

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	4/1/2025	12/17/2024	
Extraordinary Change Reason			
participant and horse safety and well-being			
Rule Change Intent			
The use of biometric sensors for both horse and human athletes can provide valuable safety and health information. The Federation supports the use of technology to promote safety and wellness. Under this newly proposed rule, biometric sensors will be permitted to be worn by horses and humans on the field of play.			
Proponent Details		Contact Information	
USEF Officers		Leslie Mangan	
		lmangan@usef.org	
Linked Rules		Comments	
(ALL)			
American Saddlebred			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/18/2024			
Andalusian/Lusitano			
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/04/2024		Draft 1: The committee has concerns regarding the rule change: they want to know a person’s purpose behind their use of the sensors before competing; a horse is seen by the judge as fit to compete, but could the sensor show the horse as being otherwise not fit to compete?; they feel that the sensors could be used in ways to enhance performance during competition; there are biometric sensors available that go on the hoof of the horse, how will it be regulated to be sure that these sensors aren’t used by adding weight to them to enhance performance and hide the addition of weight? The committee’s main concern is if the sensors are not currently prohibited in the rule book, why is this rule needed allowing for their use? Since there is not actual rule to enforce with penalties or violations of the rule, this would be more of a policy than a rule to be put in the rule book.	
Arabian			
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/26/2024		Draft 1: The committee feels that verbiage to address the potential of using biometric sensors to enhance performance in competition should be addressed in the rule currently. The committee suggests verbiage such as: “not to be used to advance a performance while competing.”	
Carriage Pleasure Driving			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/05/2024			
Competition Management			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/03/2024			
Connemara			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/26/2024			
Dressage			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/13/2024		Draft 1: No objections - not as applicable to Dressage. If applied to Dressage, we would approve as long as the device cannot communicate with the rider during the competition.	
Driving			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/15/2024			
Endurance			
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/19/2024			

Eventing	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/19/2024	
Friesian	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/18/2024	Draft 1: The committee has concerns regarding the potential uses of the biometric sensors for horses in particular. The committee does not feel that the sensor's readings should be accessed while competing and potentially not until after a competition has completed. The committee also has concern about the need to define what the biometric sensor is recording and that in horses it should only be used for research purposes, not performance enhancement.
Hackney	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/20/2024	
Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/16/2024	
Jumper	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/18/2024	
Licensed Officials	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/09/2024	
Morgan	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/04/2024	Draft 1: The committee has several concerns: the biometric sensor finding would be subpoenaable by individuals; the results of these sensors could be used against a horse if it recorded instances that show spikes in data that some might perceive as unethical treatment of the horse. The committee does not agree with explicitly permitting the sensors in the rulebook as this would make their use protest able since it would officially be a rule.
National Hunter Committee	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/03/2024	
National Show Horse	
Draft 1: No Action 11/27/2024	
ParaEquestrian	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/15/2024	
Paso Fino	
Roadster	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/21/2024	
Saddle Seat Eq	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/21/2024	
Shetland	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/27/2024	
USHJA	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/12/2024	
Veterinary	
Welsh	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/05/2024	
Western Committee	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/17/2024	
Western Dressage	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/16/2024	

GR801 Dress Exhibitor Safety Equipment

[...]

6. Biometric Sensors and Equipment. The use of equine and human biometric sensors *that are minimal in design is permitted in competition. Materials or methods of attaching the biometric sensor that may enhance performance are prohibited. Information obtained from biometric sensors must not be accessed by the competitor while on the field of play.*