

**2010  
United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. Rule Book**

**The National Equestrian Federation  
of the United States**

**a member of the  
Federation Equestre Internationale  
and of the  
United States Olympic Committee.**

**THIS BOOK SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS**

**PUBLICATION DATE: November 1, 2009**

**THE RULES PUBLISHED HEREIN ARE  
EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2009 UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED  
AT THE TIME OF THEIR ENACTMENT  
AND REMAIN IN EFFECT EXCEPT AS SUPERSEDED BY  
RULE CHANGES ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS PUBLISHED IN  
EQUESTRIAN, THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION,  
AND/OR AS PUBLISHED ON THE FEDERATION'S WEB SITE AT  
[www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)  
OR BY SUBSEQUENT EDITIONS  
OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THE RULE BOOK**

**Published by United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.  
4047 Iron Works Parkway  
Lexington, KY 40511  
859-258-2472  
Fax: 859-231-6662**

**© Copyright 2009-2010 by United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited. These Rules may be used only by USEF Licensed Competitions or with the Federation's advance written permission. When the Federation Rules are being used at a competition, it is the responsibility of each exhibitor to ascertain that the competition is USEF licensed or that written permission has been given to the competition. The Federation disclaims any responsibility whatsoever, for negligence or otherwise, for any losses, injuries, or other claims arising out of any unrecognized competition or from any unauthorized use of these Rules. The Federation requests that any unauthorized uses of these Rules be reported to it.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| SPORTSMAN'S CHARTER .....                             | page 4       |
| UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION INC. BYLAWS ..... | Parts I-VIII |
| INDEX .....   | Rules        |

### GENERAL RULES .....

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Chapter 1 – DEFINITIONS AND GOVERNANCE .....  | GR1-GR14    |
| Chapter 2 – MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS .....  | GR15-GR20   |
| Chapter 3 – COMPETITION LICENSING .....   | GR21-GR42   |
| Chapter 4 – DRUGS AND MEDICATIONS .....   | GR43-GR54   |
| Chapter 5 – MEASUREMENT OF ENTRIES .....  | GR55-GR62   |
| Chapter 6 – PROTESTS, CHARGES, HEARINGS, ATHLETE GRIEVANCES,<br>ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES AND PLEA AGREEMENTS<br>..... | GR63-GR76   |
| Chapter 7 – VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES .....  | GR77-GR82   |
| Chapter 8 – CONDUCT OF LICENSED COMPETITIONS .....  | GR83-GR98   |
| Chapter 9 – COMPETITION PRIZE LISTS AND ENTRIES .....   | GR99-GR112  |
| Chapter 10 – LICENSED OFFICIALS .....   | GR113-GR150 |
| Chapter 11 – FEDERATION RECORDS AND AWARDS .....  | GR151-176   |
| Chapter 12 – COMPETITION OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, AND VOLUNTEERS<br>.....  | GR177-GR190 |
| Chapter 13 – COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS AND ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS<br>.....   | GR191-GR206 |

### BREEDS AND DISCIPLINES

|            |  |          |
|------------|--|----------|
| Chapter AL | ANDALUSIAN/LUSITANO DIVISION .....                       | AL1-AL46 |
| Chapter AR | ARABIAN, HALF-ARABIAN and ANGLO-ARABIAN<br>DIVISION..... | AR1-AR50 |
| Chapter CO | CONNEMARA DIVISION .....                                 | CO1-CO6  |
| Chapter CP | CARRIAGE PLEASURE DRIVING DIVISION.....                  | CP1-CP52 |
| Chapter DR | DRESSAGE DIVISION .....                                  | DR1-DR46 |

