

1 **SUBJECT: Addition of Versatility Ranch Riding (USEF/EC)**

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3 *(EXTRAORDINARY)*

4 Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 101 for submission requirements

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6 Committees required to review: *(This section to be completed by the Agenda & Resolutions Committee)* Committee Action:
Approve Disapprove

Amateur Committee	O		
Competition Advisory Committee	O		
Education/Evaluation Commission	O		
Professional Horsemen Committee	O		
Working Western Committee	O		
USEF Arabian Division Committee	O		

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8 **CONVENTION ACTION:**

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10 _____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved
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12 _____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____
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14 **PROPOSED CHANGE: (Check one)** Add new rule _____ Delete existing rule _____ Change existing text
15 Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC) USEF AR 26
16

17 **RESOLUTION:** Use *bold/italic* for new wording, ~~striketrough~~ to indicate deletion

- 18
19 Whereas, The addition of Ranch Horse classes has proven to be very popular in the Arabian industry; and
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21 Whereas, The Ranch Horse grouping of classes has become very popular in the working western industry as a whole
22 among the other breeds and there is a great interest for expansion of this division in the Arabian breed; and
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24 Whereas, It is in the best interest of our breed and Association to facilitate classes that increase participation and
25 marketability of Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses; Therefore, Be It
26
27 Resolved, That the USEF Rule Book be amended by inserting as a new section AR- 26 VERSATILITY RANCH
28 RIDING and the remaining Subchapters be renumbered accordingly:
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30 A superior ranch riding horse has a free-flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with his conformation and covering a
31 reasonable amount of ground as if he was going across the pasture to do a task on the ranch in a timely fashion. Ideally, the
32 horse should have a balanced, flowing motion, while exhibiting correct gaits with proper cadence and rhythm reflecting the
33 versatility, attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The ideal ranch horse
34 will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be
35 ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins.
36 The overall manners and responsiveness of the Versatility Ranch Riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and
37 correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement and consistency of the gaits are of major consideration. The ideal
38 Versatility Ranch Riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.
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40 1. SCORING SYSTEM: Each horse/rider team is scored between 0-100 points and automatically begins the run with a score
41 of 70 points. The horse/rider team is scored on the quality of each maneuver (e.g. -1½ extremely poor, -1 very poor, -1/2
42 poor, 0 correct, +1/2 good, +1 very good, and +1½ excellent). Plusses and minuses are a reflection of the smoothness,
43 finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of the horse/rider team when performing the various maneuvers.
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45 2. CONTENT: Horses will be shown individually at three gaits; walk, trot and lope in each direction of the arena. Horses
46 will also be asked to reverse, stop and back. The selected pattern must ask for an extended trot and extended lope at least one
47 direction of the ring. The pattern may be started either to the right or left direction. Show management has the option to set
48 markers to designate gait changes. The pattern may be set outside or inside an arena. If the class is held inside an arena, the
49 course shall be set up to make approximately one pass of the arena in each direction. One of the suggested patterns for
50 Versatility Ranch Riding may be used from the current AQHA Handbook in the Versatility Ranch Horse (VRH) section or
51 on the AHA website. A judge may utilize a different pattern as long as all required gaits and maneuvers are included.

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3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES: Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition to the seated trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior to trotting will be penalized. Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues applied discretely and the horse responding correctly could be a credit-earning situation. Penalties will be assessed as follows:

One Point Penalties: Over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), too slow, gapping mouth, break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less.

Three Point Penalties: Wrong lead or out of lead, draped reins, break of gait at lope, break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides.

Five Point Penalties: Spurring in front of cinch, blatant disobedience, use of either hand to instill fear/praise, use of two hands per maneuver, 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal, more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins per maneuver.

Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver) breaking pattern, leaving working area before pattern is complete, repeated disobedience.

No Score: lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect or misconduct, improper western attire, fall of horse/rider

4. No horse may cross enter Western Pleasure and Versatility Ranch Riding at the same show regardless of the division (Open, Amateur or Youth). However, horses may cross-enter Versatility Ranch Riding and Ranch Horse Ranch Riding.

Effective: December 31, 2020 or when approved by USEF/EC

(If a Standard resolution, the effective date will be December 31 of the year after the Convention)

RESOLUTION TYPE (**REQUIRED**): Standard _____ Extraordinary X “If indicated as “Extraordinary”, the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.2 has been met)

Compelling circumstances necessitate the expedition of a full complement of Ranch Horse classes. Whereby, three Ranch Horse classes become effective December 31, 2020, it is advantageous to all parties involved for the inclusion of the remaining Ranch Horse classes for efficacy.

PROPONENTS FINANCIAL IMPACT (**REQUIRED**): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.e. for financial requirements

Programming costs to add code to track results for this new class.

AHA IMPACT STATEMENT: Minimal to no BT impact if the classes created will use the standard existing code for qualifications, Achievement Awards and Leveling (if applicable).

Contact Person: Maggie Harrison, PL SQL Developer – (303) 696-4564 or maggie.harrison@arabianhorses.org

SUBMITTED BY: Working Western Committee

Region Number:

Member Organization Committee Commission Board Region (check one)

Who voted: Members Board Delegates (check voting body)

Total Number Eligible to Vote: 61 Number of Yes votes: 31 Number of No votes: 0

How vote was taken: mail email phone meeting (check one) (Must have Quorum with majority of yes votes)

Where documentation of this vote is recorded: At the AHA Office (Must have printed documentation on file)

Date vote taken: August 11-15, 2020

Contact Person: Sandra Woerle (Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw)

Phone: (715) 638-0369 Email: woerle79@aim.com