pulling, not backing Rearing	
GENERAL	Smooth Steady Easy riding Proper flexion and balance Good attitude Reasonably loose rein without undue restraint	Over or under flexion Sour ears Switching tail Inconsistent speed Out of balance Poll too high or too low to throw horse out of balance Improper or incomplete appointments	Throwing head Bad mouth Consistent bumping of the bit Gaping mouth Bleeding mouth Kicking Consistent breaking of gaits Obvious schooling Fall of horse or rider	Two hands on reins (exception: snaffle/hackamore horses) Fingers between closed reins More than one finger between split reins Illegal equipment Riding with whip (except sidesaddle) Lameness Fall of horse or rider Cueing horse in front of cinch
HALT	Standing quietly	Fidgeting Moving slightly	No halt	

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	11/22/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To change the jogging for soundness rule in the Working Hunter section to be in line with the Hunter chapter. This would allow for the jogging for soundness to be done two different ways and the decision would be made by the competition management.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Morgan	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

MO145 General

1. Open to Morgan stallions, mares and geldings. Stallions are prohibited in Ladies and Junior Exhibitor classes. Morgan Working Hunters may be any size.
2. Morgan Working Hunters are to be judged on an even hunting pace, manners, smooth and calm jumping style, and the ability to accommodate hunting type conditions. Manners are especially emphasized in Amateur, Jr. Exhibitor, and Ladies classes. Horses must be serviceably sound and all horses being considered for an award over obstacles must be jogged for soundness **with the rider dismounted. See HU118 for methods of jogging for soundness.**
3. Morgan Working Hunter horses should stand with all four legs perpendicular to the ground in the line-up.
4. Horses may be asked to back.
5. In order to be eligible to accrue points for the Horse of the Year awards program, classes entered must be conducted as set forth in Subchapter MO-10 Morgan Working Hunter.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	11/22/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This proposal seeks to change the word shown to compete a course. Competed and completed are defined in HU119 and HU120, whereas there is no definition of shown. This provides clarity as shown can be subjective and have several interpretations.

Proponent Details

Arabian

Contact Information

Emily McSweeney

emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules

Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR165 Sections and Championships

1. A Section is defined as a minimum of two classes over fences and an under saddle.
 - a. The over fence classes may be Working Hunter, Handy Hunter or Working Hunter Stake. A Section can be expanded to include three over fence classes at the shows discretion.
 - b. ~~Horses are only permitted to show in the under saddle class if they have shown in at least one over fences class in that section.~~ **To be eligible to compete in the under saddle section of a division, a horse must have completed an over fence class in the same section. Refer to HU120 for the definition of completed.**
2. No competition shall offer a Working Hunter Section Championship unless a minimum of three classes are offered, one of which must be an under saddle class and the other two or three over fences. The over fence classes will be considered Working Hunter classes unless deemed otherwise. Show Management or the course designer may deem one over fence class a Handy Hunter when courses are posted. Show Management may, prior to the commencement of the competition, if three over fence classes are offered may deem one of the Working Hunter classes as a Working Hunter Stake class. Working Hunter Section champions are calculated in accordance with HU Subchapter HU-11 Championships, except there is no minimum number of entries required.
3. At all Competitions, where horses are shown in 3 classes in the same section, riders may not be different from class to class. Exception, if a rider has more than one horse entered in the class, they may appoint another rider to ride their other entries in the under saddle class, provided at least one horse is ridden by the Amateur Owner or an amateur member of the owner's family, the additional horse or horses entered may be ridden by another unrelated amateur, or if a rider becomes ill and is unable to continue another rider with the approval of the show steward may compete in the remaining classes. The alternate/substitute rider must be eligible to compete in the class, where riders are restricted for eligibility.
4. Hunters will receive points in each class toward a Show Championship as follows: 1st -10, 2nd-6, 3rd -4, 4th- 2, 5th - 1, 6th - ½. Hunters will receive points in each class toward a Regional or National Championship as follows: 1st - 20, 2nd - 16, 3rd - 14, 4th - 12, 5th - 10, 6th - 8, 7th - 6, 8th - 5, 9th - 4, 10th - 3.
5. The prize list must designate all full point classes counting toward a Championship in each section.
6. The Champion and Reserve Champion titles shall be awarded to two of the four horses which have acquired the most points, performing over a regulation Hunter course with fences at the required height in the section. In addition to these points, only these four horses shall receive points for ribbons won in an under saddle class.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Remove the use of verbiage regarding genders. Classes restricted to genders are not currently being used within the Andalusian/Lusitano breed group. Clarify that Andalusian/Lusitano traditional attire is not restricted to gender.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Andalusian/Lusitano Committee	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AL-3 PERFORMANCE CLASSES

AL110 General

UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, IN ALL CLASSES WHERE HORSES COMPETE COLLECTIVELY:

1. Exhibitors shall enter at a trot in a counterclockwise direction. All horses shall be worked at all gaits both ways of the ring.

~~2. Ladies and Gentlemen classes are restricted to Amateur riders and drivers only.~~

~~2. 3.~~ Judges are required to consider the performance of each gait equally in adjudicating each class.

~~3. 4.~~ In the lineup, horses must stand quietly and may be asked to back individually or as a group.

~~4. 5.~~ Light contact with the reins must be maintained at all gaits.

~~5. 6.~~ Martingales and tie downs are prohibited

~~6. 7.~~ Bandages and boots of any type are prohibited.

~~7. 8.~~ Junior horses may be shown in a snaffle (or a bosal in Western Pleasure); once shown in a curb type bit, they may not be shown back in a snaffle (bosal).

~~8. 9.~~ Spurs, whips, or crops are optional.

~~9. 10.~~ Excessive speed at any gait must be penalized.

~~10. 11.~~ Protective headgear may be worn without penalty (See GR801.4).

~~11. 12.~~ Non-Regional and Non-National Championship classes for under saddle classes may be held at the discretion of show management, but will not receive Federation HOTY Points.

~~12. 13.~~ There will be no cross entries allowed between the following sections at any IALHA sanctioned competition. This does not include equitation classes.

- a. Formal Driving/Formal Saddle
- b. Show Pleasure Driving/English Pleasure Saddle Seat
- c. Country Pleasure Driving/Country English Pleasure
- d. Pleasure Driving/English Pleasure Hunt Seat.

~~13. 14.~~ RANGE OF TROT FOR ENGLISH AND DRIVING HORSES. Range of motion varies for the different English and Driving classes. This section is intended to show the relationships between motions in these classes. This description is NOT intended to set a literal standard. Motion is just one part of a horse's performance, which includes many other components of

evaluation. Motion involves proper balance between the front and the rear end. Significant rear-end engagement and impulsion are equally important parts of a horse's overall motion. Regardless of the height of the trot, a horse should show a rhythmic, cadenced gait with adequate suspension and freedom of movement, versus a tight, "trappy" movement. The following diagram shows the relative levels of motion for the various classes:

SUBCHAPTER AL-5 ENGLISH PLEASURE-FORMAL SADDLE HORSE

AL118 English Pleasure Formal Saddle Horse Class Specifications

2. In AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes, horses will be judged on brilliant performance, manners, type, quality, and suitability of horse to rider. To be shown at the animated walk, the animated trot and canter

SUBCHAPTER AL-6 ENGLISH PLEASURE-SADDLE SEAT HORSE

AL122 English Pleasure – Saddle Seat Class Specifications

2. In AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ AND JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes, horses will be judged on manners, performance, quality, attitude and suitability of horse to rider. To be shown at the walk, normal trot and canter.

SUBCHAPTER AL-7 ENGLISH PLEASURE COUNTRY

AL126 English Pleasure Country Class Specifications

2. AMATEUR, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ AND JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes are to be judged on attitude, manners, performance, type, quality and suitability of horse to rider. To be shown at the walk, normal trot, and canter.

SUBCHAPTER AL-8 ENGLISH PLEASURE-HUNT SEAT

AL130 English Pleasure –Hunt Seat Class Specifications

2. In AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes, horses will be judged on manners, performance, type, quality and suitability of horse to rider. To be shown at the walk, trot, canter and hand gallop.

SUBCHAPTER AL-14 ENGLISH SHOW HACK

AL153 English Show Hack Class Specifications

2. AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~, AND JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes to be judged on manners, performance, type, quality and suitability of horse to rider.

SUBCHAPTER AL-15 WESTERN PLEASURE

AL157 Western Pleasure Class Specifications

2. In AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes, horses will be judged on manners, performance, type, quality and attitude. To be shown at the walk, jog-trot and lope.

SUBCHAPTER AL-22 SHOW PLEASURE DRIVING

AL182 Show Pleasure Driving Class Specifications

2. AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes are to be judged on manners, performance, type, quality and conformation. To be shown at the walk, normal trot and strong trot.

SUBCHAPTER AL-23 COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING

AL186 Country Pleasure Driving Class Specifications

2. AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes are to be judged on manners, performance, type, attitude, quality and conformation. To be shown at the walk, normal trot and strong trot

SUBCHAPTER AL-24 PLEASURE DRIVING

AL190 Pleasure Driving Class Specifications

2. AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNER, ~~LADIES, GENTLEMEN~~ and JUNIOR EXHIBITOR classes are to be judged on manners, performance, type, quality and attitude. To be shown at the walk, normal trot and strong trot.

SUBCHAPTER AL-26 ANDALUSIAN/LUSITANO TRADITIONAL (CONTEMPORARY)
TACK AND ATTIRE

AL193 Attire

1. *For the entirety of this section, male or female attire is appropriate for any competitor.*
2. ~~1~~ Spanish
 (...)
3. ~~2~~ Portuguese

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Remove the rule prohibiting cross-entry in order to allow for increased participation.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Andalusian/Lusitano Committee

Ashton Street

astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AL-3 PERFORMANCE CLASSES

AL110 General

UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, IN ALL CLASSES WHERE HORSES COMPETE COLLECTIVELY:

(...)

~~13. There will be no cross entries allowed between the following sections at any IALHA sanctioned competition. This does not include equitation classes.~~

- ~~a. Formal Driving/Formal Saddle~~
- ~~b. Show Pleasure Driving/English Pleasure Saddle Seat~~
- ~~c. Country Pleasure Driving/Country English Pleasure~~
- ~~d. Pleasure Driving/English Pleasure Hunt Seat.~~

~~13.14. RANGE OF TROT FOR ENGLISH AND DRIVING HORSES. Range of motion varies for the different English and Driving classes. This section is intended to show the relationships between motions in these classes. This description is NOT intended to set a literal standard. Motion is just one part of a horse's performance, which includes many other components of evaluation. Motion involves proper balance between the front and the rear end. Significant rear-end engagement and impulsion are equally important parts of a horse's overall motion. Regardless of the height of the trot, a horse should show a rhythmic, cadenced gait with adequate suspension and freedom of movement, versus a tight, "trappy" movement. The following diagram shows the relative levels of motion for the various classes:~~

SUBCHAPTER AL-20 DRIVING

AL174 General

UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, IN ALL CLASSES WHERE HORSES COMPETE COLLECTIVELY:

(...)

~~12. There will be no cross entries allowed between the following sections at any IALHA sanctioned competitions:~~

- ~~13. Formal Driving/Formal Saddle~~
- ~~a. Show Pleasure Driving/English Pleasure Saddle Seat~~
- ~~b. Country Pleasure Driving/Country English Pleasure~~

c. ~~Pleasure Driving.~~

~~12. 14.~~ Drivers should dress conservatively according to the style of the present day. Period costumes are discouraged. Dress for the driver must conform to the turnout.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Adopting the rules and verbiage from the Friesian Chapter for Sport Horse In Hand Tack-Bridles/Headstalls. This will allow all horses to show in a suitable headstall while keeping the requirement of horses under 2 years old not having the option to show in a bridle. This change will allow exhibitors with horses over the age of 2, the choice to show in a bridle or suitable headstall.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Andalusian/Lusitano Committee	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AL-42 SPORT HORSE

AL239 Sport Horse In-Hand Appointments

(...)

2. Tack:

Bridles are mandatory on horses three years and older. A bridle shall be a dressage-type snaffle bridle or hunter-type snaffle bridle. Snaffle may be with or without cheeks, keepers allowed. Use of a noseband is optional but if used, it must be a cavesson, flash, figure 8, mexican, dropped, or crescent style noseband. A split or single lead made of either leather or chain (or a combination of both) may be used, attached through both sides of the bit, with/or instead of reins. Horses aged two years may be shown in a bridle (as listed above), or a plain leather stable halter. Horses under age two years must be shown in a plain leather stable halter. Competitors with non-conforming appointments will be eliminated from judging consideration.

- a. *All horses 2 years of age and over may be shown in a suitable headstall with a throatlatch or a bridle appropriate to the discipline they are competing in at the discretion of the handler.*
- b. *All horses under 2 years of age must be shown in a suitable headstall with a throatlatch. The use of a bridle is prohibited.*
- c. *A split or single chain lead may be used instead of a rein or in addition to reins; however, a lead shank is required if reins are placed over the horse's neck and the handler must hold the shank.*
- d. *Gag and twisted bits of any type are prohibited.*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To clarify that the Sport Horse In-Hand division is classified as a performance class, therefore, pads are permitted in accordance with the pad rules in the AL chapter.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Andalusian/Lusitano	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AL-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

AL103 Shoeing

(...)

1. In under saddle or driving performance classes, the use of a single therapeutic pad per hoof with a maximum thickness of 1/8" is allowed as long as the overall length of the toe measurement (see GR510) does not exceed the maximum toe length of 5". Acceptable pads of 1/8" thickness include full pads and rim pads. Wedge pads may be no greater than 1/4" thick at its maximum thickness. Full pads must be made of plastic or leather. The introduction of a foreign material within the pad, between the pad and shoe, or between the pad and hoof designed to add additional weight or enhance action is strictly prohibited. Material with anticoncussive qualities such as rubber, oakum, pine tar, silicone, foam rubber, latex, etc. may be used between the pad and hoof for additional support. Pads are not permitted in halter classes or best movement classes. **(Exception: See Sport Horse In-Hand AL239)**

SUBCHAPTER AL-42 SPORT HORSE

AL239 Sport Horse In-Hand Appointments

1. Both Dressage-type and Hunter-type appointments (tack and attire) are permitted in both Dressage-type and Hunter-type In-Hand classes. Competitors with non-conforming appointments will be eliminated from judging consideration. **Pads are permitted in Sport Horse In-Hand, refer to AL103.3 for pads.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Removing the qualifications for Dressage Championships. Currently, there are not large enough entry numbers to require qualification measures. The Andalusian/Lusitano group is seeking to grow engagement in this division and removing the qualification requirements will generate more interest and eliminate the barriers.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Andalusian/Lusitano	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AL-41 DRESSAGE ANDALUSIAN/LUSITANO

AL233 Championships

~~1. Qualification: Horse/rider combinations must compete at a USEF/USDF recognized dressage competition during the current competition year, and have received a minimum score as determined by the International Andalusian/Lusitano Horse Association and published in the prize list in any test at the championship level offered.~~

- ~~1. a.~~ Dressage classes will be conducted in a 20 x 60 meter arena. On the day of the dressage championships, the arena will be open for hand walking only around the perimeter.
- ~~2. b.~~ During championship competition, another rider may ride the horse on the showgrounds or compete in other performance championship classes, but only the qualified horse/rider combination may compete in the dressage championship class.
- ~~3. c.~~ Whips may not be carried in championship tests except by competitors riding side saddle.
- ~~4. d.~~ All championship tests must be ridden from memory.
- ~~5. e.~~ In the event of a tie (equality of total points) the collective marks will determine first, second and/or third places. If collective marks are equal, the tests will be returned to the judge for placing resolution.
- ~~6. f.~~ Hors de Concours entries are not permitted.
- ~~7. g.~~ A horse must obtain 50% or better to be named Champion.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Foundation classes are offered at Shetland competitions outside the USEF environment and are successful. The Shetland committee believes that the addition of more foundation classes will help persuade competition managers to host Shetland classes at their competitions. Foundation classes offer competitors the ability to compete in classes that are focused on the breed's heritage and baseline breeding.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Shetland	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER SP-8 CLASSIC SHETLAND HALTER

SP129 Class Specifications

(...)

3. FOUNDATION. The Foundation class entry is an animal on which the foundation of the breed has been founded. The entry should be more conservative in type than an entry in Open Classic classes and should exhibit slightly more bone and substance. The Foundation entry will be required to provide show management with proof of pedigree verification from ASPC (Registration certificate must include Foundation certification). Entry will be asked to work on a line at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners. Cross entry into Open Classic Halter classes is not permitted. Exception: Classic performance, youth, color, and group halter classes if no foundation classes are offered.

- a. **FOUNDATION HALTER CLASSES.** *Entry will be asked to work on a line at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners. Cross entry into Modern or Classic classes is not permitted. Exception: Classic performance, youth, color, and group halter classes if no foundation classes are offered.*

SUBCHAPTER SP-9 CLASSIC SHETLAND PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP132 Classic Country Pleasure Driving

1. Class Specifications.

(...)

e. **FOUNDATION COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING.** *The Foundation class entry is an animal on which the foundation of the breed has been founded. The entry should be more conservative in type than an entry in Classic classes and should exhibit slightly more bone and substance. The Foundation entry will be required to provide show management with proof of pedigree verification from ASPC (Registration certificate must include Foundation certification). Entry will be asked to work on the rail at a walk, country pleasure trot, extended trot, stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners. Cross entry into Classic or Modern, or Foundation Pleasure or Foundation Western Country classes at the same show is not permitted.*

f. **FOUNDATION WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING.** *The Foundation class entry is an animal on which the foundation of the breed has been founded. The entry should be more conservative in type than an entry in Open Classic classes and should exhibit slightly more bone and substance. The Foundation entry will be required to provide show management with proof of pedigree verification from ASPC (Registration certificate must include Foundation certification). Entry will be asked to work on the rail at a walk, country pleasure trot, extended trot, stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners. Head carriage should be no more than 3" above or below the withers and the stride should be long sweeping motion from the shoulder. Cross entering into Classic or Modern, or Foundation Pleasure or Country Pleasure is not permitted.*

SUBCHAPTER SP-9 CLASSIC SHETLAND PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP146 Foundation Pleasure Classes

2. *The Foundation class entry is an animal on which the foundation of the breed has been founded. The entry should be more conservative in type than an entry in Classic classes and should exhibit slightly more bone and substance. The Foundation entry will be required to provide show management with proof of pedigree verification from ASPC (Registration certificate must include Foundation certification).*
3. *Class Specifications: Entry will be asked to work on the rail at a walk, pleasure trot, extended trot, stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners. Ponies trot slightly more collected than a country horse. Breaking level or above level to be penalized.*
4. *Cross entry into Modern and Classic classes is not permitted.*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Chinks and chaps are closely related as Western attire and chinks are often included alongside chaps in many of the USEF breed chapters as options for attire in Western based classes. The Western committee recognizes the rise in popularity of chinks within the Western division, specifically in Ranch classes, and would like to add them alongside chaps to the personal appointments section of the WS chapter.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Committee	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WS-1 GENERAL

WS104 Personal Appointments

(...)

2. Riders must wear a Western hat; long-sleeved shirt any type of collar, (exhibitors in National Show Horse, and Saddlebred divisions must wear a necktie, kerchief or bolo tie) trousers or pants and boots; (a one-piece long-sleeved equitation suit is acceptable provided it includes any type of collar). Chaps, shotgun chaps, **chinks**, and spurs are optional unless riders are showing in trail or pleasure class (riders showing at an Arabian, Half Arabian, Morgan or National Show Horse competition must wear chaps). A vest, jacket, coat and/or sweater may also be worn. Whips are not allowed except with side saddle. (See GR1310.2 Dispensations). Protective headgear may be worn without penalty; not required to be of Western style. Refer to GR801.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Western Committee would like to remove the definition of a simple lead change with a count on steps, as they do not feel the step count is necessary and would like to allow for more lenience and best judgement on the execution of a flying or simple lead change.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Committee	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WS-6 RANCH SECTION

WS138 General Rules

(...)

