

New Rules starting September 1, 2026

Constitution - 1	Membership Applications
Rule Will Change	Article III Section 3, A, page 24
Rule	<p>Section 3. Membership Rules.</p> <p>All membership applications/renewals must be forwarded to the Association Office with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current address and one other form of contact. Information must be current and reported to the office if information has changed. 2. Completed Signature Authorization form for business and corporations and youth 17 years of age and younger. This form is required to be up to date and completed in its entirety. 3. Must select a regional designation on form. 4. Date of birth is required to have on file for every member: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 17 years of age and younger must submit a copy of government issued form of identification or other acceptable documentation that provides date of birth. 2. Individual applying under the designation of Senior Amateur, must be accompanied by a valid form of government-issued identification or other acceptable documentation to verify the individual's date of birth. 5. Adults eighteen years or older must submit an Amateur Status form if claiming amateur rating. 6. Membership dues. <p>B. All members in good standing shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have equal privileges and responsibilities with respect to the Association except as specified in Article III, Section 4. B. below; and 2. Obey and be bound by the Constitution and Rules and regulations of the Association.

Constitution - 3	Regional Group Requirements
Rule Will Change	Article IV Section 3, page 27
Rule	<p>Section 3. Requirements.</p> <p>Lists of current members, officers and committee chairpersons of the Regional Group must be submitted to the Association office each January 31st and at any other time as requested. Should the membership of a Regional Group fall below twenty (20) voting members of the Association at any time, the Regional Group shall, at the request of the Board of Directors, appear before the Board to outline the Regional Group's plans to increase its membership. It is the intent that each Regional Group shall, at all times, have no fewer than twenty (20) Association voting members in good standing. If the group in question is unable to raise its membership above twenty (20), the Board must require its merger with an adjacent Regional Group or its dissolution. All elected officers of a regional group will be required to be current members in good standing of the Paso Fino Horse Association.</p>

CH 1-1 A	Hearing Notice Procedure
Rule Will Change	Ch 1. XI. Notice Procedure page 68
Rule	Any and all notices required or permitted under these rules may be served by delivering the notice to the person to be served, in person or by mail to his or her last known address as it appears in the Association records and upon mailing, such notice shall be deemed received by such person when it is deposited in the United States mail; provided, however, that notices involving disciplinary actions shall be sent to the respondent by a delivery method that provides confirmation of receipt, including, but not limited to, Certified Mail with Return Receipt Requested.

CH 1-1 B	Disciplinary Procedures
Rule Will Change	Ch 1. IX.B.1 Disciplinary Procedures page 58-59
Rule	<p>General Information:</p> <p>Any person who believes that any other person has violated any rule or written policy of the Association may file a complaint, protest, or charge requesting a hearing on the violation with the Executive Director or President of the Association. All charges, protests, or complaints must be in writing, signed and dated using the Official Charge/Protest/Complaint Form. The Executive Director and his/her staff shall investigate any charge, protest, or complaint to determine if sufficient cause exists to convene a hearing before the Association Hearing Committee.</p> <p>Sufficient cause exists if the investigation shows that it is more probable than not that a violation of a rule or written policy occurred. Once cause has been determined to convene a hearing, the Association Hearing Committee shall be responsible for managing the proceedings. If a hearing is scheduled by the Executive Director, the Association Hearing Committee retains full discretion to: (1) permit withdrawal of charges by the Complainant, provided the Association Hearing Committee agrees that withdrawal is appropriate and in the best interests of the Association; or (2) assess sanctions without holding a hearing, but only in cases where the Respondent admits to his or her violation of the rule at issue upon receiving notice of the charge, protest, or complaint. No other agent or entity within the Association may unilaterally cancel or interfere with the hearing process once initiated, and a hearing may only be canceled in accordance with (1) and (2) above by a vote of 51% of the Association Hearing Committee.</p> <p>The individual(s) making the complaint, protest, or charge must be prepared for full disclosure, to the party or parties accused, of all information associated with the charge, protest, or complaint and are responsible for proving the charge, complaint or protest. All parties must be prepared to be present at a hearing either in person or by video conferencing to address all issues presented to the Association Hearing Committee.</p>

