

Paso Fino Horse Association

Executive Committee

2025 Nominations

For President

Jeanne Griggs (PFHA Member No. 35139)

Jeanne Griggs will celebrate 20 years as a member of the Paso Fino Horse Association this year. She currently lives near Tryon, N.C., and is a Life member of the Piedmont Region.

After purchasing her first Paso Fino in 2000, Jeanne has enjoyed many wonderful and versatile Paso Fino horses who have given her years of showing, trail riding, clinics, exhibitions and numerous other unforgettable adventures.

She has been honored and privileged to have the opportunity to serve in many positions and capacities over the years on both regional and national levels, and has become a PFHA and United States Equestrian Federation Steward and a USEF Competition Organizer.

Jeanne will always be willing to do all that she can to give back to the breed and the Association that have given so many years of enjoyment to her.

Nominated by Sergio Garcia, president of the Florida Region

For Vice President

Robin Ratliff (PFHA Life Member No. 832)

My family's journey and commitment to the Paso Fino started in 1966 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. We were involved in breeding and showing Quarter Horses. Our first glimpse of the breed came when Angel and Carmen Usategui (Cepero), introduced us to their Paso's while boarding at our ranch. My parents were so amazed watching the horses work and they were completely enthralled with the smoothness of the gait.

A few months later, my Mother traveled to Puerto Rico and returned home with a buckskin mare named "Atenas." She had the natural gait and smoothness that is the hallmark of our breed. Slowly but surely, the Quarter Horses were sold to different homes and we started acquiring Pasos. In 1967, at a local auction, there were three Pasos from Colombia being auctioned. That night, we bought El Pastor who would become one of the Paso Fino Horse Association's six Foundation Sires. He was Sire of the Year seven times and on the Top Ten Sires list 20 times, just to name some of his accomplishments.

Although very young, I remember vividly how tenacious and steadfast the early Paso owners and breeders were at that time in establishing the breed here in the United States. Without their efforts, I don't think we would not be here today.

In 1972, the Paso Fino Owners and Breeders Association, PFOBA, was founded. In the mid-80s, we changed our name to the Paso Fino Horse Association, (PFHA). We are an affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and CONFEPASO. Most importantly, we established our own registry.

My experiences and influence comes from the founding members of our Association and always guides my decisions. It was, and still is, our responsibility as members, to serve the Association as volunteers. We ran shows. Held clinics. Started regions and road in parades. We did nearly everything and anything to promote and expose our breed.

We all believed that if the PFHA was succeeding, we as breeders and owners would succeed as well. Our PFHA Constitution reminds us, we are a member owned and member governed association. Every member is of equal importance.

For my part, I am a Life member of PFHA. I am a professional trainer. I hold a judges card in both the PFHA and USEF. I was named the 1989 Trainer of the Year. I was awarded the C.J. Cronan award from the USEF in 2002. Most recently, I was honored to be inducted into the PFHA Hall of Fame. My Mom and El Pastor were inducted into the PFHA Hall of Fame much earlier, as they should have been.

I have served on the PFHA Board of Directors as President, Treasurer, the Executive Committee and as a Regional Delegate for the North Florida Region. I have been appointed or elected to serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee, Chair of the Finance Committee, Chair of the Judges and Stewards Committee, Chair of Geldings Committee and Chair of the Communications Committee. I have been fortunate to serve on many other PFHA committees with some very hard working members.

Nominated by B.J. Schuler, vice president of the PFHA

For Secretary

Katherine (Kathy) Yarbrough (PFHA Member No. 19849)

Katherine (Kathy) Yarbrough, Paso Fino Horse Association member since 1999.
Member of the Ocala Paso Fino Horse Association.

