



USEF COVID-19 Rule Modifications
Approved for the 2021 Competition Year
Effective December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021

For Modifications:

Rule Modification language appears in bold italics; waived language appears in strikethrough
(New 2021 rule book language appears in red, but may be modified for the 2021 competition year)

***Rule Modifications added to the list on 12/01/20 appear in dark blue (Links appear in light blue)**

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Rule Modifications Applicable to Competition Management

USEF Entry Blank – All Breeds/Disciplines

The new [USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification](#) supersedes the existing language printed in the USEF Rule Book. [Click here to find a waiver specific to the state in which the competition is held.](#) *If a state-specific waiver is not available, please use the [general waiver form](#).*

GR 908.5

5. The entry blank of each Licensed competition must contain the following USEF RELEASE as printed below, in an easily visible location, separated from any other language on the entry blank, and appearing immediately above or next to the required signatures as specified in GR908.2. No other material may come between this RELEASE and the required signatures.

GR 908.6

6. All USEF fees appearing on the entry blank must be grouped together in one section of the page, preferably in a box separating them from other fees.

Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification

This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing.

I AGREE in consideration for my participation in this Competition to the following:

I AGREE that “the Federation” and “Competition” as used herein includes the Licensee and Competition Management, as well as all of their officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers and Federation affiliates.

I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in the Competition with my horse, as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, lessee, owner, agent, coach, trainer, or as parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports and the Competition involve inherent dangerous risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, or death (“Harm”).

I AGREE to hold harmless and release the Federation and the Competition from all claims for money damages or otherwise for any Harm to me or my horse and for any Harm of any nature caused by me or my horse to others, even if the Harm arises or results, directly or indirectly, from the negligence of the Federation or the Competition.

I AGREE to expressly assume all risks of Harm to me or my horse, including Harm resulting from the negligence of the Federation or the Competition.

I AGREE to indemnify (that is, to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) the Federation and the Competition and to hold them harmless with respect to claims for Harm to me or my horse, and for claims made by others for any Harm caused by me or my horse while at the Competition.

I have read the Federation Rules about protective equipment, including GR801 and, if applicable, EV114, and I understand that I am entitled to wear protective equipment without penalty, and I acknowledge that the Federation strongly encourages me to do so while WARNING that no protective equipment can guard against all injuries.

If I am a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor, I consent to the child’s participation and AGREE to all of the above provisions and AGREE to assume all of the obligations of this Release on the child’s behalf.

I represent that I have the requisite training, coaching and abilities to safely compete in this competition.

I AGREE that if I am injured at this competition, the medical personnel treating my injuries may provide information on my injury and treatment to the Federation on the official USEF accident/injury report form.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all applicable Federation Rules and all terms and provisions of this entry blank and all terms and provisions of this Prize List. If I am signing and submitting this Agreement electronically,

I acknowledge that my electronic signature shall have the same validity, force and effect as if I affixed my signature by my own hand.

SEE PRO FORMA AT END OF THIS RULE

GR916 General Conditions

Except as permitted by the FEI for FEI recognized classes, all entries at a Licensed Competition must be on the same basis. A competition cannot give free or reduced entries, free or reduced transportation or other expenses to one exhibitor unless the same privileges are extended to all exhibitors in the same section or subset of competitors. The requirements to obtain these privileges must be advertised to all potential exhibitors. No fees may be imposed that are not listed in the prize list.

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC. ENTRY AGREEMENT

I have read the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") Entry Agreement (GR906.4) as printed in the Prize List for this Competition and agree to all of its provisions. I understand and agree that by entering this Competition, I am subject to Federation Rules, the Prize List, and local rules of the competition. I agree to waive the right to the use of my photos at the competition, and agree that any actions against the Federation must be brought in New York State.

RELEASE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER AND INDEMNIFICATION

This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing.

I AGREE in consideration for my participation in this Competition to the following:

I AGREE that the "Federation" and "Competition" as used above includes all of their officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers and affiliated organizations.

I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in the Competition with my horse, as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, lessee, owner, agent, coach, trainer, or as parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports and the Competition involve inherent dangerous risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, or death ("Harm").

I AGREE to hold harmless and release the Federation and the Competition from all claims for money damages or otherwise for any Harm to me or my horse and for any Harm of any nature caused by me or my horse to others, even if the Harm arises or results, directly or indirectly, from the negligence of the Federation or the Competition.

I AGREE to expressly assume all risks of Harm to me or my horse, including Harm resulting from the negligence of the Federation or the Competition.

I AGREE to indemnify (that is, to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) the Federation and the Competition and to hold them harmless with respect to claims for Harm to me or my horse, and for claims made by others for any Harm caused by me or my horse while at the Competition.

I have read the Federation Rules about protective equipment, including GR801 and, if applicable, EV114 and I understand that I am entitled to wear protective equipment without penalty, and I acknowledge that the Federation strongly encourages me to do so while WARNING that no protective equipment can guard against all injuries.

If I am a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor, I consent to the child's participation and AGREE to all of the above provisions and AGREE to assume all of the obligations of this Release on the child's behalf.

I represent that I have the requisite training, coaching and abilities to safely compete in this competition.

I AGREE that if I am injured at this competition, the medical personnel treating my injuries may provide information on my injury and treatment to the Federation on the official USEF accident/injury report form.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all applicable Federation Rules and all terms and provisions of this entry blank and all terms and provisions of this Prize List. If I am signing and submitting this Agreement electronically, I acknowledge that my electronic signature shall have the same validity, force and effect as if I affixed my signature by my own hand.

Rider/Driver/Handler/Vaulter/Longeur (mandatory)

Signature: Print

Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

(Required if Rider/Driver/Handler/Vaulter/Longeur is a minor)

Print Parent/ Guardian Name:

Emergency Contact Phone No.

Is Rider/Driver/Vaulter a U.S. Citizen: Yes No

Owner/Agent (mandatory)

Signature: Print

Name:

Trainer (mandatory)

Signature: Print

Name:

Coach (if applicable)

Signature: Print

Name:

Food and Beverage - All Breeds/Disciplines; additional specifics for Dressage, Hunter, Jumper & H/J Licensed Competitions

Waives the requirement to make food available and changes it to an option. Details the minimum requirements for providing water for participants.

GR1216 Facilities

1. Convenient and ample water facilities must be provided. ***Bottled water must be available to participants starting one hour prior to the first scheduled class and ending when the last scheduled class finishes. Refer to breed and discipline rules for additional information.***

4. Food must be provided on the grounds. ***Providing food on the grounds is optional.***

DR126 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management - Dressage

[...]

3. Dressage Levels Chart.

(for USEF Dressage Competitions or Regular or Local Competitions with Open Dressage Classes per USEF GR314.2c)

(DSHB classes can be held with any Level. Shows offering only DSHB can choose Level 1 or Level 2 criteria.) Criteria at competition Levels 3-5 are highlighted in gray below that can be held at a lower level, if competition advertises classes held at a lower level.

Food Vendors/Concessions *optional (Level 1-3) Competitions, and may be offered for Levels 4 & 5 (must be clearly designated in the prize list) with the exceptions:*

Level 4 & 5: Food service is based on local health requirements. At a minimum, pre-packaged food and water must be available; however, hours may be limited.

Level 3: Bottled water must be available to participants 1 hour prior to competition start until the end.

Level 2: Bottled water must be available to participants – limited hours permitted.

Level 1: Bottled water is recommended.

