

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	5/1/2023	

## Rule Change Intent

The USEF Arabian committee, in conjunction with AHA, is requesting the below changes to ensure the clear difference between an unnatural tail and an altered tail. A horse with an altered tail will not be permitted to compete, while a horse with an unnatural tail will be permitted but will be penalized. The current Arabian rules are inconsistent with how to handle altered and unnatural tails, this needs to be rectified as to produce alignment within the Arabian chapter to ensure all instances are being handled consistently.

## Proponent Details

Arabian

## Contact Information

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## Linked Rules

## Comments

## Committee Actions

Arabian

## Council - Natl Breed &amp; Discipline

Natl Breed &amp; Disciplines Council - Advisory

## SUBCHAPTER AR-1 GENERAL SECTION

### AR104 Breed Standards

2. Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabians: The head should be attractive, with an eye that reflects a good disposition and character; withers well defined, coupled with a strong back that will easily carry and hold a saddle; shoulders and pasterns sloping and conducive to a free, light springy gait and long stride; feet, sound and strong, well conformed. True and straight forward action, winging and paddling to be penalized. ~~The tail carriage is preferably high.~~

## SUBCHAPTER AR-1 GENERAL SECTION

### AR105 Conduct, Specifications, Soundness and Welfare of the Horse

~~2. No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or by any means. Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions, because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the breed type.~~

#### 2. Natural Arabian Appearance

***a. An “altered” tail as determined by an evidential proceeding, civil, criminal, or administrative hearing, arbitration, or other tribunal finding renders the horse ineligible to enter and compete in any Arabian Division class. No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or by any means. Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the breed type.***

***b. An “unnatural” tail is deemed, by a judge’s opinion, to be carried in a manner not consistent with the typical Arabian or Half-Arabian type. Judges are required to penalize a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian tail carriage. Conversely, horses with natural Arabian tail carriage showing expression that is not angry or offensive shall not be penalized. A horse’s tail carriage shall be considered “unnatural” when it is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner throughout its performance in a class.***

***i. In all non-scored classes, a horse exhibiting an unnatural Arabian tail carriage must be penalized and positioned last in the class.***

***ii. In all scored classes, a horse exhibiting an unnatural Arabian tail carriage must be assessed a 10-point penalty. Exception: Hunter/Jumper and Breeding In-Hand classes using the Score Sheets will utilize the penalty outlined in AR105.2.b.1.***

***iii. Dressage and Western Dressage are exempt from AR105.2.b.1 and .2***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-1 GENERAL SECTION

### AR106 Shoeing Regulations, Artificial Markings and Appliances

13. No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered (***as determined by an evidential proceeding, civil, criminal, or administrative or arbitration or other tribunal finding***). Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions, because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the breed type.

a. The use of tail weights or a tourniquet to alter the circulation of the tail on the competition grounds during or before a competition are prohibited and the Show Committee shall bar the trainer and the horse found in violation of this rule from further participation for the remainder of the competition, and the owner(s) shall forfeit all entry fees and winnings for that horse for the entire competition.

b. Unless section rules differ, the tail can be loosely fastened to equipment except during competition.

***c. False tails or hair extensions are prohibited, and any horse found to be exhibiting with a false tail or hair extensions during the competition will be disqualified and the Show Committee shall bar the trainer and the horse found in violation of this rule from further participation for the remainder of the competition, and the owner(s) shall forfeit all entry fees and winnings for that horse for the entire competition.***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-2 PUREBRED ARABIAN BREEDING/GELDING IN-HAND SECTION

### AR117 Specifications

3. A wry tail ***is a breeding fault*** or one carried in an unnatural fashion is a breeding fault, and judges must consider it as a fault in adjudicating breeding and in-hand classes. ***Horses with an unnatural tail carriage (see AR105.2b) must be positioned last in the class.***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-4 PERFORMANCE HALTER SECTION

### AR123 General

7. A horse may be disqualified, penalized and/or excused for the following:

- a. exhibits disruptive behavior such that it or other horses are unable to be inspected by the judge;
- b. exhibits behavior such that the safety of it, the handler, an exhibitor, a judge, or another horse is in danger;
- c. is not under the control of the exhibitor;
- d. breaks loose from the exhibitor; or
- e. shanking is not permitted.

