

SUBJECT: Addressing Saddle Pads in English Show Hack (USEF/EC)

(STANDARD)

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			
Competition Advisory Committee			
Education/Evaluation Commission			
Professional Horsemen Committee			
USEF Arabian Division Committee			
Youth Committee			

CONVENTION ACTION:

_____ Approved _____ Approved with Modification _____ Disapproved

_____ Withdrawn _____ Referred to Committee _____

PROPOSED CHANGE: (**Check one**) ☒ Add new rule ☐ Delete existing rule ☐ Change existing text

Indicate affected Article/Rule number (AHA/USEF/EC) USEF AR106.1.b

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

Whereas, Currently, USEF AR106.1.b does not clearly specify that saddle pads must be conservative colors or prohibits embroidery and/or farm logos, and

Whereas, Currently, saddle pads often display conspicuous farm logos, which provide an unfair competitive advantage by making it obvious to judges which farm the horse and rider represent, and

Whereas, In the opinion of the proponent these large and easily visible farm logos on saddle pads detract from the fairness of competition and undermine the principle of impartial judging, and

Whereas, Establishing that saddle pads must be limited to conservative colors-white, black, or navy-and prohibiting embroidery and farm logos aligns with the longstanding tradition of conservative appointments in English Show Hack, and

Whereas, In the opinion of the proponent this change will preserve the integrity, uniformity, and aesthetic consistency of the class by ensuring the focus remains on the horse and rider rather than on the conspicuous branding; Therefore, Be It

Resolved, That USEF AR106.1.b be amended by inserting the following:

AR160 Appointments

1. Tack:

a. Bridle shall be light, show type; either single snaffle, double (full) or pelham. Kimberwick bit is permitted.

Browbands and cavessons other than hunter or dressage types are prohibited. Unconventional tack such as figure eight, drop, or flash nosebands are not permitted.

b. English saddle of any type is required. **Saddle pads shall be of a conservative solid color of white, black, or navy without any ornamentation including embroidery and farm logos. Non-conforming saddle pads will be penalized as inappropriate appointments.**

c. Martingales, breastplates not allowed.

d. Horses may show with a braided mane and/or tail.

Effective: December 31, 2027, 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 ☐ "If indicated as "Extraordinary", the proponent must list reasons which establish Chapter 9, RULE 101.3.a. has been met)

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

None

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

Contact Person:

SUBMITTED BY: Arabian Professional & Amateur Horsemen Assoc. Region Number: 8

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

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

Total Number Eligible to Vote: 17 Number of Yes votes: 10 Number of No votes: 0

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

Where documentation of this vote is recorded: President of APAHA ***(Must have printed documentation on file)***

Date vote taken: August 15, 2026

Contact Person: Cathy Vecsey ***(Has authority to amend, combine or withdraw)***

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