Refer to the DR charts on pages 31 and 32 of this document

HJ105 Safety and Welfare – Hunter, Jumper, and H/J Licensed Competitions

1. Definitions

a. Potable Water: Convenient and ample water for horses and potable water for human consumption must be free and available at all times. **Bottled water must be available to participants starting one hour prior to the first scheduled class and ending when the last scheduled class finishes.** If the facility cannot provide adequate potable water or runs out of potable water, management must provide an alternate water source as soon as possible. [...]

HJ107 Facilities. - Hunter, Jumper, and H/J Licensed Competitions

1. Definitions

[...]

s. Food and Beverage Service: At least one staffed food and beverage service area must be available on the competition grounds. Hours of operation must be posted and announcements notifying exhibitors of closing times must be made at least one hour prior to closing. **Bottled water must be available to participants starting one hour prior to the first scheduled class and ending when the last scheduled class finishes. A staffed food service area is optional.**

2. Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating
(chart)

Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating	Local Jumper 1	Regional II	Regional I Jumper 2	National Jumper 3/4	Premier Jumper 5/6
Food/Beverage Service	Required – Bottled Water	Required – Bottled Water	Required – Bottled Water	Required – hot and cold Bottled Water	Required – hot and cold Bottled Water

Horse Entry Standard – Hunter and H/J Licensed Competitions

The Horse Entry Standard for Premier, National, Two-Day Restricted Junior Amateur, Regional I and Regional II hunter rated competitions is waived. Competitions will NOT be reclassified to a lower rating based on the Horse Entry Standard.

HJ101 Effective Dates for Standard Application

1. Existing Licensed H/J Competitions including Heritage Competitions eligible for renewal on or after 12-01-2011 unless stated otherwise in the HJS, must meet applicable HJS for their Rating. See HJ104 Horse Entry Number HJS.

2. All new competitions must meet applicable Basic Standards and HJS for their Rating. See HJ104 Horse Entry Number HJS.

3. Effective date for changes to HJS.

Any changes or additions to HJS, unless stated otherwise in the HJS being adopted, must be achieved by a competition effective the first of the month that is 12 months following the date of the Federation's adoption of the HJS or a later effective date set forth in the HJS that is adopted. For example, changes or additions to HJS adopted in January of a year will normally become effective on February 1st of the following year, etc. HJS may be amended or deleted effective immediately when such action is determined appropriate by the Federation.

4. Competitions with the first licensed date of a competition year, prior to the effective date of the modified standard(s) for their Rating or Level, will not be required to meet the new standard(s) until the next competition year.

HJ104 Horse Entry Number HJS

~~8. Renewal Competition Horse Entry Number Rating Requirements.~~

~~a. For competitions with three (3) or more years of operation, a competition License may be renewed if they have achieved the HJS Horse Entry Number in at least two (2) of the last three (3) years. The License renewal may be delayed until the completion of the last competition of the existing License, if it is in the best interest of the competition to achieve the HJS Horse Entry Number required for renewal. The other HJS that are applied to a competition must be achieved every year in order to maintain the Rating/Level.~~

~~b. If the required minimum HJS Horse Entry Number is not achieved during the period set forth, then the competition will be provided with a License at a lower rating consistent with the Horse Entry Numbers achieved. The Licensee may continue to conduct a competition at the same location and on the same dates at the new Rating and/or Level in accordance with HJ104 and subject to achieving other HJS required for the Rating or Level.~~

HJ109 Premier Rated Competitions

1. Must be held and judged over a minimum of five (5) days on the same competition grounds.

2. ~~Number of horse entries required for a Premier rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of two hundred (200).~~

3. A minimum of fifteen (15) "A" rated Hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.

4. A minimum of ten "A" and/or "C" rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held and judged, a maximum of four of which can be "C" rated sections. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements.

HJ110 National Rated Competitions

1. Must be held and judged over a minimum of three days on the same competition grounds.

2. ~~Number of horse entries required for a National rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of seventy-five (75).~~

3. A minimum of ten "A" rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.

4. A minimum of five "A" and/or "C" rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held and judged. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements.

HJ111 National Rated Junior/Amateur Restricted Competitions

1. Must be held on a minimum of two consecutive non-school days within the public school system, at the location of the competition, on the same competition grounds.
2. ~~Two day National Junior/Amateur restricted competitions will have a Horse Entry Number requirement of fifty (50).~~
3. A minimum of six "A" rated Hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.
4. A minimum of three "A" and/or "C" rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held. Ladies side saddle does not count towards these requirements.

HJ112 Regional I Rated Competitions

1. ~~Number of horse entries required for a Regional I rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of fifty (50).~~
2. At least three (3) "B" rated Hunter sections must be offered. One Children's Hunter or one Adult Amateur Hunter section may be substituted for two required "B" sections. Divided sections count as a single section.

HJ113 Regional II Rated Competitions

1. ~~Number of horse entries required for a Regional II rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of twenty five (25).~~
2. At least two (2) "C" rated must be offered. Divided sections count as a single section. Competitions restricted to side saddle may offer a Ladies Hunter Side Saddle Section as the only "C" rated Hunter section.

Hunter Prize Money - Hunter and H/J Licensed Competitions

Premier and National hunter rated competitions must continue to offer a minimum of \$24,000 (Premier) and \$5,000 (National) hunter rated competitions in the rated hunter sections. However, if sections are canceled or entries are insufficient at a Premier hunter rated competition to award all prize money, competitions will NOT be required to pool and redistribute the money not awarded.

HJ109 Premier Rated Competitions

1. Must be held and judged over a minimum of five (5) days on the same competition grounds.
[...]
7. Prize Money
 - a. A minimum of \$24,000 in prize money, including add-back money if any, must be paid in the rated Hunter sections of a Premier competition. If an add-back is offered, the minimum required prize money for that section must be guaranteed, and the add-backs must be clearly indicated in the prize list. ~~Money from model classes does not count towards this requirement.~~
[...]
 - c. ~~If sections are canceled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed 60% to the champions, and 40% to the reserve champions of the remaining "A" rated hunter sections. Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the Premier rating.~~

Jogging, Conformation and Model Classes – Hunter, H/J, Arabian & Morgan

The traditional manner of jogging for soundness in hunter classes has been modified, and horses will now jog for soundness under saddle by trotting a circle on a loose rein at the end of each over fences performance. Additionally, the requirement for model and conformation classes has been waived in the “A”-rated Regular and Green Pony Hunter sections, as well as the Three-Year-Old Hunter section. Handlers in model classes and conformation classes in the Green Conformation Hunter, High Performance Conformation Hunter sections, and the Green Pony Hunter and Three-Year-Old Hunter sections, if held, must comply with social distancing guidelines.

HU118 General

[...]

3. In all classes over obstacles, all horses being considered for an award must jog for soundness ~~in the judge’s order of preference~~ prior to being judged for conformation. Two more entries than the number of ribbons must jog if there are sufficient entries. **Horses are required to trot a circle on a loose rein at the end of each over fences performance.** Horses may not leave the ring until the jog is declared official by the judge. A horse that leaves the ring prior to the jog being declared official will be eliminated. A horse that is unruly, one that breaks away from the handler or one whose actions threaten to endanger the rider, handler, other exhibitors or their entries will be eliminated. (Exception: Hunter Breeding and Pony Breeding). A horse may not be eliminated for receiving outside assistance in the jog. **For conformation classes, horses shall return to the ring following the conclusion of all over fences performances in each class and line up in order of preference for conformation judging. Handlers must line horses up in compliance with social distancing guidelines.**

HU121 Soundness

All horses must be serviceably sound. All horses being considered for an award must jog for soundness. ~~with rider dismounted.~~ (Exception: Under Saddle classes, classes with specifications that do not require horses to jog, unrated classes, and classes at Local Competitions)....

