

1 SUBJECT: Performance Halter Rewrite (USEF/EC)

Amendment 3 (Yellow)

2
3 (EXTRAORDINARY)

4 Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 101 & 102 for submission requirements

5
6 Committees required to review: (This section to be completed by the Agenda & Resolutions Committee) Committee Action: Approve Disapprove

Amateur Committee	A2		
Competition Advisory Committee	A3		
Dressage & Western Dressage Committee	A1		
Eventing & Driving Committee	A1		
Hunter/Jumper Committee	A1		
Professional Horsemen Committee	A1		
Sport Horse Committee	A1		
U.S. National Show Commission	A1		
USEF Arabian Division Committee	A1		
Working Western Committee	A1		
Youth National Show Commission	A3		

7
8 CONVENTION ACTION:

9
10 _____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved
11
12 _____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____
13

14 PROPOSED CHANGE: (Check one) _____ Add new rule _____ Delete existing rule _____ Change existing text
15 Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC)
16

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

18
19 Whereas, The Competition Advisory Committee reorganized this section for better comprehension and ease of use
20 for exhibitors, officials and management, and
21
22 Whereas, In the opinion of the proponent, the Performance Halter classes have been run as Breeding/In-Hand Halter
23 classes, and
24
25 Whereas, The horses competing in Performance Halter classes are to be shown in a relaxed manner with no attention
26 getting devices, and
27
28 Whereas, There is a need to further define how the Performance Halter horses are to be shown: Therefore, Be It
29
30 Resolved, That USEF AR106.7 be amended by inserting as follows:

31
32 7. All horses competing in the Arabian Division Hunter, Jumper, Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, Western
33 Dressage, Eventing, Combined Driving, Working Western, Western and English Trail, Reining Seat Equitation,
34 Carriage Pleasure Driving and Sport Horse Sections shall be exempt from shoeing regulations. ***Performance Halter***
35 ***horses must meet the shoeing requirements in the performance class they qualified from at that show.*** This does
36 not exempt horses that are cross entered into any other classes from compliance with applicable shoeing
37 requirements while competing in those classes. Sliding plates (which are only on the rear hooves) are not required to
38 meet dimensions stated in AR106.1 while competing in classes outside the Working Western Section but the
39 remaining applicable shoeing regulations within AR106 must be met. and, Be It Further

40
41 Resolved, That USEF SUBCHAPTER AR-4 PERFORMANCE HALTER SECTION AR123 be rewritten and
42 amended by inserting the following language:
43

44 SUBCHAPTER AR-4 PERFORMANCE HALTER SECTION AR123

45 General

- 46 1. Open, Amateur and Junior Exhibitor classes may be held. Classes will not be split by the horse's age. Exception:
47 "Prospect" class for horses two and under at the discretion of show management.
- 48 2. Classes must be separated by Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian. In addition, they must be separated by
49 stallion, mare and gelding.
- 50 3. All horses three years of age and older must have been entered and shown in an USEF/EC recognized or AHA
51 recognized performance class (Under Saddle and/or Driving) at the same show (***the same show is defined by the***
52 ***AHA recognized show number***) as the one in which the performance halter class is being held, or have completed
53 an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail Ride recognized by AHA or sanctioned by an AHA
54 recognized Competitive Trail riding organization in the past 90 days. If a horse is disqualified, excused, or
55 voluntarily withdrawn from a performance class, that class may not be used to qualify for Performance Halter.
- 56 4. Horses qualifying via Endurance or Competitive Trail must present dated proof of completion to the show secretary.
57 If classes are held in conjunction with an AHA sanctioned Endurance ride or a Competitive Trail riding
58 organization, all registered Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses entered in and having completed the
59 ride are eligible to compete. BOD 6/20/22 Effective 12/1/22
- 60 5. Horses with loss of sight in one eye may compete in Performance Halter classes.

61

62 Conduct

- 63 1. Horses will be judged using the Arabian Performance Halter Score Sheet, with the results based on the total scores
64 (***refer to the AHA Handbook for procedure in placing horses at Regionals and Nationals***). Shows must post the
65 results no later than one hour after completion of the class.
- 66 2. For Purebred Performance Halter for a colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is placed in the
67 following order: athletic structure, breed type, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip,
68 legs and feet, movement.
- 69 3. For Half Arabian/Anglo Arabian Performance Halter for colt/stallion, filly/mare and gelding classes emphasis is
70 placed in the following order: athletic structure, quality, balance and substance, neck and shoulder, back, loin and
71 hip, legs and feet, and movement.
- 72 4. ***Order of go will be at the discretion of competition management.***