More Recent:

- Current PFHA Secretary, member of Executive Committee.
- Computer Committee member.
- Created the Amateur Owned and Trained classes for Pleasure, Performance and Fino divisions.
- Competed in Amateur Owner classes.
- Chair of the Amateur Owner Committee in past years and with my committee members produced Amateur Owner of the Year award procedures, criteria and options for voting.
- Created an Amateur of the Year nomination form and revised the Amateur Status application.
- Created resources for new or existing Amateurs.
These resources can be found on the PFHA website under "Membership," click "Resources" and choose "Resources for Amateurs."
- Amateur Owner of the Year in 2013.
- Interim PFHA Secretary January 2011.
- Treasurer of the Paso Fino Foundation, Inc. since its inception.
- Worked on the Task Force to clean up the PFHA Board Policies.
- Wrote the rule change proposal to divide the Youth classes to 7-9, 10-12, 13-15 and 16-17, as a safety measure for our Youth and to create more winners!
- Wrote the rule change proposal to divide the Youth championships to 7-12 and 13-17, as a safety measure for our Youth and to create more winners!

Nominated by Jeanne Griggs, president of the PFHA

For Treasurer

B.J. Schuler (PFHA Member No. 16389)

B.J. has a history of over 30 years with the Paso Fino Horse Association. She joined the PFHA in 1993 when she purchased her first Paso Fino. Of course she couldn't have just one, purchased a few more and started showing them in 1997.

She became active in the leadership of the Mason Dixon region in 1999, serving as President for four years and then moved on to the National level as Regional Delegate to the Board of Directors for five years. She chaired the Mason Dixon Spectacular show at the Virginia Horse Center for 14 years, from 1999 to 2012, and then at the New Jersey Dream Park for another six years.

On the National level, B.J. has spent the last two years as the PFHA Vice President. In years prior, she chaired the PFHA Planning Committee and was instrumental in formulating the Long Term Strategic Plan that would still be pertinent today. She has spent 10 years on the Finance Committee under three different Treasurers. The last four years she has helped the current Treasurer as a member of the Finance Committee. In 2023 and 2024 she worked with the GNS Show Secretary and the Executive Director to reconcile the GNS receipts for proper recording in our financial statements.

Being a retired CPA, B.J. makes a very good candidate for the office of Treasurer and she will work diligently to fulfill the duties of this office.

Nominated by Robin Ratliff, treasurer of the PFHA



Paso Fino Horse Association, Incorporated

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OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT

As a PFHA Member, you may cast your vote for 2025 Paso Fino Horse Association officers in one of the following ways:

1. Voting through your Regional Delegate, who will cast your regional vote at the PFHA Annual Membership Meeting
2. Appearing at the Annual Membership Meeting and casting your vote in person as an individual
3. Voting by using this Absentee Ballot

For rules concerning Absentee Ballots, please refer to the Paso Fino Horse Association Sept. 1, 2024 Rule Book, Constitution, Article VII, Section 9, Voting, B, Membership Meetings. "At Membership meetings, instead of a member's vote being voted through his or her Regional Group Director, that person (who has been a voting member of the Association for a period of thirty (30) days prior to the meeting) shall be allowed to attend and vote as an individual or he/she may vote by Absentee Ballot or by Proxy as stated in C., below. In such cases, his or her name shall be deleted from the Regional Membership list for voting purposes as applicable."

Paso Fino Horse Association 2024 Rule Book, Constitution, Article VII. Meetings, Section 9, Voting, C.1., p. 34, "An Absentee Ballot may be used only for the election of officers. Official notification of the meeting, including agenda and the form for the Absentee Ballot, must be made to the membership at least 3 weeks prior to the meeting. All Absentee Ballots shall be completed according to the requirements stated on the ballot, shall be filed with the Association at least 10 days before the meeting, and shall show the member's Regional Group affiliation."

Complete ballots with original signatures must be RECEIVED by the PFHA Office at the address above no later than at least 10 days in advance of the Annual January board meeting.

****Faxes and emails shall not be accepted. Please mail this form to the address above.****

INSTRUCTIONS: Please indicate in the section below your vote for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Please vote for ONE (1) candidate for each of the four (4) offices by making an X in the box provided next to the name of each candidate. Ballots containing a vote for more than one candidate for each office will automatically become void. Declared Candidates are listed alphabetically.

PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____

Voter's original Signature, PFHA Membership Number, and PFHA Regional Affiliation are REQUIRED, as well as either an email address or phone number for absentee ballot validation:

Print Name: _____ **PFHA Member #** _____

Date Submitted: _____ **PFHA Regional Group Affiliation:** _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Signature: _____