

Education and Evaluation Commission

Points of Emphasis
2026



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- Correctness Of Gaits - Horses should demonstrate proper execution of every gait, and judges must assess the correctness of all gaits consistently throughout the entire duration of the class.
- Work-Off - Per Handbook Rule REQ 202, when a work-off is requested, at least two of the three judges must communicate the request through the ringmaster. In accordance with Rule AR128.2, any horses not involved in the work-off must be excused from the ring until the work-off is complete.
- Blood - In cases involving blood on a horse, Rule AR105.6 applies and supersedes GR844.

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- Soundness - Resolution 3-25, the amendment to USEF AR105.1 - requiring all horses to be serviceably sound - is pending USEF approval for implementation in 2026.
- Showmanship - Per AR304, as of December 1st, 2025, judges **must use** the prescribed Showmanship Score Card.
 - At all multi-judge competitions, multi-judge Regional competitions, score cards must be posted one hour after the completion of the session.
 - Competitions posting cards must have a designated walker and scribe.