| Rule | Tracking | Draft | Proposal Type | Effective Date | Proponent | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PF 2.0 | 193-25 | 1 | Standard | 12/1/2026 | PFHA | Approved (6/16/2026) |

# PF2 Tracking #193-25 Draft #1 Approved

| Rule Change Type | Effective Date | Draft Received | Board Action |
|---|---|---|---|
| Standard | 12/1/2026 | 2/9/2026 | Approved 6/16/2026 |

## Rule Change Intent

This rule change removes the International Equitation section from the chapter. Exhibitors are limited to only riding Paso Fino horses in the rulebook. Many exhibitors want to compete their diagonal horses in these classes, therefore competitions must currently offer recognized and un-recognized classes to allow for other horses to compete besides only Paso Finos. By eliminating the International Equitation sections from the rulebook, competition management may offer these classes as one grouping of international equitation riders instead of splitting to allow for other breeds/types.

(PFHA 3-1 A&B)

## Proponent Details

PFHA

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## Linked Rules

## Comments

## Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

## Paso Fino

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 04/14/2026

## Member Comments

*(2026 Rulebook)*

SUBCHAPTER PF-2 PASO FINO YOUTH SECTION

~~PF119 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.~~

~~Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method, skills and aids used in obtaining the best performance of the horse.~~

~~1. Class Separation: Classes may be offered as an Open class or can be divided into age groups as follows:~~

~~a. Divided into International Paso Equitation Mini (4-5), International Paso Equitation (6-8), International Paso Equitation (9-11), International Paso Equitation (12-14), International Paso Equitation (15-17)~~

~~b. Divided into International Paso Equitation Mini (4-8), International Paso Equitation (9-12), International Paso Equitation (13-17)~~

~~1. The "mini" category must use a protective riding vest without any posture aids.~~

~~2. In the 4-5 and 6-8 age groups, there should be a minimum of four helpers in the arena for safety, designated by the Technical Committee, and music kept low~~

~~2. Riders Position while the Horse is in Motion: The rider's position while the horse is in motion should be natural, coordinated and graceful. From the side, a straight line should be able to be drawn perpendicular to the ground through the rider's head, shoulder and ankle. The center of balance should be kept directly above the feet and anklee. The rider's upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hip bones and should appear flexible, never tight against the body, reaching forward and/ or spread away from the body. The rider should appear relaxed, comfortable and natural. The upper body should not appear to be rocking from side to side. The rider must maintain a centered seat on the saddle and not slip backwards on/over the cantle regardless of the modality/gait of the horse being ridden. The rider should appear to have a natural flow downward into the saddle and the body should not interfere with the movement of the horse.~~

~~3. Posture: The rider shall have a balanced, natural and correct position on the horse that promotes the best performance of the horse. The rider shall convey the impression of effective and complete control of the horse at all times, handling the horse in the most appropriate/ effective manner while maintaining a high degree of elegance, style and oneness with the horse.~~

~~4. Seat: The rider seat should have a natural flow downward into the saddle so that the torso, pelvis and legs are balanced and symmetrical. The body of the rider should not interfere with the movement and balance of the horse, but it should promote a good performance. The rider should be centered on the saddle and aligned with the horse's dorsal line. The seat must appear natural and comfortable at all times, highlighting the union with the horse. The seat should never appear rigid or tense.~~

~~5. Head: The rider's head must be held straight at all times, with the chin up, looking forward in the direction of travel so as to maintain full control of the horse while in motion.~~

~~6. Back: The rider's back should be straight, but not tense or stiff. The position of the back must look natural and it should not be arched, leaning forward or backward. The rider's shoulders should be square, but not tense or stiff. From behind, the riders back should be aligned with the horse's dorsal line.~~

7. Arm and Hand Position: The arms should hang naturally with the elbows not extending forward, backward or outward beyond a perpendicular line even with the rider's shoulders. The reins shall be held in one of the following ways (riders twelve (12) years of age and under may use a, b, or c. Riders thirteen (13) and over must use c.):

a. One rein in each hand entering at the bottom below the little finger and extending upward with the bight (excess) of the rein hanging to the right side of the horse.

