**Rule Change Intent**

The accurate identification of horses is essential. At Federation Licensed Competitions, the best manner in which to identify horses is through a Federation Horse Identification Number, which does not require recording with the Federation. During times of disease outbreak, natural disasters, theft, and to protect against fraud, microchipping of horses is fundamental to good horsemanship. The requirement for all horses competing at USEF licensed competitions to be microchipped is in the interest of horse welfare. While microchipping of horses will be required, members will be encouraged to explore the use of biothermal microchips that allow for Bluetooth connectivity for monitoring of horse temperatures.

**Proponent Details**

Veterinary

**Contact Information**

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**Linked Rules**

Committee Actions

AHHS

American Saddlebred

ARHPA

ASHA

Hackney

Paso Fino

PFHA

Roadster

Saddle Seat Eq
1. All horses competing in Federation licensed competitions must be properly identified. For all such competitions, entries for each horse must include either a Federation-issued Unique Horse Identification Number or a registration number from a Federation Recognized Affiliate. Additionally, a Federation Recognized Discipline Affiliate may require horses to be registered with their organization, and if so, the entry must also include that registration number. [...]

10. **All horses competing at Federation Licensed Competitions must provide a microchip number that verifies the animal.** A microchip used to verify identity must be a fifteen-digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 chip and be implanted in the nuchal ligament of the animal.

   a. *This rule will have a transition period from December 1, 2024 until November 30, 2025. During this period, animals that are not in compliance with this rule will not receive points or be eligible for Federation programs and awards. After this period, all horses that are competing in classes which require Federation registration, which are not microchipped will be ineligible to compete.*