

## CHAPTER 8 CONDUCT OF LICENSED COMPETITIONS

### SUBCHAPTER 8-A ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT.

- GR801 Dress.
- GR802 Artificial Markings and Appliances.
- GR803 Use of Whips.
- GR804 Shoeing Regulations.

### SUBCHAPTER 8-B COMPETITION AWARDS, HONORS, AND PRIZES.

- GR805 Challenge Trophies.
- GR806 Perpetual Trophies.
- GR807 Prize Ribbons.
- GR808 Awarding Championships.
- GR809 Performance Championships.
- GR810 Breeding or In Hand Championships.
- GR811 Sweepstakes.
- GR812 Retirement Ceremony.

### SUBCHAPTER 8-C COMPETITION AND CLASS CONDITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY.

- GR813 Classes for Horse and Rider.
- GR814 Amateur.
- GR815 Breeding or In-Hand.
- GR816 Junior Exhibitor.
- GR817 Ladies'.
- GR818 Local.
- GR819 Maiden, Novice and Limit.
- GR820 Model Classes.
- GR821 Opportunity Classes.
- GR822 Owners' Classes.
- GR823 Dividing Classes.
- GR824 Stallions.
- GR825 Ponies.
- GR826 Combined ownership.
- GR827 Hors de Concours.
- GR828 Permission to Compete in Foreign Competitions.

### SUBCHAPTER 8-D SCHEDULING DURING COMPETITION.

- GR829 Length of Competition.
- GR830 Time Schedule.
- GR831 Delay of Classes.
- GR832 Interruption of Procedure.
- GR833 Time-Out.

### SUBCHAPTER 8-E SCHOOLING.

- GR834 General.
- GR835 Designated Areas.
- GR836 Trail.
- GR837 Hunter.
- GR838 Jumper. (See also JP103 and Appendix A)

### SUBCHAPTER 8-F WELFARE OF THE HORSE.

- GR839 Cruelty to and Abuse of a Horse.
- GR840 Attention Getting Devices.
- GR841 Soundness.
- GR842 Falls.
- GR843 Poling.



## CHAPTER 8 CONDUCT OF LICENSED COMPETITIONS

### SUBCHAPTER 8-A ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT.

#### GR801 Dress.

1. It is the tradition of the competition ring that riders and drivers be correctly attired for the class in question, that attendants be neatly dressed and horses be properly presented.
2. It is compulsory for riders in all Hunter, Jumper and Hunt Seat Equitation classes, and Paso Fino classes, both open and breed restricted including Hunter Hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition grounds to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. A Show Committee must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring for classes in which protective headgear is required and may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.
3. Except as may otherwise be mandated by local law, all juniors riding in Hunter, Jumper and Hunter Seat Equitation sections, and all sub-juniors riding in the Paso Fino division, while riding anywhere on the competition grounds, must wear properly fitting protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. Harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.
4. Any exhibitor may wear protective headgear (ASTM/SEI) and/or a protective safety vest, specifically designed for use in equestrian sport in any division or class without penalty from the judge. The Federation recommends that the vest meet or surpass the current ASTM standard or be certified by the Safety Equipment Institute.
5. See DC117.6.3 for protective headgear requirement in Combined Driving.
6. Except as may otherwise be mandated by local law, the Federation strongly encourages all riders, while riding anywhere on the competition grounds, to wear protective headgear with harness secured which passes or surpasses ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian or trainer of the junior exhibitor to see to it that the headgear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition, and the Federation, Show Committee, and Licensed Officials are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance.
7. The Federation makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, about any protective headgear, and cautions riders that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear as all equestrian sports involve inherent dangerous risk and as no helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries.
8. Boots/shoes worn while riding anywhere on the competition grounds must have a distinguishable heel. (Exception: Arabian, Hackney Pony, Morgan, National Show Horse, Parade, Roadster, Saddlebred, and Saddle Seat Equitation).
9. Competitors must display the correct number which must be clearly visible while performing in any class unless otherwise stated in the prize list. Competitors may be penalized at the discretion of the judge. Numbers to be supplied by management in compliance with GR1213.11. Refer to DR126.14 (Dressage) and DR207.8 (Dressage Sport Horse Breeding).
10. Refer to EQ109.1 and HU126.

#### GR802 Artificial Markings and Appliances.

1. Any change of color or markings other than mane, tail or hoof is prohibited. (Exception: Arabian and Half/Anglo Arabian halter, see AR107.6; Reining Division; Friesian Division, Paso Fino, see PF101.5-.6). Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Materials may be used to remove stains.

2. All artificial appliances other than those permitted in division rules are prohibited (Exception: Reining and Jumper Divisions). Bandages, tailsets, chains or other training devices are prohibited in the ring in Breeding/Halter classes.

