

“Gæðingakeppni” competition

Icelandic Rules

set by

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2005

English

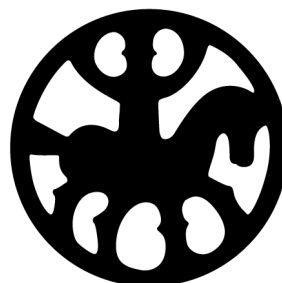
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Gæðingakeppni competition (Rules updated 2005)

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Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Gæðingakeppni competition..... | 5 |
| Preface | 5 |
| Willingness/spirit..... | 5 |
| Beat and coordination..... | 5 |
| Impulsion and speed | 5 |
| General impression and movements | 5 |
| Walk | 6 |
| Trot..... | 6 |
| Slow Tölt..... | 6 |
| Fast Tölt | 6 |
| Canter/Gallop | 6 |
| Tölt A-Class (five-gait) | 6 |
| Pace | 6 |
| Willingness/Spirit | 6 |
| General impression | 6 |
| Chapter 1: About competition horses, riders and equipment..... | 7 |
| The right to compete and entries | 7 |
| The rider | 7 |
| Whip, bit and nosebands | 7 |
| Instructions | 8 |
| Bad behaviour | 8 |
| Chapter 2: Judges and their work | 9 |
| Judges and judging committee | 9 |
| Judges and their duties | 9 |
| Duties of the judging committee | 9 |
| Special rules..... | 10 |
| The size of the track | 10 |
| Chapter 3: LH's calculation regulations for the marks in gæðinga competition. ... | 11 |
| A-Class (five-gait) | 11 |
| B-Class (four-gait) | 11 |
| Five gaited horses (A-Class) | 11 |
| Four gaited horses (B-Class)..... | 11 |
| Chapter 4: Regarding special finals for the gæðinga competition | 13 |
| Running a Final | 13 |
| Five gaited Horses – A-Class | 14 |
| Four gaited horses – B-Class | 14 |
| Chapter 5: The LH regulations for Children's –, Youth – and Young Adults competition..... | 16 |
| Riders | 16 |
| The competition horse | 16 |
| Marks..... | 16 |
| Children's Class..... | 16 |
| Youth Class | 17 |
| Young Adults' Class | 17 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Finals..... | 17 |
| Running a final..... | 17 |
| Finals – Children’s class..... | 17 |
| Finals – Youth class | 18 |
| Finals competition – Young Adults’ class | 18 |
| Chapter 6: Special LH rules for gæðinga competition at Landsmót National | |
| Shows and Fjórðungsmót shows | 19 |
| B-Class..... | 19 |
| A-Class..... | 19 |
| Children’s class | 19 |
| Youth class..... | 19 |
| Young Adults’ class | 19 |
| Running a final..... | 20 |

General rules for Gæðingakeppni competitions, Sport competitions and races ..22

| | |
|---|----|
| Guidelines for Gæðingakeppni judges | 26 |
| Gæðinga competition | 26 |
| Willingness/spirit..... | 26 |
| Beat and coordination..... | 26 |
| Drive and speed | 26 |
| Form under rider and movements | 26 |
| Point scale and concepts that judges should dedicate themselves during judging. | 27 |
| Willingness/Spirit..... | 28 |
| Form under Rider | 29 |
| Walk | 31 |
| Seat and aids..... | 31 |
| Walk | 33 |
| Trot..... | 35 |
| Seat and aids..... | 35 |
| Trot..... | 37 |
| Gallop..... | 39 |
| Seat and aids..... | 39 |
| Gallop..... | 41 |
| Tölt | 43 |
| Seat and aids..... | 43 |
| Tölt | 45 |
| Slow Tölt | 47 |
| Fast Tölt | 49 |
| Pace | 51 |

Regulations for the Gæðingakeppni judges association of LH53

Gæðingakeppni competition

Preface

Goal

The goal of a gæðinga competition is to find the best horse (what Icelanders call a “Gæðingur”) i.e. a quality horse that is a joy to ride and a pleasure to watch. The judges should keep the following in mind when looking for this kind of horse.

Willingness/spirit

The first and most important factor when judging a “Gæðingakeppni” is the willingness/spirit of the horse, together with its character. The willingness and character should enhance the horse’s other qualities, rather than spoil them. Most emphasis is placed on the spirit; it should not be too sensitive and should allow the horse to show everything freely and happily.

Beat and coordination

The beat of the gait is important when judging. One should bear in mind, however, that the beat alone does not create the ideal riding horse. Although the beat may be clear, the horse might be stiff and without a fluent rhythm instead of soft and supple. The judge should always take into account style, beat and harmony when deciding how well the horse shows all the gaits under saddle. Example: Lift (Leg action) and energy that increases suppleness, impulsion and flexibility gives higher marks. On the other hand if the judge thinks the horse carries itself too high, moves without harmony or suppleness, and is stiff and mechanical, lower marks will be given.

Impulsion and speed

Extravagant reach and energetic impulsion counts for a lot, especially if it is accompanied by high leg action. The movement of the front legs should be in harmony with the movement of the hind legs; the judges should look at this and deduct or raise their marks depending on what they see. Exaggerated leg action that lessens impulsion and speed should result in lower marks.

General impression and movements

An elegant and proud manner with suspension and flexible, proud movements is the trademark of a good horse and should increase the horse’s marks dramatically. An old riding manual says: “The movements of the riding horse should be light, supple, high, free, clear, regular and with good suspension.” This description still counts today, and anything that detracts from the horse’s suppleness and free movements, such as exaggerated leg action (lift) that is not in harmony with the rest of the way the horse moves, should be penalised. The Gæðinga judging system should be based on these basic points.

Elements judged in Gæðinga-competition

Walk

Walk should be shown for at least 20 horse lengths or half a long side of the track in order to get an average mark or more.

Trot

To get a minimum mark the horse should trot without losing the gait for at least 10 consecutive horse lengths. To get an average mark or higher the horse needs to trot at least one full long side of the track.

Slow Tölt

Slow tölt should be shown continuously for a full long side of the 300 m oval track or for a corresponding length on a straight track to get an average mark or higher.

Fast Tölt

Same as for slow tölt, except the speed needs to be quite a bit faster than medium tempo to get an average marks or higher.

Canter/Gallop

Gallop should be shown for at least one entire long side of a 300 m oval track to get an average mark or higher. The horse should be well balanced, energetic and supple, and the gallop should have a clear beat with good suspension. The transition into gallop should be smooth and the horse should slow down without stiffening up or resisting the rider.

Tölt A-Class (five-gait)

Any speed may be shown, though a higher mark is given if the horse can show tölt with speed changes.

Pace

To receive an average mark or higher, the horse should show clear beat pace for at least 100 m. To receive the highest marks the horse should go into pace from an energetic gallop and pace a full pace run with lots of energy and without mistakes. The downward transition should be smooth and without resistance, ending the sprint well, and slowing down without trouble.

Willingness/Spirit

The element “willingness” refers to the character and temperament of the horse i.e. spirit, bravery, energy, and obedience while ridden.

General impression

This refers first and foremost to how good the horse looks while ridden i.e. conformation, head carriage and form, movements and manners along with the response of the horse to the rider’s aids. The rider should also be taken into consideration here, his/her behaviour, equipment, seat, rein contact and all aids given to the horse.

Chapter 1: About competition horses, riders and equipment

Article 1

The right to compete and entries

All trained horses 5 years old and older owned by members of LH have the right to compete, if they fulfil the conditions that are set in these rules. A 5 year-old horse may not be entered in more than two classes or events at the same show. A horse can only compete for one club during the same calendar year. An exception is made for a fund raising competition or event.

A horse owned by a breeding farm and/or a breeding syndicate may be allowed to participate in a gæðinga competition of a member club of LH if the manager of the farm or one of its owners is a member of the club. Horses from each farm are only allowed to compete on behalf of one club, following the same rules as for individual members of the club. The competitors are responsible for their own entries and their participation is at their own risk. Competitors are responsible for following the rules concerning eligible horses. If it is apparent that a horse/rider can not take part in the show, before it starts, the executive committee should be notified; but. If the notification comes in later than one hour before the show starts a doctor's certificate is required.

Horses that are shown as breeding horses are not eligible to compete in gæðinga competition at Landsmót National Shows or Fjórðungsmót Shows, except for horses that participate in the breeding shows as offspring. They are allowed to compete in the gæðinga competition as well.

Article 2

The rider

When a horse performs in front of the judges it should be presented by its owner or a rider nominated by its owner. If the rider presents more than one horse in the same discipline a spare rider should also be put on the entry form, so he/she can be available if needed.

Whip, bit and nosebands

In gæðinga competitions the use of whips, spurs, draw reins, tongue straps or any other kind of training aids is not allowed. All FIPO accepted bits are allowed. Nosebands are allowed, but the drop noseband (often referred to as the German or Hanover noseband) may not be used in combination with an Icelandic curb bit. In the children's and youth classes the use of a whip is allowed, but the length of the whip should not exceed 120 cm.

Article 3

Instructions

The rider should follow the instructions of the judges and organising committee in all matters that concern the competition. If he/she refuses to follow current rules, the head judging committee must disqualify him/her from the competition without exception. The person responsible for the horse is allowed to find a new rider for the horse if the judges agree.

Article 4

Bad behaviour

Horses that behave badly, shy, are disobedient, or show other such vices, should be disqualified from the competition.

If a horse leaves the track or steps over the rope or fence that marks the track with one or more of its legs, it must be disqualified from the competition, unless it is obvious that this was caused by an external event that disturbed the horse.

If a rider falls off his horse during the competition he is automatically disqualified from the competition.

Chapter 2: Judges and their work

Article 5

Judges and judging committee

Judges for gæðinga competitions must have passed the official judges exam and have received authorization from the board of LH as a gæðinga judge.

Gæðinga judges and judges of young riders are divided into two different groups:

a) Regional judges. b) National judges. Regional judges have the right to judge regional competitions. National judges have the right to judge all competitions that are put on by LH or any member club of LH. National judges also have the right to run a gæðinga competition. There should never be more than 40 fully licensed active National judges at any one time and never fewer than 25.

Judges at Landsmót National Shows and Fjórðungsmót shows should be nominated by the judging committee of L.H and approved by the board of LH. Five judges are appointed, along with two spare judges that should be available.

At a regional competition or smaller competitions it is allowed to have only three judges judging the show. Speakers and organisers do not need to be judges, but are directed by a judge and under the responsibility of a judge. The club boards apply to LH to get judges for these competitions, no later than April 1st every year.

Article 6

Judges and their duties

At a Landsmót National Show or a Fjórðungsmót Show a judge cannot judge a class in which one of his own a horses is competing. If a judge is judging at a regional competition and owns a horse taking part in it, he/she should step aside while the horse in question is being judged.

The judges choose the chief judge of the judging committee amongst themselves. If a disagreement arises among the judges and/or if a judge refuses to give a mark, the chief judge must try to reach a decision with the majority of the judges.

Article 7

Duties of the judging committee

Before each class starts, all the horses competing in the class are allowed to be presented together on the track.

At regional competitions or smaller competitions the preliminaries start with the horses being ridden before the judges, one at a time, as they have been entered in the programme. However, the Organising Committee has the right to allow 3-5 horses to be judged at the same time on the track, according to LH's gæðinga competition special rules (See Article 8).

The rider starts the test at the middle of one of the short sides of the track and he/she must take the shortest route to the beginning of the short side he intends

to start at. Then he/she demonstrates clearly to the judges, by nodding his/her head, that he/she is starting the test.

The rider chooses which rein he/she wants to start the test on. He/she can change rein once during the performance. He/she also decides in which sequence he/she presents the required elements. On a 300 m oval track the rider has a total of three rounds.

If the rider uses the 175 m straight track before he/she has ridden three rounds, he/she must end his/her performance on a short side of the oval track.

The judges give the horses marks for each judged element. At the end of the test the judge holds up numbered cards showing only the overall mark he has given the horse. The speaker reads out this mark. However, a print out of the individual marks given for each element of the test for each horse, and the placings of the riders, must be available immediately after each class.

At Landsmót National Shows and Fjórðungsmót competitions, the marks and placings of the riders must be shown on a TV screen, after the performance of each horse.

Article 8

Special rules

At Landsmót National Shows, Fjórðungsmót Shows and other big competitions the preliminary rounds in all classes should be ridden with three to five horses on the track at a time, according to LH's special gæðinga competition rules. There are special rules for drawing the sequence of the riders.

Before the preliminary round starts, at least three to four test horses that are not competing must be judged to enable the judges to harmonise their marks.

After the preliminary round, at least twice the number of the horses that are allowed in the finals must compete in the semi finals, according to the aforementioned rules. The sequence of the riders is decided randomly by lot.

The finals should take place at least one day after the preliminary rounds and semi finals.

Article 9

The size of the track

It is recommended that a gæðinga competition takes place on a 300 m oval track, but a 250 m oval track that is at least 4 m wide can also be used. These tracks must have a straight track leading out of the oval track, so it is possible to show pace on a straight track of at least 175 m. An oval track must not be fenced more than necessary. The long side must not be used as a transfer route.

At Landsmót National Shows the competition should take place on a 300 m P-shape track, which is not fenced more than necessary.

Chapter 3: LH's calculation regulations for the marks in gæðinga competition.

Article 10 Program

A-Class (five-gait)

The rider is allowed three rounds on the track and needs to show walk, tölt, trot, gallop and pace in those three rounds. Pace may be shown once on the 175m straight track, according to Article 7.

B-Class (four-gait)

The rider is allowed three rounds on the track and needs to show walk, slow tölt, trot, gallop and fast tölt.

The marks must be given according to the rule that 5,0 is the basic mark, i.e. the lowest possible mark on the scale, equalling zero.

Points will be given according to the following table:

Five gaited horses (A-Class)

| | <u>Element</u> | <u>Mark</u> | <u>Multiplied by</u> | <u>Point</u> |
|----|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Walk | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 2. | Trot | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 3. | Tölt | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |
| 4. | Gallop | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 5. | Pace | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |
| 6. | Willingness | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |
| 7. | General impression | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |

Four gaited horses (B-Class)

| | <u>Element</u> | <u>Mark</u> | <u>Multiplied by</u> | <u>Point</u> |
|----|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Walk | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 2. | Trot | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 3. | Slow Tölt | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 4. | Fast Tölt | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 5. | Gallop | 5-10 | 1 | 5-10 |
| 6. | Willingness | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |
| 7. | General impression | 5-10 | 2 | 10-20 |

After adding up the marks for each horse, from all judges (5), the result must be divided by 55 for a five-gaited horse and by 45 for a four-gaited horse to determine the overall mark.

If two (or more) horses get equal marks for first place, two things can be done: a ride-off/duel or a coin toss if the riders in question prefer to do so.
If two (or more) riders get equal marks for other than first place a ride-off/duel is not allowed and a coin toss will determine the final placement.

Chapter 4: Regarding special finals for the gæðinga competition

Article 11

At regional competitions the horses that have received the highest marks in the preliminary rounds, should enter the track together to be judged again in a final round, in order to determine who the winner is.

In the final, the number of participating horses should be the same as the number of awards available per class. At Landsmót National Shows the competition organiser has a right to hold both A and B finals in all classes. The horses that are placed 1st -7th after the preliminary rounds go in the A finals, and the horses that are placed 8th – 15th go in the B-finals. The winner of the B-finals earns the right to compete in the A-finals. At Landsmót National Shows and other big competitions eight horses have the right to compete in the finals of each class. At other competitions five or three horses have the right to compete in the finals. If a horse drops out, the first reserve horse from the preliminary round gains the right to participate.

The organising committee makes sure all riders have clearly visible numbers on them e.g. on their boots, on both sides.

Before the finals start, all horses in the A- and B- Class, the Children's class, Youth class and Young Adults' class, can be presented with their overall marks to the spectators.

At competitions other than Landsmót National Shows, Fjórðungsmót Shows or other big competitions, the finals can be ridden as follows, if the relevant organising committee decides to do so.

Running a Final

In the finals the judge's job is to arrange the horses in their final positions, using the same marking system as for the preliminary round, apart from where finals rules dictate otherwise.

- 1. The horses are all ridden together, evenly spaced out on the oval track.**
- 2. The speaker gives instructions as to which element is ridden and when, according to the rules. He/she should also make sure that every element is ridden equally on both reins, except for the pace in the A-class.**
- 3. In A class, B class and the Young Adults class (18-21 yrs), the marks for each contestant are read out between each gait. At the end, marks are read out for both general impression and willingness/spirit.**
- 4. In the Children's and Youth classes the marks for each competitor are read out between each gait. The mark for seat/aids is read out at the end.**

5. The organising committee makes sure that all riders wear clearly visible numbers, on both sides, e.g. on their boots.

Five gaited Horses – A-Class

The following instructions should be read to the riders at the beginning of the A-Class finals:

The finals should be carried out as follows:

- The riders must show tölt at any speed for up to two rounds on each rein.
- The riders must show trot for up to two rounds on each rein. Trot must be shown for at least two whole long sides of the track.
- Two runs of pace must be shown, both in the same direction, after consulting the riders.
- Between elements and while changing rein, the riders must slow down to walk, space themselves out and wait for further instructions from the speaker.
- All finals start on the left rein.
- If two (or more) horses are tied for first place, a ride-off/duel will be ridden or a coin will be tossed, if the riders prefer. No ride-offs/duels are ridden for the other places.
- Ride-offs/duels are always ridden on the left rein, one round for each gait. This is applicable to both Gæðinga competitions and the competitions for the younger classes.

Four gaited horses – B-Class

The following instructions should be read to the riders at the beginning of the B-Class finals:

Finals should be carried out as follows:

- The riders must show slow tölt for up to two rounds on each rein.
- The riders must show trot with speed differences for up to two rounds on each rein.
- The riders must show fast tölt on the long sides for up to two rounds on each rein.
- Between elements and while changing rein, the riders must slow down to walk, space themselves out, and wait for further instructions from the speaker.
- All finals start on the left rein.
- If two (or more) horses are tied for first place, a ride-off/duel will be ridden or a coin will be tossed, if the riders prefer. No ride-offs/duels are ridden for the other places.
- Ride-offs are always ridden on the left rein, one round for each gait. This is applicable to both Gæðinga competitions and the competitions for the younger classes.

Article 12

Changes made to the competition rules of the Gæðinga competition at LH's annual meeting come into immediate effect.

Article 13

In Gæðinga competitions and in competitions for younger competitors at Landsmót National Shows and Fjórðungsmót Shows, lots are drawn to decide which order the riders compete in. This is done by the organising committee. The riders or their representatives have the right to be present at the draw.

Chapter 5: The LH regulations for Children's –, Youth – and Young Adults competition

Article 14

Riders

The competition is divided into three age groups: The Children's class, Youth class and the Young Adults' class. The age of the riders is decided by the calendar year. Children compete in the Children's class up to and including the competition year when they turn 13 years old, youth riders compete in the Youth class up to and including the competition year when they turn 16 years old, and young adults compete in the Young Adults class up to and including the competition year when they turn 21.

In these classes for younger riders, it is not the horse, but the rider who wins the prize. He/she must wear a riding helmet, securely fastened with a chin-strap. If the rider's helmet falls off during the competition, he/she neither receives a mark nor a place in the finals.

Article 15

The competition horse

A rider in the Children's class, Youth class or Young Adults' class can not ride a horse that participates in other disciplines of the competition, unless he/she rides the horse himself/herself in all disciplines.

Each rider can only participate on one horse.

The horses that participate in the Children's class, Youth class or Young Adults' class must be owned by a member of the same club as the rider.

If a horse that has been entered drops out, at a Landsmót National Show, Fjórðungsmót show or other big competitions, it can be replaced by a reserve rider and his/her horse.

Article 16

Marks

A mark will be given for each gait. These marks are added together and the total then divided by the number of marks, to determine the average mark. Also, a special mark for seat and aids will be given for each gait in the Children's class and the Youth class.

Article 17

Program

Children's Class

Two rounds must be ridden, showing walk, trot or tölt and gallop.

If the child rides both trot and tölt, the mark for the better gait counts.

Youth Class

Three rounds must be ridden, showing walk, slow tölt, trot, gallop and a fast gait, either tölt or trot, along the long sides.

Young Adults' Class

Three rounds must be ridden, showing walk, slow tölt, trot, gallop and fast tölt, along the long sides. Marks for General impression and willingness are added.

Finals

At regional competitions the horses that have received the highest marks in the preliminary rounds, should enter the track together to be judged again in a final, in order to determine who the winner is.

In a final competition the number of participating horses should be the same as the number of awards available per class.

The executive committee makes sure all riders have clearly visible numbers on them, on both sides, e.g. on their boots.

Before the finals start, all horses in the A- and B- Class, the Children's class, Youth class and Young Adults' class, can be presented with their overall marks to the spectators.

Running a final

In the finals the judge's job is to put the horses into their final positions using the same marking system as for the preliminary round, apart from where finals rules dictate otherwise.

- 1. The horses are all ridden together, evenly spaced out on the oval track.**
- 2. The speaker gives instructions, based on the rules for the class in question, on which element is presented and when. He/she should also make sure that the finals are ridden the same amount on both reins.**
- 3. At the end of the performance, each rider's placing, rather than mark, is shown.**
- 4. In the Children's and Youth classes the placings for each competitor are shown, taking into account gaits on the one hand, and seat and aids on the other.**

Finals – Children's class

Tölt and/or trot must be ridden for at least two rounds on each rein. If a child shows both trot and tölt, the mark for the better gait will be used.

Two runs of gallop should be shown, one at a time, with speed transitions and a smooth downward transition.

The riders gather at the short side and decide together, in consultation with the speaker, in which direction they will ride the gallop.

At the end of the final the riders are put into their final positions, taking into account gaits on the one hand, and seat and aids on the other.

Finals – Youth class

Tölt, trot and a fast gait, either tölt or trot, on the long sides. At least two rounds on each rein. In both classes, seat and aids must be given a separate mark in the finals.

At the end of the final the riders are put into their final positions, taking into account gaits on the one hand, and seat and aids on the other.

Finals competition – Young Adults' class

Slow tölt, trot, and fast tölt on the long sides. At least two rounds on each rein.

At the end of the final the marks for both general impression and willingness/spirit for each contestant are read out. Then the final positions of the riders are read out based on the calculation of all marks.

Chapter 6: Special LH rules for gæðinga competition at Landsmót National Shows and Fjórðungsmót shows

Article 18

(This Article has been moved)

Three to five horses are judged on the track together in the preliminary rounds. The programs are as follows:

B-Class

Three to five horses on the track together, ridden on the left rein.

- Two rounds slow tölt
- Two rounds trot, any speed
- Two rounds fast tölt on the long sides
- Willingness x 2, general impression x 2
- Judges divide their total marks by 7.

A-Class

Three to five horses on the track together, ridden on the left rein.

- Two rounds tölt x 2
- Two rounds trot, any speed
- One pace run, horses go one at a time x 2
- Willingness x 2, general impression x 2
- Judges divide their total marks by 9.

Children's class

Three to five horses on the track together, ridden on the left rein

- One round walk.
- Two rounds trot and/or tölt
- Seat and aids x 2
- Judges divide their total marks by 4.

Youth class

Three to five horses on the track together, ridden on the left rein.

- Two rounds slow tölt
- Two rounds trot, any speed
- Two rounds fast gait on the long sides, tölt or trot
- Seat and aids x 3
- Judges divide their total marks by 6.

Young Adults' class

Three to five horses on the track together, ridden on the left rein.

- Two rounds slow tölt

Two rounds trot any speed
Two rounds fast tölt on the long sides
General impression and willingness
Judges divide their total marks by 5.

Before the preliminary round starts, at least three to four test horses that are not competing must be judged to harmonise the judges' marks.

After the preliminary rounds, at least twice the number of the horses that are allowed in the finals must continue into the semi finals, according to the earlier mentioned rules. The sequence of the riders is decided by drawing lots.

The finals will take place at least one day after the preliminary rounds and semi finals.

To decide the starting order of the competition horses in gæðinga competition and children's class, Youth class and Young adults' class at Landsmót National Shows and Fjórðungsmót Shows, the organising committee will draw lots to draw up the starting list.

Running a final

In the finals the judge's job is to arrange the horses into their final positions, using the same marking system as for the preliminary round, apart from where finals rules dictate otherwise.

- 1. The horses are ridden at the same time, evenly spaced out on the oval track.**
- 2. The speaker tells the riders when to show which element, according to the rules. He/she should also make sure that the finals are ridden on both reins except for the pace in the A-class.**
- 3. At the end of each final the final position for each competitor is shown.**
- 4. In the Children's class and Youth class gaits, and seat and aids are taken into account when working out the final positions.**

The organising committee makes sure all riders have clearly visible numbers on them, on both sides, e.g. on their boots

General rules for Gæðingakeppni competitions, Sport competitions and races

Article 1

Sport competitions, Gæðinga competitions and races should be run by the rules and regulations of LH and ÍSí, as well as other regulations that LH has approved. The competition period is the calendar year. The competition period in these rules means each competition period that has started. Only members of a riding club are allowed to compete in open competitions held under ÍSí. The rights to compete are given to persons that have been registered members of a riding club for at least two months.

Article 2

A competitor should be well behaved and tactful, neatly dressed, perhaps in a club jacket or something similar. He/she must show consideration towards the horse and polite behaviour towards other competitors, employees and spectators. All competitors must use a safety helmet. If a helmet falls off the competitor while showing, his/her performance is invalid.

Article 3

When switching membership from one riding club to another one should:

1. Fill out a special form that LH hands out and is called club registration form. The form should be signed by the competitor himself/herself, the club he/she is leaving and the club he/she is joining. LH confirms the change and the competitor earns the right to compete for his/her new club when the right time has passed. LH is not allowed to confirm the change until signatures of the competitor and the clubs involved have been acquired.
2. The following people have the right to sign the club registration form:
 - a) Presidents of the riding clubs involved or his/her substitutes.
 - b) President of LH or his/her substitute.
 - c) The involved competitor or a person with a power of attorney.
3. The competitor can only compete in a Sport competition/Gæðinga competition on behalf of one club in the same competition period. See Article 4 and 5.
4. The time period for switching clubs is January 1st to the end of February each year. If the competitor has not competed for the last two competition periods this time limit is not necessary. Competitors that move their permanent residence to a different region within the competition period and decide to join the local club at their new residence, have the right to compete for the new club, even though he/she has competed for a

- different club in his/her old residence in the same competition period. Switching between riding clubs should go by the above rules.
5. The new club registration can be withdrawn if the competitor has not competed in a sport competition on behalf of the new club in the same competition period. Then he/she gets an automatic right to compete for the old club immediately when he/she has sent in a written proposal to LH concerning the matter.
 6. If a competitor wishes to switch clubs he/she should pay LH a fee of ISKR 2.500 to be paid when LH approves the club switch. LH is not allowed to confirm the switch unless the fee is paid.
 7. A club is not allowed to deny a competitor to change clubs if he/she has paid all their debts.
 8. LH should announce these club changes to all member associations no later than seven days after confirming the club switch.

Article 4

Foreign citizens are allowed to participate in open competitions within ÍSÍ and other competitions between countries if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- That competitor is legally a member of a riding club and fulfils the clause about right to compete in Article 1.

Rules about switching clubs for foreigners are in accordance with Article 3.

Foreign citizens can never become Icelandic Champions even though they win a discipline at an Icelandic Championship Show. When that happens, the highest placed Icelandic citizen in the same discipline will become the Icelandic Champion.

Article 5

If a competitor competes in a show where Article 3 and 4 are not followed it means losing the title and trophies. The competitor and the party responsible for the competition should be penalized.

Article 6

The following rules about shoeing and protective equipment (boots etc.) of the competition horse should be followed:

1. Hoof length should be normal. The length of the hooves should not exceed 100 mm.
2. Maximum shoe thickness is 10 mm with a maximum width of 20 mm. Only regular horseshoes are allowed, well shaped and even. A 10% variance is allowed. The shoe can be 23 mm wide where nail holes have been punched, without variance. The material of the shoe cannot be heavier than the regular weight of regular horseshoe material. The shoe must not extend past the lengthened natural slant of the toe wall and at the back past the perpendicular dropped from the bulbs of the heel. Two studs of 15x15x8 mm are allowed on each shoe and the tip of the stud cannot stick out farther than 3 mm. In competition on ice two extra studs in the toe of each shoe are allowed, maximum size 15x15x8 mm. Three clips are

- allowed on each shoe, made from the same material as the shoe. If the clips are welded on, then a maximum of three is allowed, width 25 mm, the height from the upper edge of the shoe being 12 mm and 3 mm thick. The maximum length, width and height of welding can be 70x10x2 mm on each shoe.
3. With shoes that are 8x20 mm **(10% variance is allowed, though the shoe can be 23 mm where nail holes have been punched)** it is allowed to use synthetic soles (pads) or soles made of plastic material or leather, maximum thickness of 7 mm. Also it is allowed to use soles or wedge pads, 11 mm thick in the heel thinning out towards the toe, with maximum thickness at the toe being 4 mm. Hemp packing and silicone is allowed between the hoof and the synthetic sole.
 4. During the preliminary rounds and finals of a competition it is forbidden to change the bridle or protective equipment under any circumstances. Hoof and tendon boots with a maximum weight of 250 grams on each leg are allowed. If the horse loses either a shoe or a boot while competing, no one is allowed to put the boot back on or re-shoe the horse. The competitor should finish his/her competition if he/she does not see reason to quit. Judges must permit assistance, if a boot is to be fixed in a final. This must be done between gaits and is only permitted if the boot has moved or slid up, but it is forbidden to change the boot.
 5. At a Landsmót National Show, Fjórðungsmót Show or Icelandic Championships, one horse is picked out from the finals and its horseshoes removed. When the finals are over a random draw decides which horse gets checked.
 6. Everything that is not allowed without a doubt according to these rules is prohibited!

Shoeing and riding equipment should be checked before the competition starts. It is also possible that shoeing and riding equipment will be checked at the end of the competition if the head judge sees reason to do so. If, for example, the shoeing turns out to be illegal the competitor should be suspended from the competition, either in one discipline or all, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

Article 7

Competitors are responsible themselves for signing up and their participation is at their own liability. The competitors are responsible for following all rules regarding competition horses. If a competitor is unable to attend, he/she should announce that to the executive committee before the competition starts, but to the head judging committee after the competition has started. If a competitor is unable to attend within 24 hours before the competition starts he/she should announce it to the executive committee and hand in a doctor's certificate. If the competition has already started this should be handed in to the head judging committee.

Article 8

Changes to laws and regulations that are approved at LH's annual meeting should arrive to member clubs and their presidents no later than in March each year. The board of LH should send along with the minutes from the meeting the proposals and regulations that have been approved between the annual meetings.

Article 9

ÍSí's court of law should penalize the involved individual if he/she is caught doing any of the following:

1. Accusing the board, individuals or clubs within LH wrongly or charging them without reason in public.
2. Deceiving or attempting to deceive the board of LH with wrong reports or wrongful information.
3. Behave inappropriately, challenge or threaten an authority within LH because of incidents related to confidential matters regarding the authorities work for LH.

The right to press charges, if one of the above rules is broken, is given to the board involved or individuals that have been mistreated and to LH.

Article 10

When competitors in horse sports form a team while travelling within Iceland or abroad they should follow LH rules about travelling.

Article 11

A horse participating in competition should look neat, be clean, well fed, sound and healthy when viewed by the supervisory personnel who are allowed to suspend horses from the competition if they think there is a reason to do so according to the above clauses.

Guidelines for Gæðingakeppni judges

Gæðinga competition

The goal of the Gæðinga competition is to find the best horse, the horse Icelanders call a “Gæðingur.” That is a quality horse that is a joy to ride and a pleasure to watch. The judges should keep the following in mind when searching for this horse.

Willingness/spirit

The most important factor when judging a “Gæðingakeppni” is the willingness/spirit of the horse, including its character. The willingness and character should bring out the best of the horse’s other qualities, but not interrupt them. Most emphasis is placed on the spirit; it should not be too sensitive and should allow the horse to show everything freely and with pleasure.

Beat and coordination

The beat of the gait is important when judging. Keep in mind however that the beat alone does not create the ideal riding horse. The beat, even though it is clear, may be stiff and not in a fluent rhythm, which means that, it does not give the rider the ultimate pleasure. The horse should also be soft and supple. The judge should always evaluate style, beat and coordination in the movement as to how well it shows in all the gaits during riding.

Example: Lift (Leg action) and energy that creates suppleness drive and flexibility gives higher marks. On the other hand if the judge thinks the horse carries itself too high, the movements are uncoordinated and the horse is stiff and mechanical, than means a lower mark.

Drive and speed

Big reach and energetic drive counts for a lot, especially if it is accompanied with high leg action. The movement of the front legs should be coordinated with the movement of the hind legs and the judges should watch that and deduct or raise their marks depending on what they see. Exaggerated leg action that lessens the drive and speed should lower the mark.

