

The **Escuela Equitabilis** was founded by Sabine Oettel. Sabine Oettel is Managing Director and Head of the Escuela.

The Escuela Equitabilis is a school of Art of Riding, where any inquisitive rider and friend of horses is welcome. We offer many different ways of education and training, further the opportunity to take exams in different disciplines and at different level. The school is intended as a platform for riders, who are interested in comprehensive training in classical Art of Riding, and the sharing of common experiences.

The overriding principle is, to mentally and physically promote our horses as part of their individual abilities, to keep them healthy and help them to develop. True to the motto "Dressage is there for the horse ..." Quote Bent Branderup.

The training of horses is systematic, from basic training on the ground up to high school. From the simple to the complex.

The seat of the rider, the full range of aids and exercises serve as tools of communication.

The training of students is also effected by the simple to the complex. It all begins with the learning of techniques and skills, equal to learning a craft. The development of human skills, learning to feel, to understand the correlations and the unconditional desire to always finer signals, let the craft become an Art.

At the Escuela riding is not teached and meant as Art for Art's!

The danger is too big, that riding becomes artificial and horses were damaged instead of benefiting from the training.

For this reason, the link to the foundations of any Art of Riding may not be forgotten. Earmarked riding, the use of cavalry, applied riding are not only teached but even practiced at the Escuela.

**Every year there will be an annual meeting, the annual academy.**

At this annual meeting further education is offered, professional discussions are conducted, there will be riding demonstrations, etc. All members are cordially invited! The date of the annual meeting will be announced as soon as possible.

**IMPORTANT!** : always to the annual academy, the passed exams of the students are written into the big book of the Escuela!

For this reason, it is necessary and important that the certificates of unregistered exams are brought to the Annual Academy. The entries of the passed exams must be made latest at the 3rd annual academy after the exam date!

In the list of members of the Escuela, that is published on the Internet, only members who have previously given their written consent (data protection!) can be issued. Furthermore, in this list **ONLY** the exams are mentioned, which are already registered in the book of the Escuela.

**Member / students at the Escuela**, you will become with the dropping of the first test and will receive a lapel pin. For each passed exam you receive a certificate.

The members (and their completed tests) are written into a book in chronological order .

**Honorary membership** can be awarded to individuals who feel connected to the Escuela, promote / support it, but do not take exams.

## **EXAMINATION REGULATIONS:**

There are a number of possible exams to take, these can be stored in various "disciplines" and any order.

Groundwork, Longework, by the hand, under saddle, on long reins, sidesaddle, in the garden of arms ...

The minimum age for horses that are presented in the groundwork and Longing, is 4 years.

The minimum age for horses in the ridden entry-exams is 5 years.

An examinee is allowed to take various tests per day, **but the daily overall duration of tests per horse must not exceed 20 minutes !!**

Students that have passed exams at the Escuela, may advertise publicly, but **it is mandatory to specify the year of examination.** (see property delivered certificate)

**For each successful completion of a test, the Escuela will hand out in each case, Certificates with date.**

### **Application:**

Persons who want to take an exam at the Escuela, must apply with a video about the selected topic of the test, before the actual exam.

**Application to [sabine.oettel@gmx.at](mailto:sabine.oettel@gmx.at)**

Then he/she gets feedback/suggestions and is admitted to the tests or possibly even "rejected".

Applications must be received at least 6 weeks before the exam, the video may last maximum 8 min! Pay attention: First after receiving the payment for the examination, the video will be viewed and the examinee will get a decision if she/he may compete for the exam.

For applicants who regularly present their horses to Sabine Oettel, under certain circumstances a shorter deadline for applications can be granted as well as the dispensation of the application video. These exceptions must be made in consultation with and approval by Sabine Oettel. In such cases the rest of the examination regulations remains unchanged!

### **Testing locations and dates:**

The exams are usually taken at the Escuela Equitabilis, Singham 86, 94086 Bad Griesbach, always by a 3-member board of examiners. Thus, it always comes to a majority decision!

The possible dates for examinations are announced at the beginning of the year.

Sabine Oettel will invite associate judges before the examination dates. This means that the 3-member Board of Examiners will always be rearranged.

Only Sabine Oettel is always presiding the Examination Board. The associate judges are usually chosen from among the members of the Escuela, but it may also be non-members with the necessary expertise !

