

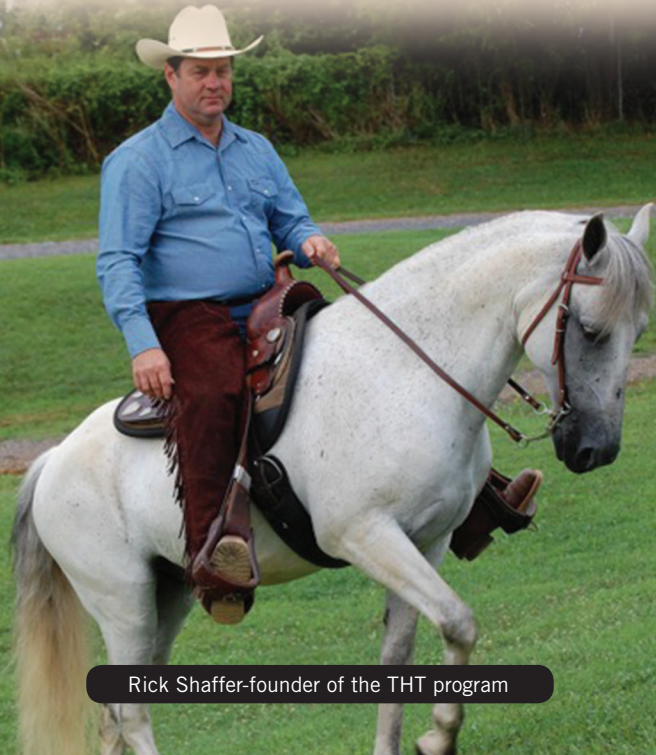
Trail Horse Test Program

The **TRAIL HORSE TEST PROGRAM (THTP)** provides a way to demonstrate your horse's ability to perform trail riding skills based upon a series of tests that gauges the horse's natural ability and training against a standard of performance. This is not a competitive trail obstacle course, but a gauge of your horse's abilities to complete the tasks normally performed before, during, and after a trail ride.

The program is also a great opportunity for participants to connect with like-minded horse owners in a healthy, non-competitive, inexpensive atmosphere. We want to share the joys of horse ownership and the skills of our trail horses.

**There are three levels & awards for each level:
Junior, Senior, or Master Trail Horse**

Open to all breeds, PFHA registered Paso Fino horses will have the level they pass entered into their registry record.

