

PASO FINO HORSE ASSOCIATION JUDGING SYSTEM

Approved Judging System for the 2010 Grand National Championship Show

The Judges and Stewards Committee recommends the “Five Judges System” also known as the “Olympic System” or the “High and Low System” for scoring the classes. Based on the last three National Shows, with the expansion of the show to six or seven days, and an acceptable number of classes per day, there is no need for the National Judges to rotate. There is no need to contract seven or eight Judges either. The company that programs the scoring has this program available.

Explanation of recommended system:

The recommended PFHA Judging System consists of Three Stages.

Warm-up Stage: Horses will enter the show ring to the right (counterclockwise) on the rail and follow the requirements of the class they are participating in as described in the PFHA rules. Horses must work both sides of the ring by reversing and repeating the requirements. Any rider that requests to be excused before performing the procedures both directions of the arena and reaching the lineup, will be disqualified and not eligible to compete in the championship. All horses will be given the opportunity to go once over the sounding board at either the Paso Corto or Classic Fino, depending on their class requirements. Judges may not confer and all selections will be made individually electronically. Judges will excuse horses not performing the required gait. Those horses who are unruly or lame and those not meeting the attire and appointment requirements will be disqualified. In case there are seven or less entries in the class, the Judges will go directly to the Second Stage of the system.

Second Stage: Judges will select the finalists of the class. Independently with no consultation whatsoever, Judges will select a minimum of seven entries for consideration of the next stage. Entries must be on at least two of the three Judges’ cards or on three of the five Judges’ cards, depending on the system used. In case there are less than seven horses, the ringmaster will contact the Judges to ascertain that entries are on two of three cards or on three of five cards, as the case may be, until a minimum of seven entries is obtained. If the Judges have selected their finalists and no further work is necessary, they may place the class. If at least one Judge is not ready for the final placing, Judges will proceed to the Final Stage.

Final Stage: Electronically, Judges may order those tests accepted in the rulebook for the work off. Two out of three or three out of five Judges must agree for an entry to be worked off and must indicate for which places the work off is being held.

Work offs: Any Judge may request a work off by communicating electronically. The Judge making the request must state the numbers of those horses he/she wants called to the work off and for which places they are to be worked. A work off requires agreement by two of the three or three of five Judges, or the positions must be filled without a work off. In a championship class, a horse that appears on only one Judge’s card must be

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included in the work off. Whenever horses are being call for a work off, the Announcer must call them in numerical order.

Final Placement: Entries must be placed accordingly and the cards handed to the Ringmaster. The scorer will score the cards based on the System approved by the Board of Directors.

Automatic Work off (Identical Tie for First Place): When a three way identical tie for first place occurs, a work off is mandatory. The Judges will be advised and the horses sent back to the rail for additional work.

If there has already been a work off, the Judges should be notified and given the option of going with the Fall of the Cards or sending the horses back to the rail for additional work. If the tie is still identical after the work off, the class will be tied by the Fall of the Cards. When the identical three-way tie is for second place or lower, the class is determined by the Fall of the Cards.

Fall of the Cards: A three way identical tie for First place creates an automatic work off for First, Second and Third. A three way identical tie for other than First place is broken by the Fall of the Cards. The highest placing among the tied horses will be given to the horse placing the highest on the “Call Judge’s” card. The second highest placing among the tied horses will be given to the horse placing highest on the “Second Judge’s” card. The third highest placing among the tied horses will be given to the horse placing highest on the “Third Judge’s” card.

High-Low Olympic Scoring System: Five Judges working independently of each other will place each class. Judge number one will be the Call Judge. Points will be assigned to the placings on a one to ten basis with first place receiving ten points, second place receiving nine points, third place receiving eight points and so forth on down to one point for tenth place. The highest placing and the lowest placing are eliminated for each entry. The remaining three placings are totaled and the entry receiving the most points wins the class. In case of an identical tie, a work off is mandatory. If still tied, then the first or Call Judge’s card will break the tie. If a horse receives four or less placings, the top score is eliminated.

Example: **(000) Highest Placing** **(000) Lowest Placing**

PLACING	JUDGE A	JUDGE B	JUDGE C	JUDGE D	JUDGE E
FIRST	(101)	(102)	101	101	102
SECOND	102	101	102	(103)	103
THIRD	(104)	103	104	(102)	(101)
FOURTH	103	(104)	(103)	104	104
FIFTH	(106)	(105)	106	105	(107)
SIXTH	(107)	107	(105)	107	(106)

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Final Points and Placing: After eliminating the high (###) and low (###) placing for each horse, the remaining placing and points are awarded.

ENTRY	JUDGE 1	JUDGE 2	JUDGE 3	POINTS	PLACE
101	10	10	9	29	FIRST
102	10	9	9	28	SECOND
103	9	8	7	24	THIRD
104	8	7	3	22	FOURTH
105	6	-	-	6	SEVENTH
106	6	-	-	6	SIXTH
107	5	5	-	10	FIFTH