

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Hackney

INTENT

In reviewing the Hackney Judges Licensing requirements, the committee recognizes it's important to educate learner judges through the clinic process prior to them learner judging. The current rule already requires the applicant to be familiar with the breed (i.e., breeding, training, showing, etc.) however, by adding the statement that an applicant may be denied due to little or no experience with the breed emphasizes this requirement. The committee feels the applicants will gain valuable knowledge by being "mentored" by an experienced "Large R" judge.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR1056 Hackney Judges [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER 10-I LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENT, PROMOTION, AND MAINTENANCE]

1. No application will be considered unless and until 15 forms which actually evaluate the applicant per division are returned from USEF members **of the Federation**, eight of which must be from relevant licensed judges, stewards, technical delegates or committee members. The applicant will not be considered unless and until questionnaires are approved by at least three (3) of the current Federation Hackney Pony Committee and should be familiar with the breed (i.e., breeding, training, showing, etc.). **An applicant may be denied due to lack of experience with the breed.**
2. Learner judge, **under a minimum of two different Federation Registered (R) Hackney Judges**, a minimum of 6 classes to include at least one class in the Harness Pony, Hackney Pony (Cob Tail), Pleasure (Show or Park or Country) and Roadster Pony sections at two Federation Licensed Competitions in the Hackney Division within a three-year period preceding application. **Learner Judge must attend clinic prior to learner judging.**

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Roadster

INTENT

In reviewing the Roadster Judges licensing requirements the committee recognizes many applicants know little to nothing about a Roadster Horse. In order to preserve the integrity of the division the statement is being added that an applicant may be denied due to lack of experience with the discipline. In order to better prepare the judges, the learner judge must judge a minimum of five Roadster classes under the more experienced "Large R" judge. The committee is recommending rather than requiring the learner judge to attend the clinic prior to learner judging. This is to make it easier for Learner judges to schedule their competitions. The language regarding the procedure of the clinics being held each year and conducted with the American Saddlebred and Saddle Seat clinics in one day is being removed to accommodate webinars and live judging opportunities.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR1069 Roadster Judges [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER 10-I LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENT, PROMOTION, AND MAINTENANCE]

1. No application will be considered unless and until 15 forms which actually evaluate the applicant per division are returned from USEF members **of the Federation**, eight of which must be from relevant licensed judges, stewards, technical delegates, or committee members. **An applicant may be denied due to lack of experience with the discipline.**
2. Learner judge a minimum of two days at two Federation Licensed Competitions, **a minimum of five Roadster classes**, under a minimum of two different Federation **Registered (R)** licensed Roadster judges within a three year period preceding application. **It is recommended that the Learner Judge attend the clinic prior to learner judging.**
- a. If a judge is already licensed in the Hackney, American Saddlebred or Saddle Seat Equitation divisions, he/she may add an additional license in the Roadster division by enrolling as per ~~GR1074.4~~ **GR1069.1** and learner judging a minimum of 5 Roadster classes.
3. All persons applying for enrollment or re-enrollment must have attended a Federation judges' clinic within two years preceding application.
4. All Recorded and Registered judges must attend a Federation Roadster Judges' Clinic at least once every five years. ~~Clinics to be held each year and shall be conducted with the American Saddlebred and Saddle Seat clinics together in one day.~~
5. Judges must take a written examination every two years and receive a passing score of 85% or better to maintain their license. The completed examination must be returned to the Federation within thirty days of receipt. Judges who do not pass the examination on their first attempt will have the opportunity to re-take the exam one additional time.
6. No applicant will be considered for promotion unless he has adjudicated in at least two Licensed Competitions during the past three years in the Roadster division, verified by stewards' reports.
7. All Federation judges holding a Roadster card must be a current member in good standing of the American Road Horse and Pony Association.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

A joint subcommittee was formed with representatives from USEF, ASHA, and UPHA to review the American Saddlebred Judges licensing requirements. The American Saddlebred committee accepted the subcommittee's recommendation to educate the learner judges prior to them learner judging as the clinic will give them valuable information they need before judging; add to the requirements that an applicant may be denied due to little or no experience with the breed; to gain more experience, require learner judge, to officiate at an additional competition unless one experience is on a panel of judges.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR1070 American Saddlebred Judges [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER 10-I LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENT, PROMOTION, AND MAINTENANCE]

1. No application will be considered unless and until 15 forms which actually evaluate the applicant per division are returned from USEF members **of the Federation**, eight of which must be from relevant licensed judges, stewards, technical delegates or committee members. **An applicant may be denied due to lack of experience with the breed.**
2. Learner judge a minimum of four days at two Federation Licensed Competitions, under a minimum of two different Federation Registered (R) American Saddlebred Horse judges, **at least one with a panel or learner judge at least three competitions under three different Federation Registered (R) American Saddlebred judges; all three with a single judge**, within a three-year period preceding application. **The Learner Judge shall attend the clinic within a minimum of three years prior to learner judging.**
 - a. If a judge is already licensed in the Hackney, Roadster or Saddle Seat Equitation divisions, he/she may add an additional license in the American Saddlebred division by enrolling as per ~~GR1072.4~~ **GR1070.1** and learner judging a minimum of ten American Saddlebred classes.
 - b. In addition to Conflicts of Interest outlined in GR1012.4, Learner Judges in the American Saddlebred Division may not learner judge with someone who trains a horse owned by him, his cohabitant, or a member of his family, a farm/ranch/syndicate/partnership/corporation/business in which he, his cohabitant or a member of his family controls.
3. All persons applying for enrollment or re-enrollment must have attended a Federation judges' clinic within two years preceding application.
4. Registered and Recorded American Saddlebred Horse judges must attend a Federation judges' clinic at least once every five years. Clinics will be held each year and shall be conducted together in one day. Clinic will replace written exam. An open book test may be required as part of the clinic.
5. No applicant will be considered for promotion unless he has adjudicated in at least two Licensed Competitions during the past five years in the American Saddlebred division, verified by stewards' reports.
6. Any judge officiating at Federation licensed American Saddlebred classes must be a current member in good standing of the American Saddlebred Horse Association.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Saddle Seat Eq

