

# EQUINE LAMENESS PREVENTION ORGANIZATION

## Certification Program – Overview

*Version 8.0*

### Category 1

#### **Live Sole – Hoof Mapping Certification (LS-HM Certified)**

1. **Practical Test {78 Points Possible}** (Criteria is as follows – see Protocol sheets for Details)
  - a. Work conducted on 2 Feet (1 front, 1 hind) – **45 Minute Time Limit**
  - b. Identify Hoof Deformities (*If Any Exist*)
  - c. Locate and Identify the Live Functional Sole
  - d. Accurately Map Out Each Foot
2. **Written Test {21 Points Possible}**
  - a. Test knowledge will include:
    - i. All Ways to Locate WPOTF
    - ii. Approximate Location of the Tip of the Coffin Bone
    - iii. Understanding Functional Sole Plane
    - iv. Recognize Deformities (From Drawings)
    - v. Recognizing Hoof Conformations
    - vi. Equine distal limb anatomy
    - vii. Identify all parts of the foot
3. **Prerequisites**
  - a. Attend a minimum of 1 qualifying prep course before attending a Certification Course
    - i. Current Qualifying Courses are Barefoot Skills Course, Forging & Farrier Skills Course, 8 Week ELPO Farrier Course
  - b. Prep course must have been attended within 18 months of the certification course you plan to attend.

### Category 2

#### **Certified Barefoot Trimmer (CBT)**

1. **Practical Test {224 Points Possible}** (Criteria is as follows – see Protocol sheets for Details)
  - a. Work conducted on 1 Horse (all 4 feet) – **90 Minute Time Limit**
  - b. Pre-Trimming Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
  - c. Accurately accomplish all tasks of the LS-HM Certification (Appropriate Exfoliation & Complete Hoof Mapping)
  - d. Trim hoof for being left barefoot according the E.L.P.O. Hoof Trimming Protocol (*Study Criteria*)
  - e. Post-Trimming Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
2. **Written Test {30 Points Possible}**
  - a. Test knowledge will include:
    - i. All Items Previously covered in LS-HM Certification
    - ii. Full Understanding of trimming process
    - iii. Recognizing common pathologies or lameness issues
    - iv. Recommendations of barefoot horse husbandry

- v. Equine distal limb anatomy
  - vi. Ethics/Professionalism
3. **Prerequisites**
- a. Attend a minimum of 1 qualifying prep course before attending a Certification Course
    - i. Current Qualifying Courses are Barefoot Skills Course, Forging & Farrier Skills Course, 8 Week ELPO Farrier Course
  - b. Prep course must have been attended within 18 months of the certification course you plan to attend.

### **Category 3**

#### **Certified Farrier Practitioner (CFP)**

1. **Practical Test {384 Points Possible}** (Criteria is as follows – see Protocol sheets for Details)
  - A. Work conducted on 1 Horse (all 4 feet) – **3 Hour Time Limit**
  - B. Pre-Shoeing Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
  - C. Accurately accomplish all tasks of the LS-HM Certification #1
  - D. Shoe the horse according the E.L.P.O. Shoeing Protocol (*Protocol Sheet*)
  - E. Post-Shoeing Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
2. **Written Test {37 Points Possible}**
  - A. Test knowledge will include:
    - i. All Items Previously covered in LS-HM Certification & CBT test
    - ii. Full understanding of shoeing process
    - iii. Identification of different hoof types (club, underrun, neg. plane, etc.)
      - i. Recognizing common pathologies or lameness issues
    - iv. Equine limb anatomy
    - v. Selection of proper shoe style, model, material
    - vi. Ethics/Professionalism
3. **Forging Skills Test {160 Points Possible}**
  - i. Modify keg shoe (Flat, Plain Stamped Shoe) to leverage reduction shoe
    - a) Add 2 nail holes behind the last manufactured nail hole
    - b) Improve the heel check to provide better clearance for the frog
  - ii. Modify Elite Hind - *Broaden to fit a boxy type (club) front foot*
  - iii. Modify CF Performance Hind – *Narrow toe to fit a narrower-toed hind foot*
  - iv. Modify NB Front - *Narrow to fit broad-toed hind foot*
    - a) Add Quarter Clips to NB Shoe
  - v. Modify Aluminum PLR – *Narrow toe to fit a slightly narrower front foot*
4. **Prerequisites**
  - A. Attend a minimum of 1 qualifying prep course before attending a Certification Course
    - i. Current Qualifying Courses are Forging & Farrier Skills Course, 8 Week ELPO Farrier Course
  - B. Prep course must have been attended within 18 months of the certification course you plan to attend.

## Certified **Farrier Glue Practitioner (CFGFP)**

1. **Practical Test {388 Points Possible}** (Criteria is as follows – see Protocol sheets for Details)
  - a. Work conducted on 1 Horse (all 4 feet) – **3 Hour Time Limit**
  - b. Pre-Shoeing Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
  - c. Accurately accomplish all tasks of the LS-HM Certification #1
  - d. Shoe the horse according the E.L.P.O. Shoeing “Glue” Protocol (*Protocol Sheet*)
  - e. Post-Shoeing Evaluation: Determine Heel-First, Flat or Toe-First Landing; as well as overall comfort and soundness
2. **Written Test {30 Points Possible}**
  - a. Test knowledge will include:
    - vii. All Items Previously covered in LS-HM Certification & CBT test
    - viii. Full understanding of shoeing process with glues & composite shoes
    - ix. Identification of different hoof types (club, underrun, neg. plane, etc.)
      - i. Recognizing common pathologies or lameness issues
      - x. Equine limb anatomy
      - xi. Selection of proper shoe style, model, material & adhesive type
      - xii. Ethics/Professionalism
3. **Prerequisites**
  - a. Attend a minimum of 1 qualifying prep course before attending a Certification Course
    - i. Current Qualifying Courses are Glue & Composite Skills Course, Forging & Farrier Skills Course, 8 Week ELPO Farrier Course
  - b. Prep course must have been attended within 18 months of the certification course you plan to attend.

## Category 4

### Certified **Lameness Specialist (CLS)**

1. **Practical Test {465 Points Possible}** (Criteria is as follows – see Protocol sheets for Details)
  - a. Work conducted on 1 Lane Horse (all 4 feet) – **4 Hour Time Limit**
  - b. Pre-Shoeing Evaluation: Lameness Evaluation, Leverage Testing, Gait Analysis, Complete Data Collection Forms, etc.
  - c. Accurately accomplish all tasks of the LS-HM Certification #1
  - d. Hoof Preparation according the E.L.P.O. Trimming & Shoeing Protocol (*Protocol Sheets*)
  - e. Accurate application of treatment package required for lameness issue
  - f. Post-Shoeing Evaluation: Lameness Evaluation, Gait Analysis, finalized Data Collection
2. **Written Test {30 Points Possible}**
  - a. Test knowledge will include:
  - b. All Items Previously covered in LS-HM Certification, CBT & CFP exams
  - c. Leverage Testing & E.L.P.O. Hoof Distortions Evaluation Protocol
  - d. Identification of different hoof types (club, underrun, neg. plane, etc.)
    - i. Recognizing common pathologies or lameness issues
  - e. Equine anatomy and familiarity with veterinary diagnostic protocols
  - f. Full understanding of treatment products and applications
  - g. Ethics/Professionalism
3. **Prerequisites**
  - a. Attend a minimum of 2 Lameness Treatment Courses. You may take your CLS Exam at your 3<sup>rd</sup> (third) Lameness Treatment Course

- b. Lameness Treatment Prep courses must have been attended within 2 years of the certification course you plan to attend and test at.

### **Examination Details:**

1. At the present time, testing to become certified at any level will be done during set courses offered through the E.L.P.O.
2. You must complete each Certification in the order listed. That means in order to take the Farrier Practitioner or Farrier Glue Practitioner exam; you must first pass the LS-HM Certification and the Barefoot Trimming Certification. In order to take the Lameness Specialist exam, you must successfully complete EITHER the Farrier Practitioner or Farrier Glue Practitioner exam.
3. With the exception of the LS-HM Certification, all certification tests will be evaluated on 1 complete horse (all 4 feet). Any “practice” horses or feet that you work on during acclimation days will be evaluated closely as well but not graded. Never-the-less, a complete use of the required protocol should ALWAYS be employed on every foot you work on during the course.
4. Reasonable time limits for each practical exam have been set to accurately measure your level of proficiency and professionalism. LS-HM Certification (45 Minutes), Barefoot Trimmer Certification (90 Minutes), Farrier Certifications (3 Hours), & Lameness Specials Certification (4 Hours).
5. The written portion of the certification exams is comprised of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and matching type questions. There is no time limit on the written exams; however, they typically take 45 – 60 minutes to complete.
6. There are multiple SECTIONS within each certification exam. For each exam section (Practical, Written, etc.), there is a Maximum number of “Points” that can be earned during that part of the exam. An 80% or higher is required to pass EACH SECTION of each exam and ALL SECTIONS for that specific certification must be passed in order to earn the certification. If an 80% or higher is not achieved on one of the sections of a certification exam (ie: written or practical), that portion of the exam may be retaken within 1 year to reach the 80% requirement and thereby would earn the certification.
7. Passing scores are as follows:
  - ✓ LS-HM Certification
    - Written Exam - 16 Points (out of 21 possible)
    - Practical Exam - 62 Points (out of 78 possible)
  - ✓ Barefoot Trimmer Certification
    - Written Exam - 24 Points (out of 30 possible)
    - Practical Exam - 179 Point (out of 224 possible)
  - ✓ Farrier Certification
    - Written Exam – 29.5 Points (out of 37 possible)
    - Practical Exam - 307 Point (out of 384 possible)
    - Forging Exam – 128 Points (out of 160 possible)
  - ✓ Farrier Glue Certification
    - Written Exam - 24 Points (out of 30 possible)
    - Practical Exam - 310 Point (out of 388 possible)
  - ✓ Lameness Specialist Certification = 77 Points (out of 110)
    - Written Exam - 24 Points (out of 30 possible)
    - Practical Exam - 372 Point (out of 465 possible)