



PASO FINO HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

“HOW TO SHOW YOUR BEST”

PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE.... This guide has been prepared by the Paso Fino Horse Association (PFHA) Amateur Owner Committee in an effort to emphasize, educate and encourage the participation of Amateur Owners in the show ring. This guide does NOT replace the PFHA rule book, rather it

- Provides advice on how to show your horse to its best ability;
- Provides reminder of rules to be followed;
- Provides guidance for proper ring etiquette;
- Provides insight into what judges are looking for;
- Provides suggestions to make the show experience more enjoyable.

EXHIBITORS GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT...

1. All exhibitors must know and comply with PFHA current rules and current relevant rules of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).
2. Owners, handlers and trainers shall treat members of the PFHA and guests with the kindness and respect.
3. At no time in the training, handling or in the showing of the Paso Fino horse will the horse be mistreated.



4. The ring conduct of any exhibitor shall not adversely affect the exhibition of any other exhibitor's horse in the ring.
5. Horses should be spirited, display refinement and beauty, but must be obedient. Anyone not controlling his mount shall be excused from the ring.
6. Exhibitors should support the Judge and the judging system and should not accuse the Judge of favoritism.
7. If an exhibitor believes that he or she has a legitimate complaint concerning the actions of any show official, he or she should file a complaint in accordance with Chapter One Section IX of the PFHA Rule Book.



A JUDGE'S RESPONSIBILITY... A judge's responsibility is to exhibit the highest standard of integrity and avoid decisions arrived at by influence, bias or ignorance. The judge should observe the fine points of the horses being exhibited and select the best horse for the purpose described by the class requirements. The judge should serve three (3) interests: his/her own conscience, exhibitors and the spectators. It is the primary responsibility of a Judge to contribute to the preservation of the breed standard and to discourage any tampering with the naturalness of the breed.

A STEWARD'S RESPONSIBILITY... The Steward is the representative of PFHA and should point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where the PFHA and USEF rules are not followed. The Steward should be available to Judges, exhibitors, and Show Management at all times. The Steward shall not dictate to the Judges or Show Management, but should immediately report to the appropriate officials any violations of the rules that might invalidate a class. A Steward shall clearly understand that they have no authority with the management or the judging of a show. The decision of each Steward constitutes solely that Steward's individual interpretation and not a verdict by PFHA or USEF. A Steward shall protect the interests of exhibitors, Judges and Show Management. A Steward shall report to the Show Committee:

1. Any misrepresentation or substitution of an entry without waiting for a complaint, and
2. Any exhibitor or trainer who has failed to file a statement with the Steward after the administration of drugs.

The Steward shall report to the Judge or Show Committee any offense or violation of the rules and file a complaint against the violator if the violation is not properly handled by the Show Committee. A Steward shall ascertain that the Judge is Certified and in good standing. A Certified Steward will facilitate a conference with the Judge as requested by an exhibitor or other person. The Steward will make himself/herself available and remain in the presence of the Judge and other person when such person requests a conference with the Judge either during or after the show.

A Steward shall have the responsibility and duty to enforce the General Class and Show Rules at any show at which he or she is stewarding. The rules are to be enforced by any of the following means:

1. Requiring the violation to be corrected.
2. Prohibiting the horse and exhibitor from participating in the class.
3. Other appropriate action. If a violation comes to the attention of the Steward after a horse and exhibitor have entered the ring for a class, the Steward shall call the violation to the attention of the Judge for the Judge to exercise enforcement responsibility. It is the purpose and intent of this rule to permit and further competition. Therefore, correction of violation should be permitted where practical and where correction may be done without undue delay of the show and without being unfair to other competitors.



RULES TO FOLLOW WHILE IN THE RING...

