



Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Suspended Horses

Q: When an individual is suspended are his/her horses also suspended?

A: Yes. When an individual is placed on suspension, any horse, owned by him or her, shown in any name of his or hers, or for his or her credit or reputation, whether such interest was held at the time of the violation or acquired thereafter, will be placed on suspension for the same time period. For purposes of suspension, the term 'owned by him or her' is defined in [Chapter 1, GR140.1](#).

Q: What are the restrictions placed on a suspended horse?

A: A suspended horse has the same restrictions as an individual and may not compete or be present on the grounds of a Federation Licensed Competition.

Q: How does the Hearing Committee determine which horses of an individual are placed on suspension?

A: Any horse(s) that an individual owns (wholly or in part) at the time the violation occurred as well as any horse(s) acquired after the time of the violation will be placed on suspension. ([Chapter 7, GR703.1.c](#))

Q: Is it possible for a horse to be suspended when the owner is not?

A: Yes. While it is rare, there are instances where this can occur. One example is an owner who leases their horse but the lease is not recorded with the Federation. The lessee and horse are involved in a non-negotiable payment to a Competition that isn't resolved so the lessee and horse will be put on suspension but the owner of record is not suspended.

Q: If a Trainer is suspended are his/her clients' horses also suspended?

A: No. The suspension only extends to the trainer and any horse(s) they own. The clients and the horses owned by the clients are not suspended and assuming they have a different trainer they will be free to continue to compete at Federation Licensed Competitions.

Q: If a horse is sold prior to the time of a violation by an individual, will that horse be suspended?

A: No. If the horse is sold prior to the violation occurring that horse(s) will not be placed on suspension.

Q: If a suspended individual sells/leases a horse does that automatically relieve said horse of suspension?

A: No. If the individual owned the horse at the time of the violation, selling or leasing the horse will not exempt it from the suspension period.

Q: If a horse is involved in a drugs and medications violation resulting in a suspension, will that horse also be suspended?

A: If someone other than the Person Responsible owns the horse, that horse will not be placed on suspension, unless the Hearing Committee rules otherwise. Typically, any suspension in a drugs and medications violation will be issued to the Person(s) Responsible and any horse(s) owned by him or her.

Q: If someone purchases a suspended horse is there a process to remove the horse from suspension?

A: Yes. Chapter 7, GR703.1c gives the Hearing Committee the authority to remove the suspension of a horse if it is demonstrated to its satisfaction that a bona fide sale or transfer was made without the intention of relieving the suspended owner of penalty. Details on the suspension relief process can be found [here](#).



Q: Does the Federation notify individuals who have unknowingly purchased/leased a suspended horse?

A: Yes. If an application for transfer of ownership for a suspended horse is received, the Federation's Horse Services Department or Regulation Department will notify the individual requesting the transfer of the suspension and will direct them to the Regulation Department to resolve the issue.

Q: If a horse has been sold or leased between the time an individual is notified they will be suspended and when the suspension starts will the Regulation Department notify the new owner/lessee of the upcoming suspension?

A: Yes. At least 30 days prior to the start of a suspension, the Regulation Department will notify any individual who is listed in Federation records as a new owner/lessee that due a violation by a previous owner the horse will be placed on suspension. This letter will give the new owner/lessee until the date of the suspension to make a request for suspension relief in order to keep the horse off the suspension list.

Q: Who can I contact if I have questions about a suspended horse?

A: The Regulation Department at 859-258-2472 or epratt@usef.org.