

New SHOW Rule Addresses Horses Entering Ring

The SHOW Rules committee recently suggested a change to the rulebook which addresses class procedure and the requirements and limitations for how horses enter the ring to begin the class. The rule focuses on safety as well as allowing the judges to observe the horses entering the ring more fully.

In recent years, horses have been stopping upon entering the ring and collecting in one area and/or doubling back behind the gate which has the entry passing the entry gate while other horses are entering the ring, creating a safety hazard. The new rule requires horses to continue the first way of the ring past the sight of the judges into the second turn.

The following rule has been added to the SHOW rule book under 3. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS A. General Rules

8. When horses enter the gate, they must continue going the first way of the ring (counter clockwise) past the line of sight of the judge(s) proceeding towards the second turn of the ring. Horses must not pass in front of the gate in either direction until the class has been called. A horse is not to double back behind the gate or continue around the ring the first way and pass the gate area. An intentional violation of this rule by the exhibitor will result in the entry being excused from the class.