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CHAPTER 5 MEASUREMENT OF ENTRIES

SUBCHAPTER 5-A CONDITIONS

GR501 Other Measurement Rules

For all measurements, references to the measurement form implies either the paper or electronic version of the form. The rules in Chapter 5 do not apply to measurement of entries in Hunter, Jumper, and Welsh Pony Divisions: refer to rules HJ126-138. For Combined Driving, see Appendix DC-A Measurement of Combined Driving Ponies. For Dressage, see DR135. For all other measurements, see GR502-518.

GR502 General

1. Measurements must be completed by a Federation licensed official that is certified to measure.
2. Competition Management shall not permit a pony to be shown in a performance class at a Federation Licensed Competition in any division or section that requires a measurement card unless: a) the owner or trainer is in possession of a measurement card issued by the Federation; b) the owner or trainer possesses a copy of a valid measurement form; or c) Competition Management confirms measurement electronically with the Federation Office; or d) For Shetlands the owner or trainer is in possession of a measurement card issued by ASPC. At Regular Competitions, Competition Management shall not give out an exhibitor's number for a pony showing in a division or section that requires a measurement card before the above requirements have been complied with. (See GR1302.2b)
3. Competition Management, the Federation CEO, or their designee may require the measurement of all ponies in any division in which height is a qualifying factor.
4. Ponies competing in any division or section that requires a measurement card are subject to measurement by a licensed veterinarian, steward who is certified to measure, or technical delegate who is certified to measure, and who is appointed by the Federation.
5. Measurements must take place at a Federation Licensed Competition in which the pony is entered to compete. The pony must be measured (height) by an officiating steward or technical delegate certified to measure and any one of the following competition officials: a veterinarian, a judge, another steward or technical delegate. Heel and toe measurements, where applicable, must be done by an officiating steward.
6. The officials appointed to measure ponies at a Federation Licensed Competition are responsible for their true measurement and must check the measurement devices for accuracy. The names of the measuring officials will be printed on the measurement card. All measuring officials may be subject to penalty under the provisions of the Federation Bylaws and Chapter 7 if it is determined that a measurement is incorrect.
7. Measurements are solely for the internal use of the Federation, its Licensed Competitions and its licensed officials in connection with competing for prizes, and do not constitute any representation or warranty regarding measurement information; accordingly, the Federation, its Licensed Competitions and its licensed officials make no representation and shall have no liability whatsoever for measurement errors.
8. Once a foal year has been submitted to the Federation office, the original date cannot be changed without a copy of the pony's breed registration papers or a signed statement from a veterinarian certifying the pony's age.
9. Prior to presenting the pony for measurement it is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the pony is handled properly, accustomed to the application of a measuring stick, and correctly prepared for measurement.

GR503 Required Measurements and Re-measurements

1. All ponies must be measured annually until six years of age. Until six years of age, ponies must be issued a card designating the year measured. Ponies six years of age and older must be issued a measurement card which does not have to be renewed. Those ponies measured (and for which a valid measurement form is received by the Federation) in December immediately preceding the calendar year in which they turn six years of age must be issued a measurement card that does not have to be renewed. Measurement cards for ponies six years of age and older must not be re-issued unless the measurement is questioned, protested, or an appeal is made and an official measurement is performed.

2. In the event a pony has been officially measured and the owner does not have the measurement card or valid measurement form in their immediate possession and the pony's height cannot be confirmed with the Federation electronically, the pony must be re-measured for the purposes of competing in that particular Federation Licensed Competition only. Measurement forms are sent to the Federation office, and shall not be given to the owner. If an owner fails to present a valid measurement card at a Federation Licensed Competition, the owner shall have the pony re-measured at the competition. If an owner fails to present measurement card at more than one (1) Federation Licensed Competition, the owner will be fined for each subsequent re-measurement necessary.
3. If the shoeing status of a pony changes from that which is indicated on its measurement card a new card reflecting the new shoeing status may be issued provided the pony is re-measured in accordance with GR509 and the original measurement card is surrendered to the Federation.
4. Exception: GR503 does not apply to the Dressage Division. For Dressage and Dressage Sport Horse Breeding, see DR135.

SUBCHAPTER 5-B PROCEDURES

GR504 Membership Requirements

All persons presenting a pony for measurement shall first provide the owner's membership number, a signed statement signifying that membership has been applied for.

Effective 9/1/23

GR505 Completing the Measurement Form

1. The measurement form must be filled out completely and the number of the Measurement Stick must be on the form. Measurement cards will not be issued if the form is not completely filled out and legible. Exhibitors shall ensure the form is accurate and complete.
2. The form must include:
 - a. The name and date of the competition, the height of the pony, height of heel (except for Arabian, Dressage and Dressage Sport Horse Breeding), name, color and markings, sex, year foaled which must be verified at time of measurement and designate whether the pony is shod or unshod.
 - b. The name, email address, and Federation membership number of the owner must be given; if the horse/pony is leased, the lessor is considered the owner for measurement purposes.
 - c. Name of the person furnishing the above information immediately before the pony is measured. The person providing the information must be 18 years or older and is responsible for the accuracy of such information.
 - d. Signature of the measuring official.
3. The owner shall receive a copy of the measurement form which, when properly signed by the measuring official, is valid for 45 days from the time the pony is measured. Exception: Hackney, Roadster, and American Saddlebred ponies: the copy which owners retain for the remainder of the current competition year.

