

A close-up, profile view of a horse's head, focusing on the eye and muzzle. The horse has a light-colored coat, possibly white or cream, with some darker shading around the eye. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "Andalusian/Lusitano" is overlaid in red, serif font across the middle of the image.

**Andalusian/Lusitano**

**Class Specifications**



## Class Specs

- Remember there are different specifications for each division, listed in order of importance.
- Consult the class specs for your division to see what criteria you will be judged on.

A close-up photograph of a horse's head, focusing on its mouth where a dark bit is visible. The horse has light-colored, possibly white or cream, hair. The background is dark, making the horse's features stand out.

# Tack and Attire

- Check the Rule Book for proper tack and attire for your division.
- A lack of required tack, equipment, or appointments shall result in **IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION!!**



# English Pleasure- Formal Saddle Horse

- Qualifying Gaits:
- **Animated Walk:**
  - two or four beat, highly collected
  - exhibits much “primp” at a slow speed with good action, animation, and snap
  - performed with great style, elegance and airiness of motion
- **Animated Trot:**
  - highly collected
  - energy directed toward animation rather than speed
  - EXCESSIVE SPEED **TO BE PENALIZED**

## English Pleasure- Formal Saddle Horse, cont.

- **Canter:**
  - collected, animated, true, smooth, unhurried
  - correct on both leads
  - loss of form due to excessive speed  
**SHALL BE PENALIZED**





## For all Pleasure Classes

- Imperative that the horse gives the distinct appearance of being pleasurable to ride/drive and displays a pleasurable attitude



## English Pleasure- Saddle Seat

- Obedience to rider of prime importance
- Vitality and presence are highly desirable
- All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness
- **EXCESSIVE SPEED AT ANY GAIT MUST BE PENALIZED**



## English Pleasure- Saddle Seat, cont.

- Qualifying gaits:
- **Walk:** true, flat footed, 4-beat, and ground covering
- **Trot:** balanced overall, relaxed, easy going with elasticity and freedom of movement
- **Strong Trot:** faster with lengthened stride, maintaining balance, ease and freedom of movement
- **Canter:** smooth, unhurried, straight and correct on both leads
- **Hand Gallop:** faster with lengthened stride, but controlled



# Country English Pleasure

- A quiet, responsive mouth is paramount
- Horses must be asked to halt on the rail, stand quietly, back and walk off on a loose rein at least one direction of the arena
- All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance, and smoothness
- **EXCESSIVE SPEED AT ANY GAIT MUST BE PENALIZED**



## Country English Pleasure, cont.

- Qualifying gaits:
- **Walk:** 4-beat, true, flat footed
- **Normal Trot:** overall balanced, relaxed, easy going with elasticity and free movement
  - HIGH ACTION MUST BE PENALIZED
  - posting is required
- **Strong Trot:** faster with lengthened stride, maintaining balance, ease, and free movement
  - HIGH ACTION MUST BE PENALIZED
  - posting is required



## Country English Pleasure, cont.

- **Canter:**
  - Smooth, unhurried
  - Straight and correct on both leads
- **Hand gallop:**
  - Faster gait
  - Lengthened stride and controlled
  - Straight and correct on both leads
  - EXTREME SPEED MUST BE PENALIZED



## English Pleasure- Hunt Seat

- Should display a pleasurable and relaxed attitude
- Neck should be carried lower than a Saddle Seat horse
- Head should be carried in a more relaxed manner with less bend at the poll
- Excessive speed at any gait will be **SEVERELY PENALIZED**



## English Pleasure- Hunt Seat, cont.

- Qualifying Gaits:
- **Walk:**
  - 4-beat, flat footed
  - straight and true
  - regular and unconstrained with good reach
- **Trot:**
  - Straight and regular
  - Should be mannerly, cadenced, and balanced
  - Medium speed with free-moving, ground covering stride (with rider posting)



## English Pleasure- Hunt Seat, cont.

- **Canter:**
  - Even, smooth, unhurried
  - Straight on both leads
- **Hand Gallop**
  - Long, free, ground covering stride (amount of ground covered may vary between horses due to difference in natural length of stride)
  - The ultimate linear extension of stride within the hand of the rider
  - Looser, freer elongation of stride and frame of horse compared to the canter
  - A decided lengthening of stride should be shown while the horse remains controlled, mannerly, correct and straight on both leads




# English Pleasure- Dressage Suitability

- Horses should give the appearance of having the potential to become a dressage horse
- Slight errors should not be penalized
- Judged on:
  - freedom, regularity and purity of the paces
  - Harmony, lightness and ease of movements
  - Lightness of the forehand and engagement of the hindquarters
  - Acceptance of the bridle with submissiveness throughout, without tension or resistance



## English Pleasure- Dressage Suitability, cont.

- Exhibitors may be asked to lengthen or shorten strides, walk on a loose rein, halt, stand quietly and back
- **Walk:**
  - straight, flat footed, 4-beat, ground covering
  - Irregularity of gait should be penalized
- **Trot:**
  - Free, forward and balanced
  - Hocks well flexed with hind legs stepping over front hoof print
  - Speed is not a factor, shouldn't be hurried



## English Pleasure- Dressage Suitability, cont.

- Trot work to be ridden rising or sitting at the discretion of the rider
- **Canter:**
  - Should show impulsion, balance and engagement
  - Horse's back must be relaxed and supple allowing hindquarters to reach under and work with moderate power and drive
  - Horse's neck should be relaxed and carried in a natural position for each individual's conformation