CH 1-1 C	Disciplinary Procedures
Rule Will Change	Ch 1. IX.B.3 Disciplinary Procedures page 60-61
Rule	<p>3. Procedure upon presentation of complaint, protest, or charge: All complaints, protests, or charges, whether presented by a member of the PFHA, either in a personal capacity, or as a trainer, or owner, or in the capacity as a judge, steward, or other show official shall be filed with the Executive Director or President of the Association within 30 days after occurrence of incident in question.</p> <p>The complaint, protest, or charge shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Director or the President of the Association by the person making the complaint, protest, or charge to determine if sufficient cause exists to convene a hearing before the Association Hearing Committee.</p> <p>The Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee, shall have the authority to schedule a disciplinary hearing when he/she determines there is sufficient cause for a hearing. Additionally, a disciplinary hearing shall be held if it is requested by two (2) members of the Executive Committee or by the President.</p> <p>When it is determined that there is sufficient cause for a hearing, a Letter of Inquiry shall be forwarded to the Respondent and the Complainant from the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee within 30 days after receipt of the complaint, protest, or charge by the Executive Director or President. The Letter of Inquiry shall contain notification of the alleged violation and written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. A copy of the complaint, protest, or charge which was filed with the Association shall also be included with the notice sent to each person.</p> <p>The Respondent shall respond to the complaint, protest, or charge set forth in the Letter of Inquiry no later than 21 days from the date of the Letter of Inquiry. The Respondent shall additionally present any evidence in support of his or her position in response to the complaint, protest, or charge to the Chair of the Hearing Committee.</p> <p>Each party shall be entitled to request and shall receive one initial continuance at the discretion of the Chair of the Hearing Committee. All initial continuances by either party must be made within 7 days of date of the Letter of Inquiry. Each party shall also be entitled to request two additional continuances beyond the initial continuance with a \$500 charge for each additional continuance. No more than a total of 3 continuances of a hearing, which shall include the initial continuance, shall be granted to either party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hearing Committee may, at its discretion, reschedule a hearing, independent of any party's request.</p> <p>Each party shall have the right to appear at the hearing and produce witnesses and other relevant evidence on their behalf. The Association Hearing Committee shall have the right to hear and examine witnesses and other relevant evidence relating to the complaint, protest, or charge for the purpose of making a complete determination of the issues. The hearing shall be held within 90 days from the date of the Letter</p>

	<p>of Inquiry on the issues set forth in the Letter of Inquiry unless a continuance is requested and granted, or the Hearing Committee reschedules the hearing at its discretion. The determination of the Hearing Committee shall be based upon a deciding vote of fifty-one percent (51%) by the members hearing the charges.</p> <p>All exhibits and witness lists shall be exchanged 14 days prior to the hearing by the complainant and the respondent or by counsel representing the complainant and counsel representing the respondent. Any requests for discovery made by the complainant or the respondent or on their behalf shall be answered within 28 days or receipt of same.</p> <p>Following the hearing, a Determination Letter prepared by the Chair of the Association Hearing Committee shall be forwarded to the Respondent which shall be dated no later than 7 days from the date of the hearing held on the complaint, charge, or protest.</p> <p>The Chair of the Association Hearing Committee shall prepare a Press Release which shall be forwarded to the PFHA offices for publication in the Paso Fino World.</p>
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CH 1-1 D	Disciplinary Procedures
Rule Will Change	Ch 1. IX.B.5 Disciplinary Procedures page 63-64
Rule	<p>5. Levels of Sanctions: A sanction issued by the USEF shall not preclude the Association Hearing Committee from issuing a sanction on the same incident in the event a charge is filed with the PFHA.</p> <p>a. Level I Sanction – A Level I sanction is associated with minor violations of the PFHA Rules and is generally reserved, but not required, to apply to first-time infractions. This would include but not be limited to, a board pass not allowed under the rules, a failure to pay dues, or minor acts of unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to, discourteous treatment or minor displays of disrespect, that demonstrate poor judgment or lack of respect for the spirit of the competition but do not rise to the level of more serious acts of unsportsmanlike conduct. At the committee’s discretion, it may assess a fine of no greater than \$100 and/or issue a letter of reprimand.</p> <p>b. Level II Sanction – A Level II sanction is associated with a violation involving an action by a member which includes but is not limited to any act done willfully or with the specific intent to deceive or cheat; or an Intentional action taken by a member to defraud or trick while knowing the representation made to be false. This would include but not be limited to any fraudulent action taken by a member of the PFHA as defined under General Rules, Sec. VIII. It may also include improper influence; unfair dealings concerning horses; use of performance enhancing drugs with horses; falsifying registrations; falsifying a signature on a stallion report; unfair dealings involving horse sales; and any fraudulent action involving a registration of a horse. This may include serious acts of unsportsmanlike conduct</p>

such as actions that may affect the outcome or fairness of the competition including, but not limited to, knowingly violating competition rules, attempting to intimidate other exhibitors, owners, trainers, handlers, or licensed officials, interfering with another exhibitor, owner, trainer or handler's performance or preparation, and/or deliberate disruption of a class. **A Level II Sanction may be assessed for both first-time infractions and recurring infractions of a similar nature. At the committee's discretion, it may assess a fine of no greater than \$2,500,** and the committee shall have the right to suspend up to 5 years depending upon the severity of the violation.

