



The Spanish Jennet Horse Society
The Horse of the Middle Ages comes to Modern Times

RULE BOOK

Conformation/Beauty Division

I. Spanish Jennet Conformation

A. Judging Considerations: These are breeding classes. Transmissible faults shall be heavily penalized. Along with correctness of conformation and the correctness of form for the function, the quality and naturalness of Paso gait, beauty of pattern, elegance and refinement shall be evaluated. Entries must be serviceably sound to be considered for placement. This class to be judged: 40% on correctness of conformation and the correctness of form for the function, 35% on quality, naturalness and rhythmic correctness of Paso gait, 15% on attractiveness of patterning and beauty, 10% on grooming, and manners.

B. Procedures: Entries of all ages shall be shown at a Paso Corto. Horses shall enter the ring one at a time in the order designated by show management. They will proceed straight in the direction of the Judge in order to facilitate judging the straightness of the entry's movement. When signaled by the ringmaster the horses shall angle toward the rail and circle the arena in a counter-clockwise direction on the rail. Horses will continue to work the rail until instructed by the ringmaster to proceed to the lineup. Entries should move "in gait" whenever moving unless specifically requested by the judge to walk.

At the lineup exhibitors will present their entries head to tail facing the in gate. The judge will ask the lineup to reverse in its tracks so spectators see both sides of the horses. At the lineup horses should stand up squarely and at attention for individual inspection. Entries should not be stretched or parked. They should remain at attention throughout the class without excessive restraint. Handlers are not permitted to use their hand to touch the entry's leg below the elbow of the horse. The judge may ask for 2 rows at the line up to avoid entries being too close together.

The Judge will "order" the horses (by approximate placement) in a nose to tail orientation for comparative evaluation. Additional gait work-offs at the rail may be required at the Judge's discretion. In this division the sounding board may not be used.

C. Gait: Quality of Paso gait as evidenced by smoothness, symmetry of action, and the musical harmony of Paso cadence will be judged during rail work phase of the class. Naturalness as evidenced by consistency and a lack of excessive restraint shall be heavily rewarded. The age of entry shall be a consideration. Entries less than saddle training age shall exhibit tendency toward natural "gaitedness". Entries which have reached saddle training age and beyond should show evidence of security in their Paso gait. Entries that display a strong example of Paso Corto shall be rewarded above those which do not. The Paso Corto may be suitable for either Formal Presentation, Show Pleasure or Country Pleasure. No form of Paso Corto will be rewarded over another by the Judge.

D. Appointments: All entries will be shown in a leather halter with matching single or double lead or long lines attached. One or 2 handlers shall attend the horse. If 2 lines are used, they shall be long enough for attendants to work the horse from behind and not obscure the judge's view of the horse. If 2 handlers are used they must each hold a line, and be positioned on either side of the horse while working and in the lineup. Lines may come off the halter with a smooth chain that may cross either the nose or the chin, but not both. A crop or whip not to exceed 36" in length may be carried by one handler. Foals born in the year of competition may be shown in a come-along rig.

E. Attire of attendants: Official Formal Spanish Jennet attire.

F. Class divisions: Classes will be divided by gender first, and by age second. Championships will be by gender.

II. Spanish Jennet Color Classes

1. Most Exotic - The horse with the most exotic coloration and pattern.

2. Model - The horse who overall will make the best picture advertisement or model for the breed. Considerations: Overall impressiveness, color, markings with and without saddle, beauty and elegance, strength and naturalness of gait.

A. Judging Considerations: These classes are designed specifically to highlight the beauty of the patterns and colors of the Spanish Jennet Horse. Transmissible faults shall be heavily penalized. Along with correctness of conformation, the quality and naturalness of Paso gait, elegance and refinement shall be evaluated. Entries must be serviceably sound to be considered for placement. This class to be judged: 40% on attractiveness of patterning and beauty based on the class description, 25% on quality and naturalness of Paso gait, 25% on correctness of conformation, 10% on grooming, and manners.

B. Procedures: Entries of all ages shall be shown at a Paso Corto. Horses shall enter the ring single file in the order designated by show management maintaining their relative position on the rail. They will proceed circling the arena in a counter-clockwise direction until instructed to halt, then reverse. Horses will work the clockwise direction of the rail until instructed to line up. Entries should move "in gait" whenever moving unless specifically requested by the Judge to walk.

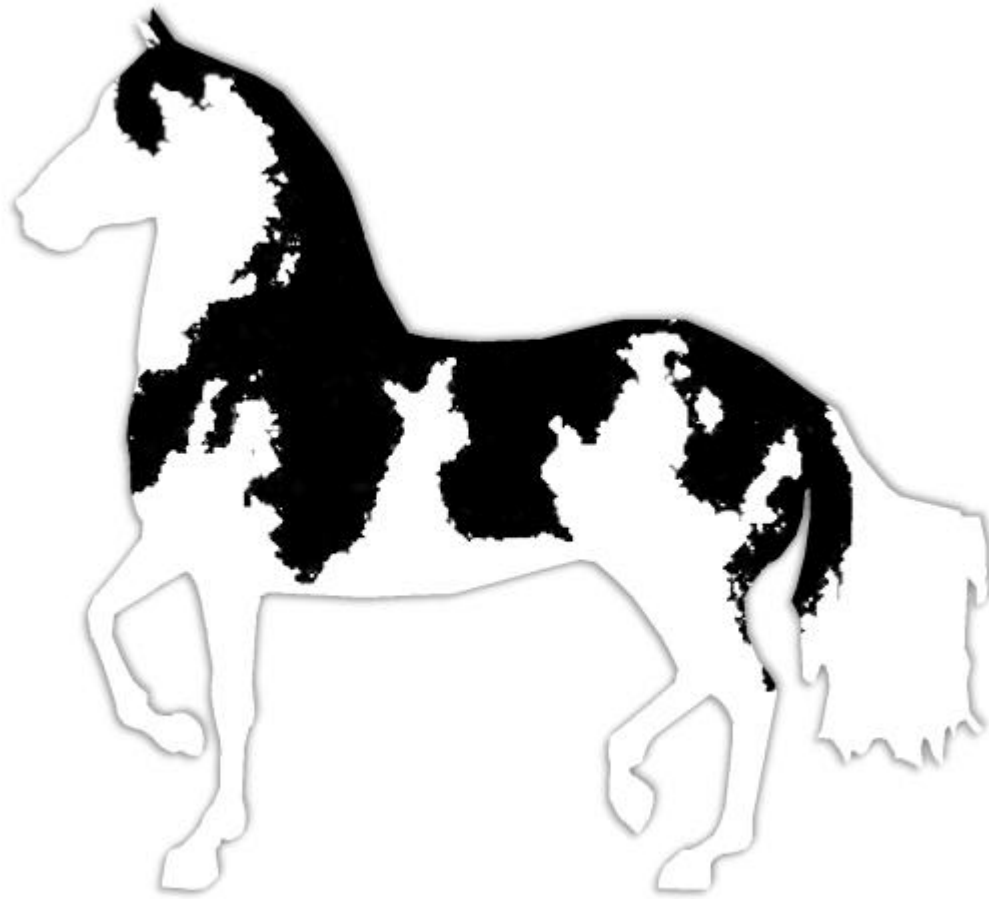
At the lineup exhibitors will present their entries head to tail facing the in gate. The judge will ask the lineup to reverse in its tracks so spectators see both sides of the horses. Entries should stand up squarely and at attention for individual inspection. Entries should not be stretched or parked. They should remain at attention throughout the class without excessive restraint. Handlers are not permitted to use their hand to touch the entry's leg below the elbow of the horse. The Judge may ask for 2 rows at the line up to avoid entries being too close together.

C. Gait: Quality of Paso gait as evidenced by smoothness, symmetry of action, and the musical harmony of Paso cadence will be judged during rail work phase of the class. Naturalness as evidenced by consistency and a lack of excessive restraint shall be heavily rewarded. The age of entry shall be a consideration. Entries less than saddle training age shall exhibit tendency toward natural "gaitedness". Entries which have reached saddle training age and beyond should show evidence of security in their Paso gait. Entries that display a strong example of Paso Corto shall be rewarded above those which do not. The Paso Corto may be suitable for either Paso Performance, Paso Show Pleasure or Paso Country Pleasure. No form of Paso Corto will be rewarded over another by the judge.

D. Appointments: All entries will be shown in a leather halter with matching single or double lead or long lines attached. One or 2 handlers shall attend the horse. If 2 lines are used, they shall be long enough for attendants to work the horse from behind and not obscure the judge's view of the horse. If 2 handlers are used they must each hold a line, and be positioned on either side of the horse while working and in the lineup. Lines may come off the halter with a smooth chain that may cross either the nose or the chin, but not both. A crop or whip not to exceed 36" in length may be carried by one handler. Foals born in the year of competition may be shown in a come-along rig.

E. Attire of attendants: Official Formal Spanish Jennet attire.

F. Classes: Classes will be divided by gender first, and by age second. Championships will be Open.



Spanish Jennet Country Pleasure

A. Judging Considerations: This class is designed to demonstrate the most relaxed aspects of showing the Spanish Jennet, where amateurs can compete with their peers and show off the horse that is truly a valued companion animal.

In this class entries will be expected to exhibit relaxed and fluid Spanish Jennet gaits along with excellent manners, enthusiasm and complete willingness. They should exhibit mild collection at the Corto, and, maintaining frame, extend to a ground covering stride of impressive speed at the Largo. They should be easily controlled, and completely cooperative and obedient.

This class to be judged: 20% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Corto, 20% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Largo, 15% on execution of flat walk, 15% tests, 20% on manners and suitability of mount to rider, 10% on grooming and total picture.

B. Procedures: Entries will enter the ring, rail to the right (counter clockwise) at a Paso Corto. When the first horse has reached the opposite end of the arena he will proceed to the sounding board, pass it's entire length in one direction, and return to his relative position on the rail and halt. All exhibitors will follow. Only one horse shall be on the sounding board at a time. After all entries have passed over the sounding board and lined up at the rail the Judge will call for the Flat Walk. Sequence of gaits shall be: Flat Walk, Paso Corto, Paso Largo, Flat Walk, halt, stand quietly at the rail, back 4 steps, flat walk, reverse, repeat, flat walk to the line up. Entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain relative positions on the rail. Entries shall work at the rail except to pass. A hard surfaced sounding board 40' or longer shall be used. Tests will be performed individually. After the rail work portion of the class, entries will lineup at one end of the arena until called for their turn at the test portion of the class.

The Judge is encouraged request a work off of the top entries not to exceed those competing for the first 3 places (maximum of 4 horses). Workoff will be a pass at Paso Corto in one direction of the sounding board. When the entry clears the sounding board he shall halt, dismount, remount. Stand for instruction. When requested by the judge the entry shall step out in gait and proceed at the Corto, Largo when requested, and return to the Corto (when requested) willingly and without loosing correct Paso rhythm. Then the judge will request a flat walk to the lineup.

C. Gaits

1. Flat Walk: A four-beat, evenly spaced gait, executed with calmness. Should be ground-covering but unhurried. Any tendency to trot or pace at the walk shall be heavily penalized. Head, neck and body position shall be natural, relaxed and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

2. Paso Corto: A four-beat, lateral gait with mild collection, unhurried forward speed and extension. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. (Elevation of fore-limbs and elevation of hock action should match and be unexaggerated.) Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head, neck and body position shall be natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

3. Paso Largo: A four-beat, lateral gait with mild collection, rapid forward speed and reach well extended. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. (Elevation of fore-limbs and elevation of hock action should match and be unexaggerated.) Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Horse should not lose form in pursuit of forward speed. Becoming strung out as a result of loss of form shall be penalized. A significant change of speed from the Paso Corto is required. Horse should move out willingly, but return quickly to Paso Corto without fighting the rider or losing smoothness or the rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head, neck and body position shall be natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

Transitions between gaits should be smooth and rapid without losing smoothness or Paso rhythm.

D. Tests: Entries will demonstrate skills required for mounts to be considered top quality companion animals for riding out. They will negotiate a water hazard in the form of a blue tarp secured on the ground with pegs, will be required to receive mail at the box, will negotiate the sounding board safely at a walk as if it were a bridge without side rails, will stand quietly for his rider to don raid gear and for the rider to dismount and remount safely and easily.

E. Appointments

F. Attire: Spanish Jennet Country Pleasure attire

G. Classes: Division will be divided by Amateur ridden and Amateur trained and ridden. The divisions of the classes will be: Gentleman to ride adult horse 5 years and over, Gentleman to ride schooling horse 4 years and under, Lady to ride adult horse 5 years and over, Lady to ride schooling horse 4 years and under.

3 age groups of youth to ride in the Amateur ridden division, only Youth 15 - 20 in the Amateur trained and ridden division.

Championships will be Open.

In the Amateur ridden division Championships will be held in two categories: Youth and Adult.

Only one Open Championship will be held in the Amateur trained and ridden division.

Spanish Jennet Show Pleasure Division

A. Judging Considerations: This class is designed to demonstrate the moderately relaxed aspects of showing the Spanish Jennet, yet display the regimented etiquette appropriate to the show ring for a high quality saddle horse. In this class entries will be expected to exhibit boldness, exuberance and willingness coupled with relaxation and fluid movement. They should exhibit moderate collection at the Corto, and, maintaining frame, extend to a ground-covering stride of impressive speed at the Largo. They should be easily controlled, and completely cooperative and obedient.

This class to be judged: 25% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Corto, 25% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Largo, 20% on execution of flat walk, 20% on manners, 10% on grooming and total picture.

B. Procedures: Entries will enter the ring, rail to the right (counter clockwise) at a Paso Corto. When the first horse has reached the opposite end of the arena he will proceed to the sounding board, pass it's entire length in one direction, and return to his relative position on the rail and halt. All exhibitors will follow. Only one horse shall be on the sounding board at a time. After all entries have passed over the sounding board and lined up at the rail the Judge will call for the flat Walk. Sequence of gaits shall be: flat Walk, Paso Corto, Paso Largo, flat walk, halt, stand quietly at the rail, back 4 steps, flat walk, reverse, repeat, flat walk to the line up. Entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain relative positions on the rail. Entries shall work at the rail except to pass. A hard surfaced sounding board 40' or longer shall be used.

The Judge is encouraged request a work off of the top entries not to exceed those competing for the first 3 places (maximum of 4 horses). Workoff will be a pass at Paso Corto in one direction of the sounding board. When the entry clears the sounding board he shall halt, dismount, remount (riders' style of mounting and dismounting shall not be a consideration in placement). Stand for instruction. When requested by the judge the entry shall step out in gait and proceed at the Corto, Largo when requested, and return to the Corto (when requested) willingly and without losing correct Paso rhythm. Then the judge will request a flat walk to the lineup.

C. Gaits

1. Flat Walk: A four-beat, evenly spaced gait, executed with enthusiasm. Should be ground-covering but unhurried. Any tendency to trot or pace at the walk shall be heavily penalized. Head, neck and body position shall be natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.
2. Paso Corto: A four-beat, lateral gait with moderate collection, forward speed and extension. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. (Elevation of fore-limbs and elevation of hock action should match and be unexaggerated.) Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head, neck and body position shall slightly elevated and just ahead of vertical.
3. Paso Largo: A four-beat, lateral gait with rapid forward speed and reach well extended. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. (Elevation of fore-limbs and elevation of hock action should match and be unexaggerated.) Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Horse should not loose form in pursuit of forward speed. Becoming strung out as a result of loss of form shall be penalized. A significant change of speed from the Paso Corto is required. Horse should move out boldly, but be willing to return quickly to Paso Corto without fighting the rider or loosing smoothness or the rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head, neck and body position shall be slightly elevated and just ahead of vertical.

Transitions between gaits should be smooth and rapid without loosing smoothness or Paso rhythm.

D. Appointments

E. Attire: Show Pleasure attire.

F. Classes: Classes will be divided by gender first, and by age second. Championships will be Open.

Spanish Jennet Formal Presentation Division

A. Judging Considerations: This class is designed to highlight the most formal aspects of showing the Spanish Jennet. In this class entries will be expected to exhibit brilliance, boldness, enthusiasm and elegance coupled with crisp, fluid movement. They should collect like a coiled spring at the Corto, and maintaining frame, extend to a ground covering stride of impressive speed at the Largo. They should be controlled and obedient in spite of their exuberance.

This class to be judged: 35% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Corto, 35% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Largo, 15% on execution of collected walk, 15% on grooming, total picture and manners.

