



# Pleasure & Traditional Rulebook



**CONTENTS**

- I. GENERAL ..... 3**
- II. JUDGING CRITERIA..... 3**
- III. CLASSIC PLEASURE ..... 4**
- IV. WESTERN PLEASURE ..... 8**
- V. HUNTER PLEASURE ..... 11**
- VI. TRADITIONAL ARABIAN RIDING ..... 13**

## **I. GENERAL**

**1.1.** This rulebook is an addition to the IASF General Rulebook. Everything stated in the IASF General Rulebook applies to competitors in the IASF Pleasure Classes and Traditional Arabian Riding Classes.

## **II. JUDGING CRITERIA**

**2.1.** As the name suggests, in all pleasure classes the aim is for the horse to appear as a pleasure to ride. Details about what is requested per type of pleasure will be found in the sections Classic Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure and Traditional Arabian Riding.

**2.2.** Judging will start the moment the competitors enter the arena. You will be judged until the ring steward announces you are no longer being judged.

**2.3.** All gaits are judged equally.

**2.4.** During a pleasure class the riders will not be judged. However the rider does influence the performance of the horse. Harsh riding by the rider will be penalized.

**2.5.** During all pleasure classes, competitors are supposed to be on the rail (track) or, when passing another competitor, on the inner rail (track). Riding a circle or moving across the arena in search of more space is not allowed.

**2.6.** The ring steward will call for the different gaits, the line up and reverse. Reversing (turning for change of direction) must be done to the inside, away from the fence. Changing gait during reverse will be charged as transitioning to the wrong gait and penalized as such. A reverse in canter or lope cannot be requested.

**2.7.** Competitors enter the ring in counter clockwise direction in the gait as asked by the judge.

### **III. CLASSIC PLEASURE**

**3.1. Novice:** In novice classic pleasure the emphasis is on tact and relaxation. The rider has control over the pace and direction of the horse in a friendly manner. The horse understands the rider's instructions and follows them willingly. The rider is able to follow the movement and remain in balance, so that the natural movements of the horse are not hindered. The aids are given as invisibly as possible.

The test must be ridden in a smooth manner, without being rushed. There is a constant and elastic connection with the mouth. The horse shows no resistance and seeks the rider's hand. In this class the horse's balance is horizontal. This means that the horse's weight is distributed over four legs and the horse is in contact and forward. Both collection and falling on the forehand are not desirable. It is important that the hind feet follow the track of the forefeet. The correct lateral flexion must be shown where necessary. In this level transitions may be performed progressively.

For example, there may be a few walking steps between halt and trot.

The gaits which will be asked in the novice level are: walk, normal trot and canter. Also a line up on the center line as well as rein back on the center line can be asked. Posting in trot is allowed in the novice level. Transitions will be walk-trot, trot-walk, trot-canter and canter-trot.

**3.2. Advanced:** In advanced classic pleasure the emphasis is on impulse and light collection. A friendly and harmonious image remains important here. The horse understands the rider's instructions and follows them willingly. The rider is able to follow the movement and remain in balance, so that the horse's movements are not hindered. The aids are given as invisibly as possible.

In the test, the horse is presented (lightly) collected, with the weight of the horse shifting more to the hindquarters. The horse carries itself and does not lean on the rider's hands. There is a constant and elastic connection with the mouth. The horse shows no resistance and seeks the rider's hand. Transitions are prompt and smooth and will no longer be performed progressively.

The gaits which will be asked in the advanced level are: walk, normal trot, strong trot (continuous lengthening of strides and frame) and canter. Also a line up on the center line as well as rein back on the center line will be asked. Posting in trot is allowed in the novice level. Posting during trot is no longer allowed in this level. Transitions from walk to canter and canter to walk may be asked.

**3.3. Master:** In master classic pleasure the emphasis is on collection. A friendly and harmonious image remains important here. The horse understands the rider's instructions and follows them willingly. The rider is able to follow the movement and remain in balance, so that the horse's movements are not hindered. The aids are given in a refined and almost invisible way.

In the class the horse is presented collected, with the movements being elevated and the impulse ensuring a powerful push off the ground. The horse carries itself and does not lean on the rider's hands. There is a constant and elastic connection with the mouth. The horse shows no resistance and seeks the rider's hand. Transitions are prompt and smooth and will no longer be performed progressively.

The gaits which will be asked in the master level are: walk, normal trot, strong trot (continuous lengthening of strides and frame) , canter and hand gallop (continuous lengthening of strides and frame). Also a line up on the center line as well as rein back on the center line will be asked. Posting during trot is no longer allowed in this level. Transitions from walk to canter, halt to canter, canter to walk and canter to halt may be asked.

**3.4. Overall:** during all levels in classic pleasure, the gaits must be performed straight and willingly with ease. The horse should be balanced and appear to enjoy their work. Good classic pleasure horses have a powerful, animated stride that allows them to comfortably move forward with grace and elegance. The front line of the horse's head should not be behind the vertical line.

### 3.5. Errors resulting in place reduction:

- uncontrolled high tempo in one or more of the three courses
- transition to the wrong gait
- extremely slow pace in one or more of the three gaits
- touching horse or saddle with free hand
- the head of the horse going behind the vertical line
- pulling the nose forward
- open mouth of the horse
- tripping or falling of the horse
- interfering with other competitors in the arena
- posting in advanced or master level

**3.6. Errors resulting in disqualification**, except in the novice level where they will result in a substantial reduction in points:

- Riding in a gait which is not asked for. This also includes showing strong trot or a passage when normal trot is being asked.
- Continuously too deeply arched neck or kink in the neck causing the nose to be carried behind the vertical line.

### 3.7. Equipment rider

**3.7.1.** Protective Headgear: As a general rule, a properly fastened protective headgear has to be worn by all athletes (as well as any other person) at all times when mounted.

**3.7.2.** Any athlete (as well as any other person) violating this provision must immediately be prohibited from further riding until the protective headgear is properly in place.

**3.7.3.** Outfit: the following is compulsory:

Protective Headgear	Black or dark colour
Breeches	White or off-white
Stock or tie	White or off-white
Gloves	White, off white or same colour as coat
Riding boots	Black or dark colour
Tailcoats/jackets	Any single colour will be allowed. Striped or multi-coloured coats or jackets are not permitted. Tasteful and discreet accents, such as a collar of a different hue or modest piping or crystal decorations, are acceptable.

**3.7.4.** In bad weather, the panel of judges, showmanager and DC together may allow the wearing of light waterproof coat.

**3.7.5.** Military, Police, etc. may wear civil or service dress at all levels. Service dress does not only apply to Members of the Armed Forces and Police, but also to members and employees/students of other State/Military Establishments and National Studs/schools/institutes. They must comply with all protective headgear requirements.

**3.7.6.** Spurs are optional in all levels and must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur when on the athlete's boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard knobs are allowed ("Impuls" spur) and the knobs may rotate. "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed.

**3.7.7.** Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited at whilst competing, and such usage is penalized by elimination. Use of one (1) earphones or similar device is however permitted during training and warmup.

### **3.8. Equipment horse**

**3.8.1. Dressage saddle** must be well-fitting and have long, near-vertical flaps, English-style or safety stirrups and a girth. An all-purpose saddle is permitted.

**3.8.2. Stirrups** must have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups may have an opening on the outside branch. The foot must not be fully or partially enclosed and must in no way be attached to the stirrups (for example with magnets).

**3.8.3.** No saddle covers are allowed.

**3.8.4.** Pommel straps are allowed.

**3.8.5. Bridle with noseband:** Except for the buckles and padding the headstall and noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. Padding is allowed on bridles. Nylon or other non-metal material may be used to reinforce leather in the headstall but must not be in direct contact with the horse. Elastic inserts are permitted in the crownpiece and cheek pieces only and must not be in direct contact with the horse or the bit.

**3.8.6.** A browband is required, and except for the parts that attach to the crownpiece or headstall, is not required to be made of leather or leather-like material.

**3.8.7.** The crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll but must not be fitted to lie behind the skull.

**3.8.8.** A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used.

**3.8.9.** A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Rein additions or attachments are not permitted. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit. Reins must not be made of rope material.

**3.8.10.** Article 1044.8 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations applies in relation to the permitted tightness of the noseband.

**3.8.11.** Any piece of tack that impairs the ears to move freely is forbidden.

**3.8.12. Double bridle:** A double bridle must have a cavesson noseband and bridoon and curb with curb chain. A combined noseband may be used without the lower "flash" strap. Neither a cavesson noseband nor a curb chain may ever be as tightly fixed so as to harm the horse.

**3.8.13.** A double bridle is allowed for seven (7) year old horses in Advanced and Master Dressage. For horses under the age of seven (7) year a snaffle bridle or bitless bridle is to be used. A plain snaffle bridle is required to be used with a regular cavesson noseband, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband, a crossed noseband, a combined noseband or a Micklem or similar design of bridle.

**3.8.14. Bits:** Bitless and snaffle bits are permitted in all levels.

**3.8.15.** Snaffle, Bridoon and curb bits must have a smooth surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited. Bits must be made of metal, durable plastic synthetic material or flexible rubber. Bits may be covered with rubber/latex. Bits must not place mechanical restraint upon the tongue. The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon/snaffle and/or curb must be such so as not to hurt the horse. Minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be twelve millimetres (12 mm) for curb bit, and ten millimetres (10 mm) for bridoon bit. Snaffles must have a minimum diameter of twelve millimetres (12 mm) for horses and ten millimetres (10mm) for ponies. The diameter of the mouthpiece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece.

**3.8.16.** Snaffle bits may be used with loose ring, D-Ring, Eggbutt and hanging cheeks. Single or double jointed snaffles may also be used with upper or lower cheeks, full cheeks or Fulmer cheeks. Loose rings may have a sleeve fitted around part of the ring. 3.1.2. A snaffle may have up to two (2) joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double jointed snaffle, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges and may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

**3.8.17.** A double jointed snaffle or snaffle with rotating mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of thirty millimetres (30mm). The mouthpiece of a jointed or unjointed snaffle may be shaped in a curve within the dimensions specified above.

**3.8.18. Bridoon bits** – a bridoon bit is defined as a snaffle bit that is used together with a curb bit to form a double bridle. Bridoons may be used with loose ring and eggbutt cheeks.

**3.8.19.** Bridoons must have one (1) or two (2) joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double jointed bridoon, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

**3.8.20.** Bridoons where the centre link(s) of the bit can lock and have the effect of a mullen mouth snaffle are not permitted.

**3.8.21. Curb Bits.** The length of the lever arm below the mouth piece of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek and must not exceed five centimetres (5 cm). If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouth piece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouth piece is at the uppermost position. Curbs may have straight or S-shaped cheeks. They may have rotating lever arms.

**3.8.22. Whips:** In all levels one (1) whip is optional. The maximum length of the whip is one (1) meter. The whip is used in a way which is not irritating to the other competitors.

**3.8.23. Gadgets:** Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, nasal strips etc.) and any form of blinkers that interfere with the horse's vision are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden during training, warm-up and competitions.

**3.8.24. Additional items:** Ear hoods are permitted and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the horse's eyes. The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design. Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband. Earplugs on horses are forbidden.

**3.8.25. Boots and bandages:** boots and/or bandages on the horse's legs are forbidden while competing in the arena. They are allowed in the warmup arena and must be removed before entering the competition arena.

**3.8.26. Manes and tail:** The manes of the horses must be braided. Both crest braided as plaits are allowed. The top of the tail is allowed to be braided.

## **IV. WESTERN PLEASURE**

The good western pleasure horse has a comfortable free flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with the individual's conformation. It should cover a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. Ideally, the horse should have a balanced, flowing motion, while exhibiting correct gaits that are of the proper cadence that requires no more than light contact by the rider. The quality of the movement and the consistency of the gaits is a major consideration.

The head and neck serve as a balance arm and are carried in a relaxed, natural position appropriate for each individual's own conformation. The horse should carry its head and neck in a relaxed, natural position. It should not carry its head behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance. Its head should be level with the nose slightly in front of the vertical, having a bright expression with the ears alert. The breed characteristics of the Arabian horse should be recognizable. The horse should be shown on a reasonably loose rein, but with light contact and control. It should be responsive, yet smooth, in transitions when called for.

When asked to extend, the horse should move out with the same flowing motion. Maximum credit should be given to the flowing, balanced and willing horse that gives the appearance of being fit and a pleasure to ride. Maximum credit should be given to the responsive, confident, willingly guided horse that performs all the required gaits correctly with strength and finesse.

The horse should be balanced in all aspects; conformation, gait and disposition. Such a horse is an athlete that goes softly and gives the appearance of being fit and capable of the tasks. Ultimately, the horse is very eye appealing and gives the impression of being a pleasure to ride.

Light contact should be measured by a horse's response to the rider's hands, seat and legs and not merely by the tension in the reins. However, an excessively draped rein is just as undesirable as extremely tight rein. Subtle cues are desirable, while an absence of cues is not. The individual that willingly and quietly responds to subtle cues by the rider is performing with light contact.

