

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2018	10/3/2017	

Proposed Change

**Cornell Collar Approval** [CHAPTER DR121]

Throat support devices such as Cornell Collars are allowed; provided a written statement from a veterinarian certifying that the Horse requires such a device for welfare reasons is received by the USEF prior to the competition. A copy of the statement must be retained at all times for inspection during the competition.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Rule Change Intent

Dorsal Displacement of the Soft Palate (DDSP) causes the horse's soft palate to flip up and over their windpipe during exercise, cutting off breathing. A simple piece of tack, the Cornell Collar, lifts the larynx up and forward so the soft palate cannot obstruct the windpipe. This device has been deemed legal for horse racing in the US, Australia, South Africa, Canada to name a few. It is also approved for use in competition by the FEI:

[http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/VRs%202017\\_Clean%20Version.pdf](http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/VRs%202017_Clean%20Version.pdf)  
Article 1035 page 56; #3

"3. Throat support devices such as Cornell collars are allowed; provided a written statement from a veterinary surgeon certifying that the Horse requires such a device for welfare reasons is received by the FEI Veterinary Department, at least 4 weeks before first use at an Event. A copy of the statement must be retained at all times for inspection during an Event."

Horse's with DDSP have a mechanical issue with their throat that is permanent but can be simply remedied. Without the Cornell Collar they experience extreme exercise intolerance. The collar is carefully adjusted so there is no tightness. See instructions for properly fitting the collar and the video here: <http://vet-aire.com/p/instructions>

Potential Impact

Allows horses diagnosed with dorsal displacement of the soft palate to compete

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions