

RESOLUTION 1 – 25

Amendment 1 (Blue)

1 SUBJECT: Competition Eligible Horse Certification

2 (STANDARD)

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

4
5 Committees required to review: *(This section to be completed by the Agenda & Resolutions Committee)*

Committee Action:

Approve

Disapprove

Amateur Committee		
Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Commission		
Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Trustees		
Awards Committee		
Board of Directors		
Breeding/In-Hand Committee		
Budget & Finance Committee		
Competition Advisory Committee		
Dressage & Western Dressage Committee		
Equitation>Showmanship Committee		
Executive Committee		
Eventing & Driving Committee		
Hunter/Jumper Committee		
Professional Horsemen Committee		
Registration Commission		
Sport Horse Committee		
Sport Horse National Show Commission		
U.S. National Show Commission		
USEF Arabian Division Committee		
Working Western Committee		
Youth Committee		
Youth National Show Commission		

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12 Withdrawn Referred to Committee _____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) AHA - COMP, ACH, and USEF - AR.

16

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

18

19 Whereas, The welfare, health, and safety of Arabian horses is of primary importance to the Association and its
20 members; and

21

22 Whereas, A primary mission of the Equine Welfare Committee is to reduce stress experienced by Arabian bred
23 horses; and

24

25 Whereas, A primary mission of the Membership Committee is to grow the membership of the Association through all
26 categories of members; and

27

28 Whereas, Many Arabian and part Arabian horses end up, often through no fault of their own, sold through low end
29 auctions and “kill pens”, separated from their registration papers; and

30

31 Whereas, multiple studies have determined that equines suffer great stress in the kill pen pipeline, including
32 gastroenteric disorders, heat stress, prolonged hunger and thirst, respiratory disorders, resting problems,
33 restrictions of movement, and sensory overstimulation (EFS Panel of Equine Health and Welfare- EFSA
34 Journal 2025, <https://doi.org/10.2903/ijefsa.2025.9178>); and

35 Whereas, The Arabian 300 Club, alone, has assisted with rescue of 4,912 Arabian bred horses, between 2016 and
 36 2024, according to the statistics posted on their website; and Love This Horse Arabian rescue has assisted
 37 with 749 in that same period; and

38 Whereas, At the same time, membership in the Association has continued to decrease; and

39 Whereas, Having the ability to compete in breed classes helps to make a horse more marketable and less likely to be
 40 placed into and/or returned to the kill pen cycle; and

41 Whereas, Current technology allows a horse that has been registered to be identified through DNA testing; and

42 Whereas, AHA REG 126 currently reads:

43 REG 126. TRANSFER WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF RECORDED OWNER

44 Whenever legal title to a registered horse passes to another by reason of death of the recorded owner, by
 45 reason of foreclosure of any lien or by any order or decree of court, or otherwise by operation of law, the
 46 AHA Registry may transfer the registration of such horse to the new owner:

47 1. Upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction or other satisfactory proof of authority for the transfer;

48 2. Upon payment of the transfer fee and any reasonable costs and expenses of investigation; and

49 3. Upon satisfaction of such other requirements as may be defined by the AHA Registry., and

50 Whereas, The time and expense of a judicial proceeding to obtain a court order can often be prohibitive, for many
 51 persons who acquire horses that have been separated from their registration, and

52 Whereas, The average cost of a small trial typically is between \$25,000 and \$50,000 (<https://www.stimmel-law.com/en/articles/cost-benefit-american-litigation>); and

53 Whereas, Lawful owners of previously registered horses present an opportunity to grow the Association's
 54 membership and revenues by generating additional unknown DNA tests and certifying previously
 55 registered horses as eligible to compete in breed shows and competitions, while providing for the welfare of
 56 known registered Arabian and part-Arabian horses; Therefore, Be It

57

58 Resolved, That the Table of Contents for Chapter 11 of the AHA Handbook and the titles within such Chapter 11 be
 59 amended by adding "***and Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***" after "Registration" in the COMP 2 and
 60 COMP 207 section titles, and; Be It Further