#### **GR803 Use of Whips.**

No item may be used inside or outside the ring while showing a horse except one whip per handler. If whips are allowed, they must be no longer than 6' including the snapper or lash. No appendages of any kind are permitted. One lungeing whip is permitted only when lungeing. Some breed and/or disciplines may have use of whip division rules that depart from this rule and as such, the division rule governs. (GR149.1)

#### **GR804 Shoeing Regulations.**

1. In some parts of the country, it is common practice to show unshod horses in certain classes. A horse cannot be barred from the ring because of being unshod but, in classes in which it is common practice for all horses to be shod, a barefoot horse may be penalized at the judge's discretion.
2. Competitions offering classes in a division that designates a maximum weight for shoes (Morgan, Paso Fino, Welsh) must provide accurate scales for weighing. If any horse casts a shoe in any of these classes, the shoe, including pad if used, but not including nails must be immediately weighed by the judge. In these classes, a competitor may not be excused from the ring until the judge is satisfied that the horse has not cast a shoe. Refer to GR109.2.
3. If the weight of a shoe and pad is protested, the owner may either withdraw the entry and forfeit all entry fees and winnings of the protested entry for the entire competition, in which event the protest must be withdrawn and the fee refunded or, have the shoe and pad removed in the presence of the competition veterinarian and steward so it can be weighed immediately.
4. Whether cast or removed, if the shoe including pad exceeds the weight limit, the entry must be disqualified for the balance of the competition and all entry fees and winnings of the entry for the entire competition will be forfeited. Removal and replacement of any protested shoe and pad is the sole responsibility of the owner of the entry; however, if the protest is not upheld, the protestor must pay \$15 to defray the cost of removal and replacement of the shoe.
5. See AR103 for Arabian shoeing regulations.

### **SUBCHAPTER 8-B COMPETITION AWARDS, HONORS, AND PRIZES.**

#### **GR805 Challenge Trophies.**

1. A Challenge Trophy is a trophy donated to or offered by a competition which must be won a specified number of times under specified conditions. When originally placed in competition, it becomes the property of the Show Committee and cannot be withdrawn by the donor.
2. The conditions of the Challenge Trophy may not be changed without the consent of the trophy donor or his legal representative and of all who have qualified as potential winners of the trophy, except in the event that the conditions stipulated are in conflict with the current rules of the Federation. In such an event, the Show Committee must confer with the Federation as to procedure.
3. The winner of a leg on a Challenge Trophy in competition is entitled to possession of such trophy for a period of 10 months from date of winning unless a competition stipulates that the trophy will remain in its possession. The winner is responsible for protection and care of the trophy while in his possession. At the expiration of 10 months, or two months prior to the next annual competition, the competition may demand return of trophy if it has not been won outright. Failure of an exhibitor to return the trophy constitutes a violation under Chapter 7 and renders the exhibitor subject to penalty.
4. If a Challenge Trophy is competed for at more than one competition per year, the committee may elect to keep the trophy in its possession.
5. If a Challenge Trophy is destroyed, stolen or lost and therefore cannot be returned, the exhibitor who had possession of the trophy must pay to the competition the cost of replacing it with a trophy equally suitable and satisfactory to the Show Committee. The exhibitor will be exempt from penalty if the trophy is replaced before the next competition.
6. Should a competition or class be discontinued or not held for any period of time, any unretired Challenge Trophies offered at such competition must be returned at the expiration

date of ten months to the last active Show Committee. This committee will determine the disposition of such trophies but they may not be placed in competition at any competition unless the provisions of paragraph 2 are met.

7. In the event of the death of an exhibitor who has won one or more legs on a Challenge Trophy, a member of that exhibitor's family may include such previous winnings in any further competitions for such Challenge Trophy in which they may engage.

8. If a Challenge Trophy is competed for and won under a farm name and the farm is later sold to another person who retains the farm name, legs won on the trophy by the first owner will not be counted by the subsequent owner of the farm in his competition.

**GR806 Perpetual Trophies.**

A Perpetual Trophy is a trophy donated to or offered by a competition which is never awarded permanently to an exhibitor but remains the property of and in the possession of a competition. The Show Committee may present a replica or souvenir trophy to the annual winner. The conditions of a Perpetual Trophy are identical with those of a Challenge Trophy. Exception: previous winners need not be consulted when and if specifications are changed.

**GR807 Prize Ribbons.**

1. At all Licensed Competitions, the prize ribbons are to be the following colors:
 

Grand Champion	Blue, Red, Yellow and White
Reserve to Grand Champion	Red, Yellow, White and Pink
Champion	Blue, Red and Yellow
Reserve Champion	Red, Yellow and White
First Prize	Blue
Second Prize	Red
Third Prize	Yellow
Fourth Prize	White
Fifth Prize	Pink
Sixth Prize	Green
Seventh Prize	Purple
Eighth Prize	Brown
Ninth Prize	Gray
Tenth Prize	Light Blue
2. It is recommended that competitions offer one ribbon for every six entries.
3. A Licensed Competition located outside the United States may conform to the practice of the country in which it is situated with respect to the color of the ribbons used.

**GR808 Awarding Championships.**

1. Championship classes for a specific height or sex may be offered in any division as set forth in the respective division rules. Judging specifications must follow those of the Open Championship class.
2. In the Hunter divisions, Championships must be awarded on points. In the Morgan and Welsh Pony divisions, Championships may be awarded on points or held as performance classes. (See JP110.2 for Jumper Championships)
3. When Championships are awarded on points, all competitors must be given an equal opportunity to obtain points. In all other divisions, Championships must be awarded in a Championship Performance class and all entries must be given an opportunity to qualify.
4. Only the first four ribbons in each class are counted regardless of the number offered. Ribbons have the same point value even if less than the specified four places are awarded due to lack of entries, etc. Exception: See JP110.2 for Jumper Championships.
5. Point Value:
 

Blue ribbon	5 points	Yellow ribbon	2 points
Red ribbon	3 points	White ribbon	1 points
6. In Hunter sections only the first six ribbons in each class are counted regardless of the number offered. Ribbons have the same value even if less than the specified six places are awarded due to lack of entries. First Place...10 points, Second Place...6 points, Third Place...4 points, Fourth Place...2 points, Fifth Place...1 point, Sixth Place...1/2 point.