INTENT

In an effort to better prepare licensed officials the committee, feels learner judges should be required to attend the clinic prior to learner judging and to be "mentored" by an experienced "Large R" judge. Due to the numerous classes within Saddle Seat Equitation they will now require a learner judge to judge at least a minimum number and variety of classes. The committee feels it's important for the applicant to have some experience with the Saddle Seat Equitation discipline in order to officiate it properly. The procedures of holding a clinic each year and conducted in one today etc. is being removed to allow flexibility in conducting webinars and live clinics.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR1071 Saddle Seat Equitation Judges [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER 10-I LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENT, PROMOTION, AND MAINTENANCE]

1. No application will be considered unless and until 15 forms which actually evaluate the applicant per division are returned from USEF members **of the Federation**, eight of which must be from relevant licensed judges, stewards, technical delegates, or committee members. **An applicant may be denied due to lack of experience with the discipline.**
2. Learner judge a minimum of four days at two Federation Licensed Competitions, **a minimum of six saddle seat equitation classes to include at least one 10 & under Walk/Trot, one Pleasure Equitation, and one "open" equitation class**, under a minimum of two different Federation **Registered (R)** Saddle Seat Equitation judges, within a three-year period preceding application. **Learner Judge must attend the clinic prior to learner judging.**
- c. If a judge is already licensed in the Arabian, Hackney, Morgan, Roadster or American Saddlebred divisions, he/she may add an additional license in the Saddle Seat Equitation division by enrolling as per GR1073.1 and learner judging a minimum of five Saddle Seat Equitation classes.
3. All persons applying for enrollment or re-enrollment must have attended a Federation judges' clinic within two years preceding application.
4. Registered and Recorded Saddle Seat Equitation judges must attend a Federation judges' clinic at least once every five years. ~~Clinics will be held each year and shall be conducted together in one day. A Webinar Clinic may be held separately. Clinic will replace written exam. An open book test may be required as part of the clinic.~~
5. No applicant will be considered for promotion unless he has adjudicated in at least two Licensed Competitions during the past five years in the Saddle Seat Equitation division, verified by stewards' reports.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

The current rule is interpreted to allow an American Saddlebred horse to change sections and start his status over. This is not a level playing field for a horse that has competed and won numerous classes in the Performance sections (Three gaited, Five gaited and Fine Harness) and then change to pleasure sections and become a novice/maiden/limit/horse again. Adding a separate rule for American Saddlebreds allows a horse to only "start over" by switching between driving and under saddle classes.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR135 Maiden, Novice, and Limit Classes [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER 1-A DEFINITIONS]

8. In the Andalusian, Arabian, Friesian, Morgan, ~~American Saddlebred~~, Roadster, and Western divisions, ribbons won within one section do not count in the reckoning of Maiden, Novice or Limit status if the animal competes in a different section (e.g., Arabian Park to Arabian Western Pleasure, ~~Fine Harness to Five Gaited, Five Gaited Show Pleasure to Three Gaited Show Pleasure~~, Saddle Horse English Country Pleasure to Saddle Horse Hunter Country Pleasure, Western Pleasure to Trail, or Morgan English [Park or Pleasure] to Morgan Western or Morgan Harness [Park or Pleasure] and vice versa).

[insert 9 and renumber]

9. In the American Saddlebred division, first place ribbons won in an under saddle class do not affect the status of a horse in a driving class. First place ribbons won in a driving class do not affect the status of a horse in an under saddle class.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Horse Welfare Initiative Task Force

INTENT

Since its inception, the Federation has been committed to the promotion of fair competition across all its breeds and disciplines. Any kind of abuse or cruelty to a horse goes against the Federation's Mission and Core Values.

As the sport grows, it is imperative that the Federation's rules are amended to guarantee that the Federation stays ahead of the abusive or cruel practices.

We need to ensure that horses are not entered to compete or presented at a Federation Licensed Competition in a condition that evidences improper training practices were used in preparation for the competition or abuse that may have been inflicted prior to the competition.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR839 Cruelty to and Abuse of a Horse [CHAPTER 8-F Welfare of the Horse]

1. Cruelty to or the abuse of a horse **present on the grounds of any Licensed Competition** by any person at a 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 and any properly constituted humane organization 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 in **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. Show Committees are encouraged to contact the American Humane Association, 1400 16th Street NW, Suite 360, Washington DC 20036, which will provide experienced humane inspectors to work with them in eliminating cruel practices.~~

4. 5. The following acts 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. 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.

b. Any evidence of cruel or abusive training techniques.

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 ~~other than a bamboo pole.~~

e. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jump.

f. Use of electric device in schooling or showing.

g. Use of shackles, hock hobbles and similar devices (not to be construed as rubber or elastic exercising devices).

h. Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores around the coronets, pasterns or legs.

i. 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.

j. Withholding of feed and water for prolonged periods.

k. Letting blood from a horse for other than diagnostic purposes.

l. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.

m. Use of any object that prevents the horse's ability to close his mouth. (Exception: use of an oral speculum by a veterinarian or equine dentist to provide legitimate dental/oral medical care.)

n. 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, ~~in classes~~ at a Federation Licensed Competition is prohibited.

o. 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. ~~6.~~ Any action(s) against a horse by a competitor or an exhibitor, 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 may be punished by official warning, elimination, or other sanctions which may be deemed appropriate by the Show Committee. Such action(s) could include, but are not limited to excessive use of the whip, ~~or spurs, or bamboo poles.~~ Competitors and exhibitors have the right to contest any action taken pursuant to GR839.5 by filing a protest or grievance pursuant to Chapter 6 of the Rules for hearing and determination by the Hearing Committee.

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

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Horse Welfare Initiative Task Force

INTENT

In the tragic event that a horse encounters a fatal incident while at a Licensed Competition, it is imperative that the Federation be able to gather information about that horse, which could lead to saving other horses from a similar fate.

Currently, the Federation does not have a necropsy requirement for horses that die while at a Licensed Competition. However, in requiring a necropsy and having access to the results of necropsies, the Federation will be able to gather critical information regarding the horse fatalities that occur at Licensed Competitions. This information would be used for research on the health and safety of horses.

