

Article 4: Shoeing Regulations

401 General Shoeing Information

- The intent of the FOSH program is to progress to the point where horses are evaluated on the basis of what they do (way of going) rather than on the arbitrary distinction of how they are shod.
- FOSH is committed to shoeing practices that correspond with the protection of the horse's foot and structure rather than the use of the shoe as a gait enhancer or "action device".
- The largest permissible shoe at any FOSH sanctioned show will be the 1 inch shoe and it will only be allowed on horses four years of age and over and in specified divisions.
- Any shoeing practice that detracts from the integrity of the animal's foot or that is done with the intent of creating exaggerated performance is prohibited at FOSH sanctioned events.
- The shoe must fit the horse's natural foot. The foot cannot be filed away to give the appearance of a smaller foot nor can it be vised to fit a smaller shoe size. Contracted heels will be scrutinized by judges and penalized if there is a suspicion that the contraction has resulted in a "sensitive" foot.
- No additional weight is allowed on or in the hoof, or added to or concealed in the shoe. The horse may wear only a properly forged shoe attached with nails and no bands.
- Borium not to exceed 1/8 " in thickness is permitted on the shoe.
- Welded on clips are not permitted. Clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are permitted.
- **In all gaited horse classes pads, including rim pads, and bands are prohibited.**
- Bar shoes are prohibited, unless required for therapeutic purposes. **See Article 406**
- The toe length must not exceed 5 inches in any division. In accordance with the USDA heel/toe ratio, the toe length must exceed the height of the heel by 1 inch or more. The length of the toe will be measured, with the horse standing on a flat surface, from the coronary band at the center of the anterior portion of the hoof, following the angle of the hoof, to the ground and will include the shoe. Height of the heel will be measured, with the horse standing on a flat surface, from the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90 degree angle to the ground and must include the shoe.
- The size and type of shoes allowed in FOSH sanctioned competition is to be determined by show management and must be listed on show programs.
- Horses exhibited at FOSH sanctioned events are to be shod in accordance with accepted principles of farrier science in order to protect the animal's feet and to ensure correct footfall, rather than primarily to enhance performance.
- FOSH sanctioned shows do not allow timeouts for thrown shoes in classes. Exhibitors whose horses throw shoes may elect to be excused from the ring or to complete the class minus a shoe. Shoes that are thrown in the ring will be presented to the DQP at the conclusion of the class for inspection.

402 Keg Shoes

Unaltered factory made shoes of the sort normally referred to as a keg shoe are permissible with the exception of toe weighted shoes, like the Diamond Toe Weight. Material in the keg shoe must be of a consistent type. Only clips drawn from the shoe itself are permitted. No additional weight can be added to the shoe-no pieces of shoe can be cut off, nor can anything be welded or added to the shoe. A heeled shoe is permitted but trailers on keg shoes are prohibited. No turned back caulks, only poured caulks on the originally manufactured shoe allowed. Rear sliding plates used on reining horses will be allowed in all classes provided that the horse is entered in a reining class at that competition. Keg shoes are allowed in all divisions. **The wide web keg (machine made) shoe is allowed in all classes that allow keg shoes.**

403 Lite Shod Shoe

On both front and rear hooves, the (hand-made) lite shod shoe must be no wider than ¾ inch and no thicker than 3/8 inch. No bare plate or additional weight will be allowed inside the shoe or attached in any way that meets the hoof. A caulk is permissible but it must be no thicker than ¾ inch. The turnback must not exceed 1 inch, measured from the forward edge of the caulk to the inside fold of the caulk. The shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe. Trailers no longer than ½ inch in length (measured from the point the trailer turns away from the shoe to the end of the trailer on the short side of the trailer) are permitted on hind shoes. The entire shoe including the caulk or trailer is not to extend behind the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the heel to the ground.

404 The 1 Inch Shoe

On both front and rear hooves, the (hand-made) 1 inch shoe must be no wider than 1 inch and no thicker than ½ inch. No bare plate or additional weight will be allowed inside the shoe or attached in any way that meets the hoof. A caulk is permissible but it must be no thicker than 1 inch. The turn back must not exceed 1 inch, measured from the forward edge of the caulk to the inside fold of the caulk. The shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe. Trailers no longer than ½ inch in length (measured from the point the trailer turns away from the shoe to the end of the trailer on the short side of the trailer) are permitted on hind shoes. The entire shoe including the caulk or trailer is not to extend behind the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the heel to the ground. A horse must be 4 years or older to exhibit with the 1 inch shoe.

405 Exhibition of Weanlings and Yearlings

Weanlings and yearlings exhibited at FOSH sanctioned events must be shown barefoot with a toe that does not exceed 3.5 inches in length.

406 Therapeutic Shoeing

In an attempt to allow horses with conditions like navicular or complications from founder to compete in a comfortable manner, therapeutic shoeing may be permitted on a case-by-case basis. In all gaited horse classes pads, including rim pads, and bands are prohibited. Bar shoes are prohibited, unless required for therapeutic purposes. Contact the IJA Director of Judges for a Request for Therapeutic Shoeing Dispensation.

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407 Use of Repair Materials

Occasionally due to normal wear and tear or injury, the use of bondable materials like acrylics are required to return the hoof to a condition where it can retain a horseshoe. Acrylics or fillers are prohibited for the artificial extension of toes. The use of materials is permissible for hoof repair. Such repairs cannot exceed more than 25% of the total surface of the foot. On a foot where an acrylic or filler repair has been made, black hoof polish cannot be applied in order to allow the DQP to scrutinize the repair to ensure compliance with this rule.

408 Hoof Polish

Hoof polish is not a consideration in judging. Clean, healthy hooves are preferred. Clear hoof polish is allowed but not required. Black hoof polish is not prohibited, except as restricted in **Article 407**.

409 Removal of Shoes and Casting of Shoes

If a shoe is cast or removed and the shoe is in violation of the FOSH regulations for shoeing, the entry will be disqualified for the remainder of the competition and all entry fees, prizes and awards will be forfeited. The cost of removal of any protested or contested shoe, or of any shoe found on a horse suspected by the DQP or VMO of being pressure shod, is the responsibility of the owner. If the protest is not upheld, the individual filing the protest will reimburse the owner or agent up to \$25 to cover the replacement of the contested shoe. The owner will bear the cost of removal and replacement of a shoe challenged by a DQP or VMO regardless of the outcome of the challenge. If the owner or agent refuses to allow a shoe to be pulled, the entry is disqualified from any further participation at the competition, all awards and prizes in the competition are forfeited, and all fees are forfeited.

410 Tungsten Shoes

Tungsten shoes or any other similar excessive weight shoes will NOT be permitted at FOSH sanctioned shows, even if they measure legal as either a lite-shod or 1 inch shoe.

The weight of these shoes, as reported by the USDA, is far in excess of either lite-shod, 1" or traditional heavy shod 1 ½ " shoes. While this type of shoe may meet the dimensions of the traditional lite-shod shoe, allowing a shoe of this excessive weight to be used in a lite-shod class would not meet the intended spirit of the definition of a 'lite-shod' shoe.



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