Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
DC 920.2	247-25	2	Standard	12/1/2026	Beth Davidson	Approved (6/16/2026)

DC920.2 Tracking #247-25 Draft #2 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2026	4/15/2026	Approved 6/16/2026

Rule Change Intent

Change the wording for the mandatory horse inspection, required at Advanced Level, to mandatory only at events offering a National Championship (DC 920 2.2.1-14).

Currently, all horses and ponies must be inspected at a jog if they are competing at the Advanced level. This places a financial strain on the organizer in a sport that already requires a large number of officials per competitor. No other national level equestrian sport (eventing, dressage, show jumping) requires a veterinarian inspection prior to competition. The ground jury and two veterinarians (one for the jog, one for the hold) must be present for this inspection. At competitions where 30-50 total entries are common and often Advanced level entries number less than five, this places an unnecessary financial burden on the organizer.

The ground jury can eliminate horses and ponies from the dressage test due to unsoundness, and all competitors must pass an in-harness inspection prior to the start of the marathon and cones. At a recent competition, the two veterinarians and the entire ground jury had to be present a day early for the jog, held for only 2 advanced competitors. I envision driving shows will discontinue offering the advanced level, due to the excessive costs associated with the division. It would be much less expensive to simply offer Beginner to Intermediate, as the entry fees for minimal advanced turnouts does not cover the additional expenses for the required advanced jog. National Championship competitions could still require the first inspection, but it should be removed for CDE's and bring it in line with the short format CDE.

Proponent Details

Beth Davidson

Contact Information

Beth Davidson

bethdavidsonBDF@gmail.com

Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/26/2026

Driving

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 04/07/2026

Member Comments

DC920 Examinations and Inspections of Horses

2. First Horse Inspection

2.1 This must take place at all Combined Driving events ***offering National Championships for ~~at least~~*** the ***Open*** Advanced Level ***~~horses~~*** before the start of the first Phase. ***An organizer may require a first horse inspection for any level at their discretion.***

2.2 ***CDEs not offering National Championships and*** Short Format Driving Events do not require a first-horse inspection. A Judge and/or the Technical Delegate can determine if a horse/pony is unfit to compete and whether it must be examined by a veterinarian before continuing in any phase.