

Points of Emphasis for 2024 Competition Year

Breeding/Gelding In-hand

- Evaluate the whole horse – look closely at all parts of the horse.
- When a fault becomes a disfunction, it must be severely penalized!
- If comparative judging, keep the score sheet categories in mind.

Tongue Stabilizer

- AR106.11 - New rule as of 12/1/2023.
- A guide has been developed to assist officials in determining whether a specific tongue stabilizer is legal or not. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=knUHUIbDIYY&ab_channel=ArabianHorseAssociation

Natural Arabian Appearance (aka Unnatural Tail)

- New rule as of 12/1/2023
- AR105.2
- Link to Natural Appearance PPT <https://www.arabianhorses.org/judges-stewards/education/>

Showmanship Score Sheet

- Remember, using the Showmanship Scoring Judging System is mandatory.
- In order to efficiently track scores, the J&S Commissioner and the Education & Evaluation Commission request that judges use and become comfortable with Score Sheet. Posting of the score sheet is not required at this time.
- A 'ladder sheet' helps track scores; a sample ladder sheet is available on the AHA website. <https://www.arabianhorses.org/export/content.export/judges-stewards/js->

[docs/SH Showmanship Ladder Sample .pdf](#)

Backing

- Judges are being asked by the EEC to utilize the "back," more frequently while officiating Western Pleasure classes. Judges are also being reminded to adequately factor in a "poor," back in their final results.
- If exhibitors are asked to back their horse in any performance class, watch the horses and weigh the back into the final placings. Judges are encouraged to back horses in all classes where backing is permissible. Please refer to individual class specifications.

Class calls

- English Show Hack transitions should be logical and make sense from a transition standpoint. This is not a fault and out class, you should be calling the class to let horses excel. With only a few exceptions, logical calls would have the horse in the normal gait before going to a collection or extension.
- Please refer to USEF AR157 for qualifying gaits.
- The EEC does not support the practice of giving the ringman or announcer a list of gaits to call in English Show Hack as that would be considered relinquishing the responsibility that belongs to the judge.