HU130 Non-rated classes

[...]

d. THREE-YEAR-OLD HUNTER. Section must include two or three Over Fences classes and one Under Saddle class with a Championship and Reserve Championship awarded. If possible, this section should be held immediately after the Three-Year-Old Hunter Breeding class. Courses are to be simple. ~~One Over Fences class must be judged on at least 25% conformation.~~

HU136 Conformation Hunter Sections

1. Model Classes for Green Conformation Hunter 3’6” and High Performance Conformation Hunter:

- a. To be shown at a walk and trot. To be judged on conformation, way of moving and soundness.
- b. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound.
- c. Model classes to count 1/2 points.

[...]

7. All Conformation sections are to be judged 70% on performance, 30% on conformation. **See HU118.3 for conformation judging procedures complying with social distancing practices.**

HJ123 Pony Hunter Sections

[...]

6. Pony Conformation Classes. In “A” rated sections, ~~one over fence class must be judged 25% conformation; in “B” rated sections, one over fence class may include conformation at management’s discretion.~~ **Model and conformation classes are not required to be held in any Pony Hunter sections. If they are held, they must comply with the procedures in HU118.3.** The conformation class must be clearly stipulated in the prize list. A Model class may be offered in addition to the conformation class. If a model class is held, it is recommended that all conformation classes offered in the section will be held on the same day as the model class.

SUBCHAPTER AR-14 WORKING HUNTER SECTION - Arabian

AR159 Conduct

[...]

5. All horses must be serviceably sound (See HU121). All horses being considered for an award must jog for soundness. with rider dismounted (Exception: Under Saddle classes, Working Hunter classes with specifications that do not require horses to jog, local or unrated classes). ~~Horses must return to the ring for soundness wearing an acceptable approved bridle.~~ **Horses are required to trot a circle on a loose rein at the end of each over fences performance.**

SUBCHAPTER MO-10 MORGAN WORKING HUNTER SECTION - Morgan

MO145 General

[...]

2. Morgan Working Hunters are to be judged on an even hunting pace, manners, smooth and calm jumping style, and the ability to accommodate hunting type conditions. Manners are especially emphasized in Amateur, Jr. Exhibitor, and Ladies classes. Horses must be serviceably sound and all horses being considered for an award over obstacles must be jogged for soundness. ~~with the rider dismounted.~~ **Horses are required to trot a circle on a loose rein at the end of each over fences performance.**

MO146 Appointments - Morgan

[...]

6. Bridles should be plain traditional hunting style, with biting to include snaffles or pelhams. If a full bridle (curb and bridoon) is used, the bridoon is thicker than in an English Pleasure full bridle. Excessive length of the curb shank shall be penalized. Plain cavesson nosebands are recommended. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits and nosebands. ~~Competitors may be refused an award unless they return for jogging soundness in the same bridle in which they performed.~~

Combining and Dividing of Sections or Classes – Hunter and H/J Licensed Competitions

Added language to provide guidance on combining or dividing of sections or classes.

HU155 General

1. Sections must be divided or combined based on the number of entries in the first over fences class and may not be combined or divided after the first class. Exception: Performance/High Performance Working Hunter, see HU161.1b

2. No section may be divided if there are less than 30 entries with the exception of those sections required to split sections based on the number of entries for a particular fence height, horse size, or rider age section i.e.:

a. Exception:

Green Hunter (HU162.2)

Young Hunter (HU162.3)

Junior Hunter (HU162.5)

Amateur Owner Hunter (HU162.6)

“B” and “C” rated Pony Hunter sections (HU162.8)

Children’s and Adult Amateur Hunter sections refer to HU162.9; HU162.10 and sections governed by USHJA Zone Specifications

3. In under saddle classes and model classes, the Competition Organizer must determine and communicate to participants, the maximum number of horses permitted in each competition area at one time based on the size of the competition areas and social distancing requirements. Competition management must communicate with participants if classes will be divided and held as separate classes, or split and held in one or more than one section.

a. For example:

1. Classes may be divided into separate classes with each class receiving separate awards.

2. Classes may be split into sections with the final section being comprised of the best entrants from each of the previous split sections with one set of awards given in the final section.

3.4. Any section with 50 or more entries at the beginning of the first class must be divided. If there are 50 or more entries remaining in a section after it has been divided, the section must be redivided by every other number. Once a section has been redivided it may not be divided further.

HU158 Definition of a California Split

3. Under Saddle. A Section with twelve (12) or less must be judged as one class using the California Split. Sections that are judged under the California Split must have results for Section A and B. A random split will be used for under saddle classes of more than twelve (12). **If competition management determines that the number of horses permitted in the ring is fewer than twelve, HU155.3 applies.**

HU162 Combining and Dividing Specific Sections

1. Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter and any sections where individual classes may be entered.

[...]

b. Dividing:

1. In Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter and any other sections where individual classes may be entered, the sections may only be divided after thirty (30) horses have competed in the first over fences class. Subsequent classes may be divided once twelve (12) horses have competed in each class. For Championships, see HU149. **See HU155.3 for classes where participants compete collectively.**

[...]

5. Junior Hunter

b. Dividing:

1. When divided, sections must be split using one of the methods from HU156 Methods of Dividing

2. If there are 50 or more entries in the section at the beginning of the first class it must be divided and the prize money must be doubled. A section with less than 30 entries cannot be divided. ***See HU155.3 for classes where participants compete collectively.***

Paramedics – Hunter and H/J Licensed Competitions

If the services of a Paramedic cannot be secured for a Premier hunter rated competition, an EMT may be substituted.

HJ105 Safety and Welfare

1. Definitions

h. Qualified Medical Personnel: At Premier rated and/or Jumper Level 5 or higher competitions, at least one of the required qualified medical personnel must be a paramedic. See GR848 for additional medical personnel requirements. ***If the services of a Paramedic cannot be secured for the competition, an EMT may be substituted.***

Awards Ceremonies - Dressage

Participation by placed horse and rider combinations cannot be required, and awards ceremonies must be conducted to allow for social distancing. Rosettes will not be required to be placed on bridles.

DR123 Scoring, Classification and Prize-Giving

[...]

13. Participation in prize-giving (awards) ceremonies by placed rider/horse combinations ***must not*** may be mandatory. ~~and failure to participate may result in loss of prizes and prize money at the discretion of Competition Management. Specific requirements and penalties for failure to participate in prize-giving ceremonies must be announced in the prize list.~~ It is recommended that dress and saddlery for ceremonies be the same as in the competition, but that black or white leg bandages also be allowed. ~~Rosettes should be placed on the horses' bridles prior to the ceremony. The judge at "C" should be invited to participate in the prize-giving.~~ Competition Management is responsible for the safe conduct of ceremonies and must excuse any horse that threatens the safety of participants. At all times when horses are grouped together, riders and/or grooms are responsible for their actions. Carelessness or irresponsible behavior may result in possible penalties under Federation rules.

Time Schedules & Ride Times - Dressage

The time schedule must be posted in electronic format and/or in an area where social distancing can be adhered to by noon the day before the competition (the posting/distribution method must be included in the prize list). Additionally, flexibility with ride schedules must be allowed

DR 126.2b.3-4 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management

2. The following requirements apply to all Levels 1-5 of Dressage Competitions, except where noted. Specific requirements for specific levels of competitions are listed under .2, below.

[...]

b. Competition Schedule

[...]

