Rule Change Intent

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT: Intent is to add "Icelandics" to the list of pony exceptions in GR127 so that Icelandics may be competed up in horse divisions as appropriate, thus reducing and/or preventing measurement disputes. EXPLAINED: Intent of rule is to recognize and add clarification for which class the Icelandic horse categorizes (horse vs pony). Currently, there is not a single mention of the Icelandic horse in USEF rules or documentation. The addition of the mention of Icelandic horses should not impact or hinder the United States Icelandic Horse Congress (USIHC), International Federation of Icelandic Horse Associations (FEIF), or Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI). The intent is to add just one word and one comma to the USEF rules: "Icelandics,\". This term will only be necessary in GR127 HORSE line 4 a. EXCEPTIONS. Given that the size and working abilities of an Icelandic horse is generally similar to Arabians, Connemaras, etc. a competitor should have the option of showing in a pony OR horse division of the competitor's discretion - which means it should be listed in the EXCEPTION category for pony vs. horse (e.g. allowing an Icelandic horse of pony size to compete in horse divisions if a rider so chooses, without worry of a measurement dispute, as long as that Icelandic horse-rider combination does not change divisions to the extent that it violates other existing USEF rules). The intent of this ruling is NOT to add Icelandic horse divisions, classes, or additional scoring of Icelandic gaits to judged events. This is purely to provide an official ruling that Icelandics MAY be competed as horses and not just as ponies.

Proponent Details

Josh Bart

Contact Information

Josh Bart
joshua.bart87@gmail.com

Linked Rules

Committee Actions

Carriage Pleasure Driving

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/10/2020

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

National Hunter Committee

USHJA
1. The term “horse” as used in these rules denotes either a horse or pony.
2. In all levels of all Federation licensed Driving and Endurance Competitions and in the case of any other Federation Rule as it relates to the Driving or Endurance disciplines as the context permits it, the term “horse” shall also include a mule. See DC Annex 9, EN102.1.
3. Mules are also eligible to compete in dressage classes with the exception of:
   a. USEF Championships, USEF qualifying and selection trials, and observation classes,
   b. any other classes designated as qualifying or selection classes for international or international high performance competition, and championships where such participation is prohibited in the championship selection procedures. See DR119.1.
4. When the term “Horse” or “Pony” is used or intended in prize lists and catalogues of Licensed Competitions where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the word Horse denotes animals over 14.2 hands.
   a. Exceptions: Registered Arabians, Half or Anglo Arabians, Connemaras, English Pleasure entries, Friesian, 
      Icelandic, Morgans, Paso Finos, Welsh Cobs and Dressage.
   b. In the Dressage Division, a Horse is an animal over 148 cm without shoes, and 149 cm with shoes.
   c. For Combined Driving, see DC930.