b. The reins must pass directly from the ring of the bit, between the little and ring fingers, with the thumb being placed on top holding down the reins. It is important that the ring finger holds the edges of the rein in the joints (knuckles) nearest to the palm and that the fingers are closed securely, but without tension. The bight (excess) of the rein should hang to the right side of the horse. The rider's hands should be held in an easy and natural position, horizontal to the saddle, and should convey softness, adaptability and control. The appropriate height the rider's hands are held above the horse's withers is determined by the head carriage of the rider's horse. However, it is improper to maintain hands in an extremely high or low position. The rider must make every effort to achieve as straight of a line as possible from the elbow through the forearm; from the forearm to the hand; from the hand to the rein; and to the ring of the bit. The hands and wrists should remain flexible and not too far apart from each other.

c. The rider may also hold both reins in one hand. The other hand should take the reins from over or underneath the first hand so that both hands have control of the reins. The reins should be close together with the bight (excess) of the rein always hanging to the right side of the horse.

8. Leg and Feet Position: The rider's leg should hang naturally. The rider's lower leg should be under the rider's body and should not be extended forward or backwards; that is, it should follow a straight line from the knee down to the stirrup. Extending the leg forward, backward or not keeping a straight line from the knee to the stirrup shall be penalized. The rider's feet should be maintained parallel to the horse's body with the heels slightly lower than the toes (approximately one inch). The ball of the rider's foot should rest directly on the stirrup while exerting even pressure on the entire stirrup. The rider's foot position should appear natural and be as parallel as possible to the horse's body. The foot's position should not appear to be forced inwards and/or the toes pointing outwards. Those riders that appear to be forcing the foot position or maintain the toes pointing towards the body of the horse (inwards) or outwards; shall be penalized.

9. Judging Criteria This class shall be judged: 60% on horsemanship/ riding skills and individual tests, 40% on the equitation posture of the rider as follows:

CHART

a. The individual tests start at the figure eight and ends after completion of the Sounding Board test. The individual test must be completed in its entirety.

b. Participants that don't follow the sequence of the tests shall be penalized with 15 points under the Handling and focus area.

c. In the event that a participant omits or does not complete a test, the participant shall be penalized with up to five points under the Focus area plus five points for each incomplete test.

d. The rider's seat should appear centered on the saddle and aligned with the horse's dorsal line. The seat must appear natural and comfortable at all times highlighting the oneness with the horse. The seat should never appear rigid and/or tense. A seat that does not appear to be natural and uneven/off center shall be penalized with up to eight points.

e. The rider's foot position should appear natural and be as parallel as possible to the horse's body. The foot's position should not appear to be forced inwards and/ or the toes pointing outwards. The feet position should appear natural. Those rider's that appear to be forcing the foot position, or that maintain the toes pointing towards the body of the horse (inwards) or outwards shall be penalized with up to four points.

10. Class Procedures

a. All exhibitors must maintain horses at a Corto or Fino while being judged.

b. Participants shall enter the arena to the right, close to the rail and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. Participants should maintain their horses on the rail. The rail should not have any obstacles that may prevent the continuous movement of participants, including personnel and/ or judges. At the discretion of the Judges, the participants will be ordered to complete various circles in one direction until instructed to reverse to be evaluated clockwise. The reverse will be executed toward the center of the ring returning to the rail in the opposite direction. The turn should not exceed an area of three meters. The rider should maintain their horses in gait during the reverse. Judges will observe the rider's skills, focus, handling and ability to maintain the horse in gait during its movement on a straight line as well as during the turns. Participants will then be asked to line up their horses in a predetermined area of the arena where they will wait to be asked to go over the sounding board one by one in both directions and exit to the Holding/ Line up area where they will wait for their individual tests.

c. Regardless of where the participants start from, participants shall approach the Figure Eight from in between the sounding board and the Figure Eight poles. After completing the Figure Eight and Back, the participants shall exit the figure eight in a straight line from the middle of the two poles and head towards the Serpentine test. After completing the serpentine, the riders will head to the rail in a straight line and proceed to the sounding board. The sounding board test must be completed in both directions. Not performing the tests in the sequence established herein shall be penalized with the corresponding loss of points. Participants must maintain the horses in gait at all times.

d. Each participant will perform individually in order the following mandatory tests:

1. Figure Eight

2. Halt and Back

3. Serpentine

4. Sounding Board

e. Figure Eight. Participants shall execute three Figure 8s around the poles (two in one direction and one in the opposite direction). The start and end of each figure eight will be in the center (midpoint) of the two poles. Participants shall enter the figure eight from in between the sounding board and the first figure eight pole to cross over the midpoint to the second pole and complete two figure eights in one direction, followed by a straight line (towards the entry point) from one pole to the next and then complete one more Figure Eight in that direction. At the completion of the last Figure Eight, participants will halt in between the two poles facing the judges. Participants that turn in circles around one of the poles during the Figure Eight test to show off shall be disqualified in classes over nine years of age. Younger ages shall be penalized. Participants shall be penalized if they enter the Figure Eight incorrectly or, perform more or less than three figure eights in the manner described herein. During the Figure Eight test, the Judges will evaluate the softness of the hands on the reins, the use of aids balancing the body on the horse during the turns, and the rider's ability to maintain the horse in gait throughout the test. Participants shall be penalized if the rider opens and widens the position of the hands and arms while turning (except in classes of youth less than 12 years old), using a leading rein on/or close to the horse's neck, using excessive aids (kicking, slapping the reins, etc.), if their mount veers off track during the turns, or does not maintain gait during the test.

f. Halt and Back. Once the figure eights are completed, participants must halt in the middle of the two Figure Eight poles and back their horses a minimum of four steps and a maximum of six steps. Judges will evaluate the smoothness of the command to halt, the rider's seat (relaxed natural seat, balance, and proper position), the way the rider guides the horse backwards with subtle commands, and in a straight line using even diagonal steps until halting the horse to complete the back. After completing the required back, the participant must come to a full stop and command the horse to move forward with softness, focus and determination. This is accomplished with the use of the proper aids and the rider's balance on the horse. After completing the halt and back, the rider should head in straight line in between the poles towards the serpentine.

g. Serpentine. After completing the "Halt and Back" test, participants must perform a Serpentine in an area designated for such. This test allows the Judges to evaluate the riders' use of aids and the ability to maintain their horses in gait, with cadence and flexibility during the straight lines and turns. The serpentine test consists of alternating straight-line movements and half circles turns. During the half-circle turns, the horse's body should bend toward the center of the circle. During the transition from straight lines to half-circle turns, the horse must not move over the tangent, in zigzag or sinusoid patterns (Refer to diagram below). The serpentine pattern will be marked with three rows of cones to ensure that the test is performed correctly. The use of bright yellow objects is recommended (refer to diagram below).

SERPENTINE DIAGRAMS

h. Sounding Board. The board shall be placed at ground level. If this is not possible, then there must be access ramps. Once the serpentine test is completed, participants must go over the sounding board in both directions with the horse centered in the middle of the board and straight tracking throughout. Participants must traverse the sounding board in one direction, come off completely (in any direction) and return in the opposite direction. Not performing the test in the manner reference above shall be penalized. The Judges shall evaluate the rider's ability to maintain the horse in gait, the ability to keep the horse in a straight line trajectory over the sounding board. Participants shall be penalized for not maintaining their horses in gait; or allowing the horse to move sideways (not straight) over the sounding board; or allowing the horse to step off (one leg) the sounding board. Participants in categories of nine years of age and older shall be disqualified for turning on the sounding board or stepping more than one leg off the sounding board. Participants in categories under nine years of age shall be penalized for turning on the sounding board.

i. Additional Test/ Work Offs. Judges may request optional tests/ work offs between two or more participants. These tests shall be randomly selected (from tests 1, 2, 3, 4) through a lottery system prior to the competition and will be performed independently one at a time until the judges are ready to pin the class.

1. Reverses - Four Calls for Reverse

2. Parallel Comparison

3. Circles (three circles around the poles in one direction, reverse towards the pole and three circles around the poles in the opposite direction)

4. Dismount and Remount (can only be requested for participants 13 years of age and older). Riders must follow the procedure outlined.

j. Dismount/ Remount Procedure.

1. To dismount, the rider may slide down off the saddle or use the stirrups. The participant's height must be taken into consideration.

2. Before mounting, the rider must check, and if necessary, readjust the curb chain and the cinch.

3. The rider should hold the reins in the left hand using little pressure on the reins and stand diagonally by the side of the horse facing front and looking at the horse's withers.

