



CoP

Q: Break. Is the decision now that more than one judge has to agree on this?

A: For a break (or a step out) the decision of only one judge is necessary.

Q: Step Outside. If the horse steps outside the corridor, is it a 0 score for that pace?

A: If a horse steps out of the corridor or on the marking of the corridor, it is a 0 score for this pace.

PTV

Q: Mounting with a mounting block. In the mounting with a mounting block circle: should the mounting block always be in the centre and are the riders allowed to move it? If so, does the judge place it back in the centre afterwards?

Can we just clarify that the riders do not dismount onto the mounting block?

A: The block is placed **off** centre, depending from which side the rider has to mount, and cannot be moved by the rider. (The block is meant to be a natural mounting aid and the rider must position the horse next to it, instead positioning the block next to horse.)

The rider is not allowed to dismount onto the block as the rule clearly states that both feet of the rider must touch the ground.

If the rider leads in, he can position the horse next to the block. Doing this he can step outside the circle.

If he rides in, either he dismounts on the opposite side of the block or he dismounts even before the horse is positioned next to the block. The timer has started once the leading foreleg of the horse has entered the circle.

Q: Walk only obstacle. If in a walk only obstacle (such as water or bridge) the horse jogs or trots, is this a 0 overall score? (As the objectives of the obstacle are not satisfied.)

A: Changing gait from a walk is fault. Changing gait back to walk is not a fault. Completing the majority of the obstacle in a gait other than walk will result in 0 score.

Q: Immobility: can the rider ride in? Can the rider loop the reins around and then place them loosely around the horse's neck?

A: The rider can ride into the circle. The reins cannot be looped around.

Q: Flapping stirrups: I was always taught that it comes under penalty (i.e. -3) but is noted as a -1 in some obstacles.

A: It is a -1 penalty in all In-Hand obstacles.

Q: Circling. Are we adapting the FITE rule of absolutely no circling?

A: Yes, we adopted the FITE rule. No circling and no step back on the PTV course. If a rider circles or steps back between the obstacles he will be given 3 penalty points for disobedience by the judge of the following obstacle with a maximum of 3 times, leading to a mark of 0 for this obstacle.

Q: In-Hand Obstacles. For the In-Hand obstacles is it a style penalty, if the rider (on foot) stumbles or falls on rough ground?

A: Yes, as long it happens within the penalty zone.

Q: No. 12 In-Hand Staircase Up. “ Any uncorrected change of gait will be considered as dangerous”. Does this incur a -3 penalty for “dangerous method”?

A: Yes, because for safety reasons it can be done only in walk. It applies to all staircase obstacles.

Q: No. 14 In-Hand Ditch. Is there an advantage for this type of obstacle in having a headcollar and rope so that you can get further ahead of the horse than if you used the reins? Can you use a headcollar and rope if you don't have a martingale? Can you use it for some obstacles? In other words is it advisable at the higher levels to rely on headcollar and rope rather than reins for In-Hand obstacles?

A: You can use a headcollar and rope also for only some obstacles. It is up to the rider to decide which method is better for him.

Q: No. 15 Ridden Ditch. Do you give the same marks for those who jump and those who don't?

A: Yes. This obstacle may be possible to cross without jumping.

Q: No. 19 In-Hand S-Bend. If the poles are raised are there no faults for touching?

A: No faults, only if the poles fall. This applies also to the Ridden S-bend.

Q: No. 20 Ridden S-Bend. The forward motion is referred to under both “effectiveness “ and “style”. Do you penalise under both or which?

A: Effectiveness: It is a fault if the horse breaks in forward motion.

Style: The horse should move in a regular forward motion.

There is a difference: Breaking in a forward motion is actually a stop, even for a short time. As long as the horse moves at least one foot it is not considered as a break and therefore no fault. With the style mark however the judge judges the regularity of the forward motion, the flow of the motion. (A style mark is not a penalty!)

Q: No. 21 Mounting. “ The timer starts when the horse enter the circle”. First foot over the line, or horse completely in the circle? Is it a penalty for horse stepping outside the obstacle with just one foot over the line or the whole horse?

A: The timer starts when the first foot of either the rider or the horse enter the circle. If the horse steps outside or onto the marking of the circle with one foot, it is a 0 score.

Q: No. 29 Gate. Style- horse touches the gate. Do you deduct marks for each time it touches?

A: No, touching is not marked as a fault (every fault is marked), but a style mark is given. The judge decides how mans style marks he gives.

Q: No. 30 Reining Back. If you do not start or end at the lines, does it go by the front or the back legs?

A: You start reining back once the leading foreleg of the horse crosses the start line until the last foreleg crosses the finish line.

Q: No. 33 Horse Trailer. Do they have to walk all the way down the ramp –it is not specified and some horses hop off before the bottom of the ramp?

A: Yeas, they have to walk down the ramp in a straight line. Remember that there should be flags that mark the penalty zone.

Q: No. 35 Mounted Immobility. Do you have to take both hands completely off the reins?

A: Yes, and the timer will stop once one hand touches the reins.

Q: No. 36 Shamrock. There are no faults mentioned for the wrong order of the barrels. Does this come under rectified error of course?

A: No, it is an error within an obstacle and cannot be corrected. It is a 0 score, also, if the barrels are ridden in the right order but in the wrong direction.

Q: No. 30 Reining Back. When does the reining back start and when does it finish?

A: It starts when both front feet cross over the starting line and finishes when both front feet cross over the finish line. Touching the corridor or stepping outside is a fault until the front legs have crossed the finish line

Q: No. 3 In-Hand Corridor. How is it marked when the horse gets to near to the rider?

A: If the horse is getting to near to the rider it **can** be a dangerous method with -3 penalties depending on the attitude of the horse. If the horse's muzzle passes the rider's shoulders it **is** a dangerous method.

Q: No. 3 In-Hand Corridor. Horse and rider are in different "gaits". How is this marked?

A: In principle horse and rider is a unit. But it is the gait of the horse, which is marked. Theoretically the horse may trot while the rider is walking or vice versa.

Q: No. 4 Ridden Corridor. If the horse canters, bucks and canters on, is this a change of gaits?

A: It is not necessarily a change of gait but more likely a break in forward motion (stop) and therefore a fault.

It is a change of gaits only if the horse changes, even for a very short time, into another gait. Another gait can only be a trot or a walk.

It is a break in forward motion if there is a stop, even for a very short time, from the canter to the bucking.

(This still needs further clarification with FITE!)

Q: No. 34 In-Hand Reining Back. For the style evaluation, what are "natural aids"?

A: No natural aids are whips, lead ropes and "Parelli" ropes. Hands are natural aids but can be style marked depending how they are applied.

Q: No. 18 Immobility, No. 35 Mounted Immobility. What happens when the reins fall to the ground?

A: When the reins touch the ground the timer stops and there is a penalty of -3 for dangerous method.