



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 eight-member founder countries represented by their respective racing authorities: France Galop, Arabian Racing Organization, UAE Equestrian & Racing Federation, Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club, Turkish Jockey Club, Scandinavian Arabian racing Association, Stichting Nederlandse, Draf-en Rensport, Arabian Horse Racing Club Belgium.
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 (Neil Abrahams), includes six other members: Vice-Chairman Nicolas Cordrey, Ryane Boualam, Marcus Weedon, Fadwa El Kadiri, Stephan Molyneux and Krzysztof Wolski. Together with the Chairman they will oversee 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 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, if 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. It must have a permanent element within the race title, to which a prefix or suffix may be added.
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 to justify Pattern status:

Group 1 PA Group 2 PA Group 3 PA
115 110 105

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
110 105 100

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

Group 1 PA Group 2 PA Group 3 PA
110 105 100

3-y-o fillies' races

Group 1 PA Group 2 PA Group 3 PA
105 100 95

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 two 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 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 more than 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 unless exceptional circumstances exist.
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 neighboring 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 a 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 must be informed before December 15th of any voluntary downgrading or deletion of a Pattern race by the country concerned.

(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 consider 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 neighboring 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 (not withstanding exceptional circumstances), 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.

V. SEX ALLOWANCES AND WEIGHT-FOR-AGE

Sex allowance for fillies and mares is 2kg or 5lbs for all Pattern races.

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

VI. NOTIFICATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGES

1. All Group PA race proposals or changes for the following year must be notified to the Committee by December 15th. This requirement shall be observed strictly to ensure time for proper consideration of the proposals by the Supervisory 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