



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT US AT:

Email: president@crtwh.ca

or

CRTWH
PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE
C/O
619 Lake Linnet Cres. S.E.
Calgary, Alberta T2J 2J3



**CRTWH
PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE
GOLD TEST**

GOLD TEST



GENERAL

1. **In the future maximum age limits and/or rule changes may be imposed for Bronze, Silver and Gold Tests.**
2. Entries must be owned by a CRTWH member.
3. Entries must be at least 48 months of age and registered with CRTWH.
4. Entries attempting the Gold Test shall have satisfied the requirements of the Silver and Bronze Test.
5. Entries over the age of 39 months may be barefoot or keg shod. Full polyurethane composition shoes with no metal core may also be used.
6. Entries will be evaluated in hand for Conformation and with a rider for movement (way of going).
7. The primary intent of the ridden evaluation is to evaluate the horse. The proficiency of the rider will not be evaluated unless lack of proficiency does not allow the horse to be fairly evaluated.
8. The gaits of the Tennessee Walking Horse are Flat Walk, Running Walk and Canter or lope. CRTWH recognizes there are many **styles of movement** in Tennessee Walking Horses. Other than correctness of movement at all three gaits, there is no style of movement preferable to another style of movement. The correctness of gait will be evaluated, not the style of performing that gait. Evaluators will not show preference for one style over another style.
9. The rider may use any saddle or may choose to ride bareback.
10. The rider may use a bridle with a snaffle or curb bit, a bitless bridle, a rope halter or a bozal. A mechanical hackamore, a curb bit with shanks measuring over 5 inches from the mouthpiece to the end of the rein ring, or gag bits without shanks may not be used. No inhumane mouthpieces are allowed.
11. Potential unsoundness related to conformation inadequacies will be penalized, but potential unsoundness related to injury will not be penalized when this can be determined by the judge. If there is uncertainty, the penalty will be applied.
12. In general some conformation faults may have effects on soundness or performance – others may not. When soundness or performance is affected, penalties will be imposed in the Program.
13. A disqualifying conformation or movement fault shall mean that the Entry has not satisfied the standard of performance for the Gold Test. The Entry will be evaluated, and the evaluation sheet returned to the owner.
14. Excessive faults shall mean the Entry has not satisfied the standard of performance for the Gold Test. The Entry will be evaluated, and the evaluation sheet returned to the owner.

15. An overall score of less than 70 percent in Conformation or Movement will mean the Entry has not satisfied the standard of performance for the Gold Test.
16. The owner of an entry that does not satisfy the standard of performance of the Gold Test has the right to appeal the evaluation. **See Guidelines for Appeal**

GAITS

Flat Walk

The flat walk is a bold four cornered movement. It is an even 1-2-3-4 beat with each of the horse's feet hitting the ground separately. The hind foot will follow through, close to the ground over the track left by the fore foot on the same side. The action of the hind foot sliding over the front track is known as overstride. The horse will nod his head from the shoulder not the poll in rhythm with the cadence of his feet.

Running Walk

The Running Walk should be the same general motion as the Flat Walk (even 4 beat gait, head nod from the shoulder, and overstride) but with additional speed. It is executed with loose ease of movement; pushing and driving from the rear, reaching and pulling with the forelegs through a rolling shoulder motion. There should be a noticeable difference in speed between the Flat Walk and the Running Walk.

Canter or Lope

The canter or lope is a smooth rolling three beat movement. It is controlled and may be slow or fast; however, the horse must show forward movement.

CONFORMATION

- Evaluation will be as outlined in the Bronze Test.

MOVEMENT

1. Although movement will be evaluated as the horse is ridden, the same major and minor faults will be considered as outlined in the Bronze and Silver Test. In addition movement will be evaluated at the running walk and canter or lope.
2. The gaits evaluated will be the flat walk, running walk and canter or lope.
3. A simple riding pattern will be supplied to assist in evaluating movement while the horse is ridden.
4. Although never perfect, the canter or lope is considered a three beat gait.
5. An Entry will not be penalized for being on an incorrect lead.
6. Although the canter of the TWH is often referred to as a rocking chair canter, this does not imply animation. There is no requirement that the canter or lope be animated.
7. The canter or lope should be smooth and ground covering.
8. The canter should not be a gallop and must be under control.