|            |  |          |
|------------|--|----------|
| Chapter DC | DRIVING DIVISION - COMBINED .....  | DC1-DC78 |
| Chapter EN | ENDURANCE RIDING DIVISION .....  | EN1-EN12 |
| Chapter EQ | EQUITATION DIVISION .....  | EQ1-EQ30 |
| Chapter EV | EVENTING DIVISION .....  | EV1-EV52 |
| Chapter FR | FRIESIAN DIVISION .....  | FR1-FR34 |
| Chapter HK | HACKNEY DIVISION .....   | HK1-HK18 |
| Chapter HU | HUNTER DIVISION .....  | HU1-HU34 |
| Chapter JP | JUMPER DIVISION.....   | JP1-JP32 |
| Chapter MO | MORGAN HORSE DIVISION .....  | MO1-MO38 |
| Chapter NS | NATIONAL SHOW HORSE DIVISION .....   | NS1-NS16 |
| Chapter PH | PARADE HORSE AND SADDLE HORSE OR PONY,<br>WESTERN EQUIPMENT DIVISION ..... | PH1-PH4  |
| Chapter PF | PASO FINO HORSE DIVISION .....   | PF1-PF26 |
| Chapter RN | REINING HORSE DIVISION.....  | RN1-RN22 |
| Chapter RD | ROADSTER DIVISION .....  | RD1-RD8  |
| Chapter SB | SADDLEBRED HORSE DIVISION .....  | SB1-SB32 |
| Chapter SP | SHETLAND PONY DIVISION .....   | SP1-SP10 |
| Chapter VA | VAULTING DIVISION .....  | VA1-VA14 |
| Chapter WL | WELSH PONY AND COB DIVISION .....  | WL1-WL14 |
| Chapter WS | WESTERN DIVISION .....   | WS1-WS34 |

# THE SPORTSMAN'S CHARTER

That sport is something done for the fun of doing it and that it ceases to be sport when it becomes a business only, something done for what there is in it;

That amateurism is something of the heart and spirit - not a matter of exact technical qualifications;

That good manners of sport are fundamentally important;

That the code must be strictly upheld;

That the whole structure of sport is not only preserved from the absurdity of undue importance, but is justified by a kind of romance which animates it, and by the positive virtues of courage, patience, good temper, and unselfishness which are demanded by the code;

That the exploitation of sport for profit alone kills the spirit and retains only the husk and semblance of the thing;

That the qualities of frankness, courage, and sincerity which mark the good sportsman in private life shall mark the discussions of his interests at a competition.

# UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.

(the Federation )

THE NATIONAL  
EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
4047 Iron Works Parkway  
Lexington, KY 40511

(859) 258-2472  
Fax: (859) 231-6662

**NOTICE:** Verbiage in **red text** indicates new or revised rules approved to become effective December 1, 2009, unless another date is specified. **EFFECTIVE** dates for new rules are listed and these dates do vary.

The Rules published in this Rule Book are subject to additions or revisions pursuant to Chapter 1, Sub-chapter 1-B of the Rules. Please see **EQUESTRIAN** and/or the Federation's web site at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) for any changes subsequent to the publication date of this Rule Book.

While every effort has been made to avoid mistakes in this publication, the Federation does not assume any liability to anyone for errors or omissions. Corrections and additions are published in **EQUESTRIAN** and/or on the Federation's web site at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org).



## **BYLAWS**

## **GENERAL RULES**

## **CHAPTERS 1-13**

## **BREED/DISCIPLINE CHAPTERS**

Which pertain to the classification, conduct and operation of competitions and to general matters affecting Exhibitors, Judges, Stewards and Competition Officials.

A knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant and the exhibitor at a Licensed Competition is in no way exempt from this responsibility. A complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential and the exhibitor must be fully cognizant of all the rules as well as class specifications in the Divisions in which he or she shows.

It is obvious that however complete rules may be, they can never cover all possible situations which may arise. If a matter cannot be solved by interpreting the rules to the letter, the solution to be adopted by those responsible should lie in a principle which follows as nearly as possible the spirit of the rules.

**PLEASE READ ALL CROSS REFERENCES CAREFULLY,  
AND REFER TO THE FEDERATION'S WEBSITE AT  
[www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)  
FOR OFFICIAL CHANGES AND  
THE MOST UP-TO-DATE VERSION OF THIS RULEBOOK.**

### **UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION RULES**

The term THE FEDERATION when used herein refers to and denotes only the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.

The term THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE refers to and denotes only the United States Equestrian Federation Executive Committee.