3. The time schedule must be posted in ***electronic format and/or in an area where social distancing can be adhered to*** ~~a conspicuous place~~ by noon the day before the competition. ***(The method to be utilized for posting the time schedule must be printed in the prize list).*** Ride times may not be changed after noon the day before the start of the entire competition, except in compliance with GR830.5. Competitions may reserve the right to fill a

competitor's subsequent ride times if that competitor fails to notify the competition secretary of his/her intention to scratch (i.e. is a "no show").

4. ~~Dressage classes must be run in their entirety and rides may only be scheduled out of sequence to allow a reasonable interval between two or more horses entered by the same rider in the same class or in different classes.~~ **Flexibility with ride scheduling must be allowed. However, Federation/USDF Championships classes must be run in their entirety and rides may only be scheduled out of sequence to allow a reasonable interval between two or more horses entered by the same rider in the same class or in different classes. Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes must be run in their entirety (i.e. all horses in classes for the same age-group must be shown consecutively).** Also, when preparing a time schedule consideration must be given to riders entered in more than one class or riding more than one horse.

Arena Fence at Letter 'A' – Dressage

This rule was modified to remove the requirement for the fence at Letter 'A' to be closed for Federation/USEF Championship Classes (competition Levels 4 & 5).

DR126.2.f.5 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management

[...]

2. The following requirements apply to all Levels 1-5 of Dressage Competitions, except where noted. Specific requirements for specific levels of competitions are listed under .2, below.

[...]

f. Arena Specifications.

5. The part of the fence at A should be easy to remove to let the competitors in and out of the arena in a suitable way. The part of the fence at A can remain open ~~except~~ at Federation/USDF Championship classes.

Procedures for Paso Fino Competitions

The following Paso Fino rules were modified to ensure social distancing is maintained during competition, that all inspections be completed visually with masks and gloves worn, and to allow for the flexibility of using mounting blocks in classes that require a dismount and remount during competition.

For additional rule modifications related to tack and equipment inspections in Paso Fino competitions, please refer to the [Equipment Inspection](#) section for Licensed Officials below on page 20.

Procedures of Paso Fino Classes

- *Implement 12 foot distance between competitors during a line up*
- *Result- Support social distancing so the judge may approach and inspect horses from all angles and remain 6 feet away from all other competitors*

PF111 Procedures

1. The exhibitors will enter the ring to the right at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner until asked to reverse or change gait. Entries will space themselves **at least 12 feet apart**, and maintain the same relative position and avoid bunching up. Entries will be penalized for bunching up or for not working on the rail.

PF117 Procedures

Exhibitors will enter the ring to the right at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner until asked to reverse or change gait. The entries will space themselves **at least 12 feet apart**, maintain the same relative position and avoid bunching up. Entries will be penalized for bunching up or for not working on the rail

PF119 International Paso Equitation

[...]

9. Class Procedures

- a. All exhibitors must maintain horses at a Corto or Fino while being judged.
- b. Participants shall enter the arena to the right, close to the rail and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. Participants should maintain their horses on the rail. The rail should not have any obstacles that may prevent the continuous movement of participants, including personnel and/ or judges. At the discretion of the Judges, the participants will be ordered to complete various circles in one direction until instructed to reverse to be evaluated clockwise. The reverse will be executed toward the center of the ring returning to the rail in the opposite direction. The turn should not exceed an area of three meters. The rider should maintain their horses in gait during the reverse. Judges will observe the rider's skills, focus, handling and ability to maintain the horse in gait during its movement on a straight line as well as during the turns. Participants will then be asked to line up their horses in a predetermined area of the arena where they will wait to be asked to go over the sounding board one by one in both directions and exit to the Holding/ Line up area where they will wait for their individual tests. **Horses must be lined up at least 12 feet apart from one another.**

[...]

PF121 Procedures

1. Quality of gait, that is, smoothness, symmetry of action, harmony of cadence, and naturalness, that is, consistency, absence of undue restraint, will be judged during rail work. After completing one circle, or when instructed by the Ringmaster, the horse will line up **at least 12 feet from other horses** in the center of the ring for conformation inspection. The Judge shall penalize a horse if the handler uses his or her hands on the horse's leg below the knee to position the hoof in the lineup.

PF142 Procedures.

The exhibitors will enter the ring to the right of the rail at a Paso Corto, and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. Sequence of gaits will be: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, walk, reverse and repeat, then line up. When requested by the Judge, the rider will back the horse out of the line up, dismount from the left side, walk around to the front of the horse checking the headgear and/or bridle appointments, then remount from the right side and return to the line up, **at least 12 feet from other horses**. Rider's style of dismount and mount is not to be emphasized; rather, emphasis is placed on the horse's willingness to back in a calm controlled manner and to stand quietly. While executing all gaits, entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain their relative positions on the rail except to pass. When western style tack is used, the rider may use either one or two hands.

Hoof Inspections

- *Require masks and gloves during the inspection*
- *Maintain healthy precautions while conducting the inspection of hooves.*

PF155 Grand National Championship Show

g. Hoof Inspection. All horses entered in any classes at the National Show shall have their hoofs inspected before entering the ring by a committee of three appointed by the Show Chairperson, consisting of an impartial farrier, a veterinarian, and a member of the Show Committee. Any evidence that the hooves have been trimmed too closely, which is a practice called “soring,” shall disqualify the entry for the remainder of the show. ***This committee of three must wear a mask and gloves when doing their inspections and do their best to maintain social distancing during this procedure.***

Use of Mounting Blocks during classes

- *Require Competition Management to implement precautions on the use of the mounting block.*
- *Avoid the spread of germs by touching the Mounting Block*

PF138 Procedures

a. Dismount and remount from the left side, either in the line-up or along the rail, except in Youth Classes. Rider’s style of dismount and mount is not to be emphasized; rather, emphasis is placed on the horse’s willingness to stand quietly. ***If using a mounting block, competition management must implement a proper means of sanitizing the mounting blocks between users, or another means of avoiding the spread of germs through the mounting block.***

PF142 Procedures.

The exhibitors will enter the ring to the right of the rail at a Paso Corto, and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. Sequence of gaits will be: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, walk, reverse and repeat, then line up. When requested by the Judge, the rider will back the horse out of the line up, dismount from the left side, walk around to the front of the horse checking the headgear and/or bridle appointments, then remount from the right side and return to the line up. Rider’s style of dismount and mount is not to be emphasized; rather, emphasis is placed on the horse’s willingness to back in a calm controlled manner and to stand quietly. ***If using a mounting block, competition management must implement a proper means of sanitizing the mounting blocks between users, or another means of avoiding the spread of germs through the mounting block.*** While executing all gaits, entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain their relative positions on the rail except to pass. When western style tack is used, the rider may use either one or two hands

Procedures for Vaulting Competitions

The following Vaulting rules were modified to ensure social distancing is maintained during competition and to allow for the cleaning and sanitization of equipment.

Official Timer and Judge’s Salute

Vaulting rules have been modified to ensure social distancing requirements by eliminating the official timer’s position and provides protocols for how athletes enter the competition ring.

VA109 FACILITIES

[...]

8. A countdown clock and one stopwatch must be provided at the Chief Judge’s (Judge A) stand in each arena, ~~or an official timer must be appointed, who shall sit next to the Chief Judge in each arena. If an official timer is needed, two stop watches must be provided; one to be used to time the performance and the other for timing entry, falls, time outs, etc.~~

[...]

