

**IALHA Member Survey**

**Date:** July 2011

**Topic:** USEF Rule Change Proposals

**Background:** An invitation to participate in a survey was sent to all IALHA members with current e-mail addresses in the IALHA membership database, 1090 in all (an additional 3 were in the database but had previously opted out of online surveys, so they did not receive the online survey). In all, 217 members responded to the survey, a response rate of 20%.

Results of the survey are presented first for all respondents and then by region. All responses provided are included in this report.

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## OVERALL RESPONSES (INCLUDES ALL REGIONS)

### Demographics

What IALHA Region do you live in?

	answered question	211
	skipped question	6
		Response Response
		Percent Count
Region 1 (California)		17.5% 37
Region 2 (Alaska, British Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Northwest Territory, Nunavut, Oregon, Washington, Yukon Territory)		10.4% 22
Region 3: (Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Ontario, and Wisconsin)		16.1% 34
Region 4: (Alberta, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Manitoba, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Saskatchewan, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming)		9.0% 19
<b>Region 5: (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Mexico)</b>		18.0% 38
Region 6: (Connecticut, Delaware, DC, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Nova Scotia, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia)		17.1% 36
Region 7: (Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, AFP/APO addresses, any locations not listed in another region)		11.8% 25

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	171
	skipped question	46
		Response Response
		Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>		82.5% 141
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.		17.5% 30

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.60



## REGION 1 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	20
	skipped question	17
		Response Response
		Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>		80.0% 16
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.		20.0% 4

### Comments

It is always a simpler method when all breeds conform to one standard. This provides for less errors when points are tabulated.

7/6/11 5:52PM

Gives a distinct advantage to horses showing in regions where there are a lot of horses, i.e. Region 1 vs areas where there aren't as many horses. Theoretically, a horse could place 4th in a large class in Region 1 and beat out horses that have come in first in other regions. Can't compare our breed with Arabians, etc. because they have so many more horses to begin with.

6/28/11 12:48AM

I truly believe that it is fair and responsible to award points to the top 5 out of 10 horses. All contestants should be awarded points when the total participants is 5 or less.

6/28/11 12:53AM

The proposed system is an improvement. The points are loaded too strongly for the Regional and National shows for dressage horses. It would be nice if the best horse (A/L dressage horse) wins the year end award rather than the horse whose owner spends the funds to chase points. Winning an open Grand Prix Dressage class at Los Angeles Equestrian Center or Del Mar's Show Park or Fair Grounds shows is more difficult than winning a restricted A/L Nationals. Not sure how to correct this but for A/L Dressage classes (a growing group of horses) maybe we should adapt to the CDS/USDF point system.

6/27/11 10:26PM

It seems to more accurately reflect the individual horse's quality relative to others in the breed.

6/27/11 8:45PM

This rule change would truly level the playing field, which should always be our goal.

6/27/11 4:55PM

horses should not accumulate so many championship points when there are only one or two horses in the class

6/27/11 4:03PM

### Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	23
	skipped question	14
		Response Response
		Percent Count
Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible		69.6% 16

**Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.**

to receive HOTY points.

No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points. 30.4% 7

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.<sup>9</sup>

**Comments**

So long as the Show Manager or Secretary has no contact with those adjudicating, there is no conflict.

7/6/11 5:54PM

There is an obvious political problem with showing to begin with and allowing show managers to compete in their own shows only helps to promote this problem

7/1/11 8:32AM

Here again, we are a small breed and if we restrict show management from competing their horses, eventually, we will not be able to get volunteers to work the shows if they want to compete. Has there ever been a study to see if their actually is or ever has been a conflict of interest, or is it just a preceived notion?

6/28/11 12:52AM

I have learned over the years that people that are honest and have integrity also pay their dues when striving to be the best. To punish them while they are holding a certain position (that they have strived to reach), to me is not fair.

6/28/11 12:56AM

Just one small show would be ok but not at a Regional or National show.

6/27/11 10:26PM

I have managed a number of All-Breed shows as well as Dressage Events and Horse Trials. I was also a TD and Steward for 35 years. The manager does not really have time to compete in their own shows. I think it would be possible for the manager to be the owner of a horse shown by someone else, but I would want to limit it to one show. It is too easy to make small decisions which amount to a conflict of interest if viewed all together. Avoiding the perception of a conflict of interest is important in maintaining loyalty and a positive feeling at the show.

6/27/11 8:53PM

Ideally show management should not compete in their own show but with so few available I suppose that allowing one is a good compromise.

6/27/11 7:59PM

Let's keep everyone honest!

6/27/11 4:57PM

not that easy to get good show managers that one can limit then

6/27/11 4:05PM

**Rule Change Proposal #3**

**Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.**

**answered question** **23**

**skipped question** **14**

**Response Response  
Percent Count**

**Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.** 73.9% 17

No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges. 26.1% 6

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.<sup>9</sup>

**Comments**

I would be in favor of the first part of the rule change, however, we don't have enough judges as it is and, we limit judges to 1 judge per region when filling our panel of National Judges. The 4 year period narrows the field. I believe we now have a rule that there must be at least 3 years.

7/6/11 5:56PM

We don't have that many accredited judges that we can only use them for Nationals once every 4 years. We also don't have that many shows to make it worthwhile for the judges to do all the training, etc. required if they are only going to be used so infrequently. Other breeds make it more lucrative for them to maintain their eligibility with other breeds.

6/28/11 12:55AM

It appears that there is a bit of mistrust among competitors at all levels. With this "Air of mistrust", I also would question any decision made by such an organization. The IALHA have the authority to investigate all allegations of misconduct. A transparent organization also trusts its members and judges.

6/28/11 1:01AM

I think the once every four years for National Show Judges is a little too long.

6/27/11 10:26PM

The restrictions seem reasonable and the breed is well-enough established to be able to support the hiring of different judges. Judges determine the direction of breeding and different viewpoints are essential to making sure that there are not "fads" which may become detrimental to the breed. It takes a while for the effect of breeding "fads" to become evident as detrimental. A case in point can be seen in some of the Quarter Horses, where the Association had to develop rules aimed at preventing judges from going off the deep end.

6/27/11 8:59PM

In my region it seems that the same judges are chosen year after year. Anything to promote fairness by requiring judges to be rotated more is good in my book.

