

**SUBJECT: Further Addressing Un-natural and Altered Tails (USEF/EC)**

**Amendment 1 (Blue)**

*(EXTRAORDINARY)*

Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 101 & 102 for submission requirements

Committee Action:

Committees required to review: *(This section to be completed by the Agenda & Resolutions Committee)*      Approve      Disapprove

Amateur Committee	O		
Board of Directors	O		
Breeding In/Hand Committee	O		
Competition Advisory Committee	O		
Dressage/Western Dressage Committee	O		
Education/Evaluation Commission	O		
Equine Stress/Research & Education Committee	O		
Eventing/Driving Committee	O		
Executive Committee	O		
Hunter/Jumper Committee	O		
Professional Horsemen Committee	O		
Sport Horse Committee	O		
USEF Arabian Division Committee	O		
Working Western Committee	O		
Youth Committee	O		

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CONVENTION ACTION:

Approved                       Approved with Modification                       Disapproved  
 Withdrawn                       Referred to Committee \_\_\_\_\_

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PROPOSED CHANGE: (*Check one*)     Add new rule     Delete existing rule     Change existing text  
 Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC)

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RESOLUTION: Use ***bold/italic*** for new wording, ~~strikethrough~~ to indicate deletion

- Whereas,            In the fall of 2021, the Education & Evaluation Commission (EEC) realized that the charts dealing with conduct in Western Pleasure AR143 did not align with the charts in Hunter Pleasure AR139 and Country English Pleasure AR135 in regards to un-natural/altered tails in the USEF rule book, and
- Whereas,            The EEC then moved this issue to the Arabian rules committee to make the charts congruent and was approved as a simple clarification of the charts in November 2021, and
- Whereas,            This clarification moved through the USEF process and was being presented as a clarification to the USEF Board of Directors at the Mid-Year/June 2022 meeting, and
- Whereas,            There were other AR rules found to be in conflict with each other such as USEF AR104.1 Arabian Breed Standard that currently reads “*natural high tail carriage, and the tail should be carried straight*” and AR104.2 Breed Standards Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian that reads “*The tail carriage is preferable high.*”; which is a difference that needs to be corrected, and
- Whereas,            USEF AR105.2 as currently written conflicts with various other sections within the Arabian rules, and
- Whereas,            Both the USEF and the AHA desire to have congruent rules that are enforceable and defensible, and
- Whereas,            Discussions were held between AHA Leadership and the EEC in June 2022, that led to further conversations with stakeholders on the direction AHA should take and how to proceed, and

41 Whereas, The original clarification as defined in the first whereas was withdrawn from the USEF Board of Directors  
42 meeting with the knowledge that the AHA will address the conflicts through its resolution process, and  
43

44 Whereas, Leadership of numerous committees of the AHA, in early August 2022 discussed the desired direction for  
45 this resolution language to be developed, and  
46

47 Whereas, Tails are a significant breed standard of the Arabian industry, and  
48

49 Whereas, An un-natural tail is undesirable and must be severely penalized, and  
50

51 Whereas, An altered tail is a welfare issue and constitutes a misrepresentation of the breed type, and  
52

53 Whereas, Both AHA and USEF seek to remedy these conflicts as soon as possible, as this opens our rules to be in  
54 conflict with each other and indefensible, and  
55

56 Whereas, After to effective date of the resolution, or sooner, this resolution will be forwarded to the USEF Board of  
57 Directors for consideration at the January 2023 meeting with a suggested effective date of 2/1/2023 for  
58 inclusion of the new and amended language in the USEF Arabian Division; Therefore, Be It  
59

60 Resolved, That USEF AR 104.2 Breed Standards Half Arabian be amended by striking out the last sentence:

61 ~~The tail carriage is preferable high.~~; and Be It Further  
62

63  
64 Resolved, That USEF Subchapter AR-1 – General Section AR105.2 be amended by striking out and substituting as  
65 follows:  
66

67 ~~2. No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or  
68 by any means. Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions, because such alterations constitute  
69 misrepresentations of the breed type.~~  
70

71 **2. Natural Arabian Appearance**

72 **a. An “altered” tail is considered to have been proven by an evidential proceeding thus rendering the horse**  
73 **ineligible to enter and compete in any Arabian Division class. No horse may compete in a class in the**  
74 **Arabian Division with a tail carriage that has been altered in any manner or by any means. Violations of**  
75 **this rule are considered serious infractions because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the**  
76 **breed type.**

77 **b. An “unnatural” tail is deemed, by a judge’s opinion, to be carried in a manner not consistent with typical**  
78 **Arabian or Half-Arabian type. Judges are required to penalize a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian**  
79 **appearance (unnatural tail carriage). Conversely, horses with natural Arabian appearance (tail carriage)**  
80 **showing expression that is not angry or offensive shall not be penalized. A horse’s tail carriage shall be**  
81 **considered “unnatural” when it is obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner throughout its**  
82 **performance in a class.**