c. **Level III Sanction** – A Level III sanction is associated with a violation involving an action by a member which includes but not be limited to any action taken by a member who impacts a horse and/or other members. This would include but not be limited to violations as defined under General Rules, Sec. VII(A)(1 – 3). This would also include threats of violence to an owner, horse, trainer, participant, or rider; and acts of violence or abuse to an owner, horse, trainer, or participant. Violence or abuse to a person is defined as placing someone in fear of imminent serious physical harm, or the act of physical harm to a person. Violence or abuse of a horse is defined as inflicting physical pain, suffering, or death on an animal, usually a tame one, beyond the necessity for normal discipline. It can include neglect, such as withholding food and water, resulting in the suffering, death, or imminent danger of death to the animal. It may also include the use of banned drugs with a horse. **A Level III Sanction may be assessed for both first-time and recurring infractions of a similar nature. At the committee's discretion, it may assess a fine of no greater than \$5,000.00;** and the committee shall have the right to suspend up to 5 years depending upon the severity of the violation.

d. **Level IV Sanction** – A Level IV sanction would include but not be limited to any action taken by a member involving a continual and total disregard for the rules, policies, and Constitution of the PFHA. This would also include any actions taken by a member which are three or more offenses similar in severity. It may also include any action taken by a member which results in the death of a person or animal. The Association Hearing Committee shall be entitled to consider additional sanctions beyond the sanctions in Levels I, II, and III, with a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000 and a mandatory minimum suspension of 1 year. **A Level IV Sanction may be assessed for both first-time infractions and recurring infractions of a similar nature.**

CH 1-2	Unsportsmanlike Conduct
Rule Will Change	Ch 1.3.G Unsportsmanlike Conduct page 53
Rule	<p>Delete first sentence.</p> <p>Add: Unsportsmanlike conduct refers to behavior by an exhibitor, handler, owner, parent of a youth member, or trainer that is inconsistent with the standards of fairness, respect, and integrity expected within PFHA-sanctioned events. This includes, but is not limited to, disrespectful or abusive language, aggressive behavior, disregard for rules or authority, and actions that undermine the spirit of fair competition. Incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct by an exhibitor, handler, owner, parent of a youth member, or trainer are subject to disciplinary action by the PFHA.</p> <p>Minor incidents are behaviors that, while inappropriate, do not significantly disrupt the competition or pose harm to others. Examples include verbal outbursts not directed at a competition official, minor rule violations, or discourteous behavior. Such incidents may be addressed through the issuance of a yellow card or through the filing of a charge, complaint, or protest for referral to the PFHA Hearing Committee.</p> <p>Severe incidents involve conduct that is threatening, harmful, grossly disrespectful, or otherwise egregious in nature. This may include physical altercations, intentional rule violations, intimidation of an exhibitor, owner, trainer, handler, or licensed official, profane verbal outbursts, verbal outbursts directed at a competition official, interfering with another exhibitor owner, trainer, or handler's performance or preparation, deliberate disruption of a class, or conduct that degrades the PFHA. Such incidents may be addressed through the filing of a charge, complaint, or protest for referral to the PFHA Hearing Committee.</p>

CH 2 - 1	Full Cheek Snaffle
Rule Will Change	Chapter 2 Section(s) VII.1 page 88
Rule	<p>A standard snaffle bit is defined as a center jointed single rounded, unwrapped smooth mouthpiece of 5/16" to 3/4" diameter metal as measured from ring to 1" in from the ring with a gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle. The rings may be from 2" to 4" outside diameter of either the loose type, eggbutt, dee or center mounted. The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachment hooks. A full-cheek snaffle is allowed as long as there is no "keeper" attachment to the headstall. Snaffle bits do not require a curb chain. If a curb strap is used it must be attached below the reins.</p>

CH 2 -2	Unsportsmanlike Conduct
Rule Will Change	Ch 2.11 Exhibitors Code of Conduct page 98-99
Rule	Exhibitors , owners, handlers and trainers shall, at all times, treat members of the Paso Fino Horse Association and guests with the kindness, respect and affection which our long history deserves. At no time in the training, handling or in the showing of the Paso Fino horse will the horse be subject to mistreatment. Exhibitors, owners, handlers and trainers should not accuse the Judge of favoritism and should support the Judge and the judging system. If an exhibitor, owner, handler or trainer believes that he or she has a legitimate complaint concerning the actions of any show official, he or she should follow the procedures outlined in Chapter One to pursue and resolve the complaint. An exhibitor may not use any type of electronic, mechanical or similar communication or mechanical device in the show ring while being judged, except for an exhibitor who is hearing impaired and who normally uses a sound enhancing device to achieve normal hearing.