6/27/11 8:00PM

I'm torn on this issue. I definitely understand the need to prevent show staff from using the same judges over and over again. However, there is a general lack of quality judges out there, and I would prefer there be some sort of certification beyond the normal certification currently required of IALHA judges. Many of the IALHA judges continue to reward horses that are not of true Spanish or Portuguese type, and this MUST STOP. I suggest requiring extra learning for Regional and National level judges, perhaps with judges from Spain/Portugal.

6/27/11 5:04PM

necessary to be sure that the judges are not continually picked by the show managers in the same year.

6/27/11 4:06PM

I think 4 year period is too long with as few Judges as A/L currently has. I believe this portion would make it difficult for us to hire 3 Judges for the National Show. I think it needs to be 3 years. Since all of these points are in one Proposal, I must vote no.

6/27/11 3:58PM

### Rule Change Proposal #4

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
	24	13		
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	54.2%	13		
No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.	45.8%	11		

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 8

### Comments

Blemishes can be covered up with natural colors just as easily as with hoof black. Hoof black (the shiny look) is traditional for show horses.

7/6/11 5:58PM

Allowing pads has the potential for covering up more abuses than hoof black!!! Maybe we shouldn't allow clipping, or show sheen or anything else that isn't totally au natural because all of these things can be used to alter the PERSPECTIVE appearance of the horse. Also, the way a horse is presented, his stance, etc, can be used to hide or

lessen a fault whereas it can also accentuate a good quality. It's all part of the showmanship, and halter classes are a beauty contest!

6/28/11 1:02PM

Participates in any level of competition attempt to present their horses at their best. I do agree that hoof black may be used, and the judges will still be able to make a competent evaluation.

6/28/11 1:05AM

For confirmation classes this probably is good and there is probably no need for other types of classes to use hoof black.

6/27/11 10:26PM

I would approve the use of hoof black in performance classes, just not in conformation classes.

6/27/11 9:00PM

I have never seen a judge look at a horses hoof in any show I have attended even while hoof black was previously forbidden a few years ago. I do not believe that a judge can determine hoof quality simply by looking in any case.

6/27/11 8:02PM

Agree with this one 100%. This also helps to prevent things like artificially built up feet, etc. It's a lot harder to camouflage weighted feet without the use of hoof black! Clear polish looks amazing on black and white hooves. This also allows the horse to be more easily identified if there is a question of horse identity if there isn't any hoof black to cover up a white hoof.

6/27/11 5:08PM

The use or non-use of hoof black should be the choice of the horse owner/trainer

6/27/11 4:07PM

## REGION 2 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	21
	skipped question	1
		Response Response
		Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>		81.0% 17
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.		19.0% 4

### Comments

Our region does not seem to have many members interested in competing. I certainly wish that our classes were larger, but I cannot afford to travel to some of the other areas that have better attended classes.

6/28/11 10:58PM

Adds credibility to the awards and makes it more fair to horses in larger shows.

6/28/11 8:49AM

The new method will be more reflective of the quality of the horse being judged. I have seen horses advertised as winner of Best Movement or some other class and when I look up the record on the USEF site it shows a winner of a class of one. Or some say place in the top three all year and the classes are all three or less and the horse placed last each time. I have seen video's of horses that are winners of classes where they perform poorly but still earn awards because of the tiny classes. I would rather see a horse that is 5th out of 30 the 5th out of 5.

6/27/11 6:16PM

I am favor of a more fair system, but the one proposed is also not fair. A very nice horse in a region where there is little participation in shows would be unfairly penalized under this system. I just imported my first Lusitano. My other horses are a Hanoverian, a Dutch Warmblood and an Arab, so I am a member of these societies also. I ride dressage, and have found the systems used for USDF all breed awards and HOY awards very fair - i.e. points are calculated based on the average of the total of the actual scores of the tests for the horse for that year (not points for the placement of the horse in classes). I realize this system cannot be implemented well outside of dressage, but something similar would be fair. I just went to my first USEF/IALHA breed show with my young stallion this past weekend. It was the most ill run show I have ever been to in my life. When I got there, there was no posted stabling chart and the show secretary was not in the office. After tracking her down, I found they had forgotten to assign a stall to my stallion. He was put in a stall with large gaps between the boards - next to a mare (which I didn't realize until the next morning). I was the only one competing in each of my classes - fun to be the automatic winner, but my horse scored well and the judge seemed to like him quite a bit, so the proposed system would make competing for HOY awards not worth the effort in my area, if this show was typical. I'm a little curious why the IALHA is looking to the Arab and Freisan communities as models. I have found the Warmblood Societies to have the clearest policies and the best organization in general.

6/27/11 4:49PM

### Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	20
skipped question	2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.</b>	70.0%	14
No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.	30.0%	6

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.

### Comments

I am in support of this change but I am very worried that it will inhibit good people from wanting to put on an IALHA show and so our members will suffer. I think this rule should apply in all cases to the Nationals because that is the highest profile show and needs non-participating management for best practices and best perception by the public. Our Nationals Show Chair needs to be above criticism in this regard. Every year criticism is made about this topic.

6/28/11 8:56AM

Staying in line with USEF rules simplifies things. Any appearance of conflict of interest opens a possible problem among members.

6/27/11 6:19PM

In smaller regions, it is hard to get a show manager at all. Limiting his/her participation in the rare show would make it harder to find people willing to serve as show manager.

6/27/11 4:17PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	20
skipped question	2
	<b>Response Response Percent Count</b>

**Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.** 65.0% 13

No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges. 35.0% 7

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 3

### Comments

I support this change in theory but the 4 year restriction will be too harsh for the Nationals - unless we suddenly have a huge jump in good quality licensed judges.

6/28/11 8:59AM

It is always good to have input from many judges.

6/27/11 6:20PM

I may be misinformed, but how many judges are out there that have true knowledge of the Iberian breeds? Again, we have a small pool to choose from, so why limit the judging?

6/27/11 4:19PM

### Rule Change Proposal #4

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	19
skipped question	3
	<b>Response Response</b>

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	Percent	Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	73.7%	14
No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.	26.3%	5

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 3

### Comments

Terrible wording on this question. Not using hoof black does not eliminate the use of black colored hoof bondo to fill in a hoof. After an hour of sanding you cannot tell the difference between hoof black polish or natural hoofs. This point was proven when hoof black was outlawed before - the hooves were just as polished and hard to see.  
6/28/11 9:01AM

I don't really care about this. Conformation is mainly halter so if it is a big deal ban it in halter classes. I like the clear hoof coating myself.