**GR809 Performance Championships.**

1. A Show Committee must designate all qualifying classes and can require any or all winners in a qualifying class to compete in a Performance Championship class provided this is stated in the prize list and the gaits required are the same as in the qualifying class. Any exhibitor failing to comply must forfeit all prize money in the qualifying class. If an

exhibitor or trainer qualifies more than one horse for a Championship class he can elect to show only one.

2. To be eligible to show in a Performance Championship class a horse must have been properly entered, shown and judged in one qualifying class in the same division or section.

3. An entry which while performing in a qualifying class fails to qualify by reasons of equipment repair, shoeing time, illness (certified by the official veterinarian) or failure of a class to fill shall be permitted to pay double fee and make a post entry in another qualifying class in the section or if no subsequent qualifying class is available for such post entry, the horse shall be considered qualified for the Performance Championship class, provided the horse has previously been entered in the Championship or Stake. Exception: Dressage. (See also GR116.3)

4. To avoid divided Performance Championship classes, eligibility for a Championship class may be limited to ribbon winners in qualifying classes.

#### **GR810 Breeding or In Hand Championships.**

1. Junior Breeding or In-Hand Championships may be offered for two-year-olds and under; Senior Breeding or In-Hand Championships for three-year-olds and over. In the event a competition offers a Junior Championship and a Senior Championship, as well as a Show Championship, only the first and second place ribbon winners are eligible to compete for the Show Championship unless division rules prohibit foals and yearlings.

2. Entry in a Breeding class does not qualify a horse for a Performance Championship class. Exceptions: in the Hackney Pony, Morgan, Roadster and Saddlebred Horse divisions any performance class, including futurities and/or classics, qualifies for a Performance Championship class at that competition.

3. In a Breeding section of the Welsh division, the Championship will be awarded to one of the horses which has placed first in a qualifying class. After the Championship has been awarded the horse which has placed second in the qualifying class to the horse awarded the Championship shall compete with the remaining first place winners for the Reserve Championship.

4. In a Breeding section of the Hackney, Morgan, Saddlebred, or Shetland divisions, the Championship and Reserve Championship will be awarded to horses that have placed first or second in their qualifying classes.

5. In a Breeding section of the Arabian division, the Junior, Senior or Show (Grand) Championship will be awarded to one of the horses which has placed first in a qualifying class. Qualifying classes for championships must be designated in the prize list. After the Championship has been awarded, the horse which has placed second in the qualifying class to the horse awarded the Championship shall compete with the remaining first place winners for the Reserve Championship. If a Show (Grand) Championship class is held, the Senior Champion and the Reserve Senior Champion as well as the top two ranking two-year-olds will be eligible to compete. (Exception: AR108.1).

6. In any case, should any first or second place winners in a qualifying class not compete for the Championship or be disqualified for being unsound, being unruly or not performing the class routine in the Championship class, the horse receiving the next highest ribbon in the qualifying class shall have the option of moving up for the Championship and Reserve only.

7. None of the above applies to Dressage/Sport Horse Breeding.

8. None of the above applies to the Andalusian/Lusitano Division. For Breeding and In Hand Championships see AL106.

9. None of the above applies to the Friesian Division. For Breeding and In Hand Championships see FR116.

#### **GR811 Sweepstakes.**

When a Sweepstake class is offered, providing for a division of entry fees, either with or without monies added by the Show Committee, the total to be distributed must include the entry fees of all entries listed in the catalogue, whether or not the horses are shown, plus all fees covering other entries legally in the class, unless a competition stipulates in its prize list that portion of the entry fees which will be withheld.

**GR812 Retirement Ceremony.**

1. If a retirement ceremony is allowed at the request of the owner of a horse, that horse may not be permitted to compete at the competition. Any horse officially retired at a Licensed Competition is barred for life from further competition at Licensed Competitions except by special permission of the Executive Committee; however, they can continue to be shown in Academy classes, Leadline classes, Get of Sire and Produce of Dam classes.
2. The Federation will give necessary publicity to all official retirement ceremonies and will notify all Licensed Competitions. See GR1214.7.
3. Any ceremony announcing an exhibitor's retirement from competition is prohibited.

**SUBCHAPTER 8-C COMPETITION AND CLASS CONDITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY.****GR813 Classes for Horse and Rider.**

In a class where the performances of both horse and rider are considered, the horse and rider together constitute an entry and neither can appear in a different combination except in Eventing or Dressage classes.

**GR814 Amateur.**

Amateur classes may be offered in any division using the specifications set forth in the respective division rules. If Amateur classes are offered leading to a Championship, judging specifications will be those of amateur classes or amateur Championships unless the prize list specifically states that open judging specifications will be used.

**GR815 Breeding or In-Hand.**

1. Breeding or In-Hand classes may be offered in any section in which they are indicated in the respective division rules. The prize list must specify as to each class the age, sex and manner of showing.
2. All Futurity classes are considered part of the respective Breeding sections.

**GR816 Junior Exhibitor.**

Classes, sections or competitions may be limited to junior exhibitors if so desired. Where special rules and class specifications are given for classes so limited, they should be used throughout the junior exhibitor classes offered and shall take precedence over such class specifications as those for Championship classes. A Show Committee should bear in mind that a horse suitable for a junior exhibitor should have good manners and it is suggested that the specifications for a Ladies' or Amateur class be followed throughout.

**GR817 Ladies'.**

Ladies' classes may be offered in any division using the specifications set forth in the respective division rules. If Ladies' classes are offered leading to a Ladies' Championship, judging specifications should follow those of the Ladies' class rather than those of the Championship class.

**GR818 Local.**

Any competition may offer Local classes or complete Local divisions provided the meaning of the local designation is fully and clearly defined. Class specifications must follow those listed in the respective division rules as closely as possible.

**GR819 Maiden, Novice and Limit.**

A competition may offer Maiden, Novice or Limit classes or complete sections in any division using the specifications set forth in the respective division rules. If a Championship class is held, it must be judged in accordance with the Maiden, Novice or Limit class specifications rather than those of the Championship class as listed unless otherwise specified.

**GR820 Model Classes.**

1. Model classes may be offered in any section in which they are indicated in the respective division rules. They may be divided as to age, sex or height and may be held prior to a Breeding section to provide a standard for judging.
2. Model classes may be included in the number of classes required for a division or section rating. Exception: Hunter Division and Welsh Pony Division.
3. Entry in a Model class does not qualify a horse for a Performance Championship class.

**GR821 Opportunity Classes.**

1. Opportunity Classes:
    - a. may be held at breed restricted or **Hunter and/or Hunter Jumper competitions with no FEI recognized classes**, Western Regular or Local Competitions. Classes must be open to all breeds unless it is a breed restricted competition. In a breed restricted competition it must be stated in the prize list if the classes will be restricted or open.
    - b. are limited to 10% of the total number of the competition's classes, with a maximum of 20 Opportunity Classes per competition, whichever is less.
    - c. may be held in addition to Exhibition Classes.
  2. Opportunity Classes:
    - a. do not count towards Horse of the Year Awards.
    - b. cannot be used as a qualifying class for any championship class held at the competition except an Opportunity Class championship at the competition.
    - c. cannot be considered in reckoning Competition Championships awarded on points except an Opportunity Class championship at the competition.
    - d. do not count towards the minimum number of classes nor amount of prize money offered when determining the rating of the competition.
    - e. Dressage classes cannot be offered as Opportunity classes.
    - f. **Opportunity Classes for Hunter/Jumper/Equitation Divisions**
      - (1) **Opportunity Classes are for entry level riders.**
      - (2) **May be held at USEF regular or local rated competitions.**
      - (3) **All Opportunity classes and divisions must have fences 2'6" or below.**
      - (4) **Any rider that has shown in a Zone pointed division, such as a children's hunter division is not eligible.**
      - (5) **Any rider that has shown in a regular division (such as regular ponies) is not eligible.**
      - (6) **All rules and regulations in section GR821 should be followed, except GR821.7 (no crossing over into rated divisions).**
  3. Horses entered only in these classes are still subject to and must comply with the Drugs and Medication rules and are subject to drug testing.
  4. Horses entered only in these classes:
    - a. are exempt from the Federation fee, including the Equine Drugs and Medication fee.
    - b. are not required to have a Horse Identification (HID) or Recording Number but are to list the HID or Recording number if the horse has been assigned this number.
  5. If entered in opportunity classes restricted to amateurs, riders/drivers/handlers are required to have an amateur status with USEF or pay the \$30 non-member amateur card fee.
  6. Riders/drivers/handlers entered only in these classes are exempt from the Federation membership requirements and are not required to pay a non-member fee but are required to list the Federation membership number if the participant is a member.
- EC 7/21/08 Effective 12/1/08*
7. The prize list must state whether or not horses and/or riders/drivers/handlers entered in Opportunity Classes can cross enter into the rated/recognized classes at the same competition. If cross entry is allowed, all applicable fees and membership requirements apply.
  8. The list of Opportunity Classes offered must include "Opportunity" in the class name. The classes may include but are not limited to the following categories:
    - a. Opportunity Pleasure (Saddleseat, Hunter, and/or Western)
    - b. Opportunity Equitation (Saddleseat, Hunter, and/or Western)
    - c. Opportunity Costume (Historic and/or Contemporary)
    - d. Opportunity Trail (English and/or Western)
    - e. Opportunity Driving (Show Pleasure Driving and/or Carriage Pleasure Driving)
    - f. Opportunity Walk-Trot (Pleasure and/or Equitation)
    - g. Opportunity Gaited (Three-gaited, Five-gaited, and/or Paso Fino)
    - h. Opportunity Reining
    - i. Opportunity In-hand classes (Amateur and/or Junior Handler)
    - j. Opportunity Fun Classes
    - k. **Opportunity classes for Hunter/Jumper/Equitation Divisions 2'6" and under**  
*BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08*

9. Unless the competition is using existing USEF class specifications, the prize list must list the class specifications for each Opportunity Class, to include but not be limited to:
  - a. Gaits required
  - b. Judging criteria
  - c. Attire, tack and equipment allowed
10. Opportunity Classes may be judged by any judge officiating at the competition. Conflict of interest rules in GR1304 apply.
11. The competition must submit full results of all Opportunity Classes as required in GR1214. Horses with HID or Recording members and participants with USEF membership numbers are to have these numbers listed in the results.

#### **GR822 Owners' Classes.**

Owners' classes may be offered in any division using the specifications as set forth in the respective division rules. If Owners' classes are offered leading to an Owners' Championship judging specifications should follow those of the Owners' class rather than those of the Championship class.

#### **GR823 Dividing Classes.**

1. Classes can be divided by sex into three groups (stallions, mares and geldings) or a Show Committee may prefer to require mares and geldings, or stallions and geldings to show together.
2. If a Show Committee wishes to divide junior exhibitor classes, it may offer separate classes for boys and girls or offer several age limits. The following three age limits are suggested but may vary according to local conditions:
  - a. Juniors who have not reached their 11th birthday,
  - b. Juniors who have reached their 11th but not their 14th birthday
  - c. Juniors who have reached their 14th but not their 18th birthday.
3. When divided as above horses cannot be entered in more than one age section of the same class. Exceptions: Arabian, Morgan, Equitation and Saddlebred divisions. A Show Committee may offer classes divided by age of adult exhibitor.

