

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	9/1/2024	3/21/2024	

Extraordinary Change Reason

This rule change is extraordinary due to the need for more awareness by exhibitors when un-harnessing a horse, to not remove the bridle before the horse is fully un-hitched from the vehicle. This is a major safety concern during combination classes at competitions and the division has had several instances of loose horses due to the bridle being removed before the horse is un-hitched from the vehicle.

Rule Change Intent

During the Carriage Pleasure Combination classes, horses are first judged while driven and are then un-harnessed and ridden for a second round of judging. The horses are unharnessed in the competition arena, in which safety is of paramount importance. This rule change is necessary in order to bring awareness to the exhibitor for the major safety concern for a horse being unharnessed, to be fully un-hitched from the vehicle before any part of the bridle is removed. There have been several instances at competitions of horses putting themselves, other horses, exhibitors, and spectators in danger due to a loose horse whose bridle was removed while still hitched to the vehicle. This is a vital step in unharnessing/unhitching the horse, to not remove the bridle before the horse is completely un-hitched from the vehicle.

Proponent Details      Contact Information

Carriage Pleasure Driving

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Linked Rules      Comments

Committee Actions

## SUBCHAPTER CP-13 CLASS SPECIFICATIONS: COMBINATION CLASSES

### CP224 General Rules

(...)

**4.** *The bridle, bit, or reins must not be removed prior to the horse being completely unhitched from the vehicle. (See CP106.1a)*

**5.-4.** The judge may allow vehicles to remain in the arena or request that they be removed. If vehicles are removed, additional attendants may enter the arena to assist. If allowed to remain in the arena, a groom is permitted to attend the vehicle and wheel horse in a sporting tandem class.

**6.-5.** Where protective headgear is required, it is the responsibility of the competitor (or parent or guardian in the case of a junior competitor) to see that the headgear complies with the current safety standards and is properly fitted and in good condition. (See GR801)

**7.-6.** In combination hunter and sporting tandem classes, jumps must be adjusted for horses and ponies, regardless of whether they are competing separately or one against the other. Ponies jump 2'-2'6" and horses 2'6"-3'. (See CP 114)

**8.-7.** Riders must be provided a practice jump prior to any class in which jumping is required. A diagram of the course must be posted at least one hour before class time.