

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

## Rule Change Intent

The Western committee would like to add language which will prohibit the adjustment of reins while in motion for Reining Seat Equitation classes. This change will better align with discipline type practices.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Western Committee	Nicole Zerbee <a href="mailto:nzerbee@usef.org">nzerbee@usef.org</a>

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Arabian
Morgan
Natl Breed & Disciplines Council - Advisory

EQ124 Position

1. Basic Position. The stirrup should be adjusted to the proper length to allow heels to be lower than toes, with a slight bend in the knee and calf close to horse. Feet should be placed in the stirrups with weight on ball of the foot with feet flat on stirrup. Consideration, however, should be given to the width of the stirrups, which vary on Western saddles. If stirrups are wide, the foot may have the appearance of being "home" when, in reality, the weight is being properly carried on the ball of the foot. Body should always appear comfortable, relaxed, and flexible. Arms are in a straight line and close with body, the one holding reins bent at elbow. Only one hand is to be used for reining regardless of type of bit used and hands shall not be changed. Hand to be around reins. When using a romal the riders hand shall 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 romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between reins is allowed. The position of the hand not being used for reining is optional but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner with the elbows close to the body and rider's body straight at all times. 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. **(Exception: In Reining Seat Equitation, reins may not be adjusted while in motion).** Hand to be above or slightly in front of horn and as near to it as possible. When riding in a snaffle bit or hackamore two hands may be used with arms in a straight line with the body, bent at the elbow at approximately 90 degree angle with hands 6-16 inches apart. (Exception: Arabian division where hackamore and snaffle bits are not allowed.) Bracing against saddle or coiled riata is penalized.