#### **GR824 Stallions.**

Stallions are barred from any Ladies' or Junior Exhibitors' classes except as provided for in division rules. Unless competition rules state otherwise, stallions may be shown by anyone in other classes in every division.

#### **GR825 Ponies.**

1. Ponies may be ridden only by junior exhibitors. Exceptions: Adults may ride ponies in the Eventing, Connemara, Dressage (other than USEF Championships, USEF qualifying and selection trials, and observation classes), Hunter, Jumper, Saddlebred and Welsh Pony divisions.
2. If an animal 14.2 hands or under is eligible to compete as a horse in the Arabian, Half or Anglo Arabian, Connemara, Morgan, Paso Fino, National Show Horse or Saddlebred Divisions, it may also compete as a horse in other appropriate classes (except for USEF Dressage Championships, USEF qualifying and selection trials, and observation classes for Dressage; see DR119.1). It cannot, however, compete as a horse in one class and a pony in another class at the same competition.
3. Once an animal is shown in a class restricted to horses, except in the aforementioned divisions and as provided for in SB198.4, it cannot be shown as a pony the same year.

#### **GR826 Combined ownership.**

1. Combined ownership is permitted in classes when more than one horse constitutes an entry unless the prize list states otherwise.

#### **GR827 Hors de Concours.**

1. Entering a class Hors de Concours (without being judged) is prohibited except as provided for below. If a horse competes Hors de Concours, the horse cannot compete in a subsequent class for prize money in the same ring on the same day. However, the rider of an Hors de Concours horse may compete in subsequent classes.
  - a. For Dressage Competitions (out of competition); see DR119.5 and DR119.7
  - b. For Eventing Competitions: see EV106.6

- c. For Driving Competitions, see DC117.7; DC117.7.1
- d. For Jumpers - at management's discretion.

### **GR828 Permission to Compete in Foreign Competitions.**

1. International (FEI) Competitions: In accordance with Article 121.2 of the FEI General Regulations which states: "All competitors invited or nominated for an international event must be entered by their NFs", individuals wishing to compete in foreign International (FEI recognized) Competitions must apply to the Federation for each international competition they wish to enter, (this includes competitions in Canada and Mexico). He/she must complete an application providing information such as: the name and date of the particular competition(s) requested; the name(s) and details of the horse(s) to be ridden. An application fee of \$75 per competition must be enclosed. In the event of an oversubscription in dressage, driving, eventing, or reining, the discipline's Credentials Committee will rank the applicants, providing that they have submitted a timely application as defined in the discipline criteria. The rankings will be based upon the individual's experience in competing in the U.S. and abroad, his/her recent results and ranking (if applicable) and other discipline specific criteria (if applicable). If the competition in question is on borrowed horses, the Credentials Committee will consider the experience the applicant has had in riding and competing on various horses. For endurance, jumping and vaulting, please refer to each discipline's criteria for procedures in selecting riders in the event of an oversubscription. Individuals wishing to compete in foreign international competitions who have not met the established criteria to compete in foreign FEI competitions may apply for a waiver, for which the fee is \$200. Copies of application and criteria for each discipline are available from the Federation website or Federation office.

2. National Competitions: Individuals wishing to compete in FEI recognized disciplines in National Competitions in foreign countries must receive permission from the Federation. An application for permission to compete must be completed and returned to the Federation. Copies of the application on the Federation website or from the Federation office. The competitor will be asked to provide the following information:

- a. whether or not the individual is a United States citizen and a current member of the Federation;
- b. whether he/she wishes to compete as an amateur or professional;
- c. whether he/she wishes to compete in National or International Competitions;
- d. the disciplines in which he/she wishes to compete (i.e., Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Driving, Vaulting, Reining, or Endurance Riding);
- e. the length of stay in each country;
- f. whether he/she has been charged, protested or found in violation of FEI or Federation rules or the rules of any other National Federation or Federation affiliated association; and
- g. whether he/she has been indicted, named in an information, convicted or disciplined by an administrative agency, arbitration or other tribunal, body, humane society or court of law, whether civil, criminal, arbitral or administrative, for an act which would be a violation of Federation rules if committed during a Recognized Competition.

3. Permission to compete must be applied for each year.

4. Foreign Competitors: Riders, drivers, vaulters and longeurs who are not citizens of the United States, regardless of Federation membership status and country of origin.

- a. Foreign Competitors who desire to compete in non-breed restricted, National Competitions in the FEI recognized disciplines in the United States must have proof, in English, of membership in good standing from their National Federation or must be members in good standing of the United States Equestrian Federation.
- b. Competition management must request proof, in English, of current membership in good standing from their respective National Federation, or proof of current USEF membership.

5. Denial of Permission. Any application for permission to compete abroad answering affirmatively as to GR828.2f or .g shall be referred to a Committee of the Federation Board of Directors consisting of the Officers and two active athlete directors appointed by the President; the President shall serve as Chairman of the Committee and at any meeting the presence of at least four officers and one active athlete director shall constitute a quorum; the Committee shall by majority vote determine whether any such application shall be granted or denied, taking into account whether in the opinion of a majority of the Committee

members any affirmative information regarding GR828.2f or .g causes other applicants to be considered more appropriate to serve as representatives of the sport and country in competing in foreign countries. Any such ruling by a majority vote of the Committee denying the privilege of a license to compete in foreign countries is final and not subject to appeal or review except where otherwise provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of the USOC, or where a review is granted in the discretion of the Committee, which upon further application may give further consideration to any applicant, may direct a hearing upon the application by the Committee or by the Hearing Committee, or may make any other ruling regarding the application considered by the Committee appropriate under the circumstances.

