These are meant to be positive influences in the ring. Again, it is up to all of us to conduct ourselves in a professional manner.

**Administrative Penalties in Halter Breeding Classes** When administering penalties it is important to remember your horsemanship and horse sense in halter breeding classes. It is also important to be consistent with what you saw, not what you thought you saw. Example: a horse rearing from either intimidation or aggression as opposed to a young horse that is possibly being playful. These suggested guidelines for Halter penalty points should help all judges and exhibitors in adjudicating and exhibiting Arabian and Half-Arabian horses.

a. **Poor Manners**: The following are examples of poor manners.
   1. Rearing with an aggressive intent. A playful or naturally exuberant horse should not be penalized.
   2. Kicking or striking at the handler.
   3. Disrespecting the handler by not standing still, bulling over the handler, or other means.

   Suggest no more than one (1) penalty point per instance.

b. **Undue Stress**
   1. Quivering
   2. Excessive sweating

   Suggest at least one (1) penalty point depending on severity.

c. **Inhumane Treatment**
   1. Excessive shanking that is not required for control.

   Suggest one (1) penalty point per instance.

d. **Excessive Use of Whip** Common sense should dictate what is excessive. If it bothers you or other exhibitors, you should issue one (1) penalty point.

e. **Horse Appears to be Intimidated by Handler**. The following are examples:
   1. Cowering
   2. Crouching
   3. Fleeing backwards due to a man-made action.

   Suggest at least one (1) penalty point depending on severity. In extreme cases you go as high as five (5) penalty points if no other penalty points have been issued.
**Excessive Oil, Grease, Other Substance** You should use your own judgment as to what is excessive. Please keep in mind each individual’s own tastes in presenting their horses and penalize what is truly excessive. Suggest no more than one (1) penalty point.

**Major Faults** in conformation categories (Halter)

a. If a horse has a major fault in any conformation category, it **MUST NOT** receive a score greater than 10.
   1. Legs and feet
   2. Head
   3. Neck and shoulder
   4. Back, loin, and hip

**Adherence to Class Specifications**

a. Follow priority order of class specifications (2011 USEF Rule Book - GR902)

b. AR112 - Judges are required to consider the performance at each gait equally in adjudicating performance classes.

**Tails**

a. USEF AR101.5 - "No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or by any means. Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions, because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the breed type."

b. USEF AR102 - The Arabian Breed Standards describe the Arabian Horse "...to exhibit 'natural high tail carriage.'"

Judges are to penalize unnatural or altered tail carriage in halter and in performance classes.