

## Article 2: General Program Information

### 201 Statement of Purpose

FOSH desires to avoid the excesses and extremes in both training and exhibition that have come to be associated with some gaited breeds. Regardless of the division in which the gaited horse is shown, the horse must retain the characteristics of a pleasure horse. Exaggeration and extremes in style and form are not to be rewarded, whether the extremes are manifested in excessive animation and speed, or in the direction of the least animation and speed. In every division the gaited horse must be correctly gaited, fluid, natural, smooth and appear a true pleasure to ride if it will be rewarded with a horse show ribbon.

### 202 Artificial Appearance

Gaited Horses under saddle are to exhibit a style of movement that appears completely natural for the conformation of the horse. Entries that exhibit an artificial way of going, to include "hang time" while in forward motion; crampy movement; twisting or wringing of the hocks; pointing or other characteristics of a horse that would be considered to be laboring rather than forward moving, will be at minimum severely penalized and may be eliminated from consideration. Entries exhibiting any way of going such as described may be excused from the class for "Bad Image", being an appearance not in keeping with the way of going of a natural, pleasure horse.

### 203 Schooling Shows

The primary purpose of a schooling show is education. Therefore, at a FOSH schooling show, the mixing of tack and attire is permissible with casual attire and tack such as that used for training, schooling or pleasure riding being acceptable. All prohibited tack and equipment or appliances (except nylon tack) listed in the IJA Rule Book are also illegal at Schooling Shows. All tack and attire must be safe for both horse and rider. Nylon equipment is permissible at a schooling show. Gloves must always be worn when using nylon equipment.

### 204 Local Options

Show managers may elect to use local option classes not included in the IJA Rule Book. These classes will be judged on criteria provided by show management or by the association that controls the breed or discipline. Show management must identify these classes and present information to the IJA judge a minimum of 30 days before the event so that the judge may be adequately prepared to evaluate the classes.

### 205 Registration Requirements

Horses exhibited in model or in halter competition must be registered with a breed registry that is appropriate for their type. Registration numbers are required on entry forms for any in hand class. In other divisions horses need not be registered to compete, unless registration is required by show management or breed registry.

### 206 Lease Agreements

Leased horses may be exhibited under the name of the lessee with the following restrictions:

- a copy of the lease signed by both lessor and lessee must accompany the entry form
- a leased horse may not be exhibited if the lease was entered into at any time during which the lessor was under Horse Protection Act suspension
- horses that are included as part of an HPA suspension may not be shown
- lease must be dated ninety (90) days prior to the exhibition.

### 207 Stallions and Juvenile, Junior or Youth Exhibitors

Stallions are prohibited in any under saddle class designated for junior riders and may not be handled by junior exhibitors in any In hand classes, including showmanship at halter.

### 208 Open Gaited Breed Classes

- Open Gaited Breed Classes may be offered at any FOSH sanctioned event. Any Gaited Breed is eligible to enter these classes.
- Show management may offer a variety of Open Gaited Breed classes including but not limited to In Hand, English (Saddle Seat), Western, 2 gait, 3 gait, youth, age restricted for either horse or rider, and all versatility classes.
- When competing in Open Gaited Breed Classes traditional tack and attire may be used. Ring Protocol and Judging Procedures will be as outlined in this Rule Book.

### 209 Traditional Tack and Attire for Peruvian Paso, Paso Fino, and Icelandic Horses

Many gaited breeds compete at FOSH sanctioned competitions either in classes that are specific to their breed or in Open Gaited Breed classes. Peruvian Paso, Paso Fino, and Icelandic Horses compete using tack and attire that are traditional to their breed and in some instances this traditional tack and attire may be different from the allowable tack and attire of the IJA Rule Book. Peruvian Paso, Paso Fino and Icelandic Horses may be shown in FOSH Sanctioned competitions using traditional tack and attire even if this tack and attire requires mixing tack and attire and is of a style not considered English or Western. Although traditional tack and attire is acceptable, it must still comply with IJA rules regarding maximum shoe size, maximum shank length on bits, and the procedure regarding shoes thrown in the ring. These horses must also comply with all IJA rules that promote the humane treatment of the horse. When competing in specific breed classes, the ring protocol will be specific to the breed. When competing in Open Gaited Breed Classes traditional tack and attire may be used and the ring protocol will be as outlined in this Rule Book.