The following information is intended to provide Committees and Federation members with the necessary background and addresses the requirements of the proposed necropsy rule change.

Introduction: The Federation is dedicated to maintaining a safe competition environment for all our members and their horses. The Federation is committed to the welfare of the horse.

Currently, the Federation does not have a necropsy requirement for equine fatalities that occur at Licensed Competitions. However, in requiring a necropsy and having access to the results of necropsies, the Federation will be able to gather critical information regarding the horse fatalities that occur at Licensed Competitions. This information would be used primarily to conduct research on the health and safety of horses. This requirement will also lead to the implementation of safety mechanisms that protect the horse and rider at all Licensed Competitions.

Q&A:

- Is the Federation aware of what an emotional time this can be for an owner? Absolutely. The Federation recognizes that the loss of an equine companion is devastating. The supporters of this rule have all experienced the loss of their horse. However, this rule change proposal is for the greater good of all competing horses.
- What if there is no veterinary pathology lab within 200 miles? This rule change proposal only applies when there is a lab within 200 miles. A list of available veterinary pathology laboratories will be provided to Competition Management and available on the Federation's website.
- Who will pay for samples to be drawn from a deceased horse? The Federation will cover all costs of drawing samples by using a testing veterinarian or covering the costs of a Competition Veterinarian.
- What costs associated with the necropsy and transportation will the Federation cover? If your horse is uninsured, the Federation will cover the cost of the required necropsy up to \$1,000. If the cost of a necropsy exceeds \$1,000, the Federation will cover the excess cost only in the event that the cost has been pre-approved by the Federation. If the horse is insured and a copy of the necropsy report is provided to the insurance company, the Federation will only cover half of the cost of a necropsy, up to \$500. If your insurance company requires a necropsy be performed on your horse, the Federation will not cover the costs of a necropsy.
- What are the additional burdens on Licensed Officials? This proposed rule change places no new responsibilities on Licensed Officials.
- Will this rule be a burden on Competition Management? No. We share a common goal with Competition Management that is to provide the safest environment possible to competitors. By working together, the Federation and Competition Management will be able to improve the safety and welfare of horses and riders.
- Is this rule change manageable? Yes. As evidenced by the FEI and USEA's similar policies regarding necropsies, the Federation is confident that this rule change will have a positive effect on future competitions and will lead to further improvements of horse welfare.

Timeline under proposed rule change:

- The trainer, owner, or rider must report the fatality to the Steward/TD as soon as possible but no later than one hour after the fatality.
- Steward/TD must report fatality to Competition Management and the Federation as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after incident.
- Steward/TD must file an Equine Fatality Report Form with the Federation no later than 24 hours after incident, except in exceptional circumstances.
- Competition Management must ensure that samples are collected and sent to the Federation for testing at the earliest opportunity.
- Competition Management must give the Federation the contact information for the Veterinary Pathology laboratory within 12 hours of the horse leaving the grounds.
- Competition and/or treating veterinarian must provide the Equine Drugs and Medications Program with a complete list of all substances administered to the horse within 12 hours.
- the horse's owner must provide the Federation with a copy of the post mortem report within 24 hours of receiving it, but no later than 7 days after the fatality.

PROPOSED CHANGE

GR844 Mandatory Necropsy [CHAPTER 8-F Welfare of the Horse]

This rule applies to fatalities of horses/ponies. For purposes of this rule, a "fatality" is defined as a death by any means including euthanasia at any time from when entries arrive at the venue until departure from the venue or a death by any means including euthanasia at any time occurring as a result of any fatal injury or illness sustained during a Licensed Competition or after a Licensed Competition where such fatal injury or illness is related to the horse's participation in the Licensed Competition.

1. ***The trainer, as defined by Federation rules, or the owner if the trainer is unavailable, or the rider if the trainer and owner are both unavailable, shall notify the Steward/Technical Delegate as soon as possible but no later than one hour after such occurrence of any fatality of a horse or pony. When a fatality occurs outside of competition hours or before the competition begins, notification must occur as soon as possible but no later than one hour after the Steward/TD reports to the show or returns to duty.***
2. ***The Steward/TD shall report to Competition Management and the Federation as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after the incident.***
3. ***If a Federation appointed testing veterinarian is not available, at the Federation's cost, the Steward/TD shall ensure that the appointed Competition Veterinarian collects urine and blood samples at the earliest opportunity and submits the samples for analysis to the Federation's laboratory.***
4. ***In addition to the duties set forth in GR 1034, the Steward/Technical Delegate shall file an Equine Fatality Report Form with the Federation within 24 hours of notification, except in exceptional circumstances such as no internet access at the venue.***
5. ***Competition Management must identify prior to the start of the competition the nearest Veterinary Pathology laboratory to facilitate a***

- rapid and accurate post-mortem.*
6. *A gross post mortem examination must be carried out in all incidents of euthanasia or fatality, except where the nearest Veterinary Pathology laboratory is further than 200 miles from where the equine fatality or euthanasia occurred. If a horse is uninsured or a post mortem is not required by the owner's insurance, the Federation will cover the cost of the gross post mortem and transport costs to the appropriate veterinary facility, up to a maximum in total of \$1,000.00, unless a greater amount is pre-approved by the Federation should the circumstances warrant. If the Federation covers the cost of the post mortem and the relevant post mortem report is provided to the owner's insurance, the Federation will only be responsible for half of the cost of the post mortem up to a maximum in total of \$500.00. If a post mortem is required by the owner's insurance, at no cost to the Federation, the horse's owner shall provide the Federation a copy of the post mortem report within 24 hours of receipt of such report.*
 7. *In certain circumstances, as approved by the Chief Administrator of the Federation's Equine Drugs and Medications Program, who may be contacted at 1-800-633-2472, a necropsy may not be warranted.*
 8. *The Federation Chief Administrator of Equine Drugs and Medications Program must be consulted by the horse's owner and in prior agreement for any further diagnostic investigations, such as histopathology, unless required by the owner's insurance. Within 12 hours of the horse leaving competition grounds, Competition Management shall provide the Federation Equine Drugs and Medications Program with the contact details of the applicable Veterinary Pathology laboratory.*
 9. *The owner shall provide the preliminary and final reports of any post mortem to the Federation Equine Drugs and Medications Program within 24 hours of the pathologist completing their report or the owner's receipt of the report, but no later than 7 days after the Horse's death.*
 10. *The cause of death and, if relevant, the method of euthanasia should be included in the Post Mortem Report.*
 11. *The Competition and/or treating veterinarian shall submit all information regarding any substance(s) administered to the horse prior to or during competition and before or during death or euthanasia using the Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form to the Federation Equine Drugs and Medications Program within 12 hours.*

RULE CHANGE TYPE

EFFECTIVE

PROPONENT

Standard

12/1/2017

Hackney

INTENT

There is a conflict regarding whether or not a martingale is required between the Hackney Division Roadster Pony classes and the Roadster Division Roadster Pony class rules. The change brings the rules in line with each other so there's no confusion on whether or not a martingale is required.

