

CRITERIA AND PURPOSE

FREE WALK

Criteria (as stated in USEF Rulebook):

The free walk is a pace of relaxation in which the horse is allowed complete freedom to lower and stretch out his head and neck. The degree of ground cover and length of strides, with hind feet stepping clearly in front of the footprints of the front feet, are essential to the quality of the free walk.

Directive Ideas from Score Sheet:

Reach and ground cover of free walk allowing complete freedom to stretch the neck forward and downward; quality and regularity of medium walk, smooth transitions; straightness

Purpose/Aim: (as stated in the FEI Judging Handbook):

To demonstrate the maintenance of natural regularity, freedom, extension and relaxation while stretching over the back and forward/downward with the head and neck.

Excerpt from the USDF "L" Education Program