SUBCHAPTER 5-C MEASURING

GR506 Measurement Devices

The Federation Approved Measuring Stick shall be used. See DR135 for specific requirements regarding Measurement Devices at Dressage Competitions.

GR507 Measurement Surface

1. The measurement surface must be level. No pony shall be measured on dirt or gravel. A concrete slab or other paved surface is most desirable but, when not available, a sheet of heavy plywood can be used. Exception: plywood may not be used for Dressage or Dressage Sport Horse Breeding measurements. (GR507 does not apply to Dressage pony measurements. See DR135.)

2. If a suitable surface is not available at a competition, a pony without a measurement card or a valid measurement form must be measured to compete in that Federation Licensed Competition, but no measurement form shall be given to the owner. See GR1210.2 and GR1210.3.

GR508 Position of Animal

1. The pony must stand squarely on all four feet in such a position that the front legs are vertical to the ground and the back of the hocks are in a vertical line with the point of the pony's quarters. The head must be held low enough to reveal the highest point of the withers and no lower. The pony must be free of all appliances. Handlers must not interfere with the pony in any way that will prevent it from standing in this position; blinkers may be allowed.
2. For the Hackney Division: The pony should be standing with its front legs perpendicular to the ground. The pony's head should be lower than its withers. This easily locates the highest part of the withers where the measurement should take place. Handlers must not interfere with the pony in any way that will prevent it from standing in the correct position; blinkers may be allowed.

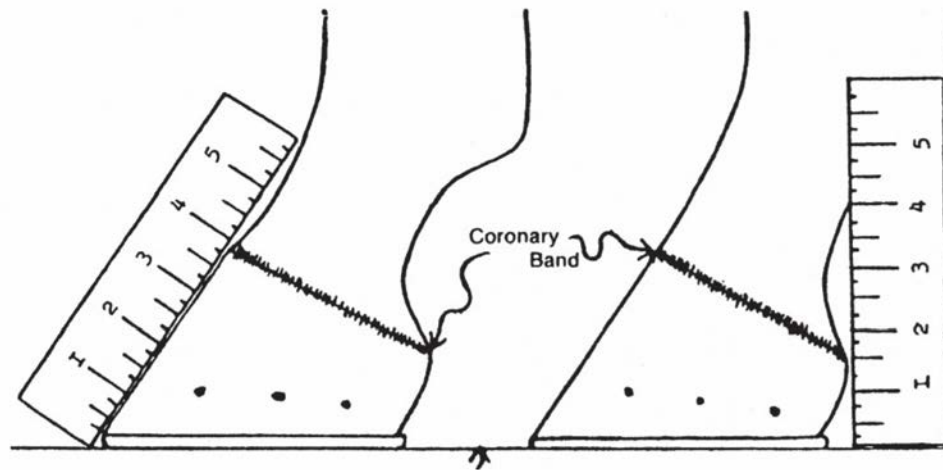
GR509 Method of Measurement

The measurement shall be from the vertical distance from the highest point of the withers to the ground. The cross-piece, arm or bar of the measuring device shall be placed over the highest point of the withers.

GR510 Method of Measuring Toe and Heel

Using a six (6) inch metal ruler, the length of the toe shall be determined by measuring from the front of the hoof, in the center, from the skin line on the lower side of the coronary band to the ground. The skin line on the lower side of the coronary band shall be defined by palpation. The height of heel shall be determined by measuring from the skin line on the lower side of the coronary band to the ground, with the ruler perpendicular to the ground (See illustration).

METHOD OF MEASURING TOE AND HEEL



Smooth Flat Surface

GR511 Exceptions for Breed Measurements

1. American Saddlebred-
 - a. Ponies five years of age and under are eligible to compete in classes restricted to American Saddlebred-type ponies. Ponies must be presented annually for measurement unshod (note: for purposes of protection a 1/4" pad or plate may be nailed to the foot and then deducted from the official measurement).

- b. In order to obtain a permanent Federation measurement card American Saddlebred-type ponies, six years of age and over must be presented for measurement unshod (note: for purposes of protection a 1/4" pad or plate may be nailed to the foot and then deducted from the official measurement).
 - c. If an American Saddlebred-type pony (regardless of age) measures up to 1 inch over 14.2 hands the pony will be issued a measurement card reflecting its height and permitted to compete in American Saddlebred-type pony classes restricted to ponies 14.2 hands and under.
2. Shetland- The pony may be presented with or without shoes regardless of how shown.
 3. Arabian - heel measurements are not required.