CH 2-5	Limit number of classes per day
Rule Will Change	Chapter 2 Section(s) IV page 82
Rule	H. No horse shall be exhibited in more than 6 (six) classes per day, not including Bella Forma, Costume, Driving or Walk-Corto classes. Reletter: I. Inspection.

Ch 2-6	Addition of Age Verification to Show Credentials
Rule Will Change	Chapter 2 Section III. D, page 79
Rule	<p>D. Credentials. The following credentials must be made available to Show Management and the Association Steward and copies of said credentials must accompany the entry form; however, items 1, 3 and 7 below may be electronically verified where possible by the show secretary through the PFHA and/or USEF website and therefore eliminating the need to produce copies at the show.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each participant's Association membership card and USEF card, if applicable. 2. The participant's Association Amateur card if applicable. 3. A copy of each horse's entry's registration papers or Show Validation Certificate 4. All other papers and health documents required by law or by competition management. 5. Copies of applicable Lease Agreements. 6. Affidavits of Sales Contracts. 7. <i>A valid form of government-issued identification or other acceptable documentation verifying the participant's date of birth must be presented (e.g., driver's license, passport, birth certificate, or state-issued identification card).</i> 8. <i>Minors and businesses must have a Signature of Authorization form on file with the PFHA. If the PFHA office or Show Secretary cannot verify that a Signature Authorization form is on file, the minor or business must complete a form and submit it with the entry form.</i>

CH 3 -1A	INTERNATIONAL EQUITATION - Delete from rule book
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) I., B., 7., page 111-121
Rule	<p>Remove the entire section on International Equitation from the PFHA rule book. Pages 111 to 121.</p> <p>7. International Paso Equitation. The Paso Horse Equitation highlights the style, grace, rhythm of the Paso horse, and the special relationship between the horse and rider. Paso Equitation is the art of effectively and correctly riding a horse using effective aids to achieve the best performance of the horse while maintaining correct posture, seat and balance that enhances the oneness between rider and horse. This event is judged 100% on the international equitation parameters and rules as defined herein.</p>

CH 3-1B	INTERNATIONAL EQUITATION delete from rule book
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) and VI. D page 143
Rule	<p>Remove the entire section on International Equitation from the PFHA rule book.</p> <p>D. Amateur Adult International Equitation Class. Regional Group shows may offer this class at their discretion. The class specifications, judging criteria, procedures and appointments will follow International Equitation, Ch 3.I.B.7. a through k.</p> <p>A. Class Separations</p> <p>1. May be offered as Adult Open 18 & Older.</p>

CH 3-2	Trail Procedures rewrite
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII., C., 2 page 147
Rule	<p>2. Procedures.</p> <p><i>Each horse shall be asked to negotiate through obstacles individually, by the exhibitor, with only one (1) horse in the arena at a time. This class shall be judged 100% on the obstacle course; there is no rail work. A rider may exhibit more than one horse, but must have a handler for each entry during the presentation of awards.</i></p> <p>A drawn course will be provided by Show Management, reviewed for compliance with required procedures and approved by the Judge(s) and Steward(s). The trail pattern will be posted at least two (2) hours prior to the class. An exhibitor in this class cannot design or set up the course. The course will show the line of travel through obstacles and the gait required between obstacles.</p> <p><i>Any horse that fails to follow the prescribed obstacle, or follow the prescribed course of travel through the obstacle, should be penalized in the same manner as not completing the obstacle.</i> Changes or revisions will not be permitted after posting.</p> <p><i>Exhibitors will be allowed a pre-class walk through with the judges/stewards immediately prior to the class.</i></p> <p>The course is to include a minimum of six obstacles and a maximum of eight obstacles See USEF Western Division, Dimensions of Trail Obstacles WF. 126, as it may be amended from time to time, for dimensions of trail obstacles only. This does not include USEF section on Unacceptable obstacles. <i>It is not required to use all of the qualifying gaits. Tests that may be required include negotiating a gate, carrying an object from one part of the arena to another, riding through water, over logs or simulated brush, riding down into, up and out of a ditch without lunging or jumping, crossing a bridge, backing through obstacles, side passing, mounting and dismounting from either side and performing over any reasonable conditions along the trail. Any coat or jacket to be put on by the rider must be open in front and not be an item which must be put on over the head. The Canter or Lope is not to be called for in the class procedure. However, if a jump is called for in the class, the rider has the option of cantering, loping or using any other gait that is listed as a qualifying gait to negotiate the jump. Unnatural obstacles, such as fire extinguisher, perforated plywood in water boxes or exotic animals should be avoided.</i></p>