4. The participant should then place their left hand on the horse's withers while holding on to the mane or the pommel.

5. Turn the stirrup towards their body using the right hand and put the left foot into the stirrup.

6. Holding the opposite side of the saddle (cantle) or on the front panel (the pommel or the horn) with the right hand, the rider should smoothly lift themselves up to the saddle, straighten both knees and cross the right leg over the seat of the saddle, and then ease down into the seat while placing the right foot into the stirrup without looking down.

7. Judges must take into consideration the training and manners of the horse. A participant may not be penalized for the behavior of the horse during the dismount and remount procedure.

***(Re-number all remaining sections accordingly)***

~~SUBCHAPTER PF-10 AMATEUR ADULT EQUITATION~~

~~PF152 Amateur Adult International Equitation Class~~

~~Regional Group shows are permitted to offer this class at their discretion. The class specification, judging criteria, procedures, and appointments will follow the International Paso Equitation Divisions (PF119). Class Separations may be offered as Adult Open 18 & Older.~~

***(Re-number all remaining subchapters and sections accordingly)***

*(PF Chapter Re-Write)*

SUBCHAPTER PF-5 EQUITATION SECTION

PF Exhibitor Position

PF ~~Paso Equitation Exhibitor Position~~

PF ~~Paso Equitation~~ Appointments and Attire

PF ~~Paso Equitation~~ Conduct and Procedures

PF ~~Paso Equitation~~ Tests

PF ~~Paso Equitation~~ Judging Criteria

PF Classes within ~~the Paso Equitation~~ ***this*** Section

~~PF International Paso Equitation Position~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Appointments and Attire~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Conduct and Class Procedures~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Class Specifications~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Tests~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Judging Criteria~~

~~PF Classes within the International Paso Equitation Section~~

***(Remove "Paso Equitation" from all Equitation section titles in the chapter as well)***

SUBCHAPTER PF-5 EQUITATION SECTION

Equitation highlights the style, grace, and rhythm of the Paso Fino horse and the relationship between horse and rider. 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 enhancing the oneness of rider and horse.

PF Exhibitor Position

1. Posture. The rider should have a balanced, natural, and correct position on the horse that promotes the best performance of the horse. The rider should convey the impression of effective and complete control of the horse while maintaining a high degree of elegance and style. From the profile view, a straight line, perpendicular to the ground, through the rider's head, shoulder, and ankle should be observed. The center of balance should be kept directly above the feet and ankles. The upper body should not appear to be rocking from side to side with the movement of the horse.
2. Seat. The rider's seat should have a natural flow downward into the saddle with the torso, pelvis, and legs balanced and symmetrical. The body of the rider should not interfere with the movement and balance of the horse, but it should promote a good performance. The rider should be centered on the saddle, aligned with the horse's dorsal line and not slip backwards on or over the cantle. The seat should never appear rigid or tense.
3. Head. The rider's head should be held straight, with the chin up, and looking forward in the direction of

travel.

4. Back. The rider's back should be straight, look natural, and should not be arched, or leaning forward or backward. The rider's shoulders should be square, but not tense or stiff. When viewing from behind, the rider's back should be aligned with the horse's dorsal line.
5. Legs. The rider's leg should hang naturally with the lower leg under the rider's body, while not extending forward or backward, but be a straight line from the knee to the stirrup.
6. Feet. The rider's feet should be parallel to the horse's body, with the heels slightly lower than the toes by approximately one inch. The foot's position should not appear to be forced inward nor the toes pointing outward. The ball of the rider's foot should rest directly on the stirrup pad, exerting even pressure on the entire stirrup.
7. Arms. The rider's arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hip bones and should appear flexible, never tight against the body, with the elbows in a perpendicular line with the shoulders, not extending forward, backward, or outward.
8. Hands. The rider's hands should be held neither perpendicular nor horizontal to the saddle. The height at which the rider's hands are held, above the horse's withers, is determined by the head carriage of the individual horse. The rider's hands should remain in line with the pommel of saddle, with a straight line from the elbow through the forearm, hand, and rein, to the bit. Hands and wrists should be flexible and not held extremely separated.

~~PF Paso Equitation Exhibitor Position~~

~~1. The exhibitor's position follows the description in PF__.~~

**9.** Methods of Holding the Reins. The reins must be held using one of the following methods:

a. One rein in each hand, entering below the little finger, extending upward to the thumb, with the bight (excess) of the rein hanging to the right side of the horse.
b. One rein in each hand, with the reins entering between the little and ring fingers, extending upward to the thumb, with the bight (excess) of the reins hanging to the right side of the horse.

