



Curriculum

1. Level

Main objectives: Student can train a young horse to be ridden in walk. Student can ride walk and trot in balance on a trained horse. Student can free lunge and he participate in daily care of horses.

Description: The student learns to use a butt rope to earn leadership over a young horse, and teach it to lead. The student learns to bridle and saddle horses and mount and dismount. The student learns to start a young horse, and educate it to the point where it knows how to be ridden in walk. The student learns to ride a trained horse in walk and trot where emphasis is put on correct seat and aids by the rider, and regularity and freedom of the gaits by the horse. The student learns correct aids to free school horses. The student learns about body condition scoring, and how to tell a sound and healthy horse from a sick one. The student learns routine daily horse care.

2. Level

Main objectives: The student can train young horses to be ridden in three basic gaits. Student can ride a trained horse in walk trot and canter in a connected outline. The student can lunge in walk and trot with one lunge line. The student can be responsible for taking daily care of horses.

Description: The student graduates from riding the gaits to training the horse for improved balance in walk, trot and canter. Emphasis is put on rider's position and seat, correctness and effect of the aids. The student learns to use suppling exercises to improve the outline of the horse. The student gains capability and confidence in training young horses to be ridden in walk, trot and canter. The student learns to lunge a horse in walk and trot with one rein, and becomes confident in taking daily care of horses.

Student learns to catch a green horse and teach it to yield to rein contact and lead.



3. Level

Main objectives: The student can ride tolt and use suppling exercises to improve the gaits of the horse. The student can pull shoes and clip hooves. The student can calculate nutritional requirements.

Description: Emphasis is put on riding and training tolt, in addition to more advanced training of walk, trot and canter. The student becomes confident in riding exercises to create and develop looseness and suppleness in the horse. The student becomes confident in removing shoes and cutting hooves. The student learns to calculate nutritional requirements and make feeding plans.

4. Level

Main objectives: Rider can train walk, trot, canter and tolt in correct outline at different speed. Student can use collective exercises in the training of a horse. The student can lunge a horse with two reins in walk and trot.

Description: More advanced training of walk, trot, canter and tolt with emphasis on understanding and practicing how exercises developing looseness, suppleness and collection help with strength and flexibility of the horse, and hence, further improvement of the gaits. The student learns to shorten and lengthen the stride in those four gaits. The student learns to lunge a horse with two reins in walk and trot.

5. Level

Main objectives: Student learns to ride and train flying pace.

Description: The student learns to ride and train flying pace and recognize problems with beat. The student learns to prepare the horse for pace training, bringing the horse into pace, riding the pace and slowing down from pace in balance back to a walk.



6. Level

Main objectives: The student gains experience in competition, and passes this final level in the Úrvalshestar work study program by earning minimum points in formal competition.

Description: The student learns about rules and regulations in competition for the Icelandic horse. To pass this level he / she has to furthermore choose at least 4 of the following 7 disciplines and score the appropriate minimum. (It is required that that student rides at least one tolt discipline and five gait):

Tölt: T1 or T3 min score 5,2

Tölt: T2 or T4 min score 5,2

Four gait: V1 or V2 min score 5,0

Five gait: F1 or F2 min score 5,0

Pace test: PP1 or PP2 score 5,0

A-class: min score 8,0

B-class: min score 8,0

7. Level - Horse production level

Main objectives: The student learns about reproductive physiology of the mare and stallion. The Breeding evaluation system of the Icelandic horse is covered and breeding judgement explained for conformation and riding abilities. The student learns about evaluation of young horses and color genetics.

Description: Participants learn through lectures and demonstrations the principles of reproductive physiology, and participate in breeding horses and taking care of the new born foal. Lectures include topics on the blup system, WorldFengur, and color genetics. Students learn to use the international scale of judging breeding horses both for conformation and riding abilities, and perform applied evaluation of young horses.

To participate in, and finish the Horse production level the student does not have to finish any other levels before, but has to be confident in handling horses.

At the completion of the working study program:

The student can start a young horse and train it to be a safe riding horse in all gaits. The student has experience in competition. The student can be held responsible



for daily care of horses, and has a broad knowledge and experience with the breeding system of the Icelandic horse.