
Education

FEIF education aims to:

- encourage cooperation in educational activities between the National Associations in the FEIF Member Countries
- provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge, information and ideas
- organise events where people interested in education can meet
- define educational standards to enable the international movement of qualified horse trainers and riding instructors through the mutual recognition of qualifications

Leisure riding

The largest number of riders joining the Icelandic horse world do so as the Icelandic horse offers wonderful adventures when riding in the country side. Many of these riders have limited interest in competitions or showing breeding horses, they focus on leisure riding. The Leisure Riding Committee seeks to map the work done at national level to secure that riders have access to nature also in the future.

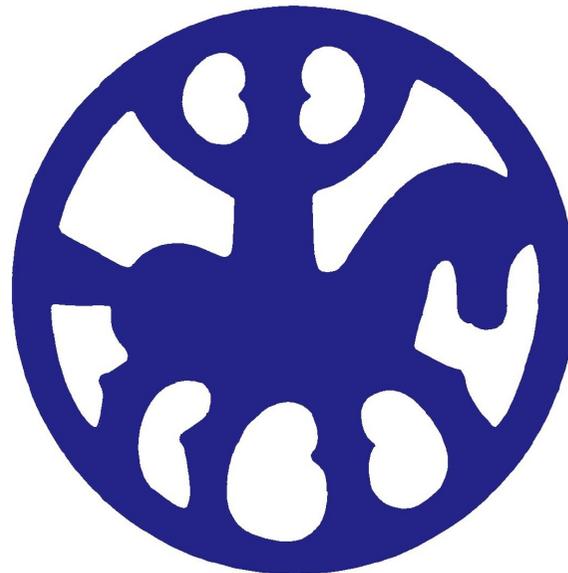
The committee is working on a test for leisure riding horses, not a test that will give a judgement on a horse, but a test that aims to provide information on the character, gaits and distribution of gaits and other relevant traits of the horse. In the process of developing this test the committee will soon be asking for your opinion on the ideal leisure horse. keep an eye on our website and Facebook page and give your input in our questionnaire.

Youth

Our young riders are our future and the youth department organises different events which support the development of young riders. In alternate years there is a YouthCup or Youth Camp. The two events take place in the different member countries in turn, the camps with borrowed horses, the cups normally with "own horses". Both the camp and the cup have a huge importance for the friendly international atmosphere and friendship across borders, which still is the main aim of FEIF.

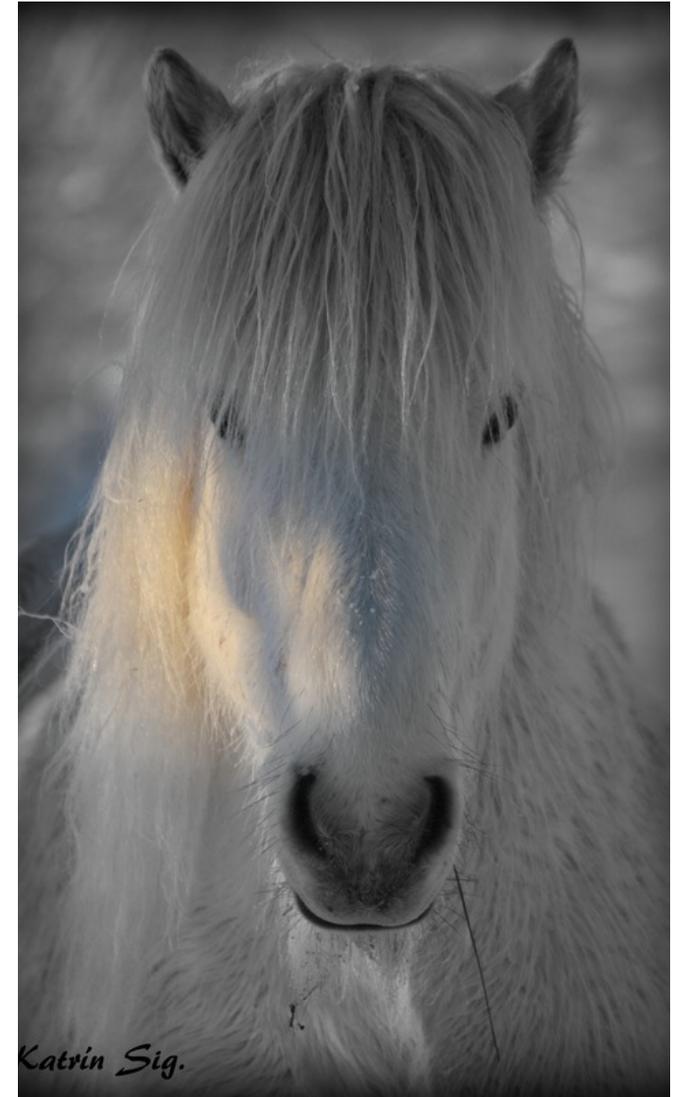
From 1999 3 young riders have been allowed to represent their country at world championships, and by now 5 additional young riders can be added to the team and the best young riders have their own finals.

