Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
AR 288.2	114-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	AHA	Approved (6/16/2026)

AR288.2 Tracking #114-25 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 current Hunter Seat Equitation Over Obstacles rules under AR288.2 outline course requirements, but do not define a standardized procedure for conducting a work-off at National Championship competitions. The absence of a clearly defined work-off protocol can lead to inconsistency in judging and confusion among exhibitors, particularly at the national level where placings carry significant weight. A structured and transparent work-off procedure enhances fairness, promotes exhibitor understanding, and strengthens the integrity of the equitation division. Protocol for other National Championship equitation classes differ considerably from Hunter Seat Equitation Over Obstacles. The purpose of Equitation Over Obstacles classes is to evaluate the rider's ability to interpret and respond to instruction under pressure in addition to demonstrating technical riding ability.

AHA Resolution 17-25

Proponent Details

AHA

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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

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER AR-28 EQUITATION SECTION

AR288 Hunter Seat Equitation

(...)

2. Hunter Seat Equitation Over Obstacles:

(...)

b. Course Requirements:

(...)

6. In Junior/Adult Equitation Over Obstacles - 2'9" and AHA Junior Equitation Over Obstacles Medal – 2'9" classes, the course must include at least two changes of direction and 1/3 of the fences should be oxers. In addition, all courses must include at least three of the following:

(...)

j. In National Championship Equitation Over Obstacles classes, the top four placed exhibitors will be brought back into the ring for a work-off at the judges' direction. Once the instructions are read aloud, exhibitors must remain in the ring and will complete the work-off individually in the reverse order of the judges' placings, i.e., fourth, third, second, first. Interpretation of the work-off instructions is considered part of the judging criteria. Questions may be asked prior to the start of the work-off. Obstacles included in the work-off must have been part of the original course and must be jumped in the original direction unless otherwise specified.