

North American Peruvian Horse Association Jointly with **Paso Fino Horse Association** **Trail Horse Test Rules**

Purpose for Rules

These rules have been developed by the Paso Fino Horse Association [PFHA] Recreational Rider Committee [RRC] and approved by the North American Peruvian Horse Association [NAPHA] to provide greater uniformity in conducting and qualifying trail horses under the Trail Horse Test Program [THT].

Eligibility to Hold a Trail Horse Test

Any NAPHA or PFHA member in good standing may hold a Trail Horse Test. The requesting member [the requestor] may represent themselves, their farm or their NAPHA or PFHA region. The requestor must sign the THT Application Form, indicating they shall be financially and managerially responsible for conducting the THT. The Coordinator of the NAPHA Trail Horse Program or the PFHA RRC will approve the application.

Initial Application

Before a THT date may be reserved, the following must be received by the NAPHA THT Coordinator or the PFHA RRC Chair:

- a. A completed THT Application for approval, signed by the requestor, containing the date of the test, location, requestor's name, address, e-mail and phone number. See Appendix A for the THT Application Form
- b. Appropriate THT application fees (if applicable). See Appendix B for Application Fees.

Requirements for Conducting a Trail Horse Test

The requestor must ensure the following requirements are met.

- a. The event is covered by liability insurance.
- b. A judge, who has been approved by the Recreational Rider Committee, is used to judge the tests. A single judge is required for Junior and Senior Tests. Two judges are required for a Master Test. See Appendix D for list of approved judges.
- c. A marshal, who will ensure the rules are followed, is available for the duration of the tests. The marshal must report the title awarded to each NAPHA / PFHA registered horse within 10 days of completion of the test so that NAPHA / PFHA may record the horse's title achieved. The title awarded will become part of the horse's official NAPHA / PFHA registration record. The marshal shall be assigned by the RRC or provided by the host organization.
- d. Lodging, meals and transportation are provided for judge and marshal.
- e. A horse or other mode of transportation is available for the judge(s) and the marshal to ride during the trail portion of the test.
- f. An arena, a pasture, or area is available where the horses can be tested during ground work and exercises under saddle.
- g. A trail or obstacle course is available where the horses can be tested. Ideally this is a trail where 6 to 8 horses can ride out together. Obstacles can be placed throughout the trail as identified in the THT criteria for declared test levels. The judge rides with the group and evaluates each horse as the obstacles are encountered.
- h. Ample parking for horse trailers is available based upon the number of participants.
- i. All relevant state requirements regarding health papers, vaccinations and Coggins tests are met.
- j. A qualified veterinarian is on call.

Note that it takes approximately 4 hours to test 6 to 8 horses. It is best to schedule a morning and an afternoon test if more than 8 horses are registered for the day.

Approval of Test

Before a THT date can be approved by the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC, the requestor must submit a completed THT Application and all Application Fees (See Attachment B for the Applications Fees). The NAPHA Coordinator / RRC must receive the completed THT Application at least sixty (60) days before the scheduled THT date; if not received by that date, a late fee will be assessed and the THT date may not be approved. Notice of THT approval or disapproval, signed by the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC, will be sent to the requestor.

There are no limits to the number of THTs a requestor may host; however, multiple tests will not be approved within a 200 mile radius on the same date and are subject to availability of judge(s). Approval shall be on a first come basis.

Cancellation of a THT

If the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC has approved a THT, and the test is cancelled for any reason, fees paid for the test approval are not refundable although they may be applied to the next test sponsored by that requestor at the discretion of the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC. Any appeals of these decisions shall be made to the NAPHA Board of Directors / PFHA Hearing Committee.

If a scheduled THT has started, and hazardous conditions, for example, flooding, lightning, hail, high winds, fire, etc., threaten the safety of participants, horses, judges, officials and/or spectators, the Judge shall call a meeting with the requestor to decide as soon as possible whether to continue the test, delay it or cancel the remaining portion of the test. If the remaining portion of the test is cancelled, the requestor has the option of applying any entry fees received for the cancelled portion to a future test. However, any exhibitor making a written request for a refund within thirty (30) days of the cancelled tests paid for but canceled and including a statement as to why he or she cannot attend the designated future test shall be granted such refund. Fees paid for stalls, use of grounds, security and similar fees are not refundable. In the event of such a cancellation, the requestor shall submit a written report to the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC within ten (10) days of the THT.

List of Officials

The NAPHA Coordinator / RRC shall maintain a current list of the names and addresses of all THT Approved Judges. Additional judges may be added to the Approved List of Judges at the discretion of the RRC. The requestor will not list a Judge in the published information before the invitation to serve has been accepted and approval of those officials has been granted by the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC.

Compliance with THT Requirements

At a minimum, there are three individuals needed to conduct a THT; the requestor, the marshal and the judge. Their responsibilities are listed below.

The Requestor who sponsors the THT shall:

- a. Secure all required signatures on entry forms.
- b. Pay its required fees to the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC.
- c. Honor written contracts with Judges, Marshals, or other officials.
- d. Assume risks of unpaid entries. Any approved THT which accepts entries without the payment of the requisite entry fees, etc., does so at its own risk, and the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC will not be responsible for the collection of fees.
- e. Hold a test if a date has been requested and approved unless notice is given to the RRC in writing at least 60 days before the date.

The Marshal shall:

- a. Ensure the THT rules are followed.
- b. Record the judge's scores and comments on the horse's score card.
- c. Display the Judge's card to the exhibitor upon completion of the test. The exhibitor may take a photo, via the cell phone, of the Judge's card for their record.
- d. Submit all score cards to the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC within 10 days.
- e. Decline an entry or remove a horse from the test for cause.
- f. Report the disqualification of a person at the test to the NAPHA Coordinator / RRC.

Not carry on any conversation or communication with the Judge that could influence the Judge's opinion of any entry in any fashion.

The Judge(s) shall:

- a. Exhibit the highest standard of integrity at all times and avoid decisions arrived at, by influence, bias or ignorance. Observe the horse against the standards set forth for a Junior, a Senior or a Master Trail Horse.
- b. Intervene whenever it is deemed to be an unsafe situation anywhere on the grounds, before, during or after the test.
- c. Assign scores for each of the test elements based upon the horse's performance.
- d. Not judge a horse that has been in training by the judge within the last 30 days before the test. Attending a clinic where the judge is the clinician does not constitute "in training".
- e. Not judge a horse ridden, owned or trained by a member of the judge's family.

Entry Requirements

To be eligible for entry in a test,

- a. Participant shall complete the THT Entry Form and sign a waiver of liability acknowledging their assumption of risk of horseback riding in a Trail Horse Test. (See Appendix A for the THT Entry Form.)
- b. The program is open to all breeds. Registered Peruvian Horses and Registered Paso Fino horses will have their test levels that they pass recorded in the NAPHA / PFHA registry.
- c. A horse must be owned by the exhibitor. Trainers or other exhibitors may not perform the tests for the owner. If a horse is registered in the name of a legal entity, the horse must be shown in the name of that entity by one of the owners of such entity.
- d. A horse must be 3 years of age or older on the first day of the test.
- e. Stallions are permitted with the following conditions:
 - i. Rider of the stallion must be 18 years or older.
 - ii. Stallions must be identified with a yellow ribbon secured to tail.
 - iii. Stallions must behave and not show unruly manners.
- f. A rider must be 9 years of age or older on the first day of the test.
- g. Riders under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult.
- h. Minors, riders under the age of 18, shall wear a properly fitted SEI/ASTM approved riding helmet.
- i. The rider must declare the level at which the horse is being tested. The rider may declare the horse to be tested at both the Junior and Senior Level simultaneously. The rider must pay the fee for both levels. The judge may award both levels or only the Junior level.
- j. The entry fee will not be refunded if the horse does not pass a level.
- k. The horse must have been awarded a Junior and a Senior level before it may test at the Master level. The horse must receive a passing score from two different judges to be awarded a Master level title.

Disqualification of Horse or Rider

Any behavior that poses a threat to horses or people will be grounds for disqualification. The Judge or Marshal have sole discretion about this. The NAPHA Coordinator / RRC shall determine if the horse/rider may be allowed to continue in the THT program.

Test Results

The judge shall ensure the score for each test element within each of the major categories is recorded properly. Using the Pass/Fail criteria for each level, the judge shall determine if the horse passed the specific level. See Appendix E for the Pass/Fail criteria.

Pass or Fail test results must be awarded to all entries shortly after completion of tests.

Certificates and awards may be awarded to exhibitors by Judge at that time. In the case of Senior and Master Trail Horse recipients, award will be mailed directly to the recipient within 60 days.

THT Fees

Entry Fees. While each requestor may set its own entry fees, all participants must be charged the same fees for a given THT. A THT may not accord free entries, free transportation or other expenses to one participant unless the same privileges are extended to all participants. The fees should be set such that the Requestor can pay for the expenses incurred which includes:

- a. Judges fee (This is set by the individual judge)
- b. Judges travel, lodging, and meal expenses.
- c. Additional Fees to cover stalls, facility rental, participants' meals or any other charges at their discretion.
- d. Fees sent to PFHA to cover the cost of administering the program. (See Appendix C).

**Appendix A - THT Application Form
THT Entry Form
And Release Form**



TRAIL HORSE TEST APPROVAL APPLICATION

TRAIL HORSE TEST INFORMATION:

Test Date(s): _____ Hosting Region or

Farm: _____

Venue: _____

Address of

Venue: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF HORSES TO BE TESTED:

Junior Level No. of Horses: _____ Senior Level No. of Horses: _____ Master Level No. of Horses: _____

Designated Test Requestor: Name: _____ NAPHA Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

JOY OF RIDING COMMITTEE APPROVED JUDGE(S) AND TEST MANAGEMENT:

Name of Judge(s)

Judge 1: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Judge 2:

_____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Test Marshal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. To hold a NAPHA sanctioned test, the test must be approved by the Chair of the Joy of Riding Committee.
2. Two judges are required to test a horse at the Master level.
3. The Designated Test Requestor must be a member in good standing of NAPHA at the time the test is requested.
4. The Designated Test Requestor is responsible for conducting the test in accordance with the Trail Horse Test Rules.
5. The Designated Test Requestor is responsible for the financial management of the test, which includes payment of the judge's fees/expenses, payment of the Marshal's fees/expenses. The Requestor will make the payment arrangement directly to the judge/marshal.

6. The Designated Test Requestor is responsible for the remittance of the application fee and the entry fees to the Joy of Riding Committee. Designated Test Requestor's

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Trail Horse Test Number: _____

THE TEST DATES SUBMITTED HAVE BEEN: _____ APPROVED _____ NOT APPROVED

IF NOT APPROVED, REASON FOR NON-APPROVAL: _____

Joy of Riding Committee

Chairperson: _____ Date: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROCESSING THIS FORM:

1. Fill out this form in its entirety, enclose the appropriate fees and return this form to NAPHA
2. Checks should be payable to NAPHA.
3. Form and check should be mailed to NAPHA, PO Box 2187, Santa Rosa, CA 95405



North American Peruvian Horse Association

TRAIL HORSE TEST ENTRY FORM

TRAIL HORSE TEST INFORMATION:

Test Date(s): _____ Hosting _____

Region/Farm: _____

Venue: _____

_____ Address of

Venue: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

TEST ORGANIZER:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

TRAIL HORSE TEST RIDER:

Name: _____ NAPHA Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rider's Age (Required if 18 or younger: _____)

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

_____ Signature: _____ Emergency _____

Contact (Name & Phone: _____

List important medical information in case of emergency: _____

_____ Test Rider's Signature:

Name: _____ Date: _____

HORSE BEING TESTED:

Horse's Name: _____ Barn Name: _____

_____ Horse's Breed: _____ Registration _____

Number: _____ Horse's Age: _____ Horse's Sex (circle):

MARE GELDING STALLION

Level being Tested (circle): JUNIOR SENIOR MASTER (you may test at both the Junior and Senior level simultaneously)

NUMBER ASSIGNED: _____ (number assigned by test

organizer)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Participant shall complete the THT Entry Form and sign a waiver of liability acknowledging their assumption of risk of horseback riding in a Trail Horse Test.
2. The program is open to all breeds. Only registered Peruvian Paso horses will have their awarded levels recorded in the NAPHA registry.
3. A horse must be owned by the exhibitor. Trainers or other exhibitors may not perform the tests for said owner. If a horse is registered in the name of a legal entity, such horse must be shown in the name of that entity by one of the owners of such entity.
4. A horse must be 3 years of age or older on the first day of the test.
5. Stallions are permitted with the following conditions: (i) rider of the stallion must be 18 years or older; (ii) stallions must be identified with a yellow ribbon secured to its tail; (iii) stallions must behave and not show unruly manners.
6. A rider must be 9 years of age or older on the first day of the test.
7. Riders under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult.
8. Minors, riders under the age of 18, shall wear a properly fitted SEI/ASTM approved riding helmet.
9. Tack may be of any kind that is well fitting, well maintained and not abusive to the horse.
10. The rider must declare the level at which the horse is being tested. The rider may declare the horse to be tested at both the Junior and Senior Level simultaneously. The rider must pay the fee for both levels. The judge may award both levels or only the Junior level.
11. The entry fee will not be refunded if the horse does not pass a level.
12. The horse must have been awarded a Junior and a Senior level before it may test at the Master level. The horse must receive a passing score from two different judges to be awarded a Master level title.

RELEASE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER, AND INDEMNIFICATION
(This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing)

By entering a Trail Horse Test (The "Event") and signing this entry blank as the Owner, Lessee, Trainer, Manager, Agent, Coach, Rider, or Handler and on behalf of myself and my principals, representatives, employees and agents, I agree that I am subject to the Bylaws and Rules of The North American Peruvian Horse Association (the "Association") and the local rules of the Event. I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and Rules of the Association and of the Event. I will accept as final the decision of the Joy of Riding Committee on any question arising under the Rules, and agree to release and hold harmless the Event, the Association, their officials, directors and employees for any action taken under the Rules. I represent that I am eligible to enter and/or participate under the Rules, and every horse I am entering is eligible as entered. I also agree that as a condition of and in consideration of acceptance of entry, the Association and/or the Event may use or assign photographs, videos, audios, cable - casts, broadcasts, internet, film, new media or other likenesses of me and my horse taken during the course of the Event for the promotion, coverage or benefit of the Event, sport, or the Association. Those likenesses shall not be used to advertise a product and they may not be used in such a way as to jeopardize amateur status. I hereby expressly and irrevocably waive and release any rights in connection with such use, including any claim to compensation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or to misappropriation.

I AGREE in consideration for my participation in this Event to the following:

I AGREE that "the Association" and "Event" as used herein includes the Licensee and Event Management, as well as all of their officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers and Association affiliates. I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in the Event with my horse, as a rider, handler, lessee, owner, agent, coach, trainer, or as parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports and the Event involve inherent dangerous risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, or death. ("Harm").

I AGREE to hold harmless and release the Association and the Event from all claims for money damages or otherwise for any Harm to me or my horse and for any Harm of any nature caused by me or my horse to others, even if the Harm arises or results, directly or indirectly, from the negligence of the Association or the Event. I AGREE to expressly assume all risks of Harm to me or my horse, including Harm resulting from the negligence of the Association or the Event.

I AGREE to indemnify (that is, to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) the Association and the Event and to hold them harmless with respect to claims for Harm to me or my horse, and for claims made by others for any Harm caused by me or my horse while at the Event. I understand that I am entitled to wear protective equipment without penalty, and I acknowledge that the Association strongly encourages me to do so while WARNING that no protective equipment can guard against all injuries.

If I am a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor, I consent to the child's participation and AGREE to all of the above provisions and AGREE to assume all of the obligations of this Release on the child's behalf. I represent that I have the requisite training, coaching and abilities to safely compete in this Event.

I AGREE that if I am injured at this competition, the medical personnel treating my injuries may provide information on my injury and treatment to the Association.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all applicable Association Rules and all terms and provisions of this entry blank.

OWNER (Mandatory)

Print Name of Owner

Signature of Owner

Parental / Guardian Consent if a Minor

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Appendix B - Application fees.

1. In order to hold a Trail Horse Test, a Trail Horse Test Application Form and the Application Fee of \$20.00 must be received by the NAPHA/PFHA Recreational Rider Committee (RRC) Chair 60 days prior to the event. This Application Fee is waived until January 1, 2018.
2. If the Trail Horse Test Application Form and Application Fee is not received by the RRC chair within 60 days of the event, an additional Late Fee of \$50.00 must be remitted. This Late Fee is waived until January 1, 2018.

Appendix C – Fees to be remitted to the RRC.

The following fees shall be remitted to the PFHA within 10 days of completing the Trail Horse Test. These fees cover the costs of the awards presented at each level.

1. For each horse that is awarded a Junior Trail Horse Title, please remit \$12.00.
2. For each horse that is awarded a Senior Trail Horse Title, please remit \$20.00.
3. For each horse that is awarded a Master Trail Horse Title, please remit \$50.00.

Please make checks payable to the NAPHA/PFHA and mailed to the following address. Please mark Trail Horse Test on the check.

NAPHA

PFHA
4067 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511

Appendix D - Approved Judges

The current list of NAPHA/PFHA RRC approved judges are:

- | <u>NAPHA</u> | <u>PFHA RRC</u> |
|--------------|---|
| 1. | Rick Shaffer
267 Brando Road
Somerset PA 15501
Rspaso123@gmail.com
Cell 814-233-5407 |
| 2. | Nola Hauptert-Keill
352 Hemlock Rd
Waymart, PA 18472
rono@socantel.net
570-937-4978 |
| 3. | Christy Taylor
1352 W. Syphon Road
Pocatello, ID 83204
sherchr9@isu.edu
208-637-2755 |
| 4. | Vickie McQuinn
PO Box 511
Kershaw, SC 29067
delosmejores@windstream.net
803-475-1136
559-355-0177 |
| 5. | Todd Lowman
401 Roberts Lane |

The NAPHA/PFHA RRC is currently in the process of adopting the rules for certifying additional judges.

Appendix E - Pass/Fail Scoring Criteria

The Trail Horse Test judges shall use the following scoring system to pass or fail the horse.

Levels of Testing

There are three levels of test under the program, Junior, Senior and Master. The elements being tested are very similar at all levels. The higher the level being tested, the more responsive and refine the horse shall be.

Categories within the Levels

The tests are grouped into the following categories:

1. Trailer Loading/Unloading
2. Grooming and Tacking the Horse
3. Performing Ground Work Exercises
4. Performing Exercises under Saddle
5. Performing on the Trail
6. Maneuvering through Trail Obstacles
7. Overall Attitude and Temperament

Elements within each Category

Within each category, there are distinct test elements the horse shall perform. See the Trail Horse Test Overview document for a complete list of the test elements and the expected way the horse should perform each test element.

The individual test elements are judged on a scale of zero (0) to five (5) where zero (0) is unsuccessful and five (5) is exceptional. A score of a three (3) reflects the horse satisfactorily completed the test element. If a horse refuses the test element twice, it shall receive a zero (0) score for the test element.

The most important category is the overall attitude and temperament of the horse. The judge will evaluate the horse in this category throughout the horse's performance of all of the test elements. The judge is looking for how well suited the horse is to being a solid, confident trail horse.

To be awarded the title of **Junior Trail Horse**, a horse must receive an average passing grade of three (3) for each category. To determine the passing grade for a category, the scores of each test element is added together and divided by the number of elements in the category. For example, in Category 1 – Trailer Loading/Unloading, there are three test elements within the category. If the horse received a 2 for test element 1-Loading, a 4 for test element 2-Standing in the trailer, and a 3 for test element 3-Unloading, then the horse would pass Category 1 with an average passing grade of three. The horse must receive an average passing grade for all 7 Categories. The horse must receive a three (3) or above for its Overall Attitude and Temperament.

To be awarded the title of **Senior Trail Horse**, a horse must receive a minimum score of a three (3) on each of the test elements **and** an overall average score of at least a four (4) for all of the categories. The horse must receive a score of four (4) or above for its Overall Attitude and Temperament before it can awarded a Senior Trail Horse title.

To be awarded the title of **Master Trail Horse**, the horse must be judged by two separate judges and receive a passing score from both judges and have already been awarded a Senior Trail Horse Test title. In order to receive a passing score at the Master Level, a horse must receive a minimum score of a four (4) on each of the test elements. There is no averaging of test element scores at the Master level. The horse must receive a score of five (5) for its Overall Attitude and Temperament before it can awarded a Master Trail Horse Title.

At a given test event, the rider must declare which level the horse is to be judged. The rider may declare to be judged at both the Junior and the Senior level simultaneously. The judge will score the horse against the standard for the Junior and against the standard for the Senior level. Based upon the horse's performance, the judge may not pass the horse at the Senior but did feel it performed at the Junior level.