

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2021	12/1/2020	

Rule Change Intent

Earphones/buds continue to be a significant safety concern. Riders using them cannot maintain sufficient awareness of their surroundings, leading to collisions or near-collisions. A significant enough percentage of riders continue to willfully disregard the safety of others in this aspect, making it imperative to prohibit their use in the interest of safety of horses and riders.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USHJA Hunter Working Group	Leigh Anne Claywell lclaywell@ushja.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions

[...]

7. Electronic Communication Devices.

a. No mounted exhibitor may wear or carry an electronic communication device (i.e., cellular telephone, pager, walkie talkie, etc.) while in the competition ring. The penalty for wearing or carrying a forbidden device if observed by the judge may be elimination from the class during which the device was worn or carried.

b. Electronic communication devices used for purposes of coaching, etc., between competitors and individuals outside the ring shall be prohibited in all classes.

c. Exhibitors who have a chronic condition may apply for a Presidential Modification exempting them from the provisions of this rule in accordance with GR153. Riders may not use these devices in over fences classes.

d. An exhibitor who has a chronic condition and has previously been granted at least one annual presidential modification related to the condition, may submit an application for approval of a special three-year presidential modification related to the same condition. The application must be accompanied by sufficient supporting documentation that the condition is unlikely to improve during the three-year period.

e. The unsafe use of electronic devices, as determined by the competition steward in their sole discretion, including cell phones, ~~with or without earphones/buds~~ while mounted is prohibited in all areas designated for schooling and exercise, and while lungeing horses on competition grounds. ***Earphone(s)/Earbud(s) are prohibited in all areas designated for schooling & exercise.***