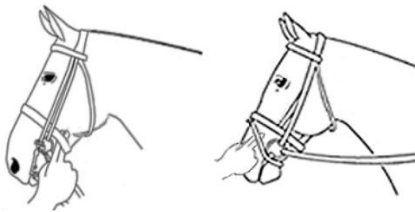


Note: Gate Stewards are required for championship competitions and recommended for licensed competitions. The Paddock Steward can cover Gate Steward duties at licensed shows if necessary. See Rulebook section 3.9.

Keep a copy of the Tack and Attire Checklist handy to verify specific requirements.

If you have any questions, ask the TD.

Tack, Attire, and Equipment Check (Rulebook section 1.9)

- Inspect each competitor before and after the trial to verify that equipment, tack, and attire are in accordance with requirements.
 - Give competitors with inappropriate equipment/tack/attire the opportunity to correct the deficiency. Place them at the end of the scheduled ride order. Notify the TD of all ride order changes.
 - Final authorization of tack, attire, equipment is the duty of the Judge or TD.
 - Any cavesson/noseband must be adjusted to allow room for at least two fingers placed vertically under the noseband on the side of the face below the cheekbone. Cavesson tightness is measured on the side of the face below the cheekbone. Flash noseband tightness is measured on the side of the nasal bones.
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- Bits should be checked if there's any question regarding acceptability. A visual inspection may be all that is necessary; however, if a closer examination is required, the Gate Steward must use a new pair of disposable gloves. The Gate Steward may request that the bit be dropped to better inspect the mouthpiece; make sure this is done in a safe environment. (Show management must have a box of disposable gloves available for use by the Paddock Steward.)
 - Fly hoods must be removed for inspection after the trial. The Gate Steward will also visually inspect for earplugs.
 - Nose nets are allowed if a veterinarian has diagnosed the horse with head shaking syndrome. A letter from the veterinarian must be included with the entry form.
 - Competitors with inappropriate equipment, tack, or attire should be given the opportunity to correct the deficiency, placing them at the end of the scheduled ride order.
 - The Gate Steward must contact the TD or Judge if there is any doubt about the acceptance of any equipment, tack, or attire.

Blood Check (Rulebook sections 3.3, 4.5)

- Inspect the condition of the horse before and after every trial for evidence of blood. If blood is detected, inform the TD (or Judge) immediately.
- Have clean white towels (paper or cloth) available for the Gate (or Paddock) Steward to verify if blood is present.