GOLD TEST

CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE 2006

<http://www.crtwh.ca>



**CRTWH STANDARD FOR CONFORMATION
For Bronze, Silver and Gold Test**

CRTWH Standard of Performance	MINOR FAULTS	MAJOR FAULTS	DISQUALIFYING FAULTS
FRONT LEGS from front and/or side	FRONT LEGS	FRONT LEGS	FRONT LEGS
Legs straight	Leg slightly turned out from pastern	Leg moderately turned out from pastern	
	Leg slightly turned in from pastern	Leg moderately turned in from pastern	
	Leg slightly turned out from knee	Leg moderately turned out from knee	Front leg or legs severely turned out from knee
	Leg slightly turned in from knee	Leg moderately turned in from knee	Front leg or legs severely turned in from knee
			Front leg or legs turned out from shoulder
			Front leg or legs turned in from shoulder
Pastern length in proportion to length of leg	Pastern length slightly out of proportion to length of leg (longer or shorter)	Pastern length moderately out of proportion to length of leg (longer or shorter)	
Pastern angle equal to angle of shoulder	Pastern angle slightly steeper than angle of shoulder	Pastern angle severely steeper than angle of shoulder (upright pastern)	
Front legs set squarely on each corner of chest	Slightly Base Narrow	Moderately Base Narrow	Severely base narrow combined with toes out or in
	Slightly Base Wide	Moderately Base Wide	
Width between legs in proportion to the body	Slightly Base Wide	+Base Wide and muscle bound	
Knee solid and positioned correctly	Slightly Calf Kneed or back at the knee	+Moderately Calf Kneed or back at the knee	Severely Calf Kneed or back at the knee
Knees on same plane	Slightly offset or Bench Knees	+Moderately offset or Bench Knees	Severely offset or Bench Knees
Feet equal in size and shape	Slight Club Foot	+Moderate Club Foot (not result of injury)	Severe Club Foot
Feet size in proportion to body size	Small feet in proportion to body	+Excessively small feet relative to body size	
Bone adequate for size	Bone light in relation to total size of horse		
	Bone heavy in relation to total size of horse		
Cannon bone short and strong	Cannon bone slightly long relative to entire leg	+Canon bone moderately long relative to entire leg	
HIND LEGS from back and/or side	HIND LEGS	HIND LEGS	HIND LEGS
Vertical line passes from hip to hock to hoof - Legs support body	Slightly camped out	+Severely camped out	
	Slightly base wide	+Moderately base wide	Severely base wide with bulky muscling and small hocks and weak tendons
	Slightly base narrow	+Moderately base narrow	Severely base narrow with small hocks and weak tendons
Legs in a functional position	Slightly post legged	+Moderately post legged	
Leg slightly turns out from the pastern	Leg straight from the pastern	+Leg turns in from the pastern	
Size of hock in proportion to the body	Hocks slightly small in proportion to body	+Hocks excessively small in proportion to body	
Hocks strong and solid	Hocks slightly wobbly	+Hocks severely wobbly	Hocks severely wobbly combined with cow hocks and sickle hocks and weak tendons
Legs slightly sickle hocked	Legs medium sickle hocked	+Excessively sickle hocked	Excessively sickle hocked with slight bone and weak tendon

BODY BALANCE from side and/or front	BODY BALANCE	BODY BALANCE	BODY BALANCE
Well laid back shoulder	Shoulder angle slightly upright	+Shoulder angle moderately upright	
Neck length in proportion to body	Neck slightly short in proportion to body	Neck moderately short in proportion to body	
	Neck slightly long in proportion to body	Neck moderately long in proportion to body	
Back length in proportion to body	Back slightly long in proportion to body	+Back moderately long in proportion to body	
	Back slightly short in proportion to body	Back moderately short in proportion to body	
	Back long or short	+Back excessively long or short	
Long forearm	Slightly short forearm	Moderately short forearm	
Good width of chest	Chest slightly narrow in relation to body	Chest moderately narrow in relation to body	
Good depth of chest (heart girth)	Chest slightly shallow in relation to body	+Chest moderately shallow in relation to body	
Wither higher than rump	Wither even with rump	+Rump higher than wither after age 7	
Overall balance of body	Body slightly unbalanced in young or aged horse	+Body moderately unbalanced in mature horse (over age 7)	Body severely unbalanced in mature horse (over age 7)
Angle of hip equals angle of shoulder	Angle of hip slightly not consistent with angle of shoulder	+Angle of hip severely not consistent with angle of shoulder	
Long muscling from point of hip to hock	Moderately short muscling from hip to hock	+Severely short bulky muscling from hip to hock	
Testicles descended by 24 months			One or both Testicles not descended by 24 months
Testicles good size	Testicles small		
HEAD From front and/or side	HEAD	HEAD	HEAD
Ears - mobile and functional	Ears slightly stiff	Ears severely stiff	Congenital Deafness
Ears – good size	Ears slightly small	Ears severely small	
Ears – on corner of head	Ears slightly toward top of head	Ears severely on top of head	
Eye position functional	Eyes slightly forward	+Eyes severely forward	Congenital Blindness
	Eyes slightly high	+Eyes severely high	
	Eyes slightly low	+Eyes severely low	
	Eyes slightly back	+Eyes severely back	
Eyes large	Eyes- small		
Nose	Slight roman nose	Severe roman nose	
Nostrils wide and functional	Nostrils slightly small	+Nostrils severely small	
Teeth meet – top and bottom jaw aligned	Slight over bite	+Parrot Mouth	
	Slight under bite (undershot jaw)		
TYPE			
overall impression			
ADD to a maximum of 10 points if there is evidence of:			
Good Manners			
Kindly Disposition			
Willing Attitude			
Calmness			
Alertness			