3. Class definitions

(...)

f. Green Exhibitor: Open to any exhibitor who has not trained a ranch horse for remuneration, has not won a World, Reserve World, Grand National or Reserve Grand National title in a ranch class. The exhibitor does not have to own the horse being shown. The horse may be shown multiple times with different exhibitors but is limited to being shown 3 times per class. An exhibitor may show either one or two handed with any permissible bit but may not switch back and forth upon entering the arena. Entry may execute either a flying lead change or a simple lead change. ~~A simple lead change is defined as a break to a trot for one stride (2 steps with front feet).~~ The intent is to have an introductory class for new ranch exhibitors. Classes may be subdivided by age of exhibitor status (Open/Amateur/Non-Pro) if desired by Show Management.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The committee is updating the description of the Free Jog gait for better understanding and definition.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Western Dressage

Ashton Street

astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-2 GAITS

WD104 The Jog

5. The following jogs are recognized: Collected jog, Working jog, Lengthening of Strides, and Free Jog.

(...)

d. Free Jog. This is a pace of moderate lengthening of stride and frame compared to the Working jog **that confirms a relaxed, supple topline to facilitate freedom and throughness**. Without hurrying, the horse ~~goes jogs~~ forward in a two-beat gait with a moderate lengthening of stride and frame **while stretching downward and forward over the back showing a willingness to reach towards a soft elastic connection**. The horse should stretch forward and down over the top line with relaxation maintaining balance, **bend**, tempo, and regularity of the jog on a loose rein **should be maintained as the horse shows increased swing through the back**. There should be a smooth willing retake of the reins in transition to the working jog. The free jog may be ridden posting or sitting.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Previously, SealTex was the go-to brand of bit wrap for most exhibitors, but SealTex is no longer an available product, so the Western Dressage Committee is updating the verbiage to define what is acceptable for bit wrap and examples of those materials that are unacceptable.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD121 Tack

(...)

2. Snaffle Bit

(...)

- d. A standard snaffle is a conventional O-Ring, Egg Butt, Full Cheek (keepers optional) or D-Ring, all with rings having an outside diameter no smaller than 2 inches (50.8 mm), nor larger than 4 inches (101.6 mm). The inside of the circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments that would provide leverage.
 1. Bars: Bars of the mouthpiece must be round, oval or egg shaped, smooth and unwrapped, except with ~~latex~~ **smooth, non-abrasive, self-fusing bit wrap**; and no less than 5/16 inch (7.9 mm) to 3/4 inch (19.05 mm) in diameter measured one inch (25 mm) from the cheek and may be inlaid, if smooth.
 - a. **Electrical tape, duct tape, medical tape, etc. is not self-fusing, therefore, not allowed.**

(...)

3. Curb Bit: There is no discrimination against any standard Western bit

- a. A standard Western bit is defined as having a shank with a maximum length overall of 8 1/2" (215.9 mm). The mouthpiece will consist of a metal bar 5/16" (7.9 mm) to 3/4" 19.05 mm) in diameter as measured one inch in from the shank. The bars may be inlaid but must be smooth or ~~latex~~ wrapped **with smooth, non-abrasive, self-fusing bit wrap. Electrical tape, duct tape, medical tape, etc. is not self-fusing, therefore, not allowed.** (The bars may be encased in smooth 5/16" (7.9 mm) to 3/4" (19.05 mm) in diameter tubular barrels that rotate around the bars). Nothing may protrude above or below the mouthpiece (bar) such as extensions, prongs or rivets designed to intimidate the horse. Rollers attached to the center of the bit are acceptable, and may extend below the bar. Jointed mouthpieces are acceptable and may consist of two or three pieces and may have one or two joints. A three-piece mouthpiece may include a connecting ring of 1 1/4 inch (31.75 mm) or less in diameter or a connecting flat bar of 3/8 to 3/4 inch (9.5mm – 19.05 mm) measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2" (50 mm), which lies flat in the mouth, or a roller or port as described herein. The port must be no higher than 3 1/2 inches (88.9 mm) maximum with roller(s) and covers acceptable. Jointed mouthpieces, half-breeds and spade bits are standard. Wire on the braces (above the bars and attaching to the spade) of a traditional spade bit is acceptable.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Moving "Blatant disobedience including bucking, rearing, striking, kicking" to an Elimination penalty rather than on the fault list for Western Dressage Seat Equitation on the Rail, Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship, and Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation. For Western Dressage tests, blatant disobedience is an elimination and there is a feeling that this should be consistent throughout the classes offered.

Reasoning: Equitation and Horsemanship classes are primarily filled with a higher percentage of older beginners, amateurs, and juniors, who want their equitation assessed. This suggested change would be more consistent, and safety minded, to have this listed as a clear elimination.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Western Dressage

Ashton Street

astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-7 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

WD128 Elimination

1. Horse and rider combinations shall be eliminated from the competition for "a, f and i" below; horse and rider combination shall be eliminated from the current or next class depending on which is closest to the time the incident occurred for all others, under the following circumstances:
(...)
 - b. Blatant disobedience (bucking, rearing, striking, etc.) while riding ~~a test~~ **in any class**.

SUBCHAPTER WD-12 WESTERN DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION

WD144 Western Dressage Seat Equitation on the Rail Class Specifications

(...)

5. Scoring:

(...)

b. Faults include:

~~10. Blatant disobedience including kicking, bucking or rearing~~

c. Eliminations include:

1. Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry
2. Failure to display correct number
3. Cruelty including excessive spurring or schooling
4. Fall of horse or rider
5. Prohibited equipment
6. Prohibited use of hands on reins per WD121
7. Horse's tongue tied down
8. Unauthorized assistance
9. All four hooves leave arena
10. Evidence of blood on horse
11. Lameness
12. Concern for the safety of rider, other participants, or their horses
- 13. Blatant disobedience (bucking, rearing, striking, etc.)**

WD145 Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship Class Specifications

(...)

5. Scoring:

(...)

c. Faults include:

(...)

~~11. Blatant disobedience including kicking, bucking or rearing~~

d. Eliminations include:

1. Off course (impossible to discern whether the entry is using the correct pattern)
2. Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry
3. Failure to display correct number
4. Cruelty including excessive spurring or schooling
5. Fall of horse or rider

6. Prohibited equipment
7. Prohibited use of hands on reins per WD121
8. Horse's tongue tied down
9. Unauthorized assistance
10. All four hooves leave arena
11. Evidence of blood on horse
12. Lameness
13. Concern for the safety of rider, other participants or their horses.
- 14. Blatant disobedience (bucking, rearing, striking, etc.)**

WD146 Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation

(...)

6. Scoring: The rail work is to count 50% and the pattern 50%.

(...)

c. Faults include:

(...)

~~11. Blatant disobedience including kicking, bucking or rearing~~

d. Eliminations include:

1. Off course (impossible to discern whether the entry is using the correct pattern)
2. Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry
3. Failure to display correct number
4. Cruelty including excessive spurring or schooling
5. Fall of horse or rider
6. Prohibited equipment
7. Prohibited use of hands on reins per WD121
8. Horse's tongue tied down
9. Unauthorized assistance
10. All four hooves leave arena
11. Evidence of blood on horse
12. Lameness
13. Concern for the safety of rider, other participants or their horses
- 14. Blatant disobedience (bucking, rearing, striking, etc.)**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Western Dressage Suitability Walk-Jog classes are currently being hosted and are gaining in popularity but specifications for a Walk-Jog suitability are not included in the current rules therefore the classes do not count for USEF HOTY points. The committee is proposing to add class specifications for a walk-jog suitability class which once approved, would begin gaining points toward the various WD suitability HOTY awards (Open, Junior, Amateur) when Open to all breed Walk-Jog WD Suitability classes are held.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-10 WESTERN DRESSAGE SUITABILITY

WD136 Class Specifications.

1. Horses to enter at a working jog, in a counter clockwise direction. Horse must perform all gaits both ways of the ring. Gaits shall be the working walk, working jog, and working lope. Free walk on a loose rein with horse stretching forward and down to be performed in at least one direction. Transitions into and out of the lope will be called for through the working jog. Horses will be asked to reverse direction at the working jog or working walk at the judge's discretion. Jog work may be ridden sitting or posting. In the lineup, horses must stand quietly and may be asked to back individually or as a group.
2. To be judged: 70% on performance of gaits and transition, with attention to impulsion and submission, and using the objectives above as reference; and, 30% on the rider's position, seat, and effective use of aids.
3. Classes may be divided for Open, Amateur, Junior Exhibitor, Stallions, Geldings and Mares. If classes are divided, a Championship class is recommended. A separate Junior Exhibitor Championship class may be offered.
4. At a breed restricted or multi-breed competition, a judge licensed in that breed(s) is eligible to officiate this class.
5. ***Walk-Jog Suitability may be offered with the same specifications, with the exception that the working lope must not be called for.***
6. ***Horses participating in Walk Jog Suitability are prohibited from competing in Walk-jog-lope suitability at the same show.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Clarifying the rule in order to avoid confusion on which whips are permitted for use during schooling.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Western Dressage

Ashton Street

astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-7 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

WD125 Warm Up Ring and Training Area

(...)

5. ~~The~~ **Only the** following whips are permitted for schooling ~~only~~:

- a. One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm), including lash, may be carried by the rider when mounted.
- b. ~~One longeing whip is permitted only when longeing.~~ There is no restriction on the length of whip permitted for working a horse in hand.
- c. One longeing whip is permitted only ~~when~~ **while** longeing.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The committee would like to remove the word "Western" from the description of a cavesson, for allowed equipment, as a "Western Cavesson" is not a term used or style sold or easily available in the industry for exhibitors to find.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD121 Tack

1. Bridles:

- a. Any Western type headstall must be used.
- b. A Western cavesson (braided or plain), or pencil bosal with space for two fingers placed between the cavesson and the jowl of the horse is allowed. The inside of the noseband must be smooth and free of any metal, other than the buckle.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

There has been confusion regarding if hats/headgear were also required in the Costume Freestyle classes, as they are required in all other Western Dressage Classes. Due to this being a Costume class, hats and headgear are optional.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD123 Attire

1. Required apparel:

- a. Suitable western hat. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty. (See GR801). ***Hats and headgear are not required in Costume Freestyle Classes.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Western Dressage Committee would like to clarify that cross-entry between the intermediate and advanced level Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship and Combined Equitation Divisions at the same competition is prohibited. These are designated for the level in which the rider's skills currently lie, in which this makes the competition a level playing field, so there should be no cross entry among levels.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-12 WESTERN DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION

WD145 Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship Class Specifications

(...)

5. Cross entry between intermediate and advanced level Western Dressage Seat Horsemanship is prohibited at the same competition.

~~6.5.~~ Scoring:

WD146 Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation

(...)

3. Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation has three divisions:

(...)

e. Cross entry between intermediate and advanced level Western Dressage Seat Combined Equitation is prohibited at the same competition.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

There has been confusion with the lengthened jog, if it should be ridden sitting or posting. The committee wishes to make it clear that the lengthened jog may be ridden either posting or sitting, whereas the working jog and collected jog must be ridden sitting.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-12 WESTERN DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION

WD142 General Performance Directives for Western Dressage Seat Equitation

(...)

9. The working jog and the collected jog are to be ridden sitting. ***The lengthened jog may be ridden posting or sitting.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/12/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Currently there is confusion on if metal keepers are permitted when using a curb strap because of the "no metal" language found under WD121.3c3. The committee agrees that keepers are an important part of the curb strap and should be permitted. There is also confusion on if the wrapping of curb chains/straps is allowed, because it is not blatantly listed in the rule. The committee would like to clearly state that wrapped curb chains/straps are not allowed.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Dressage	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD121 Tack

(...)

3. Curb Bit: There is no discrimination against any standard Western bit.

(...)

c. Curb chains or straps are required with curb bits **and must be flexible.**

1. Must be flat and must be at least 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.

2. Curb chain may have leather or nylon adjustable straps connecting the buckle to the chain.

3. No wire, rawhide, metal, or other substance, **or wrapping** can be used in conjunction with or as part of the flat leather chin strap or curb chain.

4. Round, rolled, braided or rawhide curb straps are prohibited.

5. Leather curb straps may have up to 2 smooth, thin, metal, loop strap keepers.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/15/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

These championships represent the best hunters in the country and should reflect such by limiting the number of refusals to two.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USHJA

Katie Patrick

kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Text:

HU124.3 Faults

[...]

3. The following constitute elimination:

a. Three refusals (Exception: USEF Pony Hunter National Championship, ~~and~~ USEF Junior Hunter National Championship, **and the national USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship** exhibitors will be eliminated after two cumulative refusals).

b. Off course

c. Jumping course before it is reset

d. Bolting from the ring [...]

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Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/15/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The USHJA Pony Task Force recommends this rule change that will allow Ponies to have a second Green year. Allowing two Green years will help the proper development of Ponies. A second Green year for Ponies will also help set them up for more inexperienced riders. The current Green Pony divisions are typically low in entry numbers, and this rule change should help the divisions fill more regularly.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA	Katie Patrick kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

HU140 Hunter Eligibility and Green Status for Ponies

1. In all cases, the Hunter eligibility and green status of the pony is the responsibility of the owner.
2. Determining Hunter eligibility for ponies. Hunter eligibility for a pony begins when a pony of any age, competes for the first time in any over fences class with jumps at 2'3" or higher for small ponies, 2'6" or higher for medium ponies and 2'9" or higher for large ponies in Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America.
 - a. For the purposes of eligibility, equivalent heights are:

2'3"	.70 meter
2'6"	.80 meter
2'9"	.85 meter
3'0"	.90 meter
3. Determining Green Status for ponies. Ponies that have not broken their Green Status must jump less than their regulation height or their Green Status will be broken. The Green status of a pony is determined by the following factors in competition experience at Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America:
 - a. The height of fences (determined by the class, section or division specifications) over which a pony has competed.
 - b. The number of competition years a pony has competed at regulation height. A pony that has competed in such classes for **more than two (2) one (1) or more** competition years, ~~without receiving a reinstatement,~~ is no longer eligible to compete in the Green section.
4. In all cases, fence heights will be determined by the specifications of each section regardless of whether or not the fences are actually set at the regulation height.
5. If a competition starts prior to or on November 30th, Green status at the start of the competition is maintained throughout the competition.
6. Green Pony Status.
 - a. A green pony is a pony not exceeding 14.2 hands of any age, which is eligible to compete in the Green Pony section. A pony's Green Hunter eligibility, regardless of age, begins the first time the pony competes in any over fences class with jumps at 2'3" or higher for small ponies, 2'6" or higher for medium ponies and 2'9" or higher for large ponies in Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America.
 - b. A pony is eligible to compete as a Green Pony for a maximum of ~~one (1) year~~ **two (2) years (not necessarily consecutive)**, regardless of age or change to measurement status. A pony that has changed height sections in its green years may complete the green years at its new height.
 - c. ~~In its first year of showing at regulation height or higher,~~ **A** green pony may also compete in the Regular Pony Hunter section at its respective height.
 - d. Once a pony begins competing in any class that restricts Green status, the following restrictions apply for Jumper classes held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition:
 1. Small Ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .70 meters or they will lose their green status.
 2. Medium Ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .75 meters or they will lose their green status.
 3. Large ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .85 meters or they will lose their green status.
 - e. ~~A Pony Hunter Green reinstatement may be granted one time. A pony is not eligible for a green reinstatement if it has competed in a USHJA Pony Hunter Derby or the USEF Hunter and/or Jumper Pony Championship.~~

- f. A pony that is green eligible may only compete in the Green Pony Hunter section one time at the USEF Hunter Pony Championship. If the pony competes in the Green Hunter Pony section at this competition it must be the pony's first time competing at the USEF Hunter Pony Championship.**
7. ~~Green Pony Reinstatement. A pony cannot return to compete in the section for which the reinstatement application was made until written notification has been received from the Federation that the reinstatement has been granted. A pony's eligibility to compete in restricted sections may be reinstated for a future competition year provided that:~~
- ~~a. The pony was not shown at the regulation height or higher at more than four (4) competitions prior to September 1st of the current competition year.~~
 - ~~b. The pony was not shown at the regulation height or higher on or after September 1st of the current competition year.~~
 - ~~c. The pony no longer competes at the regulation height or higher immediately upon application for reinstatement.~~
 - ~~d. The pony is otherwise eligible for a reinstatement under Federation rules.~~
 - ~~e. The horse or pony is actively recorded with the Federation at the time of the request. If the horse or pony is not actively recorded at the time of request, it must be recorded/renewed at that time. If the horse or pony is not recorded/renewed at the time of application, the reinstatement request will automatically be denied.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Channel System implemented for competition licensing in 2023 awards all Hunter sections National Points, regardless if they are Channel I or Channel II. The National Hunter Derby Task Force would like to ensure that the NHD classes follow the same National and Zone HOTY Bonus points and money won. Members have requested to receive Bonus HOTY points for the National rankings as well as the Zone rankings for their declared section when competing in a National Hunter Derby.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA	Katie Patrick kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024	Draft 1: The council approves, but recommends the following programs removed from the verbiage as they are no longer relevant/offered: "Childrens Pony" from HU173.3 and "the USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome Stake" from GR1132.3.
Council - Member Services	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024	

Text

Hu:173

[...]

3. National Hunter Derby (Zone Points, **National Points and Money Won**)
Points and money won to be credited to each horse's respective section as declared at the time of entry in the following sections: Performance 3'3", Green 3'0", Green 3'3", Small Hunter, Amateur Owner 3'3", Adult Amateur, Junior Hunter 3'3", Childrens Horse, and Young Hunters.

[...]

GR. 1132

[...]

3. In the Hunter division, points are calculated according to the Hunter Division Point Chart. Exception: National awards for Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9", Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, High Performance and Performance Hunter 3'3" and 3'6", Green Conformation Hunter 3'6", and High Performance Conformation Hunter will be calculated using two systems towards two separate sets of national awards. The national Money Won Awards will be based on the money won by each horse in their respective section. The national Points Awards will be calculated according to the Hunter Division Point Chart. Both money won and points won in hunter classics, the USHJA International Hunter Derby, **the USHJA National Hunter Derby**, and the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stake will be included. The money won and points won in the USHJA International Hunter Derby will only be awarded towards a declared Hunter section for HOTY points if a horse competes in the declared section a minimum of five (5) times during the competition year. The money won and points won in the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stake will only be awarded toward a declared Hunter section for HOTY points if a horse competes in the declared section a minimum of three (3) times during the competition year.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/15/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To make the class more horse friendly when run during the division.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USHJA

Katie Patrick

kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

HU174 Hunter Classics

[....]

10. The first round of all Hunter Classics must consist of eight (8) to ten (10) obstacles in accordance with HU109. In the second round of all Hunter Classics the course must consist of a minimum of **eight (8)** ~~ten (10)~~ obstacles of at least six different types. ***Exception: separate standalone classics must have ten (10) obstacles.***

11. An open numerical judging system must be used. If there are multiple judging panels, one judging panel must be appointed as the tie breaker.

[....]

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/15/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The intent prioritizes the safety and fairness of warm-up prior to classes, promotes consistency, provides clarity to exhibitors, all without being arduous on Competition Management. Minimum prize monies for USHJA National Hunter Derbies at Channel II shows is \$1,000, and \$2,500 for Channel I shows. These special classes, offering less than \$10,000 in prize money, do not need dedicated CSS or Steward for the schooling area, but do require a dedicated schooling area for class entrants. This rule change proposal maintains the restriction of exhibitors from warming up for a featured class in a schooling area away from the schooling ring assigned.

5.b requires a C1 Steward or CSS for any Hunter class offering \$10,000 or more in prize money, capturing USHJA International Hunter Derby classes (One Star classes require a minimum of \$10,000).

Proponent Details Contact Information

USHJA

Katie Patrick

kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

Text:

Appendix A: USEF Hunter Schooling Rules

5. Duties of Certified Schooling Supervisors (see also GR1031)

...

~~c- 6.~~ **6.** Within the thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the class, any schooling over obstacles by an entry in a class of \$10,000 or more, or any USHJA National Hunter Derby or USHJA International Hunter Derby must be done in a designated area supervised by a C1 Steward or Certified Schooling Supervisor.

(renumber accordingly)

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Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	12/21/2023	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Western Committee is looking to have all Ranch classes with patterns penalize an "off pattern", "eliminates or adds maneuver", and "incomplete maneuver" as a ten (10) point penalty. Currently Ranch Horse Riding penalizes "off pattern", "eliminates or adds maneuver", and "incomplete maneuver" as a zero score. This change will increase consistency within the Ranch rules across the breed chapters.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Committee	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER WS-6 RANCH SECTION

WS139 Ranch Horse Riding

(...)

4. Penalties

a. A contestant must be penalized each time the following occur:

(...)

4. Ten (10) point penalties:

a. Off Pattern, including: eliminates or adds maneuver, incomplete maneuver, and wrong sequence

5.4. Zero (0) score:

- a. Prohibited equipment including, but not limited to, hoof black, braided or banded manes, or tail extensions
- b. Willful abuse
- c. Major disobedience or schooling
- d. Lameness
- ~~e. Eliminates or adds maneuver~~
- ~~f. Incomplete maneuver~~
- ~~g. Off Pattern~~
- e. h. More than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Align the jacket requirements for Dressage and Show Jumping

Proponent Details

Eventing

Contact Information

Alison Lloyd

alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules

Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DRAFT #1

SUBCHAPTER EV-9 DRESS

5. DRESSAGE PHASE

b. Jackets. ~~Intermediate and Preliminary through~~ Advanced – Jackets are required. A jacket may be any solid color, tweed, or pinstripe. Tasteful, discreet accents, piping, and crystal decorations are permitted. Tailcoats are permitted. Beginner Novice through ~~Modified Preliminary~~ – Jackets are not required. If an Athlete wears a jacket, it may be any solid color, tweed, or pinstripe. Tasteful, discreet accents, piping, and crystals are permitted. Tailcoats are not permitted.

7. SHOW JUMPING PHASE.

b. Jackets. ~~Preliminary – Intermediate and~~ Advanced – Jackets are required unless all three phases of a Horse Trials are run over one day, in which case a jacket is not required. The jacket may be of a single color, tweed, or pinstripe with tasteful, discreet accents, piping or crystal decorations. Beginner Novice through ~~Modified Preliminary~~ – Jackets are not required. If an Athlete wears a jacket, it may be any solid color, tweed, or pinstripe. Tasteful, discreet accents, piping, and crystal decorations are permitted.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/5/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Align the requalification period for horses and athletes so both can re-qualified by achieving two MERs at the next lower height level within any 6-month period and no sooner than 10 days following the loss of qualification.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Eventing

Alison Lloyd

alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

EV109 Loss of Qualification

EV109.2

f. Having lost qualification, a Horse may be re-qualified by achieving two MERs at the next lower height level within any 6-month period and no sooner than **10 days**~~1 month~~ following the loss of qualification.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/5/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

It has been a normal practice in Eventing that if an athlete jumps an Obstacle of another level's track that it is not penalized provided they complete the Obstacles of the level in which they are competing in the correct sequence. At times this is used as a training opportunity. With the way the language is current stated, athletes would incur penalties for this practice. That was not the intention during the re-write. Therefore, the proposed additional language would permit athletes to practice this without penalty.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Amber Braun abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

EV122 Cross-Country Phase Definitions of Faults

1. GENERAL. Faults (i.e., refusals, run-outs and circles) must be penalized, unless in the opinion of the appointed personnel, they are clearly not connected with the negotiation or attempted negotiation of a numbered Obstacle or element ***for the relevant level in progress***. The negotiation or attempted negotiation of an Obstacle commences with the presentation of the Horse to the Obstacle. Falls will be penalized wherever they occur on course between the start flags and the finish line.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/10/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The intent of this rule change is to allow an appropriately sized adult to school and more fully prepare ponies, particular green ponies to be safely ridden by the junior, a resource already used and valued for the junior hunters and amateur hunters.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA	Katie Patrick kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments
HU 101 (071-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

EQ103.6 Eligibility to Compete

6. ~~Adults can ride Ponies shown~~ in Adult Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes, (suitability to count); however, ~~these ponies cannot~~ **may** cross enter into ~~any rated Pony Hunter sections (i.e., Children's Hunter Pony, Green Pony Hunter, Regular Pony Hunter), or in WMS Pony Equitation or USEF Pony Medal~~ **or any rated Pony Hunter section** classes held at the same competition. See also HU101.

HU101 Ponies Shown By Juniors

Ponies shown by a junior in any rated pony hunter sections (i.e. Children's Hunter Pony, Green Pony Hunter, Regular Pony Hunter), WMS Pony Equitation, or USEF Pony Medal ~~cannot~~ **may** be shown by an adult at the same competition. ~~Exception: Breeding classes in-hand and breed restricted sections at a multi-breed/discipline competition.~~ (See also EQ103.4).

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/10/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Part 1 (a) was already there, it's just been slightly reworded for further clarification. Part 2 (b) is an FEI rule that should have already been included. Part 3 (c) was what was b. And finally, Part 4 (d) is already in the rule book under "scoring", but it also belongs here.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA	Katie Patrick kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

JP138 TIMING

4. Additional Time Out

a. If a rider is forced to hold up ~~and the time stopped while a fence is being rebuilt~~ due to it ***a fence not being reset or reset improperly, or*** knocked down or displaced for any reason other than it was caused by jumping or an attempt to jump ***(a previous competitor, the weather, or some other factor), the tone will sound, and time will be stopped while the fence is being rebuilt.*** ~~no~~ No penalty is incurred, and 6 seconds is not added to their time. After the fence is rebuilt, the tone is sounded, and the time is restarted when the rider is as close as possible to the place on the course when the time was stopped.

b. If the rider does not stop when the tone is sounded, the rider continues at their own risk, and the time should not be stopped. The judges must decide whether the rider is to be eliminated for ignoring the order to stop, or whether they should be allowed to continue.

c. If a competitor jumps an obstacle that has not been reset, or has been reset improperly, or due to it being downed by a previous competitor, the weather, or some other factor, the competitor receives no penalty. However, if the competitor knocks down the obstacle they will be penalized accordingly.

d. If a knockdown occurs following a refusal, but not as a result of the refusal, the time is stopped and the fence is rebuilt. No additional penalty is incurred and 6 seconds is not added to their time. Once the fence has been rebuilt, the tone is sounded and the time is restarted no matter where the rider might be on the course.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In the Sport horse in hand section (AR179.1a) it states that a noseband must match the discipline being shown. Referring back to AR163.1a (Hunter Section), it does not prohibit modified cavessons from being used. We are looking to strike through the language prohibiting modified cavessons in the showmanship section to align the halter and showmanship rules. This will create consistency with tack when using hunter/dressage/show hack style bridles.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR294 Judging Guidelines

Showmanship is not a halter class and should not be judged as such. The conformation of the horse is not to be judged. Horses are to be presented in the appointments (tack and attire) suitable for that horse's style. This class is designed to evaluate the exhibitor's ability to execute, in concert with their horse a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, all while maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position.

1. [...]

3. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Attire and tack should be clean, well-fitting and in good repair. A workmanlike appearance should be presented.
 1. Attire should reflect the intended use of the horse and should be consistent with attire requirements described in the division depicted.
- b. Tack: An Arabian show halter, a leather show halter with or without silver (silver not to count), hunter/dressage/show hack style bridle, or a double bridle may be used. ~~Modified cavessons are prohibited.~~ A western style or bosal bridle are prohibited. Leads may be attached to the halter or cavesson. If a chain is used, it is prohibited to go through the horse's mouth, over the nose or through the bit. When leading with the reins, they must be attached to both sides of the bit. Hats are optional. Spurs are prohibited.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/17/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In dressage, the existing rule was intended to add exceptions for the Walk-Trot riders in 10& under classes so that those classes would not count towards the levels in which the horse is restricted to compete. This proposal adds the exception for 11 and over as well as clarifies the exception for 10 and under because in dressage, competition levels are based on the horse and the classes they are competing in. In Western Dressage, competition levels are based on the rider. The riders are eligible to compete in multiple levels therefore an exception was not needed. The proposed language in AR277 tells exhibitors to refer to Subchapter-31 and Subchapter-32 for additional class requirements in the 10& under and 11 and over age divisions.

Proponent Details Contact Information

AHA

Emily McSweeney

emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR173 Conduct

1. Dressage classes held in the Arabian Division to be conducted in accordance with Dressage Chapter DR, except as stated herein:
 - a. When cross entry by rider or horse/rider combination is permitted between Arabian Dressage and other Arabian and/or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian classes at a competition, DR120 and DR121 apply only to the designated Dressage warmup and competition areas, or when exhibitor is actually warming-up for Dressage class.
 1. Horses competing in Open Dressage classes may not compete in any other divisions or classes on the same day(s) and are subject to all DR Chapter rules from the time of their arrival until the end of the competition day.
 - b. Whips are prohibited in AHA Regional and National Championship classes (Exception: Competitors riding sidesaddle may carry a whip and AR106.15).
 - c. A caller, if supplied by the competitor, may be used in any AHA Regional Championship Dressage class. (Exception: all FEI Tests, including FEI Junior Tests, and all Freestyle Rides must be ridden from memory; see also AR106.18)
 - d. ~~Entries must comply with DR119.2 (Exception: Horses competing at AHA Regional and National Championship competitions are not limited to a maximum of three Dressage rides per day at Fourth Level or below. Horses competing in Intro Level classes at the AHA Youth National Championship may enter three levels at that competition only.)~~
 - e. Horses competing in the Arabian and/or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Dressage Division may compete in more than one Licensed Competition on the same day. This is an exception to DR119.2.
 - f. ~~Introductory (Walk/Trot Dressage) **An Introductory Walk-Trot 10 & Under or a Walk-Trot 11 & Over class classes**~~ at Federation Licensed Arabian competitions, when ridden by an exhibitor competing only in Walk/Trot/ **Walk-Jog** classes, will not be considered one of the two levels to which the horse is restricted at that competition under DR119.2. (Exception: open Dressage classes or divisions.) **Refer to Subchapter AR-31 Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 10 & Under section and Subchapter AR-32 ATR/JTR/AATR Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 11 and Over section for additional Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 10 & Under and 11 & Over class requirements.**
 - g. Dressage horses competing at Federation Licensed Arabian competitions are not limited to a maximum of three rides per day at Fourth Level or below. (Exception: open Dressage classes or divisions.)
 - h. False tails are not permitted in Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division Dressage classes (This is an exception to DR121.15).
 - i. For the Arabian Division, adult amateurs are defined as those no longer eligible to compete as junior exhibitors DR119.3 does not apply.

AR277 Conduct

Western Dressage classes held in the Arabian division are to be conducted in accordance with the Western Dressage Division, Chapter WD. ~~Walk/Trot classes will not be considered one of the two levels to which the horse is restricted at that competition under WD102.2. Exception: Open Western Dressage classes or division. Refer to Subchapter AR-31 Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 10 & Under Section and Subchapter AR-32 ATR/JTR/AATR Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 11 and Over Section for additional Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 10 & Under and 11 & Over class requirements.~~

- a. Exception: Junior exhibitor ages will be defined in accordance with AR110.6 for Arabian Western Dressage classes.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/17/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

It is the desire of the Working Western Committee to have the Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure Walk-Trot 10 & Under classes allow for the extended walk and/or trot. Being able to demonstrate the extended gaits is an important aspect of the Ranch Horse Class.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR246 Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure Walk-Trot 10 & Under Class Specifications

1. Horses to enter at walk or trot in either direction at discretion of the judge.
2. Entries will be worked both directions of the ring at both qualifying gaits, the walk and the trot. *The judge may call for:*
 - a. *The extended walk*
 - b. *The extended trot (riders are permitted to post or hold the horn)*
 - c. *A halt on the rail*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To remove the confusion of elimination at the national level for either retaking a jump or continuing. For consistency, the FEI wording/definition of a missed flag is being proposed as is the FEI wording/definition for a run-out.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USEA	Hannah Seagle hseagle@useventing.com

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

EV122 Cross-Country Phase Definitions of Faults

2. DISOBEDIENCES (REFUSALS and RUN-OUTS).

b. Runouts. It is considered a Disobedience if a Horse runs out, avoids the Obstacle or element to be jumped in such a way that it must be represented. An Athlete is permitted to change their mind as to where they jump an Obstacle or element at any time without penalty for a run-out, including because of a mistake at a previous Obstacle or element. **A Horse is considered to have run-out if, having been presented at an Obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the head, neck, and point of either shoulder fail to pass between the extremities of the Obstacle markers as flagged or the hindquarters have do not jumped the height of the solid part of the Obstacle. Continuing on course without representing will incur Elimination.**

5. MISSED FLAG

~~a. Clear: A horse is considered to have cleared the fence when the head, neck and points of both shoulders pass between the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. If a flag is dislodged, the hindquarters must jump the height of the solid part of the obstacle.~~

~~b. Missing a flag: A horse is considered to have missed a flag when the point of a shoulder fails to pass between the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. The head and neck must pass inside the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. If a flag is dislodged, the hindquarters must jump the height of the solid part of the obstacle.~~

~~5. MISSED MARKER. To clear an Obstacle, the Horse's head, neck, and shoulder must pass between the Obstacle markers. If the marker is dislodged, the hindquarters must jump the height of the solid part of the Obstacle. If the Obstacle is not navigated as described a 15 point penalty must be assessed.~~

6. ADDITIONAL ATTEMPTS AT OBSTACLES COMPOSED OF SEVERAL ELEMENTS.

7. WILLFUL DELAY. An Athlete is considered to have willfully delayed their finish if, between the last fence and the finish line, the Horse halts, walks, circles, or serpentine. The Athlete may be penalized for a Disobedience at the discretion of the Ground Jury.

8. RULE INTERPRETATION. If rule clarification is necessary for the judging of an Obstacle, the Technical Delegate, as directed by the Ground Jury, must provide the clarification and sketch, if necessary. This information must be shared with Athletes at the briefing or as soon as possible.

EV123 Cross-Country Phase Scoring – Chart

Add to table:

Missed Marker	15 penalties	All	EV122.5
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Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To align with the FEI's exception for MERs. It should not be more difficult for horses competing at the national level to move forward when one of the two penalties has been incurred.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USEA	Hannah Seagle hseagle@useventing.com

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Completion: means having completed the entire Horse Trial with a numerical score.

2.2 Minimum Eligibility Requirement

2.3 All MERs obtained in previous years will be counted according to the rules in place at that time.

2.2.1 When achieved at a National Horse Trials an MER is achieved by completing the entire Horse Trial and scoring. -not more than 45 penalty points in the Dressage Test; and - No jumping penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country Test unless specified otherwise, and not more than 75 seconds (30 penalty points) exceeding the optimum time; and - not more than 16 penalties at obstacles in the Jumping Test. -25 penalty points received for Dangerous Riding will not achieve a National Qualifying result. Exceptions to the national qualification requirements noted below for the Advanced, CCI4*, and CCI5* levels may only be approved by an Ad Hoc Committee of the ESC. Requests for exceptions should be made 14 days prior to the closing date for the Advanced level and 14 days prior to the definite entry date for the CCI4* and CCI5* levels.

Exceptions for MERs: The ~~1st~~ first activation of a frangible/deformable device (11 penalties) or having 4 one missed marker flag (15 penalties) will maintain the MER result on Cross-Country-allow for an MER.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/18/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Eventing Ground Jury Members have equal authority and responsibilities, and more flexibility is needed for positioning officials.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USEA

Hannah Seagle

hseagle@useventing.com

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

EV 153

1. The following Licensed Officials are the minimum required at Horse Trials. Higher level Licensed Officials may serve in the roles listed below. A Second Eventing Technical Delegate of any level is required if an Event has more than 300 entries, any day where cross-country and show jumping phases will be running concurrently and ~~the President of the Ground Jury~~ **a member of the Ground Jury** will not be present on the course during the Cross-Country phase.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/18/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

.80 does not affect the height but keeps the sequence between Starter at .70 to Novice at .90.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USEA

Hannah Seagle

hseagle@useventing.com

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Appendix 3

Cross Country

Beginner Novice

Heights - Fixed ~~.79m (2'7")~~ **.80m (2'7")**

Jumping

Heights - ~~.79m (2'7")~~ **.80m (2'7")**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The current Walk-Trot & under section does not include the Western Dressage Division. This proposal seeks to include Western Dressage.

Proponent Details Contact Information

AHA

Emily McSweeney

emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

AR 309 (184-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR299 Appointments

1. For attire, appointments and position for Equitation classes refer to Chapter EQ. ~~For Dressage Seat Equitation, refer to Chapter DR, Dressage Division.~~
2. For attire and appointments for Pleasure classes, refer to AR132, AR136, AR140, AR144, *and* AR 181, ~~and DR120~~
3. ~~For Walk Trot classese paddock boots with jodphurs and garter straps may be used.~~ *For attire, appointments and position for Dressage Seat Equitation and Walk-Trot Dressage, refer to Chapter DR, Dressage Division.*
4. *For attire, appointments and position for Western Dressage Seat Equitation and ~~Walk-Trot Walk-Jog~~ Western Dressage, refer to s ubchapter WD-5 and s ubchapter WD-12, Wes tem Dres sage Divis ion.*

AR301 Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog Equitation Class Specifications

(...)

6. *Wes tem Dres sage Seat Equitation – refer to Chapter WD, Wes tem Dres sage Divis ion Subchapter WD-12 Western Dressage Seat Equitation for Walk-Jog clas requirements and specifications.*

Add the Western Dressage Division to AR -30 Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 10 & Under Section (requires re-numbering of current AR305 thru the remainder of the AR Chapter):

AR305 Walk-Jog Western Dressage Class Specifications (Requires Western Dress age Judge)

A cument WDAA Intro Test limited to walk/jog ~~trot~~ will be utilized.

(Re-number the remaining AR sections through the end of the chapter)

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/22/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 11 and Over Division is growing and by adding the specific Walk-Trot/Jog 11 and Over for Dressage and Western Dressage it will offer a level playing field for riders in the Introductory Walk-Trot/Jog Tests that have not cantered/loped per the 11 & Over class requirements.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
AR 266 (183-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR309 Class Requirements

Open to Amateur or Junior Exhibitors 11 years old and older as of December 1 of the current competition year. An Amateur card is not required for ATR/AATR Walk-Trot/Walk-Jog 11 and over classes.

1. Division of Classes
 - a. Classes may be divided by age of exhibitor.
 - b. Separate classes for Arabians and Half/Anglo Arabians may be offered OR classes may be combined.
 - c. Pleasure or Sport Horse under Saddle classes ~~may~~ **must** not be combined with Equitation classes.
 - d. Pleasure classes may be combined into a single class.
 - e. Equitation classes may be combined into a single class (Exception: Dressage Seat Equitation **and Western Dressage Seat Equitation** ~~may~~ **must** not be combined with any other equitation class).
 - f. ***Dressage Introductory Walk-Trot Tests must not be combined with any other class.***
 - g. ***Western Dressage Introductory Walk-Jog Tests must not be combined with any other class.***
2. Classes may be offered for Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, Country English Pleasure, Sport Horse Under Saddle, Western Seat Equitation, Hunter Seat Equitation Not to Jump, Saddle Seat Equitation, and Dressage Seat Equitation, **and Ranch Horse, Dressage, Western Dressage, and Western Dressage Seat Equitation** (See AR310.2.e).
3. [...]

