

Breeding shows 2021

March 2021



Content

1.	Breeding goals – the ideal horse.....	1
2.	Weighting of traits	2
3.	International prize for offspring.....	3
4.	Participating horses at breeding shows.....	3
5.	Shoeing of Breeding Horses	3
6.	Health Control	4
7.	Dismissal of the horse.....	4
8.	Testicle check	5
9.	Doping.....	5
10.	Prohibited Equipment.....	6
11.	Tack and Equipment	8
12.	Tracks and facilities.....	10
13.	Judges, officials and riders.....	11
14.	Guidelines for conflicts of interest	12
15.	Disciplinary measures and objections at breeding shows	13
16.	Procedures at breeding shows.....	15
17.	Working rules at breeding shows	16
18.	FEIF Breeding judges 2021	17
19.	Guidelines for breeding assessments of Icelandic horses	18
20.	Rules aimed to reduce the prevalence of bone spavin in Icelandic horses	40
21.	Average measurements 2020 in cm.....	41

1. Breeding goals – the ideal horse.

Health, Fertility, Longevity

The official breeding goal is to breed a healthy, fertile and durable horse – a robust Icelandic horse.

Colours

The official breeding goal is to preserve all possible varieties of coat colour within the breed. It should be kept in mind that some colour variations are correlated with genetic or physical defects that should be avoided.

Size

The official breeding goal gives room for substantial variation in size. Most Icelandic horses are in the range of 135 – 146 cm at the withers when measured with a rod, a preferred height at withers is at least 138 cm.

The roles of the horse

The aim is to breed a riding horse that has varied roles and is suitable for different types of riders. The use of the horse is first and foremost aimed at its qualities as a riding horse as it is used for general leisure riding, travelling and for various types of competitions.

Specific breeding goals

The character of the horse

The aim is a character that enables the horse to be used for different roles with a special emphasis on a calm, friendly and cooperative character. The horse is supposed to be courageous and reliable, both when handling and when ridden. The breeding goal encompasses more types of horses with regards to willingness and sensitivity; from sensitive and willing horses to calmer types, but always with an emphasis on willingness to perform.

Conformation in general

The conformation should be functional and promote the health and durability of the horse where carrying ability, natural gaiting ability and the capacity to move under a rider in balance and correct body function are paramount. The conformation should also be characterized by beauty and attractive appearance with an emphasis on strength and muscularity.

Conformation in detail

The breeding goal within each trait is described in the scores of 9.5 – 10.

Ridden abilities/gaits in general

The aim is to breed a quality gaited horse that has a natural ability to carry a rider in balance, self-carriage and is beautiful when ridden, a horse that is agile, sure-footed and with good stamina – a true Icelandic gæðingur.

The main goal with regards to the gaiting ability is that the gaits have correct beat and body function, the horse is moving freely in an even rhythm. The gaits should moreover possess suppleness, lightness, long strides and speed capacity.

The horse should be able to move in correct body form in every gait with ease. The movements should be free and without constraint. The horse should have the ability for collection as well as lengthening of the strides with increased propulsion in faster tempos.



Acceleration in the gaits should be based more on the lengthening of the strides than increased stride frequency. Important aspects of correct body form under rider which the conformation should facilitate are: The topline is long and relaxed and there is carriage in the back and hind quarters. The horse can easily coil the loins and use the hind legs as well for carrying as for propulsion. The horse can easily lift the back and the base of an arched neck that is extended forward with the poll as the highest point. The head-carriage is relaxed and unconstrained with the nose line in front of the vertical. The movement runs fluently through the horse with elasticity in the back that is created by the carrying ability and propulsion of the hind legs and a relaxed topline.

The roundness of the topline and the raising of the neck varies between tempos, gaits and the degree of collection. When the horse is ridden in collection at slower tempos the topline is more arched, the loins are more coiled, and the front part of the horse is higher compared to the hind. The strides are shorter and slower, and the stance phase of the hind legs is longer than the stance phase of the front legs which have high, light and free movements. Here, collection goes together with suppleness and fluent movements. When the horse increases the speed, it lengthens the strides, the stance phase of the front and hind legs becomes more even, and it extends the head and neck forward with a strong and relaxed topline.

Ridden abilities/gaits in detail

The breeding goal within each trait is described in the scores of 9.5 – 10.

2. Weighting of traits

Conformation		Ridden abilities	
Head	2%	Tölt	16%
Neck, withers, shoulders	8%	Trot	9%
Back and croup	5,5%	Pace	10%
Proportions	7%	Canter	4%
Leg quality	4%	Gallop	3%
Correctness of legs	2%	Rideability	7%
Hooves	5%	General impression	10%
Main and tail	1,5%	Walk	6%
Total:	35%		65%

Four-gait score

Special four-gait score is calculated for all horses where the weighting of the pace is distributed proportionally on the other traits of the ridden abilities. This score is published for both four- and five-gaited horses in order to make the comparison of horses easier.



3. International prize for offspring

The following requirements need to be fulfilled for prizes to be registered in WorldFengur:

- First prize for offspring, stallions: 118 in BLUP and at least 15 offspring with total score from FEIF breeding horse assessment system.
- Honour prize for offspring, stallions: 118 in BLUP and at least 50 offspring with total score from FEIF breeding horse assessment system.
- Honour prize for offspring, mares: 116 in BLUP and at least 5 offspring with total score from FEIF breeding horse assessment system.

4. Participating horses at breeding shows

- All horses presented at breeding shows should be well prepared, sound and fit, well fed and well turned out. **Artificial methods to alter the natural expression of the horse are not allowed.** If the horse is judged for riding abilities it must be at least 4-year-old in the calendar year.
- All horses presented at breeding shows need to be registered in the WorldFengur database and micro-chipped. The show staff is responsible for reading the marking and comparing it to the registration information on the horse.
- All stallions presented for judgement must have proof of parentage on both the father and the mother either by blood type or DNA analysis.
- All stallions from the age of 5 years must have radiographic examination of the distal tarsus registered in WorldFengur before entering the breeding show.
- All mares and geldings presented for assessment must have DNA analysis registered in WorldFengur.

5. Shoeing of Breeding Horses

All horses shown ridden must be shod with a full set (4) of shoes. The shoeing shall be as well done as possible and the angle of the hoof must be in line with the pastern.

- The hoof length must be natural and not exceed 8.5 cm. Exceptions to the 8.5cm rule can be made when stick measurements at the withers are 137-144cm. These horses are allowed a hoof length of 9.0 cm. Horses that have a stick measurement of 145 cm or more are allowed a hoof length of 9.5 cm. Maximum differences in hoof length between front feet and back feet is 1.5cm.
- The material of all four shoes shall be identical and must not exceed the specific weight of iron. The maximum thickness of the shoes is 8.0 mm and the maximum width is 23.0 mm. All 4 shoes must be identical regarding material and with. A difference in the thickness between front and back shoes of up to 2.0 mms is allowed.
- The shoe must fit the hoof. The shoe must not extend past the lengthened natural slant of the toe wall, and at the back past the perpendicular dropped from the bulbs of the heel. The use of sole, ring or any kind of artificial material to protect or repair the hoof is not allowed.
- If studs are used, 2 ordinary studs or stud nails must be used per shoe at the heel. The studs must suit the size of the shoe.
- Max. size of studs allowed is (length x width x height) 15mm x 15mm x 12mm.
- Reinforcement welds are not allowed.
- When the horse has been measured it is not allowed to re-shoe the horse during the show. Exceptions can be made by the chief judge.



6. Health Control

The horses taking part must be free from any infectious or contagious disease and must not come from infected stock. Proof that the vaccination requirements stipulated in the schedule have been adhered to must be provided on request. If a horse appears to be unfit to be shown (lameness, lack of fitness, doping etc.) to the majority of the judges or to the ringmaster, the chief judge or the ringmaster can order a veterinary examination to be carried out. The decision on whether the horse is fit for the show rests with the ringmaster/chief judge

General Health Control

A part of the assessment of breeding horses at breeding shows is the examination of their appearance and health. When the horses are measured the ringmaster must examine the appearance, body condition, mouth and legs of the horse. The horses must be healthy, in good body condition, without wounds, well managed and shod.

Categorization of injuries after riding ability assessment.

1. level comments: Minor wounds registered in WorldFengur.

- Small wounds that do not go through the mucous membrane of the corner of the mouth, cheeks or tongue.
- Small wounds or scratch on the skin after the bridle.
- Slight blood in mouth without visible reason.
- Minor scratch or injury on hooves or legs that do not go through the skin and are without swellings and/or soreness.

2. level comments: Wounds registered in WorldFengur.

- Small wounds, up to 1 cm, that go through the mucous membrane of the corner of the mouth, cheeks or tongue.
- Wounds (that do not go through the mucous membrane) on the bars of the mouth.
- Wounds, up to 1 cm, on the skin after the bridle.
- Wounds on the hooves or legs: small wounds, up to 1 cm, that go through the skin but are without swelling/soreness.

3. level comments: Substantial or great wounds registered in WorldFengur. The horse is getting no riding ability scores or prizes, it cannot be appealed to a veterinarian.

- Wounds that go through the mucous membrane of the corner of the mouth, cheeks or tongue, bigger than 1 cm.
- Wounds (that do go through the mucous membrane) on the bars of the mouth.
- Substantial swelling and/or soreness on the bars of the mouth.
- Wounds, bigger than 1 cm, on the skin after the bridle.
- Injuries on the hooves or legs: wounds that go through the skin and are bigger than 1 cm or injuries on the heel of the hoof that cause obvious soreness.
- Two or more level 2 injuries on the hooves or legs.

7. Dismissal of the horse

A horse being presented for judgement showing dangerous behaviour shall be dismissed from the show by the judges' panel and/or the show manager.



If a horse appears to the majority of the judges or to an appointed veterinarian to be unfit to be shown (lameness, lack of fitness, doping etc.), the chief judge or an appointed veterinarian can order a veterinary examination to be carried out. The decision on whether the horse is fit to be shown rests with the ringmaster/chief judge.

If the horse does not meet the requirements listed below, the horse is dismissed from the show. The chief judge of the show can be called upon for this decision. Reasons for the dismissal of a horse from the show:

- The body condition is unacceptable, either below 2.5 (very thin) or higher than 4.0 (very fat) according to a body condition scoring.
- Noticeable coughing and/or cold.
- Lameness, swelling and soreness of tendons or joints, sore hooves.
- Wound on the leg that go through the skin (larger than 1 cm).
- Prominent and sore wounds on the skin.
- Wounds, larger than 1 cm, that go through the mucous membrane of the corner of the mouth, cheeks or tongue.
- Wounds (that do not go through the mucous membrane) on the bars of the mouth (larger than 0,5 cm).
- Smaller wounds on the bars of the mouth along with noticeable swelling in this area.

There is no right of appeal.

8. Testicle check

All stallions must have their testicles checked and measured with a calliper measuring tool before the conformation assessment and the results shall be registered in WorldFengur. The testicles are palpated and measured in the following way:

- Firmness of testicles.
 - Good firmness: testicle feels firm and with good density.
 - Average firmness: testicle feels average firm.
 - Soft: testicle feels not firm at all but soft with bad density. Results in a red T in WorldFengur.
- Testicles checked for torsion – are the testicles correctly turned? - the epididymis should be at the back of the testicle. If one testicle is rotated, this is noted in WorldFengur. Both testicles rotated results in a red T in WorldFengur.
- No testicle or only one. Results in a red T in WorldFengur
- One testicle much smaller than the other one, 50 % difference or more. Results in a red T in WorldFengur.
- Total width of the scrotum, TSW, is less than 8 cm. Results in a red T in WorldFengur.
- Intestines can be found in the scrotum. Results in a red T in WorldFengur.

If testicles cannot be measured and checked properly a yellow T is registered on the horse in WorldFengur and the owner has to submit a veterinary check about the testicle condition within two weeks. Without a statement from veterinarian the T turns automatically red in WorldFengur after two weeks from the registration.

9. Doping

FEIF follows FEI rules* regarding the implementation of the Doping Regulations, see chapter “4. Anti-Doping Procedures” of FEIF In case of differences or changes the most recent version of FEI applies.

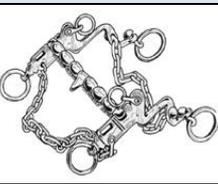
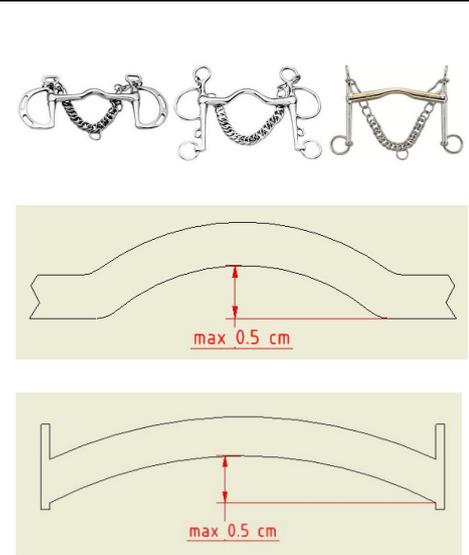


10. Prohibited Equipment

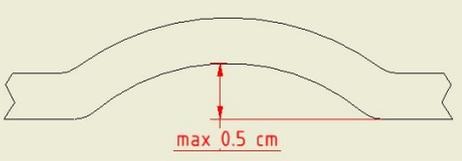
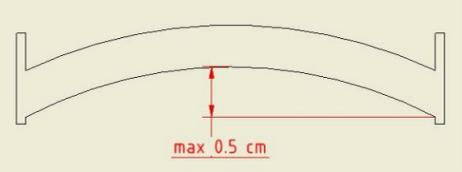
General:

The pictures shown are provided as an example only; the rule applies in case of all bits and nosebands with similar function as well.

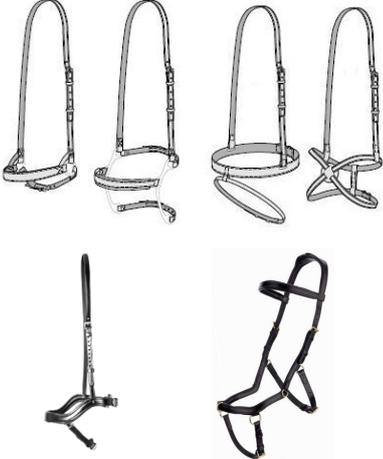
<https://www.feif.org/feif-equipment/>

Bits	
<p>Myler combination bits with short or long shanks (and similar bits from other producers) This type of bit combines bitless techniques with a bit and is designed as training bit.</p>	 <p>long shank short shank</p>
<p>Peruvian bit (and other bits typically designed for specific other horse cultures) This kind of bits is not fitting to the Icelandic horse riding style and/or culture.</p>	
<p>Sliding gag bits (bits that can move up and down along the cheek pieces of a bridle) These bits are mainly correction bits and are not suitable for showing horses</p>	
<p>Breeding only: All bits with leverage mechanism and port higher than 0.5 cm (unbroken, single broken, double broken) These bits are forbidden in all breeding presentations with ports higher than the max. of 0.5 cm.</p> <p>The port is a bend over the full width of a bit or a bend in the center of the bit irrelevant of the direction of the port. The maximum height from the lowest part of the bit to the lowest part of the port is 0,5 cm.</p>	 <p>max 0.5 cm</p> <p>max 0.5 cm</p>



<p>Icelandic bits with ports higher than 0.5 cm (unbroken, single broken, double broken, multiple broken)</p> <p>These bits have been shown to cause bar injuries by studies conducted in Iceland therefore they are forbidden with ports higher than the max. of 0.5 cm.</p> <p>The port is a bend over the full width of a bit or a bend in the center of the bit irrelevant of the direction of the port. The maximum height from the lowest part of the bit to the lowest part of the port is 0,5 cm.</p>	  
<p>Peewee Bit</p> <p>description: The Peewee bit is, according to the manufacturer, a correction bit not designed for contact riding. It is a bit for training horses</p>	
<p>Swales Pelham bit</p> <p>The Swales Pelham bit seems like a Pelham, but it is not. It is clearly designed to be a corrective bit for over enthusiastic horses. From the manufacturer: The bit is designed to give control specifically for strong horses that are inclined to lean down. It is extremely popular bit with the showing and driving fraternity and is often used in other disciplines for faster work on an experienced horse that is "over enthusiastic". This is the only Pelham which removes poll pressure as the cheeks are attached to the inner rings. The action on the curb and exerts more pressure on the jaws causing the lifting action.</p>	
<p>Bridles and Nosebands</p>	
<p>Kinton noseband</p> <p>With this type of noseband there is an increased risk of bruising between bit and metal halter rings</p>	



<p>Micklem noseband with clip</p> <p>Micklem with clip (bit and noseband connected with a clip) is forbidden, combination of bit and bitless riding is not allowed.</p>	
<p>A conventional bitted bridle used together with a bitless bridle</p> <p>This is against the intention of a bitless bridle</p>	
<p>Flash, Mexican, Drop (German/Hanoverian), Micklem, Anatomic or Leveler noseband in combination with any bits with a curb chain and/or upper and/or lower cheeks</p> <p>There is a risk of the cheeks or curb chain becoming entangled in these types of nosebands. In some cases, the combination can become overly severe</p>	

The pictures shown are provided as an example only; the rule applies in case of bits with similar function as well. List maintained by the FEIF Equipment Committee.
Last update: 8 March 2021

11. Tack and Equipment

Saddle and bridles should suit the Icelandic horse. The following rules and regulations apply to everywhere on the show ground for competitions and breeding events, and last for the entire duration of the show.

Equipment which is listed on the FEIF website under "Prohibited equipment/Breeding" is not allowed.

Saddles

In principle any sort of saddle or saddle pad, which is suitable for the Icelandic horse, is allowed. Permissible equipment also includes saddle cloths, front girths, cruppers and saddle supports. The saddle should be placed on the horse so that a major part of the girth is placed on the sternum. The saddle should neither cover the shoulder blades nor be weight bearing on the lumbar region in the standing horse. If the saddle is too far back a warning can be given.



Bridles and nosebands

- The bridle and noseband should fit well, be properly adjusted and not harm the horse. Prohibited combinations of bits and nosebands is listed on the FEIF webpage.
- The noseband must not be too tight. A space of at least 1.5 cm for Hanoverian/drop nosebands and at least 1 cm for English/combined nosebands must be kept between the noseband and the front of the horse's nose (nasal midline). The tightness of the noseband is measured in the equipment check using a Noseband Taper Gauge or similar.

Bits

- The bit should fit the horse and not hurt its mouth. List of prohibited bits is listed on the FEIF webpage.
- The judges can allow bitless bridles if there is good reason for it.

Protective equipment

The total permitted weight of protective boots is 120 grams (total weight per leg of overreach boots or tendon boots) and they shall be of a dark colour, black or brown. If boots are used during the judgement of the ridden abilities the same equipment should be used throughout the presentation. If a boot falls off it should be put back on before the rider resumes the presentation.

Equipment which is listed on the FEIF website under "Prohibited equipment/Breeding" is not allowed.

Equipment Inspection

Inspections of shoes, protective equipment and other equipment of the horse and rider lies with the ringmaster. Check of horse's equipment is mandatory for all horses in the show and shall take place after the first and second assessments. On behalf of the judges the chief judge can ask the ringmaster to do an extra check of the equipment.

Any judge in doubt as to whether there has been a breach of the equipment rules may order an inspection to be carried out. One or more judges will carry out the inspection. The rider and the judges may call on the assistance of the official farrier or veterinary surgeon. The judges decide whether the equipment complies with the regulations. They can demand that the shoes be removed and replaced. The rider concerned has no right to claim compensation. If the rider refuses to follow the judges' instruction, the horse will be eliminated from the entire show.



12. Tracks and facilities

Facilities for conformation judgements

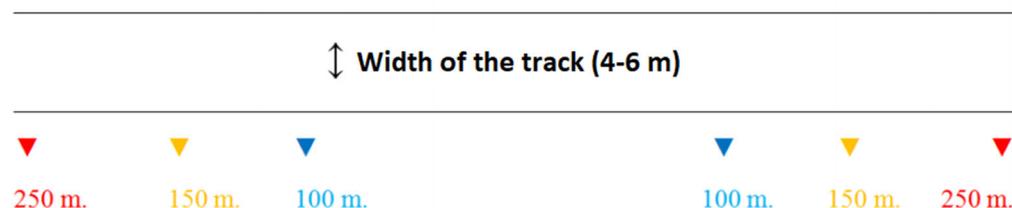
Where possible, all measurements and judgements of conformation shall take place indoors (riding arena/hall). A marked track, 20-30m long and 2-3m wide, with a level surface and a fence around it, is required for the conformation judgements.

Tracks for judgement of gaits/ridden abilities

- The gaits are shown on a straight, with a firm and well compressed surface; the surface should be comparable in the whole track. Care must be taken to maintain the track throughout the whole show.
- The track should be well demarcated, with a light fence, preferably rather low (<30cm) and the height of the fence should be the same throughout the track. The main thing is that the fence does not block the view of the judges.
- The track should be 250-300 meters long and 4-6 meters wide and open in both ends.
- The judges should have good facilities (dry/weather protected), with a clear view of the track, 25-30 meters away from the track, opposite the middle of the track. The facility should preferably be around 1 meter higher than the track.
- The track should be marked out prior to the show and all facilities should be checked by the head judge and show leader.
- The facilities for the breeding judgments need to be certified by the breeding leaders in each country, prior to the breeding season.
- Only certified venues can be used. The certification is in the responsibility of the national breeding leader and must be made before the show.

Standard markings of the track:

- 250 m: Total length of the track, marked with red.
- 150 m: Assessment of gaits, marked with yellow.
- 100 m: Presentation of walk, slow tölt and canter, marked with blue.



13. Judges, officials and riders

Responsibilities of judges and all other officials

Officials exercise exceptional authority, which in turn requires them to assume exceptional responsibilities. Their overall effectiveness, no matter what their particular duties, depends not only on their technical competence and intimate knowledge of the Rules, but also on their maturity of judgment, self-control, flexibility and basic fairness and integrity. Beyond this, all officials must be scrupulously careful to guard against any appearance or actuality of conflict of interest. In all questionable cases it is always wiser to acknowledge a possible source of a conflict of interest and stand aside rather than permit suspicions to gain strength.

Chief Judge

Each judging panel has a chief judge. It is his/her duty to make sure that judging goes efficiently and that results are determined.

Specific tasks of the Chief Judge are as follows:

- a) To ensure the current FEIF rules are followed correctly.
- b) To lead the judges' briefing before and after the show.
- c) To ensure communications between the judges and show leader work.
- d) To approve the tracks and other facilities together with the show leader.
- e) To decide together with the show leader on which part of the track the horses shall be shown.
- f) To undertake the duties of the show leader, where no show leader has been elected.
- g) To submit a report of the breeding show in WorldFengur.

Ring master

Ring masters at breeding shows need to be certified by FEIF. Certification can be attained by attending a seminar for ring masters which is organized by the breeding committee of FEIF. A ringmaster test may also be implemented. Specific tasks include:

- a) Confirm the identity of participating horses and their eligibility according to G7.3.1.
- b) Health inspection of all horses prior to conformation assessment according to B11.1.5.
- c) Measuring of horses attending the show according to B11.1.3 and B11.1.4.
- d) Equipment check and health inspection after the first and second assessment of riding ability according to G8 and B11.1.5, respectively.



Show Manager

At all breeding shows with more than 10 participants, it is necessary to appoint a Show Manager, who is responsible for running the show in cooperation with the judging panel. In addition, it is necessary to appoint personal to control the taking of measurements, computer operators, and announcers as needed. Specific tasks include:

- a) Supervise the running of the breeding show.
- b) Ensure that the communications between judges and riders work.
- c) Ensure that the judges can work undisturbed.
- d) Together with the chief judge, ensure that the current FEIF Rules and Regulations are upheld.

About riders and handlers at breeding shows

The same rider should present the same horse during the entire assessment. However, a new rider may present the horse in the 2nd assessment. Riders should be sober and show courteous riding and they, as well as the owners/handlers of the horse, shall be fair and courteous towards the show and its staff. If not, the jury can reprimand the persons in question, or dismiss them from the show.

14. Guidelines for conflicts of interest

These procedures are indicative and cannot be a prerequisite for annulment or alteration of an assessment that has been determined by a judges' panel. The owner has always the option to get re-assessment of the horse at another show. Process regarding complaints and disciplinary violation as well as penalties for those is explained in the rules.

Rules for employees of a breeding show

Whenever any of the following circumstances occur, the judge is recommended to leave the committee during the assessment of that horse. The remaining committee is allowed to perform the assessment.

- Employees shall follow the principle that their work raises trust and respect. They apply professionalism, ensure that all participants are treated equally and strengthen the collaboration and cooperation between employees, owners and riders.
- If the show is held at a private stud farm/place the owner of the facility is not to be a member of the show's staff (ring master, secretary or speaker), if he/she is owner of horses being presented at the show. (Exceptions from this rule can be applied for by the breeding judge committee of FEIF in special circumstances).
- Employees shall strive to increase their professional knowledge.
- Employees are required to comply with rules and regulations governing the breeding shows.
- Judge is not to participate in assessment work at national level if his/her principal occupation is extensive horse breeding, sale of horses or stallion fees. If in doubt regarding such general eligibility of a judge, the Breeding Judges' committee and the breeding leader of FEIF decides on this before the structure of jury panels are determined each year.



Guidelines for judges

Judge stands outside of judging panel if:

- The judge is a shareholder in, the former or current owner of that horse or its parent/parents.
- The judge is the breeder of the horse or its parent/parents.
- The judge has trained the horse.
- The judge is or has been a partner of the rider, owner or breeder of the horse. The judge or his partner is a close relative (wife/husband or living together in the equivalent relationship, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, sister/brother or their children) of the breeder, rider or owner of the horse.
- Judge has payed respective riders pay for taming, training or showing of horse/horses the past year.
- The judge has accepted gifts, benefits or other perks from the owner or breeder of the horse that may be considered to affect his credibility.
- The judge is a subordinate of the rider, owner or breeder of the horse.
- Whenever the judge feels there is a conflict of interest that could influence his ability to perform the assessment.

Panel work:

- Unprejudiced practices are always expected.
- Good appearance, courtesy, modesty and neutrality is honoured.
- Judges are expected to give their work full concentration, be fit for the job and be sober while judging.

Process of disciplinary violations/complaints (judges)

1. The Breeding judge committee of FEIF and Breeding leader of FEIF.
2. The Breeding judge committee of FEIF can caution a judge or dismiss from panel work on short- or long-term basis, if rules are not followed.

15. Disciplinary measures and objections at breeding shows

Disciplinary measures against the rider or owner

1. Riders, supervisors and/or owners of the horse should show courtesy and polite conduct,
2. Breaches of the Breeding Rules, or the code of conduct, and unfair behaviour of a rider or owner may be subject to disciplinary measures.



Breaching Rules

Any person is guilty of a breach of the rules, who

- Brings the name of the association and/or Icelandic horse into disrepute,
- Treats a horse unfairly, makes excessive demands on it or hits it,
- Violates established principles of the prevention of cruelty to animals act,
- Presents the horse, although the horse is suffering from an obvious infectious or contagious disease,
- Makes use of any substance, which is suitable for artificially influencing the performance of a horse during its presentation, or any person attempting this use, on entering, or participating in such an event is guilty of deception or attempted deception,
- As an organiser does not fulfil those obligations imposed by the rules,
- Does not need an arbitrational ruling.

Types of Disciplinary Measures

1. Warning
2. Public reprimand (FEIF register of warnings)
3. Disqualification from further participation in the show – should follow when the seriousness of the offence exceeds a warning or a public reprimand, or the offence has occurred on more than one occasion or was of a serious or fundamental nature.

Procedures

- A warning can be given by any judge or the show manager.
- A public reprimand can only be given by judges' panel.
- The decision of implementing disciplinary measures shall be announced to the rider, or a representative, immediately after the decision has been taken. Whenever the judges need time to clear up a case, the rider, or a representative, must be informed at once that the judges are considering disciplinary measures.



16. Procedures at breeding shows

Measurement

- All horses shall be measured with a measuring tape, a measuring stick and callipers at all measuring points described (see B7 Appendix 2: Body Measurements).
- Any horse which has proven measurements in the same full year, by the presentation of an original certificate or a certified copy, may be exempt from a repeat measurement.
- All horses regardless of past measurement must have the length of the hooves measured at each show.
- Horses can only be presented for further assessments when the result of the measuring is ready.
- Riders are entitled to one helper during the measurement of the horse.

Conformation

- The conformation is assessed when the horse is presented in hand and during the two assessments of ridden abilities. After the preliminary assessment of conformation, the rider must have enough time to prepare the horse for the assessment of its ridden abilities.
- If a horse has been fully assessed for conformation and riding, the owner can choose to use this last conformation assessment within the current calendar year. The body measurements (except length of hooves) and the conformation marks are taken from last assessment and the horse must be only shown for ridden abilities.
- Riders are entitled to one helper during the conformation judgement of the horse

Position of horses during conformation assessment:

The horse should stand evenly with all legs. The front legs should be vertical and the hind legs should be positioned in such a way that the cannon bone is vertical (see figure). The hind legs should not be stretched and be, as the front legs, evenly positioned (with regards to hind legs it is acceptable that they are separated by approximately one hoof length).

Ridden Assessment

The horses will be judged twice for ridden abilities in two separate assessments. The qualities judged shall be processed by the judges using the “Judging scale for individual breeding judgements”. The scores shall be calculated to two decimal points using the “Weighting proportions of each single trait”.



17. Working rules at breeding shows

1. Rules about shoeing.
 - If the horse has been ridden less than four times in each direction on the track and a shoe falls off within this time, they will be allowed to return after the horse has been re-shod and finish the show.
 - If the horse has been ridden four times in each direction (8 trips) and a shoe falls off after this time, they are only allowed to rejoin the show in the second ridden assessment.
 - If a shoe falls off during the second ridden assessment, the horse can be re-shod and come back and finish.
 - Re-shoeing of a breeding horse between the first and second assessment is not allowed.
2. Rules about riding assessment.
 - If a rider presents a horse for less than six lengths, the assessment can be invalidated.
 - If a rider presents a horse for six or more lengths, the assessment will be valid
 - If the rider uses more than half the length of the track, that will be counted as a whole length.
3. Clipping of horses is permitted although the clipping of head, ears and legs is not allowed.
4. Second assessment
 - To raise the mark for tölt to 8,5 or higher, both slow and fast speed needs to be shown according to the guidelines for each mark.
 - To be able to raise the mark for spirit, it must be clearly shown that it is possible to slow the horse down within the limits of the track in a cooperative and supple way.
 - It is allowed to lower the score for spirit if the horse is showing obvious signs of disobedience, lack of control or much nervousness, according to the guidelines for each mark.
 - To raise the mark for pace in the second assessment the horse must be shown in tölt as well, and the quality of the tölt should be similar to the first assessment. If not, the mark for pace must be at least 0,5 lower than the performance in the second assessment allows.
 - For horses 6 years and older that receive 5,0 for pace in the first assessment, they need to perform to receive a minimum score of 6,5 in the second assessment.
 - To raise the mark for general impression the horse must be shown at least in both tölt and trot and depending on the performance in the first assessment if pace or gallop/canter should be shown as well. The final mark for general impression should reflect on the performance in all gaits throughout the show (first and second assessment).
5. Only horses which are registered in the show and already received their score from the first ridden assessment can participate in the second ridden assessment. It is not allowed to add outside horses to the second ridden assessment to accompany the ones that are rightfully participating there.
6. In a breeding assessment is not allowed that hooves are painted or sticky to the touch.



7. Rubber bands in the mane are not allowed
8. A check for injuries shall be done after the riding assessment of each horse. Riders who do not present a horse to be checked for injuries after the show will be disqualified and the results will be taken out of WorldFengur and they shall receive a warning.
9. Suggested procedure, if illegal shoeing or equipment is found
 - First offence in the show: The rider gets a warning, horse disqualified from the show and assessment invalidated.
 - Second offence in the show: Rider gets a public reprimand and the rider as well as the horse are disqualified from the show, horse's assessment invalidated.
10. Suggestion of procedure if a rider shows rough riding
 - First offence in the show: Warning or a Public reprimand, depending on the seriousness of the offence.
 - Second offence in the show: Rider is disqualified from the show, and the assessment of the horse is invalidated
11. Feeding of the horse is not allowed during conformation and riding assessment.
12. Opening the chain or noseband before the check is not allowed.
13. Verbal communication (including radio communication) is allowed between the rider and assistants.
14. Re-shoeing of the horses between the first and second assessment of riding abilities is not allowed, except with a special permission of the ringmaster following some accident or mishap.

18. FEIF Breeding judges 2021

Ágúst Sigurðsson (IS)	Jón Vilmundarson (IS)
Arnar Bjarki Sigurðarson (IS)	Marlise Grimm (DE)
Einar Ásgeirsson (IS)	Nina Bergholtz (SE)
Elisabeth Jansen (IS)	Óðinn Örn Jóhannsson (IS)
Elisabeth Trost (AT)	Per Kolnes (NO)
Elsa Albertsdóttir (IS)	Rebecka Frey (SE)
Eypór Einarsson (IS)	Silke Feuchthofen (DE)
Friðrik Már Sigurðsson (IS)	Steinunn Anna Halldórsdóttir (IS)
Gísli Guðjónsson (IS)	Sveinn Ragnarsson (IS)
Guðlaugur Antonsson (IS)	Þorvaldur Kristjánsson (IS)
Halla Eygló Sveinsdóttir (IS)	Tom Buijtelaar (NL)
Heiðrún Sigurðardóttir (IS)	Valberg Sigfússon (IS)
Heimir Gunnarsson (IS)	Víkingur Gunnarsson (IS)
Jens Füchtenschnieder (DE)	William Flügge (DK)
John Siiger Hansen (DK)	



19. Guidelines for breeding assessments of Icelandic horses

Conformation

During the assessment of conformation, the horse should be awake and attentive as well as still and without tension. The horse should stand evenly with weight on all legs. The front legs should be vertical, and the hind legs should also be evenly positioned in such a way that the cannon bone is vertical (it is acceptable that the hind legs are separated by approximately one hoof length). The positioning of the horse should not be forced, the horse being presented on loose rein and with natural raising. It should be possible to lead the horse straight and at an even tempo in walk and trot for the assessment of the correctness of legs.

Head

In this trait, the shape and position of the ears is assessed, the size and shape of the head, including the nose line and thickness/depth of the jaws and how dry the head is. The eyes are also assessed, their frame and size and the length of the mouth.

9.5 - 10

A very beautiful, light and finely chiselled head, thin ears, well set and not too open. A large, open and alert eye with a neat bone structure around it. The jaws are light, and the nose profile is straight, nostrils are flared, and the mouth is appropriately long.

9.0

The shape of the head is nearly without faults and the jaws are light and thin. The ears are well positioned and rather fine.

- Very beautiful and fine head.
- The head is finely chiselled, and the eyes are well open with a sharp and fine frame.

8.5

The shape of the head, the position and shape of the ears are without any actual faults, deviations from a straight nose line can only be small.

- Very handsome and expressive head.
- The nose line is straight, the eyes are well open, the ears are well positioned, but the head could more chiselled.
- Very beautiful and finely chiselled head, the eyes are large and well open, the ears are fine and well positioned, but there is a slight deviation from a straight nose line.
- A beautiful, fine head, well open eyes but the ears could be better positioned and finer/shorter.

8.0

- The shape of the head is good, and the position and shape of the ears are without major faults, but the head is not expressive.
- The head has a good expression and no major faults.
- Handsome and expressive head. There can be some deviation from a straight nose line if the head is otherwise without major faults.
- The nose line is straight, and the jaws are light, but the head is slightly too long.
- Very beautiful and expressive head with large eyes but some considerable fault.

7.5

- The head is without faults, but no parts especially good.
- Handsome, expressive head but can be rather coarse or relatively too big, if it is otherwise without major faults.
- Good attributes in the head can cancel out a few faults. For example, well positioned and fine ears and large, well open eyes but the head is considerably dished.



7.0

Maximum score if the head has some of the following faults and there are no good attributes to weigh up the score:

- Unattractive head.
- Lack of expression and fleshy head.
- Deep, thick jaws.
- Small eyes set deep in the head.
- Noticeably too big/long head.
- Bad ear position.
- Coarse ears.
- Considerable deviation from a straight nose line (such as dished face, roman nose, raven's nose).
- Very short mouth.

6.5 or lower

The scores of 6.5 or lower are given if one of the following faults is very evident and very few other attributes improve the head. This score might also be given if each of the faults is not so great, but there are more than one of them and there are very few good elements.

- Very coarse and a relatively big head.
- Badly shaped and positioned ears.
- Great deviation from a straight nose line.
- Very fleshy head.
- Very ugly head.

Neck, withers and shoulders.

The shape, raising, position and length of the neck are assessed. The height and length of the withers are also assessed, as well as the length and slope of the shoulders. An emphasis is placed on the function of the front part when the horse is ridden with regards to the raising of the neck, head carriage and/or movements of the shoulders.

9.5 - 10

Very well shaped neck which is supple, well raised and high set. The neck has a long and arched topline, it is well separated from the shoulders and very slender. The neck is thin at the throat and the connection between the head and the neck is very supple. The withers are high and long, and the shoulders are long and sloping.

Before the scores of 9.5 or 10 for neck, withers and shoulders are given, it should be verified that the front-part is functioning well when the horse is ridden.

9.0

The neck is correctly shaped with a long and strong topline, it is raised, high-set and its length is at least average. The length and slope of the shoulders is at least average, and the withers are high.

- Very well raised and slender neck with a good flexion at the poll, length is above average.
- Very supple and high-set neck, which is separated from the shoulders, length is average.
- Very high-set and fine neck that is well separated from shoulders, thin at the throat.
- Very high-set and slender neck, long and well raised with high withers, the topline could be more arched, but the horse uses the neck well when ridden; well raised in a good head carriage.
- The topline is long and well arched, the neck is high set and well raised. The withers are high, and the shoulders are sloping but the neck is not fine. The front-part is functioning well when the horse is ridden.



8.5

The neck is correctly shaped and well set, the raising of the neck and the height of the withers are not below average. Maximum score if the neck is thick at the throat but only if the horse has a good head-carriage when ridden.

- Well raised and very supple neck, at least average in length but rather thick, the withers are high and long, and the shoulders are sloping.
- Very high-set and supple neck with high withers and sloping shoulders, averagely raised.
- Well raised, slender neck, above average in length, high and long withers, but the shoulders are rather straight.
- Long, well raised, slender neck, with sloping shoulders, but the withers are average in height.
- Very supple and high-set slender neck, which is well separated from sloping shoulders, the withers are high, but the neck could be longer.
- Very high set and slender neck, long and well raised with high withers, the topline is rather straight.

8.0

The neck is at least averagely raised and there are no actual faults in the topline or the shape of the neck. Maximum score if the lower neckline is convex.

- Well raised and supple neck, rather long but not separated from the shoulders and thick at the throat, the withers are high, and the shoulders are sloping.
- Long and supple, well set and slender neck, the slope of the shoulders is acceptable, but the withers are rather low.
- Long and supple neck, the withers are high, and the sloping of the shoulders is acceptable, the position and raising of the neck is average.
- High-set, long and slender neck, averagely raised with high withers but the topline is straight.
- Raised and long neck, with a strong topline and high withers, gets thinner to the throat but is low-set.
- Raised and high set, supple neck, the withers are high, and the shoulders are sloping, but the lower neckline is obviously convex.
- A well-raised neck, but otherwise only average conformation of the neck, withers and shoulders.

7.5

Maximum score if there is deer neck or concave shape of the neck or if the withers are low, also if the neck is both low-set and thick at the throat.

- Average conformation of the neck, withers and shoulders.
- The neck is high-set and averagely raised but lacking strength in the topline, withers and shoulders are average.
- Deer neck, that is although high-set, slender and long, thin at the throat and the withers are high.
- The neck is averagely raised, short and rather heavy, the withers are high, and the shoulders are sloping.
- A well-raised and supple neck with high withers and sloping shoulders, but the neck is both low-set and thick at the throat.
- A supple and well-set neck, at least averagely raised, but the withers are low, and the shoulders are straight.

7.0

- A rather slender and long deer neck, the shoulders are straight, and withers are average.
- A long and supple neck, but too low-set, low withers and straight shoulders.
- A well-raised neck but with obviously concave shape, other aspects of the forequarters are average.
- A supple neck, the raising and position of the neck are average, but the neck is too heavy.
- Very concave topline, other aspects of the forequarters are average.



6.5 or lower

The scores of 6.5 or lower are given if one of the following faults is very evident and very few other elements improve the forequarters. This score might also be given if each of the faults is not so great, but there are more than one of them and very few good elements. -A concave neck/prominent deer neck.

- A very low-set neck.
- Very convex lower neckline.
- Very heavy forequarters.
- A very short neck.
- Very low and flat withers.
- The shoulders are very straight.
- The shoulders are very tight.

Back and croup.

The topline in the back and croup is assessed, the line in the back and the length and slope of the croup. The assessment also involves the width and musculature of the back, the length and width of the loins and the form and musculature of the croup. It should be noted that the difference in height of the lowest point of back and the highest point of croup should not be too great (reference: 4-6 cm). A correct position of the horse is especially important for the assessment of this trait (see above). An emphasis is placed on the function of this trait when the horse is ridden. If there is doubt with the function of the back (direction and/or curvature) with regards to carrying ability and/or suppleness, the judges should wait and see how the horse uses its back when ridden before giving the final score for this trait.

9.5 - 10

The back has great carrying ability; the front part of the back is high, and the lowest point of the back is in the middle, the back is broad and very well-muscled. The loins are short, broad and well-muscled and the connection between the loins and the croup is supple. The croup is long, adequately sloping and even in form, the croup and the thighs are very well muscled.

9.0

The back has good carrying ability; the front part of the back is high, and the lowest point of the back is in the middle. The croup is long and adequately sloping. An especially well formed back can cancel out minor faults in the croup and vice versa, but the loins must always be well formed.

- The back is broad, and both the back and the croup are well-muscled, but the croup has some minor faults.
- The croup is well muscled, deep and even, the back is above average with regards to width and musculature.

8.5

The back is neither narrow or lacking muscles, the front part of the back is high, and the lowest point of the back is in the middle. The conformation of the loins is good and there are no mayor faults in the croup.

- A muscled and broad back but the backline could be higher, the croup is well muscled. The horse shows carrying ability in the back when ridden.
- A muscled and broad back, the croup is well formed. The line in the back is rather straight but the horse shows suppleness when ridden.
- The front part of the back is especially high, and the back is muscled. The connection of the back and croup is supple, and the croup is adequately sloping but could be more muscled, for example shallow or coarse.
- An especially good line in the back and well-formed croup, but width of the back and/or muscles are average.



8.0

The backline is balanced, and the conformation of the loins is acceptable.

- The croup is evenly formed but the back is only average regarding musculature and width.
- A broad and muscled back, the lowest point of the back is in the middle, but the backline could be higher, the croup is well muscled.
- The back is well muscled and broad; the croup is well formed. The line in the back is rather straight.
- A well-formed back; broad and well-muscled, as well as formed loins. The croup is average in form or too steep.
- A well-formed croup; long and adequately sloping, well-muscled and even. The conformation of the back is acceptable.
- The backline is balanced, the back is broad and well-muscled, but the croup is short and lacking in musculature, roof-shaped or narrowing.

7.5

Maximum score if there is a noticeable fault in the topline of the horse; forward sloping, stiff, or sway back, stiffness or too much length in the loins or a flat croup.

- The backline is balanced, but all other elements of the trait are average.
- A broad and well-muscled back and the croup is long and well-muscled but there is some forward slope in the back, or the back is swayed.
- The backline is balanced, the back is broad or well-muscled, but the croup is short and lacking in musculature, roof-shaped or obviously narrowing.
- The backline is balanced, but the back is too narrow, the croup is well muscled and even.
- A well-formed back can cancel out faults in the croup and vice versa.

7.0

- A forward sloping or swayed back, other elements of the trait are average.
- The backline is balanced, but the back is narrow, and both the back and croup are lacking muscles.
- See the descriptions for the scores 6.5 and lower, but here the faults are not as serious.

6.5 or lower

When giving the scores one must assess the number of faults and how serious they are, as before.

- Humpbacked or very stiff loins.
- Very swayed back.
- Very forward sloping back.
- Serious faults in the conformation of the loins (stiff, narrow, long).
- Very narrow and stiff back, lacking muscles.
- Very narrowing croup.
- Very coarse croup.
- Very short, flat, roof-shaped or rounded croup.

Proportions

The overall appearance of the horse is assessed including balance, shape of the trunk and proportions in the body. The leg length of the horse is also assessed as well as the lightness of the trunk and musculature.

9.5 – 10

Impressive overall appearance. The horse is robust and well balanced; the front, middle and hind sections are equal, the horse is very up-hill, well-muscled and adequately wide in the chest. The horse has long legs and a cylindrical, even and rather light trunk. The length of the horse is created by long shoulders, appropriately long back and a long croup, its length is greater than the height at the croup (reference: difference of 4-6 cm).



9.0

Very beautiful overall appearance. The horse has long legs and is up-hill, with a rather light and totally even trunk, it has a long body, is well-muscled and adequately wide in the chest.

- The horse is very up-hill and has very long legs, there are only minor faults in proportions or in the shape of the trunk, but not a long mid-section.
- Robust overall appearance, the horse is in excellent balance and well proportioned.

8.5

Beautiful overall appearance. The horse has at least average leg length and has a rather even trunk. Minor faults in proportions, but not a long mid-section. In order to receive the score of 8.5 or higher for proportions, stallions need to have the minimum width of chest of 35 cm and mares 34 cm.

- The horse has long legs and is well proportioned, the trunk is even and rather light.
- The horse has long legs, is well proportioned and up-hill but average with regards to the lightness of the trunk.
- The horse has long legs and has an even and rather light, cylindrical trunk but a rather short trunk or short hind section.
- The horse is well proportioned and very up-hill, with an even and cylindrical trunk, the leg length is average.

8.0

Good overall appearance. The length of legs and the up-hill balance can cancel out few minor faults in the proportions. Maximum score if height at withers is under 138 cm.

- The horse is well proportioned and has an even trunk but average leg length.
- The horse has long legs and a light body but small hindquarters or should be more up-hill.
- The horse has long legs, an even and light, cylindrical trunk but a short body.
- The horse is well proportioned and has long legs but flat ribs.
- The horse is up-hill, well-proportioned and has adequately long legs and long body but has a slightly deep breast.

7.5

Maximum score if the horse has a long midsection, is in down-hill balance or if the front and hind sections are obviously out of proportion to each other (width, depth). Good attributes can cancel out a few faults.

- The horse is well proportioned but other elements of the trait are average.
- The horse has a light body, average leg length but has a long midsection.
- The horse is well balanced, strongly built and well-proportioned but has short legs or a deep breast.
- The horse is rather well-proportioned and has at least average leg length but flat ribs.

7.0

The horse has one of the following faults and other elements of the proportions are average: long midsection, low at front, short legs or a deep breast.

- The horse is well-proportioned but has a heavy trunk.
- See the descriptions for the scores 6,5 or lower, but here the faults are not as serious.

6.5 or lower

The scores of 6.5 or lower are given if one of the following faults is very evident and very few other elements improve the proportions. This score might also be given if each of the faults is not so great, but there are more than one of them and very few good elements.

- The horse is very low at front.
- The horse has a very heavy expression; very deep breast, a heavy body (too wide and heavy trunk or very flat-ribbed).
- The horse has very short legs.
- The horse has a very short body and/or very disproportionate in length of the front, middle and hind sections.
- The horse is disproportionate in the front and the hind sections (width, depth) including the chest being too narrow (collapsed).



Quality of legs

The assessment of the appearance of the legs includes the examination of the position of the front- and hind legs, the strength of the joints, proportions in the legs, their musculature and feathers. The assessment also includes an examination of the legs by palpation where the thickness of the tendons is assessed, their separation from the bone and how dry they are. The appearance of the legs should weigh more than examination by palpation.

9.5 – 10

Correct position of the front- and hind legs in profile; the front legs are positioned to the front, they have a straight, vertical alignment from the middle of the forearm to the pasterns, which are appropriately long and sloping, the hind legs are positioned under the horse in such a way that there is a straight, vertical line from the buttocks to the hock and along the cannon bone. The joints in the hind leg are adequately angled. Dry, very strong tendons and good separation between the tendons and the bone, strong joints. The front legs are muscular, and the legs have good feathers.

9.0

Correct position of the front- and hind legs. Dry tendons that are clearly separated from the bone and acceptable feathers. The circumference of the front knee (carpus) is not under average.

- Dry, very strong tendons and good separation between the tendons and the bone, strong joints and adequately long pasterns.
- Excellent position of front- and hind legs, dry and strong tendons and very good separation from the bone, good feathers.

8.5

No noticeable faults in the position of the front- and hind legs, nor the strength of tendons or the separation between the tendons and the bone. The strength of joints and feathers is acceptable. Proportions within the front legs are satisfactory and the legs are muscular.

- Fairly good leg position, joint and pasterns. Dry, strong tendons and very good separation between the tendons and the bone.
- Very good appearance, the tendons are dry but the separation of the tendons from the bone and their strength is only average.

8.0

Maximum score if there are faults in the position of the front- or hind legs.

- Very good touch but obvious faults in the position of front- or hind legs.
- Good touch and position of legs but the legs are thin and/or lacking muscles.
- Very good appearance but the tendons are not quite dry, or their strength is only average.
- Very good aspects can cancel out a few minor faults.

7.5

Maximum score if there are severe faults in the position of front and/or hind legs.

- Average quality of legs, no obvious faults.
- Very good touch but obvious faults in both the position of front- and hind legs.
- Good touch but obvious faults in the position of front- or hind legs.
- Fairly good touch but the legs are thin and lacking muscles.
- Good aspects can cancel out a few faults.

7.0

Maximum score if the horse is obviously back or over at the knee, tendons are swollen or there is very little separation between the tendons and the bone.

- Acceptable touch but obvious faults in the position of front- and/or hind legs.
- A good position of the legs but very swollen tendons or very little separation between the tendons and the bone.
- See the descriptions for the scores 6.5 or lower, but here the faults are not as serious.



6.5 or lower

- Very swollen tendons on the front and/or hind legs.
- Very little separation between the tendons and the bone in the front legs.
- Very weak joints on hind- and/or front legs (the knee and the hock are especially important).
- Front or hind legs are either too straight, or too angled.
- Great deviations from correct position of the legs; that is, the front legs are either back or over at the knee, positioned far under the horse or the hind legs are very camped-out.

Correctness of legs

The correctness of the legs is assessed from the front and hind view; first when the horse is standing still and then when it is led in walk and trot. When giving the score one must assess the number of faults and how serious they are. When judging the correctness of the legs one should check if there are any signs of overreaching or of unnatural stress.

9.5 – 10

Totally correct legs: the front legs are straight when standing still and they move in a straight line, with adequate space between them. The hind legs should be straight as well, turning out slightly and move in a straight line, with adequate space between them that increases with higher speed.

9.0

- Very correct legs. No serious faults.

8.5

- Correct legs. Only small faults, but no faults in joints or twisting in the hocks.

8.0

Fairly good correctness of legs. No major faults.

- Front legs are straight but rather narrow, the hind legs are correct and space between them that increases with speed.
- Slight paddling of front legs but quite straight when landing.

7.5

Maximum score if the presentation of the horse is so poorly done, that it is hard to see the correctness properly and/or the horse does not show trot in hand.

- Average correctness of legs. No obvious deviations in the joint, the legs may be a little rotated provided the horse does not show any signs of overreaching.
- Deviations in the joints are noticeable when the horse is standing still but the legs move in a straight line.

7.0

Maximum score if there are obvious faults (rotations/deviations) in front or hind legs or there are signs of abnormal stress on the joints or tendons.

- Obvious deviations in pasterns.
- The horse is very narrow and toed-out in front, quite good in hind.
- The horse is quite good in front but very narrow in hind.
- See the description for the scores 6,5 or lower, but here the faults are not as serious.

6.5 or lower:

- Very crooked joints in front- and/or hind legs.
- Badly twisted hocks.
- The horse is very narrow in front and/or hind legs.
- Serious faults in front- and/or hind legs; knock-kneed/cow-hocked, bow-legged.



Hooves

The assessment of hooves considers the shape of the hooves and appearance from all angles as well as how the hoof is underneath, i.e. the shape of the sole and frog as well as thickness of the heels. In order to get as correct information about the hooves as possible it is important that they are in normal length and well cared for. Correctly shaped hooves are symmetrical and even in shape from the coronet to the ground. A normal deviation in the angle of the inner and outer side of the hoof should be taken into account, as the inner side is normally steeper than the outer one. The hoof should widen slightly from the coronet to the ground. The toe and the heel have approximately the same angle which reflects the angle of the pastern. The length of the heel is 30-50% of the length of the toe. The ends of the heels are parallel, approximately in line with the widest part of the frog.

9.5-10

Very strong, sound and correctly shaped hooves. The hoof wall is thick, strong and even. The coronet is wide and there is adequate difference in the width of the coronet and hoof. The heels are thick, strong and adequately long with solid bars and the angle of the heels is correct. The heel bulbs are even and thick. The sole is thick, concave and symmetrical. The frog is even and healthy.

9.0

Correctly shaped hooves with good horn material and well-proportioned. The heels are thick and adequately long and sloping. The sole is concave and symmetrical.

- Very well shaped hooves with good thickness of the horn. Only slight deviations in other aspects of the hoofs compared to the score 9.5-10.

8.5

Strong and fairly symmetrical hooves with a concave sole. The heels are thick and solid. Only slight deviations are allowed in other aspects of the hooves.

- Thick horn material with even concavity of the sole but not completely symmetrical.
- Very well shaped and well-proportioned hooves and good in all appearance but average thickness of the horn.
- Well shaped and well-proportioned hooves with good horn but slight deviation in the shape of left and right hooves.

8.0

Healthy and strong hooves. Maximum score if there is much deviation within or between hooves in terms of shape and/or proportions: i.e. obvious deviation in the lengths and or slope of the heel and toe or obvious difference in the slope of the pastern and hoof.

- Un-broken and well-shaped hooves but other aspects are average.
- Thick horn material and well-shaped hooves with even concavity of the sole but the heels are either too long/short or too steep/sloping.
- Thick horn material and thick heels but the hooves are rather narrow.
- Very well-shaped hooves with acceptable concavity of the sole and the thickness of horn material is average.
- Very well shaped hooves with thick horn material but concavity of the sole is deficient.

7.5

Maximum score if the hooves are obviously narrow, with thin horn material or deformed.

- Symmetrical and fairly well shaped hooves, thickness of horn material is average, but the frog is small/thin compared to the size of the hooves.
- Strong hooves with thick horn material but the hooves are narrow and the heels too long.
- Thick horn material with rather concave sole but the heels are too wide, low or lacking carriage.
- Very well-shaped hooves with a concave sole but the hoof wall is not strong (the hooves and broken/cracked).
- Very well-shaped hooves with thick horn material but the sole is flat.
- Unbroken and fairly thick hoof wall but the hooves are flared or wide (lacking carriage).



7.0

Maximum score if the hooves are very flat, with obviously poor horn quality or if there is great deviation from correct shape.

- Good horn material and acceptable concavity of the sole but obvious problem with the shape or angle of the hooves, e.g. very sloping or steep hooves.
- Rather well shaped hooves but the hooves have obviously thin horn material and/or are broken, and the heels are thin and short.
- Quite good horn material but the heels have either fallen in or out.
- Unbroken hoof wall but the hooves are flared or wide (lacking carriage).
- See the score of 6.5 and lower but here the faults are not as severe.

6.5 or lower

Number of faults and how severe they are should be taken into consideration.

- Great inconsistency in shape or size of the hooves.
- Very small and weak hooves compared to the size of the horse.
- Hooves with obviously poor horn material (bad looking).
- Very asymmetrical shape of the hoof, the shape of the hoof does not reflect the shape of the coronet or inconsistency in the growth of the hoof.
- Very flat and/or sunken sole.
- The heels have obviously fallen in or out.
- Very thin heels.
- Greatly underrun heels (great inconsistency in the slope of heel and toe).
- Very narrow hooves.
- Very thin or deformed hooves.
- Very small frog or not in proportion with the size of the hoof.
- Great inconsistency in length of heels compared to length of toe.

Mane and tail

The assessment of mane and tail takes into account the length and thickness of forelock, mane and the tail of the horse. Lesser demand is made on this trait for mares than for stallions. These guidelines apply for stallions, but mares are judged on average 0.5 points higher for the same quality.

9.5-10

The forelock, mane and tail improve the horse's gracefulness. The forelock, the mane and the tail are thick. The forelock extends clearly below the horse's eyes, the mane is long on both sides and the tail is down to the pasterns. The growth of the mane is even from the poll and to the withers.

9.0

The forelock, mane and tail improve the horse's gracefulness. The forelock is long and sufficiently thick. The growth of the mane is even from the poll and to the withers.

- Very long forelock and mane. Thickness of forelock and mane is good, and the length and thickness of the tail is over average.

8.5

The forelock extends below the eyes, the mane extends below the center of the neck and the length of the tail is sufficient. Maximum score if thickness of the forelock, mane or tail is insufficient.

- Fairly long mane that can easily be separated in the middle, good forelock and fairly good tail.
- Long forelock, mane and tail but the thickness is only acceptable.
- Long and thick mane, acceptable forelock and the tail is long but thin.



8.0

The hair growth increases the gracefulness of the horse.

- Length of the forelock and the mane is above average but it is thin.
- Fairly long and thick forelock but uneven growth of the mane.
- Very good forelock but mane and tail are average.
- Very long and thick tail, forelock and mane are average.
- Very long and thick mane and tail but the forelock is average.

7.5

Average hair growth. Maximum score if there is lacking length in either forelock, mane or tail.

- All elements of the trait are average.
- Good forelock but mane and tail are below average.
- Good mane but forelock and tail are below average.
- Very long and thick tail but the mane and forelock are below average.
- Fairly good length of all elements but they are all thin.

7.0

Maximum score if lack of hair growth affects the appearance of the horse in a negative way.

- All elements of the trait are just below average.
- Good forelock but mane and tail are short and thin.
- Good hair growth in mane and tail but the forelock is very short.
- See the score of 6.5 or lower but here the faults are not as severe.

6.5 and lower

- Short and wool-like hair growth.
- All elements of the trait are very short and thin.

Riding horse qualities**Tölt**

Tölt is assessed in the speed range the horse possesses, that is slow, medium and fast tempo. In order to achieve scores of 9.0 or higher the horse needs to show speed changes (that is a clear acceleration and/or slowing down) and that the horse maintains good balance when the rider clearly loosens the reins (for at least 3 seconds). These tasks, when well performed by the horse, can also raise the scores at lower levels.

9.5 – 10

The tölt has a clear and even four-beat rhythm, is very comfortable, supple, with long strides and high and wide movements. The horse is in balance, with very light and elastic movements which run fluently through the body. The horse is up-hill, with a well raised neck, long and supple topline, a carrying elastic back and active and supple hindquarters. The horse maintains the quality of the tölt in all tempos, from slow up to fast speed.

To achieve the scores of 9.5 or 10 the slow tölt needs to have the minimum score of 9.0. Four years old can achieve the score of 9.5 with 8.5 for slow tölt.



9.0

Clear-beated, supple tölt with long strides. The horse has high and light movements, good balance at all speeds, self-carriage and correct body function; is up-hill with a long and strong topline.

- Great elasticity and free movements that run fluently through the body, the slow tölt is very good and the horse maintains the quality of the gait up to good tempo.
- Elastic and free movements, the slow tölt has good balance and self-carriage and the horse maintains the quality of the tölt at fast tempo.
- The horse has very light movements and very good speed capacity in tölt.

In order to achieve the score of 9.0 the slow tölt needs to have the minimum score of 8.0 for four years old horses and 8.5 for horses 5 years and older.

8.5

The tölt is clear-beated, there is no stiffness in the body and no obvious flaws in body function. The horse tölts with ease and can set off in clear-beated tölt without much preparation. The horse is in good balance; maintains an even four-beat and a light front-part without much assistance from the rider.

- The movements are high and light, and the horse can tölt at a fast tempo. The stride length is at least average.
- Long strides and good speed range with high movements, good security of beat and balance, but lacking elasticity and/or lightness of movements.
- Very long strides, much suppleness and good speed range. Average leg action.
- Good stride length, suppleness and leg action, the horse can tölt above average speed.
- Good stride length, suppleness and excellent leg action with elastic and fluent movements, average speed capacity.
- Supple and very well balanced tölt with good speed range, high and light movements but lacking in stride length.

In order to achieve the score of 8.5 the slow tölt needs to have the minimum score of 7.5.

8.0

Clear-beated tölt; the horse is most often in good balance and there are no serious flaws in the body function.

- Good balance with average leg action and the horse can tölt over medium tempo.
- Good stride length and leg action but with average speed range and suppleness.
- Good stride length, speed range and leg action but lacking suppleness.
- Short strides but very good leg action and the horse has good speed range.
- Supple tölt with good stride length and leg action but balance is somewhat lacking.
- Tölt with high and light movements of the front legs but movements of the hind legs are rather high and short.
- Supple and very well balanced tölt with very good speed range but leg action is under average.

In order to achieve the score of 8.0 the slow tölt needs to have the minimum score of 7.0.

7.5

- Clear-beated tölt but all other elements of the gait are average.
- Clear-beated tölt with good speed range but leg action is under average.
- Clear-beated tölt with good leg action but considerable flaws in body function and/or head carriage (e.g. very short/concave topline).
- Good stride length, high movements and good speed range but the tölt is stiff.
- Good speed range and leg action but lacking balance and beat security.
- Tölt with good leg action and fairly fast speed, but short strides and frequent movements.

The maximum score if no slow tölt is ridden.

The maximum score if only slow tölt is ridden.



7.0

Maximum score if the tölt is pacey or trotty.

- Stride length and leg action are over average but constant lack of balance.
- Clear-beated tölt but the topline is concave and the horse is very down-hill (on the forehand).
- Lack of speed range or very short strides with other elements of the tölt being average.
- Trotty tölt but fairly good speed and leg action.
- Pacey tölt but fairly good speed and leg action.
- Clear-beated tölt, up to average speed but the gait is not impressive (very low leg action, very short strides.).

6.5 or lower

- Very trotty tölt.
- Very pacey tölt.
- No speed range in tölt.
- Inconsistent and/or tölt with serious flaws in beat.
- Extremely short strides or uneven beat, rolling.
- Does not tölt (5.0).

Slow tölt

Slow tölt shall be shown in the 100 meters section in the middle of the track. The score for slow tölt is not calculated into the total score but is intended to increase the informational value of the assessment. The speed in slow tölt is generally around 3-4 m/sec but more deviation is allowed for the four- and five-years old horses. For the higher scores (9.0 or higher) the horse needs to be able to go into clear-beated and well-balanced slow tölt from walk without much preparation. The gait transitions walk-slow tölt and slow tölt-walk can also raise scores at lower levels in the scale.

9.5 – 10

The tölt is clear-beated, very supple, with long strides, high and wide movements and an even rhythm. The horse is in good balance and self-carriage, with light and elastic movements that run fluently through the body. The horse is up-hill with good back bearing and a long topline, the neck is arched and well raised, and the hindquarters are engaged.

9.0

The tölt is clear-beated, supple and with long strides. The horse has high and light movements, good balance and correct body function; is up-hill, with a long and supple topline. The movements are elastic and run fluently through the body.

8.5

Clear-beated tölt with good balance and self-carriage. There is no stiffness in the gait and no obvious flaws in the body function.

- Good stride length and leg action but the horse is just fairly up-hill and/or elastic.
- Stride length is only around average, but the leg action is very good.
- Well balanced and very supple tölt with long strides but leg action is only average.
- Supple and elastic tölt with fluent movements, leg action is not under average.

8.0

Clear-beated tölt, the horse is mostly in good balance and there are no serious flaws in the body function. Maximum score if speed and/or stride frequency is in the upper limit.

- Well balanced tölt with average leg action.
- High leg action and good stride length but the speed and/or stride frequency is in the upper limit.
- Clear-beated tölt with good leg action but is lacking self-carriage, lightness or the horse could be more up-hill.
- Good stride length and leg action but lacking suppleness.
- Rather short strides but leg action is above average.
- Supple tölt with an average stride length and leg action.
- Tölt with high and light movements of the front legs but movements of the hind legs are rather high and short.
- Supple tölt with a good stride length and leg action but uneven at times.



7.5

- Clear-beated tölt but all other elements of the gait are average.
- Long strides with high leg action but is not always clear-beated.
- Clear-beated and supple tölt with good body function but lacking leg action.
- Clear-beated tölt with good leg action but obvious flaws in body function.

7.0

Maximum score if the tölt is pacey or trotty.

- Clear-beated tölt but the movements are very stiff.
- Clear-beated tölt, leg action is above average but there is considerable lack of balance.
- Clear-beated tölt with low leg action and flaws in body function (the topline is short/concave and the horse is on the forehand).
- Clear-beated tölt, but the gait is not impressive (very low leg action, very short strides).
- Long strides and high movements but the tölt is obviously pacey or trotty.

6.5 or lower

- Body function is very flawed, and the beat is not clear (pacey or trotty) although there is leg action and stride length.
- Very trotty tölt.
- Very pacey tölt.
- Inconsistent and/or tölt with serious flaws in beat.
- Extremely short strides or uneven beat, rolling.
- Does not show slow tölt (5.0).

Trot

The trot is assessed in the speed range the horse possesses, that is from slow/medium to fast tempo. To achieve a score of 9.0 or higher the horse must be shown in all speed ranges. Well balanced speed changes can raise the score for trot.

9.5-10

The trot is two-beated, well balanced and secure with an even rhythm. The horse has long strides and high, light, very elastic movements and good suspension. The horse is up-hill with a long topline and good back bearing. The movements run fluently through the horse's body and it maintains the quality of the trot from slow up to fast speed.

9.0

Clear-beated, secure trot with long strides. The horse has good balance, light and elastic movements and correct body function; is up-hill, with a long and arched topline. The horse maintains the beat, balance and lightness at different speed levels.

- High, very elastic movements and very good suspension. The horse maintains the quality of the trot from slow up to at least medium tempo.
- High, elastic movements, with good suspension. The horse maintains the quality of the trot from slow medium tempo up to fast tempo.

8.5

Clear-beated and secure trot with good back bearing and no obvious flaws in body function. Maximum score if there is forging.

- Long strides and high leg action with good elasticity and suspension, the topline is long and arched and the horse is up-hill but barely reaches medium speed.
- Good speed range with light movements and correct body function, average leg action.
- Long strides, secure trot with good speed range and leg action, but the topline could be more arched.
- High leg action and long strides, good speed range and suspension but lack of suppleness.
- Long strides and good leg action, fairly good speed range but average suspension.
- Long strides, good speed range and leg action, the topline is long and supple, but the hind legs are working mostly behind the horse and it is not up-hill. Clear beat and good balance at slow medium speed.
- Very secure trot with good speed range, the horse maintains balance and leg action at different speed levels but has short strides.



8.0

Clear-beated trot with no serious flaws in body function or balance. Maximum score if there is substantial forging.

- Secure trot with average leg action, fairly good stride length and speed range.
- Long strides with elasticity and high leg action but lack of speed.
- Long strides and good leg action but uneven at times.
- Secure trot with good speed range but average suspension and stride length.
- Long strides, good speed range and leg action, the topline is long and supple, but the hind legs are working mostly behind the horse and it is not up-hill.
- Secure trot with good suspension, average speed range and leg action but lacking elasticity.

7.5

- Clear-beated and even trot but other elements of the gait are average.
- Long strides and high leg action but lack of balance.
- Secure trot with long strides and high movements but four-beated.
- Good speed range and high leg action but lacking balance and/or suspension.
- Clear-beated and even trot, average leg action and speed range but short strides.
- Clear-beated trot with good leg action but considerable flaws in body function (e.g. very short/concave topline).

7.0

- Very insecure trot, with sections of good trot.
- Secure trot, but four-beated and/or lack of speed, leg action is not under average
- Clear-beated trot but the topline is concave and the horse is down-hill.
- High movements but very four-beated, security or speed range is lacking.
- Secure trot but lacking carriage and suspension.
- Clear-beated trot, fairly good speed range, but the gait is not impressive (very low leg action, very short strides).

6.5

- Very four-beated, uneven beat or insecure trot.
- Very faulty body function even though beat and stride length are sufficient.
- Clear-beated trot, but very short strides.

5.5-6.0

- Only a few steps of unimpressive trot.

5.0

- Does not show trot.

Pace

The pace is shown at the highest speed where the horse can maintain good balance for the whole length of the sprint. Full length of the sprint is 150 meters (75 meters for four years old horses). An easy transition from gallop to pace, a light rein contact during the sprint as well as a supple and balanced deceleration are tasks that can raise the score for pace as they show the security and balance of the pace. In the same way the score shall be lowered by at least 0.5 if there is considerable lack of balance in the beginning of the sprint, the horse needs a lot of assistance to maintain the gait or if the horse changes to disunited gallop when slowing down.

The pace is considered clear-beated if the moment of suspension is clearly visible and the deviation from synchronous ground contact of lateral limbs is not noticeable.

9.5 – 10

Secure pace with good beat, long strides and elegant movements, excellent speed. The pace is in excellent balance, has good suspension and lightness with correct body function. The topline is long and there is carriage in the back, the horse extends the head and neck forward. (Reference: the horse goes the 100 meters in less than 8 sec.).



9.0

Secure pace with good beat, long strides and correct body function, there is carriage in the back and the horse has a long and strong topline, suspension is clearly visible, and the horse is in good balance. (Reference: the horse goes the 100 meters in less than 9 sec.).

- Impressive pace, very good speed.
- Excellent speed and security, but the pace is not elegant.
- Excellent body form in pace and very good balance, lightness and suspension, good speed.

8.5

Good beat and speed in pace, acceptable body function. For scores of 8.5 or higher the horse should be clearly ridden in gallop before the transition to pace.

- Secure pace, long strides and suspension, good speed.
- Secure and very fast pace, but movements and stride length are average.
- Impressive pace, long strides and excellent speed but average suspension.
- Very fast pace with good stride length but minor instability in the sprint.

8.0

The horse is clearly pacing, stretches the neck forward in acceptable balance.

- Secure and impressive pace, clear-beated but average speed.
- Secure pace with quite good speed but movements are below average.
- Fast pace with long strides, average suspension but some faults in body function.
- Impressive and fast pace but the sprints are not long, horses 5 years old and older are still reaching 80 – 100 m.
- Impressive and fast pace but slightly four-beated at times.

7.5

Maximum score if four-beat is obvious. Also, if balance is lacking and the horse maintains the sprint only with a lot of corrections from the rider.

- Secure and fairly impressive pace, clear-beated but not fast.
- Secure pace with rather good speed but unimpressive.
- Good speed and long strides, average suspension but the body form is flawed (e.g. concave topline).
- Impressive pace with good speed but short sprints, yet reaching 60 to 80 m.
- Impressive and fast pace but four-beated or lack of suspension at times.

7.0

- Powerful short sprints, lacking in security.
- Very fast pace with long strides but four-beated and lacking suspension.
- Secure pace but lacking speed and elegance.
- Clear-beat and secure pace with long strides, correct body function but lacking speed.
- Uneven beat, although fairly good speed. 6.5 or lower
- Short sprints lacking in speed.
- Secure but powerless pace.
- Very short but powerful sprints.
- Major faults in beat, losing the gait, four-beat or uneven beat.
- No pace (5.0).

Gallop

The gallop should be shown at the highest tempo where the horse is able to run in balance. The acceleration from canter to gallop should be shown and a full sprint length is 150 meters (70 meters for four-year-old horses). Well balanced acceleration as well as slowing down in good balance are tasks that can have positive influence on the score of the gait, if well performed by the horse.

9.5 – 10

Good beat, very supple gallop with good suspension, elasticity and fluent movements. The horse moves in uphill balance with high and light movements and reaches fast speed, hindquarters are engaged and the hindlegs are reaching far under the horse. The horse



stretches out in long and round strides. There is carriage in the back and the topline is long and supple.

9.0

Good beat, supple gallop with long strides. The horse has high and light movements, is well balanced and has good body function; it is uphill with a long topline.

- The horse is uphill and stretches out with long, and very supple and elastic movements. Good speed.
- The horse is uphill and stretches out with long, supple and elastic movements. Excellent speed.
- The horse is uphill and stretches out in long strides. The gallop is fast with great lightness in the movements.

8.5

Good beat, gallop with correct body function and acceptable suppleness, lightness and balance.

- Supple gallop with good stride length and a long and supple topline. The horse is rather uphill with average suspension, fairly fast speed.
- Fast gallop with great suspension but average suppleness, topline is long and the horse is uphill.
- Very fast gallop with good stride length and excellent suspension. Average suppleness and the horse could be more uphill.
- Supple and very well-balanced gallop with good suspension. The horse is uphill with a long and supple topline, fairly good speed.

8.0

Good beat, gallop in acceptable balance. No obvious faults in the body function of the horse.

- Fast gallop with good stride length, suspension and height at front are average.
- Gallop with good stride length and suspension but lacking lightness.
- Fast gallop with good leg action, but stride length or suppleness is deficient.
- Supple and well-balanced gallop, long and supple topline but average suspension and speed.
- Fast gallop with good suspension, the horse is uphill with a long topline, but is lacking suppleness.
- Supple, well balanced gallop with good suspension, the horse is uphill with a long and supple topline, but the speed is average.

7.5

- Good beat but other elements of the gait are average.
- Supple and fast gallop with good stride length but lacks suspension, topline is rather short.
- Very fast gallop but is lacking in body function and suspension, rather low movements.
- Gallop with good suspension but with faults in the body function, e.g. high movement of the croup or stiff movements.
- Speed and body function (suspension, balance and suppleness) can cancel out faults.

7.0

Reaches only medium tempo in gallop and other elements of the gait are average.

- Changes to disunited gallop, good gallop for at least 80-100 meters.
- Fast gallop with very stiff movements.
- Fast gallop but the horse is on the forehand and lacking suspension. 6.5 or lower
- Less than 80 meters in correct gallop (changes to disunited gallop).
- Very little suspension, low movements and lacking speed.
- Unbalanced movements, e.g. very high movements of the croup and lacking in speed.
- Very heavy (lacking suspension) even though the speed is good.
- Only disunited gallop (5.0)



Canter

The canter should be shown in the 100-meter section in the middle of the track. The speed in canter is around 7 m/sec. For higher marks in canter (9.0 or higher) the horse must be able to change to a well-balanced canter from walk or a medium tempo tölt/trot. Tasks that increase the information about the gait and confirm the quality can help raise the score if they are well performed by the horse. Such tasks are showing the canter to both hands as well as loosening the rein to show balance and carrying ability.

9.5-10

Three-beated, very supple canter with long strides and good suspension. The movements are fluent and elastic. The horse is moving in excellent balance with light movements and pushes itself well upwards and forwards in an effortless and elegant way. The topline is arched and the horse is uphill; the hindquarters are engaged with carrying hindlegs so that the movements in front are high and light.

9.0

Clear-beated and supple canter with long strides and obvious suspension. The horse has light movements, good balance and correct body function; is uphill with an arched topline.

- Canter with great suppleness, very fluent movements and elasticity.
- Canter with great suspension, fluent movements and elasticity.

8.5

Clear-beated and well-balanced canter with light movements and good body function.

- Supple canter with good stride length, the topline is long, the horse is uphill, and the suspension is acceptable.
- Canter with great suspension, the horse is uphill with a long topline and the suppleness is acceptable.
- Well balanced and supple canter, the horse is well raised with high and light movements in front but is lacking suspension in hind.

8.0

Clear-beated canter in acceptable balance and without any obvious faults in the body function.

- Well balanced canter with average movements.
- Supple canter, topline is long, suspension and movements are acceptable.
- Great suspension, uphill balance and a long topline but lacking suppleness in the body.

7.5

- Clear-beated canter where other elements of the gait are average.
- Supple canter with light movements in front but greatly lacking suspension.
- Canter with good suspension but obvious faults in the body function, e.g. high movements of the croup or obvious faults in the neck/topline (low raised, high head carriage, crooked).
- Beat, suspension, balance and suppleness can cancel out faults.

7.0

- Clear-beated canter with good suspension but heavy or stiff movements, the horse is on the forehand.
- Clear-beated canter but heavy, topline is short/concave.
- Long strides and high movements, but four-beated and lacking suspension, concave topline.
- High movements of the front legs but very four-beated, unbalanced and lacking suspension.



6.5 or lower

- All aspects of the gait are below average.
- Very stiff movements.
- Changing to disunited canter
- Very unbalanced movements, e.g., very high movements of the croup.
- Four-beated canter on the forehand, hindlegs are behind the horse.
- Very heavy movements (no suspension).
- Only disunited canter shown (5.0).

Rideability

This trait is an estimate of how co-operative, willing and relaxed the horse is both in handling and when ridden. For the scores of 9.0 or higher it should be shown that the horse is easy to slow down to walk before turning around at the ends of the track. Speed changes in the gaits, loosened rein, serpentines and other tasks that demonstrate the horse's ability to co-operate can raise the mark if they are well performed by the horse.

9.5-10

The horse is very co-operative, positive and willing to perform. It is alert and responsive to the aids, courageous and relaxed in all gaits. The horse is always light on the reins and the topline is very supple. The horse is in complete mental balance and performs in all gaits with minimum aids from the rider.

9.0

The horse is very supple and co-operative and responds to the rider's aids with lightness. Head carriage and/or body function is steady. Tension, stiffness or resistance to the aids does not disturb the performance in any gait. The horse is easy to slow down and turn around at the ends of the track.

- Very willing and eager but sensible.
- Willing and alert, very light in response to all aids.
- Calm, supple and very eager to co-operate, good willingness.

8.5

The horse seems to be reliable and easy and does not show obvious resistance to the rider's aids. Willingness is not below average.

- Very supple in response to the aids, calm and above average willingness.
- Very willing and rather co-operative and supple to the aids.
- The horse is mostly supple and co-operative, willing but is tense in walk or shows occasional resistance towards the rider's aids.

8.0

The horse puts effort into the performance of the gaits and does not show any obvious resistance to the rider's aids. Head carriage and/or body function is mostly steady. Maximum score if it is not possible, from tölt and trot, to slow the horse down and turn it around within the limits of the track.

- Rather co-operative and supple, average willingness.
- Willing and rather co-operative but could be lighter on the reins and in response to the rider's aids.
- Very co-operative and calm but could be more willing.
- Willing and very co-operative but shows some minor tension or nervousity.

7.5

Maximum score if the horse is obviously uncooperative, tense or nervous. As well as when the horse is lacking effort but then only if it is very calm and reliable.

- Willing and average suppleness towards the aids.
- Supple and confident but lacking effort.
- Willing and calm but obviously heavy on the reins.
- Willing and calm but shows repeated resistance to the rider's aids.
- Willing and most often co-operative but tension or nervousness has negative impact on the gaits.



7.0

Maximum score if the horse goes out of sight or shows persistent lack of cooperation.

- Lack of effort.
- Willing but very uncooperative, shows resistance to the rider's aids.
- Average willingness but very heavy or stiff on the reins.
- The horse shows some stubbornness or is hard to control.
- The horse is obviously tense, nervous or spooks easily.

6.5 and lower

- The horse is disobedient, stubborn, bolting or bucking.
- Obvious problems, or the show is not finished because of significant faults in cooperation.
- Lack of effort prevents the horse from performing in the gaits.
- Very lazy and dull.

General impression

General impression is an assessment of the horse's expression throughout the show and takes into account the body function, raising of the neck, head carriage, suppleness in the body, tail carriage and leg movements in all gaits.

9.5-10

The horse is very impressive and elegant when ridden; with correct body function in every gait, well raised and well balanced with a long and supple topline. The horse moves freely and fluently without restraint, light on the reins and supple in the body. All gaits are characterized by lightness and elasticity as well as high and wide movements.

9.0

The horse is very beautiful when ridden, it is well raised and well balanced in every gait. The horse moves freely and without restraint, light on the reins and supple in the body. The movements are light, high and elastic. Some great aspects can cancel out some minor faults in the general impression but correct body function in the gaits is always required. The body function and head carriage are steady in relation to age.

8.5

The horse is beautiful when ridden, mostly with correct body function in the gaits; has at least average raising of the neck and a light front part in tölt. Good aspects can cancel out some minor faults in the general impression. The horse is mostly steady in body function and head carriage.

- The horse is in an uphill balance with high movements but could be more elastic.
- The horse has long strides and high movements, it is well raised with good head carriage, but some stiffness is in the hindquarters.
- The horse has correct body function in every gait, has long strides and a supple body. It is well raised in tölt with a long and supple topline. The movements are light, but the height of the movements is average.
- The horse has high and elegant movements but could have higher raising of the neck or more correct head carriage (e.g. behind the bit) or body function in some gaits.

8.0

The horse looks fairly impressive when ridden. The maximum score if some major faults are in the body function of the horse, but in that case the score is only possible if other aspects of the trait are well above average.

- The horse is reasonably well raised, height of movements are above average and other aspects of the trait are without defects.
- The horse is well raised with a good head carriage, average suppleness and movements.
- The horse has high and elegant movements but is low raised, has short topline in the neck, is crooked or unsteady in head carriage or body function.



7.5

Generally, no major faults in the general impression of the horse; good aspects can although cancel out faults.

- No obvious faults in head carriage or raising of the neck, average movements.
- Movements are above average but the head carriage/raising of the neck is faulty (e.g. stiff or crooked head carriage, very short topline or low raised).
- The horse is well raised and supple with good head carriage, but movements are below average.

7.0

- No obvious faults in head carriage or raising of the neck but very low movements.
- Average movements but the horse is on the forehand and faulty in head carriage and raising of the neck, e.g. very stiff head carriage, above the bit or low raised.
- The horse is well raised and/or has good head carriage, but movements are stiff and heavy.

6.5 and lower

- Very low movements and short strides along with faults in the body function of the horse.
- Total lack of suppleness along with heavy movements.
- Movements are below average, the horse is on the forehand and faulty in head carriage and raising of the neck, e.g. very stiff head carriage, above the bit or low raised.
- Major faults in the body function that restrict the horse's gaits and movements.

Walk

The walk is shown in the 100-meter midsection of the track. For younger horses there is less demand on the stability of the presentation of walk.

9.5-10

The walk has an even four-beat rhythm, well balanced and steady, with long strides. The movements are graceful and energetic, yet the horse is resting in every step. The horse is averagely raised, the topline is long, elastic and rounded with good back bearing. There is good engagement of the hindquarters and a fluent and unconstrained movement is running through the horse's body, from the forelock to the tail.

9.0

Clear-beated and supple walk with long strides, well balanced and steady. The topline is long with good back bearing.

- The walk is energetic, the horse moves freely and through the body with roomy strides.
- Very long strides with graceful and relaxed movements.

8.5

Clear-beated walk with correct body function and acceptable suppleness and balance.

- Energetic walk with long strides, resting in the steps and average movements and suppleness.
- Supple walk, the body function is correct, and the movements go through the body of the horse, stride length is above average; hindleg reaches the hoofprint of the front leg.

8.0

Clear-beated walk with acceptable body function and balance, hindleg reaching the hoofprint of the front leg. Maximum score if the horse is clearly behind the bit.

- Walk with long strides but lacking energy.
- Supple walk with good body function, average stride length and energy.
- Unsteady walk but sections of very good walk with suppleness and long strides.



7.5

Maximum score if the walk is obviously uneven (e.g. stride length of hind legs is obviously uneven).

- Clear beat in walk but other components of the gait are average.
- Clear beat, stride length is above average but could be resting more in the steps (rushing).
- Clear beat, stride length is above average, but the walk could be more energetic.
- Clear beat and long strides but the gait is lacking suppleness.
- Clear beat and long strides but the horse is on the forehand and/or too low raised.
- Unsteady walk but sections of good stride length and balance.

7.0

Maximum score if the walk is pacey or trotty.

- Clear beat in walk but the topline is concave and the horse is on the forehand.
- Clear beat in walk but lacking energy or stride length.
- Supple and energetic walk but uneven stride length.
- Faulty beat (pacey or trotty) but energetic, even movements and resting in the steps.
- Short sections in average walk.

6.5

- Faulty beat.
- Faulty beat (uneven, pacey, trotty), short strides and lacking energy.
- Short strides and not resting in the steps.

5.5-6.0

- Very short strides, tiptoeing or the beat is very pacey/trotty.

5.0

- The horse does not show any walk.



20. Rules aimed to reduce the prevalence of bone spavin in Icelandic horses

Introduction:

Bone spavin is degenerative joint disease or an osteoarthritis (OA) of the distal tarsal joints. The disease is commonly found in Icelandic horses, affecting their durability although often subclinically manifested. The development of the disease starts at young age in many cases and the initiation of the disease has been found to be unrelated to the use of the horses for riding. The degeneration of the distal tarsal joints is progressive in nature. The progression may however be slow and the prevalence of radiographic signs of bone spavin (RS) is strongly correlated to age.

The heritability of age-at-onset of RS, reflecting the predisposition of bone spavin, was estimated to be 0.33. Breeding selection based on radiographic examination of the distal tarsus is therefore expected to reduce the prevalence of bone spavin in the population. It is most important to exclude stallions and mares that develop RS early in life as they are likely to have the highest predisposition for bone spavin.

Details

- All stallions must be radiographed according to bone spavin prior to the first breeding show from the age of 5
 - One examination of each stallion
 - The examination can be performed from the beginning of the year that the stallion becomes 5 year
- Central interpretation organized in each country
- The results are recorded in World Fengur
 - By the person responsible for registration in WF in each country
- Radiographic projections required
 - Lateromedial (LM)
 - Dorsolateral plantaromedial oblique (DL - PIMO)
 - Plantarolateral dorsomedial oblique (PIL DMO)
 - Dorsoplantar (DPI)
- Rules for identification of the radiographs
 - The radiographs must be identified at exposure in a way that is not possible to change afterwards
 - Name of the horse
 - Microchip ID after scanning of the horse
 - Date
 - Identification of the limb: L /R



21. Average measurements 2020 in cm

Based on 1.230 mares and 671 stallions

	Mares	Stallions	All horses	MAX	MIN
M1 – Height at withers	141,8	143,4	142,3 ± 3,2	153	132
M2 – Height at back	131,5	131,5	131,7 ± 3,0	141	122
M3 – Height at croup	137,6	137,9	137,7 ± 2,8	146	129
M4 – Depth of chest	64,8	65,1	64,9 ± 1,8	72	59
M5 – Length of body	143,4	143,1	143,3 ± 3,0	154	134
M6 – Width of chest	36,4	37,6	36,8 ± 1,6	48	32
M7 – Width of hip (Coxal tuber)	48,6	47,2	48,1 ± 1,8	59	43
M8 – Width between hip joints	44,5	44,1	44,1 ± 1,6	50	36
M9 – Width of cannon bone	6,3	6,6	6,4 ± 0,3	8,5	5,4
M10 – Circumf. of knee	27,7	30,3	28,6 ± 1,5	33	24
M11 – Circumf. of cannon bone	17,7	18,9	18,1 ± 0,9	21,5	16
Height of withers (M1 - M2)	10,1	11,3	10,5 ± 2,0	18	0
Backline (M3 - M2)	6,0	5,8	5,9 ± 1,6	11	0
Form of croup (M7 – M8)	4,0	3,8	4,0 ± 1,6	14	0
Horizontal balance (M1 – M3)	4,1	5,5	4,6 ± 1,9	12	0
Length of legs (M1 – 2x M4)	12,1	13,0	12,4 ± 3,6	24	-2
Length of body (M5 – M3)	5,7	5,2	5,5 ± 2,6	15	-5
Size of joints (M10 – M11)	9,9	11,3	10,4 ± 1,4	14	0