SUBCHAPTER 5-D QUESTIONING AND PROTESTING

GR512 Height

1. An owner or trainer may protest the height of only one pony competing in a class in which the owner or trainer is also competing. For Dressage protests, see DR135.9. If a protest is filed the pony's heel must be measured by an officiating steward or technical delegate immediately upon exiting the arena so that no change can be made by re-shoeing or the pony must be accompanied by an official until the measurement procedure is completed. The heel measurement will be taken in accordance with GR510, recorded on the form and signed by the measuring official. The pony must be measured for height within one hour of the conclusion of the session and at an officially designated measurement location for that competition. If it is determined that the pony's shoeing has been changed between the time of the measurement of the heel and the official measurement of the pony, the protest will be upheld and the owner will forfeit entry fees and winnings for the entire competition and the pony is barred from competing for the balance of the competition year. All points accumulated for Horse of the Year Awards are nullified. (Exception: Heel measurements are not required for Arabians. The pony will be measured for height per Chapter 5, Subchapter 5-B and 5-C)
2. Ponies Five Years of Age or Under
 - a. If it is determined that a pony five years of age or under is being shown with the same heel measurement as indicated on its measurement card or valid measurement form, or a lower heel measurement than as indicated on the measurement card or valid measurement form, said pony may continue to show at the height indicated and its height cannot be protested.
 - b. If it is determined that the pony is being shown with a greater heel measurement than as indicated on its measurement card or valid measurement form, the pony must be measured in accordance with GR512.1
 - c. (Exception: Heel measurements are not required for Arabians. The pony will be measured for height per Chapter 5, Subchapter 5-B and 5-C)

GR513 Toe Length

1. An owner or trainer may protest the length of toe of any pony competing in a class in which the owner or trainer is competing.
2. If the length of toe of any pony is protested, the Competition Management must have the official veterinarian and a judge or steward officiating in the competition measure the toe immediately so that no change can be made by reshoeing.
3. If the limit for length of toe is exceeded, the pony must be disqualified for the balance of the competition and the owner of the pony shall forfeit entry fees and winnings for the entire competition.

GR514 Results of Questioning or Protesting

1. The measurement card or valid measurement form of any pony that is required to transfer into another division or section must be surrendered to the competition steward or technical delegate who must forward it to the Federation office with their report.
2. The name of any pony barred from showing due to its height exceeding the limit for the pony's section by more than one half inch (1/2") is listed in equestrian.
3. The decision of competition measuring(s) officials is final for the competition where the protesting occurred. An appeal may be filed with the Federation to cover future and prior competitions.

SUBCHAPTER 5-E MEASUREMENT APPEAL

GR515 Conditions

An owner or trainer of a pony declared ineligible for a division or section on account of height may appeal a measurement. The pony is barred from competing in the particular height division or section for which it was declared ineligible until the measurement is performed.

GR516 Procedures

1. The appeal must be made to the Federation office in writing within seven (7) days of the measurement and must be accompanied by the required deposit.
2. All expenses including veterinary fees must be paid by the appellant who must make a deposit with the Federation as an advance on anticipated costs prior to the measurement.
3. The Federation will select a location and time for the appeal measurement as convenient as possible. The owner or trainer must deliver the pony to the location at their own expense within 45 days of filing the appeal.
4. The measurement must be performed by at least two persons appointed by the Federation which shall include one veterinarian who is a member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners and one steward or Technical Delegate certified to measure, as permitted by division rules. The officials whose measurement is being appealed cannot be part of the team conducting the measurement appeal.
5. Any pony submitted for an appeal measurement must show no evidence of lameness. If found to be lame by the examining veterinarian, the pony cannot be measured or remeasured for thirty (30) days and the appellant forfeits their deposit and any veterinary expenses incurred. Each pony submitted for an appeal measurement must be tested for drugs and medications in accordance with General Rules, Chapter 4, GR405.
6. If the appeal is not upheld or the appellant fails to submit the pony within 45 days, the pony is barred from showing for the balance of the competition year. The deposit is forfeited and all points accumulated for Horse of the Year Awards are nullified.
7. The measurement made under the terms of an appeal is final.

SUBCHAPTER 5-F OFFICIAL MEASUREMENT

GR517 Conditions

An owner or trainer may request an official measurement for a pony six (6) years or over provided: a) the pony has never been shown in a Licensed Competition; b) has never been declared ineligible for a division on account of height; or c) has had a bona fide transfer of ownership.

GR518 Procedures

1. The request for an official measurement must be made to the Federation in writing and accompanied by a non-refundable deposit.
2. All expenses including veterinary fees must be paid by the person requesting the measurement who shall make a deposit with the Federation, as an advance on anticipated costs, prior to the measurement. Both the owner and trainer are required to sign a waiver and consent on a form prepared by and acceptable to the Federation agreeing to the arrangements for the official measurement, agreeing to the administration of Lasix to the pony to aid in the collection of a urine sample for laboratory tests for Federation forbidden substances. (Exception: Hackney, Roadster, and American Saddlebred.)
3. The Federation will select a location and time for the official measurement as convenient as possible. The owner or trainer must deliver the pony to the location at their own expense.
4. The measurement must be performed by at least two persons appointed by the Federation which shall include one veterinarian who is a member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners and one steward or technical delegate certified to measure. The officials whose measurement is being appealed cannot be part of the team conducting the measurement appeal.
5. Any pony submitted for an official measurement must show no evidence of lameness.
6. An official measurement is final.