Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
AR 105.2	123-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	Arabian	Approved (6/16/2026)

AR105.2 Tracking #123-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2026	2/5/2026	Approved 6/16/2026

Rule Change Intent

The main detailed rule regarding Arabian tails is located in AR105.2, but is highlighted at the beginning of the Arabian Working Western section as well. The verbiage used in the working western section regarding "altered" tails interprets differently than the rule in ARA105.2(a); this statement in working western is being removed to avoid confusion and referencing the rule in AR105. This change is also adding clarity to the verbiage regarding tails in the working western section to gain easier understanding. This rule change also adds the clarification that in non-scored working western classes, the penalty for unnatural Arabian tail carriage supercedes all other penalties, placing the horse last in the class.

Proponent Details

Arabian

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Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER AR-1 GENERAL SECTION

AR105 Conduct, Specifications, Soundness and Welfare of the Horse

(…)

2. Natural Arabian Appearance

(…)

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~~ ***must*** not be penalized. A horse's tail carriage ~~shall~~ ***must*** 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. ***This penalty supersedes all other penalties and must always result in the horse's placement as last in the class.***

(…)

SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

AR213 Working Western General

(…)

3. Tails

The Arabian Working Western Horse should exhibit breed type while performing its task-oriented disciplines. Breed type includes a natural tail carriage. ***See AR105.2b.*** No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian Division with a tail that has been altered in any manner or by any means. See AR105.2~~b~~***a. 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, must not be penalized. A horse's tail carriage must be considered "unnatural" when it is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner throughout its performance in a class.***

~~a. Judges must penalize horses exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance (unnatural tail carriage). Conversely, horses with natural Arabian appearance (tail carriage) showing expression that is not angry or offensive must not be penalized.~~

~~b. A horse's tail carriage must be considered altered when it is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner.~~

~~c~~***a***. In all scored Working Western classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian ~~appearance~~ ***tail carriage*** must be assessed a 10- point penalty.

~~d~~***b***. In non-scored Working Western classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian ~~appearance~~ ***tail carriage*** must be penalized and positioned last in the class. ***This penalty supersedes all other penalties and must always result in the horse's placement as last in the class.***