Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
AR 190.2	211-25	1	Standard	12/1/2026	AHA	Approved (6/16/2026)

AR190.2 Tracking #211-25 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 popularity of Sport Horse In Hand Showmanship classes has grown considerably in recent years, drawing more exhibitors from a variety of disciplines. Because the handler is being judged in this class, only one back number is issued per horse, causing hardship and impossibility to differentiate handlers if using the same horse competing multiple times, therefore a horse should only be shown once per class. There has also been ongoing confusion among exhibitors and judges regarding the proper presentation stance of the horse to be used for Sport Horse In Hand Showmanship. Clarifying that ***handlers may show their horse from either side*** will ensure consistent expectations and judging across these classes. This rule change provides a clear definition of "open position" which will improve exhibitor understanding, enhance fairness in competition, and support the integrity of the Sport Horse In Hand Showmanship section.

AHA Resolution 18-25

Proponent Details

AHA

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Arabian

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 04/13/2026	**Draft 1: The committee disapproves due to the need for a revision of the intent of the rule change. The committee would approve with the removal of any mention of the "quarter system" from the PRC'**

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER AR-17 SPORT HORSE SECTION

AR190 Sport Horse Showmanship

(…)

2. General

(…)

i. A horse may only be shown once per class and no handler may show more than one horse per class.

(…)

4. Class Conduct

(…)

c. The horse ~~is to~~ ***must*** be shown in an "open position." The traditional way of showing open position ~~would be~~ ***is*** with the right front leg slightly back and the right hind leg slightly forward,~~; also acceptable~~ all four legs of the horse ~~are~~ ***should be*** visible to the judge when standing on either side of the horse. The horse's head and neck should be allowed to showin a natural and comfortable carriage, and the handler should stand away from the horse with a loose lead line. ***Handlers may show their horse from either side.*** Handlers may use treats to keep ***the*** horse's attention and focus.

(…)