

ALSA Performance Judging and Scoring Guidelines

The following criteria are the basis for the formation of an ideal mental picture of a llama or alpaca proceeding through an Obstacle, Public Relations, or Pack Class.

- A. Rapport, mutual confidence and trust between animal and handler are desirable.
- B. The animal should follow the handler through the course on a loose lead.
- C. The animal should be allowed the freedom to pause momentarily before attempting an obstacle.
- D. Entries are penalized for the following categories of faults:

1. Handler Errors including but not limited to:

- a. Tight Lead
- b. Short Lead
- c. Dangling free end of lead rope
- d. Inattentiveness to animal
- e. In Pack class, halter too tight for trail work
- f. Lack of handler rapport
- g. Lack of flow

2. Minor Faults, including but not limited to:

- a. Touching of obstacles
- b. Too wide or too tight in turns
- c. Slow response to handler's request
- d. Inattentiveness of the llama
- e. Bad disposition, spitting, or unwillingness
- f. Nervousness, agitation, fearfulness
- g. Poor jumping form
- h. In Pack class, improper placement of pack or filling out of panniers
- i. In Pack class, improper cinching
- j. In Pack class, dangling straps that reach below the knee of the animal
- k. In Pack class, spooking during saddling or unsaddling

- l. Llama persistently out ahead of handler
 - m. Too slow of pace through course
 - n. Moderate safety hazard (i.e., reaching under llama to pick up rear foot)
3. Major Faults, including but not limited to:
- a. Knocking down of poles, jumps or other obstacle parts
 - b. Stepping out of obstacle confinements
 - c. Extreme irritation, spooking, nervousness, and/or spitting
 - d. Not accepting pack
 - e. In Pack class, excessive shifting or bouncing of pack, losing the pack or article on the pack
 - f. Rushing out ahead of handler on exiting or entering an obstacle
 - g. Failure to execute a change of pace or come to a complete stop
 - h. Improper or unsafe knots when tying lead rope
 - i. Major safety hazard (i.e., standing in the space where the llama would jump as it is coming out of the trailer, wrapping lead rope around hand, or having a hand on the clip where the lead and halter are attached.
 - j. In Pack class, loosening front cinch before back cinch
 - k. In Pack class, fastening any strap before the front cinch
 - l. Taking an obstacle backwards
 - m. Taking multiple jumps in the wrong order
 - n. Going in or out of the wrong door of the trailer
 - o. Entering, but not successfully completing or exiting any obstacle or activity
4. Off course
- a. Forgetting or skipping an obstacle
 - b. Taking an additional obstacle
 - c. Taking an obstacle out of sequence from the posted course

