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2 **SUBJECT: Arabian Trail Scoring Systems – Penalties (USEF/EC)**
3 USEF Rule Tracking # 503-08 & 453-08
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5 *(This section to be completed by the Agenda and Resolutions Committee.)*
6 Committees required to review:

Committee Action:
Approve Disapprove

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Competition Advisory Committee | | | |
| Education/Evaluation Commission | | | |
| Professional Horsemen Committee | | | |
| USEF Arabian Division Committee | | | |
| Working Western Committee | | | |

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8 **CONVENTION ACTION:**

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10 _____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved
11
12 _____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____
13

14 **RESOLUTION:**
15 (Refer to Article 901 for submission requirements.)

- 16
17 Whereas, The current Trail Scoring System has been in place for a number of years; and
18
19 Whereas, With any system some changes are necessary to keep up the with growth of the industry; and
20
21 Whereas, Many have felt that the Arabian Trail Scoring System should be more in line with other scoring systems
22 currently being used by other breeds and under the Open Western Division; and
23
24 Whereas, It is not uncommon for Trail classes at a US and Canadian National Championships to be judged by judges
25 carded in other divisions; Therefore, Be It
26

27 Resolved, The AR 208 and AR 210 be deleted and replaced with the following:

- 28
29 AR208 Conduct and Definitions (EC B3402.3)
30 1. All entered exhibitors will be allowed to walk and inspect the course with the judge and with the course
31 designer, if present, prior to the start of the class. In amateur and junior exhibitor classes, exhibitors may be
32 accompanied by their trainer.
33 a. No time outs will be allowed.
34 b. All horses enter the arena with a score of 70. With each obstacle, the judge will instruct a scribe
35 to assign a score as well as any appropriate penalties if one or more occurs. At the end of the work,
36 obstacle scores will be totaled. Any penalties will then be subtracted to arrive at a final score. All
37 horses are judged from the time they enter the arena until the completion of the last obstacle.
38 c. Judge(s) may review official video on no score, zero, 10 point, or 5 point penalties only. Refer
39 to AR197.4. (Video review is solely the judge(s) decision.)
40 d. Refer to Chapter WS Subchapter WS-3, WS129 for the mandatory obstacle dimensions. The
41 Judge may alter the course prior to the course walk (exception WS125.7.).
42 2. Knockdown: When any component, element, or portion of an obstacle is displaced from its original
43 position-by horse or rider.
44 3. Refusal: Any action taken by the horse to avoid performing an obstacle, part of a combination of
45 obstacles or portion of a trail course. These actions may include, but are not limited to the following:
46 a. Balking: (Any action that results in a horse blatantly and continuously refusing a rider’s
47 command).
48 b. Evading or running past an obstacle to be negotiated.
49 c. Each complete loss of the gate.
50 d. Any blatant action by the horse that demonstrates an unwillingness to approach, negotiate
51 and/or complete an obstacle.

When a judge deems three (3) refusals have occurred at an obstacle the exhibitor will be instructed to proceed to the next obstacle. (In multiple judging situations the call judge will determine when to instruct the exhibitor to proceed to the next obstacle.)

NOTE: Any time a judge instructs an exhibitor to proceed to the next obstacle *a 5 point penalty will apply for being asked to move to another obstacle and as such is not in accordance with course direction.* This penalty is in addition to *the two (2) five (5) point penalties received for refusals or blatant disobediences for a total of three (3) five (5) point penalties*

4. Off Course:

- a. Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
- b. Negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side.
- c. Skipping an obstacle unless directed by the judge.
- d. Negotiating obstacles in the wrong sequence.
- e. Not following the correct line of travel (i.e. the drawn pattern and Judge's instruction).

AR210 Scoring Penalties (EC B3405)

In addition to the obstacle score, each entry may incur penalties for the following infractions:

1. NO SCORE

- a. Illegal equipment. This includes any attachment which alters the movement of or circulation to the tail.
- b. Abuse to the animal inside or outside the competition arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred. This includes lameness and/or fresh blood in the mouth, chin, shoulder, barrel, flank or hip areas.
- c. Disrespect or misconduct by exhibitor.

