



ARABIAN PATTERN RACE & HANDICAPPER COMMITTEE

A - AIMS

1. The Arabian Pattern Race & Handicapper Committee (the Committee) aims to co-ordinate a programme of quality races within the member countries and to achieve a classification of the best races within the Arabian Pattern under three higher levels, called “Group PA”, so that the level of any race of Group 1 PA level in any member country will be higher than a race of Group 2 PA level in these countries and also between Group 2 PA and Group 3 PA level.
2. The Committee aims to achieve a balance of Group PA races within the Arabian Pattern, so that there are more Group 3 PA races than Group 2 PA and more Group 2 PA races than Group 1 PA, and the total number of Group 3 PA races exceeds the total combined number of Group 1 PA and Group 2 PA races.
3. The level of a race will be determined by the quality of horses participating in the race.
4. The quality of the horses will be based on the ratings approved by the Supervisory Committee
5. A country should not have more than 25% of its total number of races per year run as Group PA races.

B - MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

1. The Committee includes nine member founder countries represented by their respective racing authorities: FRANCE GALOP, ARO, Emirates Equestrian Federation, QREC, DARC, Turkish Jockey Club, SARA, DRAV and AHRCB.
2. Any other country which stages a race which has been granted Pattern Race PA status by the Committee will become a member country of the Committee. All other IFAHR member countries may be represented at the Annual meeting, but with observer status only.
3. The Chairman of the Committee is elected by the Supervisory Committee and approved by the Executive Committee of IFAHR for a period of four years.
4. The Supervisory Committee, under the presidency of the chairman of the Committee (Graham Walcroft), includes five other members: Benoit Legault, Neil Abrahams, Pamela Cordrey, Harald Siemen and Ryan Skelton. Together with the Chairman they will be in charge of the coordination of the international handicapping system and the application of these Rules.
5. The Supervisory Committee will elect a Vice-Chairman from amongst its members who, if required, will temporarily fulfil the role and obligations of the Chairman.
6. If a member of the Supervisory Committee is unable to act anymore or fulfil his obligations, he will be replaced by a member that will be voted in by the Supervisory Committee.
7. The Supervisory Committee will hold its main meeting at the end of every calendar year in order to coordinate their ratings, to produce the annual ratings and to study all applications received from IFAHR member countries.
8. The Committee delegates to the Supervisory Committee the application of the rules hereunder:

C. RULES

I. GROUND RULES FOR RACES IN THE ARABIAN PATTERN

Every race in the Arabian Pattern must conform to the following Rules:

1. It must have no indigenous conditions, and must accept runners foaled in any country, from any country of training, provided that they are registered with the WAHO Stud Book of their country of origin.
2. All Arabian Group PA races recognized by the Arabian Pattern will be identified by their group level followed by the suffix "PA". No member country has the right to use the term IFAHR or the suffix "PA" associated with the name of a Group PA race, unless it has been approved by the Supervisory Committee.
3. **A Group race must have a permanent element within the race title, to which a prefix or suffix may be added. The permanent element must have the same prominence as the remainder of the race title.**
4. It must justify its Group PA status by the quality of its runners, assessed primarily by its Pattern Race Rating.
5. An Average Race Rating is the average of the Yearly Race Ratings achieved by a race over a three-year period. The Yearly Race Rating is the average of the official ratings, as agreed by the Supervisory Committee, of the first four horses to finish in any given year. In addition, the actual weight allowance received by any fillies and mares finishing in the first four in open competition will be added to their official ratings for the sole purpose of calculating Yearly Ratings. If a race is abandoned during any three-year period, the Average Race Rating will be calculated using the average of the three most recent Yearly Race Ratings available.

The Average Race Ratings below are the standard which a race should achieve in order to justify Pattern status:

Group 1 PA	Group 2 PA	Group 3 PA	Listed Race PA
115	110	105	100

Other parameters will apply as follows:

4-y-o's or older fillies and mares' races

Group 1 PA	Group 2 PA	Group 3 PA	Listed Race PA
110	105	100	95

3-y-o races (other than fillies' events)

Group 1 PA	Group 2 PA	Group 3 PA	Listed Race PA
110	105	100	95

3-y-o fillies' races

Group 1 PA	Group 2 PA	Group 3 PA	Listed Race PA
105	100	95	90

6. Group 1 PA races must be run with no penalties or allowances other than a sex allowance and a Weight-For-Age allowance where applicable.

7. Geldings may be eligible for all Pattern races.

8. **Eliminations:** Should the number of declarations to run in a Group PA race exceed the limited number of declarations: horses will be eliminated from the lowest rating upwards. Should two or more horses have the same rating after this elimination: horses will be eliminated from the lowest lifetime earnings upwards.

II. DEFINITION OF CHANGES TO THE ARABIAN PATTERN RACES

For the purposes of the Ground Rules, changes are defined as:

1. Any change to the Group PA level of a Pattern race.
2. Any change to the distance, age or sex restriction, date, venue or surface of a Pattern race.
3. Any change to the permanent element in the name of a Pattern race.
4. The introduction of a new Pattern race.
5. The deletion of an existing Pattern race.

III. RULES GOVERNING ARABIAN PATTERN RACE CHANGES

The majority decisions of the Supervisory Committee required below will be a two-thirds majority.

In the case of a decision requiring approval of the Supervisory Committee, the handicapper from the country submitting the proposal shall not have a vote.

(a) Upgrading of Existing Pattern Races and the Creation of New Pattern Races

The following Rules shall apply to the upgrading of Pattern races per Group PA and admission of new races to the Pattern system, and shall be waived only in exceptional circumstances and with unanimous agreement.