# Dressage Hack

- In addition to the objectives of the Dressage Suitability class, horses should:
  - Begin to show more thrust (pushing power)
  - Progression towards a degree of balance and thoroughness
  - Should be reliably on the bit
  - Greater degree of straightness, bending, suppleness and thoroughness is required
  - Clear distinction between the paces (working and lengthened)
- Horse's ability as a Dressage mount is to be highly considered
- Reference the Dressage Chapter rules for gait descriptions

## Dressage Hack, cont.

- Both directions horses must perform:
  - working walk
  - working trot
  - working canter
  - lengthened trot
  - lengthened canter
- At least one direction horses must perform:
  - free walk
  - working trot on a long rein with horse stretching forward and down
- A rein back of 4 steps may be asked for on the rail or in the line up
- Canter transitions maybe be called from walk or trot
- Trot work to be ridden sitting or rising at the discretion of the rider



# English Show Hack

- Not necessarily a Dressage horse, nor an English Pleasure horse, just a well trained animal
- Elevation and high knee action are NOT to be emphasized
- Must be balanced and show vitality, animation, presence, clean fine limbs and supreme quality
- Must show noticeable transition between paces, clear transitions in a balanced and level manner
- Obedience to rider is of prime importance, must appear to give a comfortable and pleasurable ride
- Horses may be asked to halt and rein-back while on the rail





## English Show Hack, cont.

- Walk: 4-beat, straight, true, flat footed
  - **Normal Walk:** regular, unconstrained, energetic and calmly forward
  - **Collected Walk:** shorter and higher stride, head approaches vertical but never behind it, pacing is a **SERIOUS FAULT**
  - **Extended Walk:** lengthened frame and stride, covering ground without rushing



## English Show Hack, cont.

- Trot: free moving, straight, light rein contact
  - **Normal Trot:** light, crisp, balanced, cadenced
  - **Collected Trot:** stride is shorter and lighter, maintaining balance and impulsion, neck is more raised and arched, head approaches vertical but never behind it
  - **Extended Trot:** maintaining same cadence at medium speed, horse lengthens its stride as a result of greater impulsion, should remain light in rider's hand
- Trot work to be ridden sitting or rising at the discretion of the rider.



## English Show Hack, cont.

- Canter: straight on both leads, smooth
  - **Normal Canter:** light, even strides, moved into without hesitation
  - **Collected Canter:** marked by the lightness of the forehead and engagement of hindquarters with supple, free shoulders, neck more raised and arched as head approaches vertical, but never behind it
  - **Extended Canter:** maintaining same cadence, horse lengthens its stride as a result of impulsion, should remain light in rider's hand

## English Show Hack, cont.

- **Hand Gallop:**
  - Performed with long, free, ground covering stride
  - Ultimate linear extension of stride within the hand of the rider
  - Looser, freer elongation of stride and frame of the horse compared to the canter
  - Decided lengthening of stride should be shown while horse remains controlled, mannerly, correct and straight on both leads
  - **EXTREME SPEED MUST BE PENALIZED**





# Western Pleasure

- Horse's eyes must be generally at or above the level of the withers at all gaits
- Light contact with horse's mouth must be maintained at all gaits without undue restraint, on a reasonably loose rein
- **Walk:** 4-beat, true, flat footed, ground-covering
- **Jog-Trot:** free, square, slow and easy
- **Lope:** true 3-beat gait, smooth, slow, easy and straight on both leads



## Western Pleasure, cont.

- Open Classes must also be shown at the Hand Gallop:
  - performed with a long, free, ground covering stride. The amount of ground covered may vary between horses due to difference in natural length of stride.
  - looser, freer elongation of stride and frame of the horse.
  - A decided lengthening of stride should be shown while the horse remains controlled, mannerly, correct and straight on both leads.
  - **EXCESSIVE SPEED AT ANY GAIT WILL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED**



# Country Pleasure Driving

- All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness
- **Excessive knee action SHALL BE PENALIZED**
- Extreme speed WILL BE PENALIZED
- **Walk:** 4-beat, brisk, true, flat-footed, good reach
- **Normal Trot:** medium speed, moderate collection, must be mannerly, cadenced, balanced, free-moving
- **Strong Trot:** lengthened stride, powerful and reaching, must not be strung out behind, moderate collection without exaggeratedly high action in front, willing attitude while maintaining form



# Show Pleasure Driving

- High, natural, free-moving action is desirable
- Generally has less animation than the Formal Harness horse but should be alert and responsive
- Extreme speed WILL BE PENALIZED
- **Walk:** 4-beat gait performed with great style, elegance and airiness of motion; shows much “primp” at a slow, regulated speed with good action and animation
- **Animated Trot:** natural and cadenced with impulsion, action is balanced, bold and brilliant with free shoulder action, foreleg extending fully forward with floating motion, hock action is powerful and well-raised with a driving stride
- **Strong Trot:** faster with a lengthened stride, maintaining balance, ease and freedom of movement



# Pleasure Driving

- Quiet, responsive mouth is paramount
- Excessive knee action SHALL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED
- Extreme speed WILL BE PENALIZED
- Gaits performed with willingness, obvious ease, cadence, balance, and smoothness
- **Walk:** 4-beat, true, flat-footed, ground covering
- **Trot:** balanced, relaxed, easy going, elasticity and freedom of movement
- **Strong Trot:** faster with lengthened stride, maintaining balance, ease, freedom of movement



# Formal Driving

- Brilliant performance with style, presence, finish, balance and cadence
- **Park Walk:** lively, animated, graceful, not a jog or a prance
- **Park Trot:** highly collected, energy directed toward animation not speed, extreme knee flexion (“above level”) without losing extension and significantly forward movement; hocks remain well under and lifted- not driven to the rear, balanced appearance from front to rear
- **“Show Your Horse”:** driver shows horse to its best advantage, but excessive speed shall be penalized
- **Shall not be asked to back**