Horses are to be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching the obstacles. Judges are encouraged to advance on to the next obstacle any horse taking excessive time at an obstacle. Entry will be evaluated on willingness, responsiveness, correctness and general attitude while negotiating through the obstacle course. Obstacles occurring in a natural trail environment only are to be used to break a tie.

CH 3-7	Trail Class
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII, C.2 & C.4 page 147
Rule	<p>2. Procedures. Each horse shall be asked to negotiate through obstacles. Obstacles are to be negotiated individually, by the exhibitor, with only one (1) horse in the arena at a time. This class shall be judged 100% on the obstacle course; there is no rail work. The course will specify how a horse is to negotiate or travel between obstacles that seems appropriate. This includes the distance from the beginning of an obstacle to the beginning of the next obstacle. Pertaining to the posted trail pattern, any horse not properly performing the gait required between the obstacles, or any horse that fails to follow the prescribed obstacle, or follow the prescribed course of travel through the obstacle, should be penalized in the same manner as not completing the obstacle. A drawn course will be provided by Show Management, reviewed for compliance with required procedures and approved by the Judge(s) and Steward(s). <i>The pattern for the trail class shall be posted no earlier than 6:00 pm on the day before the class. No test obstacle shall be available for practice before the class.</i> An exhibitor in this class cannot design or set up the course. The course will show the line of travel through obstacles and the gait required to perform obstacles. Changes or revisions will not be permitted after posting. The course will specify how a horse is to negotiate or travel between obstacles that seems appropriate. It is not required to use all of the qualifying gaits.</p>
CH 3 - 8	Trail Class
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII, C.4 page 149
Rule	<p>4. Class Separation. <i>The trail class, both open and amateur, shall be offered at all shows.</i></p>

CH 3-9A	Changes to the Versatility class
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII A.,1.,d., page 144
Rule	<p>d. Canter. A true, three (3) beat gait, cadenced, straight on both leads, smooth and unhurried with no tendency to increase speed or to mix gaits. This gait is executed with collection. The horse's movements are light and airy with natural elevation. The horse should exhibit style and presence, along with good manners and steadiness.</p> <p>In this class, the horse will be asked to demonstrate balance, flexibility, coordination and manners while performing the various gaits, tests and maneuvers. Manners and willingness are very important. The back must be controlled and smooth. Failure to properly execute the Paso Corto and Paso Largo, demonstrating an evenly spaced, four-beat lateral gait, will automatically disqualify the horse. Failure to take the correct lead in the Canter shall be penalized. (20% on the Flat Walk, 20% on the Canter and 20% on the back, manners, and attitude.)</p>

CH 3- 9-B	Changes to the Versatility class
Rule Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII A.,3. page 145
Rule	<p>2. Procedures. Exhibitors shall enter the ring to the right on the rail at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. The sequence of gaits shall be Paso Corto, Paso Largo, Flat Walk, Canter, Flat Walk, reverse and repeat. While executing the Walk, riders shall space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain their relative positions on the rail. In the remaining gaits, exhibitors shall remain on the rail except to pass.</p>

CH 3-9C	Changes to the Versatility class
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 3 Section(s) VII A.,3. page 145
Rule	<p>3. Appointments. The tack and headgear are to be English type, with a bridle and cavesson. Forward-seat saddles also are allowed. Attire is to be English type as described in the Section V. Paso Pleasure Division, C. Appointments, above.</p>

CH 3-9D	Changes to the Versatility class
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 2 Section(s) VII M., 4. page 92-93
Rule	4. Safety Headgear. A safety helmet that carries the message that it meets the American Society for Testing and Materials/Safety Equipment Institute F1163 Standards may be worn instead of, or under, a hat that is required in a class. In classes that may require a jump, such as Trail, such safety headgear is required. All riders/exhibitors twelve (12) years of age and under, including Walk-Corto Leadline riders are required to wear safety headgear at all times while on horseback, or driving or while in the driving cart at any Association authorized function.

