

PFAE Show Rules

1. General Rules for show and breeding classes

Owners, handlers and trainers will at all time treat each other as well as the horses with kindness, respect and fairness. All regulations concerning animal protection are of overriding importance to sports and commercial matters. The animal protection laws must be observed.

1.2 Show hearing committee

Each show shall designate a show hearing committee which is to decide on protests and sanctions. No person who is personally involved or otherwise biased in regard to the filed protest or sanction must have a say in the committee. The committee consists of the following members: one representative of the show organiser, one judge and one active rider.

1.3 Protest

People who feel discriminated by the infringement of the show rules or the PFVE rule book have the right to protest. Protest against a judge's decision, thus, can only be made if the decision disobeys general rules or concerns the abuse of the judge's or show organiser's discretion. **Protests against judge's decision are not to be accepted.**

Protests must be submitted in writing to the show organiser by the person who is directly affected as soon as the results have been published. Protests are only valid if they are submitted with a deposit of £3. The amount is passed on to the show organiser if the protest is rejected by the hearing committee. Finally, protests are discussed and decided by the hearing committee. By filing a protest entire classes and their results may be suspended, but classes that have already been recorded in writing cannot be annulled.

1.4 Penalties

Offences against animal protection, generally accepted behaviour of fairness and against the regulations of the rulebook may be penalised. Legal action is not affected by this. Type and dimension of penalty will be determined by the show's hearing committee, if the offence is not in the field of responsibility of the supervising judge.

1.5 Judges

Judgement and pinning is the sole responsibility of the judge(s), judge's decisions are not contestable. **The judge(s) may exclude or excuse a horse from a class or the entire show due to apparent mistreatment, continued lameness or consistently poor manners.**

1.6 Entry and Entry fees

Entry must be made by filling out the PFA Entry form and sending it with payment. The entry fees and all other costs are due upon sending the entry. Entry fees are forfeited at non-participation, as well as the costs for boarding if the stalls cannot be otherwise rented. All fees and costs are precisely stipulated on the entry form.

1.7 Liability

Generally, participation is at one's own risk. Show management and organiser rule out any liability as far as legally permitted. All horses participating must have valid liability insurance. Parents are liable for their children.

1.8 Horses

1.8.1 Eligible horses

All participating horses must be registered with the PFVE. All horses must be serviceably sound for competition purposes and have an adequate liability insurance.

Prior to the show, the horses' health documents (passport + vaccination certificate) must be deposited at the show office.

No participating horse must be chemically, physically, surgically or pharmacologically manipulated to affect its performance, behaviour or natural appearance.

The judge(s) have the right to conduct vet checks and excuse horses from a class due too ill health, poor conditioning or injuries.

The final decision to disqualify a horse from a class is reached by the show organiser after hearing the responsible expert (judge, ring steward, vet, farrier, hearing committee). If there are serious doubts regarding a horse's soundness the judge and/or ring steward may demand a vet check, check the shoeing and/or ask for a dope test. The show organiser must agree to this request. A protest can only be decided by the hearing committee after the test results are available and does not entitle to interim participation.

Each participating horse receives a start number which must be pinned to the rider's/handler's back.

1.8.2. Tack

Unless otherwise required, tack may be of any type as long as it is correctly used and not considered cruel and inhumane. Curb bits are only permitted up to a maximum shank length of 15cm/6inches. Restraints are prohibited. Horses that are entered in halter classes shall not be shown with a bit. Spurs and riding crops may be used but shall have a negative influence on the evaluation if exceedingly used.

1.8.2 Shoeing

Shoeing only gets accepted as hoof protection and mustn't have any manipulative effect on the way a horse naturally travels or the way it breaks foot. All four feet must have the same type of shoe of the same material, weight and thickness. Orthopaedic shoeing is allowed as long as the horse's natural way of travelling is not affected by any additional weight. If a horse is shown unshod, hooves will be neatly trimmed to a short natural length. The angle must fit to the pastern. Any severe abnormality will result in the horse's disqualification.

1.9 Riders

1.9.1 Eligible riders All riders are eligible. Parents or legal guardians are liable for their minors, their minors entering classes and their tack/apparel. **Children under the age of 18 must wear safety headgear.**

1.9.1 Rider's attire

Unless otherwise stated, black trousers, or black riding skirt, white LONG-sleeved shirt, white straw hat or black hat (professionals only) or protective headgear are required. No frills, shirt/blouse must have a proper collar and is to be tucked into trousers. Appropriate footwear are Jodphur/ankle boots in black. Trainers/shoes without a proper heel are not permitted. Black waistcoats can be worn. Coloured waistcoats/jackets can be worn in pleasure classes. Western Attire for Western pleasure. For Classic Fino, Trote and trocha classes Zamarros are permitted.

1.9.2 Professional Status

Any rider/handler/exhibitor who directly or indirectly accepts payment for riding, teaching, giving clinics and lessons, showing, training is considered a professional.

2.0 Show point system

2.1 Best of Show - For all shows points are awarded for each class (see highpoint 2.2). These points are awarded to the horse. The three classes with the highest score, at least one of the classes must be a typical Paso Fino class (country pleasure, pleasure, performance, classic fino) accumulate to the Best of Show score. If there is a tie between horses, the better placement

decides. If there is still a tie, the number of horses entered for the respective class is the deciding factor.

2.2 Highpoint Horse -All show points that a horse accumulates during its PFVE show career will be recorded in the High Point register.

GAITED CLASSES

Generally, in all gaited classes special attention shall be afforded to the rhythmic consistency and smoothness (calm croup!)

of the gaits required. Elegance, headset, balance, quickness, willingness and harmonious front and rear action should be positively considered for the overall evaluation. Tense horses with stiffly held backs and pronounced lower neckline muscles (exemption: defined lower neckline due to conformation fault) should have a negative influence on the evaluation.

Judges should ask for reverses and/ or stops in a walk or Corto (or Trocha/Trote in the respective classes) at any time. Stops may also be required from a Largo.

The evaluation is not based on scores but on placement. The best 8 riders will be placed.

All classes will be shortly commented on by the judge after placement. After a class has been pinned, any non-placed horses shall be excused and leave the ring.

At a sufficient number of entries all typical Paso Fino divisions are divided into:

- Schooling Classes = under 72 months
- Adult Classes = 72 months and over

The Fino Strip (sounding board) shall be used for all classes, however, the performance of the horse on the rail shall take priority over the Fino Strip performance.

At the judge's discretion additional Work offs can be demanded to support the judge's evaluation.

Classes:

1. Trote y Galope - Horses to be shown in Trote (Trot) y Galope (Canter)

2. Trocha y Galope - Horses to be shown in Trocha y Galope

3.1 Pleasure Amateur schooling (only Amateur riders) - Horses shown in Walk, Corto, largo. For horses under 72 months.

3.2 Pleasure Amateur Adult class is for horses 72 months and over, (amateurs only)

3.3 Pleasure Open Schooling (Open to amateurs and professionals) - horses under 72 months

3.4 Pleasure Open Adult (Open to amateurs and professionals) - horses 72 months and over.

3.5 Pleasure Junior Schooling - Riders under 18 years old. -Horses under 72 months.

3.6 Pleasure Junior Adult - Riders under 18 years old. - Horses 73 months and over.

4.1 Performance Amateur Schooling (class is for horses under 72months.) Walk, Corto, Largo performed. (amateur only)

4.2 Performance Amateur Adult class is for horses 73 months and over. (amateur only)

4.3 Performance Open Schooling - Horses under 72 months. Performance class open for amateurs and professionals.

4.4 Performance Open Adult - Horses 73 months and over. - Performance class open for amateurs and professionals.

4.5 Performance Junior Schooling - Riders under 18 years old. -Horses 72 months and under.

4.6 Performance Junior Adult -Riders under 18 years old. -Horses 73 months and over.

5. Classic Fino - Open - Open to Classic Fino horses and Riders of all ages.

6. Versatility – Walk, Corto, Largo, Canter, figure eight, jump.

7. Three Gaits Class – Walk, Paso Gait, Canter.

8. Natural Gaiters Class – Paso gait must be maintained at all times – riding with tight rein and then loose rein.

9. Paso Fino Western Pleasure – Walk, Corto, Lope Reins must be held in one hand only if the horse is fitted with a curb bit. Tack: Western style; any type of bridle/ bit.

10. Endurance Class – Paso Gait - Horse started in this class must execute a smooth evenly-spaced, constant, rhythmic 4-beat lateral gait the entire time. The horse should combine style and presence. Loss of form, cadence or smoothness shall be penalized. This class must be last class on the show day.

DRESSAGE CLASSES - DRESSAGE CLASSES ARE INDIVIDUAL TESTS. THE STARTING ORDER GETS DETERMINED BY THE SHOW ORGANIZER; BELATED ENTRIES WILL ALWAYS START FIRST. ALL DRESSAGE TESTS MUST BE MEMORIZED AND KNOWN BY HEART, THEY WILL NO LONGER BE READ OUT BY THE ANNOUNCER.

11. Dressage A – Diagrams available on request (Judges sitting at C)

A - X Enter at a Paso Corto. Down the center line. Stop at the center. Salute

X - C Start at a walk

C - To the right

Into the next corner a reverse volt

C - Arrive at the rail at C

H - Stop, standing quietly for at least 3 secs, start at a Paso Corto along the rail

F-E-M Serpentine (3 arches)

H-X-F Change direction across the diagonal at extended speed (Paso Largo)

F - Reduce speed (Paso Corto)

E-B Center circle, 1 ½ circles, continue along the rail

A -X Down the center line

X - Stop, back 1 horse length, stop, salute

12. Dressage B – diagrams available on request.

Judges sitting at C

A - X Enter at Paso Corto, stop, salute

X - C Start at Paso Corto

C - Continue left

After passing the next corner, perform a figure eight

H-X-F Change direction across the diagonal, extend speed to Paso Largo

F - Reduce speed to Paso Corto – continue along the rail

C - Volt – about 5m in diameter, continue along the rail

M-X-K Change direction across the diagonal, extend speed to Paso Largo

K - Reduce speed to Paso Corto – continue along the rail

B - Volt – about 5m in diameter, continue along the rail

M - Transition to a walk

B - Stop in front of the judges – turn on the haunches, start at a Paso Corto along the rail

M - F At the next long side leg yield to the inside (8 m) and outside again.
A - X Down the center line, stop, salute

13. Dressage C - Freestyle - Please ask for a test sheet to lay out plans.

General Remarks

Horses entered in the freestyle cannot be entered in Dressage A.
The emphasis of this class shall not be afforded on the horse's way of going and style but on the harmony between horse and rider, seat, aids and presentation. The filled in test form together with the music must be handed in at the show office at least 2 hours prior to the beginning of the class.

14. Equitation - Riders under 18 years old. Judging based on riders style.

15. Four gaits class - Walk, Corto, Trot and Canter.

16. Bellas Formas - Showing in hand - Conformation and Brio; Quality and naturalness of typical gait; grooming and manners

17. Trail Class in Hand There is only one horse in the arena at a time. The obstacles must be negotiated in the given order. The exhibitor must lead the horse on a halter or bosal (no bits allowed).

18 FUN CLASSES - FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE!!!

The following presentations do not count among the High-Point and Best of Show classes, there are no points awarded. It is at the show organizer's discretion if additional fun and show presentations are offered.

18.1 Four Beat Class (with bets taken)

The focus solely lies on the pure, even-cadenced, rhythmic 4-beat lateral Paso Gait over the sounding board (Fino Strip). The horses perform a pure, even-cadenced, rhythmic 4-beat lateral Paso Gait over the sounding board and will be excused at loss or mix of 4-beat lateral Paso gait.

18.2 Copa de Champan

A full glass of champagne or wine must be carried over a certain distance. The rider who has spilled the least is the winner.

18.3 Snail Race

The slowest horse at a Paso Corto/ Fino wins. The distance must be determined prior to the race.

18.4 Team Riding

Two riders are joined by crepe paper. The teams have to master various tests such as stops, back, reverse, speed variations etc.

18.5 Costume Class

Horse and rider are disguised. The most originally costumed horse/ rider team is the winner.