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**Rule Change Intent**

To add a Ranch Rail Pleasure to the Saddlebred Chapter of the rulebook. Ranch Rail Pleasure is a rapidly growing division with many breeds. By adding this division we are offering more opportunities for Saddlebred exhibitors to compete in. Adding this division will increase participation at shows and possibly bring in new competitors whom otherwise would have no interest in these licensed shows. This effort not only supports the emerging grass roots level but enhances opportunities for breeders to have another avenue to sell their horses. This will definitely grow the sport. The horse show organizers will be able to grow their entries by offering this division.

**Proponent Details**

ASHA

**Contact Information**

Terri Dolan
tdolan@usef.org

**Linked Rules**

**Committee Actions**

**American Saddlebred**

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 02/25/2021

**Council - Natl Breed & Discipline**

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 04/26/2021
SUBCHAPTER SB-23 RANCH RAIL PLEASURE
SB211 General
SB212 Eligibility
SB213 Gaits
SB214 Ranch Rail Pleasure Penalties
SB215 Ranch Class Apparel and Equipment

SUBCHAPTER SB-23 RANCH RAIL PLEASURE
SB211 General
The ranch rail pleasure class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one ranch task to another and should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse. The horse should be well-broke, quiet and willing to perform for the rider. The horse should be ridden with light contact and without requiring undue restraint. The horse should be responsive to the rider and make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be quiet in the bridle and yield to contact from the rein. The ideal ranch horse should carry his/her head in a natural position comfortable for the individual at each gait. In all gaits, movements of the ranch rail pleasure horse should demonstrate a horse needing to cover long distances softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse’s ability to work at a forward working speed while under control by the rider. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements and the horse’s quality of movement are the primary consideration. This class is intended as a rail class but individuals working off the rail will not be penalized.

SB212 Eligibility
1. For horses three years of age and older, offered as a junior, senior, or all age open division class, and all age class for amateur, and youth.

SB 213 Gaits
1. Walk - The walk is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait. The gait is rhythmic and ground covering. As in all gaits, the horse should display a natural carriage with a bright, attentive, expression.
2. Trot - The trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward movement than the Western pleasure jog.
3. Extended Trot - The extended trot demonstrates an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch.
4. Lope - The lope is a three-beat gait. The lope should be relaxed and smooth with a forward moving stride.
5. Extended Lope - The extended lope is not a run or a race but should be an obvious lengthening of the stride, demonstrating a forward working speed.
6. Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition to the seated trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior to trotting will be penalized. Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. Cues being applied discreetly and a horse responding correctly should result in credit- earning.
7. A horse in Ranch Rail should be a willing, compliant partner with its rider but should never seem intimidated while performing any of the gaits or maneuvers.

SB214 Ranch Rail Pleasure Penalties
Minor Penalties are as follows:
1. Too slow at any gait.
2. Over-bridled/behind the bit.
4. Wrong lead
Major Penalties are as follows:
5. Blatant disobedience
6. Kick out, buck, rear
7. Major disobedience or schooling by rider
8. Failure to flat walk or halt.

SB 215 Ranch Class Apparel and Equipment
1. Attire and tack should be clean and presentable.
2. Working tack is encouraged.
3. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit.
4. Silver headstalls and saddles are discouraged.
5. Hoof polish is not prohibited but is discouraged.
6. No braiding or banding of manes, no switches or tail extensions.
7. Trimming of bridle path, fetlocks, or whiskers is allowed. A horse left in a natural state is not to be penalized.
8. Split or rommel reins are permitted.
9. Riders must wear long sleeved, collared shirt, cowboy hat or helmet and boots. Chaps or chinks are acceptable. Scarves or wild rags are allowed.
10. Only one hand may be used on the reins, except for junior horses shown two- handed in a snaffle bit or hackamore/bosal. Hands must not be changed. For split reins, rider may place index finger between the reins. Rommel reins shall be held with fingers around the reins, no fingers between the reins. Posting or standing at the extended trot is acceptable. Holding the saddle horn at any extended gait is permitted.
11. The class must enter the ring at the trot. Class shall work both ways of the ring at all requested gaits. The class will be required to work at least one direction at one extended gait (trot or lope) and may be asked to extend gaits in both directions. Horses may be asked to halt as a maneuver during the rail portion of the class but it is not required. Horses may reverse to or away from the rail. Horses are required to back either on the rail or when in line up.