PROPOSED CHANGE

HK135 Appointments [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER HK-11 HACKNEY ROADSTER PONIES]

3. Ponies shall be shown to a roadster cart (bike). A low crupper, overcheck, square blinkers and straight or broken snaffle bit shall be used. Martingales **are required.** and ~~P~~protective boots **are** permitted.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Roadster

INTENT

The eligibility rules in the Roadster Division require the horse to be a Standardbred or Standardbred type. There are some questions regarding what is considered Standardbred type. This proposal strengthens the Type and Conformation rules to better define the type of horse for the division.

PROPOSED CHANGE

RD102 Type and Conformation [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER RD-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS]**RD102 Type and Conformation**

1 . The Roadster should be attractive in appearance, balanced in conformation and must have manners which make a safe risk in the ring.

2. ~~The Roadster should have a well chiseled head, smart ears, be fine in the throat latch, with a fine neck; should show depth through his chest, a good shoulder and good withers; well coupled, with short back and well proportioned hindquarters; should be a good full-made horse over hips; should stand well on legs and have good flat bone. The Roadster should have a full mane and tail; may be of any color. The tail should be carried outright.~~

The roadster horse should have the look of a refined race horse. The roadster should have a refined head with a broad forehead, large nostrils and shallow mouth. He should have smart well placed ears and a fine throat latch. Neck is fine but muscular and show depth through the chest. The roadster should be a good full made horse with refined solid legs, powerful shoulder and hindquarters. The roadster should have a full mane and tail and may be of any color. Tail should be carried outright while performing.

3. There are three types of Roadsters for competition-those suitable for bike, under saddle and road wagon. Occasionally there are horses or ponies that are suitable for all purposes.

a. Bike: Roadsters in the Bike sections are able to strongly perform three distinct speeds at the trot while maintaining their form and have the look of a refined race horse or pony.

b. Under Saddle: Horses competing under saddle should be pretty and have the natural ability to carry their head high.

c. Wagon: Usually the Wagon Roadster will have more scale and height than the Bike Roadster. Roadsters in the Wagon sections must have the strength to comfortably pull a wagon without losing form. Typical Roadsters in the Wagon sections are good looking horses or ponies that compliment the appointments of the wagons.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Roadster

INTENT

Judges have inquired on how to handle an entry does not have a standard size seat or the proper vehicle for the class. The committee feels that an inappropriate vehicle or seat that is not of standard size is a safety concern; therefore, the entry must be excused from the class. However, they would like the entry to still be qualified for the championship if they have followed the procedure outlined in GR809.3 allowing them to post enter in another qualifying class, if available, or be considered qualified for the championship provided the entry was previously entered in the Championship or Stake.

PROPOSED CHANGE

RD106 Appointments [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER RD-2 SHOWING PROCEDURES]

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. ***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 GR809.3 Performance Championships. In order to compete in the championship, the vehicle must be compliant with the rules.***

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

ASHA

INTENT

The intent of the proposed Half American Saddlebred rule addition is to provide more opportunities for exhibitors and for horse shows. There has been an increased interest in adding Half American Saddlebred classes to the USEF rule book due to the growing interest in the Dutch Harness Horse/American Saddlebred and Friesian/American Saddlebred crosses, as well as the many already existing Arabian/American Saddlebred crosses. The addition of the Half American Saddlebred rules will also increase interest and participation in the Half American Saddlebred Registry of America.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB101 Eligibility through SB203 General [CHAPTER SB-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS through SUBCHAPTER SB-21 AMERICAN SADDLEBRED-TYPE PONY]

CHAPTER SB American Saddlebred Horse *and Half American Saddlebred Horse* Division

SB-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SB101 Eligibility

1. **Purebred American Saddlebreds** - In order to compete, all horses must be registered with the American Saddlebred Registry (**ASR**) or with the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (**CLRC**). They must be entered in their full registered names with registration numbers and under the names of the **owner(s) of record with the ASR or the CLRC. A copy of the registration papers, showing recorded** ownership, or a copy of the registration papers with a Certificate of Eligibility to Show issued by the American Saddlebred Registry, must be submitted with entry form at the time of making entry or presented to competition office before competition number will be released unless the competition, at **its** discretion, confirms registration electronically with the **ASR** or the **CLRC**; competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement. See GR1308.2a(5). Exception: Horses shown in any USEF Regular Competition prior to December 31, 1979, and American Saddlebred-type ponies. A copy of the registration papers will be returned when exhibitors pick up their numbers, if requested.

2. **Half American Saddlebred Horses shown in the Half American Saddlebred division must be registered with the Half American Saddlebred Registry of America. Horses registered with the Half American Saddlebred Registry of America may compete in the following divisions provided competition management offers separate classes restricted to Half American Saddlebreds: Five Gaited, Fine Harness, Park, Park Pleasure, Show Pleasure, Country Pleasure, Western, Hunter Country Pleasure, Dressage Suitability, In Hand, Model, Parade, and Roadster. Competitions may offer classes restricted to American Saddlebreds &/or Half American Saddlebreds. The breed restrictions must be clearly published in the prize list. Half American Saddlebreds may not be shown in American Saddlebred classes with Purebred American Saddlebreds in the American Saddlebred and Half American Saddlebred division.**

SB102 Type and Conformation

3. **The Half American Saddlebred offers characteristics similar to his Saddlebred parent – smooth gaits, willingness to work with people, intelligence and versatility. Half American Saddlebreds may be of any size and may show characteristics of any other breed. HEAD – should be attractive with wide-set expressive eyes. NECK – flexed at the poll with a fine clean throatlatch. WITHERS – well defined. BACK – strong and level. LEGS – true and straight forward action, neither toe in or toe out. FEET – well conformed. TAILS - are to be carried naturally.**

SB103 General

1. The American Saddlebred *and Half American Saddlebred* have ~~has~~ clean, rhythmic and fluid action which is straight and true. Winging, interfering, traveling wide behind, mixing of gaits and loss of form are undesirable.
3. American Saddlebreds may be shown with unset tails in any class without penalty.