CH 3-11	Classes within the Classic Fino, Performance and Pleasure Divisions
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 3 Section III NEW page 126 The classes language will need to be removed from the separate division sections. Fino will become Section IV, Performance V and Pleasure VI and so forth. Rule would be come effective immediately.
State the Rule	<p>III. Classes within the Classic Fino, Performance and Pleasure Divisions.</p> <p>1. Schooling Classes in Classic Fino, Performance and Pleasure. Schooling classes may be offered for horses that are at least 36 months to 60 months old. These classes are to be conducted in exactly the same manner as the mature horse classes except that they will be limited to schooling horses. Tack and attire shall be the same with the exception of the headgear, which may be schooling headgear. (See Chapter Two. Section VII. C.) Schooling classes, if offered, may be separated as follows:</p> <p>a. May be Open 36 to 60 months (all sexes).</p> <p>b. May be divided by age (all sexes) into Open Schooling 36-48 months and Open Schooling 49-60 months</p> <p>c. May be divided by age and sex into 36-48 months Schooling Fillies, 36-48 months Schooling Colts and Geldings (or Colts and Geldings also may be separated), 49-60 months Schooling Fillies and 49-60 months Schooling Colts and Geldings (or Colts and Geldings also may be separated).</p>

*d. May be divided into
36 to 60 months Schooling Fillies and
36 to 60 months Schooling Colts and Geldings (or Colts and Geldings also may be separated).*

2. Mature Horse Classes in Classic Fino, Performance and Pleasure.

Mature horses are 61 months and older. Classes may be offered as follows:

- a. Open (all ages and sexes)
- b. May be divided by sex into
 - 61 months & older Mares ,
 - 61 months & older Stallions and Geldings (or Stallions and Geldings also may be separated).
- c. May be divided by age and sex:
 - 61-84 months Mares ,
 - 85 months & older Mares and
 - 61-84 months Stallions and Geldings, (or Stallions and Geldings also may be separated).
 - 85 months & older Stallions and Geldings (or Stallions and Geldings also may be separated).

OR

61-84 months Mares, Geldings/Stallions and
85 months & older Mares, Geldings/Stallions

3. Amateur classes also may be offered and if divided, must be divided as provided in this section above.

- 4. Amateur Owned and Trained Classes also may be offered. They will be open for all age horses. Exhibitor must be Amateur, and horse must not have been trained by a Professional for 6 months. Horse must be owned by exhibitor or their family. This class does not qualify for **Amateur Championships.**
- 5. For regional shows not offering classes as described in **2. a, b, and c** above, points accrued by horses of the 61 to 84 months age group will be maintained separately by the association as currently occurs for schooling geldings where no schooling gelding class is offered.

CH 5-1A	Guest Judge and Clinic Requirement
Rule Will Change	Chapter 5 Section(s) III D. page 160
Rule	<p>D. Guest Judge. An individual of special talent and judging experience may be granted a special Guest Judge card by the Judges and Stewards Committee. This Judge may not officiate at more than two (2) shows in a five (5) year period and must officiate with a PFHA Senior Certified Judge, (except at an AB Show). Guest judging may count as Learner judging provided a questionnaire is completed by a Senior Certified Judge observing the Guest Judge. Each application for a Guest Judge card must be made to the Judges and Stewards Committee at least ninety (90) days before the show in which the Guest Judge will officiate. <i>A Guest Judge must attend a PFHA Judges and Steward Clinic prior to officiating at a PFHA/AP or PFHA/USEF show.</i></p>

CH 5 - 1B	Guest Judge and Clinic Requirement
Rule Will Change	Chapter 5 Section(s) V. D. page 164
Rule	<p>D. Clinic Requirement. A Senior Certified Judge or Senior Certified Steward is required to attend a clinic at least once every three (3) years. A Certified Judge or Certified Steward is required to attend a clinic at least once every two (2) years. A Judges and Stewards Clinic will be held annually. <i>A Guest Judge must attend a clinic prior to officiating at a PFHA/AP or PFHA/USEF show. A Judges and Stewards Clinic will be held annually.</i></p>

CH 5-2	Fast Track USEF Steward Process
Rule Will Change	Chapter 5 Section(s) II., B., 4 page 156-157
Rule	<p>B. Applicant Judge and Steward Initial Criteria. The following criteria must be met before an application to become a Judge or Steward is accepted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Except as provided in the next sentence, the applicant must have been a member of the Association, continuously, for a minimum of five years and have no record of suspension, probation or reprimand by the PFHA for the five (5) year period immediately preceding application. USEF Judges and Stewards must have been members of USEF with no record of suspension, probation or reprimand. They must have held a USEF Judge's card for at least five years <i>or a USEF Steward's card for one year.</i> Judges or Stewards, holding a card in a Paso Fino horse association of a foreign country, must have held Judge's credentials for five (5) years with no record of suspension, probation or reprimand. An individual, who has held a Judge's or Steward's certificate or license in another breed for at least five (5) years, without any violations in that breed, also may apply to become a Judge or Steward. All officials, including Applicants, shall be members of the PFHA.