73

74 Procedure

- 75 1. Shows may use either "in the ring" or "exit the ring" procedures as identified under AR116.6a and AR116.6b ***or***
76 ***similar procedure as directed by show management in accordance to with options as recommended by the***
77 ***Education & Evaluation Commission (EEC).***
- 78 2. ***A horse must be handled and shown throughout an entire class by only one and the same person, except that a***
79 ***substitute handler may be used if, during a class, the original handler becomes ill or is injured. Time allowed for***
80 ***the change of handler shall be in accordance with AR108 Time Out Rules. No handler may show more than one***
81 ***horse per class.*** (pulled from AR116.2)
- 82 3. ***A controlled paddock may must be used (exception: must be utilized at National shows) and class entrants must***
83 ***pass through the "controlled paddock" outside the ring prior to entering the ring individually in the designated***
84 ***order of go. A "controlled paddock" is an area designated by show management outside the competition ring.***
85 ***The Federation steward and/or the Show Commission shall supervise this area.*** (pulled from AR116.5 and
86 modified)
- 87 ~~4. ***In a controlled Performance Halter paddock, no professional will prepare the horse prior to entering the ring for***~~
88 ~~***ATH/JTH classes. Rules that apply in the ring also apply in the controlled paddock. In a controlled Performance***~~
89 ~~***Halter paddock, no one will school the horse in a manner representative of a hard stand up prior to entering the***~~
90 ~~***ring. Rules that apply in the ring also apply in the controlled paddock. Any rule violation occurring in or around***~~
91 ~~***the controlled paddock will result in a warning and/or yellow card in accordance with USEF rules.***~~
- 92 5. No whips, schooling devices, "bagging", shakers, noisemakers or aids of any kind are permitted ***in the controlled***
93 ***paddock or around the immediate vicinity of the arena.***
- 94 6. No whips or other attention-getting devices are allowed ***within the ring.***
- 95 7. Horses will be presented in a relaxed, and dignified manner ***and may be expressive and attentive. No horse(s) will***
96 ***be shown in a manner deemed to be presented with a hard stance. On The Muscle/Hard Stand Up is defined as a***
97 ***shift of balance, withdrawing, or an increase in intensity due to any actions or cues from the handler.*** Horses
98 should be positioned with their weight squarely on their ***balanced on all*** four feet, not stretched. ***A horse is***
99 ***considered not stretched if all four feet are flat on the ground and at least one front and one rear cannon bone is***
100 ***perpendicular to the ground.*** Horse shall be presented for judging, in a relaxed manner.
- 101 ~~8. ***Horses must not be encouraged to unnaturally elevate and/or lengthen their neck by the handler in a manner***~~
102 ~~***which is typically associated with a hard stance.***~~

103

104 Appointments

- 105 1. Horses may be shown in a traditional style Arabian show halter, a Western style show halter, or a leather stable
- 106 halter. Horses may be shown in bridles appropriate to their performance divisions.
- 107 2. Chains through the mouth are not permitted. A chain or leather strap under the chin, or leather pieces connecting the
- 108 two sides of the halter under the chin, are permitted.
- 109 3. Horses may be shown braided if braiding is appropriate for their performance division(s). Braiding is not required.
- 110 4. Attire: Exhibitors may wear any clothing appropriate to the show ring that they feel best represents their horse and
- 111 allows them to show their horse to their best advantage. Suits or riding habits are not required.
- 112 5. **Performance Halter classes may use hoof “polish” that is not clear.** (AR106.10.d)

114 Penalties

- 115 1. A horse will be eliminated and excused, if it:
 - 116 a. is crouching, cowering, buckling at the knees, sweating, trembling, racing backwards or sideways to escape
 - 117 their handlers or other behavior indicating fear, stress or intimidation. This rule will be strictly enforced;
 - 118 b. exhibits any welt or swelling that look like a whip mark, regardless of how this was caused;
 - 119 c. is obviously limping or of impaired gait;
 - 120 d. horse (AR109.3) has fallen; or
 - 121 e. (AR105.6) for inhumane treatment and undue stress.
 - 122 f. exhibits disruptive behavior such that it or other horses are unable to be inspected by the judge;
 - 123 g. exhibits behavior such that the safety of it, the handler, an exhibitor, a judge, or another horse is in danger;
 - 124 h. is not under the control of the exhibitor;
 - 125 i. breaks loose from the exhibitor; or
 - 126 j. shanking *a horse (except in circumstances required to gain control); or*
 - 127 *k. Removal of eyelashes; or*
 - 128 *l. Changing the natural color of the mane and/or tail (AR106)*
- 129 2. A horse will be penalized for the following:
 - 130 a. ***A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed if the horse is deemed to be consistently presented with a hard stance.***
 - 131 *i. An On The Muscle/Hard Stand Up is defined as a shift of balance, withdrawing, or an increase in*
 - 132 *intensity due to any actions or cues from the handler.*
 - 133 *ii. A horse that shows natural charisma, presence and enthusiastic forward movement should be rewarded,*
 - 134 *not penalized.*
 - 135 b. ***A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance tail, see AR105.2b.***
 - 136 c. ***Excessive amounts of oil, grease, or other similar substance, in accordance with the Performance Halter***
 - 137 ***Score Card.***
 - 138 d. ***Balding the area around the eyes or proximal to the muzzle and nostrils, in accordance with the***
 - 139 ***Performance Halter Score Card.***

142 Effective: December 31, 2023 or when approved by USEF/EC

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

146 RESOLUTION TYPE (REQUIRED): Standard _____ Extraordinary X “If indicated as
147 “Extraordinary”, the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met)

149 Adds rules which further provide for the wellbeing of the horse. In addition, provides a definition of what a “hard stance” is
150 and what the penalty will be.

151 PROPONENTS FINANCIAL IMPACT (REQUIRED): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 102.6. & 102.7 for financial
152 requirements

154 None

156 AHA IMPACT STATEMENT:

158 Contact Person:

RESOLUTION 4 - 23

160 SUBMITTED BY: Competition Advisory Committee Region Number:
161 Member Organization Committee Commission Board Region (check one)
162 Who voted: Members Board Delegates (check voting body)
163 Total Number Eligible to Vote: 9 Number of Yes votes: 6 Number of No votes: 1
164 How vote was taken: mail email/other electronic means phone meeting (check one) (Must have Quorum with
165 majority of yes votes)
166 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: In the Committee Minutes (Must have printed documentation on file)
167 Date vote taken: August 3, 2023
168 Contact Person: Jim Hitt, Chair (Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw)
169 Phone: (303) 917-4119 Email: jimhittreg8@msn.com