### 210 Special Exception to Tack, Equipment and Attire

Special exceptions to tack equipment and attire may be made to accommodate those with religious reasons or with a physical handicap. Special exceptions may include, but are not limited to, split riding skirts for women in both English and Western classes, and special arrangements to accommodate those with a physical handicap. Requests for approval of such exceptions must be submitted to Show management (who will notify IJA of the request) prior to participation in competition. Exhibition may not occur without approval of the request.

### 211 Allowable Training Aids on Show Grounds (Warm Up Ring)

Although not allowed in competition certain equipment is allowed on the show grounds and in the warm up ring. Side reins, draw reins, and standing and running martingales may be used in the warm up ring. Non-weighted bell boots may be used in the warm up ring prior to DQP inspection, although they may be inspected at any time. It is prohibited for horses to stand in stalls wearing bell boots, side reins, draw reins, or any equipment that covers the lower leg.

### 212 Fitness to Compete

All horses except stallions and mares in breeding classes must be serviceably sound for competition purposes i.e. animal must not show evidence of lameness or broken wind. At the discretion of the judge, animals with complete loss of sight in either eye may be found serviceably sound.

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### **213 Restriction on Competition of Two Year-Olds**

Two-year-old horses may not perform under saddle for more than ten minutes during any one period, with at least five minutes of rest between the first and second period, with no more than two such ten-minute periods in any one class or performance.

"Period" means any period of time that a horse performs; "Class or performance" means any show class or other single demonstration or exhibition. Therefore, a two-year-old horse may show under saddle during any class or performance for ten minutes before being given at least five minutes of rest, after which it may show for no more than one additional ten-minute period during the class or performance. If two or more consecutive classes or performances involving a two year old under saddle are scheduled, there must be a five-minute rest period between them.

Two-year-old horses under saddle may enter only four such classes/performances per day.

### **214 Height**

Any animal measuring less than 14.2 hands, with the exception of Icelandic Horses, will be considered a pony at FOSH sanctioned shows.

### **215 Scope of Authority for Inspections**

All breeds of horses are included under the federal law known as the Horse Protection Act. Any animal on the grounds of a FOSH sanctioned show may be inspected and palpated, by a licensed DQP or licensed veterinarian, for evidence of soring at any time while on the show grounds. Further, the IJA judge reserves the right to excuse from competition any horse displaying unsoundness or bad image even if such horses have passed an HIO or USDA inspection. The judge's decision, as to whether or not the horse presents an acceptable appearance for public exhibition, is final. Horses excused by a judge may, at the discretion of the judge, be returned to the inspection area for re-inspection.

### **216 Prohibited Substances**

- Any foreign substance found on the leg of any pleasure horse from the knee to the coronary band is prohibited. This includes dyes, French chalk, lubricants, or medications.
- The use of plastic wrap is prohibited on all gaited horses. Although an injury at a show may require that the limb of a horse be wrapped in plastic, a veterinarian's certificate of need will be required for the horse to remain on the show ground. Once the limb has been so wrapped the horse is ineligible for any further competition at the show.
- Tails may not be "gingered" or the rectum otherwise interfered with in order to increase the appearance of high tail set.
- Any form of medication, either prescription or "natural" as in herbal or homeopathic, that could alter the deportment of the horse or enhance performance is prohibited, with the exception of drugs like Ventiplum whose purpose is intended to ease an animal's breathing difficulties in the event of heaves or allergic conditions. Such medications require a certificate of veterinary need to be presented to the show office.

### **217 Prohibited Appliances**

Action devices (including shackles or any similar device), stacked shoes, and bands on shoes are prohibited. Anything larger than the 1-inch shoe is prohibited. Any device that is not primarily protective and may be considered an artificial training device is prohibited.

### **218 Prohibited Conduct**

Unsportsmanlike or intimidating language or conduct is prohibited. Conduct at any time that in any manner appears directed at influencing judging or the outcome of any competition, other than pursuant to FOSH rules and procedures and the provision of training materials and information approved by the FOSH Board of Directors for such purposes, is prohibited.

### **219 Recognition of Suspensions**

Individuals and horses appearing on USDA or HIO suspension lists for violation of the Horse Protection Act are automatically ineligible for competition at FOSH sanctioned shows.

### **220 Abusive Practices**

Abusive practices of any sort will not be tolerated on the grounds of any FOSH sanctioned event.