(…)

~~PF International Paso Equitation Exhibitor Position~~

~~1. The exhibitor's position follows the description in PF__.~~
~~2. Methods of Holding the Reins. The reins must be held using one of the following methods:~~
~~a. One rein in each hand, entering below the little finger, extending upward to the thumb, with the bight (excess) of the rein hanging to the right side of the horse.~~
~~b. One rein in each hand, with the reins entering between the little and ring fingers, extending upward to the thumb, with the bight (excess) of the reins hanging to the right side of the horse.~~
~~c. Both reins in the left hand, entering below the little finger and extending upward to the thumb. The right hand placed under the left, holding the right rein only, the rein entering below the little finger and extending upward to the thumb. The bight (excess) of the reins hanging to the right side of the horse.~~
~~d. Riders 12 years of age and under may use any of the three listed methods (PF__.2[a, b, or c]).~~
~~e. Riders 13 years of age and over must use the method listed above in PF__.2. c.~~

~~PF International Paso Equitation Appointments and Attire~~

~~1. Appointments. The appointments are English type (PF__).~~
~~a. The stirrup leathers must not exceed 2" in width.~~
~~b. The stirrups can be metal or leather, and must be symmetrical in all parts, including the footrest.~~
~~2. Attire.~~
~~a. The attire is black leather boots, black trousers (length not to surpass the heel of the boot when mounted), black jacket, and a white or cream hat with black or white ribbon.~~
~~b. International Paso Fino Equitation Mini (PF_.1.a.ii) riders must wear a protective riding vest, without~~

any posture aids.

PF International Paso Equitation Conduct and Class Procedures

1. Exhibitors will enter the arena to the right, on the rail, at a Classic Fino or Paso Corto, and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner, until instructed to reverse.
2. While being judged, exhibitors must maintain the Classic Fino or Paso Corto.
3. Exhibitors should maintain the same relative position on the rail.
4. The reverse is executed toward the center of the arena, not exceeding an area of three meters, while maintaining the horse's gait.
5. Exhibitors will be instructed to line up, in a predetermined area of the arena and await instruction to individually traverse the sounding board, in both directions. Exhibitors will then exit the arena to the holding/line up area to await their individual testing.

PF International Paso Equitation Class Specifications

1. For safety purposes in classes for riders aged four to eight, there must be at least four designated assistants in the arena, appointed by the competition management. Also, the arena music volume must be lowered during the class.

PF International Paso Equitation Tests

1. Required Individual Testing. Exhibitors must perform the tests in their entirety and in the following order:
    a. Figure Eight
        i. Exhibitors must approach the Figure Eight from the space in between the sounding board and the Figure Eight poles, and execute three Figure Eights around the poles: two Figure Eights in one direction and one Figure Eight in the opposite direction.
        ii. The start and end of each Figure Eight will be in the center (midpoint) of the two poles. Exhibitors enter the Figure Eight crossing over the midpoint moving toward the left pole and complete two figure eights in this direction, followed by a reverse of direction by executing a half circle around the left pole, to a straight line toward the right pole, with another half circle around the right pole, to then enter the Figure Eight in the reversed direction, completing one Figure Eight in that direction.
    b. Halt and Back
        i. Exhibitors must halt at the center point of the Figure Eight poles and back their horse four to six steps.
        ii. After the back, exhibitors must Halt, coming to a complete stop, before moving forward in a straight line, in between the Figure Eight poles, towards the Serpentine. The horse should move forward with softness, focus, and determination, accomplished with the use of proper aids and the rider's balance on the horse.
    c. Serpentine
        i. Exhibitors must execute a Serpentine in the designated area and then proceed to the rail, in a straight line, toward the Sounding Board.
        ii. A Serpentine consists of alternating straight line movements and half circle turns. During the half circle turns, the horse's body should bend toward the center of the circle. During the transition from straight lines to half circle turns, the horse should not move over the tangent, creating zigzag or sinusoid patterns (Refer to the Serpentine diagram in PF Appendix A). The Serpentine's pattern is marked using three rows of cones. The use of bright yellow objects as markers is recommended.
    d. Sounding Board
        i. Exhibitors must traverse the sounding board in one direction, come off the board completely, turn around, and return traversing the Sounding Board in the opposite direction.
2. Exhibitors must maintain gait at all times.
3. Optional Testing. Judges may request additional tests between two or more exhibitors for a work-off. The

