Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
AR 214.1	115-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	Arabian	Approved (6/16/2026)

AR214.1 Tracking #115-25 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

Currently, there has been confusion amongst judges and exhibitors about whether a rider is to post or sit the extended trot/jog, as well as confusion on when extended gaits were permitted to be called in classes. This rule change adds clarification throughout the chapter on how the extended gaits are to be ridden and permits extended gaits to be used in trail under saddle classes. This rule change also fixes any contradictory language and removes unnecessary verbiage from the rules regarding extended gaits.

Proponent Details

Arabian

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Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

AR214 Working Western Definitions

1. Gaits Definitions for ~~n~~*N*on-Ranch classes

(…)

b. The jog is a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait. The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other pair. The jog should be square, balanced and with straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their back feet and trotting in the front are not considered performing the required gait. When asked to extend the jog, it moves out with the same smooth way of going. ***The extended jog should be ridden seated, but posting must not be penalized.***

(…)

2. Gaits Definitions for Ranch classes

In all gaits, movement of the ranch horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The following terminology shall apply:

(…)

d. The extended trot is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch with an above level topline. ***The extended trot should be ridden posting, but sitting must not be penalized.***

(…)

AR224 Trail Class Types

1. Trail Horse - Under Saddle

(…)

ii. The course must be designed to require each horse to show all three (3) gaits, somewhere between and/or over obstacles as part of its work, and quality of movement and cadence should be considered as part of the obstacle score. ***An extended jog and/or extended lope may be required.*** Unnecessary delays while approaching or negotiating an obstacle must be penalized.

(…)

AR227 Trail Course Information

(…)

3. Mandatory Trail Obstacle Dimensions - All elevated poles must be in a pole holder e.g., trail blocks, trail risers, standard jump cups or similar type supports. The judge has the right to alter the course.

(…)

b. Lope/***Extended Lope*** Overs for Western (not allowed In-Hand) For lope overs, a distance of 6'- 6'6"

(…)

e. Jog/***Extended Jog*** Overs for Western Jog overs: 3 feet to 3'6" apart, or multiples of the given dimension (space is measured between poles)

(…)

AR245 Ranch Riding Patterns for Walk-Trot

(…)

~~3. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.~~

(…)

AR246 Ranch Riding Patterns

(…)

~~3. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.~~

AR250 Ranch Rail Class Specifications

(…)

~~8. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.~~

AR254 Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure Walk-Trot Class Specifications

(…)

2. Entries will be worked both directions of the ring at both qualifying gaits the walk and the trot. The judge may call for:

(…)

b. The extended trot (riders are permitted to ~~post or~~ hold the horn)

(…)

AR257 Versatility Ranch Horse Appointments and Conduct

(…)

~~10. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.~~

(…)

SUBCHAPTER AR-28 EQUITATION SECTION

AR294 Rider Position in Extended Gaits

1. Extended jog: The rider should stay square***ly seated*** and maintain proper overall body position yet animate their seat to encourage forward motion of the horse. The lower leg, while maintaining light contact and proper position may also become moderately more active to encourage the horse to lengthen its stride while maintaining cadence. The horses stride should lengthen or extend, not quicken. The length of the stride should not be any greater than is comfortable for the individual horse to carry and maintain.

2. Extended lope: The rider should have a square ***seated***, balanced torso over a soft connected seat. The riders seat may rhythmically drive the stride of the horse forward yet not interfere with the cadence of the gait. The horse should transition within a few strides from the lope to the extended lope, which is a lengthened stride not a quickened pace. The length of stride should not be any greater than is comfortable for the individual horse to carry and maintain.

SUBCHAPTER AR-31 ATR/JTR/AATR WALK-TROT/WALK-JOG 11 AND OVER SECTION

AR318 Conduct

1. All Walk/Trot or Jog 11 and Over classes are to be judged at the walk/trot or jog only.

    a. No canter, lope, ***or*** hand gallop~~, lengthening or extension of gaits~~ shall be called.

    (…)

2. Tests are optional at local, regional and national shows but, if used, tests are limited to the following:

    (…)

    c. Walk/Jog 11 & Over Western Seat Equitation, horses to be shown at the Walk and Jog in both directions.

        (…)

        3. Extended jog

    (…)