

SUBJECT: Modifying Chain Use in Sport Horse In-Hand (USEF/EC)

(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

Competition Advisory Committee			
Education/Evaluation Commission			
Sport Horse Committee			
Sport Horse National Show Commission			

CONVENTION ACTION:

_____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved
_____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____

PROPOSED CHANGE: (**Check one**) _____ Add new rule _____ Delete existing rule _____X_ Change existing text
Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC) USEF Subchapter AR-17

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

Whereas, The safety of exhibitors, show staff, and horses should be of utmost importance, and
Whereas, Concerns have been raised about the practicality of the SHIH rules related to horses shown in halters, and
Whereas, Chain pressure under the chin can encourage some young horses to invert and rear, and
Whereas, At USDF shows, the most common method of using a stud chain with a halter is over the nose, and
Whereas, USDF Sport horse handler clinic instructors recommend chains be used over the nose for control and safety, and
Whereas, USEF AR183.1 prohibits the use of a chain over the nose when showing with a leather halter; Therefore, Be It
Resolved, USEF AR183.1 be amended by striking out and inserting as follows:

- Whether used with a bridle or halter, a properly fitted chain should be short enough to prevent the horse from getting it in their mouth and should never be placed ~~over the nose or~~ through the mouth. **When used with a bridle, the chain must never be placed over the nose.** Competitors with non-conforming appointments will be eliminated from judging consideration.

Effective: December 31, 2025 or when approved by USEF/EC

(If a Standard resolution, the effective date will be December 31 of the year after the Convention)

RESOLUTION TYPE (**REQUIRED**): Standard _____ Extraordinary _____X_____ "If indicated as "Extraordinary", the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met)

This resolution will have a positive impact on the safety and well-being of horses, exhibitors, and competition staff. It will immediately address the safety concerns of showing young horses in SHIH.

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

52 None

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54 AHA IMPACT STATEMENT: *(To be completed by AHA Staff)*

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56 Contact Person:

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58 SUBMITTED BY: Sport Horse Committee

Region Number:

59 ☐ Member Organization ☒ Committee ☐ Commission ☐ Board ☐ Region *(check one ☒)*

60 Who voted: ☒ Members ☐ Board ☐ Delegates *(check voting body)*

61 Total Number Eligible to Vote: 149 Number of Yes votes: 103 Number of No votes: 6

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

64 Where documentation of this vote is recorded: With Committee Chair *(Must have printed documentation on file)*

65 Date vote taken: May 27, 2025

66 Contact Person: Jennette Aubert, Committee Chair *(Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw)*

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