***f. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b.***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-8 COUNTRY ENGLISH PLEASURE SECTION

### AR135 Conduct

\*language within the chart\*

~~unnatural tail carriage (AR105.2) it is the directive of the EEC that h~~Horses with ***an*** unnatural tail carriage (***see AR105.2b***) ***must*** be placed either last on the card or eliminated from judging consideration and not placed in the class ***positioned last in the class***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-9 HUNTER PLEASURE SECTION

### AR139 Conduct

\*language within the chart\*

~~unnatural tail carriage (AR105.2) it is the directive of the EEC that h~~Horses with ***an*** unnatural tail carriage (***see AR105.2b***) ***must*** be placed either last on the card or eliminated from judging consideration and not placed in the class ***positioned last in the class***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-10 WESTERN PLEASURE SECTION

### AR143 Conduct

\*language within the chart\*

~~Unnatural tail carriage~~

\*Add language under the columns of major faults/elimination as seen in the other two pleasure charts\*

***Horses with an unnatural tail carriage (see AR105.2b) must be positioned last in the class***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-17 SPORT HORSE SECTION

### AR178 Sport Horse Scoring In-hand Procedures

5. Scoring (Decimals may be used in scoring)

- 10 - Excellent
- 9 - Very good
- 8 - Good
- 7 - Fairly Good
- 6 - Satisfactory
- 5 - Sufficient (some concern for heritability or soundness)
- 4 - Insufficient (definite concern for heritability or soundness)
- 3 - Fairly Poor
- 2 - Poor
- 1 - Very Poor

***-10 – A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b.***

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR212 Reining Horse – General

1. The Arabian reining horse section shall be conducted in accordance with the current NRHA Handbook as modified by the following Arabian rules. Where the Arabian rules are silent, NRHA rules prevail.

- a. There is no restriction on the number of horses a rider may show in a class.

- b. Refer to AR144 Western Pleasure Appointments for rules regarding attire and tack. Refer to AR211.4 for ties
- c. Exception to NRHA rules see AR105.2
- d. Arabian breed restricted competitions that offer reining classes, but are not licensed as a Reining competition, are not required to have video instant replay available to the judges. (Exception: Video Instant Replay is required at the Regional and National level competitions).
- e. For Reining Horse class specifications, refer to AR214.
- f. Equipment checks are to be conducted either by the (call) judge prior to leaving the arena or by the Steward immediately outside of the performance arena after the run.
- g. Patterns must be posted.
- h. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b.**

#### SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

##### AR215 Working Cow Horse - General Conduct

**5. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b, in all Working Cow, Reined Cow, Limited Reined Cow and Herd Work classes.**

#### SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

##### AR223 Ranch Horse Riding

15. Ranch Horse Penalties - A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:

- d. Ten (10) point penalties
  - 1. Eliminates or adds maneuver
  - 2. Incomplete maneuver
  - 3. Off pattern
  - 4. Unnatural ranch horse tail carriage, see AR105.2b.**

#### SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

##### AR224 Ranch Horse Cow Work

3. Credits and Penalties for Ranch Horse Cow Work:

- d. Ten Point Penalties:
  - 1. Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b.** (~~Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver~~)
  - 2. Off Pattern

#### SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

##### AR227 Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure

**19. Horses exhibiting an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b, must be penalized and positioned last in the class**

#### SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

##### AR228 Ranch Horse Trail

6. Credits and Penalties:

- b. Credit is given to horse/exhibitor teams who negotiate the obstacles correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to negotiate through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly responding to exhibitor's cues on more difficult obstacles. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the maneuver score for the obstacle. Penalties are assessed as follows:
- 4. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b;** (~~Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver~~) Off pattern; Third refusal; Failure to dally and remain dallied; Failure to open and shut gate or failure to complete gate.

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR229 Ranch Reining

#### 3. CREDITS AND PENTALITIES:

- e. 10 Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b**; ~~(Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~; Off Pattern; Inclusion of maneuver (e.g. over or under-spinning, backing more than two (2) strides, etc.).

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR230 Ranch Cutting

#### 3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES:

- d. 10 Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b**; ~~(Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~; Turn tail; Failure to cut two cows in Amateur or Open division.

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR231 Versatility Ranch Riding

#### 3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES:

- d. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b**; ~~(Horse's tail is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~ breaking pattern; Leaving working area before pattern is complete; Repeated disobedience.

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR232 Ranch Horse Conformation

2. CONDUCT: To be eligible to complete in the ranch horse conformation class the horse must be entered, shown, and judged in at least one riding class in the Ranch division at that show. Horses must be at least 3 years of age. Horses in each division may be shown together as one class or divided into Purebred, Half-Arabian, Stallions, Mares, Geldings, Open, Amateur, Youth, or in any combination deemed appropriate by show management. All stallions shall be examined to confirm that they have two visible testicles. All stallions and mares shall be examined for over-shot and under-shot mouth. If examination reveals that a horse is a cryptorchid or has an over-/under-shot mouth, the judge shall not use such horse in the final placings of the class. **A horse exhibiting an unnatural Arabian tail carriage, see AR105.2b, must be penalized and positioned last in the class.**

## SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

### AR233 Ranch Working Cow

#### 3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES:

- e. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse **tail carriage** appearance, **see AR105.2b**; ~~(Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)~~; Off-Pattern.

## SUBCHAPTER AR-28 WESTERN OR ENGLISH TRAIL HORSE SECTION

### AR242 Scoring Penalties

**3. 10 POINT PENALTY - A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural tail carriage, see AR105.2b.**

\*renumber under the new point 3