61

62 Resolved, That COMP 207 be amended by adding a new Paragraph 4 as follows:

63

64 4. ***A COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE CERTIFICATE will be issued for a horse proven by their DNA to have been previously registered as either a purebred, half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian, but for which the recorded owner is not willing or able to transfer the registration of the horse to the horse's lawful owner. For purposes of the foregoing, a lawful owner is:***

65 (i) ***a person who would be considered a bona fide purchaser of the horse for value under the law, being someone who has acquired the horse through a good faith purchase or inheritance; or***

66 (ii) ***someone who has acquired ownership of the horse from a state licensed rescue, in states which license rescue organizations, or***

67 (iii) ***501 (c)(3) organization, in states that do not license rescue organizations, after the hold period required by law in the state where the rescue occurred.***

68 a. ***A good faith purchase may be shown through a bill of sale that is not contested by the recorded full registration owner within sixty days of notice being delivered to the last known address of such last recorded owner. Such notice shall be issued by AHA through certified mail, return receipt, if requested by the person claiming ownership of the horse following DNA testing, and such person has paid to AHA the then established postal service rates for certified mail return receipt delivery of such notice. If the horse is acquired from a licensed rescue or 501(c)(3) organization in compliance with applicable law, notice is not required. The sole basis for the recorded full***

86
 87
 88
 89
 90
 91
 92 *registration owner to contest the issuance of a COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE*
 93 *CERTIFICATE is that the recorded full registration owner sold the horse to the person requesting*
 94 *the COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE CERTIFICATE or a member of their immediate family*
 95 *and/or a business entity in which they have an ownership interest or vice versa, and payment or part*
 96 *of the payment is still owed to the recorded full registration owner.*

97
 98 b. *Horses with a COMPETITION ELIGIBLE CERTIFICATE will not be recognized for purposes of*
 99 *breeding; but are allowed to compete at breed shows as Arabians, half-Arabians, or Anglo-*
 100 *Arabians, as their DNA determines, for all purposes except (i) classes intended to showcase breeding*
 101 *stock, and (ii) classes for which a breeder or prior owner has nominated the horse and paid a*
 102 *nomination or other fee, such as Arabian Breeder's Sweepstakes, Arabian Halter Futurity, and the*
 103 *Arabian Performance Futurity/Maturity Derby Program.*

104 c. *"A Competition Eligible Certificate will be sufficient for the horse to compete at a Regional or*
 105 *National show or in the Arabian Performance Futurity/Maturity Derby Program or other prize*
 106 *money classes where the current owner has paid all involved fees, and Be It Further*

107 103 Resolved, That COMP 207, Section 1, be amended to read: "See USEF/EC Rules for complete Registration
 108 104 and/or **Competition Eligible Horse Certification** requirements for all horses and for registration
 109 105 and/or **Competition Eligible Horse Certification** requirements for horses being shown in Amateur
 110 106 Owner classes. Note, the owner must be recorded with the appropriate registry and must meet the
 111 107 family definition to compete in AO/AAO/JO classes, **or the owner must be the owner of record of a**
 112 108 **Competition Eligible Horse Certificated horse to compete it in AO/AAO/JO classes**"; and Be It
 113 109 Further

114 111 Resolved, That the first sentence of COMP 207, Section 2, be amended to add "**or Competition Eligible Horse**
 115 112 **Certificate**" following "registration certificate", and Be It Further

116 114 Resolved, That COMP 207, Section 2 (a), be amended to read as follows: "In the case of a lessee, pending
 117 115 transfer, contract of sale, or cash sale, a copy of the registration certificate **or Competition Eligible**
 118 116 **Horse Certificate, as applicable**, must be submitted, along with proof of lease or ownership and these
 119 117 documents must be attached to the copy of the registration **or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate**
 120 118 and must contain the correct registered name and number of the horse, date, and the signature of the
 121 119 seller or lessee. This requirement is good only for Open and AT/AAT/JT classes, and Be It Further