## **SUBCHAPTER 8-D SCHEDULING DURING COMPETITION.**

### **GR829 Length of Competition.**

1. A competition may not hold classes more than 16 hours out of any 24-hour period from the start of the first class to the finish of the last class, including intermissions. There must be a recess of at least 8 hours between the finish of the last class of an evening performance and the first class of a morning performance the following day. A fine in the amount of \$250 per hour or part thereof will be imposed for exceeding the 16-hour time limit or not allowing an 8-hour recess. Exception: Competitions offering only Hunter, Jumper and Hunter Seat Equitation classes may not run more than 14 hours of actual performance time. Warm-up sessions, judged or unjudged, are included except sessions held at the beginning of the day where no fee is charged.

a. If management disputes that the time limits were not exceeded and the above fine is not properly owing, it may request a hearing of these issues before a special committee appointed by the President provided a written statement specifying the grounds for the hearing is received at the Federation's office within 30 days of management's receipt of Federation's notice of fine. The special committee shall hear the matter and determine whether the fine is properly owing. The special committee may waive a part or all of the automatic penalty upon a finding of good cause why the time limits were exceeded and a finding that extreme hardship results from the automatic penalty.

2. All classes in any section for junior exhibitors in any one day must be held within a twelve-hour period, excluding intermissions.

3. No classes may be started after midnight.

### **GR830 Time Schedule.**

1. The announced order or time for classes may not be changed unless at least 12 hours notice of such change be given to each exhibitor and judge affected or each exhibitor affected consents in writing.

2. Provided the order of events is not changed, the Show Committee may call any class up to 30 minutes ahead of its scheduled time. Exception: Vaulting exhibitors must be given one hour's notice.

3. Once the first horse in a Reining class has been entered, shown and judged, the class must be run in entirety before commencing with the next scheduled class.

*BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08*

4. None of the above applies to Eventing (see EV107).

5. None of the above applies to Dressage. For Dressage Competitions, the following conditions apply: (1) Rides may be rescheduled up to one hour earlier or later than announced in the official schedule if each competitor is individually notified at least two hours prior to his/her rescheduled ride time. Rides within a class may be rescheduled in a different order. (2) Ride times or classes may not be changed more than one hour from the time announced in the official schedule unless 12 hours notice of such change is given to each exhibitor and judge affected or each exhibitor affected consents in writing to the change. Public address announcements do not meet the notification requirements of this rule.

### **GR831 Delay of Classes.**

1. When the start of any class requiring horses to be shown individually is delayed by horses not ready to perform, the competition may be closed at the order of the judges or Show Committee, provided a warning is issued and exhibitors are given three (3) minutes to appear at the in-gate ready to participate. (Exception: in hunter, hunter seat equitation and

jumper classes with a specified jumping order, see HU156, JP112, JP133.14a & JP134.2.) In classes where horses compete collectively, a warning is issued and the in-gate must be closed two minutes after the first horse enters the ring. (Paso Fino, see PF102.5) Judging must not commence until the gate is closed or at the end of the two-minute call. An official timer must be appointed to enforce this rule.

2. It is recommended that a starting enforce order be established in all classes in which horses compete individually and to allow one minute for an entry to enter the ring. At competitions using only one ring, a starting order must be established. If a jump order is used, it must be posted at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the class.

### **GR832 Interruption of Procedure.**

1. If weather appears to be imminently affecting the safety and welfare of horses and/or exhibitors, it shall be the responsibility of competition management (Exception: Eventing see EV110) to stop the competition until it is safe to recommence. If a competition in progress must be stopped due to a storm, accident, or other emergency, the Show Committee will decide whether to re-commence. Any interrupted classes may be re-commenced within the session in which they were originally scheduled or at a succeeding session of the competition. (Exception: Dressage GR832.7, Driving, Eventing EV109, Reining GR832.9.) If a Licensed Competition's Prize List does not advise exhibitors that refunds of entry fees will not be given in the event a class or classes, or all or part of the competition is cancelled due to a storm, accident or other emergency, the Licensee is required to refund entry fees for the cancelled class or classes upon written request by an exhibitor within 30 days of the cancellation.

2. The Show Committee will also decide whether awards for classes not held is warranted and called for. No Championship, awarded on points, can be awarded in any division, however, unless more than 50% of the scheduled classes in that division have been held. Any action thus taken by the Show Committee will not be referred to the Federation inasmuch as the matter is one of discretion and not regulation.

3. If a class is in operation at the time a competition is stopped, no placements involving Horse of the Year Awards will be made. If a tie for a Championship exists in the Hunter or Jumper division at the time the competition is stopped, points toward Horse of the Year Awards will be divided between the tied horses.

4. If classes are postponed to a day not included in the original competition dates, exhibitors are entitled to a refund of entry fees in the class postponed and are relieved of any obligation to show back in postponed classes.

5. If a class in which horses compete either collectively or individually is in progress and must be stopped due to a storm, accident, or other emergency, the following procedure shall govern (Exception: Dressage, Driving, Reining, Eventing, Jumper):

a. If a class is continued during the same session or a succeeding session of the competition, the judge along with the steward(s) and management will decide:

(1) to hold the class over in its entirety in which case no scores credited in the first session will count, or

(2) to recommence the class where it was interrupted.

(3) In the case of a hunter classic, or a two round class and one round is complete; it may be decided to pin the class with the first round scores.

*BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08*

6. Jumper:

a. A Jumper Class that Management decides to postpone due to storm, accident or emergency per GR832.1 may be combined with a subsequent class in the same section with the prize money of the postponed class added to the prize money of the subsequent class. Management must make this decision prior to the first horse competing in the postponed class. The start fee for the postponed class will be added to that of the subsequent class and must be refunded to those declared competitors of the postponed class who choose not to declare for the combined class.

b. In a jumper class which has reached the jump-off stage when the class is stopped, only those competitors involved in the jump-off need compete in the succeeding session. Jumper classes scored under Table II, Sec. 2b or 2c, Table IV, Sec. 4b or 4c or Table V Sec. 2b or 2c must be held over in their entirety unless the competition is continued over the original course at a later session, in which case the class shall

continue from the point where it was stopped and scores earned by horses which have already competed shall stand.

7. Dressage: If it becomes necessary to interrupt a dressage competition for any reason, the unfinished portion may be recommenced and rescheduled for the same or following day at the option of the Show Committee with the Ground Jury's consent. All scores recorded before the interruption will stand. When classes are re-commenced after a delay on the same day, competitors must be given at least 30 minutes' notice of the starting time. Exhibitors whose ride times are changed to or on a subsequent day as a result of an interrupted competition or inclement weather conditions, must be individually notified at least two hours prior to a rescheduled ride time.

8. Eventing: See EV110.1.

9. Reining: If it becomes necessary to interrupt a reining competition for any reason, the unfinished portion may be recommenced and rescheduled for the same or following days at the option of the Show Committee and the judge(s). All scores recorded before the interruption will stand.

### **GR833 Time-Out.**

A suspension of judging which may be requested by a competitor or directed by the judge(s).

1. A competitor is entitled to request a time-out for a period not to exceed five minutes in aggregate in order to make adjustments or to repair broken equipment or to rectify a similar condition, or to replace a shoe (See GR804). (Exception: Arabian Hunter, AR144 and HU130.9; Arabian Jumper, AR152.1 and JP133.6; Dressage, GR833.9 and DR122.7; Jumper, JP133.6; Hunter Seat Equitation, EQ110.4; Reining, RN103.5; Vaulting, VA111).

2. If division rules allow a competitor to call a time-out, the competitor may call only one time-out per class (Exception: Paso Fino and Welsh where a competitor may request a time-out no more than two times.) The penalty for exceeding the allowed time out(s) is for the entry to be excused. *BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08*

3. To request a time-out for any such emergency, the competitor must go to the center of the ring (if possible) and or be acknowledged by the judge. The announcer will declare that a request for time-out has been made and permission granted; time will be taken from the moment such announcement is made.

4. If a horse casts a shoe in a class, time starts (after weighing has concluded, if applicable) when the farrier or his assistant touches the shoe or the horse. No more than three minutes will be allotted to find a shoe; if the shoe is not found, the exhibitor may elect to continue or withdraw. If a horse is removed from the ring for the purposes of shoeing, the steward or judge shall accompany and remain with the horse until it is returned to the ring or excused from the class.

5. Two attendants are permitted in the ring to assist a competitor during his/her time-out. If at the expiration of five minutes the repair has not been made, the competitor may proceed as is or be eliminated.

6. The steward or judge is responsible for timing unless an official timer is present.

7. Competitors who are not involved in a time-out may make minor adjustments that can be performed with the assistance of one attendant and not be charged with a time-out.

8. At any time the judge(s) considers it necessary he/she may call for a time-out. Said time-out may be charged to a competitor that, in the judge's opinion, is responsible for the suspension of judging as long as the competitor is so informed by the judge prior to calling the class back to order.

9. None of the above apply to the Eventing, Dressage or Driving divisions; see specific division rules. Time-outs are not permitted in the Dressage division.

## **SUBCHAPTER 8-E SCHOOLING.**

### **GR834 General.**

1. A Licensed Competition must provide a sufficient area for schooling horses. A separate schooling area must be provided for each ring.

2. Adequate lighting must be provided in schooling areas used after dark.

3. In addition to the official schooling area, competitions should designate an exercise area.

4. Competitions offering A rated sections other than hunter and jumper must provide an exercise area at least 80' by 200' or its equivalent. If, due to space limitations, a competition does not have an adequate schooling area or a competition offering an A rated section cannot provide the required exercise area, one ring must be open for a minimum of 5 hours within each 24-hour period. Adequate lighting must be provided.

**GR835 Designated Areas.**

Schooling over obstacles in the ring or over any part of an outside course is permitted only at the time designated by the Show Committee. All other schooling over obstacles is permitted only within clearly identified areas and only at times designated by the Show Committee. Schooling over obstacles in any other area of the competition ground or at any other time is prohibited.

**GR836 Trail.**

A schooling area must be provided prior to and during trail classes with enough elements to adequately school a trail horse.

**GR837 Hunter.**

1. Schooling areas for hunters must contain adequate hunter-type fences. A trotting fence, a vertical and an oxer are required.
2. It is recommended that separate schooling areas be provided for hunters. A separate schooling area and jumps should also be provided for ponies.
3. A supervisor of schooling must be appointed for the schooling area designated for hunters if the area is less than 20,000 sq. ft. in size or more than 500 horses are entered in the competition.
4. A Steward/schooling supervisor must be present in the schooling area during any Hunter class offering \$10,000 or more in prize money.
5. The Steward/schooling supervisor's decision regarding schooling fences, or tack and equipment in the warm-up area is final. *BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08*

**GR838 Jumper. (See also JP103 and Appendix A)**

**SUBCHAPTER 8-F WELFARE OF THE HORSE.**

**GR839 Cruelty to and Abuse of a Horse.**

1. Cruelty to or the abuse of a horse by any person at a Licensed Competition is forbidden, constitutes a violation under Chapter 7, and renders the offender subject to penalty. The Show Committee must bar violators from further participation for the remainder of the competition. It is the duty of the competition officials and any properly constituted humane organization to report to the Federation any person who indulges in this practice for such further action as may be deemed appropriate.
2. The Federation or the Judge, Steward, or TD may appoint a veterinarian to inspect any animal in competition. Refusal to submit an animal for examination by an authorized veterinarian after due notification shall constitute a violation.
3. Show Committees are encouraged to contact the American Humane Association, 63 Inverness Dr., E. Englewood, CO 80112, which will provide experienced humane inspectors to work with them in eliminating cruel practices.
4. The following acts are included under the words Cruelty and Abuse but are not limited thereto:
  - a. Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, before or during a competition, by any person. Except in emergency situations, any striking of the horse's head (on the poll and forward of the poll) with the whip shall be deemed excessive.
  - b. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
  - c. Use of any substance to induce temporary heat.
  - d. Manual poling with any object other than a bamboo pole.
  - e. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jump.
  - f. Use of electric device in schooling or showing.
  - g. Use of shackles, hock hobbles and similar devices (not to be construed as rubber or elastic exercising devices).
  - h. Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores around the coronets, pasterns or legs.

- i. Use of any explosive (e.g., fire crackers, torpedoes, fire extinguishers except in case of fire, etc.) or laser beam devices anywhere on the competition grounds, except in an exhibition or if required in class specifications.
  - j. Withholding of feed and water for prolonged periods.
  - k. Letting blood from a horse for other than diagnostic purposes.
  - l. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.
5. Any action(s) against a horse by a competitor or an exhibitor, which are deemed excessive by a judge, Federation steward, technical delegate or competition veterinarian, in the competition ring or anywhere on the competition grounds may be punished by official warning, elimination, or other sanctions which may be deemed appropriate by the Show Committee. Such action(s) could include, but are not limited to excessive use of the whip, spurs, or bamboo poles. Competitors and exhibitors have the right to contest any action taken pursuant to GR839.5 by filing a protest or grievance pursuant to Chapter 6 of the Rules for hearing and determination by the Hearing Committee.

#### **GR840 Attention Getting Devices.**

Attention getting devices &/or other noisemakers (including but not limited to tape measures, blow horns, altered bamboo poles, explosives, etc.) are not allowed in and around the make up/schooling/warm-up and competition rings during scheduled competition sessions. (Except for the National Show Horse division.) Use of explosives and fire extinguishers by or for exhibitors/competitors (except in the case of fire) is not allowed on competition grounds at any time. (See also GR839.41)

#### **GR841 Soundness.**

Unless specific division rules state otherwise, all animals except stallions and mares in Breeding classes must be serviceably sound for competition purposes i.e., such animal must not show evidence of lameness or broken wind. Animals with complete loss of sight in either eye may be found serviceably sound at the Judge's discretion, except in a class over fences where a Judge may ask a rider to change horses.

#### **GR842 Falls.**

The fall of horse and/or rider does not disqualify the competitor unless due to bad manners of the horse. Exception: Andalusian (see AL101.13), Driving, Eventing, Equitation, Hunter, Jumper, Reining, Vaulting and Western classes, in which specific rules prevail.

#### **GR843 Poling.**

1. If a Licensed Competition allows manual poling and the relevant state laws do not prohibit such practices, it must be done in the designated schooling areas. Manual poling is prohibited for all horses competing in Jumper classes at Regular Competitions. Horses found to be in violation of these rules by the Competition Steward or other Federation official shall be eliminated/disqualified from competing within the upcoming 24-hour period and shall forfeit all entry fees for such competition. In addition after consultation between Competition Management, the Steward, or other official involved, and a senior judge in the Jumper division additional penalties including disqualification from the balance of the competition may be imposed. Exception: Eventing Division (see EV111.2); Jumpers (see JP103.1).
2. Single poles of bamboo only (not rattan or any other material) must be used, and may not be filled with sand or any other foreign substance. They may be taped to prevent splitting but they may not be wired, contain tacks or have a diameter of over 2" at the large end. Pole must be held by one person only, using either one or two hands. Pole shall not be supported by any other means (i.e., standard, cup, or ring fence). There shall be no ropes, lunge reins or any other devices attached to said poles. Exhibitors must furnish their own poles and no other object may be manually employed.
3. Manual poling is permitted at a vertical fence only but a bamboo pole may be used as an off-set bar at either a vertical or spread fence. An off-set bamboo pole is one which is placed at any height behind or in front of the elements of the obstacle itself instead of being placed in the same vertical plane or planes. The length of the "off-set" bamboo pole may not exceed the length of the obstacle's rails. No other form of off-set or false ground line (ground line cannot be behind the vertical plane of the face of the fence or more than 3 feet

in front, any trotting rail or placement pole may not be less than 8' to fence) is permitted. The spread fence must be jumped in the right direction.

4. Violators will be automatically penalized by elimination of the horse involved from the class in which it is participating and the next succeeding class in which it is entered. If the violation occurs after the horse has completed its performance in a class or between classes, it will be eliminated from the next two succeeding classes in which it is entered. All such violations must be recorded in the Steward's Report and, if cruelty or abusive behavior is evident, it will be reviewed by the Hearing Committee for such action as may be deemed appropriate to the particular circumstances.