Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
AR 166.1	109-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	AHA	Approved (6/16/2026)

AR166.1 Tracking #109-25 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

There is currently no rated Open Working Hunter class specifically designated for fence height 2'6" in the Arabian Division. The current class options either fall below (2'0', unrated) or above (2'9", Modified Working Hunter) creating a significant developmental gap for horses and riders progressing through the hunter pipeline. The 2'6" height is widely recognized as a fundamental and popular entry-level division in both breed and open hunter competition environments. Creating a Low Working Hunter – Open (2'6") class will better serve the needs of horses and exhibitors transitioning from unrated or beginner levels and align with green eligibility standards. The intent is to add this class an official rated class within the Arabian Working Hunter Division, eligible for qualifications and Regional/National Championship inclusion.

(AHA Resolution 7-25)

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-14 WORKING HUNTER SECTION

AR166 Height of Obstacles

1. Regular Hunter Divisions/Classes to be determined as follows (Note: any class offered at an AHA approved show that does not specifically adhere to the following nomenclature and specifications will be considered an unrated class):

a. Open:

1. Working Hunter - Open 2'. Horses are not required to jog for soundness.

2. Combined Hunter over fences - 2'3" and 2'6" - at the discretion of show management, this division/class(es) may be run as individual classes or as a combined class. When classes are combined, horses can compete at the height of their choice. Horses may only compete once per class and the height (2'3" or 2'6") must be declared to the ingate/whipper prior to the start of the class. Failure to declare which height that the rider wishes to compete at prior to the start of the class will default the entry to the maximum height. If multiple classes or a division is offered at a competition, horses may change the height in which they jump each class. This class is an unrated class only and cannot be offered at Regionals or National Championship shows. Horse are not required to jog for soundness.

3. Low Working Hunter – Open – 2'6"

~~3~~***4***. Modified Working Hunter Over Fences – Open - 2'9".

~~4~~***5***. Regular Working Hunter Over Fences – Open - 3'0".

~~5~~***6***. Working Hunter Classic Over Fences - A Hunter Classic is a class shown over two rounds with the top horses returning for a second round. The first round is 10 – 12 fences with the second round over a shortened course of 6 to 8 fences. The number of horses returning for the second round can be determined by the show management but may not exceed 12 horses nor can it be less than the number of ribbons plus 2, as entries allow. Classics may be run as a combined hunter competition, with horses competing at 2'6", 2'9 and 3'. The height that the horse would compete at would be the maximum height that they competed at during the show.

~~6~~***7***. Working Hunter Derby – Similar to a Hunter Classic, 2 rounds, but the course should include natural elements and options. Further the 2nd round must be a Handy Hunter Course. Judged in accordance with USHJA Handbook. National Derby Rules. Derby may be run as a combined hunter competition, with horses competing at 2'6", 2'9 and 3'. The height that the horse would compete at would be the maximum height that they competed at during the show.

~~7~~***8***. Working Hunter Cross Rails: not to exceed 18". Courses to consist of 8 cross rail fences - Open.