6/27/11 6:22PM

I do not think any special hoof coating should be allowed. The Iberian horse needs to show the natural attributes that allow it to excel, including hoof quality. We should try to adhere to the Iberian tenants of 'natural' -- no bridle paths, excessive clipping, or excessive fake shining... The Arabs look ridiculous with their oiled faces and lack of any natural hair...

6/27/11 4:23PM

## REGION 3 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	31
	skipped question	3
		Response Response Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>		61.3% 19
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.		38.7% 12

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 15

### Comments

I don't believe it is fair to get many points if you are the only horse in a class, and I think there is too large a gap between the points given for each placing under the current system.

7/8/11 8:36PM

I believe our breed does not have sufficient numbers in classes to change.

7/5/11 9:53AM

for reasons stated above

7/1/11 9:39AM

Currently our region does not have very many horses competing, and really there are only 2- 3 shows per year to show at. So the horses of less population would not be represented in HOTY simply because we have less population. HOTY in more populated areas - if it's a problem...come to Region 3 and beat us too. lol.

6/29/11 8:07PM

When is the last time your region had 10 + horses per class. When is the last time our National show had 10+ horses in each class. There has been no explanation of the fact that the high density of membership ,# of horses needed, to support the change exists only in 2 IALHA regions. The other 5 regions will suffer hardship and never accumulate any reasonable amount of points IF WE CHANGE THE SYSTEM. Today the playing field is level, there is equal chance to play. Every area of the USA has abundant population of Arab horses. This is not true of our breeds. We should wait 10 years to consider this change . Also their is no explanation that if you live in region X, Y, or Z how many horses can you expect in your local class and no study of the effect of change on a region or IALHA membership.

6/28/11 4:25PM

Certain regions do not have the opportunity to compete against large numbers of horses per class so the new rule change would present the opposite problem, good horses would not have the chance to compete in large classes without distant and frequent travel.

6/27/11 8:07PM

If the goal is to devalue the smaller shows in regions that do not have the population of horse - go for the change. That way the shows will be in TX and CA and no where else. Since there is no need to qualify for nationals ( which is not updated on the USEF website) there is no reason to even have smaller shows in other regions. Congrats on killing the heart of the show community!

6/27/11 7:55PM

I didn;t realize the Andalusian, Friesian, Lusitanos had B C shows!!! i Live in Ohio last 5 yrs I had to go 6 or more hours to a breed show!! I didn't realize you only get 1/2 points 2-3 horses... if you beat a horse their is 2 you should get whole point..... well if just your self you should get the 1/2 a point for showing your horse & supporting the

breed..... I am not a breeder just a competitor with a gelding who we do well with!! excellent showing of the breed..... the willingness & intelligence... now you have people who spend load s of money to far off shows.....but breeders but me I can't get to enough show to show or tally points shows are far in between..... when we do we get points.... there is no paybacks honest points is a good thing for the horse presentation....placing well on the list in the breed in USEF standings.....

6/27/11 4:52PM

Small regions with large geography would never be able to provide the numbers of horses to beat the horses in California or the NE. With the new system, horses wont need to travel to numerous shows. They will accrue all they need at one or two and other regions will never be able to even get to the numbers achieved at one show. We need a resolution in the middle between these choices.

6/27/11 4:47PM

I show in a small region. If my horse wins my local show, and wins my Regionals, and goes to Nationals, even if they place first they will still be behind in points on your new system. This hurts those of us in small areas. Last year we only had 1 show and Regionals. Do not penalize us because we are a small region.

6/27/11 4:07PM

It levels the playing field and will reward the most successful horse regardless of region. It will not allow a horse who wins first place out of two competitors the same score as one who bests many other horses.

6/27/11 3:58PM

I think points should be dependent on the number of horses entered, but with the limited number of shows offered annually, do not see a need to further weight Regionals/Nationals.

6/27/11 3:57PM

I'm from a region that does not always have a high participation in a lot of classes. I would then have to re-think if I would even attend any of the IALHA shows. Please keep in mind that not all the classes at Nationals in Ft. Worth have a lot of horses. This would definitely make me reconsider traveling all the way to Nationals.

6/27/11 3:49PM

I believe the proposed change would discourage an unfair advantage for horses in regions with fewer class participants. Seems logical and fair.

6/27/11 3:48PM

I do not believe that the current system needs to be changed.

6/27/11 3:45PM

## Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	30
	skipped question	4
		Response Response
		Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.</b>		56.7% 17
No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.		43.3% 13

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 12

## Comments

I know in our area, this would probably reduce the number of shows offered.

7/8/11 8:37PM

The harder you work, the more you deserve!

7/5/11 9:54AM

rational as above

7/1/11 9:40AM

Sounds fair to me.

6/29/11 8:13PM  
Shows are breed promotion. I want people to see our breeds.  
6/28/11 4:25PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	31
skipped question	3
	<b>Response Response</b>
	<b>Percent Count</b>
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.</b>	67.7% 21
No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges.	32.3% 10
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.	13

### Comments

At this time I am not in favor of this, however, if I knew for certain there were numerous enough judges to prevent this from being an issue, I am in favor of it.

7/8/11 8:38PM

There are not enough shows nor participants to support the financial burden of this change.

7/5/11 9:56AM

as above

7/1/11 9:41AM

I think that a good rotation of judges would be healthy for the breed on the whole.

6/29/11 8:39PM

This would give more judges an opportunity to officiate.

6/28/11 1:32PM

The biggest drawback may be that this will probably increase the cost of hiring judges and, therefore, the cost to competitors. It will be excellent to receive feedback from several different judges in a region however.

6/27/11 8:52PM

I'm in favor IF it is possible to get the needed number of qualified judges. This is similar to USDF regional rules and rotating judges and paying for their travel can be an issue. Might be a problem for smaller shows.

6/27/11 8:12PM

go in rotation.....

6/27/11 4:57PM

All is fine except the regional show judge rule. Would there be enough to go around?

6/27/11 4:48PM

I have noticed certain judges like a style of movement or body style.

6/27/11 4:10PM

Any thing which may be perceived as conflict of interest or bias/favoritism in officiating in IALHA competitions must be corrected...therefore this rule change seems to address that problem.

