

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	2/15/2023	Approved 6/20/2023

Rule Change Intent

The proposed rule preserves the wellbeing of the horse by adding to the welfare rule in that a horse cannot be lunged when visibly exhausted or chased. In addition, language regarding appendages on whips has been added to the rule.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA Board of Directors	Katie Patrick kpatrick@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions  
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/22/2023

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 05/09/2023

Draft 1: The Council agrees with the intent of this rule change proposal, but also supports the comments provided by both the Competition Management and National Hunter Committees and agrees that a portion of the language in EQ104.1.e, HU100.1.e, and JP102.2 as currently written is neither effective nor appropriate. The Council would approve if the wording changed in these three sections from "Chasing a horse with a whip," to "Inappropriate use of a lunge whip."

1. The following acts are prohibited:
  - a. Riding an exhausted horse.
  - b. Lunging a visibly exhausted horse.**
  - c. Excessive pressuring of a tired horse.
  - d. Riding or lunging an obviously lame horse.
  - e. Chasing a horse with a whip or other inappropriate use of the whip.**
  - f. Appendages and attachments are prohibited, including but not limited to bags and flags.**
  - g. Excessive and/or disruptive cracking of the whip.**

[.renumber accordingly]

HU100 Horse Welfare

1. The following acts are prohibited:
  - a. Riding a visibly exhausted horse.
  - b. Lunging a visibly exhausted horse.**
  - c. Excessive pressuring of a tired horse.
  - d. Riding or lunging an obviously lame horse.
  - e. Chasing a horse with a whip or other inappropriate use of the whip.**
  - f. Appendages and attachments are prohibited, including but not limited to bags and flags.**
  - g. Excessive and/or disruptive cracking of the whip.**

JP102 Horse Welfare

2. Conduct outside of the competition ring: Any action(s) against a horse by an exhibitor, deemed excessive by a judge, Federation Steward, Certified Schooling Supervisor or Competition Veterinarian anywhere on the competition groups may be punished by official warning or elimination from the class. Such action(s) could include, but are not limited to: excessive or improper use of the whip, spurs, reins, rider's weight or rider's hands; **lunging a visibly exhausted horse; lunging an obviously lame horse; chasing a horse with a lunge whip or other inappropriate use of the whip; the use of a lunge whip with any type of appendage or attachment, including but not limited to bags and flags; excessive and/or disruptive cracking of the whip.** In addition, after consultation with the Competition Manager and a Competition Steward, additional penalties, including one or more of the following: the issuance of an official warning card, disqualification from competing within the upcoming 24-hour period, or disqualification from the balance of the competition. All such violations must be recorded in the Steward's Report.