

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	2/27/2023	

Rule Change Intent

The Western committee is requesting that the description of how to hold romal reins be consistent between the Western and Equitation chapters. The committee decided the Equitation chapter description was more appropriate and are asking to replace the current language within the WS102.1 rule with new language that more closely aligns with the description in EQ124.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Committee	Nicole Zerbee nzerbee@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions
American Saddlebred
Andalusian/Lusitano
Arabian
Morgan
Natl Breed & Disciplines Council - Advisory

SUBCHAPTER WS-1 GENERAL

WS102 Instructions to Riders

1. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trail Horse Class. Hand to be around reins. When ends of split reins fall on side of reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between reins is allowed. Rider may hold romal or end of split reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16 inches of rein between the hands. **When using a romal, the rider's hand must be closed around the reins with the wrist kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top. When split reins are used and ends of split reins fall on the same side as reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. When using a romal or when the ends of split reins are held in the hand not used for reining, no finger between the reins is permitted. The position of the hand not being used for reining is optional, but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment. Rider can hold romal or end of split reins to keep from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16 inches of slack rein between the hands. The hand must be above or slightly in front of the horn and as near to it as possible.**