Tests on other locations are possible. Are there no locally 2 associate judges of the Escuela, the examination is recorded on video. The result of the examination is made known after 2 other judges have assessed the test video.

### **Conditions of tests:**

There is no dress code, but it is welcome to appear in suitable and proper clothing and equipment for exams. Please resign to costumes!

Background music is not mandatory, but also welcome, in order to emphasize the festive atmosphere.

The contents of an exam can be shown in any order, with pleasure in the form of a little freestyle. However, it is important to ensure that all the required examination elements are clearly presented!

### **How to become an instructor at the Escuela:**

At the Escuela it is possible to attain the rank of the **teacher/instructor** and the **Master/Maestro**, and **Master with supplement/Maestro con Suplemento**.

For this purpose it is necessary respectively to pass a special selection of tests within a specific time.

Teacher, Master and Master with supplements carry their titles always for 3 years.

After completing their instructor examination, they get a certificate in which the validity period (eg. 2017, 2018, 2019) is noted.

To continuously maintain the title of teacher and master (date of certificate), you have the opportunity to gain continuing education credits.

Such continuing education credits can be obtained in several ways:

passing further exams; educating Students who pass exams at the Escuela; Active participation in courses as a rider; Taking courses as a spectator; give a lecture or workshop at the Escuela etc ...

The number of continuing education credits for attending courses can vary and is re-evaluated each course.

Passing further exams, bring students to tests, giving a lecture to the Escuela etc. is estimated with fixed training points.

**The regulations of continuing education credits will be listed in a separate document!**

## LIST OF EXAMINATIONS

### **Categories of testings:**

1. Ground work & Lungework
2. Handwork
3. Ridden tests
4. Tests on long reins
5. Sidesaddle tests
6. Testing in the garden of arms
7. Pilarwork (dreams of the future)

1. **Ground Work & Lunge Work:** (the horse is presented with cavesson and lunge)  
Shoulder-in, Travers, Renvers, Pirouettes and Half passes, led to both hands on the cavesson, walking backwards in front of the horse  
You show straightness on the circle to both hands, the horse on the lunge to both hands in walk, trot and canter and transitions of the gaits. You are able to stop the horse from a distance, you are able to keep the horse in distance (means, you have the ability to send the horse away from you!) **PRICE: 100, - €**

- 1.a) **Advanced Lungeing:** (the horse is presented with cavesson and lunge)  
Straightness, shoulder-in and haunches-in walking and trot.  
Transitions from walk to trot and back to walk without braking on the forehead.  
Transitions from trot to hold and back from hold to trot.  
Stepping backwards a few steps.  
Transition from walk into Canter.  
Transition from trot haunches in into canter.  
Change of leads through the circle, both in walk and in trot.  
Recognizable collection of the trot in both leads (the haunches-in is not mandatory, but allowed)  
All exercises and transitions are to be shown on the left and right hand! **PRICE: 100, - €**

2. **Tests in handwork:** (the horse is led with bridle and with reins)

a1) **Side movements and pirouettes:** you show all side movements in walk + pirouettes + Renverspirouetten, the candidate shows that he/she is able to lead the horse from inside, from outside and from the front **PRICE: 50, - €**

a2) **Sidemovements in trot:** shoulder-in, haunches -in, half-pass, renvers and training-pirouettes are to be shown in trot on both leads. Transitions from trot to walk and from trot to stop, as well as stepping backwards on both leads. The leading-positions can be chosen. **PRICE: 50,--€**

a3) **Canterwork in Hand:** Canter in straightness on both leads, shoulder-foreward, haunches-in, half-pass, renvers and half training-pirouettes on both leads. Transitions from and into walk (both hands) **PRICE: 50,--€**

b) **Piaffe:** piaffe to both hands from holding, from trot or walk or out of backwards, at least 4-8 Piaffesteps, no forward going endlesspiaff, clearly defined beginning and end.. Fulfill the characteristics of piaffe! (almost on the spot or just hoofsteps forward, loftiness of the forehand, tact and the beginning of a recognizable bending of haunches, energy, cadence, springy lightness are evaluated separately depending on the horse **PRICE: 50, - €**