83 **1. In all non-scored classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance (tail carriage) must be**  
84 **penalized and placed at the bottom of the class.**

85 **2. In all scored classes, a horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance (tail carriage) must be assessed a**  
86 **10-point penalty. Exception: Hunter/Jumper and Breeding In-Hand classes using the Score Sheets will**  
87 **utilize the penalty outlined in AR105.2.b.1.**

88 **3. Dressage and Western Dressage are exempt from AR105.2.b.1 and .2;** and Be It Further  
89

90 Resolved, That USEF AR 106 Shoeing Regulations, Artificial Markings and Appliances.13 be amended by inserting  
91 as follows:  
92

93 13. No horse may compete in a class in the Arabian or Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian Division with a tail carriage that  
94 has been altered (***proven by an evidential proceeding***). Violations of this rule are considered serious infractions  
95 because such alterations constitute misrepresentations of the breed type., and Be It Further  
96

97 Resolved, That USEF AR 106 Shoeing Regulations, Artificial Markings and Appliances.13 be amended by adding a  
 98 new paragraph c. as follows:  
 99

- 100 *c. False tails or hair extensions are prohibited, and any horse found to be exhibiting with such during the*  
 101 *competition will be disqualified and the Show Committee shall bar the trainer and the horse found in violation of*  
 102 *this rule from further participation for the remainder of the competition, and the owner(s) shall forfeit all entry*  
 103 *fees and winnings for that horse for the entire competition.;* and Be It Further  
 104

105 Resolved, That USEF Subchapter AR-2 Purebred Arabian Breeding/Gelding In-Hand Section AR117.3  
 106 Specifications be amended by striking out and inserting as follows:  
 107

- 108 .3 A wry tail (*a breeding fault*) or one carried in an unnatural fashion ~~is a breeding fault, and~~, judges must consider it  
 109 as a fault in adjudicating breeding and in-hand classes.;

110  
 111 Resolved, That USEF AR123.7 Performance Halter be amended by adding a new paragraph f. as follows:  
 112

- 113 *f. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently*  
 114 *carried in an unnatural manner)*  
 115

116 Resolved, That the chart in USEF AR135.9 Country English Pleasure be amended by striking out and adding as  
 117 follows:  
 118

119 unnatural tail carriage (AR105.2) it is the directive of the EEC that horses with unnatural tail carriage be placed ~~either~~  
 120 ~~last on the card or eliminated from judging consideration and not placed in the class~~ *at the bottom of the class*; and, Be It  
 121 Further  
 122

123 Resolved, That the chart in USEF AR139.4 Hunter Pleasure be amended by striking out and adding as follows:  
 124

125 unnatural tail carriage (AR105.2) it is the directive of the EEC that horses with unnatural tail carriage be placed ~~either~~  
 126 ~~last on the card or eliminated from judging consideration and not placed in the class~~ *at the bottom of the class*; and, Be It  
 127 Further  
 128

129 Resolved, That the chart in USEF AR 143.5 Western Pleasure be amended by adding new language to the chart as  
 130 follows:  
 131

132 *unnatural tail carriage (AR105.2) it is the directive of the EEC that horses with unnatural tail carriage be placed at*  
 133 *the bottom of the class*; and, Be It Further  
 134

135 Resolved, That USEF AR177.5 be amended by adding as follows:  
 136

- 137 5. Scoring (Decimals may be used in scoring)

- 138 10 - Excellent
- 139 9 - Very good
- 140 8 - Good
- 141 7 - Fairly Good
- 142 6 - Satisfactory
- 143 5 - Sufficient (some concern for heritability or soundness)
- 144 4 - Insufficient (definite concern for heritability or soundness)
- 145 3 - Fairly Poor
- 146 2 - Poor
- 147 1 - Very Poor

148 *-10 – A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and*  
 149 *consistently carried in an unnatural manner)*  
 150

151 Resolved, That USEF AR211.1 Reining Horse be amended by adding a new paragraph .h as follows:  
 152

- 153 *h. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently*  
 154 *carried in an unnatural manner)*  
 155

156 Resolved, That USEF AR214 Working Cow be amended by adding a new paragraph 5. as follows:

- 157  
 158 **5. A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently**  
 159 **carried in an unnatural manner) in all Working Cow, Reined Cow, Limited Reined Cow and Herd Work classes.**  
 160

161 Resolved. That USEF AR222.16.d Ranch Horse Riding be amended by adding a new paragraph 4. as follows:

- 162  
 163 Ten (10) point penalties:  
 164 **4. Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner);**  
 165 **and Be It Further**  
 166

