

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	1/29/2025	

Rule Change Intent

References to USEF High Performance classes are proposed to be removed from the rule book as this language is outdated and no longer in use. This rule change also expands the prohibition of breastplates and cruppers. The prohibition of running martingales in warmup will also be expanded.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Dressage	Lauren Moore lmoore@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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#### **DR121 Saddlery and Equipment**

4. Martingales. Martingales are, under penalty of elimination, prohibited in competition. In warm-up and other training areas, a running martingale may be used only with the rein of a snaffle bridle. Exception: running martingales are prohibited for horses entered in ~~USEF High Performance~~ **U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, NAYC, their respective** qualifying **classes** and selection trials. A running martingale consists of a divided strap attached to the girth or breastplate at the front of the horse's chest and with the extension of each strap connected from the point of division only to the rein on the same side. The reins must slide freely through the rings. The rings may not be incorporated into a neck strap.

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6. Breastplates and cruppers. A breastplate and/or crupper may be used. Exception: a breastplate is prohibited in ~~USEF High Performance Championships, USEF High Performance~~ **U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, NAYC and their respective** Qualifying **classes**, and Selection Trials.

9. Ear plugs. Ear plugs and ear muffs are, under penalty of elimination, prohibited. Exception: Ear plugs are permitted at prize-giving ceremonies for horses competing at any level. ~~including High Performance classes.~~