AR310 Conduct

2. Tests are optional at local, regional and national shows but, if used, tests are limited to the following:

....

- f. ***Walk/Jog 11 & Over Western Dressage Seat Equitation - refer to Western Dressage (WD) Subchapter WD-12 Western Dressage Seat Equitation for Walk-Jog class requirements and specifications.***

3. ***Dressage Walk-Trot and Western Dressage Walk/Jog Tests.***

- a. ***For Walk-Trot Dressage a current USDF Introductory Test limited to walk/trot will be utilized.***
- b. ***For Walk-Jog Western Dressage a current WDAA Introductory Test limited to walk/trot will be utilized.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/24/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Judges should not have to stand or sit in the sun or in rain with no shelter when classes are held outside.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

DR202 General Regulations.

10. The requirements of DR126.2.d and DR123.9 apply to DSHB divisions and classes, *including the requirement to provide shelter from weather for judges at outdoor competitions.*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To allow more flexibility in dress that is permitted in extremely cold weather.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR120 Dress

2. Weather Conditions. In locations with high average heat and humidity on the date of a competition, competition management may publish in its prize list that jackets will be waived for the duration of the competition. Alternatively, management may announce prior to or during a competition that competitors may show without jackets when extreme heat and/or humidity is forecasted. ~~When temperatures below 45 degrees F are forecast, riders may wear windbreakers or parkas instead of riding jackets.~~ Also, when very cold weather conditions are forecasted on the date of a competition, competition management may publish in its prize list that windbreakers or parkas may be worn, rather than riding jackets, for the duration of the competition. Alternatively, management may announce prior to or during a competition that competitors may wear windbreakers or parkas rather than riding jackets when very cold weather is forecasted. ~~This~~ **These** waivers applies to national classes at a USEF licensed-USDF recognized dressage competition.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/29/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

It is the intention of the Committee to limit the use of Draw reins and German Martingales to certain classes and divisions. While ponies are currently not permitted to be ridden in Draw Reins by juniors at any time. The content of the rule regarding the use of draw reins by juniors and use in age restricted classes, is not changing in this proposal. Verbiage is being updated.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Jumper	Jennifer Haydon jhaydon@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

JP111 Tack and Attire

4. Draw Reins/German Martingales. Draw reins and German *martingale* Martingales may **not be used in any competition/class restricted to Ponies, Juniors, and/or Amateurs, or by age of horse. Draw reins and German martingales may** only be used in a conventional manner when schooling or in classes with no prize money that are offered at 1.20m or below. ~~Ponies may not be ridden by a Junior in draw reins or German martingales at any time.~~ **Draw reins and/or German martingales may not be used on Ponies at any time when ridden by a Junior.** No other head set devices (chambon, etc.) are permitted in any class. ~~Draw Reins and German Martingales are not permitted in age restricted classes.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/29/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Over the years, questions have been raised regarding the national level rules regarding blinkers, fly masks, and goggles in competition. As there is not currently a rule permitting or prohibiting the equipment's use, the Committee proposes this rule to allow the use of the equipment in competition with veterinary certification stating the horse's need.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Jumper	Jennifer Haydon jhaydon@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
WD 122 (154-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

JP111 Tack and Attire

12. Hooded blinkers, sunglasses, fly masks, goggles, etc. that cover the horse's eyes are only allowed with a veterinary certificate stating the necessity. Blinkers or cheek pieces attached to the bridle may not exceed 5cm (2").

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To align Horse and Rider divisions for all levels, so that Training Horses and Riders cannot compete two levels above at Preliminary. As Modified was a new level in 2017, it was combined with Preliminary for this rule, since the level was not prevalent across the US. Now that the Modified has been in place for 5 years, and includes 194 competitions with 2,442 starters, the proposal is to sperate out the Modified from Preliminary in order align Horse and Rider divisions for all levels.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Alison Lloyd alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

APPENDIX 2 - PARTICIPATION IN HORSE TRIALS

1. SECTIONS

1.5 RIDER (R) - Open to Athletes who have not completed an Event above the next highest level in the 5 years preceding the date of the Event, e.g., a Novice Rider may have completed an Event at Training level, but not Modified ~~or Preliminary~~ level or higher in the 5 years preceding the date of the Event; a Training Rider may have completed an Event at the Modified ~~or Preliminary~~ level, but not the **Intermediate Preliminary** level or higher in the 5 years preceding the date of the Event.

1.6 HORSE (H) - Open to Athletes of any age, the Horse must not have completed an Event above the next high-est level. e.g., a Novice Horse may have completed an Event at Training level, but not Modified ~~or Preliminary~~ level or higher; a Training Horse may have completed an Event at Modified ~~or Preliminary~~ level, but not **Intermediate-Preliminary** level or higher.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Saddle pad colors are not currently referenced in the USEF Eventing rules for the dressage phase, so per EV101.3 reference is made to the FEI Rules which state: "Saddle pads should be white or off-white. Contrast coloring and piping is allowed. Striped or multicolored pads are not permitted". However, this rule is not being enforced at Eventing competitions. As this is not a horse welfare or safety issue, we are proposing that saddle pad colors be added to the Eventing chapter to allow any color of saddle pads.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Alison Lloyd alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

SUBCHAPTER EV-10 SADDLERY

2. DRESSAGE TEST

1. Saddle pads may be any single color. Contrast trim and piping are permitted. Striped or multi-colored pads are prohibited.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To align Cross-Country and Show Jumping eliminations at the Modified level with the CCI1* and Preliminary levels and above. Alignment with Preliminary and above will make eliminations at all USEF Recognized levels consistent, and will make it easier for athletes and Licensed Officials to correctly follow and enforce the rules.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Alison Lloyd alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

EV123 Cross-Country Phase Scoring

Fault	Penalty	Applicable Level	Reference
First refusal, run-out or circle	20 penalties	All	EV122.2 & EV122.3
Second refusal, run-out or circle at the same Obstacle	40 penalties	All	EV122.2 & EV122.3
Third refusal, run-out or circle at the same Obstacle	Elimination	All	EV122.2 & EV122.3
Third penalized Disobedience on the entire course	Elimination	M , P, I, A	EV122.2
Fourth penalized Disobedience on the entire course	Elimination	BN, N, T, M	EV122.2

EV128 Show Jumping Phase Faults

Fault	Penalty	Applicable Level	Reference
Obstacle knocked down while jumping	4 penalties	All	
Going through the start line twice	4 penalties	All	
First Disobedience	4 penalties	All	EV127.3
Second Disobedience or other	Elimination	M , P, I, A	EV127.3
Second Disobedience or other	8 penalties	BN, N, T, M	EV127.3
Third Disobedience or other	Elimination	BN, N, T, M	EV127.3

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The adoption of the FEI's Dangerous Riding rule provides a more robust definition within the USEF Eventing Rules. This will provide licensed officials with clearer parameters of when to assess the Dangerous Riding penalty, in turn, promoting the safety and welfare of our horses and athletes. While it is not the intention to duplicate FEI language within the Eventing Rules, there were discrepancies between the national rule and the FEI that have caused enough confusion that an amended adoption will address. E.g., Willful Obstruction is penalized as an Elimination or Disqualification for national competition. Pressing a tired horse is Disqualification for national competition. Jumping Obstacles not part of the course is contradictory to EV122.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Eventing

Amber Braun

abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

EV113 Dangerous Riding

1. Dangerous Riding is considered any Athlete who rides in such a way as to constitute a hazard to the safety or well-being of the Athlete, Horse, other Athletes, their Horses, spectators, or others ***during the competition***. ***Dangerous Riding may include but is not limited to the following:***

- a. Riding out of control (Horse clearly not responding to the Athletes restraining or driving aids).***
- b. Riding Obstacles too fast or too slow.***
- c. Repeatedly standing off fences too far (pushing the Horse to the base of the Obstacle, firing the Horse to the fence).***
- d. Repeatedly being ahead or behind the Horse's movement when jumping.***
- e. Series of dangerous jumps.***
- f. Severe lack of responsiveness from the Horse or the Athlete.***
- g. Continuing after three clear refusals, a fall, or any form of Elimination.***
- h. Endangering the public in any way (e.g., jumping out of the roped track).***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	5/6/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Introduced in 2017, the Modified level was created to bridge the gap between the Training and Preliminary levels and to help provide a better preparation for athletes and horses progressing from the lower levels to upper levels. The goal of proposing the additional qualification requirements of two MERs at Modified is to promote safety and encourage optimal preparation for the Athletes and Horses moving to the Preliminary and CCI2* level. We have seen an increased number of falls (roughly 35% increase in percentage of falls per starter) at the Preliminary level since 2021 to substantiate this change.

The inclusion of Modified in competition offerings over the past 5 years has increased to 194 competitions with 2,442 starters in 2023 with representation in 9 of 10 Areas. The proposed rule would go into effect December 1, 2025, to allow for a phased implementation with the intention of allowing competitors and organizers time to prepare and plan accordingly for the changes. Below is a chart of how the eligibility requirements fit into the overall current MER structure:

Training

- **Athlete Requirements** N/A
- **Horse Requirements** N/A

Modified

- **Athlete Requirements** 2 MERs at Training or higher
- **Horse Requirements** N/A

Preliminary

- **Athlete Requirements** 6 MERs at Training or higher
- **Horse Requirements** 4 MERs at Training or higher

Intermediate

- **Athlete Requirements** 6 MERs at Preliminary or higher
- **Horse Requirements** 4 MERs at Preliminary or higher

Advanced

- **Athlete Requirements** 6 MERs at Intermediate or higher
- **Horse Requirements** 4 MERs at Intermediate or higher

CCI1*

- **Athlete Requirements** 1 MER at Modified or higher
- **Horse Requirements** 1 MER at Modified or higher

CCI2*-S

- **Athlete Requirements** 1 MER at Preliminary or higher
- **Horse Requirements** 1 MER at Preliminary or higher

Proponent Details **Contact Information**

Eventing

Alison Lloyd

alloyd@usef.org

Linked Rules **Comments**

Committee Actions

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Draft 2: It was noted during discussion that the Effective Date on the coversheet is 12/1/2024. However, the correct Effective Date is 12/1/2025 as stated in the proposal to allow time for implementation.

APPENDIX 2 - PARTICIPATION IN HORSE TRIALS

3. LEVELS OF HORSE TRIALS AND EVENTS

3.5 PRELIMINARY (P) - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 14th birthday, on horses five years of age or older. The Athlete must have obtained an MER at six Horse Trials at the Training level or higher. ***Beginning December 1, 2025, the Athlete must have obtained an MER at ~~four~~ five Horse Trials at the Training level or higher and an MER at ~~two~~ one Horse Trials at the Modified level or higher.*** The Horse must have obtained an MER at four Horse Trials at the Training level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Athletes with more than 10 MERs at the Preliminary level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination. Athletes with 20 or more MERs at the Preliminary level or higher: The Horse must have obtained an MER at two Horse Trials at the Training level or higher or one MER at a Horse Trial at the Training level or higher in combination with the Athlete.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The above General Rule Change proposals would go into effect on December 1, 2024. As our field of play is too large to be covered by a Ground Jury, the use of footage must be permitted for Eventing. It is not practical that only footage from a videographer or production company can be used during cross-country due to the expense to organizers. Therefore, video and or pictures from fence judges must be admissible. The General Rule proposal does not contemplate still photography but that can also be a valuable assessment tool for the Ground Jury.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Amber Braun abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 150 (078-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 05/20/2024

Draft 1: While the Council supports the general intent of the proposal, it feels that the proponent needs to narrow the scope of this proposal and add language to ensure the proposal aligns with the intent. Specifically, it needs to be clear that unaltered video footage or photographs are only permitted if supplied by a duly appointed jump judge or other duly appointed representative of the competition. The Council would recommend approval of this proposal if the wording is changed to read: "As an exception to GR1219, and in addition to Official Video as defined in GR150, unaltered video or still photography captured by a duly appointed jump judge or other duly appointed competition representative is permitted for consideration by the Ground Jury and Technical Delegate for a field of play decision."

EV115 Inquiries, Protests, and Appeals

5. VIDEO. As an exception to GR1219, and in addition to Official Video as defined in GR150, unaltered video or still photography is permitted for consideration by the Ground Jury and Technical Delegate for a cross-country field of play decision.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The proposed change is to confirm that it is permissible to alter the direction of the markers on the warm-up fences. However, in an effort to ensure this is done in the safest manner possible additional language is proposed. The direction must be consistent for all warm-up fences for the Preliminary level and below. It is felt that due to more the experienced level of athletes at the Intermediate and above, that the direction may be altered for individual jumps. It is important to be able to change the direction in order to provide the best warm-up possible – e.g., based on lighting, crowd placement, etc.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Amber Braun abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
EV 135 (196-23)	

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

EV135 Exercising and Warmup Areas

2. EXERCISE AREAS

d. The warmup area for Show Jumping must include at least two adjustable oxers and two adjustable vertical practice fences. ***The direction of the markers for individual practice fences may be altered at the Intermediate level or higher. The direction of all practice fences must be consistent for the Preliminary level and below.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The proposed changes are aimed at providing more flexible warm-up fence options to provide a safer and more accommodating warm-up environment.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Eventing

Amber Braun

abraun@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

EV 135 (195-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

EV135 Exercising and Warmup Areas

2. EXERCISE AREAS

d. ***For the Training levels and below***, the warmup area for Show Jumping must include at least two adjustable oxers and two adjustable vertical practice fences. ***For Modified levels and above, the warmup area for Show Jumping must include at least four Obstacles which are capable of being set as spreads. Where space or materials are limited for all levels, and with the permission of the Technical Delegate, the warmup may contain three Obstacles which are capable of being set as spreads.***

e. The warmup area for Cross-Country must include at least ~~three~~ ***two*** adjustable ~~fences, including at least one oxe~~ ***capable of being set as spreads Obstacles capable of being set as spreads*** and one solid Cross-Country type Obstacle. Where space or materials are limited, and with the permission of the Technical Delegate, ~~either or both areas~~ ***the warmup*** may contain at least ~~three~~ ***one*** adjustable Obstacle capable of being set as a spread ***and one solid Cross-Country type Obstacle.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To update the specifications on what is an appropriate bike for competition. The Roadster committee and ARHPA have been working closely throughout the last year to make key updates throughout the chapter to continue improving the safety of the sport. By not outlining what is an appropriate sized bike, it poses a safety issue. If a competitor were to compete on a bike with a seat that is not wide enough, the bike could flip. It is important to add additional language so competitors can ensure they are using a bike safe for competition.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Roadster	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

RD107 Appointments

1. Harness.
 - a. Blinkers of square pattern, snaffle bit and attached overcheck-rein (check bit optional); breast collar with straight-flaps, with traces made round with flat ends; (for pairs, collars of the English pattern are used); martingale are required. Breechings must be used in all Wagon classes. Protective boots on front feet are allowed.
 - b. In Roadster Horse to Bike and Roadster Horse to Wagon classes (not Roadster Pony classes) the overcheck must remain attached to the water hook until class is tied. In the event that the check breaks or comes off, the entry must use a timeout in accordance with GR833 to reattach the check. If the check breaks or comes off a second time the horse must not be allowed to continue performing unchecked and must be excused from the ring by the judge(s). If a horse is excused under these circumstances they will be qualified for the championship in accordance with GR809.3.
2. Vehicles. ~~Roadsters shall be shown to a Bike, Road Wagon or Buggy of Caffrey style. All vehicles should be of good appearance and stability. Horse Bikes must be of standard size of at least 48" width with a double seat.~~ **Roadster horse and Roadster ponies must be shown to a bike, road wagon, or buggy of Caffrey style. All vehicles should be of good appearance and stability. Horse bikes must be a standard size of at least 44" wide with a double seat of a minimum of 28". Pony bikes must be a standard size of at least 40" wide with a double seat of a minimum of 20".** If the judge deems the vehicle to be unsafe, the entry must be excused from the ring by the judge(s). If the entry is excused under these circumstances they will be qualified for the championship in accordance with the procedure outlined in GR 809.3 Performance Championships. In order to compete in the championship, the vehicle must be compliant with the rules.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

For safety reasons, ponies must remain checked. The current rule does not clearly state that horses/ponies must remain checked during all times other than when a workout may be called for. In addition, ponies were originally omitted from this language; however, the intention was for ponies to follow the same standard. The proposal also seeks to clean up inconsistent language where attendant and headers are used interchangeably. In instances where header is used, it will be replaced with attendant to align with the Hackney chapter and to provide consistent language for exhibitors. If a pony becomes unchecked, it may become a safety issue.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Roadster

Emily McSweeney

emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

RD105 General

1. Roadsters must enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot then show at the Road Gait; turn counter clockwise at the jog-trot, show at the Road Gait and then trot at speed. Judges must emphasize that Roadsters are to be shown at three distinct speeds.
2. In Roadster horse and pony performance classes when the judge calls for the line up, exhibitors must continue in a counter-clockwise direction to bring their entries to the line up. Judge(s) shall penalize entries that do not comply.
3. It is very important to emphasize that Roadster horses/**ponies** must trot solidly down the straight away as well as around the turns. Horses/**ponies** must be shown on the rail at all times except when passing and should go to the far end of every corner without side reining; should be light mouthed, capable of being taken up at any time, and stand well when being judged in the center of the ring. Any horse/**pony** not in compliance, that is determined by the judge (s) to be a safety risk must be excused.
4. Any driver, rider, horse or pony in the Roadster division exhibiting inappropriate or dangerous behavior or whose actions would in any way threaten the safety of any other exhibitor, their entries, or the safety of class officials must be immediately eliminated from the class by the judge. When eliminating a driver, rider, horse, or pony due to inappropriate or dangerous behavior, the judge must call the class to a stop and excuse the relevant driver, rider, horse, or pony from the ring. Once the eliminated driver, rider, horse, or pony has exited the ring, the judge may resume the class. When showing a Roadster to Bike or Wagon, the driver must sit on the inside of the seat and hold the bight end of the reins in hand. When showing to the bike, both feet must remain in the stirrups while showing, except for while standing in the lineup. Any driver who fails to comply with the above will be considered to be exhibiting dangerous behavior as described above and must immediately be eliminated from the class by the judge. It is the judge's responsibility to ensure that safety requirements are followed at all times.
5. **In Roadster horse and pony classes**, performance at all three gaits must be judged. In the event of a workout, it will be judged as a separate class and horses/**ponies** must be tied for placings being considered in that workout. Workouts may be called for by the judge(s) for any or all placings. All horses/**ponies** chosen for a workout must be worked both ways of the ring at all gaits listed in the class specifications. An exhibitor choosing to not complete the workout for any reason, including broken tack, a horse/**pony** becomes uncheck, loss of shoe, or concern for the welfare of the horse/**pony**, has the option of lining up and receiving the last ribbon awarded in the workout. If two or more horses/**ponies** retire from a workout, these entries will be placed in reverse order of retirement. In the event of a simultaneous withdrawal of a workout, the placings will go to the fall of the cards. An exhibitor is entitled to request only one five-minute time out per class, including workout. (See GR833).
6. When ~~horses~~ **Roadsters** are lined up, no attendant is permitted and driver shall not leave their vehicle except for necessary adjustments. The driver may, however, uncheck and stand at horse's head when left in the center of the ring while a part of the class is on the rail for a workout. ~~During the line up, headers are permitted in Amateur, Ladies Amateur, and Juvenile Road Horse classes.~~ **In Amateur and Youth Road Horse classes, attendants are permitted in the lineup. The horse must remain checked, and the check must not be adjusted. Attendants are permitted to hold the horse, except when the judge(s) walks to the horse in the lineup. The header must not touch the entry except for safety reasons. During a workout the attendant header may uncheck and hold the entry. However, When the workout is over the horse must be rechecked, and the attendant must move away from the horse.** The attendant must take no action that would affect the performance of any animal.
7. [...]

