



# The All American Andalusian & Lusitano Show Horse Alliance

## DANCING HORSE DIVISION RULES

### Free Style Long Reining

#### **General**

1. Participants must provide appropriate background music during their performance, which is any Spanish or Latin Guitar, Classical, or Modern with or without vocals. Music must be provided for the respective performance at least one day prior to the competition.
2. Each Participant enters the arena individually at the walk and halts, at which time the music begins. Competition time is 2 minutes & the count starts when the music begins.
3. Exhibitors are to present a neat appearance with handler & horse appropriately turned out.
4. Horses may show with braided mane & tails.
5. A lack of required tack, equipment or appointments, at the discretion of the judges, may result in disqualification.
6. The horse may wear shoes or be shown unshod.

#### **Judging Criteria**

1. Points will be calculated at the end of each presentation. Scorecards will be available to the contestants following the completion of the competition.
2. Free Style Long Reining is graded on a scale of 0 to 100 by the judges, with 100 being the highest, and 0 the lowest.

#### **Scoring** The scale of points is as follows:

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| a. Performance                        | 0-60 points |
| b. Artistic Impression                | 0-20 points |
| c. Overall handler/horse presentation | 0-20 points |

#### **Penalties**

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| a. Refusal of aids during performance<br>(depending on severity)    | -10 to -20 points |
| b. Loss of animation/break of gait or movement<br>(each occurrence) | -10 points        |

A horse & handler combination that is eliminated is not eligible to claim a ribbon or award.

#### **Eliminations**

1. Evidence of fresh injuries or blood on the horse's nose, mouth, back or sides.

2. Lameness of the horse
3. Abuse of horse in the show and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
4. Improper attire or equipment.
5. Evidence of rider intoxication.

### **Appointments**

1. Bridles: Dressage, Spanish, or Portuguese bridle, with snaffle or curb bit. Cavesson must be used.
2. Surcingle: Leather surcingle, with crupper (optional). Traditional surcingle with saddle pad & breast plate may be used when wearing traditional clothes.
3. Long Reins: To be of leather, webbing or rope. Whichever type is chosen, must be clean & in good condition.
4. Whip: A whip that is suitable for long reining a horse & is easily manageable for the handler. Whips are optional.
5. Formal top hat & tails, traditional Spanish, Portuguese, Charro or Hunt Attire are considered appropriate.

### **Gaits/Movements**

Desired gaits & movements are at the discretion of the handler. Qualifying movements include but are not limited to: Walk, Trot, Canter, Shoulder-in, Travers, Renvers, Half-Pass, Turn on the Haunches, Pirouette, Piaffe, Passage, Levade, Capriole, Spanish Walk, Rear, & Bow.

## **Passage**

### **General**

1. Participants will be asked to execute the Passage from cone A through to cone B & again from cone C through to cone D. (see pattern).
2. Participants will be called in a pre-established order. A participant who does not begin the pattern within one minute will be eliminated.
3. No comments can be made during contestants ride.
4. The horse must perform the Passage with collection, cadence, & elevation.
5. One has to place value on the image of the rider, but it does not override the overall impression of the horse & rider.
6. The judge should accurately score the basic movement of the horse in their notes. The judges may comment positively or negatively on the manner of the movement performed.
7. The rider should be given higher scores for the spontaneity, diversity, style, brilliance of action, balance & rhythm, and obedience of the horse.

### **Judging Criteria**

1. All combinations (horse & rider) will line up in the arena for inspection of proper attire & appointments. Improper attire will be scored against the exhibitor. Points will be calculated at the end of each ride. Scorecards will be available to the contestants following the completion of the competition.

- The Passage is graded on a scale of 0 to 100 by the judges, with 100 being the highest, and 0 the lowest. Movements that are not completed will be penalized 10 points.

### **Scoring**

The scale of points is as follows:

- |                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| a. Passage                          | 0-60 points |
| b. Artistic Impression              | 0-20 points |
| c. Overall rider/horse presentation | 0-20 points |

### **Penalties**

- Refusal of aids during performance  
(depending on severity) -10 to -20 points
- Loss of animation/break of gait or movement  
(each occurrence) -10 points
- Loss of ability to stay on pattern  
(depending on severity) -10 to -20 points
- The rider must ride the pattern. No Exceptions.
- A horse & rider combination that is eliminated is not eligible to claim a ribbon or award.