1. In saddle classes, a rider may only ride one horse in a class. Even in classes with individual work, for example, the Paso Trail class, one rider cannot show two different horses. In addition, in any saddle class, riders cannot be changed in the middle of the class.
2. An exhibitor is entitled to request a "time-out" or suspension of judging for a period not to exceed five minutes in aggregate (but no more than two times in a class) in order to repair broken equipment, replace a shoe or rectify a similar condition. The exhibitor must go to the center of the ring for any such emergency which will constitute a request for time-out. Time shall be taken from the moment the exhibitor goes to the center of the ring, except in the event of a horse casting a shoe, in which case, time shall start (after weighing has concluded, if applicable) when the farrier or his assistant touches the shoe or enters the ring, whichever comes first. No more than three (3) minutes will be allotted to find a shoe.
3. Two attendants are permitted in the ring to assist an exhibitor during a time-out. If at the expiration of the five minutes the repair has not been made, the contestant may proceed as is or be eliminated. The steward or judge shall be held responsible for timing unless an official timer is present.
4. A rider is considered to have fallen when he is separated from his horse that has not fallen, in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle. A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle and the ground. In all classes except Western and Equitation (in which specific rules prevail), the fall of horse and/or rider shall not disqualify the entry unless due to bad manners of the horse. Bad manners are deemed to be those deliberate actions of a horse such as kicking, rearing, bucking, etc. If a rider falls off due to a horse tripping, stumbling or stepping on an object (stone etc.) this is not deemed bad manners.
5. An exhibitor who has entered the ring may request permission of the Judge to exit the ring before judging is completed. If an exhibitor voluntarily removes a horse from the ring without the permission of the Judge, except in deference to safety, the Show Committee will disqualify the exhibitor and all of his or her entries from all future classes at that competition and all prizes and entry fees for the entire competition will be forfeited.
6. No exhibitor may withdraw a horse from a sanctioned competition after it has commenced, or remove the horse from the competition grounds, without permission of the competition secretary.
7. An exhibitor may not use any type of electronic, mechanical or similar communication device in the show ring while being judged, except for an exhibitor who normally uses a sound enhancing device to achieve normal hearing.



RING ETIQUETTE...

1. In all mounted classes, the riders should avoid bunching up. To space the horses, the rider should execute a reverse and return to the rail all the time maintaining the gait that had been called.
2. The placement of the class shall be announced starting with honorable mention, seventh-place, and proceeding sixth-place through first-place.
3. Horses that did not receive placement should remain in the ring until the announcer calls their back numbers and excuses them from the ring.
4. As their numbers are called, the rider should back their horse from the line-up. Riders that receive a ribbon should ride to the ribbon presenters.
5. Horses should leave the ring at a Corto in all classes except the Fino class where the horse should leave in the fino gait.
6. In some cases, horses may shy away from the ribbons. The rider may dismount; assist with placing the ribbon on the horse and then remount, riding out of the ring. If the horse becomes unruly or too dangerous to ride, either the ribbon may be removed or the rider may choose to walk out of the ring, leading the horse.
7. The first-place horse shall have the option of making a victory ride once around the ring and down the fino board.
8. It is disrespectful to the judge(s) for any horse other than the first place horse to ride across the fino board after the class has been pinned. Under USEF rules, only the first place rider may make a victory lap.
9. After placement has occurred, it is considered disrespectful for a rider to lead their horse out of the ring (unless injury has occurred or the horse is unruly).





WHAT JUDGES ARE LOOKING FOR...

1. Judges are looking for the horse with the most natural gait. Gait, is what sets our breed apart. Our gait is distinguished by a four beat, lateral gait. The gait should be rhythmically consistent and smooth. The gait may vary with horses, but any execution that reduces smoothness and consistency is penalized.
2. A horse is to be excused for failure to perform the gait as prescribed in a class. Any tendency to mix gaits, the loss of even cadence or lack of smoothness, as evidenced by an up and down or side to side movement of the horse's croup or of the rider, is also penalized.
3. The gait should also be performed with light contact on the reins. Horses requiring undue restraint or "holding" in gait or collection shall be penalized.
4. Horses that exhibit behaviors as fighting the bit, flatten their ears or swish their tails are also penalized.
5. The amount of collection will vary from class to class but in no gait should the horse go "strung-out" behind, squat down in the rear, jut out his nose, lug, or work behind the head-gear.
6. Exaggerated leg action (excessive fold, over-reaching, unnaturally high front leg action, etc.) is not desirable.
7. The horse should track straight; some winging or paddling is acceptable. The gaits of the Paso Fino should give the appearance of naturalness and ease combined with a degree of pride and elegance that is characteristic of the breed.
8. The judge is directed to weigh his or her overall decision based upon percentages stipulated in the PFHA Rule Book for each class. For example, the judges are directed to view manners, conformation, attitude and way of going as the heaviest determining factors in judging the pleasure class.
9. First impression counts. Most judges place horses in groups while watching the horse enter the ring and gait for the first 100 yards in the ring. They group the horses as the first group, middle group, and last group. They refine their placement within these groups throughout the course of the class.
10. The tack should be clean and in good repair.
11. The rider's attire should be clean and well presented.
12. Always remember that the horse is being judged until the judges' cards have been handed in for tabulation. An exhibitor should remain alert and respond quickly to the judges instructions.
13. If exhibitors have been given tasks to perform by the judge(s), it is customary to acknowledge the judge with a nod of the head or tip of the hat before beginning these tasks. This is one way that the exhibitor knows they have the judge(s) full, undivided attention and are ready for the work off to begin.
14. If an exhibitor is asked to perform a task in a certain speed of gait (i.e. corto), the rider to should maintain that speed/gait until they return to the line up or further instructions are given.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A PLEASURE HORSE...