2. ZERO SCORE

a. Off course *including:*

- i. *Pulling gate when designated to push in course directions (or vise versa) or when using a rope gate, walking through the gate when designated to back through (or vice versa)*
- ii. *Sidepassing the wrong end of horse in slot*
- iii. *Working obstacles out of sequence*
- iv. *Deliberately failing to enter, exit or work obstacle from correct side or direction*
- v. *Riding outside designated boundary marker of the course*

b. Two hands on reins (Exception: Snaffles or Hackamore) *or changing hands on reins; except for junior horses shown with hackamore or snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins, except that it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle.*

c. More than one finger between split reins

d. Fingers between closed reins

e. Failure to maintain 16 inches of rein between hands when using romal reins *except to work an obstacle*

f. Fall of horse or rider

g. Equipment failure or loss of shoe that delays completion of course.

h. *Dropping a rain that contacts the ground while the horse is in motion*

Note: Neither a "no score" nor a "zero score" penalty may receive an award in that class. A "zero" score may advance in a multiple-go event.

3. 10 POINT PENALTIES

a. Temporary loss of control, stampeding, running through or jumping over entire obstacle when jump is not called for. *This penalty can be awarded when an entry has completed an obstacle and has sufficiently destroyed the obstacle or where it is impossible to ascertain if the obstacle has been completed in any manner.*

b. Blatant disobedience (kicking, bucking, rearing, biting, striking, horse leaving designated ground tie area).

4. 5 POINT PENALTIES

a. Each refusal. Refusals are cumulative. After three (3) refusals at a single obstacle or when deemed necessary by the judge, the judge will ask the contestant to proceed to the next obstacle for a total of 15 penalty points. *When the refusal is the result of a complete loss of the gate the entry may retrieve the gate and continue. If they are unable to retrieve the gate and the judge asks them to move on they will have been deemed to have earned three refusals for a total of three (3) five (5) point penalties*

b. Placing two or more feet outside of a confining element.

- 111 c. Horse misses/evades an element/component of an obstacle that is part of a series.
 112 d. *Losing drag or object being carried.*
 113 e. Placing one foot off side of bridge or *falling off side of bridge*
 114 f. *Spurring or obvious cueing or touching of horse in front of forward cinch including, but not*
 115 *limited to use of free hand to instill fear or praise*
 116 g. Performing obstacle at the wrong gait or lead.

5. 2 POINT PENALTIES

- 117 a. Knockdowns or obviously displacing the original configuration of an obstacle.
 118 b. Placing one foot outside of a confining element.
 119 c. *Break of gait. When an entry is transitioning down from a lope to a walk, a couple of steps of*
 120 *jog is acceptable and will not result in a penalty however the judge may take that transition into*
 121 *consideration in the maneuver score. The same would be for when a horse momentarily hesitates*
 122 *before undertaking a series of walkovers, working the bridge, or any other maneuver from the*
 123 *walk. A momentary halt is not considered a break of gait, and in fact is desired. If the entry takes*
 124 *two or more steps back it would be considered a refusal and be subject to a five (5) point penalty.*
 125 d. Each time switching leads where not called for, picking up wrong leads, or cross leading.
 126 NOTE: If a horse switches leads and must be broken down to correct the lead, then two penalties
 127 have been incurred (The first for switching leads (2 points) and the second for breaking of gait (1
 128 point)
 129 e. Holding of saddle with free hand. (Exception: over a jump, elevated jog over(s) or elevated lope
 130 over(s).
 131 f. Approaching obstacle at wrong gait or lead. During transition areas between obstacles, if horse
 132 is, for instance, loping where a jog is called for, or jogging where a walk is called for, a two point
 133 penalty has occurred.

6. 1 POINT PENALTIES

- 134 a. Double striding or adding strides or adding steps. (Walkovers, jogovers, lopeovers, tires).
 135 b. *Slipping slot (walkovers, jogovers, lopeovers, or tires)*
 136 c. *Major hit or stepping on an element of an obstacle, log, pole, cone or obstacle.*

137 Effective: When approved by USEF and EC.
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PROPONENT'S FINANCIAL IMPACT:

142 No Financial impact. A new Judges Guide and Score Sheet will have to be designed but as this is distributed to judges and
 143 exhibitors via the web site no additional printing costs would be incurred and changes to existing forms can be completed by
 144 existing staff with the assistance of volunteers
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 146

AHA IMPACT STATEMENT: None.

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 148 Contact Person:
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SUBMITTED BY:

151 Name: Working Western Committee

Region:

152 Member Organization Committee Commission Board Region (check one)

153 Who voted: Members Board Delegates (check voting body)

154 Total Number Eligible to Vote: 112 Number of Yes votes: 108 Number of No votes: 0

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

156 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: Committee Minutes (Must have printed documentation on file)

157 Date vote taken: August 21, 2008

158 Contact Person: Lorne Robertson

(Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw)

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