Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
WD 129.9	203-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	Western Dressage	Approved (6/16/2026)

WD129.9 Tracking #203-25 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

Many competition management groups are holding both Western Dressage and classical Dressage competitions at the same competition grounds. The DR chapter has a rule allowing for a modified arena size to be used in certain instances. The Western Dressage committee wishes to mirror this rule for Western Dressage competitions, which would make it easier for competition management to run similar classes in the same modified arena that classical Dressage classes would be held in.

Proponent Details

Western Dressage

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Arabian

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 03/16/2026

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Friesian

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 03/18/2026

Morgan

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 04/16/2026

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER WD-7 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

WD129 Requirements for Competition Management

(...)

9. Specifications.

a. The area should be on as flat and as level ground as possible.
b. The Standard Arena is 60 meters long and 20 meters wide. The Small Arena is 40 meters long and 20 meters wide. Arena measurements are for the interior of the enclosure. The Small Arena is recommended for Western Dressage classes for the Introductory and Basic Levels.
c. The Large Arena is required for Level 1 and above.
d. The enclosure itself must consist of a low fence about 0.3 meters high and must be completely enclosed, except for the entrance at "A". The width of the entrance must be at least two meters.
e. The fence should be such to prevent the horse's hooves from becoming entangled and arena stakes, if used, must be covered with a ball or similar object so as to prevent injury. Rope, concrete or unbreakable chain fencing is not allowed.
f. A modified arena is one that is not exactly 20x60 meters or 20x40 meters, as required for the particular level and test. Use of a modified arena is permitted only when the dimensions of the arena to be used are clearly specified in the prize list. When a modified arena is used, it must not be shortened more than five meters in length or more than two meters in width. Arenas must never be shortened between M, F, H, and K, and their respective corners. However, all Freestyle classes must be held in an unmodified Standard size arena.