1. The class shall be judged: 25% on Paso Corto; 25% on Paso Largo; 10% on flat walk; and 40% on manners, conformation, attitude and way of going.
2. Within the pleasure division, the rider and his equine partner will be asked to execute the Flat Walk, Paso Corto, and Paso Largo.
3. Collection is mild and the horse should have a relaxed manner.
4. The horse should be a “pleasure” to ride, with minimal restraint and the horse should appear to be enjoying himself.
5. Gait transition should be made in a smooth, relaxed and willing manner and the horse’s attitude should be calm and pleasant.
6. Bad manners are to be heavily penalized. A horse that fights the bit, flattens its ears or swishes its tail shall also be penalized.
7. The exhibitors will enter the ring to the right on the rail at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. The exhibitors should ride close to the rail except to pass.
8. The sequence of gaits are as follows: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, to demonstrate the marked difference in speed between these two gaits, flat walk, reverse and repeat in the opposite direction.
9. Paso Corto is a smooth, steady, unbroken, evenly spaced four-beat lateral gait, rhythmic, executed with moderate extension and mild collection. Forward speed is ground-covering but unhurried. Movement should be fluid, willing, relaxed, balanced and free moving. The horse’s head carriage is natural and relaxed.
10. Paso Largo is also a smooth, evenly-spaced four-beat lateral gait, fluid and rapid, showing no tendency to labor or become “strung out”. Collection is mild. Both extension and rapidness of cadence are increased over the Paso Corto and a definite change of speed must be observed. The evenly-spaced four-beat cadence must be maintained at all times, and loss of cadence, form or smoothness due to excessive speed is penalized.
11. Flat-Walk is an evenly-spaced four-beat, flat-footed, smooth gait executed with mild collection. The horse’s head carriage is natural and relaxed.
12. Each exhibitor shall be asked to demonstrate the back from the line-up. When backing the horse shall maintain proper head position, show evidence of good mouth, back in a straight line and be readily responsive. Refusal to back disqualifies the horse from placement.
13. At the judge’s discretion, riders may be asked to perform individually. Additional performance requests can include: dismounting and remounting, execution of a serpentine at the Paso Corto gait; perform the Paso Corto gait over the sounding board; back on the board; back on the rail.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A PERFORMANCE HORSE...