6/27/11 4:04PM

This to me is saying you are not trusting in a Judges opinion. If they are an approved IALHA judge, they should be allowed to judge as many shows as they are asked to.

6/27/11 3:55PM

Good idea!

6/27/11 3:51PM

### Rule Change Proposal #4

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	29
skipped question	5

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	62.1%	18
No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.	37.9%	11

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 15

### Comments

Hoof black doesn't cover that much!

7/5/11 9:56AM

not sure on this. as a judge, i've never had a decision come down to hoof quality, nor do i think hoof black could hide anything you couldn't sand off or out. i do believe hoof blacking is not necessary and is not in keeping with the natural way of showing the beauty of these horses. would clear polish or hoof dressing be allowed under this rule?

7/1/11 9:53AM

I think hoof black looks ridiculous.

6/29/11 8:40PM

Although most any judge will tell you, it may not be easy to tell...

6/28/11 4:30PM

If this prohibition was limited to halter (breeding) classes it would make more sense. Those are the classes where horses are evaluated on their possible transferable defects.

6/28/11 1:34PM

I have not heard of this restriction in other types of horse shows. I'm not sure exactly what kind of "conformational flaws" could be covered up, however, I could understand where signs of abuse or use of illegal training equipment might be disguised with hoof black. If the "real" reason for this rule is conformation I would disagree with implementing it. I personally never use the stuff...

6/27/11 8:57PM

Can't see this as a huge issue.

6/27/11 8:13PM

It is a horse show - and the hoof black gives a finishing touch to the presentation.

6/27/11 7:57PM

most of the time it looks UNNATURAL !! plain ole hoof shine for hoofs is just as good....futhermore your hoofs get dirt on them anyway!

6/27/11 5:00PM

Although I think performance and costume should be able to use black.

6/27/11 4:49PM

Although when you enter the ring and run to your place in line most of the hoof black comes off anyway.

6/27/11 4:11PM

I have always been against the use of hoof-black...a hoof may be cleaned and shined up for presentation w/o hoof black, and will allow the judges to evaluate the hoof quality correctly.

6/27/11 4:06PM

Personally, I feel that hoof black can't hide flaws that well. I also worry this rule would not be enforced.

6/27/11 4:03PM

What is next you won't allow people to use show shine on their horses to make them look their best. Honestly, how much of the hoof do they really see standing in the deep sand arena.

6/27/11 3:58PM

There are numerous ways to hide hoof faults. Forbidding the use of hoof black does little to nothing in this regard. Instead you should consider having a barefoot section of classes.

6/27/11 3:48PM

## REGION 4 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
				12
				7
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>			91.7%	11
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.			8.3%	1
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 1				

### Comments

I am in favor to change the rules. It allows you to gain points even if you do not have a good showing at one show.  
6/29/11 8:13PM

### Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
				13
				6
<b>Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.</b>			76.9%	10
No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.			23.1%	3
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 3				

### Comments

due to limited number of shows in some areas you are cutting out people access to shows/points and potential funds to pay for the show  
7/4/11 7:37PM

I am in favor of showing and being able to gain HOTY points. BUT dose this also include horses they own that others show for them????

6/29/11 8:16PM

I am in favor of prohibition as decribed above. If this is not an option, then limit to one is an alternative, although this is a clear conflict of interest to compete in the show one is managing.

6/27/11 4:48PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question 13  
 skipped question 6

**Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.**

**Response Response  
 Percent Count**

84.6% 11

No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges.

15.4% 2

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.

[Show Responses](#) 2

**Comments**

i am only in favor of this if there are enough sanctioned judges that it does not reduce or restrict the number of shows available to people.

7/4/11 7:38PM

This one can be difficult, due to if there is a limited amount of judges in an area.

6/29/11 8:20PM

**Rule Change Proposal #4**

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question 12  
 skipped question 7

**Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.**

**Response Response  
 Percent Count**

83.3% 10

No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.

16.7% 2

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.

**Comments**

if this is in regards to using hoof black, not for it for sure: as hoof black does not more to cover up a flaw in a hoof than other grooming styles to cover up or hide other conformation defects.

7/4/11 7:40PM

## REGION 5 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	33	
skipped question	5	
	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>	90.9%	30
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.	9.1%	3

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 13

### Comments

Its only fair. Its time for a change for small breeders as well as owners of 1 or 2 horses that have horse that truly represent the breed to be given a chance or opportunity to have a fair chance of earning A/L USEF HOTY.

7/6/11 9:04PM

Keeping more in line with other breeds within USEF is fine.

6/29/11 6:33PM

I totally agree that the points should be awarded according to the number of horses bested in the competition, otherwise it is possible to win having beaten nobody all year. the horse that continuously and consistently wins or places against a lot of competition is the one that should be rewarded. This, in my opinion, is the only way to ensure the integrity of the award, which, after all, is a prestigious achievement.

6/29/11 6:27AM

I think the change is good because obviously if you win 1st place against ZERO other horses, it doesn't mean your horse is truly the best of the breed at that particular class, and winning HOTY would mean a horse who may be truly better & more competitive might miss out simply because they attended larger shows. Also, if there are points awarded for USDF/USEF dressage competitions, it should work the same- but if not then dressage shows SHOULD be included in HOTY points, not just because many of us primarily only compete in dressage, but to demonstrate & promote our breeds athleticism & competitiveness, and to reward horses who are super competitive in the dressage arena but perhaps just don't participate in IALHA breed shows.

6/28/11 2:12PM

I don't think we have enough horses competing to operate the way the Arabians and Friesians do.

6/28/11 9:28AM

No opinion; I do not participate in enough shows to compete for HOTY points.

6/27/11 7:25PM

I believe this is a fair way to distribute points and brings us in line with most of the other affiliates.

6/27/11 6:53PM

Being more aligned with what other breeds are doing makes sense.

6/27/11 6:26PM

If one goes to the new system, a weighting based on the average number of entrants in that class type (as well as that show, or at least that region) should be included. The AKC does something like this to determine the number of dogs required for various point levels in various regions. My reasons for this recommendation are stated below. I feel that the new system, while having many good aspects, unfairly penalizes those who compete in classes that tend to have fewer entrants, or compete in a region where the shows are relatively less well attended. It appears that this new system unfairly rewards those who compete in the big classes (such as Hunt Seat). As an example, one could be

placed 11th out of 12 horses in a Hunt Seat Open class and receive the same points as a competitor that placed 1st in a class of 2 in Show Hack Open. This seems to unfairly benefit the Hunt Seat Open horse.

