

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	

Rule Change Intent

In an effort to protect the health and well-being of all horses at a licensed competition, any equine on competition grounds with a temperature over 101.5°F shall be reported to competition management or the official/competition veterinarian. The competition veterinarian will determine if the febrile equine needs to be moved to isolation. Isolation and further treatment of the febrile horse will assist in the prevention of disease agent spread to other horses on competition grounds. Reporting febrile equines and their treatment to the Federation will further aid in the overall efforts in protecting the health of our equine athletes.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Veterinary	Katie Flynn kflynn@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
GR 872 (083-23), GR 845 (076-23)	

Committee Actions	
American Saddlebred	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/27/2023	
Andalusian/Lusitano	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/12/2023	
Arabian	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/14/2023	
Carriage Pleasure Driving	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/29/2023	
Competition Management	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 01/08/2024	Draft 1: Competition management should be notified at the same time as the competition veterinarian is notified of a febrile horse. In many competitions, the vet is on-call and establishing a process where they are notified first and in turn, they are responsible for notifying Comp. Management and the TD/Steward may result in a significant delay in addressing a serious health issue.
Connemara	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/13/2023	
Dressage	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/01/2023	Draft 1: Competition management should be notified at the same time as the competition veterinarian is notified of a febrile horse. In many competitions, the vet is on-call and establishing a process where they are notified first and in turn, they are responsible for notifying Comp. Management and the TD/Steward may result in a significant delay in addressing a serious health issue.
Driving	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval	
Endurance	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/16/2023	Draft 1: The committee would approve if the proposed language was adjusted to clarify that this requirement is for a horse "at rest".
Eventing	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/28/2023	
Friesian	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/28/2023	
Hackney	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/21/2023	

Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/18/2023

Jumper

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/24/2023

Licensed Officials

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/15/2023

Morgan

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/28/2023

Draft 1: The committee would approve the rule change if verbiage was added to describe best practices of when to take a horse's temperature to avoid false temperature readings due to stress and/or recent trailering/travel.

National Hunter Committee

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/18/2023

National Show Horse

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/29/2023

Draft 1: The committee feels that the intent of this change is valid and important, but that the rule change itself is not enforceable.

Paso Fino

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/19/2023

Roadster

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/15/2023

Draft 1: The committee questioned who would be responsible for the reporting and if the recording of daily temps is not required how would the Federation enforce a febrile horse that was not reported.

Saddle Seat Eq

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/20/2023

Shetland

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/14/2023

USDF

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/18/2023

Draft 1: While we agree in principle with this RCP, we do not believe that the notification protocol is appropriate. We recommend that the trainer/responsible party be required to notify competition management at the same time they notify the competition veterinarian, and that competition management then be required to notify the steward/TD within the stated time period. Since at a majority of dressage competitions, the competition veterinarian is on call rather than on-site, having the competition veterinarian be the person responsible for notifying competition management and the steward/TD could result in unnecessary delay in management taking appropriate action to protect the health and welfare of the other horses at the competition, such as immediately moving the febrile horse to an isolation stall.

USEA

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/10/2023

Draft 1: Approved, with clarification on GR874 which is not in rulebook.

USHJA

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 01/08/2024

Vaulting

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/14/2023

Draft 1: The Vaulting Sport Committee approves of the rule but does request a clarification. As currently written, the rule does not specify whether a single temperature of 101.5 or a series of temperatures taken time apart will define a febrile horse. Some horses may have a higher temperature after competing, but will return to normal two hours later.

Veterinary

Welsh

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 10/12/2023

Draft 1: This committee had questions regarding whose responsibility it was to report a febrile horse. Additionally, the committee questioned the actual enforceability of this rule at competitions.

Western Committee

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/20/2023

Western Dressage

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/27/2023

SUBCHAPTER 8-H EQUINE HEALTH AND ISOLATION

GR 873 Mandatory Reporting of Febrile Horses

- 1. The trainer, as defined by Federation rules, or the owner if the trainer is unavailable, or the rider if the trainer and owner are both unavailable, shall notify the competition veterinarian and Competition Management as soon as possible but no later than two hours after detection of any febrile horse or pony. A febrile horse or pony is one with a temperature above 101.5 °F. If a febrile horse or pony is detected outside of competition hours or before the competition begins, notification must occur as soon as possible but no later than two hours after the competition begins.***
- 2. ~~The competition veterinarian~~ Competition Management must report to the Steward/Technical Delegate and Competition Management as soon as possible but no later than 2 hours after notification.***
- 3. The competition veterinarian must determine if isolation and/or further treatment or testing of the febrile horse or pony is appropriate.***
- 4. Febrile horses and ponies are required to be reported to the Federation's Equine Health and Biosecurity Veterinarian. See GR874*.***

*GR874 is contained with Tracking 83-23