SB106 Judging Criteria *for American Saddlebred Horses and for Half American Saddlebred Horses.*

SUBCHAPTER SB-3 PERFORMANCE, FINE HARNESS

SB119 General

The Fine Harness horse should possess all of the elegance and refinement of the ideal American Saddlebred and its energy should be directed toward animation rather than speed. It is shown with a full mane and tail. **The Half American Saddlebred Fine Harness horse should also possess elegance and refinement and its energy should be directed toward animation rather than speed.**

SUBCHAPTER SB-4 PERFORMANCE, FIVE-GAITED

SB126 General

The Five-Gaited American Saddlebred **and the Five-Gaited Half American Saddlebred** should possess beauty, brilliance, elegance and refinement but its energy should be directed toward speed in an animated form. Entries shall be shown with a full mane and tail.

SUBCHAPTER SB-6 PARK

SB134 Description and Eligibility

1. The American Saddlebred **and Half American Saddlebred** Park Horse should be stylish with finish and quality and well-mannered. The performance should be animated and graceful in all gaits.
2. Horses shown in any class of this section are ineligible to compete in the American Saddlebred/**Half American** Saddlebred Pleasure Division (including Park Pleasure) at the same competition. They may however compete in the Performance sections (i.e. Three Gaited, Five Gaited, Fine Harness) In-Hand, Parade or Model classes.
3. Classes may be offered for horses with a roached mane and tail or horses with a full mane and tail but classes cannot be combined. **American Saddlebred** horses can have set or natural tails.

SUBCHAPTER SB-7 PLEASURE—GENERAL

SB138 Introduction

The Pleasure Horse should be a typical American Saddlebred with quality, style, presence and suitable conformation; **likewise the Half American Saddlebred should have quality, style, presence and suitable conformation. The American Saddlebred and the Half American Saddlebred should have** prompt, comfortable gaits; giving the distinct impression it is an agreeable mount to ride. Easy, ground-covering action is desired. Manners and suitability as a Pleasure mount are paramount. Special emphasis is placed on a true, flat walk. Transitions from one gait to another should be smooth and effortless. TO BE PENALIZED: Laboring action; pulling, tossing head; going sideways and tail-switching.

SB139 Ineligibility

2. Horses shown in any other section within the American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** division are ineligible to compete in the American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** Pleasure horse section at the same competition. Exception: In Hand classes and Parade Horse classes if shown by an amateur. Horses cross entered between the Parade and Pleasure sections at the same competition may not use artificial appliances or devices per SB141 and must adhere to SB140 Appointment, Tails, while on the competition grounds, before and during a competition.
3. American Saddlebred **and Half American Saddlebred Pleasure horses** may be shown in other divisions or multi-breed classes at the same competition for which they are qualified.
4. Professionals may show the American Saddlebred Pleasure Horse **and Half American Saddlebred Pleasure horse** in In Hand, Model, Hunter Country Pleasure or Western Country Pleasure classes designated as open (per SB 157.5 and SB 162.4), another division or multi breed classes and the horse would still be eligible to compete in ~~American Saddlebred~~ Pleasure horse classes at the same competition.

SB140 Appointments, Tails

Entries must be shown with a full mane and tail. Tails must not be gingered or put in any device (i.e., tailset, bustle or brace) which alters their carriage while on the **competition** grounds. Exception: Horses showing in the Show Pleasure division may wear tailsets or bustles, but may not show with the tail tied or braced, and unset tails will not be penalized. The fact that a horse's tail has once been set does not exclude participation.

SUBCHAPTER SB-10 WESTERN

SB157 General

1. In Western Equipment and Trail classes, a less elevated head carriage should not be penalized. The Western Equipment horse should have more substance, especially in the quarters, be closed-coupled and have well-defined withers. As in all American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** divisions, the best quality specimens of the breed should prevail.

SB161 Classes Offered and Specifications

[chart]

Illustrations depicting headsets for an American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** competing in Western Pleasure.

SUBCHAPTER SB-11 HUNTER COUNTRY PLEASURE

SB162 General

1. The American Saddlebred **and the Half American Saddlebred** Hunter Country Pleasure Horse must give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable and relaxed attitude. It should be in a generally longer frame than that of other American Saddlebred **and Half American Saddlebred** Country Pleasure Horses. The neck should be carried lower and the head should be carried in a more relaxed manner with less bend at the poll. High headed horses and horses behind the vertical must be penalized. As in all American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred divisions**, the best quality specimens of the breed should prevail.

4. Professionals may compete in the American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** division in Hunter Country Pleasure Prospect or Hunter Country Pleasure classes designated as open, provided two additional Hunter classes restricted to amateurs are offered at the same competition.

SB165 Judging

[chart]

Illustrations depicting headsets for an American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** competing in Hunter Country Pleasure.

SUBCHAPTER SB-12 PARK PLEASURE

SB167 Description and Eligibility

1. The American Saddlebred **and Half American Saddlebred** Park Pleasure Horse should be stylish with finish, quality and well mannered. The performance should be animated and graceful at all gaits.

SUBCHAPTER SB-13 IN-HAND AND MODEL

SB 175 Judging Procedures

1. Conformation and finish count 50% of the total score. All entries should be judged according to the standards for the ideal American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** type and conformation. Defects must be penalized. Way of going and natural action count 50% of the total score. Labored way of going to be severely penalized. All entries should be judged according to the standards for the walk and trot. Undesirable traits should be penalized.

