

Lipizzaner Standard of Excellence - Judging guidelines

Lipizzaner Standard of Excellence as per the Lipizzner International Federation

Directives for the Judges of Pure Bred Lipizzaner Horse

The most important first trait to be judged is the Breed Character, all the body parts of the horse can come thereafter

Definition of the Outward Appearance

Among the different breeds, the Lipizzaner has an exclusive position. This cultural breed is considered to be the most ancient in Europe. As a parade horse, the Lipizzaner shows nobleness, expression and talent for dressage and carriage. The Lipizzaner must have a well balanced and a good character.

The body is somewhat Rectangular in appearance due to the shorter length of the cannon.

A) Type

Both the Riding and the Driving type are accepted in the Lipizzaner breed. Both should be judged within its special character, extremities should be disliked. The sub-convex profile throughout the body with rounded outlines is typical for the breed.

There are 3 more or less distinct types within the breed, those being:

1) The Baroque type - a compact well balanced & well rounded horse with even proportions & very expressive movement, generally a shorter back & more medium length of rein, they can also be smaller in height & quite solid in stature

2) The Hungarian type - are generally used for driving (& some riding) they are usually of longer proportions in the back, leg & neck along with overall size & height & can reach heights of over 16hh. They too possess expressive movement

3) The Modern type – is generally a more lighter framed horse say next to the Baroque style. The generally have longer legs & good height & expressive movement

B) Height

Average height, to be measured at the withers is for males 155 – 158 cm at the age of 6 years, mares may be generally somewhat smaller. Bigger or smaller horses must be harmonious demonstrating extra good breed character.

C) Colour

While the grey colour is dominant, Brown, Bay & Black are present in the breed. Chestnut has been traditionally discouraged within the breed due to the flecking it can cause in a grey coat. The most desirable coat colour is that of the pure iridescent ‘milk’ white

D) Attitude

A natural ability for concentration with a great disposition for collected work in High School and/or large endurance for riding & driving

E) Movements

Overall the horse must show lightness, cadence, beautiful soft rounded collection and outstanding elasticity of all movements

Proud elevated action. Long elegant and in complete balance in walk, trot & canter. Should be rhythmical & smooth & show good knee & hock action.

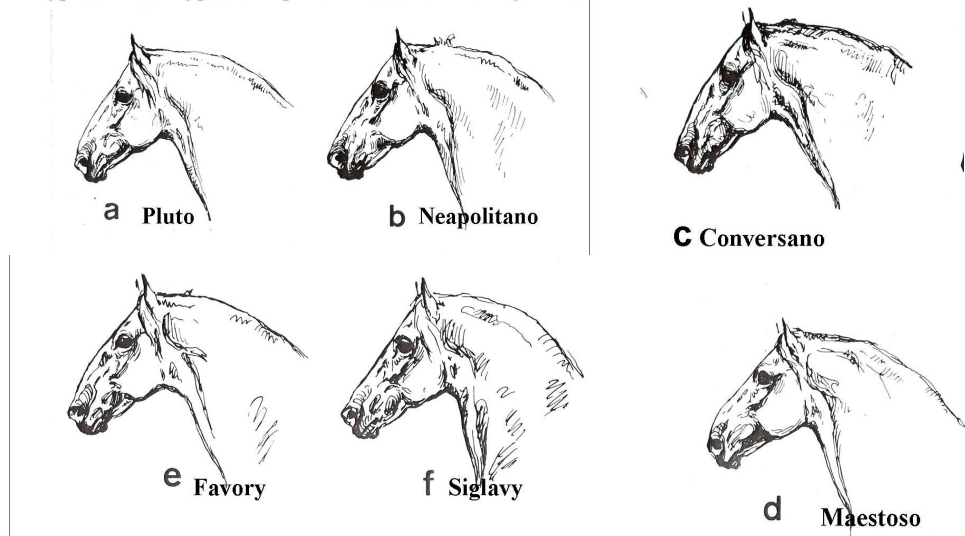
F) Head

Well proportioned, of medium length, narrow & dry, lower jaw & cheek inclined to be round

A slightly convex profile belongs to the breed, the too fine (*Arabic*) and the too convex (*Ram Head*) should not occur often. Head profile can vary from slightly aquiline, to gently Roman, with the old heavy Rams heads no longer encouraged by international breeding standards

The eyes should be large & dark, expressive & confident, the ears of medium length fine & expressive – Accepted head types within the Breed

Typical Head Types of Lipizzaner Stallion Family Lines



G) Neck

Medium length, arched with a narrow mane-line. The junction between the head & neck is deep in the base & well inserted between the shoulders, rising up from the withers without interruption.

H) Shoulders

Shoulders should show room & a good slope

I) Back

The horse's body should give the appearance of Robustness & Strength without heaviness.

The back should be even length with the neck, strong & rounded through the loins, croup & hindquarters, with a natural tail 'set/carriage' away from the body

J) Legs

The legs give an appearance of being slightly shorter with clean joints. Hooves are perfectly shaped & rounded

K) Chest

The chest is strong, of medium width