RD107 Appointments

1. Harness.
 - a. Blinkers of square pattern, snaffle bit and attached overcheck-rein (check bit optional); breast collar with straight-flaps, with traces made round with flat ends; (for pairs, collars of the English pattern are used); martingale are required. Breechings must be used in all Wagon classes. Protective boots on front feet are allowed.
 - b. In Roadster Horse/**Pony** to Bike and Roadster Horse/**Pony** to Wagon classes (~~not Roadster Pony classes~~) the overcheck must remain attached to the water hook until class is tied. In the event that the check breaks or comes off, the entry must use a timeout in accordance with GR833 to reattach the check. If the check breaks or comes off a second time the horse/**pony** must not be allowed to continue performing unchecked and must be excused from the ring by the judge(s). If a horse/**pony** is excused under these circumstances they will be qualified for the championship in accordance with GR809.3.

RD110 Roadster Horse to Bike

1. [...]
5. YOUTH AMATEUR. Manners for the horse will be emphasized as a major requirement to ensure safety. Judges must immediately excuse any horse that acts as if it may be more horse than the driver can handle. Protective headgear is required. See GR801.4, .7 and .8. Age of the exhibitor will be 15-21. Classes containing more than 10 entries will be split. ~~Headers~~ **Attendants** will be allowed for these classes. To be shown first at a jog-trot and road gait, then reversed and shown at a jog-trot, road gait, and then at speed. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, and speed.
6. YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP. To be eligible horses must have been entered shown and judged in a qualifying Youth class. Manners for the horse will be emphasized as a major requirement to ensure safety. Judges must immediately excuse any horse that acts as if it may be more horse than the driver can handle. Protective headgear is required. See GR801.4, .7 and .8. Age of the exhibitor will be 15-21. Classes containing more than 10 entries will be split. ~~Headers~~ **Attendants** will be allowed for these classes. To be shown first at a jog-trot and road gait, then reversed and shown at a jog-trot, road gait, and then at speed. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, and speed.
7. [...]

RD112 Roadster Horse Under Saddle

1. [...]
3. YOUTH AND YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP. Riders to be 15-21 years of age. To be shown first at a jog-trot and road gait, then reversed and shown at a jog-trot, road gait, and then at speed. ~~Headers~~ **Attendants** will be allowed for these classes. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, and speed. Manners for the horse will be emphasized as a major requirement to ensure safety. Judges must immediately excuse any horse that acts as if it may be more horse than the rider can handle. Protective headgear is required. See GR801.4, .7 and .8.
4. [...]

RD114 Roadster Ponies

1. Classes for Roadster ponies to Bike are restricted to ponies 13 hands (52" and under). If entries warrant two sections may be offered: a) Roadster Ponies to Bike 50" and under; b) Roadster Ponies to Bike over 50" but not to exceed 52". If two sections are offered, competition management may offer a championship/stake for each section. In Under Saddle classes and Roadster Pony to Wagon classes entries may not exceed 54". Ponies may not be shown in a performance class unless the owner possesses a current Measurement Card or valid Measurement Form issued by the Federation (see GR502).
2. During the line up in classes restricted to Junior Exhibitors and Amateurs, one attendant is permitted to head the pony. ~~The attendant must not touch the entry except for safety reasons. During a workout the attendant may uncheck and hold the entry.~~ **The ponies must remain**

checked, and the check must not be adjusted. Attendants are permitted to hold the pony, except when the judge(s) walks to the pony in the lineup. If an additional workout is called, ponies not in the workout may be unchecked. However, ~~When the workout is over the pony must be rechecked. and the attendant must move away from the pony.~~ The attendant must take no action that would affect the performance of any animal.

3. [...]

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to expand the sport for a new younger demographic by including an opportunity for younger drivers that are already showing in Short Format events the chance to compete more often.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC907 Minimum Age – Athletes and Grooms

1. Age:

Age is determined from the beginning of the calendar year in which the athlete or groom reaches the designated age. See GR103. Failure to comply with any part of this DC entails disqualification of the athlete.

1.1. Minimum age of Athletes for Combined Tests or Combined Driving Events:

Class	All Divisions	
Horse Four-in-hand	18 years	
Horse Pair	16 years	
Horse Single	14 years	
Pony Four-in-hand	14 years	
Pony Pair	14 years	
Pony Single	14 years	Beginner, Training & Preliminary levels only. Minimum 12 years

1.2 Minimum age of Athletes for Short Format Driving Events:

Class	Advanced & Intermediate	Preliminary, Training & Beginner
Horse Four-in-hand	18 years	
Horse Pair	16 years	
Horse Single	14 years	12 years
Pony Four-in-hand	14 years	
Pony Pair	14 years	
Pony Single	14 12 years	10 years

2. Age of Grooms:

2.1 Athletes under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a groom(s) of 18 years or older.

2.2 Athletes of 18 years and above must be accompanied by a groom(s) of 14 years or older.

2.3 Para-Equestrian Athletes:

The groom must be over 18 years old. The Athlete must ensure that the groom has knowledge in driving.

3. General: Failure to comply with any part of this rule will result in the disqualification of the athlete.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This clarification corrects the rulebook to reflect what is in place already at competitions, and correct two inconsistencies in the rulebook.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Driving

Anna Brooks Thomas

abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC905 Official Results

1. Results are "official" as soon as they have been signed by the Ground Jury and published on the official board at the Show Office.

2. Inquiries, Protests and Appeals

2.1 Inquiries

The competitor or a parent or guardian of a competitor under 18 years old may inquire about any perceived scoring issues, field of play incidents, or errors in scoring during the course of the competition and up to 45 minutes after the results are official. Such inquiries must be addressed to the Technical Delegate or a member of the Ground Jury within the specified time frame in order to be considered and will follow the protest procedure below.

2.2 Submitting Protests

Protests are only permitted concerning scoring issues or field of play incidents (except in the case of scoring recording errors, which may be corrected immediately upon discovery at any time). The competitor or a parent or guardian of a competitor under 18 years old may submit a protest against results or provisional results up to ~~45~~**30** minutes after the results are official. Protests must be submitted in writing within the specified time frame to the Technical Delegate, accompanied by a fee of \$50.00 made payable to the Organizer, which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This rule change would allow more options for groom locations on different types of carriages. By doing this, we would encourage more Drivers to use grooms for safety and potential assistance where applicable in the rules.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC913 Dress, safety, and whips

1. Dress in Dressage and cones on a dressage carriage
 - 1.1 The dress of athletes and grooms must conform to the style of the carriage and harness used.
 - 1.2 Jackets or national dress, driving aprons, hats, and gloves are obligatory for athletes. Para Driving athletes from nominated profiles may compete with no gloves or adapted gloves but must have this noted on the FEI Masterlist or their Federation dispensation following classification evaluation.
 - 1.3 Grooms must wear jackets or national dress, hats, and gloves.
 - 1.4 In cones, grooms must remain seated in their dedicated seat. The first infraction of this rule will incur 5 penalties, second infraction will incur 10 penalties and the third infraction will result in Elimination.
 - 1.4.1 ~~For Beginner, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate levels when a marathon carriage is used in cones, the groom can either sit or can stand centered behind the driver and must remain stationary in that position throughout the course.~~ **For Beginner, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate levels when a marathon carriage is used in dressage or cones, the groom may either sit or stand centered behind the driver and must remain stationary in that position throughout the test/course.**
 - 1.5 The President of the Ground Jury may decide that:
 - Jackets may be removed in excessively hot and humid weather; cooling vests may be worn in excessively hot weather at except at the times when body protectors are mandatory; or
 - Wet weather clothing may be worn and aprons not required in wet weather.
 - 1.6 Penalties for improper dress are stated under Rules DC941 and DC965. In Cones, it is compulsory for all persons to wear a properly fastened protective headgear. Failure to comply results in immediate Elimination from the Cones competition. See GR801. An athlete and/or groom who loses their headgear or whose chin strap becomes unfastened while on course must recover and replace it, and/or immediately refasten it. In such case, the jury will sound the whistle/bell, and stop the time. The athlete will receive 5 penalties and must halt to retrieve their headgear and/or refasten the chin strap. An athlete who continues with a chin strap incorrectly fastened or unfastened will be eliminated unless the circumstances rendered it unsafe for the athlete to immediately stop in order to correct the issue.
 - 1.7 At Short Format Driving Events, DC 913.1.1 – 1.3 & 1.5 do not apply as formal attire is not required. Neat attire is required; and shorts are not permitted in any phase.
2. Dress in Marathon and Combined Marathon
 - 2.1 Less formal dress is acceptable in Marathon for the athlete and grooms. Shorts are not permitted. Infringement will incur 10 penalties per person.
 - 2.2 From the In-Harness horse inspection until the end of the Cool down, athletes and grooms must wear securely fastened protective headgear, and a back protector in the Marathon Sections. See GR801.
 - 2.3 During the Section A, Controlled Warm-up, Warm-up Obstacle and Section B, failure to wear such Protective Headgear and back/body protector will result in elimination.
 - 2.4 During the In-Harness Inspection, Halt area and Cool Down area, failure to wear such Protective Headgear and back/body protector where and when required after being notified by an Official to do so, will result in a Yellow Warning Card being issued to the athlete.
 - 2.5 Medical armbands are strongly recommended.
 - 2.6 When a body/back protector is required, air protector can be used combined with a real back or body protector but never without.
3. Dress for Juniors

- 3.1 At all times, while on a carriage, junior athletes must wear a body protector and a securely fastened protective headgear. Infringement will result in elimination. See GR801.
- 3.2 During horse inspections, it is strongly recommended for juniors to wear securely fastened protective headgear.
4. Whip for Dressage and Cones
 - 4.1 The athlete must carry a driving whip.
 - 4.2 An athlete must enter the arena with a whip in hand or incur 5 penalty points.
 - 4.3 If an athlete drops or puts down their whip, when in the arena, or if it is not held in the hand, they will incur 5 penalty points.
 - 4.4 The whip, if dropped, need not be replaced and the athlete may finish without a whip. However the groom may hand the athlete a spare whip and without any further penalty.
 - 4.5 Para Driving athletes from nominated profiles may compete with the whip held or used by a groom, but must have this noted on the FEI Masterlist or their Federation dispensation following classification evaluation.
5. Whip for Marathon, Modified Marathon and Combined Marathon

The whip can only be used by the athlete. Failure to comply will incur 20 penalties.

 - 5.1 Para Driving athlete from nominated profiles may compete with the whip held or used by groom but must have this noted on the FEI Masterlist or their Federation dispensation following classification evaluation.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Through this clarification, the rules would be able to protect equines from overuse at Short Format Events. The current rule is unclear on the number of obstacles and marathon starts during the competition.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

DC916 Number of Horses

1. The correct number of horses stipulated for each class must be driven throughout each competition. Athletes may not remove one or more horses during a competition and continue with less than the number stipulated for their class.
2. A horse may only take part once in each competition.
 - 2.1 At Short Format Driving Events, horses/ponies may take part in more than one competition phase or entry as long as the horses/ponies do not exceed any of the following:
 - a. more than two driven dressage tests in one day; or
 - b. more than two cones courses in one day; or
 - c. more than ~~eight~~ **five marathon** obstacles over the course of one ~~or two~~ days.The Technical Delegate must approve all horses/ponies that will compete in more than one entry.
3. Failure to comply with any part of this rule will result in elimination.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This rule change allows Drivers increased carriage options for competitions, while also reducing the possibility for incorrect carriage measurements. Through rule changes like this on carriages, we are able to decrease barriers to entry for the sport.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC921 Permitted Carriages

- ~~1. For all divisions in Dressage and Cones, either dressage or marathon carriages of appropriate widths are permitted (see DC 922).~~ ***For all divisions in Dressage and Cones, either dressage or marathon carriages of appropriate widths are permitted. The same carriage must be used in both phases, should an incident occur to the carriage, the POJ has discretion to allow a different carriage to be used for the different phase.***
2. Only marathon carriages are permitted for Marathon phase. For Advanced, marathon carriages must be the appropriate weight (see DC 922).

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

By increasing the penalty for Driving on competition grounds without breeching, we hope to increase safety for all single turnouts, responsibility of Drivers, and the general public on showgrounds.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC922 Weights and Dimensions

1. General
 - 1.1 When the carriage has no brakes, breeching is compulsory. For all single horses and ponies breeching is compulsory at all times. ~~Failure to comply during competition will result in elimination and failure to comply out of competition will result in a Yellow Warning Card.~~ **Failure to comply will result in elimination.**
 - 1.2 No part of a carriage may be wider than the outside track width, with the exception of hub caps, mud guards and the splinter bar for carriages used in Dressage and Cones.
 - 1.3 The track width of all carriages is measured at ground level on the widest part of the rear wheels.
 - 1.4 Athletes whose carriages do not conform to the required weights or measurements will be eliminated from the relevant competition.
 - 1.5 At Short Format Driving Events, minimum carriage weights do not apply for any division or class.
2. Carriages for Para-Equestrian Driving:
 - 2.1 Carriages suitable for the athletes with disabilities must be used and carriages for Para-Driving Singles may be 2 or 4-wheeled.
 - 2.2 The Technical Delegate may refuse the use of a carriage, but must give the reason for the refusal.
3. Carriages used in Dressage and Cones must comply with the following:
 - 3.1 For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner levels, the requirement for a groom with a single turnout is at the discretion of the Organizer. Exception: All Para-Driving turnouts must always have a groom while on the carriage.

Class	Wheels	Grooms	Minimum Width for Advanced
Horse Four-in-Hand	4	2 behind	158cm
Pony Four-in-Hand	4	2 behind	138cm
Small Pony or VSE Four-in-Hand	4	1 behind	n/a
Horse Pair	4	1 behind	148cm
Pony Pair	4	1 behind	138cm
Horse Single	2 or 4	1 behind or beside	138cm
Pony Single	2 or 4	1 behind or beside	138cm
Small Pony or VSE Single	2 or 4	1 behind or beside, if used (ref.DC 922.3)	n/a

For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner levels, no minimum width is required.

3.2 Artificial extensions to increase the measured width of a carriage are not permitted in Cones.

4. Carriages used in Marathon must comply with the following:

Class	Wheels	Minimum Weight for Advanced	Grooms	Minimum Width
Horse Four-in-Hand	4	600kg	2 behind	125cm

Pony Four-in-Hand	4	300kg	2 behind	125cm
Small Pony or VSE Four-in-Hand	4	n/a	1 behind	n/a
Horse Pair	4	350kg	1 behind	125cm
Pony Pair	4	225kg	1 behind	125cm
Horse Single	4	150kg	1 behind	125cm
Pony Single	2 or 4	90kg	1 behind or beside	125cm
Small Pony or VSE Single	2 or 4	n/a	1 beside or behind	n/a

4.1 For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner levels, no minimum weight is required.

4.2 In Marathon, all carriages will be measured before the start of section A/Controlled Warm-up and the same carriage must be used for all sections.

4.3 The President of the Ground Jury may decide if any Advanced carriages will be weighed after Marathon.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

By changing the requirements on tires for carriages, we hope to decrease the barriers to entry for the sport. Carriages can be a significant investment for new Drivers; by allowing pneumatic tires and applicable wire spoked wheels at lower levels of competition we can make the sport more accessible.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC924 Tires

- ~~1. Pneumatic or air-filled, tires are not permitted. *Pneumatic tires are permitted for Beginner, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate divisions, Short Format Driving Events (all divisions) and Para-Equestrian Driving. The use of wire spoke wheels is limited to use in the Beginner and Training divisions, at the discretion of the OC and approved by the TD and Ground Jury.*~~
- ~~2. In all competitions *Should an athlete use a carriage* must be fitted with iron or solid rubber tires. ~~The~~ *the* outer surface of the tire must be smooth. Failure to comply results in elimination.~~
- ~~3. Exceptions: Pneumatic tires are permitted in Short Format Driving Events (all divisions), Para-Equestrian Driving, and for the Training and Beginner divisions at any event.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In order to streamline the sharing system of both carriages and grooms, this change allows reasonable accomodation without delaying the competition schedule. By allowing scheduling flexibility, competitors are granted the opportunity to assit others during the Marathon competition.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC928 Participation

1. Method of Driving

Athletes may use any method or style of driving.
2. The Athletes and Grooms
 - 2.1 Each athlete must drive the same horse(s) in all phases of the competition, except where a substitution was decided in compliance with the rules. See DC931.
 - 2.1.1 In National Championships, an athlete or groom may compete only one turnout in a USEF National Championship. If a driver wishes to enter more than one turnout in a USEF National Championship class, one hour before the beginning of the scheduled first horse inspection ("the jog"), the competitor must declare which of their turnouts is participating in the Championship.
 - 2.1.2 When participating in a National Championship, athletes and grooms with multiple entries must complete the Championship entry before the non-Championship entry in Marathon. Accepting multiple entries will be at the discretion of the Organizer, if scheduling permits.
 - 2.2 For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner levels, the requirement for a groom with a Single or VSE turnout is at the discretion of the Organizer. Exception: All Para-Driving turnouts must always have a groom while on the carriage.
 - ~~2.3 Depending on the schedule, an athlete can compete twice and in addition, they can act as groom. Athletes can compete more than once as athlete or groom, subject to event scheduling requirements. **In Dressage and Cones, Athletes may compete more than once as athlete or groom, subject to event scheduling requirements. In Marathon, no individual person may complete the course more than twice in the role of Athlete or Groom.**~~
 - ~~2.3.1 At Short Format Driving Events, there is no limit to the participation of athletes or grooms other than what the Organizer can accommodate in the schedule. **In Marathon Short Format Driving Events, no individual person may complete the course more than three times in the role of Athlete or Groom.**~~
 - 2.4 Groom(s) may participate several times in all competitions, as per 2.3.
 - 2.5 The athlete is the only person allowed to handle the reins, use whip and brake throughout each competition. Each contravention of this rule, even if to prevent an accident, will result in 20 penalties. However, a groom may handle the reins and brake without penalty in all competitions provided the vehicle remains stationary.
 - 2.5.1 Para Driving Athletes from nominated profiles may compete with the whip held or used by groom, the brake operated by the groom, and the groom holding the finger loop but must have this noted on the FEI Masterlist or their Federation dispensation following classification evaluation.
 - 2.6 No person may be tied to the carriage in any way during the competitions. An athlete may be secured by rope, webbing or belt provided one end is held by a groom and not wrapped or fastened to the carriage in any way. Failure to comply will result in elimination.
 - 2.6.1 Para Driving: A Para Driver may be attached on the carriage for support with a lap belt or a 4 point belt, but there must be a quick release system attended by a groom at all times. For Para-Equestrian drivers, in addition refer to Annex 10.
 - 2.7 Substitution of a groom during the Marathon competition is not permitted under any circumstances, and will incur elimination of the athlete.
 - 2.8 In Dressage (as part of the test) and Cones, athletes will be required to salute the Jury, unless time or layout of the course prevents it.
 - 2.9 Passengers may not ride on the carriage during any competition.
 - 2.10 Each time an athlete dismounts they will incur 20 penalties.

- 2.11 Athletes will incur penalties each time one or both grooms dismount. 5 penalties on the first occasion, 10 penalties on the second occasion, on the third occasion the athlete is eliminated, except in Marathon (see DC948).
- 2.12 Para-equestrian athletes are allowed to compete using compensating aids in accordance with their respective degree of disability, with degree of disability as certified by the Federation. See Annex 10.
- 2.13 Prize-giving ceremonies might be done either on the carriages or on foot, according to the approved Prize List.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In order to decrease the barriers to entry for the sport, this change allows flexibility in the type of carriage used for each phase of competition. The change also encourages the use of grooms on carriage for safety measures.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC930 Outside assistance

1. Definition

Any physical intervention by a third party, not riding on the carriage, whether solicited or not, with the object of facilitating the task of the athlete or helping their horses, is considered to be outside assistance.