	<p>2. The applicant must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age.</p> <p>3. The applicant must have been active in the Association as a trainer, breeder or active competitor five (5) years before application. However, USEF Judges or Stewards, foreign Judges and Judges or Stewards who are certified in another breed are exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>4. The application must be endorsed through a written and signed questionnaire by five licensed officials (Judges and Stewards) and five members of the Association who are not members of the applicant's family. Questionnaires should be answered in the excellent and good categories, in all areas, for the application to be accepted. USEF Stewards may submit the names of the officials and members for the questionnaires as they complete the learner process.</p> <p>5. The applicant must be sponsored in writing by a Judge, Steward, member of the PFHA Board of Directors or Regional Director.</p> <p>6. The applicant must pass a written, open-book test with a score of at least eighty-five percent (85%). This test must be administered within sixty (60) days of application.</p>
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CH 5-3	Judges Presence on show grounds
Rule Will Change	Chapter 5 Section(s) X.,M. page 174
Rule	<p>M. Restriction on Judge's Presence. Except as provided for in Chapter Two, I. A. 5.b., at back-to-back shows, that is, two (2) or more shows occurring at the same time over the same set of contiguous days involving PFHA approved classes; a Judge may not be present on the show grounds at any time before the day he or she officiates. This includes both move-in days that precede the set of shows, as well as any show days that precede the day he or she officiates.</p>

CH 7 - 1	Recreational Rider Sanctioned Trail Ride Wording Change
Rule Will Change	Chapter 7 Section(s) III.A.,6, page 187
Rule	<p>6. All requests for approval must be written and submitted by a member in good standing with the Association no fewer than ten (10) business days prior to the ride. The request will contain, at minimum, the name of the requester, the membership number, the name of the organization requesting sanctioning, the type of ride(s) it offers, competitive trail or endurance or both and a copy of the organization's rule book. The Association, as needed, may request other information.</p>

Requests should be submitted to the Association, Attention: Trail Rides. Every request will be forwarded to the Recreational Rider Committee Chairperson who will then send it to the rest of the Recreational Rider Committee members for discussion and for their approval or **non-approval** by majority vote. Approval or **non-approval** notification will be communicated by the Recreational Rider Chairperson **or by Association Office personnel** in writing **by postal letter or email** to the person or persons submitting the request. Points will be awarded to horses on a Pleasure Long Distance Trail Ride only if the ride has been **submitted** to the Association personnel at the Association office no later than ten (10) business-days prior to ride date. All requests for approval must come from a member in good standing with the Association and the information about the ride should include, at a minimum, the date of the ride, the name of the ride (if applicable), **ride flyer or email being sent to potential participants**, the club or organizational group putting on the ride. The Association, as needed, may request other information. Requests may be made either by phone or by email.

CH 7- 4	Recreational Rider Sanctioned Trail Ride Wording Change
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 7 Section(s) III., A. page 186
Rule	In the Competitive Trail and Endurance Ride categories, the Association will acknowledge only rides conducted by organizations utilizing guidelines similar to those established by the North American Ride Conference and the American Endurance Ride Conference, which rides are pre-approved by the Association. <i>Pre-approved/sanctioned ride organizations are listed on both the Competitive Trail Ride and the Endurance Trail Ride Application forms.</i> All Competitive Trail and Endurance Ride organizations must meet a minimum of the following criteria to be considered for approval by the Association as evidenced by each organization's rulebook that is to be submitted with the request for approval:
CH 7-3	Change of Recreational Rider Sport Horse Wording
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 7 Section(s) I.,A.,7 Page 185
Proposed Rule	7. <i>Open points will go toward the horse's Society of Merit Awards and the rider's Rider of Merit Award.</i>

