Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
WD 121.6	059-25	1	Rule Clarification	12/1/2025	Western Dressage	Approved (11/4/2025)

WD121.6 Tracking #059-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Rule Clarification	12/1/2025	9/4/2025	Approved 11/4/2025

Rule Change Intent

There have been a number of inquiries regarding whether certain types of saddles would be considered Western Stock Saddles. The Western Dressage committee would like to further define what constitutes a Western stock saddle to eliminate any confusion.

Proponent Details

Western Dressage

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER WD-5 APPOINTMENTS

WD121 Tack

(...)

6. Saddle:

A standard American Western stock saddle with ***fork***/swells, a seat, cantle, skirt, fenders, Western stirrups, and a fastened girth or cinch is required. ***A fender is a solid, wide, continuous piece that extends from the rider's upper thigh to the stirrup on each side of the saddle.*** A ~~working~~ Western side saddle is also acceptable.

a. Optional and permitted features may include:
    1. Horn
    2. Padding or pads on the seat of the saddle
    3. Bucking rolls
    4. Tapaderos, except in Western Dressage Equitation
b. The following features and style of saddles are not permitted:
    1. Thigh & knee rolls
    2. Saddles: Australian, Baroque, English, McClellan, and Spanish
    3. An open loop hand hold attached over the front of the saddle does not meet the requirement for a fork/swell, and is not allowed.
c. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit.
d. A breastplate, crupper, and/or breeching may be used.