

INTRODUCTION

A National Ranking Show is one in which the rider's scores are recorded in a national database which enables riders to compare their performances with other riders around the country and, more importantly perhaps, to compare their own performances over time. For such comparisons to have validity, certain aspects of the show must be consistent. These aspects are contained in the Rules & Procedures for National Ranking Shows. The reasons for some of the requirements, which may not be obvious to those unfamiliar with Icelandic Competition, are as follows:

1. The classes for a live NR show must be judged by at least one (1) FEIF International Sports Judge or one (1) USIHC Sport Judge A. Virtual NR shows will be judged by five (5) FEIF International Sports or USIHC Judge A judges. In Icelandic competition, the horse and rider combination receives a numerical score for various aspects of the competition. For example, in a four-gait class, the horse/rider combination will receive a score for walk, trot, canter, slow tölt, and fast tölt. The average of these five scores is the score for the class. The scoring system, from zero to ten, has been agreed upon by all the member countries of FEIF and is available for review on the FEIF website under "Judges' Guidelines". Each point on the scale takes into consideration a number of factors, such as beat, tempo, movement, etc. These factors and their importance to each point on the scale are also available at the FEIF website. The mark received for a class in Virtual NR shows will be derived by dropping the high and low scoring Judges and taking an average of the remaining three judges. This is common procedure for World Ranking (WR) Events.

Sports judges receive lengthy training in the scoring system. They attend seminars; pass rigorous examinations and apprentice under experienced Judges for many years at shows of increasing size. FEIF International Sports Judges are persons of substantial experience who have come up through the ranks of their country's sports judge training programs and have then passed the rigorous examination which certifies them for this title. The purpose of this extraordinarily demanding program is to achieve consistency in judging so that a horse/rider combination with a score of 6.5 in slow tölt would earn that same score for the same performance in whatever country it is judged.

In most FEIF countries, a minimum of three judges judge together in order to obtain the most appropriate score (which is an average of what the individual judges give). We are not yet at a point where this is affordable. Therefore, to achieve the maximum in accurate scoring with at least one judge, we require at least one FEIF International Sports Judge or one (1) USIHC Sport Judge A. USIHC National Ranking Shows with multiple judges must have at least one (1) FEIF International Judge or one (1) USIHC Sport Judge A; the other judges may be USIHC Sport Judge B. The majority of judges must be either FEIF International Judges or USIHC Sport Judge A.

2. The show must be conducted pursuant to USIHC Competition Rules. All FEIF countries are bound to follow FEIF Sport Rules, the competition rules as well as FEIF General Rules & Regulations, the general rules, which have been accepted by all of the member countries. FEIF General Rules & Regulations cover many areas of competition, from fair treatment of the horse, allowed tack, allowed shoeing, sportsmanlike behavior (towards the horse as well as towards other riders), prohibited substances, to the physical requirements of official competition tracks, and a description of the requirements of each FEIF class, to name a few of the areas. FEIF General Rules & Regulations may be reviewed in their entirety at the FEIF website.

Because each country needs to have competitions for various levels of riding skills below World Championship competition, each country develops its own set of classes for beginning riders through advanced riders. In addition, each country usually adopts all or most other sections of FEIF Sport Rules related to the protection and welfare of the horse. Our competition rules do this for the U.S. In order to have comparisons of riders competing in specific classes at different shows, the classes must all have the same requirements. Other aspects, such as ring size, must also be comparable. In addition, of course, the protection of the horse must always be paramount and guaranteed. For all of these reasons, our show rules must be used.

There are 16 required classes and several examples of optional classes:

**Open Level: T1 (Individual) and T3 (Group),
T2 (Individual) and T4 (Group),
V1 (Individual) and V2 (Group)
F1 (Individual) and F2 (Group)
P2: 100 m Pace [Optional]**

Please fill out a request form to include this class in your competition. The Sport Committee Chair will provide you with the current set of Guidelines regarding P2

Intermediate Level: T5, V3, T6 and F3

Novice Level: T7 and V5

Youth Level: T8 and V6

Beginning Rider Level: TBR and VBR [Optional]

Green Horse Level: TGH and VGH [Optional]

Intermediate Horse Level: TIH and VIH [Optional]

This requirement assures that a range of classes will be offered. Note that it is not necessary for all classes to have entries. The only requirement is that they be offered. Other classes even those purely for fun, may be added with the exception of halter classes, which are specifically prohibited. This prohibition is to prevent any in-roads of the philosophy that the physical appearance of the horse, divorced from its functionality, is worthy of note.