For explanation of the gaits, see rule 3.15 in the Western Rulebook.

**4.1. Novice:** The novice western pleasure is a stepping-stone to the more advanced level of competition. This class will be judged according to the purpose of its intent.

The basic gaits are required of the participant and horse, with more emphasis on technique and less on speed of execution.

Basic gates that will be asked (on both hands) are Walk, Jog and Lope. During the class the stop and backup will be asked either on the rail/track or in the line-up. Extended Jog can be asked.

Reverse can be asked in walk or jog.

Entering the arena can be asked in walk or jog counter clockwise.

Only the following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Jog, Jog $\leftrightarrow$ Lope, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop

**4.2. Advanced:** In this level the gaits are expected to be technically correct and executed with a degree of fluency.

Gaits that will be asked (on both hands) are Walk, Jog, Extended Jog and Lope. During the class the stop and backup will be asked either on the rail/track or in the line-up. Extended lope can also be asked.

Reverse can be asked in walk or jog.

Entering the arena can be asked in walk or jog counter clockwise on the rail/track.

The following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Jog, Jog $\leftrightarrow$ Lope, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Lope, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Jog, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Lope.

From extended jog and lope only back to the normal jog or lope can be asked.

**4.3. Master:** In this level the gaits are expected to be technically correct and very smooth. In this level all transitions of the gaits can be asked.

Gaits that will be asked (on both hands) are Walk, Jog, Extended Jog and Lope. Extended Lope can also be asked. During the class the stop and backup will be asked either on the rail or in the line-up.



Reverse can be asked in walk, jog, or extended jog

Entering the arena can be asked in Walk, Jog or Lope counter clockwise.

The following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Jog , Jog $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Lope, Walk $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Stop, Walk $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Lope, Stop $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Jog, Stop $\leftarrow$  $\rightarrow$ Lope.

From an extended gait all transitions can be asked.

**4.4.** In this discipline the horse is judged on quality of gaits, posture and conformation. Too high and too low speed will be judged negatively.

**4.5.** The horses are ridden in Walk, Jog and Lope, with the rein in a light contact that does not interfere with the horse's freedom of movement, or with a reasonably loose rein, and without strong aids from the rider. The rider should remain seated in all gaits.

**4.6.** To show the gaits as stated in rule 3.15. (et seq) in the Western rulebook, competitors are asked to show their horses with natural strides in both directions, in all gaits. If this requirement is not met, the judges will ask for an extension of the stride on one or more gaits. This necessarily does not mean an increase in speed but simply showing complete and natural strides in the walk, jog and lope.

If a competitor feels his/her horse's gaits are correct, there is no need to extend the stride.

Participants who do not comply with this rule will be rated lower.

The horses should be able to go backwards easily and remain quietly still.

**4.7.** The turn for change of direction ("reverse") must be taken away from the rail. Changing gait during reverse will be charged as transitioning to the wrong gait and penalized as such. A reverse in lope cannot be requested. Riding a circle or moving across the arena in search of more space is not allowed.

**4.8.** The judges may require additional equivalent work from any horse. However, performance other than that mentioned above shall not be required.

**4.9.** To check equipment, a judge may require the contestant to dismount at the line-up.

**4.10.** A good pleasure horse has a pleasant gait consistent with its external appearance. The springiness of the balls should guarantee the rider a pleasant and smooth ride. The horse carries its head relaxed in its natural own position, with the lunar head no lower than the withers. The head should be carried straight with the nose a fraction in front of the vertical. The horse is relaxed, but attentive and willing to accept and follow the lightest help(s) from the rider. When asked to extend the gaits, it should be done in the same rhythm and equal suppleness.

**4.11.** Except for snaffle bit and bosal opting, the reins shall be held in one (1) hand and may not be changed during the class (see rule 2.3 in the Western Rulebook.).

**4.12. Errors resulting in place reduction:**

- uncontrolled high tempo in one or more of the three gaits
- transition to the wrong gait
- extremely slow pace in one or more of the three gaits; momentum
- riding in an uncalled for gait
- touching horse or saddle with free hand
- excessive head posture of the horse
- too low a horse's head posture (ear tips lower than the withers)
- bent or strained neck of the horse such that the nose is behind the vertical
- forward nose
- open mouth
- tripping or falling off the horse

- use of spurs or romal before the girth
- a deadened, underfed, sluggish or overtired horse
- interfering with other participants
- "Overly canted lope": when the outside hind leg engages further to the inside of the arena than the inside front leg (very canted lope)

**4.13. Errors resulting in disqualification**, except in the novice level where they will result in a substantial reduction in points:

- wearing the head too low (continuous tip of the ear lower than the withers)
- continuously too deeply arched neck or kink in the neck causing the nose to be carried behind the vertical line.