1. To qualify for upgrading or admission to the Group PA race status, a race must have been run with similar race conditions, for at least the last three years. (Note: a change in venue is acceptable providing the Supervisory Committee has agreed to it).
2. An application for upgrading a race which has been abandoned once within the last three years may only be submitted if both of the last two Yearly Ratings of the race meet the required parameter.
3. A race shall be eligible for promotion if the race in question achieves both an Average Race Rating and a Yearly Race Rating for the last year in excess of the applicable parameter.
4. An existing Group PA race satisfying the requirements for upgrading may be upgraded by only one Group PA level in any one year.
5. No race shall be eligible for upgrading to Group 1 PA status if such an upgrade would involve a clash liable to have adverse effects on an existing Group 1 PA race in a neighbouring member country.
6. The upgrading of any race already in the Pattern must be approved by the majority of the Supervisory Committee.

(b) Downgrading or Deleting Group PA Races

The following rules shall apply to the downgrading/deletion of Group PA races

1. For All Group PA races

- If the Average Race Rating is more than 3lb below its parameter: Warning letter to be issued to the relevant Racing Authority.
- If the Average Race Rating is more than 3lb below its parameter for a second consecutive year: Any downgrade shall be decided by majority vote of the Supervisory Committee unless the provisions for an automatic downgrade, as detailed below, apply.

2. Automatic downgrade

- If the Yearly Race Rating is more than 3lb below its parameter for each of the last three years: Automatic downgrade unless a material change in conditions (i.e. distance, age, sex restriction, or date) is proposed by the member country and accepted by the Supervisory Committee, in which case it may be given one more year in which it must achieve the required Yearly Race Rating or it will automatically be downgraded.

3. The Committee **should** be informed before October 15th of any voluntary downgrading or deletion of a Pattern race by the country concerned. **A notification made after this date must comply with the requirements for late applications detailed in Rule VI (1) below.**

(c) Exemption

In assessing upgrades, admissions, downgrades (except in the case of automatic downgrades) or deletions of races to or from the Pattern, the Supervisory Committee may additionally take into account the ratings of the four highest rated horses in any race as well as the first four to finish.

(d) The following Rules shall apply to any other amendments defined as changes to Pattern races:

1. Any change to the distance, age or sex restriction, date or venue of a Pattern race must be approved by the majority of the Supervisory Committee.
2. Any change to the date of a Group 1 PA race must be approved by the majority of the Supervisory Committee, taking necessarily into account any objection lodged by a neighbouring member country if such a change would involve a clash liable to have adverse effects on an existing Group 1 PA race.
3. Any change of surface (notwithstanding exceptional circumstances) and any change to the permanent element in the name of a Pattern race must be approved by the majority of the Supervisory Committee.

IV. LISTED PA RACES

A race that is sponsored with a minimum prize money of 15.000 € may apply for Listed PA status, if the race is run under the Pattern Race system without indigenous conditions, subject to the approval of the Supervisory Committee.

An application for a race to be awarded Listed PA status must be submitted to the Supervisory Committee by the country concerned which must wait for the approval of the Supervisory Committee before any publication of such race in any racing program.

The promotion of a Listed PA race to a Group 2 or 3 PA race may be made after 2 years provided the race satisfies the standard for a Group 2 or Group 3 PA race as applicable for each relevant year. **After a Listed race has been run for 3 years it must satisfy the criteria listed in Rule C5 in order for it to remain a Listed Race within the Pattern.**

V. SEX ALLOWANCES AND WEIGHT-FOR-AGE

Sex allowance for fillies and mares is 2kg or 4lbs for all Pattern races.

The Weight-For-Age scale for all Pattern races is enclosed as Annex 1

VI. NOTIFICATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGES

1. All Group PA race proposals or changes for the following year **should** be notified to the Committee by October 15th. This requirement shall be observed so as to ensure time for proper consideration of the proposals by the Supervisory Committee in November. **Any applications made after the above date must be accompanied with an explanation detailing the reason for the delay e.g. cancellation by a race sponsor. This reason must be acceptable to the Committee.**

2. Applications for proposals or changes must be completed with full information when sent to the Committee. The Supervisory Committee may reject any incomplete Pattern race application.

3. Until agreement has been reached by the Supervisory Committee, there must be no official statement to the media of any proposed changes to the Pattern.

4. Any change to these General Rules must be approved by both the Supervisory Committee and the Executive Committee of IFAHR.

Annex 1

PATTERN RACE & HANDICAPPER COMMITTEE

International weight for age scale (kg)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Age
1000				7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4	3½	3 to 4
	3	2½	2	1½	1								4 to 5
1200				8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4	3 to 4
	3½	3	2½	2	1½	½							4 to 5
1400				8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	3 to 4
	4	3½	3	2½	2	1	½						4 to 5
1600				9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	3 to 4
	4½	4	3½	3	2½	1½	1	½					4 to 5
1800				9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	3 to 4
	5	4½	4	3½	3	2	1½	1	½				4 to 5
2000				10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	3 to 4
	5½	5	4½	4	3½	2½	2	1½	1	½			4 to 5
2200				10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	3 to 4
	6	5½	5	4½	4	3	2½	2	1½	1	½		4 to 5
2400				11	10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	3 to 4
	6½	6	5½	5	4½	3½	3	2½	2	1½	1	½	4 to 5
2600				11½	11	10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	3 to 4
	7	6½	6	5½	5	4	3½	3	2½	2	1½	1	4 to 5