Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
PF 128.0	197-25	2	Standard	12/1/2026	PFHA	Approved (6/16/2026)

PF128 Tracking #197-25 Draft #2 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2026	4/17/2026	Approved 6/16/2026

Rule Change Intent

This rule change is removing **all** required individual testing, the figure eight, **back**, and jump from the Paso Versatility class. Generally, Paso Fino horses are not proficient in jumping, such as a traditional walk, trot, canter horse would be. The jump in the Versatility class can be intimidating and dangerous for some riders. Removing the jump could encourage more participation in the class, which currently has seen declining entry numbers at competitions.

(PFHA 3-9 ABCD)

Proponent Details

PFHA

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Paso Fino

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 04/14/2026

Draft 1: A second draft is needed to change the intent to match the actual language of the rule change, by removing the figure eight as an optional test and adding the removal of the back to the intent. In the rule change, there is an inconsistency to be fixed: the back is struck from the class procedures and needs to be struck throughout the section.

Member Comments

(2026 Rulebook)

SUBCHAPTER PF-4 PERFORMANCE CLASSES (UNDER SADDLE)

PF128 Attire and Appointments

(…)

4. Safety Headgear. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty in any class. (GR801) In classes that may require a jump (Trail ~~and Versatility~~), approved protective headgear is required. All riders twelve (12) years of age and under, including walk-corto leadline riders, are required to wear approved protective headgear at all times while on horseback at any competition.

SUBCHAPTER PF-9 SPECIALITY CLASSES

PF145 Paso Versatility Class

1. Class Specifications.

a. In this class, the horse will be asked to demonstrate balance, flexibility, coordination and manners while performing the various gaits, tests, and maneuvers. Manners and willingness are very important. ~~The back must be controlled and smooth.~~ Failure to properly execute the Paso Corto and Paso Largo, demonstrating an evenly-spaced four-beat lateral gait, will automatically disqualify the horse~~, and it will not be asked to do the individual work out, executing a figure eight maneuver at a Paso Corto and taking the jump from the canter~~. Failure to take the correct lead in the canter shall be penalized. ~~One refusal to take the jump will cause a lowering of the horses placing within the class. Two refusals to take the jump will automatically disqualify an entry from the class. The figure eight is to be performed at the Paso Corto and should be smooth, consistent in gait, and supple. A jump that is a minimum of eighteen (18) inches and a maximum of two (2) feet will be taken from the canter.~~

b. The class shall be judged: 20% on the Paso Corto; 20% on the Paso Largo; ~~1~~20% on the ***flat*** walk; ~~1~~20% on the canter; and ~~4~~20% on ~~back,~~ ~~jump,~~ manners, and ~~figure eight~~ ***attitude***.

2. Procedures. The exhibitors will enter the ring to the right on the rail at a Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner. The sequence of gaits shall be: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, flat walk, canter, flat walk, reverse and repeat. While executing the walk, riders shall space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain their relative positions on the rail. In the remaining gaits, exhibitors shall remain on the rail except to pass. ~~Riders shall be asked individually to back, execute a figure eight maneuver at a Paso Corto, and take a jump from the canter~~.

3. Appointments. The tack and headgear are to be English type, with a bridle and cavesson. No schooling headgear allowed. Forward seat saddles are also allowed. Attire is to be English-style as described in the Paso Pleasure Division (PF139). ~~Safety Headgear is required. (GR801)~~

4. Class separations. Shall be offered as Open (includes all ages and all sexes) and Amateur.

(PF Chapter Re-Write)

SUBCHAPTER PF-1 GENERAL RULES

PF Appointments and Attire

(…)

11. Protective Headgear. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty in any class. (GR 801.1)

~~a. Protective headgear is required for Paso Versatility classes.~~

~~b~~*a*. In Paso Trail classes protective headgear is only required when the obstacles include a jump.

~~c~~*b*. All Youth 12 years of age and under are required to wear protective headgear while on horseback or while in the driving cart.

SUBCHAPTER PF-3 UNDER SADDLE SECTION

PF Paso Versatility

(…)

2. Conduct and Procedures.

a. Exhibitors will enter the arena to the right, on the rail, at a Collected Paso Corto and circle the arena in a counterclockwise manner until instructed to reverse or change gait.

b. The sequence of gaits is: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, flat walk, Collected Canter, flat walk, reverse, and repeat.

c. ~~Individual Testing. Exhibitors are asked to back~~ ***individually.*** ~~, execute a figure eight at the Collected Paso Corto, and take a jump at the canter.~~

~~3. Class Specifications.~~

~~a. The jump must be between 18 inches to 24 inches in height.~~

4*3*. Judging Criteria.

a. The class is judged: 20% on the Paso Corto, 20% on the Paso Largo, ~~1~~20% on the flat walk, ~~1~~20% on the Collected Canter, and 420% on ~~*the back,*~~ manners, and ~~the individual testing (figure eight, back, and jump)~~ ***attitude***.

b. Type. The horse should demonstrate balance, flexibility, coordination, and manners while performing the various gaits ~~and individual testing~~. Manners and willingness are very important. ~~The individual testing should be smooth, controlled, consistent in gait, and supple.~~

c. Penalties.

i. Failure to properly execute the Paso Corto and Paso Largo must disqualify the horse prior to individual testing.

ii. Failure to take the correct lead in the canter must be penalized.

~~iii. Jump Refusals. One refusal to take the jump must result in lowering the horse's placing in the class. Two refusals to take the jump automatically disqualifies an entry from the class.~~