6/27/11 4:41PM

In region 5, until this year, we had no opportunity to participate in regional championships or accrue those points. As a result, it was difficult to effectively compete against those regions with championship classes. Also, the horse winning a one horse class got the same no. of points that a horse winning winning a 5 or 6 horse class did. Clearly, the horse competing against other horses and winning should have an edge in High Point of the year.

6/27/11 4:23PM

Because awarding points for showing up in an otherwise empty class insults the quality of our horses and denigrates the success of our breed; we become something of a laughingstock and don't show our horses can perform well in their various disciplines. We need to attract more active riders in order to thrive in tough times.

6/27/11 4:07PM

but with reservations as the number of horses participating in shows by region varies a lot depending on number of horses/members in the region and geographic area covered by the region (distance needed to travel to shows). maybe this is taken into account when the regions were devised.

6/27/11 3:54PM

This will ensure that the best horse possible represents us at the HOTY awards. It will keep people from having small shows for the express purpose of getting HOTY points. It will also encourage larger classes and shows because HOTY point chasers will now be encouraging other people to show .

6/27/11 3:47PM

## Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	31
	skipped question	7
		Response Response Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.</b>		87.1% 27
No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.		12.9% 4

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 12

## Comments

It is only fair.

7/6/11 9:05PM

I think a show manager should not compete at his show. So limit to zero!

7/4/11 8:36PM

I am in favor due to "perception" of conflict of interest. A "show manager" may not be the person who actually hired a judge, however, they typically are a person who has some amount of direct contact with the judge during the show. So, the "possibility" of influence could exist. This rule would help eliminate any perception of "unfairness".

6/29/11 6:39PM

In the interests of fairness- after all, the person managing the show hires the judge!

6/29/11 6:28AM

As a primarily dressage competitor I absolutely agree & support with the USEF Dressage rules on this issue- while most people are honest, there isn't enough transparency otherwise and can lead to unfairness or corruption- or even just the perception of it, which can lead to hostilities within our community that do no service to anyone: owners, breeders, competitors, or the horses.

6/28/11 2:15PM

What is the current rule? You haven't made this clear.

6/28/11 9:30AM

I thought the show manager could not compete at all in the show they managed. Allowing them to compete, while increasing the number of people who would be willing to be Show Managers (a good thing), would tend to create the appearance of a conflict of interest assuming they do well at that show.

6/27/11 4:43PM

Because management quality and attention is bound to suffer if one person wears too many hats.

6/27/11 4:07PM

but again with reservations due to small size of association and volunteer base.

6/27/11 3:55PM

We need to bring our breed up to a higher standard of behavior by those that put on our shows. The dressage people have the right idea!!!!

6/27/11 3:51PM

We need to accept that many of our current practices are not acceptable to other breeds.

6/27/11 3:46PM

I am on the fence on this one.

6/27/11 3:43PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	32
	skipped question	6
		Response Percent
		Response Count
Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.		96.9% 31
No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges.		3.1% 1
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.	10	

### Comments

It is only fair.

7/6/11 9:06PM

Years ago the argument was that we didn't have a large enough "pool" of approved judges, but I think that situation has changed now.

6/29/11 6:42PM

My only reservation would be, do we have enough qualified judges to impose this rule?

6/29/11 6:30AM

Do have a concern whether we have enough judges to make this practical.

6/28/11 3:05PM

Again, I believe there are USEF Dressage rules, or maybe it's USDF rules, regarding this issue and I think such rules can only benefit every honest person involved in terms of fairness!

6/28/11 2:17PM

I have mixed feelings. I would be in favor of the rule if there are enough qualified judges, but if there is a judge shortage it would make it harder for some areas (especially where there are few judges nearby) to find qualified judges.

6/27/11 7:28PM

Actually, it would be nice if we could put a system in place that would allow each of our judges to officiate at Nationals before we allow a judge to repeat.

6/27/11 6:55PM

Yes, so that well qualified judges are not perceived to be favoring certain competitors' horses, whether those competitors deserve such attention or not. Make the process fair and the competition meaningful!

6/27/11 4:08PM

Great ideas to protect our breed and the integrity of our shows!

6/27/11 3:52PM

I think diversity is a good thing.

6/27/11 3:45PM

## Rule Change Proposal #4

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	32
	skipped question	6
		Response Response
		Percent Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>		78.1% 25
No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.		21.9% 7

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 14

## Comments

I didnt know hoof black could cover up blimishes I use hoof black when I ride my horse in parades,this is something I need to learn more about. I dont like bad hoofs, but I guess if this for the betterment of the breed I can go along with a change.

7/6/11 9:14PM

The use of hoof black should not interfere with a judge's ability to evaluate a horse's hoof quality. 1. It cannot cover up proper or improper hoof angle, or if a particular horse does not grow or accumulate any heel to get the ultimate hoof angle. (Proper hoof angle is the farrier's job...any good judge should be able to determine that with or without hoof black). 2. Hoof Black cannot cover up if the hoof is not in line with the cannon bone. 3. A club foot will be present when there is a shortening of the deep digital flexor musculotendoneous unit while a low or under run heel conformation will be present with a lengthening of this unit. Hoof Black cannot cover that up either. 4. Hoof and pastern angle should not be broken, Hoof Black does not cover up any flaws on this point. It is important to realize that the hoof is a highly adaptable structure. Hoof anatomy can be altered by the trimming, by a change in moisture content, local variations of the ground (soil mechanics), type of training, developmental problems, gait compensation and aging, among other things. Genetics play a role in hoof quality and some horses just don't have the genetics behind them. A well qualified and educated judge will be able to determine all this....with or without Hoof Black. It is important that judges evaluate the cause for blemishes and abnormalities. Are they the result of structural incorrectness or unrelated causes (scars from obvious accidental injury that the horse was not born with or that improper training caused)? Obviously, incorrect structure should be considered and penalized more severely than tissue changes that are not the result of any visible structural deviations. There is absolutely no correlation between hoof color and hoof conformation and condition!

7/5/11 12:24AM

In favor for morphology classes, not in favor for under saddle performance classes.