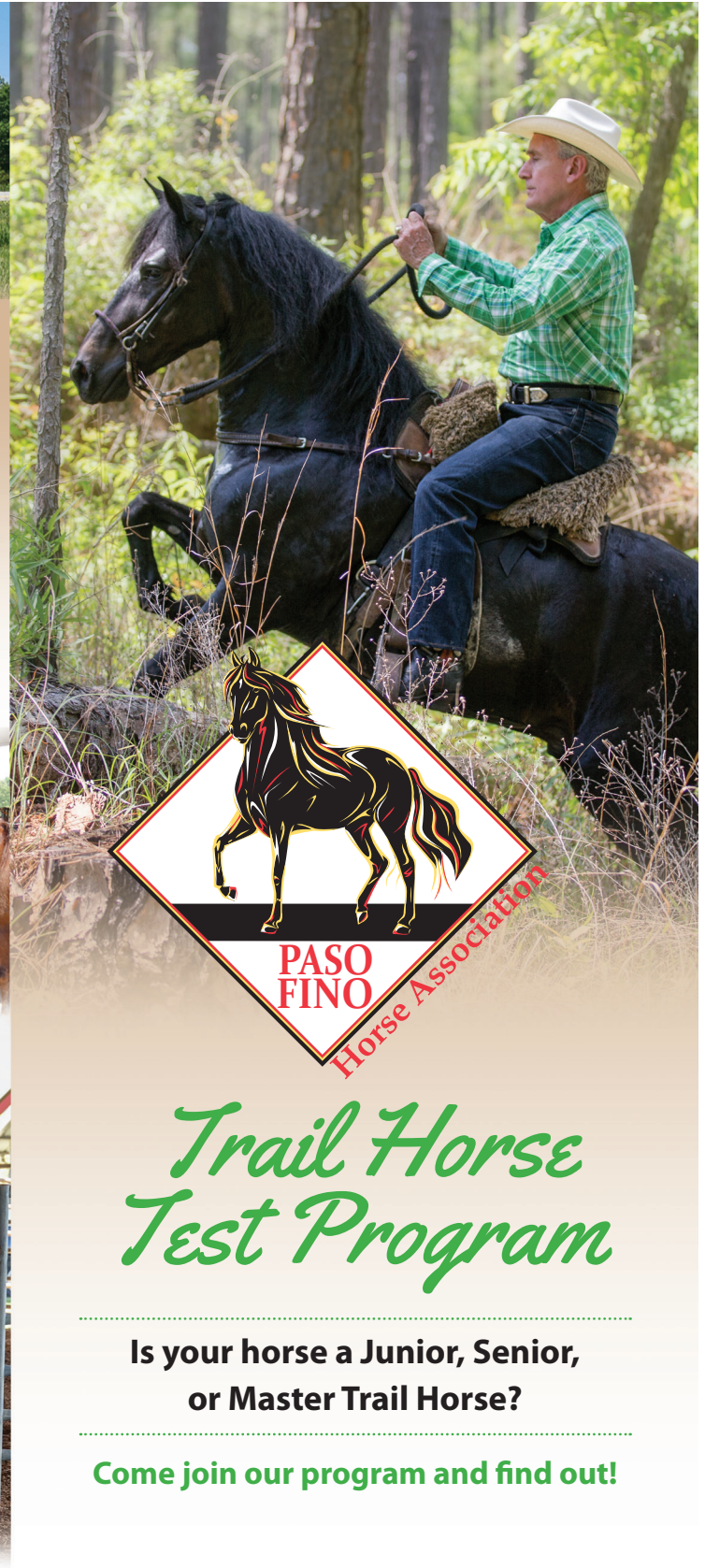


Rick Shaffer-founder of the THT program



For more information:

PASO FINO HORSE ASSOCIATION
4067 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511
859-825-6000 • www.pfha.org



Trail Horse Test Program

**Is your horse a Junior, Senior,
or Master Trail Horse?**

Come join our program and find out!

Introducing the *Trail Horse Test Program*

Our goal is to provide a structured but fun program that guides you to improve your relationship with your horse and to improve your horse's skills for the trail.

The horse is tested against standards set at three levels of performance; Junior, Senior and Master Level. The exercises for the three levels are the same. The horse is expected show more obedience and fluidity as it advances up the levels.

The exercises are divided into 7 categories. Each category is further divided into test elements that are scored on a scale of 1 to 5. The horse must receive a passing grade before advancing to the next level.

Awards and certificates are presented after completion of each level.

Any PFHA member may request to host a Trial Horse Test. A complete description of the program, its rules and the application form is provided on the PFHA website at www.pfha.org/recreational-rider-program under Trail Horse Test Program.

Objectives of the *Trail Horse Test Program*

Our objectives are:

1. Highlight the pleasure of a trained and responsive trail horse.
2. Set non-competitive goals for the horse in an effort to improve both horse and rider.
3. Provide a structured method to judge a trail horse.
4. Recognize the harmony between horse and rider where there is good communication between them.
5. Record the level achieved in the horse's PFHA registry. This will assist individuals who are researching Paso Fino horses/bloodlines that are well suited to the trail.

THREE LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Junior Trail Horse A Junior Trail Horse is expected to show the disposition and temperament to be a trail horse. The Junior Trail Horse is expected to show reasonable obedience to its rider, to attempt certain tests and to have basic knowledge of normal commands. The Junior Trail Horse is not expected to be a fully trained horse but is a horse that shows willingness to obey the rider and does not endanger the rider.

Senior Trail Horse A Senior Trail Horse is expected to show all the attributes of a Junior Trail Horse plus be willing and consistent. This horse must be able to obey most commands calmly but with reasonable speed. It is a horse that is comfortable in most situations.

Master Trail Horse A Master Trail Horse is expected to be a finished and experienced trail horse. A Master Trail Horse is expected to show obedience to its rider's commands and should be able to be trusted in any situation. Master horses fluidness in their trail skills sets them apart. This is the horse we would like to own and ride anywhere.



WHAT THE JUDGE WILL BE EVALUATING:

CATEGORY 1

Trailer Loading/
Unloading

CATEGORY 2

Grooming and
Tacking the Horse

CATEGORY 3

Performing Ground
Work Exercises:
leading, lunging,
turn on forehand,
turn on haunches.

CATEGORY 4

Performing
Exercises under
Saddle: walk,
transitions to
increase speed,
leg yields, side
pass, turn on the
forehand,
turn on the
haunches.

CATEGORY 5

Performance on the
Trail. Interaction
with other horses.

CATEGORY 6

Maneuvering
through Trail
Obstacles that test
the attitude
and obedience of
the horse.

CATEGORY 7

Temperament