



E C A H O

European Conference of
Arab Horse Organizations

European Arab Horse Sports Commission

Green Book

Rules

Regulations

Class Descriptions

Patterns

High Point Horse of the Year

Pleasure Judges Education

Pleasure Judges Manual

2016

Contents

I.	GENERAL RULES	5
I.1.	Levels of ECAHO Sport Competitions	5
I.1.1.	Levels of ECAHO Sport Competitions Classic & Western & Driving	5
I.2.	Performance Classes	6
I.3.	Ranking & All around System	7
I.3.1.	Class Ranking System	7
I.3.2.	All Around System	8
I.4.	Rules for Affiliation of ECAHO Sport Competitions	9
I.4.1.	Conditions of Entry for all levels	9
I.4.2.	Qualifications for entry	9
I.4.3.	Approval of Dates and Schedules	9
I.4.4.	Insurance	10
I.4.5.	Judges	10
I.4.6.	Affiliation fee	10
I.4.7.	Results	10
I.5.	Rules for Conduct of ECAHO Sport Competitions	11
I.5.1.	Organizers	11
I.5.2.	Show Organizers, Judges and Riders	11
I.5.3.	Enforcement	11
I.5.4.	Disguising of Horses	12
I.5.5.	Cruelty	12
I.5.6.	Misuse of Drugs	12
I.6.	Technical requirements for ECAHO Sport Competitions	13
I.6.1.	Introduction	13
I.6.2.	Access and parking	13
I.6.3.	Stabling	13
I.6.4.	Feed and water	13
I.6.5.	Show arena	13
I.6.6.	Warm up arena	13
I.6.7.	Staff	14
I.6.8.	Catalogue	14
I.6.9.	Invitation, Time schedule & Entry form	14
I.6.10.	Hosting of Judges	16
I.6.11.	Requirements after the event	16

**European Arab Horse Sports Commission
Green Book 2016**

II.	RULES & PATTERNS.....	17
II.1.	Classic & Western.....	17
II.1.1.	General Rules	17
II.1.2.	Type & Conformation, Liberty, Halter Class	17
II.1.3.	Speed	18
II.1.4.	Ladies Side Saddle Classic & Western.....	19
II.1.5.	Traditional Arabian Riding.....	20
II.1.6.	Hunter Pleasure	22
II.1.7.	Horsemanship.....	23
II.1.8.	Pole Bending	25
II.1.9.	Trail in Hand	26
II.2.	Classic	27
II.2.1.	Dressage	27
II.2.2.	Classic Pleasure	28
II.2.3.	Show Jumping	29
II.2.4.	Cross Country.....	31
II.2.5.	Trail (for Classic riders)	31
II.3.	Western	32
II.3.1.	Trail	32
II.3.2.	Reining	40
II.3.3.	Western Pleasure	42
II.3.4.	Western Riding.....	43
II.3.5.	Freestyle Reining.....	45
II.4.	Driving	46
II.4.1.	Obstacle Driving.....	46
II.4.2.	Pleasure Driving.....	50
II.4.3.	Dressage Driving.....	51
III.	JUDGES EDUCATION, APPROVED JUDGES FOR CLASSIS & WESTERN & DRIVING COMPETITIONS, STEWARDS	52
III.1.	Education	52
III.2.	Officials.....	52
III.2.1.	ECAHO Pleasure Judges.....	52
III.2.2.	Judges for: Classic, Western, Driving	52
III.2.3.	Stewards	52
IV.	SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	53
IV.1.	General information	53

**European Arab Horse Sports Commission
Green Book 2016**

IV.2.	Levels of European Championship	53
IV.3.	Conditions of Entry.....	54
IV.4.	Minimum entries at European Championship.....	54
IV.5.	Titles	54
IV.6.	Qualification criteria	54
IV.7.	License	54
IV.8.	Minimum age of the horse:	55
V.	ECAHO YEAR-END HIGH POINT HORSE SYSTEM	56
VI.	ECAHO PLEASURE JUDGES MANUAL	57

