

PFHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS POLICY ON OTHER PASO MODALITIES

I. Introduction.

- A. Maintain File.** The Association will maintain a file of applications for Validation Certificates for competition purposes only of other paso modalities.
- B. Prescribe Procedures.** The Association may prescribe whatever procedures are necessary to carry out the rules related thereto.
- C. Binding Use of Privileges.** All members of the Association and all non members who utilize the privileges of the Association, for example by signing any portion of any document required for the validation of a horse or for the transfer of a Validation Certificate into or out of their ownership, agree to be bound by, obey and follow all provisions of the rules of the Association and all decisions and actions of the Association.
- D. Classes.** Offering other paso modalities classes at the Regional level is optional. Classes at the national level may be held and will be limited to Stallions/colts, Mares/fillies and Geldings in Trocha, Trote y Galope and Trocha y Galope.
- E. Points for qualification at Nationals.** The Association shall maintain a record of points awarded horses competing in other paso modalities. The number of points to qualify for Nationals is 20 points.
- F. Entry Requirements:** To be eligible for entry and exhibition in a PFHA show, the horse must have a Validation Certificate from the Association and must be entered and exhibited under its full name and validation number. All participants (owners, agents, lessees, trainers, riders, exhibitors and handlers) must be current members of, and in good standing with the Association.

II. Responsibility.

- A. File is a Service.** The Association maintains the file of Validation as a service to its members and is in no way liable for any misrepresentation of a horse to a buyer or to the public.
- B. Burden of Proof of Authenticity.** The burden of proof for the authenticity of the background information of a horse is upon the breeder and subsequent seller, as well as upon the owner who applies for validation of such horse.
- C. Furnish Correct Information.** All information furnished to the Association in connection with any Validation transaction or activity must be true and correct.
- D. Role of the Association in Dispute.** The Association does not mediate disputes or settle controversies of any nature that may exist or arise between Association members or others; however, the Association may refuse to perform any Validation transaction of which the Association has actual knowledge of any dispute or controversy by way of having been provided legal documentation supporting the controversy by or between various parties and affecting the horse(s) involved.
- E. No Liability.** Neither the Association, any of its Directors, officers, employees, nor members of its Committees shall be answerable in damages for the good faith performance of Validation responsibilities of transactions.
- F. Responsibility to Provide Documentation.** Any owner is required to supply additional information and documentary evidence as the Association may

determine is necessary. Primary responsibility for obtaining and submitting any paperwork required to complete a business transaction with the Validation rests with the owner of the horse. Where additional information from prior owners is necessary, the current owner is responsible for all contact and correspondence with those prior owners.

- G. Registration Numbers.** The Association will issue Certificate of Validation numbers in consecutive order, followed by the letter (P1) for Trote y Galope, (P2) for Trocha y Galope and (P3) for Trocha, based upon the order in which the Validation Applications are processed. Under no circumstances will validation numbers be assigned until all validation requirements are fulfilled and all fees relating to the validation are paid in full.
- H. No Telephone Processing.** No procedure will be affected based on telephone communication.
- I. Delivery of Validation Certificates.** All Certificates of Validation are mailed from the Association office by First Class mail to the last known address as it appears in the Association records and, upon mailing, shall be deemed received by the intended recipient. An owner may request that a Certificate of Validation be mailed by Certified mail and pay the mailing charge. The Paso Fino Horse Association, Inc. assumes no responsibility for safe arrival, and a fee will be charged to replace a lost Certificate of Validation, whatever the reason.

III. Validation Certificates Applications.

A Validation Certificate is not a substitute of the registration papers where the horse is originally registered. The Certificate of Validation number assigned through the PFHA is for purposes of show points only. It is not to replace the original registration papers from an Accepted Registry.

Validation Certificates Applications must be submitted on the Validation Application form provided by the Association or via the official Paso Fino website. Online verification is available to current members. The information provided must be properly completed. A validation certificate application filed electronically will require an original written signature for any person(s) who is the recorded owner.

On the Validation Certificate Application form, written signatures must be original. Faxed signatures are not acceptable. Appropriate fees and a notarized copy of the original registration papers from any accepted registry, that is, an entity recognized as an accepted registry by the Association's Board of Directors, must accompany the application.

A list of accepted registries will be provided by the Association upon request and will be published periodically.

