

SUBJECT: Rubber Bands in the Forelock (USEF/EC)

(STANDARD)

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

Committee Action:

Approve

Disapprove

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

Amateur Committee			
Competition Advisory Committee			
Education/Evaluation Commission			
Professional Horsemen Committee			
USEF Arabian Division Committee			
Youth Committee			

CONVENTION ACTION:

_____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved

_____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____

PROPOSED CHANGE: (*Check one*) _____ Add new rule _____ Delete existing rule _____ Change existing text

Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC)

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

Whereas, Arabian horses are required to be shown with a long, natural, unbraided/unbanded mane and tail in order to maintain the natural characteristics and traditional appearance of the breeds, and

Whereas, Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horse are not required to have a long mane and/or tail, but an unbraided/unbanded mane and/or tail is mandatory, and

Whereas, Hairs from the horse's forelock can become loose during performance, causing irritation or distraction to the horse, which can lead to the horse becoming unsettled, and

Whereas, Such irritation from loose hairs can result in riders calling their only allowed timeout and disrupting the flow of the class, and

Whereas, Allowing the use of an inconspicuous rubber band or tape in the forelock would not interfere with the traditional look of the Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses when performing, and

Whereas, Permitting the use of an inconspicuous rubber band or tape in the forelock provides a practical and discreet solution to prevent irritation and distraction; Therefore, Be It

Resolved, That USEF AR106.8 be amended by inserting the following:

8. Purebred Arabian horses must wear a long, natural, unbraided/unbanded mane and/or tail (with or without clipped bridle path). Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses are not required to have a long mane and/or tail, but an unbraided/unbanded mane and/or tail is mandatory. ***Arabian and Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian horses may wear an inconspicuous rubber band on the unbraided forelock either clear, brown, or black. Non-conforming colors will be penalized as inappropriate appointments.*** Exceptions: Horses shown with Hunter, Jumper, Show Hack, Sport Horse or Dressage appointments, or in Western Dressage classes, are permitted to show with a shortened, pulled, or braided mane and/or tail. Decorative items in manes and tails are prohibited. Only simple bows made from the yarn to secure braid(s) are permitted. Cutting horses may be shown with a roached/shaved mane. Manes and forelocks may be banded in Reining, Reining Seat Equitation, and Reining Seat Medal classes. For Carriage Pleasure Driving see division chapter CP. All horses must have a natural unaltered, unset, and ungingered tail as described in AR105.3 - Ginger, Capsaicin, and other Irritants.

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Effective: December 31, 2027, or when approved by USEF/EC

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

RESOLUTION TYPE (**REQUIRED**): Standard ☒ X ☐ Extraordinary ☐ "If indicated as "Extraordinary", the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met)

PROPOSERS FINANCIAL IMPACT (**REQUIRED**): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 102.6. & 102.7 for financial requirements
None

AHA IMPACT STATEMENT: (*To be completed by AHA Staff*)

Contact Person:

SUBMITTED BY: Arabian Professional & Amateur Horsemen Assoc. Region Number: 8

☒ Member Organization ☐ Committee ☐ Commission ☐ Board ☐ Region (*check one* ☒)

Who voted: ☒ Members ☐ Board ☐ Delegates (*check voting body*)

Total Number Eligible to Vote: 17 Number of Yes votes: 16 Number of No votes: 0

How vote was taken: ☐ mail ☒ email/other electronic means ☐ phone ☐ meeting (*check one*) (*Must have Quorum with majority of yes votes*)

Where documentation of this vote is recorded: President of APAHA (*Must have printed documentation on file*)

Date vote taken: August 14, 2026

Contact Person: Cathy Vecsey (*Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw*)

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