B. Procedures: Entries will enter the ring, rail to the right (counter clockwise) at a Paso Corto. When the first horse has reached the opposite end of the arena he will proceed to the sounding board, pass it's entire length in one direction, and return to his relative position on the rail and halt. All exhibitors will follow. Only one horse shall be on the sounding board at a time. After all entries have passed over the sounding board and lined up at the rail the Judge will call for the Paso Corto. Sequence of gaits shall be: Paso Corto, Paso Largo, collected walk reverse, repeat, Paso Corto, line up. Entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain relative positions on the rail. Entries shall work at the rail except to pass. A hard surfaced sounding board 40' or longer shall be used.

The Judge is encouraged request a work off of the top entries not to exceed those competing for the first 3 places (maximum of 4 horses). Workoff will be a pass at Paso Corto in both directions of the sounding board, serpentine pattern the length of the rail, halt at the rail. When requested by the judge the entry shall step out in gait and proceed at the Corto, Largo when requested, and return to the Corto (when requested) willingly and without loosing correct Paso rhythm.

C. Gaits

1. Collected Walk: A four-beat, evenly spaced gait, executed with style and energy. Any tendency to trot or pace at the walk shall be heavily penalized. Head and neck are elevated and on or near the vertical.

2. Collected Paso Corto: A four-beat, lateral gait with medium forward speed and extension. Execution should be crisp, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. Fore-limbs should never be higher than parallel to the ground and elevation of hock action should match. Horse should appear brilliantly animated, enthusiastic, stylishly elegant and obedient. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression should of powerfully exciting movement with complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head and neck are elevated and on or near the vertical.

3. Collected Paso Largo: A four-beat, lateral gait with rapid forward speed and reach well extended. Execution should be crisp, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. Fore-limbs should never be higher than parallel to the ground and elevation of hock action should match. Horse should appear brilliantly animated, enthusiastically obedient and stylishly elegant. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression should of powerfully exciting movement with complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Horse should not loose form in pursuit of forward speed. Becoming strung out as a result of loss of form or excessive speed shall be penalized. A significant change of speed from the Paso Corto is required. Horse should move out boldly, but be willing to return quickly to Paso Corto without fighting the rider or loosing smoothness or the rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head and neck are elevated and on or near the vertical.

Transitions between gaits should be smooth and rapid without loosing smoothness or Paso rhythm.

D. Appointments

E. Attire: Official Formal Spanish Jennet attire.

F. Classes: Classes will be divided by gender first, and by age second. Championships will be Open.

Spanish Jennet Versatility

A. Judging Considerations: This class is the test of the finished horse. The class is designed to showcase the athletic ability and the completeness of training of the Spanish Jennet. In this class entries will be expected to exhibit boldness, style, exuberance, willingness and good manners while performing on the rail and while executing various tests and exercises. Entries will demonstrate balance, flexibility, coordination and manners while performing the various gaits, tests, and maneuvers. Entries should exhibit intermediate collection at the Corto, and, maintaining frame, extend to a ground covering stride of impressive speed at the Largo. Walk will be mildly collected but free moving. The canter is well collected and elegant. Entries should be easily controlled, and completely cooperative and obedient. This class to be judged: 20% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Corto, 20% on rhythmic consistency, smoothness and execution of Paso Largo, 10% on execution of canter, 10% on execution of walk, 30% on figures, tests and manners, 10% on grooming and total picture.

B. Procedures: Entries will enter the ring, rail to the right (counter clockwise) at a Paso Corto. When the first horse has reached the opposite end of the arena he will proceed to the sounding board, pass it's entire length in one direction, and return to his relative position on the rail and halt. All exhibitors will follow. Only one horse shall be on the sounding board at a time. After all entries have passed over the sounding board and lined up at the rail the Judge will call for the Walk. Sequence of gaits shall be: walk, Paso Corto, Paso Largo, walk, canter, walk reverse and repeat, lineup. Entries should space themselves to avoid bunching up and maintain relative positions on the rail. Entries shall work at the rail except to pass. A hard surfaced sounding board 40' or longer shall be used. The test will be performed individually. After the rail work portion of the class, entries will adjourn to the holding paddock until called for the test portion of the class. Entries may not leave the paddock area, but riders may dismount until their test. Any entry causing the class to wait for his test will be disqualified.

C. Gaits

1. Walk: A four-beat, evenly spaced gait, executed with mild collection, calm and free moving. Should be ground-covering and enthusiastic. Any tendency to trot or pace at the walk shall be heavily penalized. Head and neck are natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

2. Paso Corto: A four-beat, lateral gait with intermediate collection, forward speed and extension. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. Fore-limbs should never be higher than parallel to the ground and elevation of hock action should match. Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head and neck are natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

smoothness or the rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head and neck are natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

3. Paso Largo: A four-beat, lateral gait with rapid forward speed and reach well extended. Execution should be fluid, well-balanced in flexion and extension when comparing front to rear. Fore-limbs should never be higher than parallel to the ground and elevation of hock action should match. Horse should appear enthusiastic and stylish yet completely obedient and calm. Rider should be motionless in the saddle giving the overall impression of complete smoothness and total rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Horse should not lose form in pursuit of forward speed. Becoming strung out as a result of loss of form shall be penalized. A significant change of speed from the Paso Corto is required. Horse should move out boldly, but be willing to return quickly to Paso Corto without fighting the rider or losing smoothness or the rhythmic consistency of the Paso gait. Head and neck are natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.
4. Canter: Three-beat, on the correct lead, rhythmic, straight along the rail, elegant, collected, elevated, relaxed. Head and neck are natural and unexaggerated, never on the vertical.

Transitions between gaits should be smooth and rapid without losing smoothness or Paso rhythm.

D. Test:

Entries will perform the test individually at the instruction of the judge through the ringmaster. The entry will take the rail in the direction moving away from the in gate at the Paso Corto. Along the flat of the rail he will perform 6 tight reverses (half circle, angle back to rail) and proceed at the rail to the curve. The entry will accelerate to a Paso Largo and continue to the midpoint of the flat of the opposite rail. The entry will halt on the hind quarters in 2 strides on a quiet rein. The entry will execute a quarter turn on the forehand, nose into the rail. He will then sidepass 3 strides in one direction. Entry will execute a half turn on the haunches. With head to the center of the ring he will side pass 3 strides in the opposite direction. (i.e.: If the entry side passes to his right the first time, he side passes to his left the next therefore continuing in the same direction with regard to the rail.) Again the entry halts. The entry now executes a quarter turn on the forehand in the opposite direction as the first and is now on the rail facing the opposite direction. The entry begins to walk. As he reaches the curve of the ring he takes the canter on the correct lead. At the top of the ring he executes a reverse with a flying change of lead. Again he executes a reverse with a flying change of lead. And again he executes a reverse with a flying change of lead. The entry canters on the correct lead to the midpoint of the flat of the rail. The entry executes a halt on the hind quarters in 2 strides on a quiet rein. The entry reins back 6 strides, then walks off in a controlled manner to the holding paddock. When all entries have performed the test the entries will return to the lineup in the center of the ring for the placements to be announced.

D. Appointments

E. Attire: Show Pleasure attire

F. Classes: Classes will be Open.

Official Spanish Jennet Attire:

Formal Attire:

Black, dark brown, navy blue or burgundy pants or trousers worn over a paddock shoe or boot. Matching Bolero or Spencer (waist length) jacket. White, ecru or ivory blouse or tuxedo style shirt. Formal tie with tuxedo shirts. In temperatures over 90 degrees jackets may at the Judge's discretion be optional. However, exhibitors not wearing a jacket must have long sleeves on shirt or blouse and replace the jacket with a formal style, matching vest. Black flat topped "Gambler" style hat (nearly flat brim).



Show Pleasure Attire:

Conservative colored trousers or pants worn over a paddock shoe or boot. Ladies may also wear mid-calf length split skirt with knee high riding boots. Jacket of choice. White, ecru or ivory shirt. Gentlemen must wear a tie. Panama hat or non-black "Gambler" style hat (nearly flat brim).



Country Pleasure Attire:

Conservative trousers or pants worn over a paddock shoe or boot. Ladies may also wear ankle length split skirt with knee high riding boots. Long-sleeved shirt and vest for gentlemen. Ladies may wear same as gentlemen or long sleeved 1 piece decorative top. Choice of hats (not the hat of the Official Formal Spanish Jennet attire). No neckties.



Attire shall be in keeping with the type of tack used. Where Western-style tack is used, riders shall dress as specified under requirements for Western attire.

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