10. Freestyle checker is required for team event. The official clerk or timer may act as Freestyle checker.

VA110 FORMAT

1. ~~Competitors shall salute the Chief Judge upon entering and before exiting the arena.~~

The lunger is required to salute the Chief Judge upon entering and before exiting the arena.

Competitors are to line up along the side of the arena immediately upon entering and may exit arena after all vaulters have completed their performance, without saluting the Chief Judge. All Vaulters, ~~not part of the same Pas de Deux or Squad~~ must line up at least 6 feet apart along the side of the arena.

VA126 ELIMINATION

[...]

7. Elimination – Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events:

[...]

m. ~~Team or vaulter~~ **Lunger** not saluting within one (1) minutes of the Judge's signal to enter.

Sanitization Protocols

Vaulting rules have been modified to allow for the cleaning and sanitization of equipment between each vaulting performance.

VA111 TIMING

1. The time allowed for each event begins the moment the first vaulter touches the surcingle, the pad, or the horse and ends with the time limit (the bell). Only exercises (static or dynamic, including dismounts) already in progress when the bell rings will be included in the evaluation for degree of difficulty, performance, and composition. ***The horse may be stopped between each vaulter's compulsory performance in order to clean and sanitize the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins). The time will be paused from the moment each vaulter touches the ground in the dismount until the moment the next vaulter touches the grips.*** All following exercises and dismounts starting after the bell will be considered in the performance score (deductions only), but not in degree of difficulty nor composition scores. For timing requirements of specific events (Team, Individual, Pas de Deux), please refer to the chapter for that event.

VA112 UNAUTHORIZED ASSISTANCE

1. No one other than the lunger may give any directive to the horse ***unless they are assisting in cleaning and sanitizing the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins). Such person or persons must line up on the edge of the circle and maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet from the vaulters, the judges and each other.***

VA116 COMPULSORIES – Team

Compulsory Test for 3*A Team is performed to the left.

[...]

5. Time for the Compulsories is taken from the moment the first vaulter touches the grips, until the last vaulter to perform touches the ground in the dismount, or the end of the time limit.

The horse may be stopped between each vaulter's compulsory performance in order to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins). The time will be

paused from the moment each vaulter touches the ground in the dismount until the moment the next vaulter touches the grips.

VA119 COMPULSORIES - Individual

4. All vaulters performing on the same horse must follow one another immediately without waiting for the bell. ***The horse may be stopped between each vaulter's compulsory performance in order to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins).***

VA120 FREESTYLE - Individual

[...]

4. See section on Scoring for final score, penalties and deductions. ***The horse may be stopped between each vaulter's compulsory performance in order to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins).***

VA122 PAS DE DEUX EVENT REQUIREMENTS

Pas de Deux is composed of two vaulters. Consists of one (1) or two (2) rounds of Freestyle performed at canter to the left. ***The horse may be stopped between each Pas de Deux pair's performance in order to clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, side-reins) (if more than one PDD pair enter the arena together).***

VA126 ELIMINATION

[...]

7. Elimination – Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events

[...]

b. In Team Event, entering the ring with more than a lunge and 6 vaulters for Freestyle. ***With the exception of an additional designated person whose role it is to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins), without the intention to mount.***

[...]

e. In Team Event, approaching the horse without the intention of mounting (See VA112.2), ***with the exception of an additional designated person whose role it is to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins), without the intention to mount.***

[...]

o. Unauthorized assistance not specified elsewhere. ***With the exception of an additional designated person whose role it is to sanitize and clean the equipment (including surcingle, pad, and side-reins), without the intention to mount.***

Competition Licensing Modifications – COVID-19 Related Venue Changes

The rules governing license modifications involving a change of venue that causes a mileage conflict have been modified to allow for CEO review of the Licensee's request to maintain Priority Date Holder status at the new location.

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

1. General Provisions.

[...]

h. License Modification. Any changes to the License agreement including location, dates, rating, level, or prize money, will require a license modification request and payment of a fee...

[...]

4. GR302.1.h.4. A Licensee requesting a license modification involving a change of location that results in a mileage conflict may request to maintain Priority Date Holder status at the new location. ~~Competitions that would be impacted by the change of location shall have the opportunity to submit written comments to the Federation prior to a determination.~~ A determination shall be made by **the Federation CEO** ~~a Federation Internal Review Panel, as defined in GR315, along with a representative appointed by the relevant Recognized Breed/Discipline Affiliate.~~ If a Licensee's request to maintain Priority Date Holder Status is denied, he may still request a mileage exemption.

Additional Information for Competition Organizers

Timelines and Deadlines

Waivers to application submission dates and process timelines under the following rules shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- GR302.1.d. - Holding application for more than 30 days.
- GR302.1.h.1 - Date change less than 30 days from comp
- GR302.1.h.1.b - Date change less than 240 days from comp
- GR302.1.h.3 - Rating change less than 30
- GR302.2.g.1 - Must submit eventing competition license 240 days prior to start of competition
- GR306 - Inactive competitions
- GR315.4.b - 240 day mileage deadline
- GR315.4.d - 21 days PDH response
- GR904 - Changes in Prize List
- GR1212 - Prize Lists

Mileage Exemption Fee Waiver

The mileage exemption fee has not been waived. However, if a provisional denial is reviewed again at a later date, there is no additional mileage exemption fee.

2021 Competition Cancellation Fee

The competition cancellation fee is waived for competitions cancelling due to COVID-19 for the 2021 year.

Rule Modifications Applicable to Licensed Officials

Officiating Limitations for Stewards, Technical Delegates and Judges

The rules limiting the number of times a Steward, Technical Delegate or Judge could officiate within a specific area or at a specific competition within a certain period of time have been waived.

GR1034 Stewards and Technical Delegates

[...]

4. Except in Hawaii and Alaska, no steward may officiate for more than three consecutive years at the same competition or at more than three consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. When three or more stewards are officiating, one steward will not be subject to these restrictions and will be eligible to serve as steward for a fourth consecutive competition run by the same Licensee.

5. Except in Hawaii, no technical delegate may officiate for more than two consecutive years at the same competition or at more than two consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. In Alaska, no dressage technical delegate may officiate more than three consecutive years at the same competition, but are not otherwise restricted from officiating at consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. For the purposes of this rule, multiple, consecutive day Dressage Competitions held within a six-day period will be counted as one competition, if they are run by the same Licensee.

6. A Driving Technical Delegate shall not serve in that capacity at the same Combined Driving Event, Driving Trial, Driven Dressage Show or Pleasure Driving Show more than three consecutive years

GR1039 Conflicts of Interest and Restrictions

[...]

2. A judge may not officiate more than one time within 125 radial miles during any 20 day period in the following circumstances:

a. In any one of the following classes: ASPCA Horsemanship, Washington International Horse Show Equitation, USEF Show Jumping Talent Search, or the USEF Hunter Seat Medal at Premier or National rated competitions.

b. In the same "A" rated division or section (Exception: Federation Licensed Special Competitions).

c. In the Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Friesian, Hackney, Morgan, National Show Horse, Roadster, American Saddlebred, or Shetland division or section.

3. Paso Fino Division: A judge may not officiate more than once within two hundred (200) road miles during any thirty (30) day period.

a. This restriction does not apply to Guest Judges officiating classes recognized by a national breed or discipline association for which the Federation has no division rules and does not license judges.

4. Limitations for Andalusian/Lusitano Judges

a. A judge cannot officiate at two licensed competitions within the same IALHA Region (excluding the IALHA National Competition) within the same year unless the competitions are six (6) months apart and travel distance from one competition facility to the second facility is 200 miles or greater.

