



## PROTOCOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

It is impossible to expect that all situations can be covered in detail through distinct USEF General Rules, the USEF Arabian Division Rules and/or the AHA Handbook. This policies and procedures document functions as a quick study guide/summary of how to handle certain situations that may occur in the show ring. Please also consult with the C2 Steward, if present at the competition.

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Applicable Rule(s)</i>	<i>Single Judge</i>	<i>Concurrent Show</i>	<i>Multi-judge panel</i>
Check equipment (bridles, bits, hackamores)		Check all horses in the class.	Judge requesting an equipment check should send a message through the ring person to the other judge so they are prepared to walk the line before turning in their card. Check all horses in the class.	Judge requesting an equipment check should send a message through the ring person to the other judges. Majority rules on whether to check or not. If checking, do all horses in the class.
Checking bite during in-hand classes, including Performance Halter	See AR273.4 for Ranch Horse Conformation (all stallions)  No specific rule for Breeding/In-hand and Performance Halter	Unless indicated otherwise (see Ranch Horse Conformation), recommend checking all horses in a specific class. Consider doing in in the final lineup with all horses in the ring at the same time. Option to check entire class or a random check of a few horses.  If show using Exit the Ring procedure, then decide	Talk about in advance; either judge could request checking the bite, both judges participate. Recommend checking all horses in a specific Breeding/In-hand or Performance Halter class. Option to check entire class or a random check of a few horses.  If show using Exit the Ring procedure, then decide	Talk about in advance; any judge could request checking the bite, all judges participate. Recommend checking all horses in a specific Breeding/In-hand or Performance Halter class. Option to check entire class or a random check of a few horses.  If show using Exit the Ring procedure, then decide before the class starts that

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		before the class starts that you will either check bite of each horse in the class or do a random check.	before the class starts that you will either check bite of each horse in the class or do a random check.	you will either check bite of each horse in the class or do a random check.
Eliminating from the ring	Various references where it is required – behavior, accident, etc.	Individual judge’s decision	Stop class; confer through ringmaster. If the situation is not clear cut and one judge wants entry to stay in the ring, the dissenting judge can eliminate from judging consideration.	Stop class; confer through ringmaster; majority rules.
Excessive action against a horse	AR105.4 AR113.4 – Compliance Judge	Judge’s decision final. Official warning, elimination, or other sanctions deemed appropriate by the show committee.	Treat same as with whip mark.	Treat same as with whip mark; majority rules. Compliance Judge has authority to eliminate.
Fall of horse/rider	AR109	Automatic time out assigned to rider. Continuing in the class governed by general rules and specific class rules.	Automatic time out assigned to rider. Continuing in the class governed by general rules and specific class rules.	Automatic time out assigned to rider. Continuing in the class governed by general rules and specific class rules.
Lameness	AR105.1b	Can request veterinarian.	Confer through ringmaster	Confer through ringmaster. Majority rules
Shoeing regulations	AR106.6	Can request inspection of shoes, pads, and hoof length.	Confer through ringmaster.	Majority rules on whether or not to measure a foot or check a shoeing package.
Time outs	AR108 - to make obvious adjustments, repair broken equipment, rectify a similar condition, or to replace a shoe	Exhibitor or judge can request.	Either judge can request without conferring as safety is typically the reason for the time out.	Any of the judges can request a time out without conferring as safety is typically the reason for the time out.
Tongue Stabilizer	AR106.11	Individual judge’s decision	Individual judge’s decision; do not confer	Go through ringman to request everyone to walk the lineup.

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Un-natural Tail Appearance	AR105.2	Individual judge's decision	Individual judge's decision; do not confer	Individual judge's decision; do not confer
Walking the line at end of class		Encouraged	Encouraged	Encouraged
Whip mark	AR105.6c	Judge's decision final	Both judges examine entry. If not in agreement on whip mark, horse remains in the ring. Each judge either places or does not place according to their decision on the whip mark. d	Must be examined by all judges. Majority rules for purposes of elimination; minority opinion has authority to eliminate entry from further consideration.

If you have any questions, or would like another situation added to this Protocol document, please contact the J&S Office at [JudgesStewards@arabianhorses.org](mailto:JudgesStewards@arabianhorses.org).