CH 7-5	Addition of Sports to Recreational Rider Sport Horse Program.
Rule Will Change	Chapter 7 Section(s) I.C., 1., b., d. page 185
Rule	<p>1. The purpose of these awards is to encourage participation by PFHA members in open breed competitions and to stimulate interest in the Paso Fino breed. Year-End Awards will be presented to Paso Finos who accumulate the most points in each of these divisions, both Youth and Open in each category:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gymkhana or Speed Events (Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Flag Race etc.) b. Trail Challenge (Mounted Orienteering, Extreme Cowboy Race, Ultimate Horse Challenge, etc.) c. Arena Trail – Western, English and In Hand d. Open Shows – Western Pleasure, English Pleasure, Halter, Hunter/Jumper, Equitation (English or Western), Liberty e. Working Western (Reining, Cutting, Sorting, Team Penning, Reining Cow Horse, Cowboy Mounted Shooting) f. Dressage – Western or English g. Driving (Obstacle Driving, Pleasure Driving, Combined Driving) h. Working Equitation i. Agility

CH 7-7	Definition of Trail Rides
Rule Will Change	Chapter 7, Section II, page 186
Rule	<p>II. DEFINITION OF TRAIL RIDES.</p> <p>For the purpose of this rule, a ride is defined as any scheduled, organized function involving the riding of a horse over a pre- determined trail or course and which takes place within a period of time not to exceed one twenty-four (24) hour period. <i>The only exception to this rule is when the ride is a Competitive Trail Ride (CTR) or an Endurance Ride (END) that takes place over two (2) to three (3) days. The rider must enter the ride knowing it will take place over more than one (1) day. No credit for a ride will be given by PFHA if all days are not completed and no credit for a single day completion will be given. All days must be completed with ride officials conferring a completion for all days. The rider may NOT apply for points in any other distance division if all days are not completed.</i></p> <p><i>Example: A two (2) day 100 mile ride (50 miles one day, 50 miles the second) will be awarded the same points as a one day 100 provided both days are completed successfully. No credit will be given if only one day is completed.</i></p>

CH 7-8	Competitive Trail Rides
Rule Proposal Will Change	Chapter 7, Section IV, page 188
Rule	<p>A. Competitive Trail Rides. The Association shall award points for miles ridden, for final impression score and judging categories in a Competitive Trail Ride at the following rate:</p> <p>One (1) point shall be awarded for each five (5) mile increment completed of the competitive trail ride for rides of twenty five (25) twenty (20) through twenty-nine (29) miles; two (2) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of thirty (30) miles up to an and including forty-nine (49) miles; three (3) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of fifty (50) miles up to an including seventy-four (74) miles; four (4) points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of seventy-five (75) miles up to an including ninety nine (99) miles; and (5) five points for each five (5) mile increment for rides of one-hundred (100) miles. For example: A horse that completes a seventy-five (75) mile ride will be awarded sixty (60) points for mileage.</p>
Rationale for the Rule	Several competitive trail ride organizations are putting on rides where the mileage has been reduced to 20 miles. This brings PFHA into alignment with current practice.

CH 7-9	Competitive Trail Rides
Rule Will Change	Chapter 7, Section IV, page 189
Rule	<p>In addition to points already awarded to Competitive Trail Rides for mileage points shall also be awarded for the final veterinary score. If there are two score cards filled out by two veterinarians, then the average of the two scores will be awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninety-eight (98) to one-hundred(100): eighteen (18) points, • Ninety-five (95) to ninety-seven (97): sixteen (16) points, • Ninety-two (92) to ninety-four (94): fourteen (14) points, • Eighty-nine (89) to ninety-one (91): twelve (12) points, • Eighty-six (86) to eighty-eight (88): ten (10) points, • Eighty-three (83) to eighty-five (85): eight (8) points, • Eighty (80) to eighty-two (82): six (6) points, • Seventy-seven (77) to seventy-nine (79): four (4) points and • Seventy-four (74) to seventy-six (76): two (2) points.

Example: Ride one (1) has one veterinarian who gives a score of 95%. The score's corresponding points sixteen (16) are submitted to PFHA. Ride two (2) has two (2) veterinarians. One gives 98%, one gives 96%. The average is 97%, also awarded sixteen (16) points.

If a ride uses a score other than 100 (such as 200, 300, 400, etc.) then the final score will be divided by two, three, four, etc., to obtain a number between zero and 100. For example: Ride A uses 200 as its top score. Applicant Paso Fino scores 160. Divide 160 by two, which equals 80, which equals six PFHA points. Ride B uses 400 as the top score. Applicant Paso Fino scores 380. Divide 380 by four, which equals 95 or 16 PFHA points.

If the score comes to 95.5, for example, the score will be rounded up to 96. If the score comes to 95.4, it will be rounded down to 94.

Glossary - 1

Definition of Open in glossary

Rule Will Change

Glossary – page 224

Rule

Adding definition of “Open” – not currently in Rule Book

Open - "open" classes mean any horse or rider can enter, with no restrictions based on age or sex, except as specified by the division rules.