SB177 Model

2. Judging Criteria: Horses in Model classes are to be judged according to the standards for the ideal American Saddlebred/**Half American Saddlebred** type and conformation. Defects must be penalized. Entries in Model classes are to be judged on conformation and finish only and are not to be moved on the line; way of going is not to be considered.

SUBCHAPTER SB-17 PARADE

SB184 General

The Parade horse should exhibit all the good American Saddlebred **or Half American Saddlebred** conformation traits and be of sufficient size and substance to carry the rider's weight and Parade equipment easily. Entries may be of any color and are to be shown with a full mane and tail. Tail may be set.

SUBCHAPTER SB-18 ROADSTER

SB189 General

The Roadster should have good American Saddlebred **or Half American Saddlebred** conformation and be shown with a full mane and tail. Tails must not be gingered or put in a tail brace or any other device. Wagon Roadsters will have more scale and height than Bike Roadsters.

SUBCHAPTER SB-19 LADIES SIDE SADDLE SECTION

SB195 General

6. Horses competing in the Ladies Side Saddle section may cross enter into the American Saddlebred Pleasure section **or the Half American Saddlebred Pleasure section** if they meet the requirements of **their respective sections** (e.g. use of artificial appliances, shoeing, tail sets, tack and attire etc.).

SUBCHAPTER SB-20 DRESSAGE SUITABILITY

SB199 General

2. Form to function to be emphasized. **American Saddlebreds/Half American Saddlebreds** suitable to Dressage carry a higher set-on neck than the Hunter type, with sufficient length and flexion of the poll. Movement should be free, elastic, active and regular with good push from behind without tension and with a tendency toward an uphill balance.

SUBCHAPTER SB-21 AMERICAN SADDLEBRED-TYPE PONY

SB203 General

American Saddlebred-type ponies should resemble the American Saddlebred as closely as possible and have the graceful trot and easy canter typical of the breed. They need not be registered with the American Saddlebred Registry **or the Half American Saddlebred Registry of America**. Classes shall follow the standards and specifications set forth in similar classes for American Saddlebred horses.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

There are times when trainers need a time/place to work young horses, young riders, equitation horses etc. without attention getting devices and/or other noisemakers. Therefore, there needs to be dedicated times outside of the competition session hours that these devices are not permitted. By stating in the rules that competition management may designate certain times attention getting devices are not allowed, this gives them support in setting "quiet times" to meet the needs of the competitors.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB103.9 General [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER SB-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS]

9. Attention getting devices and/or other noisemakers (including but not limited to tape measures, blow horns, bamboo poles, explosives, fire extinguishers, baby powder, whips longer than 6', etc.) are not allowed in and around the make up and competition rings during scheduled competition sessions **or any times designated by Competition Management**. All such items will be confiscated and offenders will be reported to the USEF. (See also GR839.4i)

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

The trot for a Park horse is not defined under the Description of Gaits in the American Saddlebred Division. There is a trend for Park horses to trot too fast. Therefore, the rule change adds Park classes to the Description of Gaits for Park Trot.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB115 Trot [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER SB-2 DESCRIPTION OF GAITS]

2. PARK TROT: The park trot in Three-Gaited, **Park** and Fine Harness classes is executed in a highly collected manner, speed to be penalized. The horse's energy should be directed toward animation rather than speed.

INTENT

As the manager of the Midwest AOT Clinic, I conducted a national survey of over 250 current AOTs and 70+ former AOTs. Of their top challenges, 39% stated finding help at home, 38% finding help at shows, 33% stated growing their skill level, and 32% stated fixing training problems. I believe these challenges present a very honest picture of why the AOT division is so small, and why it is shrinking in many parts of the country. The difficulties faced by an amateur trying to train and show a horse on their own are sometimes overwhelming, often leading to the decision to forgo showing altogether in favor of "easier" pursuits. Since 89% of survey respondents indicated they chose to be an AOT because they enjoy the personal interaction with their horse, putting the horse in training is not always a viable solution for them.

In addition, in my decades as an AOT boarding my horse at multi-breed/discipline barns, I have encountered dozens upon dozens of horse owners who used to ride and show Saddlebreds. Many of them had horses with trainers, while others had come up through Academy programs. The one common thread all of these owners had is that they no longer owned Saddlebreds or rode Saddle Seat.

They left when they wanted the opportunity to be more involved with their horses but had somehow formed the belief that Saddlebreds have to be in training to be competitive. So they gave up on that dream and instead, settled for a different breed of horse or took their Saddlebred and started competing at open shows in a different discipline.

I believe this double-edged sword of AOTs deciding not to show, and people leaving Saddlebreds due to the desire to be more hands-on yet still compete, can be reduced by providing better opportunities for AOTs to receive the education and assistance they need. In that vein, I believe growing the AOT division will go a long way towards keeping people in the breed.

The proposed AOT rules I've set forth aim to accomplish several things.

1. Provide rules where there are currently none.
2. Carve a path to education for the AOT.
3. Reduce the loss of owners and exhibitors.

Here is a breakdown of how the proposed rules meet the three goals above:

CLASSES

"AOT classes can be offered in any Saddlebred section." While AOT classes are mentioned in several places throughout the SB rules, it is not specifically stated they are available for every division.

"Horses may be stabled with a professional during the competition and hauled by a professional." AOTs who board at a training stable or who are receiving assistance from a professional should be allowed to stable nearby and/or trailer with them for convenience and to minimize wasted time.

"Professional aid is permitted only in the areas of grooming, preparation, and ground assistance in the warm up ring and after judging is complete." I realize that the Arabian and Morgan rules are the exact opposite of this, effectively prohibiting a trainer from assisting an AOT in any way; however, given the small (and shrinking) size of this division in the Saddlebred breed, any obstacles to getting exhibitors in the ring should be eliminated until such time as the division is large enough to support barriers to entry. In addition, since the spirit of an AOT class is amateur owner TRAINED, I do not believe minor activities such as assistance with grooming, holding the horse for mounting or hooking, taking down a tail, aid with putting on a tail brace, removing a pair of chains after warming up, or any other small area of service impedes on the act of the amateur as TRAINER. Nothing any professional can do in the areas of grooming or preparation will impact the PERFORMANCE of the horse in the class – and that is ultimately what is being judged. And finally, professionals are still prohibited from performing any act that is defined as "training," and that is easily enforceable while on show grounds.

