This rule change proposal would remove qualifying criteria and specifications specific to the Finals and place them into a specification document. The rule would then reference "For full qualifying criteria and Final Specifications for the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Final and USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final see the USEF Website". This will align the Saddle Seat Medal Final and Adult Amateur Medal Final with other US Equestrian Championships.

This would allow for nimbleness in addressing any changes that need to be made on an annual basis.

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline
EQ118 Requirements for Specific Classes

12. USEF SADDLE SEAT MEDAL CLASS (17 & Under and Adult/Amateur).

   a. Conditions Governing Competitors in USEF Saddle Seat Medal Classes

1. USEF Medal Classes are open to Individual Junior Members in good standing who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR128. Exception: Saddle Seat Adult Amateur classes are open to amateur riders 18 years of age or older. Affiliated Members are not eligible. No credit will be given for winnings before a competitor becomes a member.

2. Application for membership can be made directly to the Federation, or the exhibitor can join prior to the class through the steward.

3. In Saddle Seat only the first place winner is eliminated from further qualifying classes during that year. In Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes a win does not eliminate a rider from further competition for the remainder of the year.

4. The winner of a Medal Class Final is no longer eligible to compete in Medal classes in the division in which the Final was won. (Exception: Winners of the Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final will be eliminated from further competition in Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes after two (2) consecutive or non-consecutive wins of the Final).

b. For full qualifying and Final specifications for the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Final and USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final see the USEF website.

c. Qualifying procedures for USEF Medal Classes and any other USEF classes listed in EQ118 will be approved by the relevant USEF Committees and breed/discipline affiliate organization. Information on qualifying procedures for each of these classes will be available on the USEF website. Conditions Governing USEF Saddle Seat Medal Finals

1. If entries warrant, semi-final ride-offs will be held at strategic points throughout the country, in which case all potential participants must be notified in advance.

2. On or before July 1 of each year the Federation will announce the competitions at which the Finals will be held. Even though entries for the designated competitions have closed before an individual qualifies, post entries will be accepted.

3. Classes held less than fifteen days before the Saddle Seat Finals (17 & Under) count toward the next year’s Finals. In the Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final, classes held up to and including the day prior to the Final, qualify a rider for that year’s Final. The judge(s) for all USEF Medal Class Finals are to be approved by the appropriate equitation committee.

4. Any questions or disputes in connection with Medal classes must be referred to the Board of Directors or to a special committee appointed by the President whose verdict is final.

5. In USEF Saddle Seat Finals, the class must be worked on the rail in groups of 15 or less. In the USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final, the decision to split the class is left to competition management.

6. The name of the winner of a Finals is engraved upon a Perpetual Trophy which remains in the possession of the Federation. A replica trophy is given to the rider.

7. In the event that a horse is incapacitated in the first phase of a Medal Finals or before the ride-off, upon examination of the competition veterinarian and a judge or steward, a substitution is permitted.

d. USEF SADDLE SEAT MEDAL CLASS (17 & Under). Open to Junior Active Members of the Federation who have not yet reached their 18th birthday. Application for membership can be made directly to the Federation or the exhibitor can join prior to the class through the competition office. A rider must place first or second to qualify for the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Final. One win eliminates the rider from further competition in this class for the remainder of the qualifying season. The winner will receive a Silver Medal. Individual workouts of the top four competitors are required and must include two or more individual tests. Tests 1-16. Judging is based 50% on railwork and 50% on individual workout. To fill a class, two competitors must show with proper appointments. If there are more than 15 entries at the beginning of this class, it must be split and run as two separate classes. The same workout is required for both classes.

d. USEF SADDLE SEAT MEDAL FINAL (17 & Under). To be eligible, the rider must have placed first through fourth place in an official USEF Saddle Seat Medal Class. In the preliminary section, entries must be worked on the rail in groups of 15 or less and all contestants are required to perform a posted individual workout. Tests 1-16. The preliminary shall also serve as elimination for the first phase. The number of riders to be selected for the
first phase shall be at the judges’ discretion and shall be based on 50% preliminary railwork and 50% preliminary workout. The first phase will be conducted in the same manner as the preliminary, except different tests must be used. Each rider in the first phase must execute a posted individual workout. A rider’s performance in the preliminary has equal consideration as the performance in the first phase. The judge’s opinion rests on a 25-25-25-25 analysis of the preliminary railwork, preliminary workout, first railwork, and first workout. Winners of the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Final will be eliminated from further competition in the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Class (17 & Under).

e. USEF SADDLE SEAT ADULT AMATEUR MEDAL CLASS. Open to Senior Active Amateur Members of the Federation. Application for membership can be made directly to the Federation or the exhibitor can join prior to the class through the competition office. A rider must have shown and been judged in order to qualify for the USEF Adult Amateur Medal Final. A win does not eliminate the rider from further competition in this class for the remainder of the qualifying season. The winner will receive a Silver Medal. Two or more individual tests of the top four competitors are required. Tests 1-13 and 15-16. Judging is based 50% on railwork and 50% on individual workout. If there are more than 15 entries at the beginning of this class, it must be split and run as two separate classes. The same workout is required for both classes.

f. USEF SADDLE SEAT ADULT AMATEUR MEDAL FINAL. To be eligible, the rider must have shown and been judged in an official USEF Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Class. Entries must be worked on the rail and all contestants are required to perform a posted individual workout. The class (if necessary) may be run in two phases, a preliminary and a first if only a single phase is held, first judging is based on 50% railwork and 50% individual workout. The number of riders to be selected for a first phase (if necessary) shall be at the judges’ discretion and shall be based on preliminary railwork 50% and preliminary workout 50%.

The first phase will be conducted in the same manner as the preliminary, except a different individual workout must be used. Each rider in the first phase must execute a posted individual workout. A rider’s performance in the preliminary has equal consideration as the performance in the first phase. If a rider is called back for the first phase, the judge’s opinion rests on a 25-25-25-25 analysis of the preliminary railwork, preliminary workout, first railwork, and first workout. The preliminary shall also serve as an elimination for the first phase. Winners of the Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal Final will be eliminated from further competition in Saddle Seat Adult Amateur Medal classes after two (2) consecutive or non-consecutive wins of the Final.