+ may limit performance or compromise soundness

GOLD TEST for MOVEMENT



Movement will be evaluated with the horse coming toward the judge, going away from the judge and a side view along the rail. **See Guidelines for Electronic Submission (Appendix 2).**

CRTWH Standard of Performance viewed from front and/or back and/or side	MINOR FAULTS At Flat Walk or Running Walk 25% of the time or less	MAJOR FAULTS At Flat Walk or Running Walk More than 25% but less than 75% of the time	MINOR FAULTS At Canter or Lope 25% of the time or less	MAJOR FAULTS At Canter or Lope More than 25% but less than 75% of the time	DISQUALIFYING FAULTS At Flat Walk, Running Walk or Canter/lope More than 75% of time
Even 4 beat gait at all times	Occasional Pace or Stepping Pace	Periodic Pace or Stepping Pace			Predominant full Pace (lateral gait)
	Occasional Trot or Fox Trot	Periodic Trot or Fox Trot			Predominant full Trot (diagonal gait)
	Occasional Rack	Periodic Rack			Predominant full Rack
No interference by forging	Occasional forging	Periodic forging			
Horse's feet move forward in a straight line when viewed from front and back	Occasional paddling	Periodic paddling			Predominant interfering
	Occasional winging	Periodic winging			Predominant interfering
Horse travels in a straight line	Horse's body slightly crooked				
Overstride at least 1 hoof length	Little overstride	No measurable overstride			
Head nod from the shoulder as a counter balance to the hind leg.	Head nod from the poll	No noticeable head nod			
Hocks strong and straight	Wobbly hocks	Excessively wobbly hocks			
Body travels in alignment (straight) when viewed from front and back	Occasionally travels crooked when viewed from front and back	Periodically travels crooked when viewed from front and back			Predominant dog tracking (travels crooked)
Hind foot lands in line with front foot	Occasionally hind foot lands outside of line with front foot.	Periodically hind foot lands outside of line with front foot.			
	Occasionally hind foot lands inside of line with front foot.	Periodically hind foot lands inside of line with front foot.			Predominant rope walking
Stride length even in hind	Occasional uneven length of stride in the hind (hitching)	Periodic uneven length of stride in the hind (hitching)			Predominant uneven length of stride in the hind (hitching)
Stride length even in front and stride length even in hind	Occasional uneven length of stride in front (hopping)	Periodic uneven length of stride in front (hopping)			Predominant uneven length of stride in front (hopping)
Movement flows from hock to poll with no hesitation.	Occasional jerky movement	Periodic jerky movement			
Transition from one Flat Walk to Running Walk smooth (and vice versa)	Transition from Flat Walk to Running Walk choppy with head slightly raised (and vice versa)	Transition from Flat Walk to Running Walk choppy with head tossing (and vice versa)			
Discernable difference in speed from Flat Walk to Running Walk	Slight difference in speed from Flat Walk to Running Walk	Little difference in speed from Flat Walk to Running Walk			
Horse exhibits predominant "drive" at the Running Walk (weight shift to hind quarters with elevation in front)		BONUS : Occasional "drive" at the Running Walk			
Canter or Lope			Occasional break from Canter or Lope	Periodic break from Canter or Lope	Does not Canter or Lope
Even 3 beat gait			Occasionally off set on the diagonal	Periodic 4 beat gait	Predominant Gallop
Smooth			Occasional cross firing	Periodic cross firing	
Controlled			Occasionally rushing	Periodically rushing	
Transition from Flat Walk to Canter/lope smooth (and vice versa)			Transition from Flat Walk to Canter/lope choppy with head raised	Transition from Flat Walk to Canter/lope choppy with head tossing	