"Headers and in-ring assistants must be amateurs." This rule serves to eliminate any perception of bias that might occur should a professional assist while judging is active. A professional can assist with a victory pass, since judging is completed.

"Professional coaching in the warm up-ring or during the class is strictly prohibited in any class that the horse-rider combination compete in at the same show." As trainer of the horse, the owner should not receive guidance and instruction during active competition. Since the horse-rider combination could compete in other classes prior to or after the AOT class, this rule also dictates that coaching of the pair is not permissible in ANY class they are competing in together at the show.

"Professional help for situations relevant to safety is permitted." This goes without saying. In an emergency, anyone should be allowed to help.

"Owner must sign as owner, trainer and rider/driver on the Federation entry blank." This will certify that they meet the qualifications to enter AOT classes.

TRAINING

"Horses are not to have been professionally trained for a minimum of 90 days prior to the start of the competition." The current rule states 90 days, and this proposal does not seek to change that.

"Training includes, but is not limited to, in-hand work, lunging, long lining, driving, riding, and stall bridling." This provides a definition of training. As always, an AOT horse can be worked by anyone not meeting the definition of professional.

LESSONS AND CLINICS

"AOTs may take lessons and attend clinics with their AOT horse, another horse owned by them, or any other horse." This is simply to state that AOTs are allowed to take lessons, on any horse, to further their skillset.

"Trainers/instructors may demonstrate training techniques on the horse to be shown in AOT classes for the purpose of educating the owner." In the interest of

educating AOTs, occasionally a trainer may need to demonstrate something versus trying to verbally explain it. I would not want a short demonstration to eliminate the horse from AOT competition, as that would defeat the purpose of educating AOTs. However, to prevent this from becoming an "in training" scenario, the next portion of the rule reads:

"Training demonstrations are limited to no more than one instance per 30 day period, and the last instance cannot be less than 30 days prior to the start of a show. If more than one instance occurs in 30 days or one occurs less than 30 days before the start of a show, 90 days must pass from the last instance until the horse is again eligible for AOT classes." This part of the rule is intended to eliminate any gray areas about a horse being "trained" while it is in a lesson. I do not believe that a single demonstrative lesson by a professional in a one-month period is going to significantly impact the performance of a horse in the show ring, particularly if that instance occurred over a month prior to showing. Also, should the clinic or lesson take place at a show, the 30-day window automatically prohibits the trainer from riding or working the AOT horse.

As with all rules, it is up to exhibitors to maintain their own integrity and report violations. Policing any "at-home" rules can be very difficult compared to violations that occur on show grounds, but it is my belief that most exhibitors are honest and will compete with honor.

I hope this letter serves to explain the purpose behind my proposal. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

PROPOSED CHANGE

ASB AOT Rule Changes [CHAPTER SB108 Qualifying Classes and Specifications]

SB108.3 AMATEUR OWNER TRAINER (AOT) CLASSES

a. OWNERSHIP. *Horses entered in AOT classes must be registered in the name of the competitor or a member of the competitor's family, as defined by GR123. Combined ownership is not permitted unless all owners are members of the same family. Horses registered in a farm/ranch/syndicate/partnership/corporation name may be shown in AOT classes provided the family is the sole owner of the farm or entity as defined by GR123. In the case of a junior exhibitor, the parent or guardian must sign. Leased horses are not allowed unless owned by a member of the competitor's family.*

b. CLASSES. *AOT classes can be offered in any Saddlebred section. Horses may be stabled with a professional during the competition and hauled by a professional. Professional aid is permitted only in the areas of grooming, preparation, and ground assistance in the warm up ring and after judging is complete. Headers and in-ring assistants must be amateurs. Professional coaching in the warm up-ring and during the class is strictly prohibited in any class that the horse-rider combination compete in at the same show. Professional help for situations relevant to safety is permitted. Owner must sign as owner, trainer and rider/driver on the Federation entry blank.*

c. TRAINING. *Horses are not to have been professionally trained for a minimum of 90 days prior to the start of the competition. Training includes, but is not limited to, in-hand work, lunging, long lining, driving, riding, and stall bridling.*

d. LESSONS AND CLINICS. *AOTs may take lessons and attend clinics with their AOT horse, another horse owned by them, or any other horse. Trainers/instructors may demonstrate training techniques on the horse to be shown in AOT classes for the purpose of educating the owner. Training demonstrations are limited to no more than one instance per 30 day period, and the last instance cannot be less than 30 days prior to the start of a show. If more than one instance occurs in 30 days or one occurs less than 30 days before the start of a show, 90 days must pass from the last instance until the horse is again eligible for AOT classes.*

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 SB200.3. c. Sex or age of rider. d. With or without Championships.

2. Recommended are Maiden, Novice, Limit, Junior (Four-Year-Olds & Under), Masters, Owners classes in all classifications and Amateur-Owner-Trainer (open to horses that have not had professional training 90 days prior to competition).

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

The trot for a Park horse is not defined under the Description of Gaits in the American Saddlebred Division. There is a trend for Park horses to trot too fast. Therefore, the rule change calls for a Park Trot in the gait requirements which is defined under SB115.2 and penalizes speed.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB136 Gait Requirements [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER SB-6 PARK]

To be shown at an animated walk or flat walk, **park** trot, and canter; plus slow gait and rack in Five-Gaited classes. In Fine Harness classes the gaits will be park trot and animated walk. Horses to stand quietly.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

American Saddlebred

INTENT

The trot for a Park horse is not defined under the Description of Gaits in the American Saddlebred Division. There is a trend for Park horses to trot too fast. Therefore, the rule change adds Park classes to the Description of Gaits for Park Trot.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB115 Trot [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER SB-2 DESCRIPTION OF GAITS]

2. PARK TROT: The park trot in Three-Gaited, **Park** and Fine Harness classes is executed in a highly collected manner, speed to be penalized. The horse's energy should be directed toward animation rather than speed.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Jeffrey A. Thompson

INTENT

To not specify how many obstacles will be a part of the trail course.