I. GENERAL RULES

I.1. Levels of ECAHO Sport Competitions

I.1.1. Levels of ECAHO Sport Competitions Classic & Western & Driving

General:

All events must be recognized by or affiliated with the National Federation (NF) and Official Western Riding Organisation of the hosting country. Starting with Level M, a license for rider and a registration for the horse as a competition horse from the National Riding Association is obligatory. Horse passport (no FEI passport) is required. The horse must be registered in any WAHO Studbook. All Patterns have to be announced in advance before the date of the event.

Mono tests (Qualification & Finals): only in National Championships, International Championships and European Championships A & M and higher levels.

Levels:

ECAHO N - Level NOVICE (Low level)

- Dressage (FEI Children/NF rules)
- Trail 6 obstacles, no combinations
- Pleasure Classes: walk, trot, canter, back
- Show jumping: max. 80 cm

Degree of difficulty is not specified and it is up to the organizer; the level N has to be lower than level A. The sport competitions of this level should be adapted to the local needs and to novice riders. This should be the base to prepare for the level A.

ECAHO A - Level ADVANCED (Medium Level)

- Dressage (FEI Pony/NF/FEI)
- Trail 8 obstacles two combinations, 4 poles elevated
- Pleasure Classes: walk, trot, canter, back, extended trot
- Show jumping: max. 90 cm, time & fault 2 jump off Pony

ECAHO M – Level MASTER (High Level)

- Dressage (FEI Pony Juniors)
- Trail 10 and more obstacles, three to four combinations, minimum 6 poles elevated
- Pleasure Classes: walk, trot, canter, back, extended trot, handgallop
- Show jumping Pony, 105 cm, 2 jump off

M level is qualifying for participation at the European Championships. Qualification to M/European Championship level competition is recommended, each country can decide whether the qualification for their participants is required.

ECAHO National Sport Championships

Only one event of this type per country per year is allowed. Only open to horses registered at WAHO accepted Studbook of the country in which the event is being held. The event to be held with the approval of the National

**European Arab Horse Sports Commission
Green Book 2016**

ECAHO Member organisation; the minimum level is A (Advanced).

ECAHO European Championships Level (European Championships)

The event follows the “Special Requirements for European Championships”.

- Dressage Patterns examples under European Championships - Dressage
- Trail pattern should be never built confusing in the lines, example patterns under European Championships - Trail

Accepted Rulebooks

ECAHO Green Book (all Pleasure classes), NF (National Equestrian Federation, member of FEI) NRHA/AQHA (Reining), USEF-AHA (Arabian Horse Ass.)

Accepted Judges

ECAHO Pleasure Judges & AHA Judges (all Pleasure classes), NF judges (Dressage, Jumping, Cross), NF, AQHA, NRHA judges (all Western classes & Hand Trail). All Judges need to have a valid license for the year of the event in that level and competition is needed. Type & Conformation, Show, Liberty: ECAHO Show Judges from EAHSC B or A List

I.2. Performance Classes

General:

1. In all classes where horses compete collectively all horses shall be worked at all gaits both directions of the ring unless otherwise described by class specifications, and will be asked to reverse direction at either the walk (normal, collected or extended), jog trot or trot (normal or collected). Judges are required to consider the performance at each gait equally in adjudicating performance classes. At the judge’s discretion, horses shall change from any gait to any other gait as listed in class specifications.
2. Any performance class, except a Championships class, may be divided at management’s discretion. When a class is divided, a) duplicate awards (including prize money) may be given, or b) management may direct the top contestants from each group return to the ring for final adjudication (exception: classes which require individual tests). If duplicate awards are given, horse and/or rider may not compete in more than one section of the class which has been divided. When more than 16 horses are entered in a performance class in which horses compete together the class must be divided. The method of dividing classes is at the managements’ discretion.
3. Workouts will be judged as a separate class and horses must be tied for placements being considered in that workout. Workouts may be classed for by the judge for any or all placements. All horses chosen for a workout must be worked both ways of the ring at any gait listed in class specifications and requested by the judge.
4. Horses must come to the line-up at the gait requested. In the line-up, horses must stand quietly and may be asked to back individually or as a group. No stretch in the line-up.
5. Side saddles permitted for ladies in all sections of the Arabian Division; appointments to be appropriate for the seat ridden.
6. Extremes of temperature or climate conditions as well as locale or time of day may modify the requirements for attire specified in various sections of this rule.
7. Bandages and boots of any type are prohibited (exception: see Reining). In the event of injury, the judge may permit protective bandage. In the case of inclement weather, competition management may permit the use of bell boots and/or protective bandages on the front legs (exception: Hunter bell boots only).
8. Western and Classic classes may be combined, however, prize list must specify or state the classes will be divided if entries warrant.
9. Stallions may be shown in Ladies’ or Junior Exhibitors’ classes (exception: Stallions are prohibited in Walk-Trot/Jog classes).

I.3. Ranking & All around System

I.3.1. Class Ranking System

- a. The ranking obtained in each class of every level is proportional to the number of competitors.
Maximum number of points is 10, regardless of the number of participants.

Number of starter - competitors	Points							
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	10 th	11 th	15 th
3	3	2	1	0				
4	4	3	2	1	0			
10	10	9	8	7	6	1		
15	10	9	8	7	6	1	0	

- b. In each level, not more than half of the participating horses should be in the ownership of one person.
c. A Rider is allowed to present as many horses per class as he is able to handle. No waiting time! Amateur riders & Professional riders are equal.
d. No horse is allowed to participate in more than three (for Classic) or six (for Western/Pleasure) classes per day, with the exception of the Liberty / Halter class / Type & Conformation, this is not counting.
e. International & National Sport events in all levels possible, Championships never lower than A level. All Around Championships only for the highest level of the event.

I.3.2. All Around System

Rules for All-Around at ECAHO Sport Competitions

Categories and disciplines, accepted for All-Around Champion, a result of: Type & Conformation or Liberty or Show is necessary to count together with the sport results. Points awarded by place.

Category	Classic All-Around disciplines	Western All-Around disciplines	Driving (1-in-hand) All-Around disciplines
obligatory	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. AND Dressage All-Around OR Show Jumping All-Around	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. AND Western Trail All-Around OR Reining All-Around	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. AND Dressage Driving All-Around
optional	Dressage All-Ar. Show Jumping All-Ar. Cross Country All-Ar. Horsemanship Classic Classic Pleasure All-Ar. Trad. Arabian Riding All-Ar. Ladies Side Saddle All-Ar. Pole Bending All-Ar. Hunter Pleasure All-Ar. Speed All-Ar. Pleasure Driving All-Ar..	Western Trail All-Ar. Reining All-Ar. Freestyle Reining Horsemanship Western Western Pleasure All-Ar. Western Riding All-Ar. Trad. Arabian Riding All-Ar. Ladies Side Saddle All-Ar. Pole Bending All-Ar. Hunter Pleasure All-Ar. Speed All-Ar. Pleasure Driving All-Ar.	Dressage Driving All-Ar. Pleasure Driving All-Ar. Obstacle Driving All-Ar. Marathon (short) All-Ar.

- a. For the All-Around Champion, a minimum of two different sport disciplines is needed. One obligatory discipline plus Liberty or Halter or Type & Conformation and a second discipline is required. Any further contest will add to the final result.
- b. ECAHO All-Around Champions are possible for Classic, Western and Driving. Champion will be the horse, not the horse/rider/driver combination.
- c. The winner of the All-Around Champion will be the horse who, with the same rider/driver achieved the best total points after adding up all contests of his category.
- d. If two or more horses have equal points in the final ranking (ex aequo), the champion will be decided by the higher points in the Liberty/Halter/Type & Conformation class.
- e. If an All-Around Champion horse is not present at the price giving ceremony, the All-Around Champion title will be given to the second placed horse.
- f. For All-Around Champion ranking the first ten horses in the class must be placed.
- g. The rider is the handler in Liberty or Halter or Type & Conformation

I.4. Rules for Affiliation of ECAHO Sport Competitions

I.4.1. Conditions of Entry for all levels

Competition open to horses registered in any WAHO recognised studbook by the closing date of entries. There are no entry restrictions. National Registries will be responsible for confirming registration. Entries must either present the relevant registration certificate or a letter by the registrar confirming that registration is in process. European Championship: no horse will be permitted to enter a competition unless its name and all other relevant details have been printed in the catalogue.

I.4.2. Qualifications for entry

None required by ECAHO except for the European Championships. Decision about qualification is up to the NF.

I.4.3. Approval of Dates and Schedules

- Application for sport events need to be sent to ECAHO Exec. Sec. by the end of November (for the upcoming year).
- All draft schedules and patterns of ECAHO Sport Competitions need to be approved by the Executive Secretary of ECAHO and the Chairman of ECAHO Sport Commission at least three months prior to the event. The draft schedule to be in English and in the language of the country where the Sport Competition is held (or any other language accepted by the Executive Secretary). The approval certificate has to be published in the show office on the event. All schedules shall indicate that the "Rules and regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions" will be applied in their entirety.

The schedule is a contract between participants and organizers and shall not be varied by the organizer after publication without prior notice. The appointed judges may not be changed from those listed in the schedule without notice to be given to the competitor (except in the event of a judge's illness or accident occurring too late for this to be done). The Schedule of an ECAHO affiliated sport event should be a printed document to inform prospective participants and breed societies, the press, potential sponsors and advertisers about the conditions of the sport event. After proper affiliation of the event, this document should be mailed to the above mentioned at least 2 months prior to the event. The "ECAHO Entry-Form" must be included. Its proper filling and signing binds the competitors to respect the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions". The organizer of the event should acknowledge receipt of entries.

The Draft Schedule for ECAHO Sport Competitions must contain:

- Title, Date and Venue of the Event
- Conditions of entry
- Judges, Course designers, Stewards, Show office
- ECAHO Entry Form Sport
- Preliminary time-table, Dressage-, Jumping-, Trail- & Horsemanship and any other patterns, if needed

I.4.4. Insurance

Organizers must attest that no competitor will be admitted in a Sport contest without proper insurance.

I.4.5. Judges

Sport

- Dressage: 2 or 3 (separate judging, European Championships)
- Show Jumping: 2
- Speed: 2
- Western: 2
- Pleasure Classes: 2
- Driving (depending on the class): 2 - 3
- Cross 2

Conformation

- Type & Conformation 1
- Liberty, Show 1
- European Championships 2 or more

I.4.6. Affiliation fee

PENDING

I.4.7. Results

The results of all ECAHO accepted individual contests as well as of the Championships must be send to the Executive Secretary of ECAHO not later than one month after the event.

I.5. Rules for Conduct of ECAHO Sport Competitions

I.5.1. Organizers

Officials, judges, participants and riders will unconditionally submit themselves and their accompanying persons to the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions". These Rules will be interpreted when necessary under the provisions of the laws of Switzerland. Event organizers are not permitted to introduce rules which are in conflict with the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions".

