

1 **SUBJECT: Ginger Testing (USEF)**

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3 *(This section to be completed by the Agenda and Resolutions Committee.)*

4 Committees required to review:	Committee Action:	
5	Approve	Disapprove
Equine Stress/Research & Education Committee	_____	_____
National Event Operational Procedures (NEOP) Committee	_____	_____
Professional Horsemen Committee	_____	_____
USEF Arabian Division Committee	_____	_____
Ways & Means Committee	_____	_____

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7 **CONVENTION ACTION:**

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9 _____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved

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11 _____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____

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13 **RESOLUTION:**

14 (Refer to Article 901 for submission requirements.)

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16 **Whereas,** The rules impose a longstanding and explicit prohibition of the practice of altering tail carriage; and

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18 **Whereas,** The alteration of tail carriage is a serious infraction of the rules, in that it constitutes misrepresentation of the breed type; and

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21 **Whereas,** There exists the means and motivation to enforce the rules prohibiting this practice; Therefore, Be It

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23 Resolved, That the first sentence of USEF Article 1601.4 be amended to read as follows:

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- 25 4. Horses must wear a long, natural, unbraided mane (with or without clipped bridle path), and a
- 26 natural, unset, ungingered tail; see Article 1601.5; and be it Further
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28 Resolved, That a new USEF Article 1601.5 be added as follows and renumber accordingly:

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- 30 “5. Ginger, Capsaicin, and Other Irritants.
- 31 (a) No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division
- 32 with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or by any means, including by application to
- 33 its anus, vulva, rectal area or vaginal area of a chemical or other irritant of any kind. Violations of
- 34 this Article are considered serious infractions, because such alterations constitute misrepresentations
- 35 of the breed type.
- 36 (b) No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian Division with
- 37 any chemical or other irritant of any kind present on its anus, vulva, rectal area or vaginal area,
- 38 regardless of the origin of the irritant and whether or not it was applied or its presence resulted from
- 39 dietary or environmental or unknown origins, and whether or not the horse’s tail carriage was affected
- 40 by its presence.
- 41 (c) The trainer (see Articles 121 and 404), owners, and their agents, of a horse entered to
- 42 compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division are insurers of the horse’s
- 43 condition and compliance with this Article, and accordingly they are responsible and accountable for
- 44 safeguarding the horse and controlling its diet and environment prior to, during and following the
- 45 class and at the time of the sampling provided for below, so as to prevent exposure to a chemical or
- 46 other irritant of any kind, regardless of its origin, and whether or not exposure was intentional, and
- 47 whether or not the horse’s tail carriage was affected by its presence, and these individuals/entities are
- 48 subject to charges of rule violation should the sampling and testing provided for below be positive for
- 49 the presence of a chemical or irritant of any kind.

- 50 (d) Any trainer, owner, agent or other person who administers, attempts to administer, instructs,
- 51 aids, conspires with another to administer, or employs anyone who administers or attempts to
- 52 administer a chemical or other irritant of any kind onto the anus, vulva, rectal area or vaginal area of a
- 53 horse entered to compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division shall be
- 54 subject to penalties as provided for in (i) below.
- 55 (e) Competition management is authorized to appoint representatives to collect swab samples of
- 56 substances present on the anus, vulva, rectal area or vaginal area of horses following their exit from
- 57 the ring, in connection with a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division, and to
- 58 test the samples, as follows:
- 59 1) competition management may choose all horses in such a class to be sampled, or it may select
- 60 one or more placings from the class for sampling or it may select some of the horses from such a
- 61 class for sampling; in making such selections competition management may act on the request of a
- 62 judge of the class but is not required to do so;
- 63 2) competition management shall appoint only a licensed veterinarian or veterinarians to
- 64 supervise the sampling, who may utilize technicians working under direct supervision of the
- 65 veterinarian(s);
- 66 3) competition management shall implement the standardized documentation of the chain of
- 67 custody provided by the laboratory identifying the horse from which each sample was taken;
- 68 4) competition management is authorized to provide for testing of the samples by the Iowa State
- 69 University laboratory or another comparable laboratory acceptable to the USEF, and shall
- 70 implement the standardized documentation of the chain of custody provided by the laboratory for
- 71 transporting the samples to and from the laboratory, and while at the laboratory.
- 72 (f) The trainer, owner, and their agents of a horse competing in a class in the Arabian and Half-
- 73 Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division must submit to the above sample collections performed by
- 74 representatives of competition management, and they must do so with no unnecessary delays; they
- 75 must cooperate with the above sample collection personnel, and must assist them by helping to
- 76 restrain the horse properly during the sample collection(s), and they must exhibit polite attitude and
- 77 actions toward them.
- 78 (g) In the event the laboratory reports to the competition management the presence of a chemical
- 79 or other irritant of any kind in a horse’s sample, competition management shall forward to USEF the
- 80 original copies of the laboratory report, the analytical data, and the documented chain of custody for
- 81 identifying the horse from which the sample was collected and identifying the laboratory results as
- 82 being from that horse’s sample.
- 83 (h) Upon receipt of the above documents, USEF shall review them and relevant competition and
- 84 Federation records, and shall determine whether they serve as a basis for charges of rule violation
- 85 against the horse’s trainer, owner, and/or their agents, pursuant to this Article of the Rules and Rules
- 86 VI and VII; any charges issued shall be heard and determined by the Federation’s Hearing Committee
- 87 pursuant to the procedures specified in Articles VI and VII of the Rules.
- 88 (i) In the event the Hearing Committee determines a violation to have occurred, the trainer,
- 89 owner and/or their agents each shall be subject to any and all penalties imposed by the Hearing
- 90 Committee in its discretion pursuant to Articles VI and VII of the Rules, including suspensions, fines,
- 91 and the revocation and redistribution of winnings, a notice or notices of which shall be published in
- 92 Equestrian magazine. The suggested minimum penalty for a first offense is the revocation of all the
- 93 horse’s winnings in connection with the entire competition in question, a suspension of 60 days and a
- 94 fine of \$1000.00. Subsequent violations of this Article by any of the above individuals/entities shall
- 95 be subject to such greater penalties as determined in the discretion of the Hearing Committee.”
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97 Effective: When approved by USEF

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100 **PROPONENT'S FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

101 (Refer to Article 901.2.e. for financial requirements.)

102 There will be no financial impact to AHA upon approval of this resolution, except perhaps in connection with
103 competitions that AHA manages (e.g. U.S. Nationals or Youth Nationals), should said competition management exercise
104 its option to conduct “ginger testing.”