1. The class shall be judged: 30% on collected Paso Corto, 30% on collected Paso Largo; 10% on the collected walk; 20% on appearance, conformation and way of going; and 10% on manners.
2. Within the Performance Division the rider and his equine partner will be asked to execute the Collected Walk, Collected Paso Corto, and Collected Paso Largo.
3. The horse should combine style and spirit along with obedience and good manners. The horse should move out willingly, and stand quietly when requested.
4. The judges will be looking for animation, brilliance, form, smoothness and rhythmic consistency of the four-beat cadence or gait performed with moderate collection.
5. The exhibitors will enter the ring to right on the rail at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner.
6. During execution of the collected Paso Corto and the collected Paso Largo, exhibitors should maintain a position on the rail except to pass.
7. The sequence of gaits are as follows: collected Paso Corto, collected Paso Largo, to demonstrate the marked difference in speed between these two gaits, collected walk, reverse and repeat in the opposite direction.
8. Collected Paso Corto is an evenly spaced four-beat lateral gait with moderate forward speed and extension. The gait is smooth, supple, cadenced, animated and brilliant, with the horse well-collected, fully balanced, and exhibiting symmetry in flexion and extension. The horse should demonstrate pride, style, elegance and enthusiasm, along with good manners and ready response.
9. Collected Paso Largo is evenly-spaced four-beat lateral gait. This gait is smooth, balanced, collected, bold and animated, with rapid forward motion. Extension and flexion must be harmonious with no tendency to become "light" on the front or "strung out" behind. The horse should appear eager and willing to move out, and a definite change of speed from the Paso Corto to the Paso Largo must be observed.
10. A willingness to reduce speed on command must also be demonstrated. Transitions between gaits should be performed evenly and smoothly. An even, four-beat cadence must be maintained, together with style, presence, boldness, and brilliance. Loss of form, cadence, or smoothness due to excessive speed shall be penalized.
11. Collected Flat-Walk is an evenly-spaced four-beat, cadenced, straight, brisk, animated and rhythmic. This gait is to be executed with collection, style and brilliance.
12. Special attention shall be afforded to brilliance, form, smoothness, and rhythmic consistency of the gaits.
13. Class participants will be asked to perform the Paso Corto gait over the sounding board.
14. At the judge's discretion, riders may be asked to perform individually. Additional performance requests can include: serpentine at a collected Paso Corto and/or a figure eight at a collected Paso Corto for a work-off of horses in close competition.
15. Tack shall be English type. The attire shall be the official Paso Fino show costume.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A FINO HORSE

1. The class shall be judged: 75% on execution and naturalness of the Classic Fino gait; 15% on appearance, conformation and way of going; and 10% on manners.
2. Within the Classic Fino Division the rider and his equine partner will be asked to execute only the fully collected Classic Fino gait whenever moving.
3. The gait is smooth, animated, exciting and executed with brilliance and style.
4. The horse must be fully collected and balanced, putting its complete dynamic energy into its carriage and the quickness of its foot fall.
5. Extension is minimal and the horse's forward speed is extremely slow but the footfall is exceedingly rapid.
6. The exhibitors will enter the ring to right on the rail at the Classic Fino and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner until instructed to reverse or halt. Horses must work both directions, reverse, halt and proceed in gait.
7. Breaking gait on reverses, stops or starts shall be penalized.
8. A figure eight may be requested to demonstrate flexibility, responsiveness, and steadiness of gait.
9. The horse may be asked to proceed down the sounding board to clearly exhibit the rhythmic consistency of the horse's cadence and impact. The performance of the horse on the sounding board shall not be given preference over the horse's work on the rail. Backing on the sounding board may be requested.
10. Classic Fino is an evenly spaced four-beat lateral gait with moderate forward speed and extension. The gait is smooth, supple, animated and executed with brilliance and style. Extension is minimal and the horse's forward speed is extremely slow but the footfall is exceedingly rapid.
11. Tack shall be English type. The attire shall be the official Paso Fino show costume.



SCHOOLING CLASSES...

1. Schooling classes may be offered in the Fino, Performance and Pleasure Divisions, including the Amateur Owner classes, as follows: there may be Open Schooling classes for horses three- or four-years old, and alternatively, there may be two schooling age sections within a division for horses that are three-years old and horses that are four-years old.
2. For separation into classes by age in years at horse shows, a horse's age is determined by the age it would be if its next birthday were the first day of January of the show year in question. Therefore, any horse will be considered to be one (1) year older on the first day of January following the actual date of foaling and the same for each subsequent year. For example, a horse born in 1996 would be a yearling during the September 1996 to August 1997 show year, a two (2) year old during the September 1997 to August 1998 show year, etc.
3. Once a horse has been shown in a regular Paso Pleasure, Paso Performance or Classic Fino class at a show that offers schooling-horse classes, it can never be shown again in a Schooling class in that division. If a Schooling class is not offered, the horse may be entered into a regular class and not lose their Schooling status.
4. Horse must be 30 Months. Notwithstanding the fact that a horse may be considered a three-year old under the rule in the PFHA rule book, Section VIII., C., no horse may be ridden in a saddle class, whether a schooling class or regular class, until it is at least 30-months old, based on the actual date of foaling.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A BELLA FORMA CLASS...