~~b. A judge licensed in the Andalusian/Lusitano Division may not officiate at more than one Regional Championship competition in that Division during any one competition year. A judge that has officiated at an IALHA National Championship Competition is ineligible to officiate at another IALHA National Championship for the next two years.~~

Equipment Inspections – *Arabian, Dressage, Paso Fino, Reining, and Western Dressage*
Added language to clarify that all tack and equipment inspections must be performed visually.

AR246.20.c AHA Medal Class Requirements (Arabian)

20. Class specification for AHA Medal classes are as follows:

c. AHA Reining Seat Medal class

3. Bits must be dropped and inspected by the Judge or designated official, and all riders must dismount for this inspection. If called for in the ring, assistance, if necessary, may be had from one of the ring officials. ***All inspections must be done visually.***

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment (Dressage)

~~3.4.2. Nosebands shall not be adjusted so tightly that it causes skin irritation. It must be possible to insert two fingers under the noseband on the side of the face below the cheekbone. During a tack check, noseband tightness must be checked at the location shown in Figure 121.10 and not on the bony area of the cheekbone or bridge of the nose.~~ ***Saddlery and equipment checks will be visual and random. The Technical Delegate may follow the competitor to a designated area if necessary.***

[...]

8. Fly hoods.

[...]

8.3. If a tack inspection is performed after completion of the test, the rider or his/her representative is responsible for removing the fly hood and presenting it for ***visual*** inspection to the designated ring steward who will ensure that nothing prohibited has been added, such as ear plugs.

DR126 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management- (Dressage)

[...]

2. The following requirements apply to all Levels 1-5 of Dressage Competitions, except where noted. Specific requirements for specific levels of competitions are listed under .2, below.

[...]

i. Ring Stewards and supervision of schooling areas.

~~1. Tack Inspections. Inspection of saddlery and bits must be done at the direction of the technical delegate. Ring stewards appointed by competition management are required to inspect the saddlery, dress and equipment worn by at least one third of the horses in a class immediately as the horse leaves the arena. In championship classes, saddlery, dress and equipment inspections are required for each horse.~~ When an inspection is conducted, all equipment including fly hoods, nosebands, whips, bits, and spurs on both sides must be inspected. ***All inspections must be visual and random. The Technical Delegate may follow the competitor to a designated area if necessary.***

~~4. Bit inspectors must use a new disposable protective glove on each hand for each horse. Gloves must be provided by competition management. The bridle must be checked with the greatest caution, as some horses are very touchy and sensitive about their mouths.~~

BOD 6/22/20 Effective 12/1/20 All inspections must be visual and random. The Technical Delegate may follow the competitor to a designated area if necessary.

5. When communicable disease is a concern, any deviations to established saddlery inspection protocol must be approved by the USEF Dressage Department prior to the competition.

DR206 Equipment and Turn Out – (Dressage)

[...]

8. Bit and saddlery inspections, as described in DR121.10, are not required nor are advised for DSHB classes. When close inspection of saddlery, equipment or bits is required in order to determine compliance with these rules, a steward or TD must **conduct a visual inspection and if necessary, follow the horse to a designated area.** ~~accompany a horse to its stall to inspect such items when they are removed from the horse.~~

PF127 Tack (Paso Fino)

3. Bits. (All Divisions)

[...]

g. The competition steward may require a rider or riders to dismount and drop their horse's bits for inspection. Competition officials may select entire classes or individuals in any section for inspection. **All inspections must be done visually.**

PF101 Eligibility (Paso Fino)

[...]

5. Inspection. At the line-up in all classes, Judges will carefully inspect the horses for artificial devices, training scars, raw or bleeding sores, soundness, marked lameness, and welts from whips or spurs in accordance with these rules. At all PFHA approved shows, the Judge may, at his or her discretion, inspect any horse for evidence of soring. Any evidence of soring shall disqualify the horse for the class and remainder of the show. **Inspections must be done visually and at a distance of at least 6 feet from competitors.**

RN103 Scoring – (Reining)

[...]

3. The following will result in result in no score:

[...]

g. failure to dismount and/or present horse and equipment to the appropriate judge for inspection **(All equipment checks/inspections must be performed visually.);**

17. All riders must dismount. The horse must be presented and the bridle dropped by the rider or a designated representative. The horse and equipment must be checked by the designated judge or steward in close proximity to the arena during a pre-check or only in the case a sitting jury member is checking equipment in the arena, a postcheck. Should the equipment judge detect cause for a no score, the exhibitor or his/her representative, trainer, or guardian may at that time accept the no score and allow the equipment judge to cause the appropriate changes to all score cards or request the other judges confer on the appropriate call. In the case of a youth exhibitor, should a parent, trainer, or guardian not be present, it will be assumed that all parties are aware of this rule and agree to abide by the exhibitor's decision. If requested, the equipment judge will confer with the other judges as soon as practical. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a no score. Competitions are encouraged to establish check stations in advance of each individual run and give the competitor appropriate time to correct the equipment change to comply with legal equipment, should there be a question on equipment. **All equipment checks/inspections must be performed visually.**

WD120 General (Western Dressage)

1. At Federation licensed competitions, the C2 Steward or the person who is under the direction of the Steward and appointed by the competition management will be responsible for overseeing the checking of the horse, tack, and attire. A horse must be eliminated from the test just completed if the horse or any tack and/or attire are in violation of the rules and/or the tongue has been tied. C2 Stewards or Equipment Inspectors are only required to inspect bits and other appointments on a minimum of one-third of the horses in a class. (See WD123). ***All inspections must be done visually.***

WD124 Judges and Stewards (Western Dressage)

3. C2 Stewards. A USEF licensed competition that offers Western Dressage tests/classes may use either a USEF licensed Category 2 Steward or an inspector designated by show management and under the direction of the C2 Steward. Tack and bits on both sides of the horse of a minimum of one-third (1/3) of the horses in each class/test must be inspected. ***All inspections must be done visually.***

a. Once the exhibitor leaves the arena, the exhibitor must remain mounted until they reach the C2 Steward or equipment inspector. At that time, the exhibitor will dismount for the equipment inspection. Competitors will be asked to drop the bridle of the horse, removing the bit to below the mouth of the horse. ~~A metal detector and/or magnet may be used to detect the presence of the metal in nosebands.~~ Random pulling of leg wraps will also occur at this time. See also WD119.

[...]

~~d. New disposable gloves must be available for and used by bit inspectors if a mouth piece must be handled by the inspector.~~

Judges' Use of Cell Phones - All breeds/disciplines

Issues a clarification to the existing rule to better accommodate the use of cell phone or other electronic device technology to relay scores and other information in an effort to minimize the exchange of paper.

GR1033.3 Judges

3. Except in the discharge of their official duty ***or mandated by competition management***, the use of cellular phones or other similar communication devices, including computers, by judges while in the ring (including center ring), judges' box, judges' stand or on any part of a course during a competition is strictly prohibited.

Placement of Judges - Dressage

Ensures that placement of judges will accommodate social distancing requirements.

DR122 Execution and Judging of Tests

[...]

13. For FEI Tests for 4, 5 and 6-year old horses, and the USEF test for 4-year old horses, the judges must ***not be required to*** sit together at "C". ***Placement of judges must allow for proper social distancing in accordance with the USEF Action Plan for Licensed Competitions.*** Individual movements are not judged. The judges must fill out one Marking Sheet with general comments and marks at the end of the test. For Young Horse qualifying classes, competition management is encouraged to provide a microphone for the judges so that a short summary may be given to the audience after each ride. FEI guidelines for judging shall be followed. Tests must be ridden from memory. For FEI Dressage Tests for Seven Year old Horses: Each of the two FEI Tests for 7 Year Old Horses has two marking sheets, a technical test (titled

Test and Technical Marking Sheet) and a young horse evaluation (titled Quality Marking Sheet). The FEI Tests for 7 Year Old Horses must be judged by Senior 'S' or FEI judges.