All required classes are recommended to have preliminaries and finals to be scheduled on different days of the competition. If a class is large enough to require both "A" and "B" finals, both finals may be held on the same day. The results of the preliminaries for the required classes are used to compute the National Ranking.

The area in which the horse must perform must be an oval with an approximate circumference of 200-250 meters. An area of somewhat less size may be satisfactory but there must be long sides of sufficient length for pace and for tempo differences (slowing down and speeding up) in tölt.

The beginning and end of the long side of the oval shall be marked in such a way as to be clearly visible to the riders, judges, and spectators without interfering with the horses on the oval track. The transition point at the middle of the short side may also be marked. Options include but are not limited to flat tape on the railing or a different colored post.

Racing pace events may only be included at FEIF World Ranking events if the circumference of the oval track is 250 meters. A non-World Ranking show may be allowed with or without including F1 or F2 in the list of offered classes if the track does not meet the FEIF standards for racing pace.

IceTest NG Software must be used. This software provides forms for the recording of the scores in a manner that the Judge(s) is used to using and which are necessary for the National Ranking database.

The results of National Ranking Shows must be returned to the Chairperson of the Sport Committee within 15 days of the show. If they are not sent in on time the scores may not be posted to the website or added to the National Ranking Database.

Moreover, we want to emphasize that a National Ranking Show is at the top of the pinnacle of possible competitions here in the US. There are schooling shows, fun shows, farm shows, shows limited to a certain geographical area, etc. that can be starting points growing towards a National Ranking Show. We encourage all of these kinds of competitions and suggest the use of our US Sport Judges for these events.

RULES and PROCEDURES for USIHC NATIONAL RANKING SHOWS

1. USIHC National Ranking Shows are those that are entitled to have all scores for USIHC National Ranking classes entered into the USIHC National Ranking database. The USIHC Sport Committee Chairperson must approve all USIHC National Ranking Shows. Approved national ranking events may be either an Icelandic Breed Show, or an Icelandic Show within a larger show, which may include other breeds or disciplines.

2. Requirements for a National Ranking Show are:

(a) The classes must be judged by at least one (1) International FEIF Sports Judge or one (1) USIHC Sport Judge A.

***USIHC Virtual NR shows will have 5 International FEIF Sports judges. Five judge panels are standard for WR events, the USIHC virtual NR event will use the same scoring procedure. The high and low marks will be discarded and the average of the three remaining marks will be the score.

(b) The show must be open to any horse registered with a FEIF recognized registry.

(c) The organizer must be a current USIHC member.

(d) The show must be of two (2) days duration. Finals must not be held on the same day as their qualifying preliminary. A single-day show is permissible if it is part of a multi-day World Ranking series.

(e) A scribe must be provided for the Judge(s). First choice for a scribe would be an US Sport Judge(s) or if one is not available someone who has attended the USIHC Sport Judge's Seminar and then the third choice is a member of the Sport Committee. A suitable replacement for any of these options may be approved by the Sport Committee Chairperson.

(f) The most recent version of the IceTest Software must be used. It is available for free download at www.feif.org/software

(g) The show must be held on an oval track or in an arena with an approximate circumference of 200-250 meters. Racing pace events may only be included at FEIF World Ranking events if the circumference of the oval track is 250 meters. A nonWorld Ranking show may be allowed with or without including F1 or F2 in the list of offered classes if the track does not meet the FEIF standards for racing pace.

(h) The entry form must state the following:

1. That the USIHC Competition Rules will apply at the show.
2. That all Icelandic horse entries must be accompanied by a copy of a registration certificate issued by a FEIF recognized registry.
3. That all eligible riders will automatically be entered into the USIHC National Ranking Program.
4. That riders may choose to start in more than one tölt or gait test using the same horse. Only the scores in the most advanced (lowest number) test in each group will be included in the National and, if appropriate, World Ranking.