**4.14. Western Equipment:** Check the Western Rulebook Chapter II

**4.15. Braiding:** The bridlepath, forelock and top of the tail may be braided.

## **V. HUNTER PLEASURE**

### **5.1. Novice:**

Gaits: Walk, Trot, Canter, Reverse in walk or trot. Backup can be asked in the line-up.

Only the following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Trot, Trot $\leftrightarrow$ Canter, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop

Reverse can be asked in walk or trot.

Entering the arena can be asked in walk or trot and always counter clockwise.

### **5.2. Advanced:**

Gaits: walk, trot, extended trot and canter, reverse in walk or trot, backup on center line or in line-up.

The following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Trot, Trot $\leftrightarrow$ Canter, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Canter, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Trot, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Canter and .Trot $\leftrightarrow$  Extended Trot

Entering the arena can be asked in walk or jog counter clockwise on the rail/track or in walk or jog over the center line.

### **5.3. Master:**

Gaits: Walk, Trot, Extended trot, Canter and Hand Gallop can be asked.

Reverse in Walk, Trot or Extended Trot can be asked, Backup only on center line.

The following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Trot, Trot $\leftrightarrow$ Canter, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Canter, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Trot and Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Canter.

Entering the arena will be in Trot or Canter over the center line.

The following transitions can be asked: Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Jog, Jog $\leftrightarrow$ Lope, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Stop, Walk $\leftrightarrow$ Lope, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Jog, Stop $\leftrightarrow$ Lope.

From extended jog or Hand Gallop all transitions can be asked.

### **5.4. Overall:**

The placements in a Hunter Pleasure class are due to the qualities of the horse. The posture, seat and aids of the rider have a major influence on this.

Posting in trot is mandatory for all levels. A correct posting in trot helps the horse to maintain a constant and rhythmic pace. Most riders come up too high from the saddle and this can cause unnecessary leg movement.

This can result in the horse being thrown out of balance, which can cause deduction in points and placement.

When riding a posting trot, one does not raise higher than the saddle tree and leans forward slightly.

Hunter Pleasure should be presented appropriately. Hunters must move with long, low strides and with relaxed free flowing movements, performing with correct gaits that must be provided with the correct cadence. The quality of the movement and the regularity of the gaits is a very important part.

The horses must be obedient, have a friendly appearance with the ears alert, and respond willingly to the rider's light hand and leg aids.

The horses have to react and make smooth transitions. When an extended trot or hand gallop is requested, this must be done in the same smooth movements.

The upper part of the horse's head should be equal to, or slightly above, the shoulders to provide the necessary impetus to the hindquarters. The head should be on, or slightly in front of, the vertical.

### **5.5. Errors resulting in place reduction:**

- uncontrolled high tempo in one or more of the three gaits
- transition to the wrong gait
- extremely slow pace in one or more of the three gaits
- touching horse or saddle with hand
- the head of the horse behind the vertical line
- the head of the horse too low (ear tips lower than the withers)
- pulling nose forward
- open mouth of the horse
- tripping or falling of the horse
- interfering with other competitors in the arena
- wrong posting

**5.6. Errors resulting in disqualification**, except in the novice level where they will result in a substantial reduction in points:

- Riding in a gait which is not asked for. This also includes showing strong trot or a passage when normal trot is being asked.
- Continuously too deeply arched neck or kink in the neck causing the nose to be carried behind the vertical line.
- Horse continuously carrying its head too low (ear tips lower than the withers)
- Falling off the horse

### 5.7. Equipment rider

Short Hunter jacket (colours: green, bay, dark blue, grey, hunter model/pattern, tweed, hunter red)

Hunter cap (dark colour) without bling

Hunter breeches (off white or light brown colours lighter than jacket colour),

Hunter riding boots (bay, brown or black colour, no bling)

Spurs without wheels, jumping whips or crops optional.

### 5.8. Equipment horse

Traditional harness, i.e. an English bridle with noseband (without removable flash) and a hunting and/or all purpose (versatile) saddle. A dressage noseband is allowed without the removable flash.

The harness must be black or brown in color without decorations. I

Only English snaffle (no shanks), Pelham or Kimberwick bits are allowed.