7/2/11 10:30PM

I don't think a visual front view of the hoof will allow "quality" judgement since they can't look at the bottom of the hoof itself. In a "tie" or close situation between 2 horses, it might factor in. Means a horse with a crack or "wall breakage" would be considered lower. Isolated situations occur that can affect a horse's feet without them having "poor" or bad quality of feet. Horse overreaching and pulling off a front shoe, thereby breaking hoof wall is one. A horse can develop "rings" on the hoof wall due to changes in nutrition, changed region of country, etc. On the other hand, some put 4 or 5 layers of boot polish, then black, to build an artificially smooth surface and hide the cracks and wall breakage. I am very undecided on this issue, but for the sake of the breed, I feel the more "natural" the better off our horses will be overall.

6/29/11 6:58PM

If a judge cannot see beyond hoof black, he/she has no right to call themselves a judge. And, furthermore, I object most strongly to the showing in hand of these horses as if they were Arabians, 'revved up' and not standing still. Talking to several ANCEE judges in Spain, they said, and I agree, it's impossible to evaluate a horse's conformation when he is a) moving around, and b) not set up to stand correctly. I would think this is a FAR more important issue than whether or not to use hoof black.

6/29/11 6:34AM

I agree with the above rationale, it seems to be the most fair & objective way for a judge to evaluate a horses hooves, but also I've never been a fan of such hoof dressings anyway- they look tacky & artificial & generally harm the overall hoof health. Its probably, therefore, also in the best interest of our beloved horses! I think the rule doesn't cover regular clear hoof conditioners- which is good, as those are very important to maintaining hoof health!

6/28/11 2:20PM

This is ridiculous. We're trying to put on a horse show here. Do we forbid the use of vaseline so that we can better evaluate the quality of the skin? Do we forbid the use of Show Sheen so that we can evaluate the quality of the hair? If you restrict one cosmetic enhancement you have to throw them all out. Don't we have better things to do than squabble over hoof black? Geez.

6/28/11 9:36AM

This has been tried in the past and the results were not terribly good

6/27/11 6:57PM

This change will be in correlation to the USEF Dressage regarding hoof black.

6/27/11 6:25PM

NO HOOF BLACK should be allowed. It's far too easy to mask illegal substances, etc. Good feet are an Andalusian trait. Soundness should stay of paramount importance to us all!

6/27/11 4:09PM

though is 'hoof black' subject to different interpretations?

6/27/11 3:57PM

I have heard all kinds of rumors about people altering a horses foot and the placing of heights inside etc...not to mention if a horse has bad feet and they are patched up the judge deserves to know. If its a close contest between one horse and another and one has cracked feet it is a tool for the judge to evaluate which is the better horse.

6/27/11 3:56PM

Lets stop the cheating....but will we still be able to apply clear polish?

6/27/11 3:48PM

I don't see why hoof black would hide that

6/27/11 3:46PM

## REGION 6 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
				32
				4
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>			93.8%	30
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.			6.3%	2
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.				11

### Comments

Getting a second place win when there are only three participants means little.

7/5/11 9:13PM

We need to become more in line with other breed systems to maintain a highly regarded and approved system of grading.

7/5/11 8:26PM

equality for all

7/4/11 3:49PM

I agree that it's more fair to award points based on the number of horses competing. Too many classes have only 1 horse in them. That's not satisfactory for anyone, including the entrant. But they should at least get 1 HOTY point for the effort.

7/4/11 2:26PM

This is a standard used by many equine clubs for point tabulation in the US

6/29/11 2:36PM

I do like the current practice of extra points for championship classes, which it seems the new system may not incorporate. Perhaps this can be taken into consideration.

6/29/11 6:09AM

There are people that come in to show and find they are the only entry. The current points system penalizes this entry by giving no HOTY points. They should receive at minimum 1 HOTY point for being there. Lack of attendance is not the competitors fault.

6/28/11 8:11AM

I am FOR the rule change proposal after seeing horses entered in classes where there is only ONE HORSE, get a blue ribbon. Those classes should be consolidated or cancelled. Breed-specific classes should have a minimum of 3 horses to be offered. Dressage classes can follow the USEF rules for dressage for number of horses required.

6/27/11 8:49PM

Seems logical.

6/27/11 8:32PM

I am in favor of the rule change. My only reservation is that Regional Championships and especially National Championships are too far for me to travel. Competitors located close to these locations will still be more likely to receive the HOTY awards due to ease of earning points at a faster rate. Wish National Championship could be located more centrally or was moved every other year. I believe Arabian Nationals do this.

6/27/11 7:28PM

I need to review the existing rule.

6/27/11 6:07PM

## Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

		32
answered question		4
skipped question		
	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.</b>	71.9%	23
No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.	28.1%	9

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 12

### Comments

I do not believe an individual that takes the initiative and time to manage a show should be restricted for their efforts.

7/5/11 8:28PM

Some of our best show managers are "retired" or do not compete their own horses. In certain regions we need to be able to have the same person manage more than one show a year, or, they may not be as many shows. Competitors are hesitant to take on any role on show committees, and some people can best contribute and be included by being on a show committee, and often the manager.

7/5/11 7:16AM

equality and transparency

7/4/11 3:49PM

How would anyone know which was the selected show? It seems to be a difficult thing to manage/control. Horse shows, by their very nature, have too many opportunities for contentious behavior; it just doesn't seem wise to add yet another. A potential Show Manager makes a conscious choice whether to manage or compete. If he/she wants to compete, then another Manager is appointed. I believe keeping the lines between the two as distinct as possible is the preferable option.

7/4/11 2:35PM

The only way a Show Manager should be able to have his/her horse shown in competition at a show he/she is managing is if a 'trainer' is showing the horse in the ring, not the owner.

6/29/11 2:38PM

I understand and appreciate the issue of potential conflict of interest, but in Region 6 at least, there are so few people with the qualifications to manage a show that I would hate to have them bow out of a position just because they wished to compete. I think other safeguards could be put into place, although peer pressure is probably sufficient in our region. We're a pretty tight community.

6/29/11 6:12AM

There should be another option here. This does clear up the conflict of interest. It simply limits it to one show! The conflict should be removed. Prefer use of the USEF rules here.

6/28/11 8:29AM

Can we align with USEF rules? It is a direct conflict of interest for a Show Manager to compete and receive points in a show of their own making. I would be in favor if the points were not recorded/published, or count towards prizes, placings or year end awards.