I.5.2. Show Organizers, Judges and Riders

- a. The organizer will pay any reasonable travelling and accommodation expenses for appointed Judges and any applicable fee as determined by the NF/FEI and/or Western Riding Organization.
- b. No Judge is allowed to judge a class in which a horse is subject of a conflict of interest. Such Judge must stand down for the whole class.
- c. No member of the organizing committee may judge. No appointed Judge may ride, drive or handle an entered horse, nor may he act in any other official capacity at an event where he is judging.
- d. The show organizer reserves the right to refuse any entry, but must give the reason for refusal. The organizer is personally responsible for compliance with these rules and with ECAHO Sport Commission instructions given for his level of contest.
- e. ECAHO Sport Commission "Rules for Affiliation of ECAHO Sport Competitions" are binding on organizers and exhibitors.
- f. Judges will not visit competitors' premises or accept the hospitality of participants immediately before or during the event concerned.
- g. Judges will not knowingly judge horses concerning which there may be an actual or apparent conflict of interest, nor will riders exhibit horses under Judges where an actual or apparent conflict of interest may affect the Judge's decision. Organizers will not accept entries which indicate any connection listed under rule h. with an invited Judge, unless an alternative Judge and a reserve Judge are available.
- h. An actual or apparent conflict of interest is defined as judging a horse which has been bought or sold by the Judge either as owner or agent, is owned in whole or part by the Judge or by a member of the Judge's family, or business partner in an Arab horse business venture, has been leased by the Judge, at any time, has been bred by the Judge or is the property of a breeding organization in which the Judge is an employee, has been regularly trained, examined or treated by the Judge in a professional capacity.
- i. A Sport Judge or a Panel of Sport Judges is authorized to withhold any award if in their opinion the competitor does not merit such an award.
- j. Judges may exclude any horse that is lame or ill. Other rights of Sport Judges follow NF/FEI or Western Riding Rules.
- k. The Liberty/Halter Class/Type & Confirmation Judges may refuse to judge a competitor who is not neatly dressed.
- l. The organizer has to provide the "Rules and Regulations for ECAHO Sport Competitions" and the "Appendices" at the disposition of the competitors.

I.5.3. Enforcement

Only competitors at the event may lodge a complaint alleging infringement of these rules. Such complaint is to be made in writing within 1 hour of the alleged infringement occurring. A deposit of CHF 80.- (or equivalent) will be lodged with the referee and may be retained if the complaint is considered frivolous at the discretion of the event appealing committee (1 of the judges, 1 from the organization, 1 from involved riders). The decision has to be done during the show on the day of protest. Appeal can be sent to the ECAHO Sport Commission within one week after the event. Any dope tests are following the FEI Veterinary Rules.

I.5.4. Disguising of Horses

- a. No alteration of the basic colour of the skin, coat or hooves is permitted. Hoof paints, coat dyes and cosmetic operations including skin grafts are forbidden.
- b. Artificial methods of dilating the eyes or affecting the natural action of the horse or otherwise influencing its action or behaviour by oxygenating the bloodstream or by the use of weights or artificially weighted shoes, or by electrical or chemical treatment of any kind at any time before or during the performance are forbidden. Burns, cuts or other marks on the body of any exhibit in such places or positions as to indicate prohibited methods have been used, will be regarded by NF Steward, Judges as full and adequate grounds for exclusion of any exhibit from competition.
- c. Horses may be fully or partly body clipped, subject to eyelashes being left uncut, hair inside the ears left unshaved and tactile hair left intact around the nose, muzzle and the eyes.
- d. No equipment intended to alter the natural appearance of the horse is permitted in the stables, including neck sweats, neck collars, tail racks, hobbles or weights. Exhibitors using such equipment on the showground will be suspended by the ground jury for the period of the show.

I.5.5. Cruelty

Excessive whipping, use of electric shock devices or infliction of pain by any means is forbidden in all parts of the showground, or stable areas, at all times.

I.5.6. Misuse of Drugs

1. The administration of any substance not a normal nutrient (including ginger and similar irritants), whether intentionally or unintentionally which may affect the performance, temperament or soundness of an exhibit is forbidden. Such forbidden substances are listed in FEI Veterinary Regulations, an up to date copy of which will be maintained by the ECAHO Sport Commission.
2. The NF/FEI or ECAHO Sport commission can order Doping Test. FEI veterinarian has to take these samples and has to send them to FEI approved official Lab. Result to ECAHO Sport Commission and Owner/rider.