IV. General Procedures for Handling Validation Certificates Applications.

- A. Action by the Association on Validation Certificate Application.** When a Validation Certificate Application is received from any person, hereafter referred as the "applicant", the Association may take one of the following actions.
 - 1. Approve the Validation Certificate Application if all the requirements have been met.
 - 2. Request additional information.

3. Deny the Validation Certificate Application if all the requirements have not been met.
 4. Refer the Validation Certificate Application to the Validation Advisory Committee for consideration.
- B. Action by the Validation Advisory Committee Following Referral.** If the Validation Certificate Application is referred to the Validation Advisory Committee, the Committee will review the request for validation and instruct the Association to take one of the following actions:
1. Approve the Validation Certificate Application.
 2. Request additional information.
 3. Notify the applicant in writing that the horse is not eligible for validation, specifying the reasons for the denial.
- C. Applicant May Request Hearing Following Denial.** Within 30 days after the mailing of the notice of the decision to deny the validation certificate, the applicant may make a written request for a hearing regarding the decision. A hearing will be held by the Association Hearing Committee. The applicant seeking validation of a horse will have the burden of proving that the horse qualifies for a validation certificate. The decision of the Association Hearing Committee will be final. If a request for a hearing is not made within 30 days after the mailing of the notice, the denial of the validation certificate will be final.

V. Transfer of Record of Ownership.

- A. Documents for Transfer.** To transfer the recorded ownership of validation certificate horse, the Association must receive the following.
1. **Validation Certificate.** The original Validation Certificate properly endorsed, the original signature of the owner(s) must appear as the seller in the transfer section of the Validation Certificate Application.
 2. **Buyer's Information.** The buyer's name, address and membership number, if applicable.
 3. **Date of Transfer.** For this purpose, the postmark date or other recognizable date of the transmission of the endorsed Validation Certificate to the Association, if such date is legible or, if not, the date of receipt by the Association, will be utilized as the date of sale on all transfers, unless a transfer is the result of a court order or judgment, death of the recorded owner(s), divorce, non-judicial government sale or foreclosure of a stableman's lien or other security interest.
 4. **Payment of the Applicable Transfer Fee.** The fee will be based on the date of sale, the date the papers are postmarked and the membership status of the buyer(s) or seller(s). Either the buyer(s) or the current recorded owner(s) must be member(s) of the Association to qualify for the membership fee scale.

VI. Duplicate Verification Certificate.

- A. Requirements.** The following requirements must be satisfied in order to obtain a Duplicate Validation Certificate.

1. The recorded owner must request a Duplicate Validation Certificate in writing explaining the loss or destruction of the original Validation Certificate. A form is available from the Association. The signature of the recorded owner must be notarized.
 2. Payment of Duplicate Validation Certificate fee must be made.
- B. Prior Validation Certificate Void.** By the issuance of a Duplicate Validation Certificate, all previous Validation Certificates of the horse are declared null and void.

VII. Cancellation of a Validation Certificate by the Recorded Owner.

- A. Return of Original Certificate.** If the recorded owner wishes to withdraw the Validation Certificate due to any reason, the recorded owner must return the original Validation Certificate to the Association accompanied by a signed statement explaining the matter. The Association will retain the Validation Certificate unless the recorded owner requests its return.
- B. Publication.** Any cancellation of a Validation Certificate by the recorded owner will be published in the Association's official publication and on the official Association website.

VIII. Cancellation of a Validation Certificate by the Association.

- A. Grounds for Cancellation.** The Association may cancel the Validation Certificate of a horse if it is found that there is reasonable ground to believe that a horse identified as the subject of a Validation Certificate is not the subject of the Validation Certificate. In addition, Validation Certificate may be cancelled for nonpayment of fees associated with that specific certificate.
- B. Owner may Request Hearing Following Notice of Cancellation.** If the Association determines that there is reasonable ground for cancellation of the Validation Certificate of a horse, the owner will be notified. Within 30 days after the mailing of the notice of the decision to cancel a Validation Certificate, the owner may make a written request for a hearing regarding the decision. A hearing will be held by the Association Hearing Committee. The Association will have the burden of proving that the Validation Certificate of the horse should be cancelled. The decision of the Association Hearing Committee will be final. If a request for a hearing is not made within 30 days after the mailing of the notice, the decision to cancel the Validation Certificate will be final.
- C. Disciplinary Action.** If the Association determines that violations of the current rules have occurred, disciplinary action will be taken as set forth in these rules.
- D. Publication.** Notice of cancellation of a Validation Certificate and any disciplinary action will be published in the Association publication and the Association website.