6/28/11 8:16AM

I didn't vote either way on this. I am ambivalent on this issue. I agree with the change in principal but have concerns that we have so few people willing to manage shows as it is and am a little concerned this may effect people that show putting on shows that otherwise would not be put on. The people that show are most often the ones that care about the show going on. Most local IALHA shows are managed by people who also compete. I appreciate the perceived COI concern though think there rarely is an actual COI so I do not feel strongly either way. I am concerned that there is a potential to lose shows if this rule change passes

6/27/11 9:27PM

I do not believe that a show manager can do justice to the show if their attention is on competing their own horse. If the show manager wants to compete, then hire outside horse show management company to run the show.

6/27/11 8:51PM

Seems more fair.

6/27/11 8:33PM

Wow another rule just about Me!

6/27/11 4:16PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

[Download](#)[Create Chart](#)4. Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

answered question	32	
skipped question	4	
	<b>Response</b>	<b>Response</b>
	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.</b>	81.3%	26
No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges.	18.8%	6
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.	13	

### Comments

A better rule would be to limit judging similar to how stewards are limited - they cannot officiate the same competition more than two consecutive times. As for regional/national championships, those rules may be best contained by the IALHA show committee, not USEF. Overall I think the hiring of judges is a much smaller problem than the training and certification of judges. Most shows will continue to hire the judge that has the least travel or the lowest judging fee. IALHA can better serve the interests of diversity in judging by providing assistance to local & regional shows to help offset the cost of judges. Additionally, increasing the certification standard for "R" judges would be a better and more long-term way to tackle the issue of quality judging at regional/national championships. Furthermore, carefully consider if the pool of "R" judges is sufficiently large to accommodate the proposed 4-year rule. If you consider the qualifying day as part of the National Championship, this would require a pool of at least 16 "R" judges.

7/6/11 9:51AM

Rule changer promotes fairness

7/5/11 8:29PM

I am region 6 and we are still a very small community of these horses and competitors. There are few qualified judges that we can afford to hire. We try very hard to have different judges at our two shows, but, between financial problems and availability that could be a potential hardship and our competitors would NOT be opposed to the same judge at both of our shows if necessary.

7/5/11 7:18AM

fairness in terms of judging, on a national level

7/4/11 3:50PM

On the face of it, this seems like a good rule for the rationale stated. I'm assuming with this that there are enough judges to cover the requirements?

7/4/11 2:37PM

My only concern here is the limited number of judges available in the breed. However this might help reduce biasing of the judging toward something beneficial for the show organizer.

7/3/11 9:03AM

A variety of different judges is the only way to get a true feel for the horses being judged. Every judge has a favorite that can do no wrong - this will make 'stacking the deck' more difficult.

6/29/11 2:41PM

I think this helps balance out the show manager issue raised in question 2, which I am not in favor of.

6/29/11 6:13AM

Do we have enough re-educated judges to accommodate this rule change?

6/28/11 8:18AM

"No judge may officiate at more than one IALHA Regional Championship within the same year" so the same judge could not judge a reg championship in CA the same year they judge a reg CH in Florida? I don't see the reasoning in being that restrictive

6/27/11 9:30PM

I am in favor of any changes that increase transparency of judging and reduce any stigma or bias for shows of Andalusian or Lusitano horses.

6/27/11 8:52PM

Again, seems more fair.

6/27/11 8:34PM

Just let everyone one know I have moved to New York and will not be managing any A/L shows or training any A/L horses

6/27/11 4:18PM

### Rule Change Proposal #4

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

<b>answered question</b>		<b>33</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>3</b>
	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	78.8%	26
No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.	21.2%	7

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 12

### Comments

But, as with the length of lead rule, can we just pick something and stick with it for more than 2 years?

7/6/11 9:51AM

Show quality is important to non owners that come to shows in order to promote the breed

7/5/11 8:31PM

when the hell is a judge going to evaluate feet?? They pin terrible feet now! One high heel, one low heel, none of that is obscured by hoof black!! Shape and even sized feet can be seen through black. Not too mention you can't even see the feet in most arenas depth of footing. This is a serious dumb one....

7/5/11 8:29AM

If a judge needs to base their decision on the horse's hoof, they should not be judging. A competitor's job is to turn out their horse as best as possible and make that horse look as good as possible.

7/5/11 7:20AM

FEI dressage rules prohibit the use of hoof black as it covers up striations in the hoof used to identify horse in FEI passport. Hoof quality is very important and noted in Iberian breeds, therefore quality of hoof is an important characteristic of breed and should be evaluated as such.

7/4/11 3:52PM

Absolutely! Please help us to keep these naturally beautiful creatures as natural as possible! And yes, it also helps the judge to better determine the quality of the hoof.

7/4/11 2:39PM

The use of clear hoof polish should be acceptable.

6/29/11 2:42PM

Yes! ANCCE specifically forbids use of anything other than colorless hoof polish. And hoof quality is a major breed characteristic of Andalusians, so it is important for judges to be able to evaluate this.

6/29/11 6:14AM

In HUGE favor of this, but damnit, stick with something and stop changing it!!!! I'm tired of so many rules (length of lead, hoof black etc) being changed ever freakin year!!

6/27/11 9:31PM

I am in favor on any rule change that shows the A/L horses in their most natural, beautiful state.

6/27/11 8:53PM

Seems reasonable in a conformation class.

6/27/11 8:35PM

Whatever! Again!

6/27/11 4:19PM

## REGION 7 RESPONSES

### Rule Change Proposal #1

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
				18
				7
<b>Yes, I am in favor of the proposed rule change: Horse of the Year points will be tabulated for the Andalusian/Lusitano Division by awarding points to each horse based on the total number of participants in class as well as class placing. A maximum number of ten (10) points will be awarded in a regular class while Regional Championship classes will award double points, and National Championship classes will award triple points.</b>			88.9%	16
No, I am not in favor of the above proposed rule change and wish to leave the existing A/L USEF HOTY rule as is.			11.1%	2
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change.				7

### Comments

Several reasons make me think this about time!! Here are a few: This system makes placing mean a LOT more to competitors who place. I have often heard competitors complain that it just did not seem to mean much if they won with few other horses in the class, it wasn't as much fun, and some began to think the whole thing hollow, and the spectators bored. All these things do not make for enthusiastic competition - even for the horses.