2. Prohibited outside assistance

2.1 Dressage and Cones:

2.1.1 Any athlete who has received physical outside assistance may be eliminated by the Ground Jury.

2.1.2 ~~In Dressage, grooms must remain seated in their proper positions between entering and leaving the arena, they are not permitted to handle the reins or the whip (will incur 20 penalties). For Dressage, grooms are not allowed to speak or indicate the course to the athlete (will incur 10 penalties). However, the groom may handle the reins, whip, and brake without penalty provided the carriage remains stationary.~~ ***In Dressage, grooms must remain seated in their proper positions between entering and leaving the arena, they are not permitted to handle the reins or the whip (will incur 20 penalties). For Dressage, grooms are not allowed to speak or indicate the course to the athlete (will incur 10 penalties). However, the groom may handle the reins, whip, and brake without penalty provided the carriage remains stationary. When using a Marathon carriage, the groom may stand during dressage provided they do not influence the direction of the carriage. Grooms must remain in the same stationary position throughout the test.***

2.1.3 Exceptions:

- a. If the bell has been rung by the President of the Jury and the athlete has failed to hear the bell; the groom may advise the athlete that the bell has been rung.
- b. In the Beginner and Training divisions at Short Format Driving Events, verbal outside assistance is allowed in any competition phase, including Dressage. The groom or an outside assistant standing by the arena may call out the dressage test for Beginner and Training level classes without any penalty. Electronic communication equipment may also be used as long as only one earphone is used at a time while on the carriage.

2.1.4 Athletes and grooms may not use any form of electronic communication equipment during Dressage and Cones, subject to elimination. See 930.2.1.3.b for an exception for the Beginner and Training divisions at Short Format Driving Events.

2.1.5 Para Driving Athletes from nominated profiles may compete with the whip held or used by groom, and/or the groom holding the finger loop but must have this noted on the FEI Masterlist or their Federation dispensation following classification evaluation.

2.1.6 Grooms of Para Driving Athletes must sit so that they can help in case of need. The Technical Delegate has the right to disapprove the position of the groom on the vehicle.

2.2 Marathon:

2.2.1 Obstacle observers, ground observers, time keepers, or any other officials may not give directions, advice, or information to the athlete, while they are on the course in Marathon, in order to assist them. Exceptions: see DC930.3.

2.2.2 Any athlete who has received physical outside assistance by a third party not riding on the carriage will be eliminated by the Ground Jury. Exemption for turnouts without a groom "any capable person" may assist, act as penalty for groom down.

2.3 Penalties: see DC953.

3. Permitted assistance

The following are considered to be permitted outside assistance:

Assistance during the halt and in neutral zones between sections.

Assistance to avoid accidents.

Assistance to horses as a result of an accident inside an obstacle, providing the grooms are dismounted.

Assistance by the groom whereby a horse is led through an obstacle by the bridle ends of the reins while harnessed to the carriage in either Marathon or Cones, will incur 20 penalties for the assistance, in addition to the penalties for dismount.

For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner turnouts without a groom on the carriage, should groom assistance be needed, the athlete may stop and ask for such assistance from any capable person, who may then act as groom rendering the necessary help, and the turnout shall be penalized with the penalty for groom down.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

While all USEF competitions currently operate with arena enclosures, this clarification clearly outlines those needs in the rulebook.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Driving

Anna Brooks Thomas

abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC934 The Arena

1. The Driven Dressage arena must be 100m x 40m or 80m x 40m, depending on the test. The prize lists for all events must state clearly which arena will be used for each Test.
2. Arenas must be laid out in accordance with Annexes 1, 2, or 3.
3. Organizers must ensure that arrangements are in place so that spectators cannot approach closer than 5 meters from the edge of the arena.
4. ***The arena enclosure itself must consist of a low fence about 0.3 meters high and must be completely enclosed, except for the entrance at "A". The width of the entrance must be at least four meters.***
5. ***There must be at least one suitable warm-up area per Dressage arena which must be at least 3200 square meters.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Endurance Sport Committee is requesting the attached changes for the Treatment Vet requirement rules, these changes provide for more flexibility with the position. Management would like the flexibility to utilize the treatment vet on the vet panel when the treatment vet is available and holds the required USEF license. This will assist in providing a better event experience for both the athletes as well as the hired officials as it will allow for a more timely process when multiple combinations come into the vetting area at once.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Endurance	Nicole Zerbee nzerbee@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER EN-2 COMPETITION

EN107 Competition Officials

1. A Federation Licensed Endurance Competition must provide the following officials:

- a. Steward: At least one Federation licensed Endurance Steward is required.
- b. Veterinary Panel: The number of veterinarians on the Veterinary Panel is at the discretion of the Ride Manager based upon the number of entries in the ride, but always an odd number. If the entries are minimal, one (1) veterinarian is allowed to act as the entire Veterinary Panel. As the entry numbers increase and taking the safety and welfare of the horses into consideration the Veterinary Panel may include a total of three (3) or more veterinarians.
- c. Treatment Veterinarian: At least one (1) additional veterinarian must be designated as the Treatment Veterinarian. This veterinarian ~~should~~ **must** be present on competition grounds from the start of the Category through the final Best Condition evaluation or the last horse competing on the course, whichever occurs later. ~~This veterinarian assigned to treatment duties may not be a member of the Veterinary Panel due to cross contamination or related issues.~~ The Treatment Veterinarian ~~shall~~ **must** be a licensed graduate of an accredited veterinary school in good standing in their state of practice and must be licensed in the state(s) where the competition is being held. ***Subject to the approval of the Steward, so long as the Treatment Veterinarian is available, the Treatment Veterinarian may assist in conducting the veterinary inspections on the vet lanes if the number of horses arriving simultaneously require the additional assistance. The Treatment Veterinarian must have the necessary USEF licensure to assist in conducting veterinary inspections. The Treatment Veterinarian's primary responsibility at all times is the treatment of horses and in the event a horse needs treatment, the Treatment Veterinarian must vacate the vet lane and resume responsibilities of the Treatment Veterinarian.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	6/3/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This change to the marathon charts helps follow the written rule more closely, especially taking into account equine fitness and weather conditions in the Controlled Warmup. Adjustments made the the Obstacle numbers, gate numbers, and obstacle markers sets the standard of usage for all licensed competitions.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC944 The Course

[...]

DIVISION	Section A					Controlled Warm-up	Section B							
	Distance km	Horse Speeds	Pony Speeds	Sm. Pony	VSE		Time	Distance km	Horse Speeds	Pony Speeds	Sm. Pony	VSE	# Obstacles	# of Gates in an Obstacle
Open Advanced	5-9	12-14	11-13	11-13	8-10	25-Up to 30 minutes	5-9	14	13	13	8-10	6-8-7	6	Blue Triangle
Novice Advanced	5-9	11-13	10-12	10-12	8-10	25-Up to 30 minutes	5-9	12-14	11-13	11-13	8-10	5-7-6	5	Orange Keystone
Intermediate	5-8	10-12	9-11	8-10	6-8	25-Up to 30 minutes	5-8-5-9	12-14	11-13	10-12	8-10	5-7-6	5	Red Circle
Preliminary	4-6	10-12	9-11	8-10	6-8	25-Up to 30 minutes	5-7	12-14	11-13	10-12	8-10	5-6	4	Green Square
Training	3-5	9-11	8-10	7-9	5-7	25-Up to 30 minutes	4-6-5-7	11-13	10-12	9-11	7-9	4-5	3	Black Diamond
Beginner						25-Up to 30 minutes	4-6	11-13	10-12	9-11	7-9	4-5	3	White Square
Para	5-8	10-12	9-11			25-Up to 30 minutes	5-8-5-9	12-14	11-13			5-7-6	5	Red Circle

2.1. Pace in Section A, B, and Controlled Warm-up is free for all divisions, except the beginner and

training division must only walk or trot in Section B including obstacles.

In the Cool Down area, turnouts must only walk or halt.

3. Short Format Driving Events – Modified Marathon Section(s)

Division	Controlled Warm-up (optional)	Distance km	Horse speeds	Pony speeds	Sm. Pony speeds	VSE speeds	# of Obstacles	# of Gates in an Obstacle	Course Marker
Open Advanced	20 Up to 30 minutes	3.5 – 7	13-14	12-13	12-13	8-10	3-5 5	6	Blue Triangle
Novice Advanced	20 Up to 30 minutes	3.5 – 7	12-14	11-13	11-13	8-10	3-5 5	6	Orange Keystone
Intermediate	20 Up to 30 minutes	3.5 – 7	12-14	11-13	10-12	8-10	3-5 5	5	Red Circle
Preliminary	20 Up to 30 minutes	3 – 6	12-14	11-13	10-12	8-10	3-5 4	4	Green Square
Training	20 Up to 30 minutes	3 – 6	11-13	10-12	9-11	7-9	3-5 4	3	Black Diamond
Beginner	20 Up to 30 minutes	3 – 6	11-13	10-12	9-11	7-9	3-5 3	3	White Square
Para	20 Up to 30 minutes	3.5-7	12-14	11-13			3-5	5	Red Circle

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

By adding the lanuage on marked double lines, Course Designers now have additional resources in obstacle route planning for equine and competitor safety.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Driving

Anna Brooks Thomas

abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

DC 949 (212-23), DC 953 (213-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC945 Obstacles in Section B

1. Number of Obstacles
 - 1.1 Refer to the chart in DC 944.
2. Sketches of Obstacles

Accurate sketches of each obstacle, showing the location of the compulsory gates, dislodgeable/detachable elements and entry/exit flags must be made available to athletes, team and event officials before the first inspection of the course. ***In order to avoid Athletes driving a dangerous and unsafe route through an Obstacle, the Course Designer may draw a double line of any color on the course map and on the ground to indicate a track which cannot be crossed at any time by an athlete. If the athlete crosses the area of the course marked by the double line, they will incur 20 penalty points. A Course Designer cannot draw more than 8 double lines on the course map in total. The double lines to be used in the course must be drawn on the ground at least 48 hours before the first start of the Marathon competition.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

This change adds the applicable penalty in conjunction with the DC 945 rule change.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Driving

Anna Brooks Thomas

abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

DC 945 (211-23), DC 953 (213-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC949 Obstacle Penalties

1. Pace in Obstacles
Athletes in the Preliminary division and above may use any pace in the obstacles. The beginner and training divisions must only walk or trot in the obstacles (DC948.4 applies for incorrect pace).
2. Error of Course in an Obstacle:
 - 2.1 Athletes entering any part of an obstacle without first passing through the entry flags or failing to pass through the exit flags on leaving an obstacle without correcting the error will be eliminated.
 - 2.2 The compulsory gates in an obstacle are "free" after an athlete has passed through them in the correct direction and in the correct sequence. Athletes may, therefore, go through them again in any direction at any time (for example, athletes must go through A in the correct direction before going through B. A is now "free" and they may go through it again in any direction as often as they like, and so on).
 - 2.3 Athletes, who pass through a compulsory gate in the wrong sequence or direction before it becomes "free" and without correcting the error before passing through the Exit Flags, will be eliminated.
 - 2.4 In order to correct such an error of course, the athlete must return to and drive through the compulsory gate they missed before continuing through the next compulsory gate in the correct sequence (for example, an athlete drives through compulsory gates A and B and then goes through D (missing gate C). In order to correct this error of course, the athlete must go back and drive through gate C before going on to gate D, etc. All gates are neutralized until they reach this gate. Each error corrected shall incur 20 penalties.
 - 2.5 Passing through the exit gate of an obstacle without driving all compulsory gates in the correct sequence will be penalized by elimination.
 - 2.6 An athlete is not considered to have passed through a compulsory gate in an obstacle until the whole turnout has passed between the flags denoting the compulsory gate.
 - 2.7 An Athlete is not considered as having crossed a double line as per DC 945.2 until the whole turnout has crossed the double line.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Adding the applicable penalty reflected in the DC 945 Rule Change to the summary of penalites table.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Driving

Anna Brooks Thomas

abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

DC 949 (212-23), DC 945 (211-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC953 Summary of Penalties in Marathon

Description	Ref. Rule	Penalties
Athlete or groom wearing shorts.	913.2.1	10 penalties per person
No Fastened protective headgear or no body protector on Marathon	913.2.3 913.2.4	Elimination or Yellow Warning Card
Finishing Section B with fewer horses than required	916.3	Disqualification
Not presenting an Entered horse at the In-Harness horse inspection	920.3.4	Elimination
No breeching with a carriage with no brakes	922.1.1	Elimination
Contravening the rules on advertising	926.3	Yellow Warning Card
Substitution of groom	928.2.7	Elimination
Groom handling reins, using whip and brakes when carriage not stationary	928.2.5	20 penalties
Person tied to the carriage	928.2.6	Elimination
Physical outside assistance	930.2.2	Elimination
Groom leading a horse through an obstacle (also see DC959.6.3)	930.3d	20 penalties
Incorrect pace	948.4	1 penalty for every 5 seconds
Dislodging a dislodgeable element	945.5.5	2 penalties per occurrence
Preventing a dislodgeable element from being dislodged	945.5.7	10 penalties
Motorized vehicles or bicycles in obstacles First Incident Second Incident	946.3.5	Warning Yellow Warning Card
Carriages under weight at end of B or under width at start of B	922 & 950.1.2	Elimination
Total time over time allowed in all sections	947.1	0.25 penalties/sec
Total time under minimum time in Sections A and B	947.2	0.25 penalties/sec
Total time in obstacles	947.2	0.25 penalties/sec

Athlete fails to stop when recalled	947.4.3	Elimination
Not ready to start Section A	947.4.2	0.25 penalties/sec
Contravening the rule on the use of the whip	948.1	20 penalties
Each deviation from course after last obstacle	948.3	10 penalties
Required persons not on carriage passing through a compulsory turn flag, or the start and finish of each Section, each occasion	948.5.2	5 penalties (grooms) 10 penalties (athlete)
Grooms dismounting while moving in Section B	948.5.1	5 penalties
Athlete dismounting while moving in Section B	948.5.1	20 penalties
Finishing Section B with missing or disconnected pole strap, trace, or reins for each occurrence	948.7	10 penalties
Failing to pass through compulsory turn flags and obstacles in correct sequence and direction	949.2	Elimination For Short Format Modified Marathons: 5 penalties per error
Finishing Section B with missing wheel	948.7	Elimination
Finishing Section B with broken or disconnected pole or shaft	948.7.4	Elimination
Failing to pass through entry flags of an obstacle	949.2.1	Elimination
Groom(s) not on the carriage when crossing start of an obstacle	949.3.7	5 penalties
Failing to pass through exit flags of an obstacle	949.7.3	Elimination
For correcting each error of course in an obstacle	949.2.1	20 penalties
Passing between exit flags before completing an obstacle	949.2.4	Elimination
Groom(s) dismounting in an obstacle, each occasion	949.3.1	5 penalties
Athlete dismounting in an obstacle	949.3.3	20 penalties
Two feet on an element of obstacle	949.3.5	5 penalties
Groom climbing over horse back or down the pole in an obstacle	949.3.4	20 penalties
Disconnecting and leading through an obstacle	949.4	Elimination
Failing to stop for leg over pole, lead bar, or shaft	949.6.2	Elimination

Failing to stop for leg over trace	949.6.2	30 penalties
Carriage overturn	948.7.4	Elimination
Exceeding the time limit in obstacles (5 min.)	949.7.3	Elimination
Horses unfit to continue in rest area	920.3.3 937.1	Elimination
Exceeding the time limit in all sections	947.2.5	Elimination
Groom leading horse through the obstacle by the bridle ends of the reins (Also see DC930.3.d)	949.3.6	25 penalties
Stopping on course for reasons other than repairs	948.6	1 penalty per commenced 10 seconds
<i>Passing the marked double line in an obstacle</i>	945.2	20 penalties

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

By adding VSEs into both Novice Advanced and Advanced, we are hoping to open the sport into a new audience with additional competitors, and decreasing the barriers to entry to the sport.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DC958 CONES COMPETITION SUMMARY

1. Single Obstacles and Open Multiple obstacles settings.

	Division Class	Advanced Speed M/min	Advanced Cones Width (cm)	Serpentine	Zig-Zag (m)	Wave	Distance between obstacles (m)
Horse	Four-in-hand	240	185	10-12	11-13	10/12	15
	Pair	250	170	6-8	10-12	8/10	12
	Single	250	160	6-8	10-12	8/10	12
	Para-Equestrian Driving	230	160	6-8	10-12	8/10	12
Pony	Four-in-hand	240	160	8-10	9-11	8/10	12
	Pair	250	160	6-8	9-11	8/10	12
	Single	260	160	6-8	9-11	8/10	12
	Para-Equestrian Driving	230	160	6-8	9-11	8/10	12
VSE	Pair/Multiple	200	+15cm	9	9	8/10	12
	Single	210	+15cm	6	8	8/10	9

1.1 Standard Cone Settings apply to Beginner, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate Levels ONLY.

	Vehicle Track Width	Standard Cones Setting		
		Beginner/Training	Preliminary	Intermediate
Marathon Vehicle				
Horse/Pony Singles & Pairs	125-130cm	160cm**	155cm*	150cm*
		*add 10cm for teams		
Presentation Vehicle				
VSE	98-115cm	130cm**	125cm*	120cm*
All Ponies & Single	138-145cm	175cm**	170cm*	165cm*
Horse Pair	148-155cm	185cm	180cm	175cm
Horse Teams	158-165cm	205cm	200cm	195cm
		*add 10cm for teams		
Beginner, Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate – for any and all vehicles that are outside of the above measurements, the cones setting is determined by measuring the carriage at the widest part of the rear wheels and then adding the following clearance.				
	Beginner/Training	Preliminary	Intermediate	Advanced
All classes	35cm* + track width	*30cm + track width	*25cm + track width	NA
VSE	30cm* + track width	*25cm + track width	*20cm + track width	*15cm + track width
		*add 10cm for teams		

1.1.2. Paces

DIVISION		Single or Pair	Four-in-hand
Beginner/Training	VSE	160mpm 150mpm	170mpm

Preliminary	Horse/Pony	180mpm		190mpm
	VSE	180mpm		170mpm
	Horse/Pony	200mpm		190mpm
Intermediate	VSE	190mpm		180mpm
	Horse/Pony	220mpm		210mpm
Advanced		Single	Pair	Four-in-Hand
	VSE	170mpm	170mpm	160mpm
	Pony	260mpm	250mpm	240mpm
	Horse	250mpm	250mpm	240mpm

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

After piloting this change in the rules, the implementation illuminated the issues with allowing Learners to judge competitions. This change reverts to require LOs at all levels of competition both CDE and Short Format.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

DC970 Composition of the Ground Jury

1 Ground Jury - Minimum requirements

Category	Judges
Advanced	3 min
Intermediate and Preliminary	2 min
Beginner and Training	1 min
Short Format driving events or Combined Tests (All divisions)	1 min

The judges must include a President and if applicable per DC970.1, a Ground Jury. Judges must be chosen from:

- 1.2 the USEF list of Combined Driving Judges;
- 1.3 the FEI list of Level 2, 3, or 4 driving judges;
- 1.4 the list of Combined Driving Judges from another country with an approved Federation Guest Card;

~~2. At Short Format Driving Events, when additional judges are used, the Ground Jury can be chosen from the current applicants from the USEF Combined Driving Judges program.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The Endurance Sport Committee is requesting the proposed changed which are intended to clarify common terminology used in the Endurance community and how it relates to USEF terminology. Additionally for the Prize list, the proposal clarifies that certain information provided is the information known at the time of which the PL is produced (i.e. expected Officials, planned length of loops, etc.). These changes update the Prize List rules with common practices at Endurance events and provide the flexibility for changes when things change between when the PL is released and the start of the event.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Endurance

Nicole Zerbee

nzerbee@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER EN-2 COMPETITION
EN109 Prize List

1. The prize list constitutes the ride schedule for Federation licensed endurance competitions. Notification of any and all changes to the competition schedule must be posted in the competition office and communicated during the ride meeting or prior to the start of the Loop concerned.
2. The prize list (**also known as the 'Ride Flyer' or 'Schedule'**) must include at a minimum, in addition to the requirements enumerated in GR901:
 - a. The distance(s) of the competition category(ies) or divisions,
 - b. **Any pre-event** Closing date for entries,
 - c. Competition Management's policy on late fees, cancellations, refunds, withdrawals, and substitutions,
 - d. Entry fees,
 - e. Names of the competition's Licensee, Competition Manager, and trail/course manager or course designer, or person responsible for the trail/course, all **expected** Licensed Officials, Veterinary Panel members, and **any** Treatment Veterinarian(s),
 - f. The total length of the course, and the **planned** length and number of Loops on the course,
 - g. General description of the course including location of Vet Gates (e.g., in camp or out on the course),
 - h. Number and location of crewing points, if applicable,
 - i. Speed caps, if applicable,
 - j. Time limits and cut-off times (in total and for each Loop, as applicable),
 - k. Place and time of the start for each competition category and/or division,
 - l. Prizes,
 - m. Tentative time and date of Ride Meeting,
 - n. Notification of specific changes to the competition will be **appropriately** posted **on competition grounds** ~~in the competition office~~, and communicated during the ride meeting, or prior to the start of the Loop concerned, and
 - o. A link to the Federation's website, along with the Federation's logo, headquarters' address, telephone number, and contact information for the Director of Endurance **will be included**.
 - p. If established, cut-off times must be **announced and posted before and at the pre-ride meeting**, published in the prize list, and are prohibited from establishing an overall course speed **which requires combinations to compete at exceeding 12.5km/hour or faster**. See FEI qualifications **for speed restrictions on Novice Qualification rides**.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

In the reorganization of the Working Western Rules, it was discovered that Ranch Riding Walk/Trot 10& Under rules were not included. This division was originally included and a recognized USEF class. It needs to be added back to the Arabian Working Western Subchapter in order to continue offering the opportunity for these Walk/Trot 10 & under kids to earn points in the USEF Class. Currently, all working western classes funnel into the same awards category for HOTY.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR239 Ranch Horse Riding Walk-Trot 10 & Under General

1. Exhibitors must not be more than ten (10) years of age as of December 1 of the current competition year.
2. The exhibitor must never have been judged in a class at a Licensed Competition that required a canter or lope. (Exception: Short Stirrup Reining exhibitors and Cross Rails 10 & Under).