PROPOSED CHANGE

SB161 Classes Offered and Specifications [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER SB-10 WESTERN]

7. SADDLE & BRIDLE'S WORKING WESTERN PLEASURE CLASS. For permission to offer this class and complete details, contact "Saddle & Bridle Magazine," 375 North Jackson Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63130. www.saddleandbridle.com.

a. Saddle & Bridle's Working Western Pleasure. To be shown 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 Trail Horse Class (two hands are permitted for Hackamores and snaffle bits.) Judged 40% on manners, presence, conformation and quality while working on the rail, 60% on ability to complete the working portion of the class. The working portion of this class shall consist of ~~four or five~~ **a minimum of three** obstacles (See WS122 and WS126 for obstacles) to be traversed as a course. After three refusals an entry must skip to the next obstacle. At all times entry must exhibit appropriate manners and horsemanship. A minimum of three horses must be entered, shown, and judged in order to be an official Working Shatner qualifying class. The top three ribbon winners in a qualifying class during the qualifying season are eligible to compete at the finals. There is no limit to the number of times an entry may qualify for the finals.

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Saddle Seat Eq

INTENT

It has become a trend for riders to switch the bight of their reins just prior to reversing. The rule states the bight of the reins should fall to the off side. For consistency and to apply the rule this proposal clarifies that the off side is the right side and allows the rider to be penalized for switching the bight to the left.

PROPOSED CHANGE

EQ113 Position [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER EQ-3 SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION SECTION]

2. HANDS. Hands should be held in an easy position, neither perpendicular nor horizontal to the saddle and should show sympathy, adaptability and control. The height the hands are held above the horse's withers is a matter of how and where the horse carries his head. The method of holding the reins is optional however both hands must be used and all reins must be picked up at one time. Bight of rein ~~should~~ **shall** be on the off (**right**) side. According to tradition, the "on side" is the side on which you mount and therefore, the "off side" is the opposite side. **Riders shall be penalized for switching or carrying at any time the bight of the rein to the ("on" side) left side.**

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Saddle Seat Eq

INTENT

There has been some confusion among Competition Management and Judges if a individual workout is required for a championship class with one entry. The current rule does not specifically address one entry classes, just that the top four riders must work individually. The committee feels a rider entered the class thinking a workout will be called since it is required according to the class specifications and they should not be penalized because they are the only entry in the class. The change requires an individual workout in a one entry championship classes. It also requires the judges to work at least the riders being considered for a ribbon i.e. eight ribbons, eight riders must be worked.

PROPOSED CHANGE

EQ117 Requirements for Specific Classes [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER EQ-3 SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION SECTION]

10. CHAMPIONSHIPS. To be awarded on a competitive basis. Competition management shall decide if championships will be restricted to ribbon winners (minimum of 2) of previous classes with a free post entry or if it will be an open class with advance entries required for riders that have competed in a qualifying class. Competition management must allow any class in the saddle seat sections (i.e. age groups, Challenge Cups, Medals, etc.) of the Equitation or Breed specific Divisions to count as qualifying classes for the open saddle seat equitation championship for riders 17 & under. An Adult rider can only show back in an Adult Saddle Seat Championship. **The judge(s) must work a minimum number of riders per number of ribbons awarded (including classes with one entry)** At least the top four (4) must be worked individually from any of the Saddle Seat Equitation Tests appropriate for the class. (See Rules EQ117 and EQ118)

RULE CHANGE TYPE

Standard

EFFECTIVE

12/1/2017

PROPONENT

Saddle Seat Eq

INTENT

The test calling for addressing reins is being removed for safety concerns and it is difficult to judge as there is no prescribed method to address reins. Test three is being separated for clarity.

PROPOSED CHANGE

EQ118 Tests [CHAPTER SUBCHAPTER EQ-3 SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION SECTION]

1. ~~Address reins the process of laying down reins and picking up reins (only in line up).~~
2. ~~1.~~ Circle at a trot. When circling clockwise, rider should be on left diagonal; when circling counterclockwise rider should be on right diagonal.
3. ~~2.~~ **Performance on the rail at a Walk or trot, -or canter using the correct leads and diagonals only on a straight line on or off the rail, using the correct diagonals.**
3. **Canter a straight line on the rail on the correct lead.**
4. Performance around the ring at a walk, trot, or canter using the correct leads and diagonals only.
5. Feet disengaged from stirrups. Feet engaged. In the line-up only.
6. Change of diagonals on or off the rail. The judge must specify diagonal changes to be executed and the beginning diagonal.
7. Execute serpentine at a trot. A series of left and right half circles off imaginary line where correct diagonals must be shown.
8. Back for not more than eight steps.
9. Figure eight at trot demonstrating change of diagonals. Unless specified, it may be started either facing the center or away from the center. If started facing the center, it must be commenced from a halt.
10. Circle at the canter. When circling clockwise, horse should be on right lead; when circling counterclockwise, horse should be on the left lead.
11. Execute serpentine at a canter.
12. Figure eight at canter. Unless specified, it can be started either facing the center or away from the center. If started facing the center it must be commenced from a halt. Figures are commenced in center of two circles so that one lead change is shown.
13. Canter a straight line, on or off the rail, with or without demonstrating simple change of lead. The judge must specify lead changes to be executed and the beginning lead.
14. Ride without stirrups for a brief period of time, at any gait requested (for not more than one minute at the trotting phase). Riders may be asked to disengage or engage stirrups at a halt or walk or any gait requested by the judge. (Exception: Adult Equitation riders must not be asked to perform without stirrups. See EQ117.9, EQ117.12e and EQ117.15f.)
15. Demonstration ride of approximately one minute on own mount. Movements must be selected from Tests 1-14 above. Rider must advise judge beforehand what ride he plans to demonstrate. To be used only in Championship and/or Medal Classes. Riders must have with them two copies (one for judge and one for announcer) of a written one minute workout in case the judge asks for this test. The test must be stopped at the end of one minute but the rider will not be penalized for not completing it.
16. Exchange horses. This test is to be used only after four or more of the top riders have been tested. Only one pair of riders to exchange. Saddles can be exchanged. The attendant for each horse being exchanged must be allowed in the ring only to facilitate the change. The purpose of this test is to break a tie.