IX. Fees. Same as XVI. Fees Chapter Eight, Registration Rules, page 129-130.

CLASSES-OTHER PASO MODALITIES

- A. Classes:**

1. **Trocha**
 - a. **Stallions and Colts**
 - b. **Mares and Fillies**
 - c. **Geldings**
2. **Trote y Galope**
 - a. **Stallions and Colts**
 - b. **Mares and Fillies**
 - c. **Geldings**
3. **Trocha y Galope**
 - a. **Stallions and Colts**
 - b. **Mares and Fillies**
 - c. **Geldings**

B. Qualifying Gaits:

1. Trocha. The “trocha” is the typical way of movement, considered a gait, for some horses which is measured in a rhythmical and harmonious tempo but in four uneven beats, identified by the sound produced by the four beats when the sequence of the cycle is performed. Its sound follows a 1-1-1-1 rhythm.

2. Galope. The “galope” or canter is a movement of forward diagonal propulsion in three beats: the first stage begins with the striking of one hind leg; the second stage is taken by the opposite hind leg and the foreleg diagonal to it; then the third stage is completed when the last foreleg hits the ground. The beat makes a 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3 sound.

3. Trote. The “trot” is a movement described by successive and alternating diagonally-paired leg positions or bipeds executed in two beats, which produces a striking sound when making contact with the ground. It sounds like a 1-2-1-2 beat.

C. Procedures: Exhibitors will enter the ring to the right on the rail and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner until instructed to reverse. Horse must work both directions. In the case of horses that execute two gaits (Trote and Galope or Trocha and Galope) they will perform both gaits at the request of the judges. The change of direction will be made toward the center of the ring in an area that does not exceed three meters, returning to the rail in the opposite direction. In the case of the Galope gait, as they execute the gait and change direction, they must do so in the correct lead. Failure to take the correct lead in the galope, loss of cadence, turning on the front legs and pivoting with the hind legs shall be penalized. Horses may be asked to travel the sounding board. After the line up, horses will be asked to perform individual tests, 1. Figure eight (8), 2. Back, 3. Serpentine and 4. Sounding board in both directions. Failure to follow the order of the tests will be penalized.

D. Appointments: The official Paso Fino show costume in addition to the Colombian Chaps or Zamarros. English or Colombian show tack must be used. Shoes are the same as described in the PFHA rulebook.

- E. Placement:** A Judge shall decide the placement of horses in a class and state his or her decision on the Judge's card issued by the Association for this purpose. Judge's cards will include procedures on the card as called for in the Association Rule Book for each individual class. If, in the opinion of the Judge, six horses and an alternate in a particular class are not performing as required, a Judge is not required to place six horses and an alternate. He or she must excuse those horses not performing as required and place any remaining horses starting with first.
- F. Work Off.** If in the process of making judgment during a class it becomes necessary to entertain a work off between any groups of horses, the Judge shall place those horses consecutively in final placement. The judge may add horses to any group prior to the final placement.
A work off does not necessarily mean that the contestants are vying for first place. Any horse that becomes unruly, ill mannered or unsafe shall be excused from the ring.
- G. Disqualify, Soundness:** A Judge must order from the ring any unruly horse or one whose actions threaten to endanger other exhibitors or their entries. A Judge may disqualify any contestant for excessive abuse to a horse. At their discretion, a Judge may refuse entry into the arena or remove an entry from a class for improper attire and or equipment. The Judge or official veterinarian of the show shall make appropriate decisions concerning a horse's soundness, as defined in the PFHA Show Rules, Chapter Two, Section IV., G. Soundness.
- H. Class with Single Entry:** If a class has only one entry, a Judge may send the entry once around the ring and pin it or excuse it.
- I. Use of the Sounding Board:** Judges may use the sounding board in Trocha, Trocha y Galope and Trote y Galope. In case of horses that execute two gaits, they must execute both gaits on the sounding board.
- J. Year End Awards:** Horses entered in other paso modalities, (trocha, trote y galope and trocha y galope), may qualify for Association High Point Award of the Year in their paso modalities only.