AR240 Ranch Horse Riding Walk-Trot 10 & Under Appointments

Horse and exhibitor must follow the appointments as set forth in AR237.

AR241 Ranch Riding Patterns for Walk/Trot 10 & Under

1. Patterns must be chosen from the current AHA Patterns which may be found on the AHA website.
2. There is no time limit required for a Ranch Riding pattern.
 - a. Gaits: a judge may ask for a walk, extended walk, trot, extended trot, and a stop.
 - b. Optional Maneuvers: backing, turns in either direction, walking and /or trotting over poles.
3. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.
4. Holding the horn is acceptable at the extended trot.

***Please renumber the remainder of the chapter accordingly*

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Due to safety concerns, there is a desire to remove the use of a rope for Ranch Trail Walk/Trot 10 & Under exhibitors. The focus of Walk/Trot riders should be on maintaining a good seat. The use of a rope is a skillset outside of what should be expected from this level of rider. The rope could catch on something, the horse could step into the rope, and/or spook the horse, causing the 10& under riders to be pulled off the horse. There has been instances where this occurred so it is imperative that it be removed from this section of the chapter.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR261 Ranch Horse Trail Walk-Trot 10 & Under Course Information

1. Acceptable Obstacles:
 - a[...]
 - ~~h. Swing rope or throw a rope at a dummy steer head.~~
 - h.** Step in and out of obstacle.
 - i.** Turns of 90 or 180 degrees within a box or confined area no smaller than 8' x 8' or turns of 270 or 360 degrees within a box or confined area of no less than 10' x 10'.
 - j[...]
2. Prohibited Obstacles
 - a. Water or Water boxes
 - b. Drags
 - c. Closed gates
 - d. Pick up objects
 - e. Side pass
 - f. *Swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

For safety reasons, ponies must remain checked. The current rule does not clearly state that ponies must remain checked during all times other than when a workout may be called for. The current language in the chapter is conflicting and too subjective. The proposal also seeks to remove Ladies when listed in HK139.4. These changes proposed will align with the Roadster Chapter in which most competitions Hackney Roadster ponies are run under. Overall, the proposal provides clarity to exhibitors and a level playing field for all.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Hackney	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

HK139 Showing Procedures

1. Roadster ponies must enter the ring clockwise at the jog-trot, then show at the road gait; turn counterclockwise at the jog trot, show at the road gait and then trot at speed. At all speeds they should work in form. Animation, brilliance and competition ring presence should characterize the Hackney Roadster Pony in working at a jog-trot or road gait. When asked to drive on, the pony must show speed and go in form. Improper cadence of the trot, i.e., hesitation of the hock's action or mixed gaited ponies that rack the turns and/or break and run on the turns shall be penalized.
2. Ponies should be shown on the rail at all times except when passing and should go to the far end of the corner without side reining; should be light mouthed, capable of being taken up at any time and show willingness to stand when being judged in the center of the ring.
3. Performance at all three gaits should be strongly considered. In the event of a workout, entries chosen must be worked both ways of the ring, as in the original routine.
4. When ponies are lined up, no attendant is permitted and the driver shall not leave their vehicle ~~except for necessary adjustments~~. They may, however, uncheck and stand at the pony's head when left in the center of the ring while a part of the class is on the rail for a workout. ~~NOTE:~~ During the line-up in classes restricted to Junior Exhibitor, Ladies or Amateur Roadster pony classes, one attendant is permitted to head the pony. ~~The attendant must not touch the entry except for safety reasons.~~ **The ponies must remain checked, and the check must not be adjusted. Attendants are permitted to hold the pony, except when the judge(s) walks to the pony in the lineup.** During a workout in the Junior Exhibitor, Ladies or Amateur Roadster Pony classes an attendant is permitted in the ring for those entries not participating in the workout. During a workout the attendant may uncheck and hold the entry. However, when the workout is over the pony must be rechecked ~~and the attendant must move away from the pony.~~
5. An exhibitor is entitled to request only one time-out per class (see GR833).

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To reorganize the performance section for better comprehension and ease of use for exhibitors, officials, and competition management. Further, there is a need to define how performance halter horses are to be shown. Horses competing performance halter are to be shown in a relaxed manner with no attention getting devices.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
AHA	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

SUBCHAPTER AR-4 PERFORMANCE HALTER SECTION

AR123 General

1. ~~Performance Halter classes (See also AR-1, AR-2 and AR-3) Horses with loss of sight in one eye may compete in Performance Halter classes.~~
2. ~~Open, Amateur and Junior Exhibitor classes may be held. Classes will not be split by horse's age. Exception: "Prospect" class for horses two and under at the discretion of show management. Classes must be separated by Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian. In addition, they must be separated by stallion, mare and gelding. All horses three years of age and older must have been entered and shown in an USEF/EC recognized or AHA recognized performance class (Under Saddle and/or Driving) at the same show as the one in which the performance halter class is being held, or have completed an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail Ride recognized by AHA or sanctioned by an AHA recognized Competitive Trail riding organization in the past 90 days. If a horse is disqualified, excused, or voluntarily withdrawn from a performance class, that class may not be used to qualify for Performance Halter. Horses qualifying via Endurance or Competitive Trail must present dated proof of completion to the show secretary. If classes are held in conjunction with an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail riding organization, all registered Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses entered in and having completed the ride are eligible to compete.~~
3. ~~No whips or other attention getting devices are allowed.~~
4. ~~Horses will be presented in a relaxed and dignified manner. Horses should be positioned with their weight squarely on their feet, not stretched. Horse shall be presented for judging, in a relaxed manner.~~
5. ~~Horses will be judged using the Arabian Performance Halter Score Sheet, with the results based on the total scores. Shows must post the results no later than one hour after completion of the class.~~
6. ~~A horse will be eliminated and excused, if it:~~
 - a. ~~is crouching, cowering, buckling at the knees, sweating, trembling, racing backwards or sideways to escape their handlers or other behavior indicating fear, stress or intimidation. This rule will be strictly enforced;~~
 - b. ~~exhibits any welt or swelling that look like a whip mark, regardless of how this was caused;~~
 - c. ~~is obviously limping or of impaired gait;~~
 - d. ~~horse (AR109.3) has fallen; or~~
 - e. ~~(AR105.6) for inhumane treatment and undue stress.~~
7. ~~A horse may be disqualified, penalized and/or excused for the following:~~
 - a. ~~exhibits disruptive behavior such that it or other horses are unable to be inspected by the judge;~~
 - b. ~~exhibits behavior such that the safety of it, the handler, an exhibitor, a judge, or another horse is in danger;~~
 - c. ~~is not under the control of the exhibitor;~~
 - d. ~~breaks loose from the exhibitor; or~~
 - e. ~~shanking is not permitted.~~
 - f. ~~A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b.~~
8. ~~Horses may be shown in a traditional style Arabian show halter, a Western style show halter, or a leather stable halter. Horses may be shown in bridles appropriate to their performance divisions.~~
9. ~~Horses may be shown braided if braiding is appropriate for their performance division(s). Braiding is not required.~~
10. ~~Exhibitors may wear any clothing appropriate to the show ring that they feel best represents their horse, and allows them to show their horse to their best advantage. Suits or riding habits are not~~

required.

11. ~~Chains through the mouth are not permitted. A chain or leather strap under the chin, or leather pieces connecting the two sides of the halter under the chin, are permitted.~~
12. ~~No whips, schooling devices, "bagging", shakers, noisemakers or aids of any kind are permitted.~~

AR124 Procedure

1. ~~Shows may use either "in the ring" or "exit the ring" procedures as identified under AR116.6a and AR116.6b.~~
2. ~~For Purebred Performance Halter for a colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is placed in the following order: athletic structure, breed type, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, legs and feet, movement.~~
3. ~~For Half Arabian/Anglo Arabian Performance Halter for colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is placed in the following order: athletic structure, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, legs and feet, and movement.~~
4. ~~For definitions/rules/restrictions not covered herein refer to Subchapters AR-1, AR-2, and AR-3.~~

AR123 General

1. Open, Amateur and Junior Exhibitor classes may be held. Classes will not be split by the horse's age. Exception: "Prospect" class for horses two and under at the discretion of show management.
2. Classes must be separated by Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian. In addition, they must be separated by stallion, mare and gelding.
3. All horses three years of age and older must have been entered and shown in an USEF/EC recognized or AHA recognized performance class (Under Saddle and/or Driving) at the same show **(the same show is defined by the AHA recognized show number)** as the one in which the performance halter class is being held, or have completed an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail Ride recognized by AHA or sanctioned by an AHA recognized Competitive Trail riding organization in the past 90 days. If a horse is disqualified, excused, or voluntarily withdrawn from a performance class, that class may not be used to qualify for Performance Halter.
4. Horses qualifying via Endurance or Competitive Trail must present dated proof of completion to the show secretary. If classes are held in conjunction with an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail riding organization, all registered Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses entered in and having completed the ride are eligible to compete. BOD 6/20/22 Effective 12/1/22
5. Horses with loss of sight in one eye may compete in Performance Halter classes.

AR124 Conduct

1. Horses will be judged using the Arabian Performance Halter Score Sheet, with the results based on the total scores **(refer to the AHA Handbook for procedure in placing horses at Regionals and Nationals)**. Shows must post the results no later than one hour after completion of the class.
2. For Purebred Performance Halter for a colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is placed in the following order: athletic structure, breed type, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, legs and feet, movement.
3. For Half Arabian/Anglo Arabian Performance Halter for colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is placed in the following order: athletic structure, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, legs and feet, and movement.
4. **Order of go will be at the discretion of competition management.**

AR125 Procedure

1. Shows may use either "in the ring" or "exit the ring" procedures as identified under AR116.6a and AR116.6b *or similar procedure as directed by show management in accordance with options as recommended by the Education & Evaluation Commission (EEC).*
2. *A horse must be handled and shown throughout the entire class by the same person, except in instances of illness or injury that require a substitute handler. Time allowed for the change of handler shall be in accordance with AR108 Time Out Rules. No handler is permitted to show more than one horse per class.*
3. *A "controlled paddock" is an area designated by show management outside the competition ring. A controlled paddock must be used and all competitors must pass through the "controlled paddock" in the designated order of go to entering the ring. A Federation steward and/or the Show Commission must supervise this area.*
4. *In a controlled Performance Halter paddock, no one will school the horse in a manner representative of a hard stand up prior to entering the ring. Any rule violation occurring in or around the controlled paddock will result in a warning and/or yellow card in accordance with USEF rules.*
5. No whips, schooling devices, "bagging", shakers, noisemakers or aids of any kind are permitted *in the controlled paddock or in the immediate vicinity of the ring.*
6. No whips or other attention-getting devices are allowed *within the ring.*
7. Horses will be presented in a relaxed, dignified manner *and may be expressive and attentive. No horse(s) will be shown in a manner deemed to be presented with a hard stance. On The Muscle/Hard Stand Up is defined as a shift of balance, withdrawing, or an increase in intensity due to any actions or cues from the handler.* Horses should be positioned with their weight *balanced on all four feet, not stretched. A horse is considered not stretched if all four feet are flat on the ground and at least one front and one rear cannon bone is perpendicular to the ground.*

AR126 Appointments

1. Horses may be shown in a traditional style Arabian show halter, a Western style show halter, or a leather stable halter. Horses may be shown in bridles appropriate to their performance divisions.
2. Chains through the mouth are not permitted. A chain or leather strap under the chin, or leather pieces connecting the two sides of the halter under the chin, are permitted.
3. Horses may be shown braided if braiding is appropriate for their performance division(s). Braiding is not required.
4. Attire: Exhibitors may wear any clothing appropriate to the show ring that they feel best represents their horse and allows them to show their horse to their best advantage. Suits or riding habits are not required.
5. *The use of hoof polish is permitted.*

AR127 Penalties

1. A horse will be eliminated and excused, if it:
 - a. is crouching, cowering, buckling at the knees, sweating, trembling, racing backwards or sideways to escape their handlers or other behavior indicating fear, stress or intimidation.

- This rule will be strictly enforced;
- b. exhibits any welt or swelling that look like a whip mark, regardless of how this was caused;
 - c. is obviously limping or of impaired gait;
 - d. horse (AR109.3) has fallen; or
 - e. (AR105.6) for inhumane treatment and undue stress.
 - f. exhibits disruptive behavior such that it or other horses are unable to be inspected by the judge;
 - g. exhibits behavior such that the safety of it, the handler, an exhibitor, a judge, or another horse is in danger;
 - h. is not under the control of the exhibitor;
 - i. breaks loose from the exhibitor; or
 - j. ***a horse is shanked (except in circumstances required to gain control);***
 - k. ***Removal of eyelashes; or***
 - l. ***Changing the natural color of the mane and/or tail***
2. A horse ***must*** ~~will~~ be penalized ***in accordance with*** ~~for~~ the following:
- a. ***A ten point penalty must be assessed if the horse is deemed to be presented with a hard stance.***
 - i. ***An on the muscle/hard stand up is defined as a shift of balance, withdrawing, or an increase in intensity due to any actions or cues from the handler.***
 - ii. ***A horse that shows natural charisma, presence and enthusiastic forward movement should be rewarded, not penalized.***
 - b. ***A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance, see AR105.2b.***
 - c. ***Excessive amounts of oil, grease or other similar substance, in accordance with the Performance Halter Score Card.***
 - d. ***Balding the area around the eyes or proximal to the muzzle and nostrils, in accordance with Performance Halter score card.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	1/31/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The clarification removes the language on whether the outside assistance prevented an accident from happening. This will also prevents potential unseen damages to those offering assistance.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Driving	Anna Brooks Thomas abthomas@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

DC930 Outside assistance

3. Permitted assistance

The following are considered to be permitted outside assistance:

Assistance during the halt and in neutral zones between sections.

~~Assistance to avoid accidents.~~

Assistance to horses as a result of an accident inside an obstacle, providing the grooms are dismounted.

Assistance by the groom whereby a horse is led through an obstacle by the bridle ends of the reins while harnessed to the carriage in either Marathon or Cones, will incur 20 penalties for the assistance, in addition to the penalties for dismount.

For Intermediate, Preliminary, Training, and Beginner turnouts without a groom on the carriage, should groom assistance be needed, the athlete may stop and ask for such assistance from any capable person, who may then act as groom rendering the necessary help, and the turnout shall be penalized with the penalty for groom down.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	1/18/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The separation of groups to hand gallop during a test should be left to the judge's discretion. Hunter Seat Pleasure classes currently require the hand gallop and it is not separated into groups to perform the gait. As the class currently runs, there has not been any issues presented with this approach.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Arabian	Emily McSweeney emcsweeney@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/20/2024

AR280 Hunter Seat Equitation

1. For rules governing Hunter Seat Equitation classes, refer to Chapter EQ, Subchapter EQ-2 HUNTER SEAT EQUITATION except:

- a. EQ103 Eligibility to Compete
- b. EQ106.7e
- c. EQ 109 Course Requirements (See EQ109.7)
- d. EQ 110 Course Designers. For Course Designers requirements, see AR159.
- e. EQ111 Requirements for Specific Classes
- f. EQ112 USHJA Zone and Regional Championships.
- g. EQ107.8
- h. During rail work in all Hunter Seat Equitation classes, there is no limit to the number of riders who can hand gallop at one time.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To be in compliance with FEI rules effective 1.1.24.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR117 The Position and Aids of the Rider.

4. Riding with both hands is obligatory at all national and International Dressage Events. However, riding with one hand is permitted in the Freestyle Tests and when leaving the arena. ***For FEI Freestyle tests, see also Directives for Judges – Freestyle tests and Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in a Freestyle test available at www.fei.org.*** Individuals holding a Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate may use bridged or special adaptive reins for use with one or no hand(s), if the equipment is listed on the Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate. Apart from the halt and salute, where the athlete must take the reins in one hand, riding with the reins in both hands is obligatory in Dressage classes, but a discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc). However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark for 'Rider'.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To be in compliance with FEI rules effective 1.1.24.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

DR 123 (228-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR123 Scoring, Classification and Prize-Giving.

1. After each performance and after each judge has given their Collective Marks which must be done with due consideration, and signed the test, the judges' sheets pass into the hands of the scorers. Scores and comments must be written in ink. Any corrected score must be initialed by the judge having made the correction. The marks are multiplied by the corresponding co-efficients where applicable and then totaled. Penalty points incurred for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each judge's sheet. ***In Children classes and classes for 7-Year-Old Horses, penalty percentage points must be deducted from both technical judges' and quality judges' score sheets.*** Scores and comments may also be recorded electronically, and must be signed either electronically, or by hand, by the judge(s) for the test or class, before being tabulated.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To be in compliance with FEI Rules effective 1.1.24

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

DR 123 (227-23)

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR123 Scoring, Classification and Prize-Giving. Change to read:

3. Individual Classification. In all competitions the winner is the competitor having the highest percentage, the second placed competitor is the one with the next highest percentage, and so on. In case of equality of points the competitor with the highest marks received under General Impressions shall be declared the winner. When the scores for General Impressions are equal after coefficients have been applied, the horses must remain tied. Exceptions: **(1)** For Young Horse classes, the marks for "Submission" and "Perspective"/"General Impression" must be combined and divided by two in order to break the tie. If still equal, the "Submission" mark would decide. **(2) For FEI Children classes: In case of equality of percentages, the competitor with the higher "technical" mark will be ranked highest. If still tied, the highest total median score of the Technical Judges will decide the placing.** Errors on a test may not be used to break ties. Final

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

Updating spur rules to be in compliance with FEI rules effective 1.1.24.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR120 Dress

4.1 If spurs are worn, a separate spur must be worn on each boot. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur when on the rider's boot. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. However, swan necked spurs are permitted.

