

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	1/30/2025	

Rule Change Intent

This change will align the Federation rulebook and the PFHA rulebook on how the Paso Versatility gaits are to be performed. In the original creation of the Paso Versatility class, it was meant to be performed similarly to the Paso Performance class with more collection and animation. Over time, this class has evolved to be performed more similarly to the Paso Pleasure class utilizing milder collection and relaxed demeanor. Currently, the Paso Versatility class gaits are performed in the more relaxed manner and this change will align both the Federation and PFHA rulebooks, and the manner in which the class is currently ridden.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Paso Fino

Ashton Street

astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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SUBCHAPTER PF-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

PF105 Gaits

(...)

6. Qualifying Gaits

a. Walk—Smooth, steady, evenly-spaced four-beat gait.

1. Collected Walk - Evenly-spaced four-beat gait, cadenced, straight, brisk, animated and rhythmic. This gait is executed with collection, style and brilliance. This gait is called for in **the** Paso Performance ~~and Paso Versatility~~ classes.

2. Flat Walk - True, evenly-spaced four-beat, flat-footed, smooth gait executed with mild collection. The horse's head carriage is natural and relaxed. This gait is called for in Paso Pleasure, **Paso Versatility**, Paso Trail, and Paso Western Pleasure classes.

(...)

c. Paso Corto— Evenly spaced four-beat gait executed with moderate forward speed and extension. Horse should be smooth, balanced and exhibit symmetry in flexion and stride. Forward speed is ground covering but unhurried. Movements should be fluid, willing, relaxed, balanced and free-moving. The horse's head carriage is natural and relaxed.

(...)

2. In the Paso Performance ~~and Paso Versatility~~ classes the horse is well-collected, animated, proud and brilliant.

3. In the Paso Pleasure, **Paso Versatility**, Paso Trail and Paso Western Pleasure classes collection and carriage are natural and relaxed with slightly more collection required in the Paso Pleasure class.

d. Paso Largo— Forward speed is rapid and the gait is executed with longer extension and faster cadence than the Paso Corto. Extension and flexion must be harmonious with no tendency to become light on the front or strung out behind. A definite change of speed from the Paso Corto must be observed. A significant difference will be rewarded. The even four-beat cadence must be retained. Forward speed varies with the individual horse, since each horse should attain its top speed in harmony with its own natural stride and cadence.

(...)

2. In Paso Performance ~~and Paso Versatility~~, the gait is collected, bold and animated.

3. In ~~the~~ Paso Pleasure **and Paso Versatility** classes, collection is mild and carriage is natural and relaxed.