(i) Petition for a National Ranking Show must be filed by certified mail or email to the Sport Committee Chairperson a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the proposed show date. Late applications may be subject to a \$5.00 per day fine and will be considered on a case-by- case basis. Any changes to the previously approved application must be approved by the Chairperson of the Sport Committee prior to the start of the show. It shall include:

1. The name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the show organizer;
2. The name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the proposed judge(s);
3. A list of proposed classes with the mandatory classes included;

4. A copy of the entry form;
5. The dates of the show;
6. The name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the scribe(s);
7. The name, address, telephone number of the facility and the dimensions of the arena;
8. List of fees for classes and stalls
9. Check made out to USIHC for the \$75 Sanctioned Show Fee

(j) If the show is to be a World Ranking event, the Organizer will pay the FEIF World Ranking fee. If the National Ranking Show application is approved after the FEIF World Ranking application deadline, the organizer must pay the FEIF late fee to the USIHC **before** the World Ranking application will be filed with FEIF. If a World Ranking show is canceled the organizer shall reimburse the USIHC the full amount of the FEIF World Ranking fee.

(k) **Within 15 days of the conclusion of the show**, the organizer must file a Show Report with the Sport Committee Chairperson including:

1. All of the score sheets (Be sure to indicate the judge on each if there was more than one judge at the tournament.)
2. A check (or PayPal receipt) for Ictest NG fees and any non-member fees.

Late reports may be subject to a \$5.00 per day fine and will be considered on a case- by-case basis.

For World Ranking shows, this deadline is reduced to 48 hours.

(l) **Within 15 days of receipt of the Show Report**, the Sport Chairperson shall review the required elements of the report and notify the organizer in writing of any errors or omissions.

For World Ranking shows this deadline is reduced to 24 hours.

(m) **Within 15 days of receiving written notification of Show Report errors**, the organizer shall submit a revised Show Report correcting said errors. Late corrections may be subject to a \$5.00 per day fine and will be considered on a case- by-case basis.

For World Ranking shows this deadline is reduced to 24 hours.

3. Responsibilities of the organizer include:

(a) Making all transportation arrangements (including payment) for the Judge(s) from his/her point of departure and back, including to and from the show grounds on each judging day.

(b) Making all arrangements (including payment) for the Judge(s)'s hotel (if applicable) from the night of arrival through the night of the last Icelandic class.

(c) Selection of a scribe(s) to assist the Judge(s). The scribe(s) must be familiar with the different classes and how to score correctly using the scoring sheets from the Ice Test NG Software. A scribe(s) should be an US Sport Judge(s), a person who has attended the USIHC Judges Seminar or a member of the Sport Committee and if one is not available then approval from the Sport Committee Chairperson is needed for a suitable replacement.

(d) A rider's delegate must be elected prior to the show beginning. This is in case arbitration becomes necessary.

(e) Forwarding to the Sport Chairperson a Show Report. For World Ranking shows, and extra care must be taken with the spelling of horse and rider names. (Note: Horses imported to the United States will have a FEIF ID and

a US Registration ID. The FEIF ID from the horse's country of birth is the number which must be used in IceTest NG.)

4. The Sport Committee Chairperson will be responsible for the following:
Approval of the proposed Judge(s) and Scribe(s). In the event that either the Judge(s) and/or Scribe(s) are not approved for any reason, the organizer will need to resubmit the Judge(s) and/or Scribe(s) for approval.

Review of the completed Show Report within 15 days of receipt (24 hours in the case of World Ranking).

The USIHC adopts all provisions of the current FEIF General and Sport Rules effective for the current competition season which begins April 1st each year. The following sections of the FEIF Sport Rules are modified as set forth below to achieve the maximum measure of USIHC compliance as is presently possible in the United States.

Section G8.2.3.– Permitted bits and bridles:

Prohibited bits and/or bridles are bits and/or bridles that are clearly designed for another purpose (such as bits for driving horses) or are part of tack designed for a different riding style/culture, or are used in way other than designed for. Only reins that go directly from the rider's hands to the correct attachment point on the bit or bit-less bridle are allowed.

