



United States Rules for Working Equitation



United States Rules
for
Working Equitation

Revision 7.2

20 March 2024



United States Rules for Working Equitation



PREFACE

This document, United States Rules for Working Equitation, is the national rulebook for working equitation in the U.S. It is maintained on the USA Working Equitation website: USAWE.org. In the event of a discrepancy between a printed version and the version residing on the website, the electronic version will take precedence.

This document is revised annually. **The revision cycle may be more or less frequent depending on the volume and criticality of the changes.** Suggestions for modifications from WE groups, show officials, or individuals involved in the discipline are encouraged. A **Rule Change Proposal** may be submitted up until **August 31st** of any calendar year; this will enable adequate consideration of all proposed modifications prior to the start of the following competition year on January 1. The **Rule Change Proposal** form is on the USAWE website:

[USAWE.org>Competitions>U.S. Rules for Working Equitation](http://USAWE.org/Competitions/U.S.RulesforWorkingEquitation)

Questions for the Rules Committee can be sent at any time to: Rules@usawe.org. The Rules Committee will not respond to any questions or discussions on social media.

REVISION STATUS

Rulebook	Revision 7.2	Appendix D	Revision 7
Appendix A	Revision 7	Appendix E	Revision 7
Appendix B	Revision 7.2	Appendix F	Revision 7
Appendix C	Revision 7.1	Appendix G	Revision 7

Revision	Date	Summary of Deletions
7	1 Jan 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.3a: Option to subdivide the Youth division. Youth division riders may only compete up through Level 6. • 1.6g: Restriction for Masters level to be offered only to Open division. • 3.2: Requirement to retain copies of score sheets and results (relocated to the Competition Manual). • 4.4: References related to drug testing. • 4.7: Requirements on offering additional awards. • 5.5: L3 riders are no longer allowed to have a test reader in Dressage. • Table 6-1: Non-WAWE obstacles • 7.8c: Dropping and failing to replace gate as a 30-sec penalty; clarified in 7.8d. • 7.9j: Taking more than 20 seconds to jump up or down the Bank. • 8.4: No riders may be assisted through the gate by anyone on the ground. • Appendix B: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ B.10b, B.11b: Requirement for second halt when replacing the cup on the Reinback "L" and Rounding Posts ○ B.16a: Zig-zag configuration in Sidepass Rail obstacle ○ B.16b: Requirement that horse must be positioned with its head is to the inside of the "L" configuration in Sidepass Rail obstacle. ○ B.19b: Option to execute left barrel first in Drums obstacle ○ B.20 – B.23: Non-WAWE obstacles
Revision	Date	Change Summary
7.1	22 Feb 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.9.2: Bell boots are allowed in Speed and Cattle trials. • 3.2: Copies of score sheets and results must be kept on file for a period of 1 month. • 3.20c: Clarified conflict of interest for trainer/coach/student of TD. • 4.2: Competitors who do not appear at the gate within 60 seconds of being called forfeit their right to participate in that trial. • 6.6: Corrected reference in 2nd paragraph to 6.7. Clarified wording for L2 riders handling the garrocha pole. • 6.7: Exiting an obstacle inappropriately is a course error. • 7.9h: Corrected reference to 7.8c and d. • App B.5b, 7b: The Spear Ring obstacle must be used in conjunction with the Remove Pole and Replace Pole obstacles. • App B.9c: Exiting the bell end of the corridor is a course error. • App B.10c: Exiting the corridor on the destination end is a course error. • App B.11c: Specified course errors for Rounding Posts. • App B.14b: The rider turns the horse to halt alongside the gait. • App B.15c: A break in gait when executing the Jump will result in a lower mark. • App C: Corrected time penalty on Speed scoresheet for failure to salute.
Revision	Date	Summary of Deletions
7.1	22 Feb 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.6: The number of points obtained by each competitor is displayed and announced over a public address system. • Table 6-2: Exiting the non-exit end of a corridor (negative mark) • App B.11b, 2nd paragraph: Removed the partial sentence that implied the rider had to show immobility when placing the cup on the first post.
Revision	Date	Change Summary
7.2	20 Mar 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • App B.15c: For L1, a break in gait will result in a lower mark. Walking the obstacle can earn a mark no higher than 7.

15. Jump

- a. Description. The obstacle consists of a single jump in a progression of heights for each level. Standard jump rails or a solid wood obstacle (like a flower box) can be used. Bales of straw placed end-to-end are acceptable. The jump must be at least 3-m (10-ft) across. The jump must be positioned between two jump standards with appropriate jump cups.

L1: Jump consists of a pair of crossed rails not to exceed 0.3 m (12 in.) at the center.

L2 and L3: Jump consists of a pair of crossed rails not to exceed 0.5 m (22 in.) at the standard and 0.4 m (15 in.) at the center.

L4 thru L7: Jump consists of a solid-looking obstacle or rails set 0.5-m (22-in.) high with a ground pole placed under the jump.

- b. Execution. The horse should approach and jump over the obstacle cleanly, naturally, and with assurance. The obstacle may be required in both directions providing there is at least one obstacle in between the first and second execution.
- c. Assessment Criteria (EOH). The Judge will evaluate:
- The manner in which the horse approaches and leaves the obstacle;
 - The horse's calmness, straightness, and tempo throughout the obstacle;
 - The quality of the gait in the approach to the jump and the exit;
 - The lead in which the horse canters before and after the jump (L2-L7);
 - The bascule over the jump;
 - The rider's **balance**, position, and use of aids in performing the obstacle; and
 - The pair's confidence and style.

For L1, a break in gait will result in a lower mark. Walking the obstacle can earn a mark no higher than 7.

Knocking over any part of the obstacle will result in a negative mark.

Serious Mistakes

- Refusal to jump
- Incorrect style (e.g., too tense, too flat, no bascule, over jumping, etc.)
- Lacking impulsion and willingness
- Knocking over any part of the obstacle
- Severe resistance
- **Rider interference with the horse's mouth or back during the jump or landing**