The youth committee has invented youth riding tests and rules for youth events. Many of these tests, originally dedicated to young rider's competitions, are used as 'generic tests' at local competitions.



FEIF

bringing people together in their passion for the Icelandic horse



What is FEIF?

FEIF was started by a group of Icelandic horse enthusiasts in 1969. They named the organisation after how they saw themselves: friends of the Icelandic horse. In the founding year FEIF had 6 member countries. Since then FEIF has developed into the International Federation of Icelandic Horse Associations, representing Icelandic Horse associations in 19 countries.

FEIF is governed by a delegates assembly of its associations, which meets once a year and decides on important matters. Most proposals presented to the Delegates Assembly (DA) have been prepared by the various committees and meetings of the national sport or breeding leaders before they are presented. This enables the different associations to have input in the decision making process.

since 2005 FEIF organises a conference each year in february, this conference hosts not only the DA, it is also the place where the national representatives for the different departments, sport, breeding, leisure, education and youth can meet, share experiences, make recommendations and agree on proposals. As such the FEIF brings together and learns from its member associations.

FEIF also maintains connections with other international horse networks such as the European Horse Network (EHN). Here FEIF can play a role in bringing up important topics for all Icelandic Horse Riders.

more information: www.feif.org

World Championships

Every two years the world championships for Icelandic horses are organised. FEIF partners with a local organisation to organise these championships.



Sport

Many riders of Icelandic horses will enjoy riding a competition from time to time, for some competition riding is their many focus. Much of the work of FEIF has been in the field of sport. FEIF has developed rules for competitions (FIPO), trained and licensed international judges, and even developed software to calculate the results which is available for the organisers of competitions free.

The judging guidelines, which have recently been developed, aim to make judging in competitions more transparent and understandable as well as to encourage good riding.

WorldRanking

Riders from the USA to Italy can compare their results through the World-Ranking. FEIF registers and publishes results from all competitions which meet the WR criteria.

Gæðingakeppni

a competition which looks for spirit, power and extension in the gaits, over precision. FEIF has been supporting this form, so popular in Iceland, in other countries.

Horse Welfare

One of the important areas of focus for FEIF is the welfare of our horses. This is reflected in many of our rules and also research (e.g. hoof study) which we sponsored.



Breeding

An international standard for the Icelandic Horse was agreed upon as early as 1974, yet it took a long time and a lot of hard work to reach common rules for the evaluation of breeding horses. Today all FEIF countries fully support the breeding rules (FIZO) and evaluations outside the FIZO rules are no longer usual.

The breakthrough was no doubt a result of the establishment of WorldFengur, our superb database for Icelandic horses. WorldFengur stores the individual results of breeding evaluations of all horses judged at approved shows by the approved number of qualified FEIF breeding judges.