Placement of Judges (***must allow for proper social distancing in accordance with the USEF Action Plan for Licensed Competitions***): One Judge – Judge at C uses only the Quality Marking Sheet OR the Technical Marking Sheet; Two Judges – Judge at C uses only the Technical Marking Sheet; Judge at B or E uses only the Quality Marking Sheet; or Three Judges - Judge at C uses only the Technical Marking Sheet; two judges at B or E use only the Quality Marking Sheet. To include this test in Young Horse Test of Choice (TOC) class, ONLY the Quality Marking Sheet can be offered and one judge must preside. If two or three judges are used, the test must be offered in a separate class that is limited to FEI Tests for 7 Year Old Horses. The technical score and the quality score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score.

DR126 Requirements for Dressage Competition Management

1. The following requirements apply to all Levels 1-5 of Dressage Competitions, except where noted. Specific requirements for specific levels of competitions are listed under .2, below.

[...]

g. Location of Judges.

[...]

~~5. The booth/hut/platform must be large enough to accommodate three people except that the booth at C must accommodate four people for Young Horse Championship classes.~~

6. Judges' booths placed at E and B must be equipped with side windows.

7. The jury for the FEI Dressage Tests for 4, 5, and 6-year-old horses and USEF Dressage Test for 4-year old horses must ***not be required to*** be seated together at "C" and may comprise a maximum of three judges. (Exception: See Selection Procedures for the USEF National Championships for Young Horses for the number and placement of judges in the Young Horse championship competition.) The number and placement of judges in classes and championships for FEI 7-year-old horses must be as described in DR122.13 or, if applicable, the Selection Procedures for the World Breeding Championships for 7-year-old horses. ***Placement of judges must allow for proper social distancing in accordance with the USEF Action Plan for Licensed Competitions.***

Scores & Scoresheets – Dressage & All Breeds/Disciplines

Rules have been modified to allow for score submission and scoresheet distribution to occur electronically and/or posted via the internet, as well as signed by use of a stamp rather than by hand.

Privacy must still be maintained.

GR1033 Judges

[...]

16. Judges' cards and/or official score sheets are to be signed by the judge and retained (with the exception of score sheets returned to the exhibitor) as part of the competition's official records for a period of no less than three years. Electronic signatures through a PDA or similar device used to record scores will fulfill the signature requirement. ***Judges' cards and/or official score sheets may be signed with a stamp.***

DR123 Scoring, Classification and Prize-Giving - Dressage

[...]

2. [...] Scores must be posted on a public scoreboard as soon as possible after each ride. The public scoreboard may be in either paper or electronic format. **Scores may be sent electronically (e.g. via text) to competitors and/or posted via the internet.** The name of each judge must be posted along with the position where he/she is sitting...

3. [...] Final results for each class must be posted as soon as possible after the class is completed and all results must include total points and percentages with numbers to three places after the decimal point, eliminated horses, and the placing of each horse that receives an award.... The published final results may be in paper or electronic format and must remain posted throughout the entire competition. **Scores may be sent electronically (e.g. via text) to competitors and/or posted via the internet.** The name of each judge must be posted along with the position where he/she is sitting...

[...]

11. If a mathematical error on the scoresheet is discovered, it must be brought to the attention of competition management within 1 hour of the official posting of the scores from the last class of that competition day. Competition Management must announce said posting, and must make test sheets available to competitors immediately. **If scoresheets are only made available after the competition day by electronic methods, management must extend the deadline for reporting of mathematical errors to 24 hours from time of distribution. Scores will be corrected but class placements will not change.**

12. After the awards for a class have been presented, the judge's score sheet should be given to the competitor. The score sheet must be **provided** handed directly to the competitor or his representative. Privacy must be maintained. Score sheets may be provided electronically to the competitor, but they shall, upon request, also be provided with a printed copy.

Designated Judge/Rider Evaluation Forms – Dressage

Evaluations by Designated Judges and Designated Riders is suspended. USEF will contact competitors at random after each competition and request completion of the USEF Evaluation form online through their USEF membership account.

DR125.8: Competition Licensing and Officials

[...]

~~8. The competition Technical Delegate is required to designate one Dressage judge and one Competitor to complete USEF competition evaluation forms. The Technical Delegate must supply the Designated Judge and Designated Competitor with a copy of the required evaluation form(s). It is mandatory for designated judges and competitors to return completed evaluation forms to USEF either with the Technical Delegate or directly to USEF within fourteen days of the competition.~~

Eligibility and Verification of Entries – Dressage

Waives the requirement for Technical Delegates to check entries and verify competitor eligibility. Competitors are still required to adhere to eligibility rules and competition secretaries are responsible for ensuring that horses in qualifying and championship classes are properly recorded and that riders and owners are current members.

DR127.2 USEF/USDF Qualifying and Championship Classes and USEF/USDF National Championships for Dressage

[...]

2. Unless specified otherwise in published selection procedures, all qualifying competitions for USEF/USDF Championships are open only to horses that have been recorded with the Federation, ridden by Junior Active, Senior Active, or Life Members. Annual or lifetime Horse Recording is required and horses with only HID numbers are not eligible. Horse owners must also be Junior Active, Senior Active or Life Members. If the horse has more than one owner, at least one owner must have both active USEF Junior Active, Senior Active or Life membership and active USDF Participating or Business Membership...Copies of documents submitted by competitors to verify Federation and USDF membership and horse recording must be available to the Technical Delegate in the competition office. Information on USDF membership and horse registration requirements is available through the USDF office. Affidavits will not be accepted for Federation or USDF membership or horse recording verification purposes for entry in Championship classes.

GR1035 Special Duties of a Technical Delegate

[...]

2. General Duties for Dressage Technical Delegates

[...]

c. At Dressage Competitions, to observe and report that management and competitors are in compliance with all Dressage Division regulations regarding USEF/USDF Qualifying and Championship classes, Federation Junior Team Championships, and the USEF Championships and qualifying classes.

Equine Drugs and Medication Report Forms – all Breeds/Disciplines

The rules regarding submission of Medication Report Forms have been modified to minimize the risk of virus transmission through the physical handling of paper. All USEF Medication Report Forms must be submitted electronically unless online submission is absolutely impossible.

GR411 Conditions For Therapeutic Administrations of Prohibited Substances

1. A horse and/or pony exhibiting at a Licensed Competition pursuant to the Therapeutic Substance Provisions that receives any medication which contains a prohibited substance is not eligible for competition unless all of the following requirements have been met and the facts are furnished ~~in writing~~ on a timely-submitted official Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form **online**:

[...]

- i. Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form filed ~~with the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative~~ within one hour after administration ~~or one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative returns to duty if administration is at a time other than during competition hours.~~ **If an online form cannot be submitted due to lack of internet or phone service, a paper form may be submitted. This option must only be used when submitting the online form is impossible.**
- j. The Steward, Technical Delegate, or Designated Competition Office Representative must sign and record the time of receipt on ~~the~~ **paper** Equine Drugs and Medications Report Forms.

[...]