Only snaffle bits are permitted in the Beginning Rider and Novice Division classes.

Nothing may be added on to bits other than smooth bit guards and chain guards, and nothing else is allowed in the horse's mouth.

Horses may be ridden in bit-less bridles provided they fit the general requirements described above.

The judges' decision about the acceptance of any bit or bridle at a specific event is final for that specific event.

Section G9.2. Sport – Tracks

The definition of regulation tracks is as defined in FEIF Section G9.1. In the event a regulation track is not available tests may be conducted on a track or in an arena with a minimum circumference of 200 meters [650 feet] with long sides a minimum of 60 meters [200 feet].

The beginning and end of the long side of the track shall be marked in such a way as to be clearly visible to the riders, judges, and spectators without interfering with the horses on the track. The transition point at the middle

of the short side may also be marked. Options include but are not limited to flat tape on the railing or a different colored post.

Racing pace events may only be included in World Ranking events in the US if there is a 250 meter oval track. Non-World Ranking shows may continue to offer F1, F2 and F3 on 200 meter tracks.

Sections S1.2 – Judges:

All FEIF classes must be judged by at least one International FEIF Sport Judge or one US Sport A Judge.

Shows using two judges are discouraged but allowed. Both judges must be either an International FEIF Sport Judge or US Sport A Judge. US Sport B Judges may be used with one International FEIF Sport Judge.

Shows using three or more judges must use a majority of FEIF International Sport Judges and/or US Sport A Judges. The remaining judges may be US Sport B Judges.

In cases where more than one judge is giving marks, they will judge individually, separately and openly.

Section S1.4 – Demonstration Rider:

The show organizer has the sole discretion to utilize demonstration riders. If demonstration riders are used they shall follow FEIF Section 4.8.

Section S2.4 – Left rein and right rein groups:

In classes, which are conducted in groups, starting groups of no more than four riders are formed by the show organizer, judge or gatekeeper. Choice of rein shall be by majority vote of the riders in the group. In the event of a tie, left rein is to be assumed to be the preference.

In finals, the majority of the riders determine the rein on which the first section is begun. In the event of a tie vote, the vote of the preliminary round's winner is doubled.

RULES OF GENERAL APPLICATION

Eligibility.

Open: Any rider 14 years and over.

Pace Disciplines: Any rider 14 years and over.

Professional: A professional rider is one who has accepted remuneration of any kind within a two year period prior to the show in question for training or riding Icelandic Horses.

Intermediate: Any non-professional rider who has not achieved a final score of 6.0 or higher three times, riding the same or different horses, in a specific discipline at USIHC National Ranking competitions.

Novice: Any non-professional rider who has not achieved a score of 5.0 or higher three times, riding the same or different horses, in a specific discipline at USIHC National Ranking competition. In other words, a rider who has achieved a score of 5.0 or higher three times in Novice Tölt is ineligible to enter that class again and must advance to the Intermediate level in Tölt. This rider may continue to compete as a Novice in the other discipline until he/she achieves a score of 5.0 three times in those remaining Novice classes. Thereafter he/she must advance to Intermediate Division.

Beginning Rider: Any non-professional rider is eligible for this division for two consecutive calendar years starting with their first participation in a live National Ranking show (or its equivalent). These riders would then graduate to Novice.

Green Horse: Horses are eligible for this division for two consecutive calendar years starting with their first participation in a live National Ranking show (or its equivalent). Horses could then graduate to Intermediate Horse if it is decided they are not yet ready for Open classes, and being ridden by professional riders.

Intermediate Horse: Professional and non-professional riders may ride Green Horse graduates in this division for two consecutive calendar years following their Green Horse graduation.

Youth: Youth classes may be split into classes with the following age groups:

1. Eleven years and under.
2. Twelve through sixteen years.

A rider may enter any class or level unless specifically prohibited by the definition of that class or level. In other words, a rider may enter at the same show, Intermediate and Novice classes if he/she is a non-professional rider and has not achieved a score of 5.0 or above three times at USIHC National Ranking competitions in that discipline.

The cut-off score in those classes will follow the rider only. It will not follow the horse or the horse and rider combination with the exception of the determination of a “green horse”.

A rider may enter the same class with more than one horse. Where the Open Class is conducted as individual programs, no limit shall apply. In classes conducted in groups the rider shall be allowed as many entries as there are groups for the class.

G7.3.2. Participating horses in sport events

Purebred Icelandic horses aged five years and above are eligible. Horses must have a FEIF ID number.

For World Championships and other international competitions, horses must be at least 6 years old. The number of tests per horse per day is limited as follows:

- a) a 5 year-old horse, may start twice per day, not including races or cross-country (however, pace test, speed pace and pace races are permitted),
- b) a 6 year-old horse may start 3 times per day,
- c) a 7 year and older horse, may start 4 times per day,
 - any preliminary round and final is considered to be a start,

- for pace test, speed pace, pace race 250m and 150m, 2 runs on one day are counted as 1 start.

It is up to the organizers to check the age of the horse. If a rider disregards this rule, and finishes an additional test, the rider should be disqualified from the test.

It must be noted that all classes (National Ranking Classes, Optional Classes and Fun Classes) are counted as "starts". The only exception are the previously mentioned "pace" events.

Compliance. The individual responsible for enforcing compliance with all the USIHC Sport Rules at National Ranking Shows shall be an US Sport Judge. If an US Sport Judge is not available then the official Scribe shall enforce the rules. In the absence of either an US Sport Judge or Scribe then a designated member of the Sport Committee will enforce compliance by all show participants with the rules. In all cases the individual must have a solid working knowledge of the USIHC Sport Rules. All the materials and information needed to ensure proper compliance shall be provided by the show organizer. If a dispute arises as a result of a decision made by this individual an appeal may be made in a timely fashion to the Judge who shall have the final decision.

Jurisdiction. The USIHC Competition Rules are National Rules, to be utilized in any USIHC National Ranking Show. In the event an International FEIF Show shall be conducted in the United States it must be conducted pursuant to the entire FEIF Rules and Regulations then in effect, including the provisions excluded or amended in these National Rules.

Revisions to FEIF Rules & Regulations and the USIHC Competition Rules. As revisions to FEIF Rules are approved by FEIF, the USIHC will determine if the USIHC Competition Rules should be revised in accordance with the FEIF Rules revisions. Other revisions to the USIHC Competition Rules may occur as circumstances demand.

Arbitration. For the duration of a competition an Arbitration Committee must be formed consisting of the following:

1. The competition manager or a representative previously appointed by him/her.
2. The head judge
3. A rider's spokesman, elected before the start of the competition by those actively competing. If the riders' spokesman has to be substituted, then the rider with the second highest votes will become the spokesman's representative.
4. The sport chairperson or delegate previously appointed by him/her

All decisions made by the Arbitration Committee are final. No one may be involved in any arbitral decisions, who is either directly concerned or has interests therein or is any other way prejudiced. Arbitration proceedings are conducted verbally. Minutes are to be taken, which should at least include the following information:

1. Members of the arbitration committee
2. Place and time of the proceedings
3. Parties present
4. Issues and decisions of the committee.

Arbitration proceedings are public. Conferring is done in private. Decisions by the arbitration committee are taken on a simple majority. In the event of votes being equal, the chief judge will have the casting vote. The decision then must be immediately given in writing to the party concerned.

Dress Code. All provisions in FEIF Rules Section S6.7.3.2 Riders' dress/equipment shall apply. The dress requirements in all FEIF classes at USIHC National Ranking shows shall be those required at international sport competitions. In the event of high heat or humidity, riders may opt to not wear a coat and tie.

Regardless of the conditions, riders are encouraged to dress professionally. The dress requirements in all non-FEIF classes shall be those allowed in Pace Race and Pace Tests.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

The class descriptions listed below are taken directly from FEIF Rules and will be the USIHC required classes. The scores from these classes will be recorded in the USIHC National Ranking database. In the event of a discrepancy between these descriptions and those in the current version of FEIF Rules and Regulations, FEIF Rules shall prevail unless the difference is expressly noted.

OPEN DIVISION

These classes may be entered by any rider 14 years and older. Organizers shall offer both preliminary and finals for all Open Division classes.

Tölt 1 Open Individual (FEIF T1)

Preliminary Round:

Riders compete individually. Sections:

1. Begin at the middle of the short side and ride one round in slow tölt on either rein. Return to walk at the middle of the short side and change rein.
2. From the middle of the short side ride one round in slow tölt, lengthen stride distinctly on the long sides.
3. From the middle of the short side ride one round in fast tölt.

Final round:

The finalists ride together and are instructed by the speaker. They ride the same sections as in the preliminary round on both reins as described in S2.3.2. All three sections of the test must be shown on both hands. The riders are instructed to walk and change reins by the speaker. The horses are given a 60 second break where at the rein change of the second section. The horses are given a 120 second break at the rein change of the third section. During these breaks the horses should be allowed to walk in a relaxed manner.

Tölt 2 Open Loose Rein (FEIF T2)

Preliminary Round:

Riders compete individually. Sections:

1. Begin at the middle of the short side and ride one round in any speed tölt
2. From the middle of the short side ride one round in slow, steady and calm speed tölt. Return to walk and change rein
3. Ride one round in a slow to medium speed tölt, holding both reins in one hand clearly showing no rein contact with the horse's mouth. The marks for section 3 are doubled.

Final round:

The finalists ride together and are instructed by the speaker. They ride the same sections as in the preliminary round as described in S2.3.2.

Tölt 3 Open Group (FEIF T3)

Preliminary Round:

The test is ridden with up to three riders on the oval track. The horses show the three sections as instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. They start on the rein as set in the starting list.

Sections (called by the speaker):

1. Slow tölt. Return to walk change rein.
2. Slow tölt on the short sides, fast tölt on the long sides.
3. Fast tölt.

Final round:

The finalists ride together. The horses show the gaits in the order instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. The rein is determined pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4.

Tölt 4 Open Group Loose Rein (FEIF T4)

Preliminary Round:

This class is ridden with up to three riders on the track at once. The horses show the three sections as instructed by the speaker as described in FEIF Section S2.3.2. They start on the rein chosen by the riders in each group pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4

Sections (called by the speaker):

1. Any speed tölt
2. Slow, steady and calm speed tölt. Return to walk and change rein
3. Slow to medium speed tölt, holding both reins in one hand clearly showing no rein contact with the horse's mouth. The marks for section 3 are doubled.

Final round:

The finalists ride together and are instructed by the speaker. They ride the same sections as in the preliminary round as described in S2.3.2.

Four-gait Open Individual (FEIF V1)

Preliminary round:

Riders compete individually. The test may be ridden on either rein. The rider begins each segment of the test in the middle of the short side of the track. The rider has four and a half rounds to show the following gaits in any order:

1. Slow tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk (shown for a half round only)
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Fast tölt

Each gait may be shown only once, walk for a half round and the other gaits for one full round.

Final round:

The finalists ride together. The horses show the gaits in the order instructed by the speaker as described in S.2.3.2. The rein is determined pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4.

Four-gait Open Group (FEIF V2)

Preliminary round:

The test is ridden with up to three riders on the oval track. The horses show the four gaits as instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. They ride on the rein as set in the starting list.

Sections (called by the speaker):

1. Slow tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Fast tölt

Final round:

The finalists ride together. The horses show the gaits in the order instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. The rein is determined pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4.

Five-gait Open (FEIF F1)

Preliminary round:

Riders compete individually. The test may be ridden on either rein. The rider begins each segment of the test in the middle of the short side of the track. The rider has four and a half rounds to show the following gaits in any order:

1. Slow to medium speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk (shown for a half round only)
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Racing pace

Each gait may be shown only once, walk for a half round and the other gaits for a full round. The racing pace is shown on the long sides only. The marks for tölt and pace will be doubled.

Final round:

The finalists ride together and show the five gaits in the order instructed by the speaker as described in FEIF Section S2.3.2. The rein is determined pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The horses may show racing pace 3 times on one long side. The riders choose the long side by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the vote of the preliminary round winner is doubled. The marks for tölt and pace will be doubled.

Five-gait Open (FEIF F2)

Preliminary round:

The test is ridden with up to three riders on the oval track. The horses show the five gaits as instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. They ride on the rein as set in the starting list.

Sections (called by the speaker):

1. Slow to medium speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk (shown for a half round only)
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Racing pace

The horses may show racing pace 3 times on one long side. The riders choose the long side by majority vote. In the event of a draw a draw of lots by the speaker will decide. The marks for tölt and pace will be doubled

Final round:

The finalists ride together and show the five gaits in the order instructed by the speaker as described in FEIF Section S2.3.2. The rein is determined pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The horses may show racing pace 3 times on one long side. The riders choose the long side by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the vote of the preliminary round winner is doubled. The marks for tölt and pace will be doubled.

P2 – SpeedPass: Pace Race 100m with flying start.

Sport Committee Chair must grant approval for this test to be included and will provide guidelines for doing so.

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Intermediate classes are open to all non-professional riders who have not achieved a score of 6.0 three times, riding the same or different horses, in a specific discipline at USIHC National Ranking competitions. Once a rider has achieved a score of 6.0 or higher three times in a specific discipline, he/she must compete in Open Level classes thereafter in that discipline.

The conducting of a final round in Intermediate Classes is in the discretion of the show organizer. In the event a final round is conducted it shall be pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Intermediate Tölt (FEIF T5):

The class is ridden with no more than four horses on the track at once. The rein is selected pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The horses show the sections as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Slow tölt. Return to walk and change rein
2. Slow tölt on the short sides, fast tölt on the long sides

Intermediate Loose-Rein Tölt (FEIF T6):

This class is ridden by no more than four riders on the track at the same time. The rein is selected pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The horses show the sections as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt. Return to walk and change rein
2. Slow to medium speed tölt, on the long sides holding both reins in one hand clearly showing no rein contact with the horse's mouth.

Intermediate Four-gait (FEIF V3):

This class is ridden with no more than four riders on the track at once. The rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections are ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Slow speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Medium to fast tölt

Five-gait Intermediate (FEIF F3):

The test is ridden groups of up to three riders on the oval track. The horses show the five gaits as instructed by the speaker as described in S2.3.2. They ride on the rein as set in the starting list.

Sections:

1. slow to medium speed tölt
2. slow to medium speed trot
3. medium walk
4. slow to medium speed canter
5. pace.

Pace is shown twice on one long side. The riders choose the long side by majority vote. In the event of a draw the speaker will decide. A combination needs to show one half of a long side to get a mark. The mark for pace is doubled and the total number of points is divided by 6.

NOVICE DIVISION

Novice classes are open to all non-professional riders who have not scored 5.0 three times, riding the same or different horses, in the Novice classes in USIHC National Ranking competitions. In other words, once a rider has scored 5.0 or above three times in a Novice Tölt class, he/she may not compete further in that class and must compete thereafter in the Intermediate Tölt class. He/she may continue to compete in the other Novice classes until he/she has achieved a score of 5.0 three times in the

other Novice classes. Thereafter he/she must compete in the Intermediate Division.

The conducting of a final round in the Novice Classes is in the discretion of the show organizer. In the event a final round is conducted, it shall be pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Novice Tölt (FEIF T7):

This class is ridden with no more than four riders on the track at once. The rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections are ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Slow tölt.
2. Return to walk and change rein.
3. Any speed tölt

Novice Four-Gait (FEIF V5):

This class is ridden with no more than four riders on the track at once. The rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections will be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk
4. Slow to medium speed canter

YOUTH DIVISION

These classes are open to riders 16 years and younger as described below. The conducting of a final round in Youth Classes is in the discretion of the show organizer. In the event a final round is conducted it shall be pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2. The results of the preliminaries shall be used to compute the National Ranking.

Youth Tölt (FEIF T8):

This class is ridden with no more than four horses on the track. Rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections shall be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt.
2. Return to walk and change rein.
3. Any speed tölt

Youth Four Gait (FEIF V6):

This class is ridden with no more than four horses on the track. The rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections will be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Any Speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk
4. Slow to medium speed canter. The start into canter and the stop after canter into walk is shown separately by each rider as instructed by the speaker

BEGINNING RIDER DIVISION

This division intended to provide riders new to competition on the Icelandic Horse a place to receive feedback on their riding with the most opportunity to succeed.

Beginning Rider classes are open to all non-professional riders. Riders are eligible for this division for two consecutive calendar years starting with their first participation in a live National Ranking show (or its equivalent).

The conducting of a final round in Beginning Rider Class is highly encouraged as it provides riders with a second opportunity to receive feedback from the judge(s). However, offering Beginning Rider Class finals is in the discretion of the show organizer. In the event a final round is conducted, it shall be pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Beginning Rider Tölt (TBR)

This class is ridden with no more than three horses on the track. The sections shall be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2. **Only the performance on the long sides of the track is judged.** Riders may use the corners and short side to prepare their horses without being judged. If a final is offered, the sections are the same as the preliminary round.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt.
2. Return to walk and change rein.
3. Any speed tölt

Beginning Rider Four-Gait (VBR)

This class is ridden with no more than three horses on the track. Rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections shall be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2. **Only the performance on the long sides of the track is judged.** Riders may use the corners and short side to prepare their horses without being judged. If a final is offered, the sections are the same as the preliminary round.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt.
2. Any speed trot.
3. Medium walk.
4. Medium canter (shown one rider at a time).
5. Any speed trot or tölt. (The mark in this section shall replace the mark for the earlier section allowing the rider a chance to improve the tölt or trot score.)

GREEN HORSE DIVISION

This division provides trainers a place to introduce young horses to competition with the most opportunity to succeed. This class is open to all levels of riders. **Green Horse:** Horses are eligible for this division for two consecutive calendar years starting with their first participation in a live National Ranking show (or its equivalent).

The conducting of a final round in a Green Horse Class is highly encouraged as it provides riders with a second opportunity to receive feedback from the judge(s). However, offering Green Horse Class finals is in the discretion of

the show organizer. In the event a final round is conducted, it shall be pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Green Horse Tölt (TGH)

This class is ridden with no more than three horses on the track. The sections shall be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2. Only the performance on the long sides of the track is judged. Riders may use the corners and short side to prepare their horses without being judged. If a final is offered, the sections are the same as the preliminary round.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt.
2. Return to walk and change rein.
3. Any speed tölt

Green Horse Four-Gait (VGH)

This class is ridden with no more than three horses on the track. Rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections shall be ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2. Only the performance on the long sides of the track is judged. Riders may use the corners and short side to prepare their horses without being judged. If a final is offered, the sections are the same as the preliminary round.

Sections:

1. Any speed tölt.
2. Any speed trot.
3. Medium walk.
4. Medium canter (shown one rider at a time).
5. Any speed trot or tölt. (The mark in this section shall replace the mark for the earlier section allowing the rider a chance to improve the tölt or trot score.)

INTERMEDIATE HORSE DIVISION

This division provides trainers a place to compete horses who have graduated from Green Horse but are not yet ready for Open classes. This class is open to all levels of riders. **Intermediate Horse:** Horses are eligible for this division for two consecutive calendar years following their graduation from Green Horse.

Intermediate Horse Tölt (TIH):

The class is ridden with no more than four horses on the track at once. The rein is selected pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The horses show the sections as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Slow tölt. Return to walk and change rein
2. Slow tölt on the short sides, fast tölt on the long sides

Intermediate Horse Four-gait (VIH):

This class is ridden with no more than four riders on the track at once. The rein is chosen pursuant to FEIF Section S2.4. The sections are ridden as instructed by the speaker pursuant to FEIF Section S2.3.2.

Sections:

1. Slow to medium speed tölt
2. Slow to medium speed trot
3. Medium walk
4. Slow to medium speed canter
5. Medium to fast tölt

NATIONALLY RANKED CLASS CHART

	TÖLT	LOOSE REIN TÖLT	FOUR-GAIT	FIVE-GAIT
OPEN	T1 or T3	T2 or T4	V1 or V2	F1 or F2, P2
INTERMEDIATE	T5	T6	V3	F3
NOVICE	T7		V5	
YOUTH	T8		V6	