I.6. Technical requirements for ECAHO Sport Competitions

Obligatory for European Championships & M level events, recommended for A and N level.

I.6.1. Introduction

A complete description of the following topics should be presented by the committee of any proposed new event to the EAHSpC for affiliation, together with the schedule. Information on the same topics must reach all participants prior to the event with entry and parking cards if needed (this may be included with the Schedule).

I.6.2. Access and parking

Access to the event grounds should be clearly signed and from a certain distance, depending on the location of the event (open country or city). Parking space should be provided sufficiently close to the stabling area.

I.6.3. Stabling

The stables should be grouped in one (max. two) areas. The horses must be housed in box stalls (covered if outdoors), made of resistant material providing the best possible conditions of security of the minimum dimension of 3,0 by 3,0 m and minimum height of 3 m. Proper bedding should be available on the event ground. A notice will be posted to the effect that "Training of horses will not be permitted on the show grounds between app 22.00 hrs and 06.00 hrs.

I.6.4. Feed and water

Running water must be available at the stables as well as a feed store where oats, hay and straw or shavings can be purchased at current prices.

I.6.5. Show arena

Size of Show arena has to follow the rules of disciplines for what it will be needed. Minimum size is depending on participants but not smaller than 20 x 40 m. From October to April (Europe) indoor. The layout of the show arena must be attractively decorated as suitable for a prestigious or international event. Tribunes or VIP Tables are recommended. Announcements should be made in both the host country's language and in English.

I.6.6. Warm up arena

It must be located close to the show arena in order to allow the horses to pass easily from one to the other. The precise schedule with the order of starters must be marked on a large signboard at the entrance to the paddock and Show office. NF Stewards must control both the entries and the exits to the warm up arena.

I.6.7. Staff

The number of staff members of a sport competition will depend on the importance of the event & number of entries.

- a. **Officials**
Organizing Committee and /or Show Director, Show office. Speaker presenting the horses, whose role is to keep the audience informed throughout the Show. Show office with one or two persons with computer for checking horse passports preparing starting lists, recording scores, and results. FEI / NF Veterinarian if required (Show Jumping, Cross).
- b. **Stewards**
 - * NF or FEI Stewards as ruled in National Equestrian Federation (NF member of FEI) rules.
 - * warm up arena
 - * entrance to the show arena

I.6.8. Catalogue

An attractive catalogue should be available, at a reasonable price, on the show grounds for European Championships. The catalogue should include complete information on the sport competition and its classes. The list of horses entered in the event with date of birth, colour, origins, breeder, owner & Rider/Driver. The overall plan of the show grounds should appear in the catalogue/Show office. The sponsors of the event and the advertisers should be properly announced. For the other levels, correct Starters List should be available at the show office not only for participants but also for visitors. Results have to be published in written form at the show office. Announcements on screen if possible.

I.6.9. Invitation, Time schedule & Entry form

To be announced for the riders in as many as possible social media. Draft of the entry form is available for download on www.ecaho.org.

I.6.10. Hosting of Judges

The Judges should be invited well in advance of the event, to have their names printed in the schedule. Accommodation should be booked for them near the show ground. Organizers are responsible for the hotel charges, for room and food. Reasonable travelling expenses must be paid. Transport from and to the airport and between hotel and show ground should be arranged and the Judges have to be informed about the times of pick-up. Any unpaid expenses with the Judges will be settled before they return home at the show office. Sport Judges will have a daily judges' fee, announced in the NF rules. The organizer is responsible for checking of these rates when inviting the Judges.

I.6.11. Requirements after the event

Class and Championship results must be mailed to the Executive Secretary of ECAHO within one month after the competition. Computer printouts of the results are accepted if all information asked on the ECAH SpC form is given (word document).