122 121 Resolved, That COMP 207, Section 3, be amended to read as follows: "Horses must be registered **or certificated**
 123 122 in order to have results recorded. (Refer to COMP 603.4.f.) and Be It Further

124 124 Resolved, That COMP 301, Section 9 (a), be amended by adding "**or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate**" after
 125 125 "registration certificate", and Be It Further

126 127 Resolved, That COMP 401, Section 3, be amended to read as follows: "Must provide space for the horse's
 127 128 registered name and number **or, for Competition Certificated horses, for their Competition**
 129 129 **Eligible Horse Certification number.**" and Be It Further

130 131 Resolved, That COMP 603.4.f be amended by adding as follows:

131 132 f. List the name and registration numbers of all horses. Only horses with permanent registration numbers
 132 133 will be recorded. Horses shown with a pending registration number and their rider, driver, handler will
 133 134 not be recorded. (BOD 1/02). **For horses with A COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE**
 134 135 **CERTIFICATE, the number on that Certificate will be recorded.**, and Be It Further

135 138 Resolved, That COMP 603, Section 6 (a), be amended by adding "**or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate**" after
 136 139 "registration", and Be It Further

137 141 Resolved, That REQ 106, Section 15, be amended by adding "**or competition**" after "registration", and Be It
 138 142 Further

RESOLUTION 1 – 25

144 Resolved, That REQ 109, Section 1 (a), be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”, and Be It
145 Further

146

147 Resolved, That REQ 112, Section 3, be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”, and Be It
148 Further

149

150 Resolved, That QUAL 101, Section 15 (a), be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate*” after
151 “Certificate of Registration”, and Be It Further

152

153 Resolved, That QUAL 109, Section 1, be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”, and Be It
154 Further

155

156 Resolved, That QUAL 117 be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”, and Be It Further

157

158 Resolved, That CT 102, sub-section 1 (a) (i) and (ii), be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse
159 Certification*” after “registration”, and Be It Further

160

161 Resolved, That CT 113, sub-section 1 (a), be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate*” after
162 “Certificate of Registration”, and Be It Further

163

164 Resolved, That CT 113, sub-section 1 (b), be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse Certification*” after
165 “registration”, and Be It Further

166

167 Resolved, That END 103, Section 2 (a), be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”; and “*or
168 Competition Eligible Horse Certificate, as applicable*” after “registration papers”, and Be It Further

169

170 Resolved, That END 104, Section 1, be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse Certification*” after
171 “registration”, and Be It Further

172

173 Resolved, That END 106 be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered”, and Be It Further

174

175 Resolved, That END 110, Section 1, be amended by adding “*or Competition Eligible Horse Certification*” after
176 “registration”, and Be It Further

177

178 Resolved, That END 112, Section 1 (a), be amended by adding “*or competition certified*” after “registered” and “*or
179 Competition Eligible Horse Certificate, as applicable*” after “registration papers”, and Be It Further

180

181 Resolved, *That as it is anticipated that the foregoing resolution will cause a financial impact on the Arabian Horse
182 Association, to modify its data base and/or software programs to incorporate and maintain the
183 Competition Eligible Horse Certification program, fees to certify or transfer a horse with a Competition
184 Eligible Horse Certification be established by the Board of Directors, based on the recommendation of a
185 new Competition Eligible Horse Certification Committee to be formed and charged with the duty of
186 administrating the program, and Be It Further*

187

188 Resolved, *That such fees be established and adjusted from time to time, if necessary, to bring the certification and
189 transfer fees in line with the costs of creating and maintaining the Competition Eligible Horse
190 Certification program, using the fees generated both through certification and transfer of Competition
191 Eligible Horse Certification horses; and through fees generated through competitions at which such
192 horses compete; and the committee will provide a report to the AHA Board of Directors from time to time
193 and Be It Further*

194

195 Resolved, That ACH 101, Paragraph 3 be amended by adding as follows:

196

197 3. All horses must be registered by the Arabian Horse Registry of America, Inc., the Canadian Arabian
198 Horse Registry, the Half-Arabian Registry, or the Anglo-Arabian Registry or the Canadian Partbred
199 Arabian Register *or a COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE CERTIFICATE issued by AHA (See
200 COMP 207, 4.)*, and Be It Further

201

202 Resolved, *That USEF SUBCHAPTER AR -1 rules be amended to include a COMPETITION ELIGIBLE HORSE
203 CERTIFICATE as an alternative to a certificate of registration, and Be It Further*

204 Resolved, That REC 102, Section 2, be amended by adding “***or holding a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***”
 205 after “registered”, and Be It Further

206

207

208 Resolved, That MEM 102, Section 4 (a), be amended by adding “***or holding a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

209

210

211 Resolved, That PERF 104, Section 1, be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certification***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

212

213

214 Resolved, That PERF 106, Section 1, be amended to read: ”Horses must be registered with AHA, CAHR, or CPAR and possess a current Certificate of Registration ***or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate; provided that horses for whom a prior owner nominated the horse and paid the nomination fee may not be shown in Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby classes, unless the new owner holds the Certificate of Registration in their name or the prior owner who nominated the horse approves, in writing, for the horse to be competed with a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***”, and Be It Further

215

216

217

218

219

220

221 Resolved, That PERF 106, Section 2, be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certification***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

222

223

224 Resolved, That PERF 107, Section 11, be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate, as applicable***” after “Certificate of Registration”, and Be It Further

225

226

227 Resolved, That ACH 101, Section 1, be amended by adding “***or have a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” to the end of such Section, and Be It Further

228

229

230 Resolved, That ACH 101, Section 6, be amended by adding “***or holding a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

231

232

233 Resolved, That ACH 102, Section 6, be amended by adding “***or holding a Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

234

235

236 Resolved, That AWD 104, be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

237

238 Resolved, That AWD 105, Sections 4 and 6, be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

239

240

241 Resolved, That AWD 106, Section 1, be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

242

243

244 Resolved, That AWD 107, Section 2 (b), be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

245

246

247 Resolved, That AWD 108, Section 1, be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

248

249

250 Resolved, That AWD 111, Section 1 (c), be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and Be It Further

251

252

253 Resolved, That YTH 109, Section 1, be amended by adding “***or Competition Certified***” after “registered”, and “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certification***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

254

255

256 Resolved, That SUS 102, Section 1 (c), be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

257

258

259 Resolved, That SUS 102, Section 3 (d), be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

260

261

262 Resolved, That SUS 103, Section 4, be amended by adding “***or Competition Eligible Horse Certificate***” after “registration”, and Be It Further

263

264
 265 Resolved, That MEM 105, Section 1 (c) and sub-sections (1), (2), and (3), be amended by adding “*or Competition*
 266 *Eligible Horse Certificate*” after “registration papers”, and Be It Further
 267
 268 Effective: December 31, 2026 or when approved by USEF/EC
 269
 270 (If a Standard resolution, the effective date will be December 31 of the year after the Convention)
 271

272 RESOLUTION TYPE (REQUIRED): Standard X Extraordinary “If indicated as “Extraordinary”,
 273 the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met
 274
 275

276
 277 PROPONENTS FINANCIAL IMPACT (REQUIRED): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 102.6. & 102.7 for financial
 278 requirements
 279

280 The proponent has obtained a bid to prepare a stand alone database of \$15,000.

281 AHA IMPACT STATEMENT:

282
 283 Contact Person: Bill Arakali – bill.arakali@arabianhorses.org
 284

285 SUBMITTED BY: Region Number:
 286 Member Organization Committee Commission Board Region (check one)
 287 Who voted: Members Board Delegates (check voting body)
 288 Total Number Eligible to Vote: Number of Yes votes: Number of No votes:
 289 How vote was taken: mail _ email/other electronic means phone meeting (check one) (Must have Quorum with
 290 majority of yes votes)
 291 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: (Must have printed documentation on file)
 292 Date vote taken:
 293 Contact Person: _____
 294 Phone: Email: