

How to Present a Horse at the Inspection

At our Inspection tour we want to try to present our foals, mares and stallions to our judges to the best of our ability. On judging day we sometimes realize that the horse didn't walk or trot in hand the same as we trained at home. If you are presenting your horse for the first time, please read the following tips we received from certified judges, breeders and stallion owners:

1. Complete the required forms and submit them with all requested papers along the payment of the required fees to the CFHA office via paypal;
2. Make arrangements with the host of your site for suitable horse board, driving directions, etc. Horses should have the required vaccinations for this area. Your host will let you know what they require;
3. The horses should be bathed and groomed, and sound at the judging day. The judges will not score a lame horse.
4. The "runner" and the helper should wear the required dress. This means: white or black pants/white shirts or T- shirts if possible with CFHA logo. White gloves complete the overall impression and protect against injuries. Shoes should be well kept and functional. Riding boots are not suitable.
5. The horse's mane, tail & feathers should be presented in the most natural way, free of tangles with no braiding. Some owners choose to trim the excess hairs around the muzzle, chin & outside the ears. Many people feel the horse's hair should remain natural with no trimming. Either way is acceptable. Using any color to blacken white spots or change the horse's natural hair colour is prohibited.
6. The horse will be shown in a marked triangle; each side is at least 10 meters (30 feet) long. The corners will be marked with cones to know where each side ends. Practice this at home.
 - The first part of judging is to present the horse standing in front of the judges.
 - The handler has to stand in front of the horse and bring it to a position where the judges can see all four legs at the same time if they are looking sideways at the horse. This part is very important in training, as the horse will be required to stand quietly for some time while the judge makes their decision. The horse must learn to stand quiet and patient. The judges wish to emphasize this as being very important as it is very difficult to judge a foal that is moving around.
 - The older horses should be shown with a black bridle and foals should be led with a halter. A particular color is not required.
 - Foals cannot be tied to the mare. Each horse needs a separate handler.
 - After the horse is judged on conformation it will be walked in the triangle so the judges can observe the horse from behind, then sideways and finally from the front. It is very important to walk the horse at a steady pace.
 - Most scores are given for the walk. Please remember that! It is a clear 4 beat movement.
 - Next, the horses are presented at a trot, demonstrating the high knee movements that are typical of the Friesian horses. Here it is desirable that both horses flow through the triangle corners in a continuously uniform 2 beat movement – this requires practice! Throughout the showing the foal must always be visible to the judges so it can be scored. A helper can try to animate the foal to move faster with a whip, for example, if necessary.
 - It is very important to have a "Runner" in excellent physical condition and horse handling experience present the horses in walk and special in trot!
 - Finally the horses are untied to move at liberty in the arena. This is a great chance to show how powerful and elegant our horses can move! The canter or 3 beat movement can

only be scored in liberty. You have to urge the horses to keep moving so that their best and most natural movements are displayed. The best way to do that is to have two persons standing one at each end of a 20 x 40 meter riding arena encouraging the horse(s) to trot and canter with a lunge whip. The horses should be kept trotting and cantering to give the judges the best opportunity see their movement and get your best score.

- Mares and stallions (entering Stud Book) will be measured after judging.

After presenting all horses the judges will explain the scores to the owners and breeders and ribbons will be awarded. At this point it is preferred the horses be arranged standing in a line and walking in a circle at the end of the judging show.

After the presentation, we may have a veterinarian implant the microchips for those that haven't done so. This will be organized by the host as needed.

Please be aware that the judge can only score what she sees in that moment. Please don't be disappointed if the scores do not fulfill your expectations. Your horse may be stressed in the new environment and not showing as well as you had practiced at home. Judging day is not just stressful for our horses, owners and handlers are often dealing with the same feelings.

Good Luck with training your horses and we wish you all the best for the big day!

The executive
of the CFHA

Things to bring to the Inspection

Horse(s), grooming brushes and a wash cloth and towel
Registry Papers needed, the office will let you know
Coggins: please check with host facility as different places have different requirements
Please check with site host as some sites do require certain vaccinations

Water buckets

Feed buckets

Hay and grain as host facility does not provided them

Halters and bridles bring some spare, you never know!

Clips for reins

Dressage whip and lunge whip

Some chairs, it will be a long day

Money to pay the host for stalls and for you for food and drink

Camera and video camera

Friends to help run and/or take pictures or just to give you moral support

Cell phone

NOTE:

Make agreements with host facility when you will be arriving and departing

Additional cost may be involved at the facility

Check with host facility what will be done for lunch and dinner with the judges

Ask if you can help out