The inside arm of the spur must be smooth and one or both arms may have rubber covers. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard knobs (**metal or plastic**) on the shank are permitted ("Impuls" spur) **and the knobs may rotate**. "Dummy" spurs (without shank) are permitted. Armless spurs are permitted.

4.2 Spurs are **optional** mandatory during competition in **all** FEI Tests. ~~However, spurs are optional for all of the FEI Children tests, FEI Pony tests, and the FEI and USEF test for 4-year old horses.~~

4.3 The maximum length for spurs in all classes except the FEI Children tests and the FEI Pony tests is 5.08cm (2 inches) including rowels. Only blunt metal spurs (i.e., with no rowels) no longer than 3.5cm are permitted for FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children. ~~Except for FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children, the length of the spur~~ **Spur length** is measured from the base to the end of the shank. ~~For FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children spur length is measured from the boot to the tip of the spur.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To be in compliance with FEI rules effective 1.1.24.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment

2. Bits

a. Snaffle bits

4. A snaffle bit may be unjointed, single-jointed, or double-jointed. **Single or double jointed snaffles may be used with upper or lower cheeks, full cheeks or Fulmer cheeks. Loose rings may have a narrow sleeve fitted around part of the ring.** The center link in a double-jointed snaffle must be smooth and curved on all surfaces as in a lozenge-shaped link. It may not have the effect of a tongue plate. Dr. Bristol and French link bits are not allowed. The center joint or link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece and may have a bushing, barrel, coupling, or ball joints. The surface of the center piece must be solid or have only one rolling part in the center of the mouthpiece, as pictured in Figure 121.1.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	2/16/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To make USEF rules for visually impaired riders reflect current FEI rules.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR310 Athletes who are Blind or Have Visual Impairment, Commanders (Readers) and Callers (Living Letters).

6. Callers (Living Letters) may only call the name of the letter(s). Only the lead caller (who may also Command (Read) where approved) may be in the center of the arena. All other Callers must be positioned outside the arena, and may move from one marker to another, provided they do not obscure the judge's line of vision. There shall be no more than ~~thirteen (13) Callers, in a 20 x 60 meter arena and nine (9) Callers in a 20 x 40 meter arena~~ **four (4) Human Callers placed around the arena and one (1) Caller at X**, but Athletes with visual impairment are encouraged to use as few Callers as possible. **Electronic callers can be placed at every letter.** The Caller at C may be exchanged for a beacon or beeper which is to be provided by the Athlete.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	3/20/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

The FEI is changing its requirements for combined nosebands and is no longer allowing a jowl strap to replace the throat latch. The FEI will now require a bridle with a jowl strap to also have a throatlatch. The "jowl strap" cavessons are widely used in both FEI and national competitions and immediate clarification is needed. (Updated illustration of the bridle on the left will be provided).

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Dressage	Lauren Moore lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment

3.c. Throat latch. A throat latch ~~and/or a jowl strap~~ is required. A jowl strap ~~is considered a throat latch that can be used to replace or used~~ in addition to a traditional throat latch. ~~In order to replace the throat latch, the~~ *The* jowl strap must be fitted around or immediately below the horse's jowl (Figure 121.7). Nosebands with one or two lower (chin) straps must also have a throat latch, as described above. Exception: Micklem Bridle. The back strap (or chin strap) of a noseband cannot also be considered a jowl strap.

Figure 121.7: Bridle with jowl strap ~~replacing and~~ throat latch (left). Bit snaps may not be used with this bridle. Combined noseband (no throatlatch) permitted for use in at any level (including USEF High Performance classes) and in warm-up with either a snaffle (middle left) or double bridle (middle right) as appropriate for the level. When used as a double bridle, the lower strap of the noseband (flash attachment pictured with the snaffle on left), is prohibited. Limits for placement of jowl strap (right).

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	3/21/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

This rule change is extraordinary due to the need for more awareness by exhibitors when un-harnessing a horse, to not remove the bridle before the horse is fully un-hitched from the vehicle. This is a major safety concern during combination classes at competitions and the division has had several instances of loose horses due to the bridle being removed before the horse is un-hitched from the vehicle.

Rule Change Intent

During the Carriage Pleasure Combination classes, horses are first judged while driven and are then un-harnessed and ridden for a second round of judging. The horses are unharnessed in the competition arena, in which safety is of paramount importance. This rule change is necessary in order to bring awareness to the exhibitor for the major safety concern for a horse being unharnessed, to be fully un-hitched from the vehicle before any part of the bridle is removed. There have been several instances at competitions of horses putting themselves, other horses, exhibitors, and spectators in danger due to a loose horse whose bridle was removed while still hitched to the vehicle. This is a vital step in unharnessing/unhitching the horse, to not remove the bridle before the horse is completely un-hitched from the vehicle.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Carriage Pleasure Driving	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

SUBCHAPTER CP-13 CLASS SPECIFICATIONS: COMBINATION CLASSES

CP224 General Rules

(...)

4. *The bridle, bit, or reins must not be removed prior to the horse being completely unhitched from the vehicle. (See CP106.1a)*

5.-4. The judge may allow vehicles to remain in the arena or request that they be removed. If vehicles are removed, additional attendants may enter the arena to assist. If allowed to remain in the arena, a groom is permitted to attend the vehicle and wheel horse in a sporting tandem class.

6.-5. Where protective headgear is required, it is the responsibility of the competitor (or parent or guardian in the case of a junior competitor) to see that the headgear complies with the current safety standards and is properly fitted and in good condition. (See GR801)

7.-6. In combination hunter and sporting tandem classes, jumps must be adjusted for horses and ponies, regardless of whether they are competing separately or one against the other. Ponies jump 2'-2'6" and horses 2'6"-3'. (See CP 114)

8.-7. Riders must be provided a practice jump prior to any class in which jumping is required. A diagram of the course must be posted at least one hour before class time.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	3/26/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

Annex B is being updated to reflect updates to rules regarding CDI5*/CDIO5* Events to uphold the standard of those representing the USA to compete abroad, particularly in Europe.

Rule Change Intent

The intent for the changes made to Annex B regarding CDI5*/CDIO5* Events is to uphold the standard of those representing the USA to compete abroad, particularly in Europe.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

Lauren Moore

lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024



USA Dressage Minimum Entry Requirements for CDIs

updated 2.26.2024

For purposes of this chart, only one score per respective test may be earned over the course of a weekend.

	Canada, Central/South America, Asia,	Europe	USA
Big Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special, FEI Intermediate II or USEF Developing Grand Prix at 2 different CDI events or 66% at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/horse combinations must have an overall average of 66% or higher on the USEF Grand Prix 12-month ranking list. If the combination resides outside of the U.S., they must have competed in two CDN (national competition) events in the FEI Grand Prix or FEI Grand Prix Special earning 68% or higher from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI competition.
Medium Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Intermediate A, FEI Intermediate B, or FEI Intermediate II Tests at two different CDI events or 66% at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.		Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Intermediate A or Intermediate B or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI competition.
Small Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Prix St. Georges or FEI Intermediate I at 2 different CDI events or 66% or higher at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.		Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI.
U-25	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall score of 60% or higher in the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test or the FEI Intermediate II Test at 2 different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall score of 64% or higher in 2 FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Tests or FEI Intermediate II Tests at 2 different CDI or CDN events within 12 months of the start dates of the event from	No requirement
Young Rider, Junior, Pony Rider, Children	Athlete/Horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 60% or higher from their relevant Team/Individual Test at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/Horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher from their relevant Team/Individual at two different CDI or NAVC/USEF Qualifying Competitions within 12 months of the start date of the event. Scores from European CDN (national competition) events with two more Judges officiating may also be considered.	No requirement
Young Horse (5, 6 year old)	Horse must have achieved an average over 7.5 (75%) in their relevant tests at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event. Tests of the equivalent level may also meet this requirement.	Horse must have achieved an average over 8.0 (80%) in their relevant tests (or tests of equivalent level) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event.	No requirement
Young Horse (7 year old)	Horse must have achieved an overall average of 7.0 (70%) or higher in their relevant tests (combined quality & technical marks) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event. Tests of the equivalent level may also meet this requirement.	Horse must have achieved an overall average over 7.5 (75%) or higher in their relevant tests (combined quality & technical marks; scores from tests of equivalent levels may also count) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of	No requirement
Amateur	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement

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1. OVERSUBSCRIPTION AT CDI EVENTS

Unless another method of selection has been published for the event, should there be more applications than invitations, on the deadline of FEI Definite Entry for the event; an athlete's ranking on the Grand Prix 12-month Ranking List (or for other categories, 12-month ranking of applicants from FEI and USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying classes) will be used to determine the invitations.

USEF may designate certain events as selection or observation events as part of selection processes for Games, Championships, Finals, etc. Athletes in contention for these Games, Championships, Finals, etc. may be given priority over other athletes. Additionally, athletes which are part of a designated European Tour, the Elite Program, Pre-Elite List, Development Program or Emerging Program may receive priority for an invitation if the event is one of their pre-established targets.

2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

CDI5* Events

Athlete/horse combinations that have achieved the minimum FEI Criteria to compete at CDI5*/CDIO5* events per FEI Rules **and have a minimum of 70% on the USEF 12-month Grand Prix Ranking List. In extraordinary circumstances, for U.S. events only, a waiver may be requested by those athlete/horse combinations that have achieved a minimum of 68% on the USEF 12-month Grand Prix Ranking List. The waiver request will follow the same process as foreign competition waiver requests as seen below.**

CDIO Events

Applications are required to be considered to compete at a CDIO (Team Competition). All such applications will be subject to approval and selection per the Selection Procedures published for CDIO events. The complete selection procedures for CDIO events can be found [HERE](#) on the USEF website.

3. APPLICATION TO COMPETE IN FOREIGN COMPETITIONS

A. Applications to compete outside of the U.S. are found by:

1. Sign-in to the Athlete's USEF Account [HERE](#).
2. Scroll down to: FEI Competition Entry & Competing Abroad
3. Open Online Application to Compete Abroad

B. Application Fees (Non-refundable):

- v' \$75 application fee for each competition
- v' \$200 waiver request fee (if applicable)

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- v' \$750 Prepaid annual application fee (optional): this fee is due when submitting the first application for the competition year. This fee applies to the first ten (10) FEI competitions held outside of the U.S. Athletes competing less than 10 competitions do not receive a refund, credit, or partial credit for the prepaid application fee.
- ✓ \$75 late fee: An athlete who submits an application 14 days or less from the start of the competition may be subject to an additional late fee. The late fee may be applied even if an athlete provides payment for the prepaid annual application fee.

FOREIGN COMPETITION WAIVERS

If an athlete or horse does not meet the criteria noted above to enter a foreign CDI, under extraordinary circumstances, the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, or its designees, may grant a waiver to the above criteria to compete at foreign CDIs. Athletes must submit the Waiver Request found [here](#). **Athletes needing to submit a waiver should do so as early as possible, please allow up to 3 weeks for processing waiver requests.** The following criteria will be used to evaluate Waiver Requests:

- Previous international experience of the athlete, and/or athlete/horse combination. Including but not limited to:
 - Athlete's experience on a Championship Team(s)
 - Combination has met part of the requirement to compete abroad (ie. has one score from a CDI or CDN at the same level as the request but not second score)
 - Athlete has met the score requirements for membership to the Elite or Pre-Elite program
 - For YH divisions, the experience of just the horse may be considered
- The impact that the event may have on the success at a future team event, Championships, etc.
- The impact that the event may have on the development of the athlete, the horse or the combination.
- The athlete and/or horse recently moved up to the level and had success in their more recent level.
- Applicant provides other competition records that demonstrate they have an upward trajectory of scores and likelihood of achieving over 70% at the applicable level.
- Veterinary or Medical circumstances that may have prohibited the athlete and/or horse from competing (additional information may be requested to verify these circumstances)
- Athlete and/or horse have relocated or are currently training in an area outside of the US.

USEF Athlete Services will not request invitations to CDIs until a waiver has been granted.



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If a waiver is approved the combination or horse must receive a score greater than or equal to the minimum eligibility score or average (ie. 66% in the FEI Grand Prix for Big Tour) to participate in another event of the same level without resubmitting a waiver request.

USEF Athlete Services will not request invitations to CDIs until a waiver has been granted. All entries are subject to FEI nominated and definite entry dates listed in applicable FEI Definite Schedules.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CDI EVENTS

Once an athlete has submitted an application to compete and should you need to withdraw, the following steps are to be taken immediately:

REMINDER: USEF fees are non-refundable regardless if you compete or withdraw.

A. Withdrawing from competition before an entry has been submitted on your behalf or before the Organizing Committee has confirmed an invitation:

- ✓ Send an email to USEF Athlete Services (feientries@usef.org) and include the reason for the withdrawal.

B. Withdrawing from a competition after an entry has been submitted on your behalf and/or after the Organizing Committee has confirmed your invitation:

Concurrently email USEF Athlete Services (feientries@usef.org) and the Organizing Committee. The email is to state the reason for the withdrawal and an apology to the Organizing Committee for any inconvenience your withdrawal may have caused. The Organizing Committee's contact information can be found in the schedule for that particular event.

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Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	4/8/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

Consistency in application

Rule Change Intent

To clarify the existing penalty contradictions surrounding discrepancy for dress, coordinating all related rules to provide consistency in application for Licensed Officials.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USEA	Hannah Seagle hseagle@useventing.com

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 05/28/2024 **Draft 1:** The Council would approve of this rule change with the amended language as discussed per the Eventing Sport Committee. It was approved with the caveat the amended language was implemented - "An Athlete who competes with prohibited dress in the Cross-Country and Show Jumping phases may be Eliminated or issued a Yellow Warning Card, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. See EV120 for Dressage." If left as proposed, there would be no penalty for unpermitted dress for Cross-Country and Show Jumping in EV-9.

EV120 Dressage Phase Elimination Chart

Performing the test in incorrect dress: Elimination or a Yellow Warning Card, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. Reference: Subchapter EV-9.8 An Athlete who competes with prohibited dress in the Cross-Country and Show Jumping phases may be Eliminated or Issued a Yellow Warning Card, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. See EV120 for Dressage.

Fault	Penalty	Applicable Level	Reference
Unauthorized Assistance	Elimination, at the discretion of the Ground Jury.	All	EV118.14
<i>Performing the test in incorrect dress</i>	<i>Elimination</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>Subchapter EV-9</i>
Not entering the arena within 90 seconds after signal from the Judge at C	Elimination	All	EV119.2c
Performing the test with improper saddlery, whip, or spurs	Elimination.	All	Subchapter EV-9 and EV-10
Marked lameness	Elimination.	All	EV118.8
Leaving the arena between the entry and final salute	Elimination.	All	EV118.9
Resistance	Elimination.	All	EV 118.10

EV-9.8

8. DRESS COMPLIANCE. Appointed personnel should inspect whips and spurs before any phase. The appointed personnel may refuse permission for an Athlete to start the phase whose whip or spurs are not permitted. The appointed personnel must immediately report the suspected violation to the Ground Jury, or Technical Delegate if the Ground Jury is unavailable, for confirmation. An Athlete who competes with an illegal whip or spurs must be Eliminated. ~~An Athlete who competes with prohibited dress may be Eliminated or issued a Yellow Warning Card, at the discretion of the Ground Jury.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	4/8/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Extraordinary Change Reason

This rule change is extraordinary as it already has been approved by PFHA for their rulebook in order for riders to be able to meet the qualification requirements for the Confepaso Mundial International Competition. If this rule change is not put into effect, there will be a year span of time where exhibitors at USEF Paso Shows will be in the incorrect age groupings for the PFHA US Team for the International Confepaso Mundial. This change is necessary to align the USEF and PFHA age groups to provide riders with ample opportunities to qualify.

Rule Change Intent

PFHA fields a US Team for the Confepaso Mundial International Competition, in which the age groups listed in this proposal aligns the age groups required for the international competition. This rule change allows for the requirements to be met for those students that are practicing, qualifying, and applying for PFHA's US Team.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
PFHA	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024
Council - Intl Discipline

SUBCHAPTER PF-2 PASO FINO YOUTH SECTION

PF119 International Paso Equitation

The Paso Horse Equitation highlights the style, grace, rhythm of the Paso horse, and the special relationship between the horse and rider. Paso Equitation is the art of effectively and correctly riding a horse using effective aids to achieve the best performance of the horse while maintaining correct posture, seat and balance that enhances the oneness between rider and horse. This event is judged 100% on the international equitation parameters and rules as defined herein.

Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method, skills and aids used in obtaining the best performance of the horse.

1. Class Separation: Classes may be offered as an Open class or can be divided into age groups as follows:

a. Divided into International Paso Equitation Mini (4-5), International Paso Equitation (6-8), International Paso Equitation (9-11), International Paso Equitation (12-14), International Paso Equitation (15-17)

b. Divided into International Paso Equitation Mini (4-8), International Paso Equitation (9-12), International Paso Equitation (13-17)

1. The "mini" category must use a protective riding vest without any posture aids.

2. In the 4-5 and 6-8 age groups, there should be a minimum of four helpers in the arena for safety, designated by the Technical Committee, and music kept low.

4.2. Riders Position while the Horse is in Motion: (...)

2.3. Posture: (...)

3.4. Seat: (...)

4.5. Head: (...)

5.6. Back: (...)

6.7. Arm and Hand Position: (...)

7.8. Leg and Feet Position: (...)

8.9. Judging Criteria: (...)

9.10. Class Procedures (...)

SUBCHAPTER PF-2 PASO FINO YOUTH SECTION

PF107 Class Separations

1. Any youth class may be offered as open to all youth or may be divided into age groups as follows: (Exception: International Paso Equitation, see PF119.1)

a. Divided into Junior Youth (13-17) and into Sub-junior Youth (7-12)

b. Divided into Junior Youth Level I (13-15), Junior Youth Level II (16-17), Sub-junior Youth Level I (7-9) and Sub-junior Youth Level II (10-12)

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	9/1/2024	4/9/2024	Approved 6/17/2024

Rule Change Intent

To align with current FEI rules. We wish to align with current FEI rules regarding equipment as it affects competitors and horse welfare.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Vaulting

Michelle McQueen

mmcqueen@usef.org

Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/28/2024

VA107 Equipment Required: All equipment must be used without changing the purpose of its manufactured state:

1.

a. Bridle with noseband or lunging cavesson (which may be used instead of a bridle and may be used with or without a snaffle)

1. Except for the buckles and padding, the headstall and noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material.

2. Padding is allowed on bridles.

b. Snaffle bit

1. Bits must have a smooth surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited.

2. Bits must be made of metal, rigid plastic, or durable synthetic material and may be covered with rubber/latex.

3. Bits may have up to two (2) joints; unjointed bits must be made from flexible rubber or synthetic material.

4. Rubber bit guards are permitted. (See Annex 1 of the current FEI Rules for Vaulting for visuals on acceptable Bridles and Bits)

c. Two (2) side reins ~~with or without rubber rings~~ or two (2) draw reins.

1. Side reins must be attached to the bit or cavesson and one (1) point of contact on the surcingle *on the same side*.

2. *Either two side reins, or Draw reins, are permitted. Draw reins are attached from the surcingle through the bit rings back to the surcingle on the same side. The distance between the two attached points (top and bottom) on each side of the surcingle must not be greater than 40 centimeters. The draw reins must be adjustable only as per manufacture and any homemade modification of the adjustments of the draw reins (for example making a knot) is not permitted. (Standing reins or auxiliary reins are not permitted). See the FEI Rules for Vaulting Article 719.2.5.*

**below, a pictogram of allowed draw reins :*