7/6/11 2:37PM

The opposed change would unduly favor good horses that show in heavily populated shows but unfairly penalize good horses who show in areas where there is little competition. The national champion title along with reserve national champion already levels the playing field. The best will win whether they come from a highly populated region or a region of low population.

6/29/11 4:23PM

I favor the rule change because it awards Horse of the Year to horses who have more often been chosen as superior by the judges, when competing against other horses.

6/28/11 11:17AM

Will there be points awarded to Championship classes i.e. Champion mare of the show, champion stallion of the show.... not all shows hold these extra championships

6/27/11 9:28PM

Let's make the HOTY winner be the BEST of the breed. Not the horse than can beat the fewest horses at the most shows.

6/27/11 9:23PM

The amount of competition is a very important and relevant factor and that is the case in most championship awards given in other breeds and divisions

6/27/11 6:38PM

sounds more uniting.

6/27/11 4:23PM

### Rule Change Proposal #2

Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.

	answered question	skipped question	Response Percent	Response Count
				19
				6

**Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.**

**Yes, I am in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points.** 89.5% 17

No, I am not in favor of limiting a Show Manager to one competition per year in which the manager can manage and compete at his/her own show while remaining eligible to receive HOTY points. 10.5% 2

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 7

### Comments

Until we make this change, what we presently allow puts a hardship on the judge because if he places the manager's horse high but fairly, it is probably perceived by the other contestants that it was done because the exhibitor was the manager. And I am not at all sure that a manager competing doesn't think he/she has an edge in a class.

7/10/11 10:22AM

A show manager, in my opinion, should be even MORE severely limited. After all the bias I have experienced, and also to be fair to the managers, I believe they should be able only to compete in a show they do NOT manage at all. Let's keep church and state separate. Bad feelings always seem to come out of this situation. There are other shows.

7/6/11 7:02PM

If you can only enter one show, why show at all?

6/29/11 4:25PM

I would think that the show manager should not be competing in his/her own show, except that we have fewer shows than Dressage does. It is possible that we would lose some shows if we did not allow the manager to show in one of his/her own shows.

6/28/11 11:21AM

The show manager can't wear all the hats all the time and someone else should be allowed to wear the tiara.

6/27/11 9:24PM

my preference would be to allow them not to compete at all at shows they manage

6/27/11 6:39PM

don't know enough about it

6/27/11 4:24PM

### Rule Change Proposal #3

**Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.**

**answered question** 20

**skipped question** 5

**Response Response  
Percent Count**

**Yes, I am in favor of the above restrictions on judges.** 80.0% 16

No, I am not in favor of the above restrictions on judges. 20.0% 4

Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 11

### Comments

I am in favor of all of the above, except for the restriction of "IALHA NATIONAL CHAMP SHOW once in 4 years." If I assume correctly, names are pulled out of a hat (which I do not believe is a fair way to choose national judges, given that some national judges have not judged an Andalusian show for the previous 2 years!) to select judges, but if one is selected and judges, in most of the other breeds, one can be chosen again in a three year period. Especially if comments were favorable from the exhibitors.

7/10/11 10:25AM

Perhaps allow one exception or up it to 3 shows since well qualified judges are better than less qualified judges chosen just because the "good" one has already been used once.

7/9/11 2:28PM

Conflict of interest is a problem in almost any show, in any breed. It is prejudicial and leads to nothing but ill will for the competitors and often, an enormous loss of show revenue, sometimes cancellatiion of that venue for good. The reasons here are obvious to vote FOR this change.

7/6/11 7:02PM

I do not think there are enough qualified "Andalusian Judges" to enforce this rule unless we are bringing "Qualified Judges from Spain".

7/5/11 12:32AM

Assuming there are enough qualified judges, I cannot see how this works to the advantage of any few individuals.

6/29/11 4:27PM

I realize this is a good idea, to limit one judge's opinion gaining too much power. I hope we have enough knowledgeable judges to supply the country's annual needs.

6/28/11 11:24AM

Do we really have 12 National Quality Judges????? I can name 6 (and that is pushing it)

6/27/11 9:43PM

More judges=more opinions

6/27/11 9:24PM

Too few judges are qualified to judge lusitanos -to further reduce that judge's pool is foolish.

6/27/11 7:55PM

for the reasons given

6/27/11 6:40PM

my answer is tentative. Again I don't know much

6/27/11 4:25PM

### Rule Change Proposal #4

**Please select the option that best represents your opinion on this rule change proposal.**

	<b>answered question</b>	<b>20</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>Yes, I am in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	90.0%	18
<b>No, I am not in favor of forbidding the use of hoof black at any IALHA show, in order to allow judges to better evaluate the quality of the hoof.</b>	10.0%	2
Please provide comments as to why you are in favor of or against the proposed rule change. 11		

### Comments

Yes, for two reasons, 1) it is a more natural appearance 2) it does afford judges a better look at a hoof.

7/10/11 10:26AM

I would prefer to forbid hoof black only for halter/confirmation classes and allow it for performance classes.

7/9/11 2:29PM

Hoof black does just what this rationale states. It also is not good for the periole if left on long. Also, hoof quality is usually of no consequence whatsoever in many breeds such as the gaited horses. It is not just a show issue, but goes far deeper into heredity and bad shoeing practices.

7/6/11 7:09PM

I support these horses being natually shown

6/29/11 4:28PM

A farrier that does hot forging and built up shoeing told me about some Andalusians being shown with illegal padding under hoof black here in Florida and in National competition. That should not be done, but with hoof black allowed, it will occur.

6/28/11 11:27AM

Yes I am in favor, but it will be very hard to regulate

6/27/11 9:45PM

Why in the world do our horses need bright, shiny, black hooves to be winners? They are beautiful without hoof black.

6/27/11 9:26PM

Only in in-hand classes, performance should still allow hoof black.

6/27/11 7:56PM

so that hoof quality can be judged and I do not feel that the artificial cosmetic look of hoof black is appropriate for our breed or in keeping with the traditions.

6/27/11 6:41PM

One of the attributes of the Andalusian is it's good feet. Let the horse stand on the feet it was born with, not on the ones made by man.

6/27/11 5:00PM

Don't think Andy's need it. Fancy enough just being themselves.

6/27/11 4:26PM