Form under rider and movements

An elegant and proud manner with suspension and flexible, proud, movements is the trademark of a good horse and those should increase the horse’s marks dramatically. In an old regulation on riding horses it says: “The movements of the riding horse should be light, flexible, high, suspended, clear, in good form and free.”

This description is still valid and everything that takes away from the horse’s flexibility and free flow, such as exaggerated leg action (lift) that is not in coordination with other movements of the horse, should be denounced. The Gæðinga judging should be based on these basic points.

Point scale and concepts that judges should dedicate themselves during judging.

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9,5-10,0 | Perfect performance | 7,0-7,5 | Adequate performance |
| 9,0-9,5 | Excellent performance | 6,5-7,0 | Poor performance |
| 8,5-9,0 | Very good performance | 6,0-6,5 | Bad performance |
| 8,0-8,5 | Good performance | 5,5-6,0 | Very bad performance |
| 7,5-8,0 | Satisfactory performance | 5,0-5,5 | Unsatisfactory performance |

Willingness/Spirit

The Judging element "Willingness" evaluates the aspects of the horse that have to do with its temperament and character, such as spirit, braveness, energy, obedience and harmony while ridden. The horse should be pleased with the rider, forward going and focused, happy to go wherever the rider asks it to. Judges should watch the performance of the horse and rider as a whole.

- 9,5-10. Perfect performance**
The horse's spirit is alert, light, happy and eager, without stiffness or tension. Temperament good, the horse wanting to please the rider. The horse is forward going, happy and supple. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4 Excellent performance**
The horse's spirit is alert, light, happy and eager, without stiffness or tension. Temperament good, the horse wanting to please the rider. The horse is forward going, but not quite as happy and supple as described in 9,5-10 above. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0 Very good performance.**
The horse's spirit is light and eager without any stiffness or tension. Good temperament, the horse wanting to please the rider. The horse is forward going, willing and happy. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5 Good performance.**
The horse's spirit is eager, accompanied with supple and forward going movements. Good temperament, some lack of harmony between the rider and the horse, the horse seems fairly satisfied. Good riding.
- 7,5-8,0 Satisfactory performance.**
The spirit is pushy and not supple, poor temperament, tail swishing on and off but the horse is forward going and/or the spirit is mechanical and un-yielding, the horse seems fairly satisfied. Quality of riding is lacking.
- 7,0-7,4 Adequate performance.**
The spirit is not eager, lacks interest and initiative, quality of riding is lacking in between. The horse seems fairly satisfied.
- 6,5-7,0 Poor performance.**
Not much willingness, lack of interest, poor manners, unhappy, stiff and powerless movements, and the horse is not content. Poor riding.
- 6,0-6,5 Bad performance.**
Little willingness, lack of interest, resistance, stiffness and/or tension.
- 5,5-6,0 Very bad performance.**
Lack of willingness, the horse's mind is outside the track, lazy, resistant, stiff and lacking all energy.
- 5,0-5,5 Unsatisfactory performance.**
Dull spirit, the horse is lazy and not supple. Resistance, the whole performance is chaotic.

Form under Rider

The judging element "Form under Rider" refers to the form of the horse while ridden, as the title indicates, meaning conformation, good head carriage and elegant movements that flow through the horse, the horse's charisma. Excellent riding and harmony between horse and rider. The judge should evaluate this element for all the gaits and take them all into consideration when deciding on the final mark.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse is elegant with a beautifully carried neck, clear beat, harmonious, with high, elegant movements. Elegant head carriage, carrying its tail beautifully with flowing movement in the tail, no tail swishing, and the horse is supple and satisfied. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,5** **Excellent performance.**
The horse is elegant with a beautifully carried neck, clear beat, harmonious, with high elegant movements. Elegant head carriage, carrying its tail beautifully with flowing movement in the tail, no tail swishing, and the horse is supple and satisfied. The movements are of a little lesser quality than in 9,5-10 above. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The horse's beat is clear and coordinated, with high beautiful movements. Good head carriage, flowing movement in the tail, no tail swishing, a satisfied horse. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The horse looks good. Nice head carriage and good harmony (lag action may be lacking in some gait), clear beat and good movements. The overall performance lacks elegance, there is a little tail swishing, but otherwise the horse is satisfied. Good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse looks pretty good, but lacks beauty, perhaps the neck is short or other parts of its conformation are not in harmony. The horse is content, but may swish its tail every now and then. Good riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The horse does not look convincing, its conformation is not well proportioned. Some of the gaits are below average in movements and quality, lack of charisma and/or obvious tail swishing, the horse fairly content. Adequate riding.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The horse is not in good balance. Bad head carriage and poor movements, incorrect beat, the horse is stiff and there is a lack of interplay between horse and rider. Not much charisma and beauty, the horse is not content. Poor riding.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**

The horse has little balance. Very bad head carriage, lack of gaits and/or seriously flawed gaits, tail swishing. No charisma or beauty. The horse is unhappy. Poor riding.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The horse is constantly resisting. Very bad gaits, very bad performance, tail swishing. No charisma or beauty. The horse is unhappy. Seriously flawed riding.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse does not show what it is supposed to, resistant, unhappy horse, and little or no riding skills shown.

Walk

Seat and aids

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse and rider become one, where the interplay of horse and rider in a correct seat follows the soft rhythm of the horse. The rider is in control and looks straightforward.
- 9,0-9,5** **Excellent performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the rhythm of the horse in good balance. The horse could be more concentrated. Refined performance with the rider in control, looking straightforward.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the rhythm of the horse. The horse may lose its concentration and willingness for one or two horse lengths. Small flaws in the harmony of horse and rider. The rider is demanding and focused.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the horse well, is active but lacks determination. Not elegant enough. Smooth performance, but lacking refinement.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
A pretty good seat, but at times incorrect. The rider's cues and aids are not precise all the time and the overall performance lacks focus and determination.
- 7,0-7,5** **Adequate performance.**
The seat is obviously defective and the rein contact loose. The encouragement from the rider is inconsistent, the rider lacking initiative. Lack of coordination between the horse and the rider, not a convincing performance.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
Seat and aids are defective, rough cues. No noticeable initiative on the rider's part. Flawed performance.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The rider does not manage to show some of the elements during the performance or performs them poorly, the seat is out of order, the

horse is out of control, cues are rough, a bad performance in where the riders seat actually interrupts the horse.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The rider does not follow the horse's rhythm and is not in control of the horse, the whole performance is out of order, rough cues or cues without a purpose.

5,0

Element not performed.

Walk

The walk is the slow gait of the horse, the horse should perform a medium tempo walk with rein contact. It is a four beat gait, without suspension. The walk is judged clear if there are four beats per stride and there is even length between each step. The beat should be constant and even, the horse walking with average head carriage, not too high and not too low. The hind step should reach into, or over the front step. The walk should be performed for about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the long side of the track. If the walk is only performed for half of the required length the highest mark possible is 7,5.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse walks in a clear beat, with determined and extended movements, average head carriage with rein contact. Clearly determined and charismatic. The horse and rider become one. A content horse. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The horse walks in a clear beat, with determined and extended movements, average head carriage with rein contact. The harmony and charisma lacking a little in comparison with the 9,5-10 above. The horse and rider become one. A content horse. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The horse walks in a clear beat, average head carriage with rein contact, extended movements, but lacking elegance. The horse's hind legs reach over the front hoof print. A content horse. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The horse walks in a clear beat, average head carriage with rein contact. The movements could be more extended and more elegant. The horse's hind legs reach the front hoof print. A fairly satisfied horse. Fairly good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse walks in a clear beat, average head carriage, not constant rein contact or no rein contact at all. The walk could be more extended and more elegant. The horse is hesitant, but the horse's hind feet reach the front hoof print. A fairly content horse. Satisfactory riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The beat is not clear or constant. Bad head carriage, the horse's hind hooves do not reach the front hoof print, the horse is hesitant or walks on a loose rein or without any rein contact. A fairly content horse. Adequate riding.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**

Beat and head carriage very defective, the beat pacy, short stepping. The horse is hesitant and not forward going, stiff and/or tense. The rein contact is not good. The horse is not content. Poor riding.

6,0-6,5

Bad performance.

A short tiptoeing walk, or a very pacy beat. The horse is tense, the beat is not clear; it is not clear which gait the horse is showing. Rein contact hardly noticeable or the horse is pulling on the bit. Bad riding.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The horse has no clear beat, tense, resistant, lack of communication between the horse and rider. The whole performance is out of control. Very bad riding.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse doesn't show the required element or only very few steps of it.

Trot

Seat and aids

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The movements of the horse and rider merge into one with perfect harmony between the horse and the rider. The rider sits correctly, sitting the trot and following the soft and powerful rhythm of the horse. The rider is in control, looking straightforward.
- 9,0-9,5** **Excellent performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat, sitting the trot in clear rhythm and good balance. The horse's concentration might be lacking a little. A powerful and refined performance where the rider is in control, looking straightforward.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the rhythm of the horse or posts the trot. The horse may lose its concentration and willingness for one or two horse lengths, small flaws in the harmony of horse and rider. The rider is demanding and focused.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat or posts the trot, follows the horse well, and is active but lacks initiative and style in his/her riding. Smooth performance, lacking refinement.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
A fairly good seat, but at times incorrect, either when sitting or posting the trot, the rider may even switch from sitting to posting every now and then. Rein contact loose from time to time. The connection between horse and rider is not good, the performance lacks determination.
- 7,0-7,5** **Adequate performance.**
The seat is clearly not good. The encouragement from the rider is inconsistent; the rider lacks initiative and self-assurance. The rider is like a "passenger" on the horse. The rein contact is inconsistent and the overall performance lacks stability.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The seat and rein contact are clearly not good, or the cues and aids are rough or crude. No noticeable initiative on the rider's part. A flawed performance.

- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The rider has trouble performing the task at hand or is not able to do so. The seat is bad, the horse is out of control, the cues are rough and the rider's seat interrupts the horse.
- 5,5-6,0** **Very bad performance.**
The rider is not in rhythm with the horse, does not control the horse and the whole performance is out of order. Rough cues or cues without a purpose.
- 5,0** **Element not performed.**

Trot

Trot is a two beat medium tempo gait, with diagonal movements and suspension. The trot is judged as clear if there is a consistent two beat to it. To reach an average mark or more the horse should trot for at least one long side of the oval track. Trot can be performed with varying speeds, from slow trot to fast trot, the horse's head carriage should be average with good rein contact.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse trots in a clear beat, is energetic, movements extended, lots of suspension and flexibility, contact on the reins. Good balance, coordination in movements, charisma, head carriage and an elegant overall look. A charming horse that is content. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The horse trots in a clear beat, is energetic, movements extended, lots of suspension and flexibility, contact on the reins. Good balance, coordination in movements, charisma, head carriage and an elegant overall look. A charming horse that is content, but not quite as elegant in comparison with 9,5-10 above. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The horse trots in a clear beat, energetic, big strides. Good suspension and flexibility with contact on the reins. Good balance and coordination in movements, but some lack of elegance and/or energy (drive) in the performance. A content horse. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The horse trots in a clear beat with brisk steps, in balance and with rein contact. Lacking in elegance, suspension and overall look. The horse is content. Pretty good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse trots in a clear beat. Lack of energy, movements, stride and charisma, not constant rein contact. Hesitant and powerless performance. A fairly content horse. Flaws in the riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The beat is not clear all the time or there is an obvious four-beat to its trot. Inconsistent rein contact. Not enough determination, an unbalanced performance. A fairly content horse. Flawed riding.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The horse has beat problems in trot. Does not stay in trot or breaks gait in between, the head carriage and the overall performance is poor. Unstable. Inconsistent rein contact. The horse is not content. Poor riding.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The horse has a lot of beat problems, does not stay in trot, the steps are short, the performance is flawed. Hardly any rein contact.
- 5,5-6,0** **Very bad performance.**

The horse shuffles between gaits, the steps are short, the horse breaks the gait many times, is resistant, inconsistent and in no touch with the rider. Element hardly shown.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse doesn't show the required element or shows few steps.

Gallop

Seat and aids

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The movements of the horse and rider merge into one, where the interplay of the rider, sitting in a half seat, follows the soft and powerful rhythm of the horse. The rider is in control and looks straightforward.
- 9,0-9,5** **Excellent performance.**
The rider is in a half seat, following the rhythm of the horse in good balance. The horse could be a bit more concentrated. A powerful and refined performance, where the rider is in control and looks straightforward.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The rider is in a half seat or sits the gallop, following the rhythm of the horse. The horse may lose its concentration and drive for one or two horse lengths. Small flaws in the harmony of horse and rider. The rider is demanding and focused.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The rider is in a half seat or sits the gallop, follows the horse well and is active, but lacks initiative and elegance to his/her riding. Smooth performance, but lacking refinement.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
Seat pretty good, but incorrect at times, either in a half seat or sitting the gallop. Rein contact inconsistent. The contact between horse and rider is not good at times, the performance is unstable.
- 7,0-7,5** **Adequate performance.**
The seat is clearly not good; the rider lacks initiative and is more like a “passenger” on the horse, not very self-assured. The rein contact is inconsistent and the performance is unstable.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The seat and rein contact are clearly not good, the cues are rough and crude. Little initiative on the rider’s part. A flawed performance.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**

The rider has trouble performing the task at hand or is not able to do so. The seat is bad, the horse is out of control, the cues are rough and the rider's seat interrupts the horse.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The rider is unbalanced, does not control the horse and the whole performance is out of order. Rough cues or cues without a purpose.

5,0

Element not performed.

Gallop

A powerful fast gait with obvious suspension. Comes in many varieties, from supple, slow, three-beat canter, to a powerful fast gait. The canter/gallop is judged clear if the leading foreleg and the leading hind leg appear to be on the same side and the gait is three-beat, followed by a moment of suspension. When riding very fast gallop there may be four beats to the stride. It does not matter which lead the horse takes.

The opposite is the cross canter/gallop, when the leading hind leg appears to be on the opposite side to the leading foreleg. If a horse shows cross canter/gallop it should not get a mark for the gait. The gallop should be shown for at least one long side on a 300 meter oval track to reach an average score or higher.

9,5-10

Perfect performance.

The horse performs clear beat gallop with fully coordinated movements, good balance, suppleness and energy. Goes into canter smoothly on a short side, canters slowly with good suspension, high movements. The horse should speed up on the long side and slow down again without stiffness or struggle. The horse canters with high movements and good charisma, with rein contact. A content horse. Excellent riding.

9,0-9,4

Excellent performance.

The horse performs clear beat gallop with fully coordinated movements, good balance, suppleness and energy. Goes into canter smoothly on a short side, canters slowly with good suspension, high movements. The horse should speed up on the long side and slow down again without stiffness or struggle. The horse canters with high movements and good charisma, with rein contact. A content horse but lacks more elegance compared with 9,5-10 above. Excellent riding.

8,5-9,0

Very good performance.

The horse performs clear beat gallop with fully coordinated movements. Supple and energetic, showing slow canter and speeding up on the long side. Slows down without stiffness or struggle. The horse canters with high movements and good charisma, with rein contact, a content horse. Lacks elegance. Good riding.

8,0-8,5

Good performance.

The horse performs clear beat gallop with coordinated movements, shows slow canter, gallops with energy, but lacks suppleness and suspension and/or drive. Good charisma, with rein contact. The horse is content, but lacks elegance. Pretty good riding.

7,5-8,0

Satisfactory performance.

The horse performs clear beat gallop, but lacks power and suspension. Flat, not charismatic. With rein contact, the horse is fairly content, but the riding is unsteady. Satisfactory riding.

7,0-7,4

Adequate performance.

The beat is not clear. Four-beat, no suspension of the hind part, and/or long outline. Not enough suspension, “heavy” gallop, front movements too high without speed following through. Bad riding. Switches lead on the long side. The horse is fairly content. Adequate overall riding.

6,5-7,0

Poor performance.

The beat is not clear, “heavy” gallop, little energy, cross canter for a part of the long side. Poor riding. The horse is not content.

6,0-6,5

Bad performance.