following tests will be randomly selected, by means of a lottery system, prior to the competition and are performed independently until the judge(s) is satisfied to place the class:

a. Reverse. Four reverse calls.
b. Parallel comparison of exhibitors.
c. Circles. Execute three circles, around the outside of the figure eight poles, in one direction, reverse toward the circle's center, and execute another three circles, around the outside of the figure eight poles, in the opposite direction.
d. Dismount and Remount. Riders must follow the dismount and remount procedure outlined in PF__.1(c), with the exception that riders may hold the mane or the saddle's pommel to assist their remounting. The dismount and remount test may only be requested of participants 13 years of age and older.

PF International Paso Equitation Judging Criteria

1. This class is judged 60% on horsemanship, riding skill, and individual testing, and 40% on the equitation posture of the rider.
2. The following points system must be utilized:

| Horsemanship and Riding Skill | |
|---|---|
| Handling of the horse, control, confidence, focus, skills, and ability to maintain the horse in gait throughout the class | 30 points |
| Effective use of aids | 10 points |
| **Individual Testing** | |
| Figure Eight (including the entrance and halt) | 7 points |
| Back | 3 points |
| Serpentine | 5 points |
| Sounding Board | 5 points |
| Subtotal | 60 points |
| **Equitation Posture** | |
| Head | 4 points |
| Seat | 8 points |
| Back | 6 points |
| Arms | 6 points |
| Hands | 6 points |
| Legs | 6 points |
| Feet | 4 points |
| Subtotal | 40 points |
| Grand Total | 100 points |

3. Evaluation of the Testing.
   a. Figure Eight. Judges evaluate the softness of the rider's hands on the reins, the use of aids, balancing their body on the horse during turns, and their ability to maintain the horse in gait throughout the test.
   b. Halt and Back. Judges evaluate the smoothness of the rider's command to halt, their seat, their manner of guiding the horse backwards using subtle commands, and backing in a straight line until halting the horse.
   c. Serpentine. Judges evaluate the rider's use of aids and their ability to maintain the horse in gait during straight lines and turns, with cadence and flexibility.
   d. Sounding Board. Judges evaluate the rider's ability to maintain the horse in gait and their ability to keep the horse in a straight-line trajectory over the sounding board.
   e. Dismount and Remount. Judges must take into consideration the training and manners of the horse. A participant will not be penalized for the behavior of the horse during the dismount and remount procedure.

4. Penalties.
    a. Not completing the individual testing in the prescribed sequence will be penalized 15 points under handling of the horse.
    b. Omitting or not completing a portion of the individual testing will be penalized up to five points under handling of the horse, plus five points under each incomplete test maneuver.
    c. Exhibitors ten years of age or older will be disqualified and exhibitors nine years of age or younger will be penalized for executing extra circles during the Figure Eight test in an attempt to gain attention.
    d. Exhibitors will be penalized for entering the figure eight incorrectly or performing more or less than three figure eights
    e. When performing the figure eight, riders will be penalized for opening or widening their hands and/or arms while turning, using a leading rein on or close to the horse's neck, using excessive aids, and if their horse veers off track during the turns or does not maintain gait throughout the test. Exception: Youth riders 12 years of age and under must not be penalized for opening or widening their hands.
    f. When traversing the sounding board, riders will be penalized for not maintaining their horse in gait, allowing the horse to traverse sideways over the sounding board or allowing the horse to step one hoof off the sounding board.
    g. Riders nine years of age and older will be disqualified for turning while on the sounding board or stepping more than one hoof off the sounding board.
    h. Riders nine years of age and under will be penalized for turning while on the sounding board.

PF Classes Within the International Paso Equitation Section

1. Classes may be offered as follows:
    a. Youth.
        i. Youth Open; or
        ii. Divided by age as follows:
            1. Mini (ages 4 to 5), ages 6 to 8, ages 9 to 11, ages 12 to 14, ages 15 to 17; OR
            2. Mini (ages 4 to 8), ages 9 to 12, ages 13 to 17.
    b. Adult Amateur. (PF__.2) Regional PFHA competitions are permitted to offer this class, at their discretion.

***(Re-number any necessary sections accordingly)***