### **Eliminations**

- The lack of completing the proper movement & pattern.
- Evidence of fresh injuries or blood on the horse's nose, mouth, back or sides.
- Lameness of the horse
- Abuse of horse in the show and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
- Improper attire or equipment to be penalized at the judge's discretion.
- The use of one or two hands on the reins is permissible but must coincide with the "type" of attire the horse is being presented in.
- Evidence of rider intoxication.

### **Appointments & Attire**

The following presentations should be complete & correct:

- Charro: formal or informal dress, based on state, region or district. Charro saddle, coordinated bridle, bit & reins as well as appropriate spurs & spur straps & correctly formed sombrero.
- Spanish: traje corto or campero, bota or botin, cordobes or calanes hat. Spanish saddle with appropriate "mosquero", black iron bit & spurs.
- Portuguese: silk or similar "casca", white britches, black tall boots & "tricornio" hat. Appropriate saddle with matching bridle, either curb bit or snaffle. Often accompanied by feline feral skin behind seat. Optional spurs.
- English: Black or dark jacket, appropriate top hat or derby of same color. White britches & tall black boots with appropriate spurs of un-roweled type. Dressage saddle most desired, but all purpose accepted. Matching bridle with full or snaffle bits.

**Special considerations:** Long manes may be braided. Martingales, tie downs & leg or hoof protectors are prohibited. The horse may wear shoes or be shown unshod.

### **Gait**

The passage is a very measured, very collected, very elevated and very cadenced trot. It is characterized by a pronounced engagement of the quarters, a more accentuated flexion of the knees & hocks and the graceful elasticity of the movement. Each diagonal pair of feet is raised & returned to the ground alternately with cadence & has prolonged phase of support compared to the phase of suspension.

The neck should be raised & arched, the head close to the vertical.

### **Passage Pattern**

After all the horse & riders have entered the arena for inspection they will line up at the far end of the arena (warm up/holding area) & participants will be asked to complete the pattern, one horse & rider at a time in pre assigned order. Each horse will be asked to execute the passage from cone A to cone B, turn left (counterclockwise) at cone B & walk to holding area at far end of the arena. After the last horse has completed the first part of the pattern, the participants will line up on the rail in the pre assigned order. Each participant will then be asked to execute the passage from cone C to cone D turn left (counterclockwise) at cone D & walk back to the holding area at the far end of the arena. After all the horses have been reviewed individually they will be asked to line up head to tail in pre assigned order & maintain position until judging is completed.

## **Piaffe**

### **General**

1. Rider provides appropriate background music during their performance, which is any Spanish or Latin Guitar, Classical, or Modern with or without vocals. Music must be provided for their respective ride at least one day prior to the competition.
2. Dancing Horse board (tarima) size: 12' x 12'.
3. Participants will be called in a pre-established order.
4. Participants are to enter the board (tarima) at the walk, through the cones/flags marking the entrance to the competition.
5. Competition time is 2 minutes & begins when participant enters, at a walk through the two cones/flags & has all four feet on the board.
6. The horse must perform the Piaffe with collection, cadence, & elevation.
7. One has to place value on the image of the rider but, it should not override the overall impression of the horse & rider.
8. The judge should accurately score the basic movement of the horse in their notes. The judges may comment positively or negatively on the manner of the movement performed.
9. The rider should be given higher scores for spontaneity, diversity, style, and obedience of the horse.

**Judging Criteria – Judges are to consider the following to evaluate the entire performance.**

1. Walk: four beats-well & evenly marked with forward, straight impulsion.
2. The piaffe: collected, cadenced, elevated diagonal movement giving the impression of being in place. The quarters are slightly lowered, the haunches with active hocks are well engaged giving great freedom, lightness & mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of feet is raised & returned to the ground alternately, with an even cadence. The neck should be raised & arched, the head vertical. The horse should remain light on the bit with supple poll maintaining a light & soft contact on a taut rein. The body of the horse should move up & down in supple, cadenced, & harmonious movement.  
The piaffe must always be animated by a lively impulsion & characterizes by perfect balance.
3. Artistic impression: sentiment with music. Includes any additional moves designed to give greater artistic impression to the judge/public (i.e. levade. Pirouette, bowing, always under control, always correct, always on the bit (not behind), always in good taste.
4. Overall rider/horse presentation: rider's seat, use of hands to create acceptance of the bit, ability to use the aides to begin & maintain cadence, balance & rhythm throughout performance.

**Note:** The Piaffe is graded on a scale of 0 to 100 by the judges, with 100 being the highest, and 0 the lowest. Movements that are not completed will be penalized 100 points.

**Scoring** The scale of points is as follows:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| a. Walk:  | 0-05 points |
| b. Piaffe:  | 0-60 points |
| c. Artistic Impression:                                   | 0-20 points |
| d. Acceptance of Bit/Hands, Rider Position & Use of Hands | 0-15 points |

**Penalties**

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| a. Stepping off board 1 <sup>st</sup> time (1 or 2 feet)      | -10 points       |
| b. Stepping off board 2 <sup>nd</sup> time (1 or 2 feet)      | - 20 points      |
| c. Striking with front feet (each occurrence)                 | -10 points       |
| d. Bucking (each occurrence)                                  | -10 points       |
| e. Use of 2 hands or changing rein hand                       | -10 points       |
| f. Refusal of aids during performance (depending on severity) | -10 to 20 points |
| g. Loss of animation/break of gait or movement                | - 10 points      |

**Note:** A horse & rider combination that is eliminated is not eligible to claim a ribbon or award.

### **Eliminations**

1. Entire horse exiting the board during the ride.
2. Evidence of fresh injuries or blood on the horse's nose, mouth, back or sides.
3. Any indication of abuse by hand/whip/spur or any lesions whatsoever.
4. Lameness of the horse.
5. Abuse of horse in the show and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
6. Improper attire or equipment to be penalized at the judge's discretion.
7. If the horse steps off the board more than 3 times during the performance.
8. Evidence of rider intoxication.

### **Appointments & Attire**

Since this has become an international type of competition, the following presentations should be complete & correct:

1. Charro: formal or informal dress, based on state, region or district. Charro saddle, co-ordinated bridle, bit & reins as well as appropriate spurs & spur straps & correctly formed sombrero.
2. Spanish: traje corto or campero, bota or botin, cordobes or calanes hat. Spanish saddle with appropriate "mosquero", black iron bit & spurs.
3. Portuguese: silk or similar "casca", white britches, black tall boots & "tricornio" hat. Appropriate saddle with matching bridle, either curb bit or snaffle. Often accompanied by feline feral skin behind seat. Optional spurs.
4. English: Black or dark jacket, appropriate top hat or derby of same color. White britches & tall black boots with appropriate spurs of un-roweled type. Dressage saddle most desired, but all purpose accepted. Matching bridle with full or snaffle bits.
5. Western: long sleeved shirt with collar, trousers or pants, boots and western hat. Chaps are required. A vest, jacket, coat or sweater may also be worn. Stock saddle with western type headstall & standard western bit. Spurs optional.

### **Desirable points to be noted:**

- a. Greater, artistic, brilliance of action, without losing cadence, balance or rhythm during performance.
- b. Ability to turn right and/or left, during noted performance without losing cadence, balance, or rhythm and retaining presence and impression.
- c. Ability on the part of the rider to present, with actions, aside from the piaffe (which is the predominant action) of interest to the public & judges via use of additional movements, such as levade or pirouette without rhythm of performance being disturbed.

**Special considerations:** Long manes may be braided. Martingales, tie downs, leg & hoof protectors are prohibited. The horse may wear shoes or be shown unshod.

## *Spanish Walk*

### **General**

1. Participants will be asked to execute the Spanish Walk from cone A through to cone B & again from cone C through to cone D. (see pattern).
2. Participants will be called in a pre-established order. A participant who does not begin the pattern within one minute will be eliminated.
3. No comments can be made during Participant's ride.
4. It is important that the judge does not forget the 'air or attitude of proudness' of the Charro.
5. The horse must perform the Spanish Walk with cadence, elevation, & forward impulsion.
6. One has to place value on the image of the rider but, it should not override the overall impression of the horse & rider.
7. The judge should accurately score the basic movement of the horse on the scorecard. The judges may comment positively or negatively on the manner of the movement performed.
8. The rider should be given higher scores for the spontaneity, diversity, style, brilliance of action, balance & rhythm, and obedience of the horse.

### **Judging Criteria**

1. All combinations (horse & rider) will line up in the arena for inspection of proper attire & appointments.
2. Points will be calculated at the end of each ride. Scorecards will be available to the contestants following the completion of the competition.
3. The Spanish Walk is graded on a scale of 0 to 100 by the judges, with 100 being the highest, and 0 the lowest. Movements that are not completed will be penalized 100 points.

**Scoring:** The scale of points is as follows:

a. Spanish Walk	0-60 points
b. Artistic Impression	0-20 points
c. Overall rider/horse presentation	0-20 points

### **Penalties**

- a. Refusal of aids during performance  
(depending on severity) -10 to -20 points
- b. Loss of animation/break of gait or movement  
(each occurrence) -10 points
- c. Loss of ability to stay on pattern  
(depending on severity) -10 to -20 points

**Note:** A horse & rider combination that is eliminated is not eligible to claim a ribbon or award.

### **Eliminations**

1. The lack of completing the proper movement & pattern.
2. Evidence of fresh injuries or blood on the horse's nose, mouth, back or sides.
3. Lameness of the horse
4. Abuse of horse in the show and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
5. Improper attire or equipment to be penalized at the judge's discretion.
6. The use of one or two hands on the reins is permissible but, must coincide with the "type" of attire the horse is being presented in.
7. Evidence of rider intoxication.

### **Appointments & Attire**

The following presentations, should be complete, & correct:

1. Charro: formal or informal dress, based on state, region or district. Charro saddle, co-ordinated bridle, bit & reins as well as appropriate spurs & spur straps & correctly formed sombrero.
2. Spanish: traje corto or campero, bota or botin, cordobes or calanes hat. Spanish saddle with appropriate "mosquero", black iron bit & spurs.
3. Portuguese: silk or similar "casca", white britches, black tall boots & "tricornio" hat. Appropriate saddle with matching bridle, either curb bit or snaffle. Often accompanied by feline feral skin behind seat. Optional spurs.
4. English: Black or dark jacket, appropriate top hat or derby of same color. White britches & tall black boots with appropriate spurs of un-roweled type. Dressage saddle most desired, but all purpose accepted. Matching bridle with full or snaffle bits.

**Special considerations:** Long manes may be braided .Martingales, tie downs & leg or hoof protectors are prohibited. The horse may wear shoes or be shown unshod.

### **Gait**

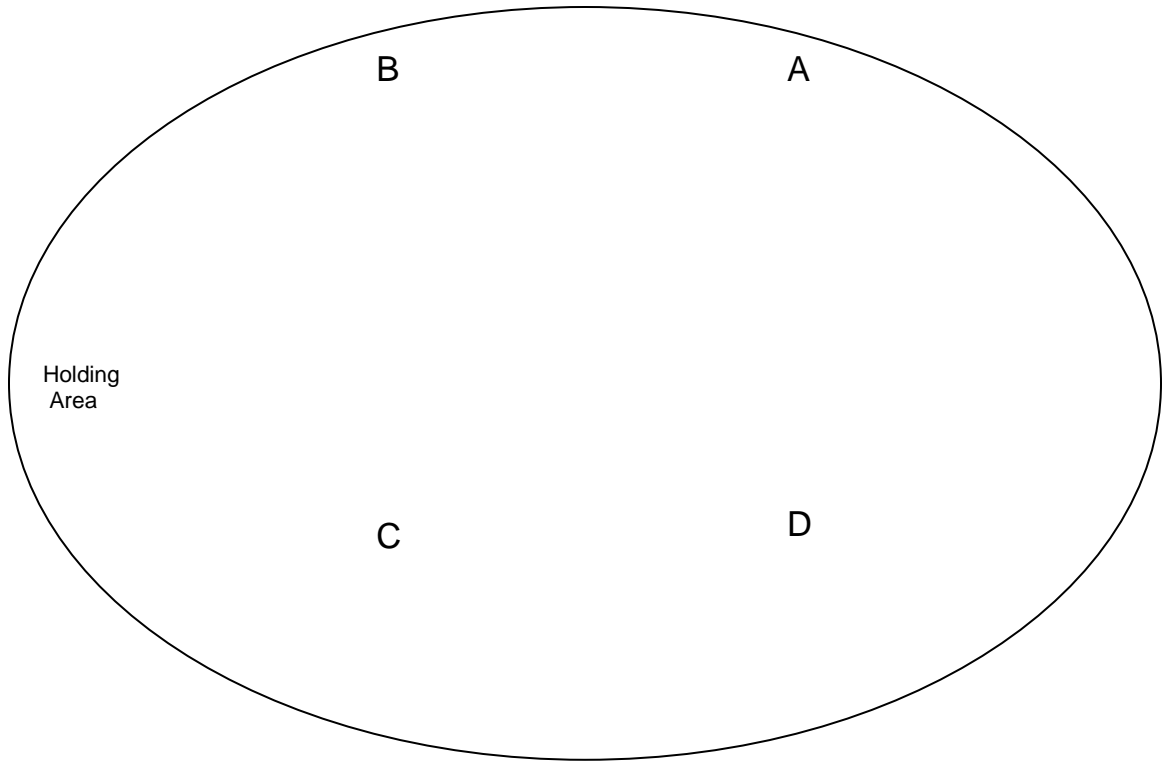
In the Spanish Walk the horse performs a lively "march" where he raises the forelegs off the ground in an extreme upward & outward manner, with much expression. This high step of the horse moves forward in a measured stride of deliberately suspended motion.

Eagerness to move forward in the intended direction is a must. The hind leg on a diagonal should be very active, bringing the body boldly forward and the forelegs are lifted as high as possible while still remaining in harmony with the hind leg on the diagonal. The neck should be raised & arched the head close to the vertical.

### **Spanish Walk Pattern**

After all the horse & riders have entered the arena for inspection they will line up at the far side of the arena (warm up/holding area) & participants will be asked to complete the pattern, one horse & rider at a time in pre assigned order. Each horse will be asked to execute the Spanish walk from cone A to cone B, turn left (counterclockwise) at cone B & walk to holding area at far end of the arena. After the last horse has completed the first part of the pattern, the participants will line up

on the rail in the pre assigned order. Each participant will then be asked to execute the Spanish Walk from cone C to cone D turn left (counterclockwise) at cone D & walk back to the holding area at the far end of the arena. After all the horses have been reviewed individually they will be asked to line up head to tail in pre assigned order & maintain position until judging is completed.



### *Traditional Charro Attire*

#### **General**

1. Exhibitors shall enter the ring in a counterclockwise direction at the trot & shall show their horses at the walk, trot, & canter both ways of the ring.
2. Entries will be judged 70% on tack & attire & 30% on performance.

#### **Appointments**

1. Entries shall be shown under traditional Charro tack from the period represented.
2. Riders shall wear attire which represents the heritage of the Charro culture.
3. Attire, while each state, region or district may have their own respective "dress", type should be of "faena media gala" (informal) or "faena gran gala" (formal) & this is represented from the hat to spurs & from bit/bridle to saddles & crupper when appropriate.
4. Charro saddle, coordinated bridle, bit & reins, as well as appropriate spurs & spur straps & correctly formed sombrero are required.
5. The horse may wear shoes or be shown unshod.

### **Eliminations**

1. Evidence of fresh injuries or blood on the horse's nose, mouth, back or sides.
2. Any indication of abuse by hand/whip/spur or any lesions whatsoever.
3. Lameness of the horse.
4. Abuse of horse in the show and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
5. Improper attire or equipment to be penalized at the judge's discretion.
6. Evidence of rider intoxication.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

1. Exhibitors shall show their horses at the walk, trot, & canter both ways of the ring.
2. Excessive speed to be penalized.
3. Exhibitors may be asked to halt & stand quietly.
4. Lineup position is at the discretion of the judge.