The beat is not clear, cross canter mixes in on the long side, heavy on the bit, fights with the rider. The performance is flawed with struggle and inflexibility. Bad riding.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

Unclear beat, not enough of the gait is shown to receive a mark, breaks gait, resistant etc.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse does not perform the required element. Shows a few steps. **CROSS CANTER**

Tölt

Seat and aids

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse and rider become one, where the interplay of horse and the rider, in a correct seat, follows the soft rhythm of the horse. The rider is in control and looks straightforward.
- 9,0-9,5** **Excellent performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the rhythm of the horse in good balance. The horse could be more concentrated. Refined performance, the rider is in control and looks straightforward.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the rhythm of the horse; the horse loses its concentration and willingness for one or two horse lengths. Small flaws in the interplay of horse and rider. The rider is demanding and focused.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The rider is in a correct seat and follows the horse well, is active but lacks initiative and elegance in his/her riding. Smooth performance, but lacking nobleness.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
Seat pretty good but at times not correct. Rein contact on and off and the connection between horse and rider is not good all the time. The performance is occasionally unstable.
- 7,0-7,5** **Adequate performance.**
The seat is clearly not good and the contact on the reins loose. The encouragement from the rider is inconsistent, the rider lacks initiative. Lack of coordination between the horse and the rider, conviction missing in the performance.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
Seat and rein contact not good and rough cues. Little initiative noticeable on the part of the rider. A flawed performance.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The rider has trouble performing the task at hand or is not able to do so. The seat is bad, the horse is out of control, the cues are rough and the rider's seat interrupts the horse.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The rider is not in rhythm with the horse, does not control the horse and the whole performance is out of order. Rough cues or cues without a purpose.

5,0

Element not performed.

Tölt

Tölt is a supple and elastic gait with four beats to it. The horse is coordinated in movements. The gait is judged clear if there are four hoof beats to a stride, with equal interval between them. The beat is constant and even. The movements are supple and flexible and move through the body of the horse creating flowing tail movement. The quality of the tölt is the most important factor, not the speed. To get an average score or higher the horse needs to show tölt for at least one long side of the track.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear; the gait is flexible with high, elegant movements and action, with good coordination between the front and the hind part of the horse. Good rein contact, excellent flexibility and suppleness, a steady flowing tail movement, overall elegance. The horse is content. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear, the gait is flexible with high, elegant movements and action, with good coordination between the front and the hind part of the horse. Good rein contact, excellent flexibility and suppleness, a steady flowing tail movement, overall elegance. Lacks a little more excellence compared to 9,5-10 above. The horse is content. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear and the horse is flexible with high beautiful movements. Good rein contact and excellent coordination between front and back, steady flowing tail movement. The horse is content. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear, with supple beautiful movements, good rein contact. A steady performance, supple and flowing tail movement, but lacks more elegance. The horse is content. Good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse is showing clear beat tölt, lacks elasticity, lift and suppleness. The performance is powerless and lacks beauty. Suppleness and flowing movement in tail not good. Rein contact not constant. The horse is fairly content. Satisfactory riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The horse's tölt beat is not clear, the movements are big and high stepping but pacy in between, the beat is unclear on and off, or lacks leg action (lift). The quality of the gait is not good and the performance is hesitant. The movements do not flow through the horse, the rhythm and the tail carriage is not good. The horse is fairly content. Flawed riding.

- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The horse's tölt beat is not clear, the horse breaks gait and goes into other gaits, and there is not much charisma or coordination. Poor rein contact. The horse is not content. Poor riding.
- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The horse's tölt beat and initiative are lacking. Rolls, breaks gait or is close to trot or pace. Not enthusiastic. Lack of communication between the horse and the rider. The horse is not content. Bad riding.
- 5,5-6,0** **Very bad performance.**
The horse has no beat and the gait is hardly noticeable, mixes gaits. Hesitates, resists etc.
- 5,0-5,5** **Element not performed.**
The horse does not perform the required element or shows only a few steps of it.

Slow Tölt

Slow tölt is a supple and elastic four beat gait. The horse is collected and coordinated in its movements. The gait is judged clear if there are four hoof beats to a stride, with equal interval between them. The beat is constant and even. The movements are supple and flexible and move through the body of the horse creating flowing tail movement. To get an average score or higher the horse needs to show slow tölt clearly for at least one long side. Reference to speed: The horse is supposed to be able to tölt slow in good balance on an 8 meter circle at even speed.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear; the gait is flexible with high, elegant movements and action, good coordination between the front and the hind part of the horse. The horse is content and accepts rein contact, is flexible and supple creating a flowing tail movement at a slow tölt. The movements are “dancing” and the overall look is elegant. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear; the gait is flexible with high, elegant movements and action, good coordination between the front and the hind part of the horse. The horse is content and accepts rein contact, is flexible and supple creating a flowing tail movement at a slow tölt. The movements are “dancing” and the overall look is elegant, but a little less impressive than 9,5-10 above. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear; the horse is flexible with high beautiful movements. The horse accepts the rein contact in slow tölt, collected with excellent coordination between front and back, flowing tail movement. The horse is content. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The beat of the horse’s tölt is clear, with supple, beautiful movements. The horse accepts the rein contact in slow tölt. Steady performance, supple with flowing tail movement, but lacks more elegance. The horse is content. Pretty good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse’s beat in tölt is clear, but leg action (lift), suppleness and collection is lacking. On the verge of being too fast. The performance is powerless and/or lacks refinement. Not very supple, lack of a flowing tail movement. Rein contact not constant. The horse is fairly content. Satisfactory riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The horse’s tölt beat is not clear, pacy in between, big strides, high stepping, beat problems in between or lack of leg action. The tempo of the gait is too fast, the horse is not content. The quality of the gait

is poor and the performance is hesitant. The movements do not flow through the horse; the rhythm and the tail carriage are not good. Poor riding.

6,5-7,0

Poor performance.

The tölt beat is not clear, the horse breaks gait and mixes the gait with other gaits, lacks charisma and coordination. Poor rein contact. Too fast, almost medium tempo, the horse is not content. Poor riding.

6,0-6,5

Bad performance.

The horse's tölt beat and initiative are lacking. Rolls, breaks gait or is close to trot or pace. Not enthusiastic, the tempo of the gait is much too fast. Lack of communication between the horse and the rider. The horse is not content.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The horse has no beat and the gait is hardly noticeable, mixes gaits. Goes too fast (medium tempo or faster), hesitates, resists etc.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse does not perform the required element or shows only a few steps of it.

Fast Tölt

This element, fast tölt, has the same definition as the slow tölt, except it should be ridden faster. The fast tölt has to be ridden at more than medium tempo to get an average score or higher, the quality of the gait is very important. The horse is energetic, forward going and content. To get an average score or higher the horse should show fast tölt for at least one long side of the track.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear, the movements fully coordinated, flexible and supple with high, energetic movements, beautiful head carriage in fast tölt. Flowing movements create good tail carriage. The horse is content on the bit, good rein contact. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear, the movements fully coordinated, flexible and supple with high, energetic steps, beautiful head carriage in fast tölt. Flowing movements create good tail carriage. The horse is content on the bit, good rein contact. A little less impressive than 9,5-10 above as far as charisma and power are concerned. Excellent riding.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The beat of the tölt is clear, the movements fully coordinated, flexible and supple with high, energetic steps, charismatic in fast tölt. Good head carriage. Flowing movements create good tail carriage. The horse is content on the bit, good rein contact. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The beat of the horse's tölt is clear, with supple, coordinated movements, charisma and nice leg action in fast tölt. Flowing movements create good tail carriage. Charisma and head carriage are not good enough, the horse's neck stretches out. The horse is content on the bit. Good riding.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse's tölt beat is clear and the movements are supple, but lack flexibility and leg action. Stiff, pushy, disinterested, hesitant during the performance, just over medium tempo speed. Poor riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The horse's tölt beat is not clear, pacy, big strides, high stepping, gets trotty or lacks leg action. A hesitant performance, the quality of the gait is poor. Barely makes medium tempo speed, the horse fairly content. Poor riding.
- 6,5-7,0** **Poor performance.**
The tölt beat is not clear, the horse breaks gait and mixes the gait with other gaits. Lacks charisma, power and coordination, does not respond well to the riders wishes. The horse is not content. Does not make medium tempo speed. Poor riding.

- 6,0-6,5** **Bad performance.**
The horse's tölt beat and initiative are lacking. Rolls, breaks gait or is close to trot or pace, disinterested. Too little speed or too much speed, resistant.
- 5,5-6,0** **Very bad performance.**
The horse has no beat and the gait is hardly noticeable. Mixes gaits, hesitates, resists etc.
- 5,0-5,5** **Element not performed.**
The horse does not perform the required element or shows only a few steps of it.

Pace

Pace is a powerful two beat fast gait, with energetic strides and suspension. The gait is judged clear if there is obvious suspension, the horse stretches out, lowers its head carriage, pushes powerfully and stretches its legs out. Exception when the lateral legs reach the ground on the same time is not noticeable. To reach an average score of 7,5 or higher the horse needs to show clear pace for at least 100 meters.

