

| Rule Change Type | Effective Date | Draft Received | Board Action |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Extraordinary | 10/1/2023 | 7/14/2023 | |

Extraordinary Change Reason

The current rule unintentionally requires horses to have reins at all times on the field of play where it is commonplace to use a lead rope in the vetting area and elsewhere.

Rule Change Intent

Remove "with the use of reins" so that it will be permitted to control the horse with a lead rope alternatively to reins. As currently written, the rule is limited in its application to times when the horse is wearing a bridle. However, there are times when a horse will be handled in a different set-up, without reins. The intention of the rule is to require that the horse be under control of its handler/rider at all times. Therefore, by removing the reins from this rule, it will be expanded to apply at all times, both when the horse is wearing a bridle and when wearing a different set-up. The requirement to have a horse under control is intended to keep other horses and riders and officials safe at all times at the competition. The expansion of this rule will expand the application of this rule and safety of others.

Proponent Details

Endurance

Contact Information

Steven Morrissey

smorrissey@usef.org

Linked Rules

Comments

Committee Actions

1. The Steward or Veterinary Panel may inspect a combination's tack/equipment on the Field of Play at any time. Any suspected violation of the above, shall be reported to the Federation in the Steward's Report.

2. Tack condition: Horse tack must be in safe condition and correctly fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury to the horse. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure that their tack is safe and fits correctly. Officials may require any ill-fitting tack/equipment to be removed or altered. The use of any ill-fitting equipment that risks causing (or causes) pain or injury to the horse may be considered as horse abuse (see also GR838).

- a. The tack shall be appropriate to ensure the horse is under control at all times ~~with the use of reins~~.
- b. Any type of tack that unduly restricts the free movement of the horse's head or may cause pain is prohibited, i.e., draw reins, etc.
- c. Blinkers are permitted but any method of restricting the forward vision of a horse is prohibited.
- d. Specific safety equipment, such as reflective items, may be required as indicated in the prize list
- e. The use of mobile phones and GPS devices are permitted.
- f. From time to time, the Federation may issue further detailed rules regarding permitted or prohibited tack.