2. This bella forma class shall be judged 60% on conformation; 30% on quality and naturalness of gait; and 10% on appearance, grooming, and manners.
 1. Classes in Bella Forma may be separated into the following categories:
 - Open Bellas Formas (all ages and all sexes).
 - Yearlings Bellas Formas and/or Bellas Formas Two-Years Old and/or Bellas Formas Three-Years Old and/or Bellas Formas Four-Years Old and Older These classes may be open to all sexes or, if divided, must be divided into Mares, Geldings and Stallions.
 - Bellas Formas Four-Years Old and Older (may be open or, if divided, must be divided into Mares, Geldings and Stallions) and/or Bellas Formas Three-Years Old and Under (may be open or, if divided, must be divided into Colts, Geldings and Fillies) or further divided as described above.
 2. In a show where Bellas Formas classes are offered by age groups, e.g., three-year old colts, a younger horse must be shown in the class corresponding to its age group and cannot be shown in a mares, geldings or stallions class.
 3. The choice of gait is optional, either Classic Fino or Paso Corto, with neither given preference over the other.
 4. The horse should be shown in a leather show halter without a bit, nameplate or inscription thereon. The halter may be English or Colombian type leather, flat, rolled or braided (3/8", 1/2" or 5/8") with matching stitched or plain nose piece with optional brow band not to exceed 1" in width. A matching lead line or long lines is required.
 5. A riding crop or whip not exceeding 30" in length may be carried. No other devices may be used.
 6. Attendants will be attired in the official Paso Fino show costume.
 7. Conformation: Head: The head should be refined and in good proportion to the body of the horse, neither extremely small nor large with the preferred profile being straight. Eyes are large and well-spaced, very expressive and alert, and should not show excessive white around the edges. Ears are comparatively short, set close and curved inward at the tips. The lips should be firm and the nostrils large and dilatable. Jaws are defined but not extreme. The impression should be of a well shaped, alert, and intelligent face.
 8. Neck: The neck is gracefully arched, medium in length and set on at an angle to allow high carriage, breaking at the poll. The throat latch should be refined and well defined.
 9. Forehand: Shoulders are sloping into the withers with great depth through the heart. Chest is moderate in width. Withers are defined but not pronounced and slope smoothly into the back.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A BELLA FORMA CLASS (Continued)...

10. Midsection: The midsection is moderate in length with a well-sprung rib cage. The top line should be proportionately shorter than the underline. The back should be strong and muscled. The midsection should join the forehand and the hindquarters so as to give the horse a pleasing, proportioned appearance.
11. Hindquarters: The croup is slightly sloping with rounded hips, broad loins, and strong hocks. The tail is carried gracefully when the horse is in motion.
12. Legs: The legs are straight with refined bones and strong, well defined tendons and broad, long forearms with shorter cannons. The thigh and gaskin are strong and muscled but not exaggerated. Standing slightly under in the rear is acceptable. Pasterns are sloping and medium in length. Bones are straight, sound, and flat, and joints are strong and well defined. Hooves are well rounded, proportionate in size and do not show excessive heel.
13. Mane, Tail and Forelock: Mane, tail and forelock are as long, full, and luxurious as nature can provide. No artificial additions or alterations are allowed. A bridle path not exceeding 4" is acceptable.
14. Size: Paso Fino horses are 13 to 15.2 hands with 13.3 to 14.2 being the most typical size with weight ranging from 700 to 1100 pounds. Full size may not be attained until the fifth year.
15. Color: Every equine color can be found, with or without white markings.
16. Disposition: the Paso Fino is an extremely willing horse that truly seems to enjoy human companionship and strives to please. It is spirited and responsive under tack while sensible and gentle at hand.
17. Procedure: Entries of any age may be shown with a halter and single or double lead line. If two lines are used, they shall be long and shall be one on either side of the halter. If two lines are used, the horse may be handled by one attendant holding both lines or by two (2) attendants one holding each line. No attendants other than those actually holding the lines are allowed. Lines may end in a smooth link chain which may be crossed over the nose and/or under the jaw at a minimum width of 3/8".
18. The horse must demonstrate the Classic Fino or Paso Corto gait whenever moving.
19. In the lineup, the horse must stand square, not stretched, and remain quiet without undue restraint.
20. Horses shall enter the ring one at a time in the order that show management designates. The horses shall proceed to the right and circle the arena in a counterclockwise direction on the rail.
21. Quality of gait, smoothness, symmetry of action, harmony of cadence, and naturalness, that is, consistency, absence of undue restraint, will be judged during rail work.