Saddle pad must be saddle shaped, white or light colored without decorations.

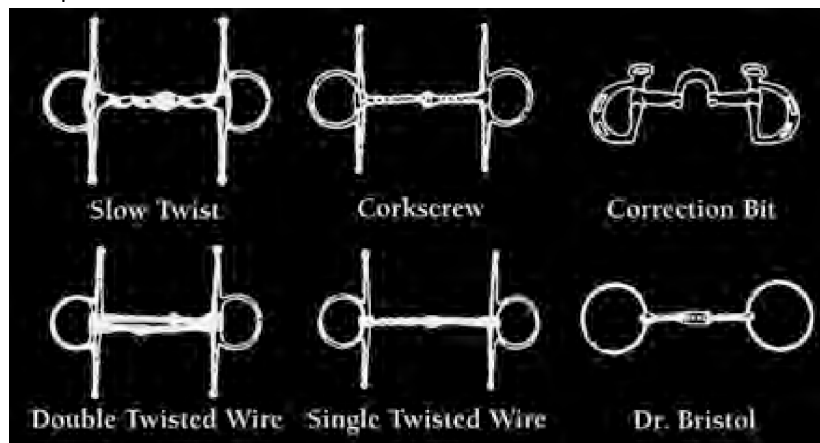
Breastcollar is optional

Jumping reins with stops are prohibited

**Manes and tail:** The manes of the horses must be braided. Both crest braided as plaits are allowed.

The top of the tail is allowed to be braided.

Acceptable bits:



Not accepted:



## **VI. TRADITIONAL ARABIAN RIDING**

### **6.1. Overall**

The horse should give the impression of being a pleasure to ride and show a mannerly attitude. All gaits must be performed straight and willingly with ease, cadence and balance. Transitions should be smooth and without hesitation. The horse should be balanced and appear to enjoy their work. Good classic pleasure horses have a powerful, animated stride that allows them to comfortably move forward with grace and elegance. The frontline of the horse's head should not be behind the vertical line.

Horses will be shown at a walk, canter/lope and handgallop; At jury inspection the horse needs to stand still so it is safe for the judge to walk between them.

In this class no backing up and trotting will be asked.

The combination will be judged 50 % on manners, performance, suitability, quality, and conformation and 50 % on equipment

Competitors enter the ring in counter clockwise direction at a working canter/lope.

Judges are required to consider all gaits equally in adjudicating this class.

For jury inspection horses line up head-to-tail the length middle line of the ring.

Western and Classic Traditional Riding will be a separate class with at least 3 entries in both classes. If not the class will be combined.

### **6.2. Errors resulting in place reductions**

- uncontrolled high tempo in one or more of the three courses
- transition to the wrong gait
- extremely slow pace in one or more of the three gaits
- the head of the horse going behind the vertical line
- the head of the horse going too low (ear tips lower than the withers)
- pulling the nose forward
- open mouth of the horse
- tripping or falling of the horse
- interfering with other competitors in the arena
- not standing still at jury inspection

### **6.3. Errors resulting in disqualification**

- Riding in a gait which is not asked for.
- Continuously too deeply arched neck or kink in the neck causing the nose to be carried behind the vertical line.
- Horse continuously carrying its head too low (ear tips lower than the withers)
- Extreme or reckless speed
- Unsafe clothing from rider and/or horse
- Fall off the horse
- Riding additional manoeuvres

### **6.4. Equipment rider**

**6.4.1.** Native Bedouin type costume including a flowing cape or coat, pantaloons, head dress, scarf or sash is allowed as long as it can not come loose and it is safe for horse and rider. It is up to the judges to judge if clothing and equipment are safe.

**6.4.2.** Riding helmet is mandatory. If you choose not to wear a helmet you need to sign the safety helmet/cap disclaimer before you start the class.

**6.4.3.** No whips or spurs are allowed. No object may be carried while riding (weapons etc).

### **6.5. Equipment horse**

**6.5.1.** Classic saddle or Western saddle according to the Classic Pleasure and Western rules.

**6.5.2.** Bridles and bits allowed according to the Classic Pleasure or Western rules.

**6.5.3.** Blanket has to cover the croup of the horse but must be secure and save so it can not get loose or shift to the side

**6.5.4.** Breast collar is optional.

**6.5.5.** No martingales or any other kind of tie down reins are allowed.

**6.5.6.** Manes and tails are not allowed to be braided.