2. Where all the requirements of GR411 have been fully complied with, the information contained in said Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form and any other relevant evidence will be considered by the Federation in determining whether a rule violation was committed by any person(s) responsible or accountable for the condition of the horse and/or pony under the provisions of this rule. NOTE: The official Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form is available **on the Federation website** ~~from the officiating Steward/Technical Delegate and/or Competition Secretary.~~ **Paper Medication Report Forms must only be used when it is impossible to submit an online form.** All required information must be included when filing a report. Failure to satisfy and follow all the requirements of this Rule and to supply all of the information required by such Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form is a violation of the rules. ~~The Steward/Technical Delegate must report any known violations of this Rule to the Federation for such further action as may be deemed appropriate.~~

3. Flunixin, in addition to one other substance listed in GR410 (a) through (g), may be found in the same plasma and/or urine sample of a horse under the following conditions and for the treatment of colic or an ophthalmic emergency only: (i) must comply with GR411.1; (ii) the flunixin must have been administered by a veterinarian; (iii) the required medication report form must be signed by the administering veterinarian **submitted appropriately and comply with GR411**; and (iv) the horse must be withdrawn from competition for 24 hours following the administration.

GR414 Prohibited Practices

[...]

2. The above exceptions are permitted only when (i) the substance is administered by a licensed veterinarian and no less than 6 hours prior to competing; and (ii) the "Trainer" as defined under General Rule 404 properly files, or causes to be properly filed, an Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form ~~with the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative within one hour after the administration of the substance or one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours. The Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative shall sign and record the time of receipt on the Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form.~~

[...]

4. Shockwave Therapy may only be administered by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. If sedation is required for Shockwave Therapy, only sedation performed by a licensed veterinarian and administered at the same time as the Shockwave Therapy will be considered therapeutic and GR411 will apply. No sedation associated with Shockwave Therapy will be considered therapeutic if administered within 24 hours prior to competition. No horse may be treated with Shockwave Therapy within the 3 days preceding competition with the following exception:

- a. Shockwave Therapy may be administered by a licensed veterinarian within the 3 day prohibited period, but no closer than 12 hours prior to competing, and is limited to application to the back and dorsal pelvis areas. No Shockwave Therapy is permitted within the 12 hours prior to competing. This exception is permitted only when the "Trainer" as defined under GR404 properly files, or causes to be properly filed, an Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form ~~with the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative within one hour after the administration of Shockwave Therapy or one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours. The Steward/Technical Delegate or competition office representative shall sign and record the time of receipt on the Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form.~~

GR1034 Stewards and Technical Delegates

[...]

3. Forms – **Forms submitted to the Federation must be on the correct competition year's form as provided by the Federation. Incomplete forms, prior year's forms, or illegible forms will not be accepted.** The following forms must be submitted in a timely manner to:

[...]

5. **Paper** Medication report forms, filed either with the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative, must be sent to the USEF Office of Equine Drugs and Medications, 956 King Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212-2655. **Paper Medication Report Forms must only be used when it is impossible to submit an online form.**

GR1207 Designated Competition Office Representative

[...]

3. The Designated Competition Office Representative will be responsible to collect, date, sign, and issue receipt for all the **paper** Medication Report Forms submitted. Additionally, all **paper** Medication Report Forms are to be given to the Steward/ Technical Delegate on a daily basis. It is the Steward's/Technical Delegate's sole responsibility to inspect, sign and return all the Medications Report Forms to the Federation office. **Paper Medication Report Forms must only be used when it is impossible to submit an online form.**

Officials' Signatures on Accident Preparedness Plan – Hunter, Jumper, and H/J Licensed Competitions

The rules regarding distribution of and method of signature for the Accident Preparedness Plan have been modified to minimize the risk of virus transmission through the physical handling of paper.

HJ105 Safety and Welfare

1. Definitions

[...]

c. Accident Preparedness...

[...]

3. In addition to the requirements of GR846, Federation licensed competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and/or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes not restricted by breed must do the following:

- a. Competition management is responsible for ensuring that all appropriate competition officials and competition staff including but not limited to Safety Coordinator, Medical Personnel, In-gate Starters, Licensed Officials, Announcers, Technical Coordinator, Stable Manager, Veterinarian, are provided a written copy **or electronic copy of** the accident preparedness plan and isolation protocol for horses, prior to the commencement of duties.
- b. In addition to the requirements of GR1034 the Steward shall submit a copy of the accident preparedness plan and protocol signed by the Competition Manager, Safety Coordinator, and Medical Personnel, **or with written confirmation of review received via email from the Competition Manager, Safety Coordinator, and Medical Personnel, to the Federation along with his/her Steward's report.**

Cross-Country Test of Horse Course Certification - Eventing

Extends the period of time for site and course inspections for Cross-Country Test of Horse Trails from 12 months to 18 months prior to the competition.

EV175 Cross Country Course Designer

[...]

2. DUTIES.

- a. The Cross Country Course Designer is responsible for the layout measurement, preparation, and marking of the route for the Cross-Country Test of Horse Trials and Events, including Phases A, B, and C of the latter. The Cross Country Course Designer is responsible for the design and construction of all obstacles used in the Test.
- b. In order to fulfill the responsibilities noted above, the Cross Country Course Designer must visit the site and review changes to the courses or obstacles at least once within ~~12~~ **18** months of a competition. The Cross Country Course Designer should be present during the competition.

Rule Modifications Applicable to Participants

Equine Drugs and Medication Report Forms – *all Breeds/Disciplines*

The rules regarding submission of Medication Report Forms have been modified to minimize the risk of virus transmission through the physical handling of paper. All USEF Medication Report Forms must be submitted electronically unless online submission is absolutely impossible. Please refer to [pages 24-26](#) above for the rule change language.

Braiding Requirements – *Hackney, Hunter and Shetland*

The rules requiring braiding have been waived or modified accordingly.

HK143 General (Hackney)

1. All horses must appear to have a short tail and must appear to have a tightly braided mane and shall be exhibited to an appropriate vehicle. ***All braiding must be done by the horse's owner, exhibitor, trainer or member of the stable's staff.***

HK116 General

1. Hackney ponies must appear to have a short tail and must appear to have a tightly braided mane. (Exceptions: National and Local In-Hand Futurities.) ***All braiding must be done by the pony's owner, exhibitor, trainer or member of the stable's staff.***

HU147 Ladies Side Saddle Classes (Hunter)

3. To be judged on performance and soundness with emphasis on manners 75%; formal hunting attire, appointments and general overall appearance of horse and rider 25%. Judges should give particular consideration to quality, condition and cleanliness of tack. ~~Mane and tail must be braided, (Exception: roached manes or pulled tails).~~ Judges must line up exhibitors in order of preference before checking appointments.

HU148 Ladies Side Saddle Attire (Hunter)

~~16. Mane and Tail: Must be braided. (Exception: roached mane and pulled tails).~~

SP111 General (Shetland)

5. Shetlands should be neatly trimmed, well groomed, ~~braided with one braid in the foretop and immediately back of the bridle~~ and attractively presented in the competition ring.

Musical Freestyles – *Dressage*

Competitors are required to provide their music to the announcer in the format/method specified within the prize list. Furthermore, competitors are not allowed to have a representative in the sound system booth in observation of social distancing requirements.

DR129.6a&c Musical Freestyle Ride

[...]

6. Music

a. Music is mandatory. It is the responsibility of the competitor to select the appropriate music for the ride and ~~present~~ ***provide the music in formats/methods specified within the***

prize list a compact disc (CD) recording, to be given to the announcer at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the class.

[...]

~~c. Each rider will be permitted one representative in the sound system booth to supervise the handling of the CD if so desired by the competitor.~~