WHAT JUDGES WANT TO SEE IN A BELLA FORMA CLASS (Continued)...

22. After completing one circle, or when instructed by the ringmaster, the horse will line up in the center of the ring for conformation inspection. The Judge shall penalize a horse if the handler uses his or her hands on the horse's leg, below the knee, to position the hoof in the line-up.
23. At the line-up in all classes, Judges will carefully inspect the horses for artificial devices, training scars, raw or bleeding sores, soundness, marked lameness and welts from whips or spurs.
24. The choice of gait is optional, either Classic Fino or Paso Corto, and one form of the gait shall not be given preference over the other. Both conformation and gait shall be judged in this class.
25. The Breed Standard, described in Constitution, ARTICLE II., Section 2., of the ideal Paso Fino shall be used as the standard for judging. Transmissible faults, such as buck-kneed, calf-kneed, base wide, base narrow, cow hocks, sickle hocks, toe-in, toe-out, offset knees, standing under, camped out in front, too straight behind, etc., shall be counted heavily against breeding stock.
26. A horse with a swayback or fallen crest will be heavily penalized.
27. A horse must be serviceably sound to be considered for placement.
28. Any horse that fails to demonstrate the Paso Fino gait, so that the Judge can evaluate and ascribe gait percentages, shall be disqualified from placement.
29. Additional work-offs may be required at the judge's discretion including the use of the sounding board to exhibit the horse's cadence of gait.



SHOW POINTS...

For eligibility in showing at the PFHA Nationals, a rider must have accumulated twenty (20) points per horse per class per division within the respective show year.

The Association provides High Point Horse of the Year awards in numerous categories, as well as other Association awards as described herein. The purpose of these awards is to encourage participation by its members at approved shows and to stimulate interest in the Paso Fino breed. Awards may be offered in any division or section in classes recognized by the Association. The Board of Directors will determine the classifications in which Association sponsored awards will be offered.

The following are eligible to compete for Association sponsored awards:

1. all PFHA registered horses, the owners of which are members in good standing with the Association;
2. riders who are members in good standing with the Association. Points earned during the entire show year count toward a horse's or individual's lifetime points.



SHOW POINTS (Continued)...All classes recognized by the Association will have points awarded to the entries placing first through sixth in regular classes and first through fourth in Championship classes unless the class is specified as non-pointed.

If a horse is disqualified, it is not to be placed, regardless of the number of horses in the class, but counts as an entry in the class.

Points shall be awarded at all Association sanctioned shows and the Association's National show according to the placement of the horse and/or rider as follows:

	<u>National Show</u>	<u>All Breed Show</u>	<u>Any USEF Show</u>	<u>All Paso/Local Show</u>
First	12	6	12	6
Second	10	5	10	5
Third	8	4	8	4
Fourth	6	3	6	3
Fifth	4	2	4	2
Sixth	2	1	2	1

Points awarded in Championship classes shall be double the points shown above. Classes shall conform to the list and specifications in these rules. In any show or class in which points are awarded to a horse and/or rider and that horse and/or rider is subsequently disqualified, then each horse and/or rider that placed below the disqualified horse and/or rider, including a horse and/or rider receiving an honorable mention award, shall be moved by one placement and shall be awarded points according to the new placement. The points received by a horse that placed in an Open class at a

show at which a separate class would have been permitted under these Rules, but was not offered, will be recorded as awarded in the appropriate separate class.

Ownership of a horse may be transferred during the show year without affecting the horse's points. A horse will not be

eligible to receive points under its new ownership until entry requirements in Chapter Two, Section II., A. and B., are met. All awards shall be presented in the name of the recorded owner(s) shown in the Association records at the time the award was earned.



SHOW POINTS (Continued).... The Society of Merit awards shall consist of horses and riders who achieve one of the awards listed in this part. Association registered horses and riders in the Costume class may accumulate points toward the Title of Proficiency, Legion of Merit and Supreme Merit awards.

The following awards shall be offered:

1. Title of Proficiency (T. O. P.). An appropriate award shall be presented to a horse or Costume class rider who has accumulated at least 500 show points in recognized classes in any Association sanctioned shows.

2. Legion of Merit (L. O. M.) An appropriate award shall be presented to a horse or Costume class rider who has accumulated at least 1,000 show points in recognized classes in any Association sanctioned shows.