167 Resolved. That USEF AR223.d.1 Ranch Horse Cow Work be amended by striking out as follows:

- 168  
 169 Ten Point Penalties:  
 170 1. Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner ~~in every~~  
 171 ~~maneuver~~); and Be It Further  
 172

173 Resolved. That USEF AR224 Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure be amended by adding a new paragraph.19 as follows:

- 174  
 175 **19. Horses exhibiting an unnatural tail carriage be penalized and placed at the bottom of the class;** and Be It Further  
 176

177 Resolved. That USEF AR225.6.b.4 Ranch Horse Trail be amended by striking out as follows:

- 178  
 179 4. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an  
 180 unnatural manner ~~in every maneuver~~)...; and Be It Further  
 181

182 Resolved. That USEF AR226.3.e Ranch Reining be amended by striking out as follows:

- 183  
 184 e. Ten Point Penalties. Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an  
 185 unnatural manner ~~in every maneuver~~); and Be It Further  
 186

187 Resolved. That USEF AR 227.3.d Ranch Cutting be amended by striking out as follows:

- 188  
 189 d. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obvious and consistently carried in an  
 190 unnatural manner ~~in every maneuver~~)...; and Be It Further  
 191

192 Resolved. That USEF AR 228.3.d Versatility Ranch Riding be amended by striking out as follows:

- 193  
 194 d. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an  
 195 unnatural manner ~~in every maneuver~~)...; and Be It Further  
 196

197 Resolved. That USEF AR 229.2 Ranch Horse Conformation be amended by adding as follows:

- 198  
 199 2. CONDUCT: To be eligible to complete in the ranch horse conformation class the horse must be entered, shown, and  
 200 judged in at least one riding class in the Ranch division at that show. Horses must be at least 3 years of age. Horses  
 201 in each division may be shown together as one class or divided into Purebred, Half-Arabian, Stallions, Mares,  
 202 Geldings, Open, Amateur, Youth, or in any combination deemed appropriate by show management. All stallions  
 203 shall be examined to confirm that they have two visible testicles. All stallions and mares shall be examined for over-  
 204 shot and under-shot mouth. If examination reveals that a horse is a cryptorchid or has an over-/under-shot mouth, the  
 205 judge shall not use such horse in the final placings of the class. **A horse exhibiting unnatural Arabian appearance**  
 206 **(tail carriage) must be penalized and placed at the bottom of the class.;** and Be It Further  
 207

208 Resolved. That USEF AR230.3.e Ranch Working Cow be amended by striking as follows:

- 209  
 210 e. Ten Point Penalties: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse’s tail is obviously and consistently carried in an  
 211 unnatural manner ~~in every maneuver~~)...; and Be It Further  
 212

213 Resolved. That USEF AR239 Trail Scoring Penalties be amended by adding a new paragraph .3 as follows:

214

215 3. **10 POINT PENALTY - A Ten Point Penalty must be assessed for an unnatural appearance (Horse's tail is**  
 216 **obviously and consistently carried in an unnatural manner)**; and, Be It Further  
 217

218 Resolved, That the remaining section of USEF AR239 be renumbered accordingly.  
 219

220 Effective: December 31, 2022, or when approved by USEF/EC

221 (If a Standard resolution, the effective date will be December 31 of the year after the Convention)  
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223 RESOLUTION TYPE (**REQUIRED**): Standard \_\_\_\_\_ Extraordinary  X  "If indicated as  
 224 "Extraordinary", the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met)

225 Per (4) of RULE 101.3.a.i the Resolution involves other compelling circumstances as clearly specified in the whereases and;  
 226 Per (5) of RULE 101.3.a.i. the Resolution contains an additional description outlining the basis upon which the resolution  
 227 involves one or more of the "extraordinary circumstances" (including enforceability and defensibility of the rules of the  
 228

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229 PROPONENTS FINANCIAL IMPACT (**REQUIRED**): Refer to Chapter 9, RULE 102.6. & 102.7 for financial  
 230 requirements

231 Development of education and training videos for judges and exhibitors alike to ensure compliance with the rules – estimated  
 232 cost to be \$350

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233 AHA IMPACT STATEMENT:

234

235 Contact Person:  
 236

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237 SUBMITTED BY: USEF Arabian Division Committee Region Number:

238  Member Organization  Committee  Commission  Board  Region (*check one* )

239 Who voted:  Members  Board  Delegates (*check voting body*)

240 Total Number Eligible to Vote: 13 Number of Yes votes: 9 Number of No votes: 0

241 How vote was taken:  mail  email/other electronic means  phone  meeting (*check one*) (*Must have Quorum with*  
 242 *majority of yes votes*)

243 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: USEF Arabian Division Minutes (*Must have printed documentation on file*)

244 Date vote taken: August 15, 2022

245 Contact Person: Kathy Callahan-Smith (*Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw*)

246 Phone: (909) 229-5459 Email: KCSEquestrian@aol.com