- 9,5-10** **Perfect performance.**
The horse is put in clear pace from a brisk gallop. The horse lowers its head and paces a full sprint without mistakes, fast pace, extended strides, clear beat and high speed. Perfect rein contact, transition to pace effortless and smooth. Powerful and elegant performance, ends the pace sprint well, slowing the horse down smoothly. The horse is content. Excellent riding.
- 9,0-9,4** **Excellent performance.**
The horse is put in pace from a brisk gallop. The horse lowers its head and paces a full sprint without mistakes, fast pace, extended strides, clear beat and high speed. Perfect rein contact, transition to pace effortless and smooth. Powerful and elegant performance, ends the pace sprint well, slowing the horse down smoothly. The horse is content. Excellent riding. The horse lacks a little elegance in comparison with 9,5-10 above.
- 8,5-9,0** **Very good performance.**
The horse is put in clear pace from a good gallop speed, the horse lowers its head carriage, paces the whole run energetically and without mistakes, good rein contact. Extended, fast pace, powerful, the horse is content. Good riding.
- 8,0-8,5** **Good performance.**
The horse is put in clear pace from a good gallop speed but lacks power and extension/speed. Put in pace from tölt or trot and paces well, powerful. Lowers the head carriage, paces the whole sprint energetically and without mistakes. Does not end the sprint well, does not slow down. Pretty good riding. The horse is fairly content.
- 7,5-8,0** **Satisfactory performance.**
The horse is put in clear pace from any gait. Overall look is good, but lacks energy and elegance, paces the whole sprint, does not end the sprint well, or the rider needs to correct the horse a few times during the sprint. The horse is fairly content. Satisfactory riding.
- 7,0-7,4** **Adequate performance.**
The horse is put in pace from any gait. Beat failures in the pace, obvious four beat, the rider needs to correct the horse often during the sprint, lack of speed, or powerful strides in parts of the sprint, and

rein contact not good. Does not end the sprint well. The horse is fairly content. Adequate riding.

6,5-7,0

Poor performance.

The horse is put in pace from any gait, beat failures, instability, paces for 50-60 meters, uncooperative or breaks gait. A seriously flawed performance, a discontent horse. Bad riding.

6,0-6,5

Bad performance.

The horse is put in pace from any gait, beat failures or little speed, uninterested or uncooperative, short spells of pace in between. Poor riding.

5,5-6,0

Very bad performance.

The horse shuffles, piggy paces, is uncooperative, uninterested, resistant, lacks communication with the rider. Element hardly performed.

5,0-5,5

Element not performed.

The horse does not perform the required element or few steps of it.

Regulations for the Gæðingakeppni judges association of LH

Article 1

The name of the association is Gæðingadómarafélag LH (Gæðinga judges association of LH.), abbreviation G.D.L.H.

Article 2

The association's goal is:

- a. To be an advocate for its members, look after their common interests and speak on their member's behalf during the contracting process.
- b. Work towards proper education and training for judges.
- c. To make sure the judge's work environment is always the best possible.

Article 3

The Gæðinga judges are divided into two groups:

- a. Regional judges.
- b. National judges.

Article 4

The minimum age for a regional judge is 20 years old.

Regional judges have the right to judge all regular shows, but not Landsmót National Shows.

National judges alone have the right to judge Landsmót and to instruct at any judging seminars the association may hold.

To become a national judge, a regional judge has to have been active as a judge for at least two years and pass a test given by the educational committee of G.D.L.H..

Article 5

All members are licensed judges that have received the approval of the board of LH. Members who do not attend review seminars for two years in a row lose their gæðinga judges license automatically. Members should follow the rules and regulations that are valid at each time.

Article 6

Following protocols are valid for gæðinga judges:

- a. Gæðinga judges should arrive early to work, so that they can get acquainted with the condition of the track as well as other show preparations.
- b. Gæðinga judges should be conscientious while judging and set out to be fair and unbiased while judging. They should judge by their own conviction and follow the rules and regulations of LH.

- c. Gæðinga judges should always watch what they say regarding horses and riders that are participating at the show, while the show is in progress.
- d. Gæðinga judges should be very polite. If a judge shows reprehensible behaviour toward riders or spectators, the head of the show committee has the right to suspend him/her from their job and call on a reserve judge as a replacement.
- e. Gæðinga judges should show each other appropriate respect and consideration.
- f. Gæðinga judges should not be under the influence of alcohol or consume it while they are judging a show.
- g. Gæðinga judges should always have their cell phones turned off while judging.
- h. Gæðinga judges that do not show up without a valid excuse or do not announce their inability to attend risk losing their license for up to six months. The same applies if judges show reprehensible or inappropriate behaviour toward riders or spectators.

Article 7

The association works under L.H. and has a representative at their annual meeting. That representative has freedom of speech and the right to make proposals. The president should represent the association at the L.H. annual meeting or arrange for someone as his/her replacement.

Article 8

The association is divided into six divisions, each representing a different part of Iceland:

- Southern division.
- South Western division.
- Western division.
- North Western division.
- North Eastern division.
- Eastern division.

The divisions work as independent parts of the association according to the rules and regulations of L.H. and G.D.L.H. The board of each division reports on their activities during the year at an annual meeting. Divisions may merge.

Article 9

The annual meeting should be held yearly in October. The board of G.D.L.H. sends a written annual meeting notice to the presidents of the divisions with at least a months notice. The annual meeting should be advertised in a wide spread newspaper at least fourteen days prior to the meeting date. The annual meeting is legal if it has been legally announced. All proposals concerning regulation changes should be introduced in the annual meeting notice. All valid and debt free members have the right to vote. The board of the association has the right to invite other persons to sit in on the annual meeting of G.D.L.H. with freedom of

speech and the right to make proposals. The accounting period is between annual meetings.

The annual meeting agenda should include:

- Meeting set.
- Election of meeting chairperson and secretary.
- Last annual meeting minutes.
- Board report and accounts.
- Division reports.
- Committee reports.
- Regulation changes.
- Decision of annual fee.
- Board and committee election.
- Other matters.
- Meeting closed.

Article 10

The association board is elected at the annual meeting; the president is especially elected every year and four members of the board are elected for two years, two at a time. The board divides work amongst themselves. Two substitutes are elected every year. Two surveyors of accounts should be elected at the annual meeting and two substitutes. The board runs the association between annual meetings and controls valid regulations at each time. The board carries out any tasks that may have been approved at the annual meeting. The board should host a judging conference every fall. The board is allowed to summon a meeting between annual meetings if they think it is necessary. The board is required to call a meeting if two or more divisions request so in writing. The board should send a valid list of gæðinga judges to the board of L.H. before May 1st each year.

Article 11

Gæðinga judges should get paid by the hour for their work. Show organizers should have food or money for food available for the judges and a place to stay if needed. The judge should get paid per kilometre for the use of his/her vehicle. A rate list should be decided at the annual meeting. Gæðinga judges should not travel in more vehicles than necessary, but rather try to travel together if possible.

Article 12

The associations' income is:

- Yearly membership fees.
- Other income that may become available.

Article 13

Expenses of the association are:

Expenses due to the board's travel costs, phone costs and mail costs.
Expenses due to regular meetings and annual meetings.
Expenses due to seminars and educational material.
Other expenses that were approved and are association related.

Article 14

The board organizes a five-person educational committee. The educational committee consists of national judges and has supervision over the education and training for gæðinga judges. This committee makes sure that review seminars and educational seminars are held in different locations nationwide, in cooperation with the board of the divisions before April 25th each year. The committee evaluates the results of the gæðinga judges. It provides the seminars with educational material and instructors to make sure there is harmony in the judging work nationwide. The same goes for seminars for new judges and national judge seminars. The educational committee works closely with L.H.'s judging committee that supervises and inspects education of judges and the judging work of the members.

Article 15

The association can cooperate with similar associations. If G.D.L.H. has a representative at meetings or on the board of any such associations then that person should be elected at the annual meeting like any other employee.

Article 16

The regulations of the association will only be changed at an annual meeting and only if 2/3 of the votes are in favour of the change. Proposals on regulation changes have to reach the board before September 1st.

Article 17

If the association is dissolved its projects and belongings will belong to L.H.

Approved at a continued annual meeting March 26th, 2002.