3. Supreme Merit. An appropriate award shall be presented to a horse or Costume class rider who has accumulated at least 1,500 show points in recognized classes in any Association sanctioned shows.

The Association offers annual awards for all classes at the National show. A horse that wins any class at the National show shall be the National Champion of that respective class for the designated show year; if thereafter such horse competes in the Division Championship class at that show and is awarded First place, the horse shall then be the Grand National Champion of that Division for that year.

Plaques will be presented to the horses and/or riders having the highest total number of points during the show year in each and every pointed class recognized by the Association. All awards for three-year olds and younger will be designate by year, e.g. 2006 Filly, and so on.

The horse that accumulates the highest total number of points at the Association's National show shall be awarded the title of High Point Horse of the (year) PFHA Grand National Championship show along with an appropriate award attesting to the achievement. Costume and Amateur Adult Equitation class points do not count in the point total for High Point Horse of the National show or High Point Horse/Gelding of the Year awards.

The winner of the association's Overall High Point Horse of the Year, shall be the horse that accumulates the highest number of total points in all recognized classes at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year, not including the National show. Points won in classes where the points are awarded to the rider do not count toward the High Point Horse of the Year or High Point Gelding of Year awards.

The winner of the association's High Point Gelding of the Year, shall be the horse that accumulates the highest total number of points in all recognized classes at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year, not including the National show. If the horse was gelded during the current show year, points earned before gelding will not be counted.



SHOW POINTS (Continued)... The winner of the association's High Point Amateur Owner of the Year, shall be the Amateur Owner who accumulates the highest total number of points in all recognized Amateur Owner classes at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year, not including the National show. The winner of the association's High Point Senior Amateur Owner of the Year, shall be the Senior Amateur owner who accumulates the highest total number of points in all recognized Amateur Owner classes at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year, not including the National show.

The winner of the association's High Point Specialty Horse of the Year, shall be the horse that accumulates the highest total number of points at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year competing in Specialty classes.

1. Top Ten Sires and Dams Awards. A special ribbon and certificate shall be presented to the Top Ten Sires and Top Ten Dams of the year. Recipients of these awards will be determined by the Association year-end show points, including the National show, of all the Association registered offspring of Association registered sires and dams. Sires and dams shall be eligible to receive this award for five years after their death. The Top Ten Sires awards will be announced in the annual stallion issue of the official Association publication, Paso Fino Horse World, and the Top Ten Dams awards will be announced in the annual mare issue of the official Association publication, Paso Fino Horse World.

2. Top Ten Gelding Awards. A special ribbon and certificate shall be presented to the Top Association registered geldings of the show year. Recipients of these awards will be determined by the total number of show points earned by each gelding at Association sanctioned shows during the course of the show year, including the National show. If the horse was gelded during the current show year, points earned before date of gelding will not be counted. Points

won in classes where the points are awarded to the rider do not count toward Top Ten Gelding awards. The Top Ten awards will be announced in the annual gelding issue of the official Association publication.

Crediting of Points. In a show that does not offer Schooling classes, a schooling horse may compete in the regular appropriate class and still retain its schooling status, and any show points awarded to such horses shall be computed and credited as points awarded in the appropriate Schooling class.

Accumulation of Points. Points accumulated in Amateur Owner classes and resulting Championship classes are awarded to the horses. In shows not offering Amateur Owner classes, the Amateur Owner may compete in the regular appropriate class and any show points awarded to such Amateur Owner shall be computed and credited as Amateur Owner points in the appropriate class if requested in writing by the Amateur Owner. The said written request shall be

submitted with the show results and the class placing, with notation by the Show Secretary, when the Show Report and results are transmitted to the Association office.



FRIENDS THAT CAN HELP..The Amateur Owner Committee members are here to help. If at any time you need to talk to one of us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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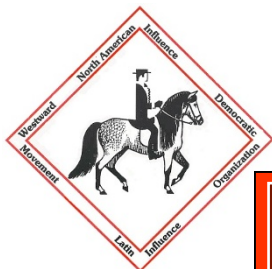
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Other Web Sites of Interest...

- Professional Paso Fino Trainers Association <http://www.ppf-trainers.org/>
- There are 24 regions within the PFHA. Many have their own websites. A complete list of regional websites is provided on the PFHA website <http://www.pfha.org/>



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