

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	1/30/2025	

Rule Change Intent

DR126 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management was modified for the 2024 competition year to update the procedures for tack inspections, including bits, conducted by the ring steward for Breed restricted classes. These bit inspections specify, in part, that the ring steward is to insert a gloved finger into the horse's mouth and feel for illegal bits and foreign objects. This can be a challenge for Arabian competition management to find volunteer ring stewards who are able to safely and expertly identify permissible dressage bits by feel. The Arabian Dressage competition management should have the option of the technical delegate or C2 steward being called to assist in completing the bit inspection when it might be deemed unsafe or if they need a particular bit further inspected. In addition, DR126.2. i.1 also currently states that championship classes are to have every horse inspected. This proposal will give competition management the option to inspect at least one third of the class or every horse at regional championship competitions while clarifying that at National Championships every horse will be inspected.

(AHA Resolution 7-24)

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Linked Rules	Comments

SUBCHAPTER AR-16 DRESSAGE SECTION

AR177 Conduct

(...)

2. Dressage classes held in the Arabian Division to be conducted in accordance with Dressage Chapter DR, except as stated herein:

(...)

k. DR126.2.i.1 will apply with these exceptions:

1. Equipment inspections at Region and National Dressage Championships

a. At Arabian Regional Championships, show management will have the discretion to check at least one third of the horses in the class or every horse upon exiting the arena.

b. At Arabian National Championships, equipment inspections are required for each horse in the class upon exiting the arena.

2. The tack inspections process will be performed as described in DR126.2. i.1.c for all Arabian/Half-Arabian breed restriction classes. During any hands-on equipment checking, if the ring steward/equipment checker determines it to be unsafe to conduct the hands-on bit inspection portion on a selected horse, or in the event of questions regarding the bit, the technical delegate or C2 steward may be called to follow the horse back to their barn, stall or trailer, where the bridle can be dropped to conduct the bit inspection.