c) **Levade:** Levade to both hands, the horse stands self-contained, not too broad and has good bending of the haunches. The torso in correct angle to the ground (45 °), good balance to hold out a recognizable moment, with uniform angling of the forehand, without getting behind the hand **PRICE: 70, - €**

d) **Terre à Terre / Mezair:** to both hands 5 - 8 jumps, developed out of the piaffe or the canter, with clear bending of haunches, slightly forward or on the spot, with aids as less noticeable as possible **PRICE: 70, - €**

e) **Airs above the ground:** Jumps on the haunches, Croupade, Courbette, Ballotade, Capriole can each be done as a single test price per test **PRICE 70, - €**

f) **Spanish walk:** large and evenly stridden from the forehand, controlled but energetic, the hindquarters steps evenly under, the Spanish walk is triggered by the bit, the whip is only very sparingly as an amplifier in use !! **PRICE 50, - €**

3. **Tests on long reins:** (the horse is presented on long reins in a snaffle, curb or Bitless)

a) **All sidemovements + pirouettes in walk** (both hands) **PRICE 50, - €**

b) **All sidemovements also in trot** (both hands) **PRICE 30,--€**

c) **Canter examinations:** you can take Entry Examination, Basic or Advanced (see ridden exams) **PRICE 50, - €**

d) **Piaffe:** see piaffe exam in hand **PRICE 50, - €**

e) **Passage basic:** Passage straight or on a larger curved line, at least 20 meters to both hands, developed from the trot or the piaffe, constant tact and cadence, according to the possibilities of the horse. **Price 50, - €**

f) **Passage advanced:** Passage in transitions to and from piaffe, on both hands, some steps (minimum 6) half pass in passage on both sides. **PRICE 50, - €**

g) **Terre à Terre / Mezair:** see Handwork exams **PRICE 50, - €**

h) **Levade:** see Handwork exams **PRICE 50, - €**

- i) **Airs above the ground:** see Handwork exams **PRICE 70, - €**
- j) **Spanish Walk:** see Handwork exams **PRICE 50, - €**
4. **Ridden tests:** (following bridles are allowed: Bitless Bridles (reins in 2 Hands), Snaffle (reins in 2 Hands), cavesson with curb or curb combined with snaffle reins in 3:1 or all 4 reins one-handed, or bare curb one-handed)
- a) **Sidemovements in walk and trot:** all sidemovements to both hands, as light as possible between the riders aids, well following the riders seat. The neck of the horse neither too high nor too low, the frame neither too long nor too short, neither too hasty nor diffident. **PRICE 70, - €**
- b) **Canter entry:** Canter to both hands go large and on the circle and whole with transitions to and from the trot. Also canter transitions to walk on both hands. **PRICE 50, - €**
- c) **Canter basic:** All sidemovements at canter on both hands, simple changes of canter (via transition to walk) and half pirouettes. **PRICE 70, - €**
- d) **Canter advanced:** Show on both leads all sidemovements at canter, whole pirouettes, single flying changes. **PRICE 70, - €**
- e) **Canter exam Flying changes:** flying changes and flying changes in series to 2 and 3 jumps. Clearly jumped thru, rhythmical and fluently. **PRICE 70, - €**
- f) **Piaffe:** see piaffe exams in hand **PRICE 70, - €**
- g) **Passage basic:** see exams on long reins **PRICE 70, - €**
- h) **Passage advanced:** see exams on long reins **PRICE 70, - €**
- i) **Terre à Terre / Mezair:** see exams in hand **PRICE 50, - €**
- j) **Levade:** see exams in hand **PRICE 50, - €**
- k) **Airs above the ground:** see exams in hand **PRICE 70, - €**
- l) **Spanish Walk:** see Handwork exams **PRICE 50, - €**
5. **Exams in Sidesaddle:** (the horse is presented in Sidesaddle, bridled on curb with snaffle, or curb with cavesson. Reins 3: 1 or 4 reins in one hand or bare curb in one hand. On snaffle it is allowed to ride ambidextrous. The lady wears skirt/apron, blouse and jacket/west. Optional neckerchief /plastron, gloves, hat/cap)
- a) **Sidesaddle basic:** all sidemovements and pirouettes in walk and trot on both hands, canter on both leads. The straightness of the horse on both hands is an essential part of the examination. **PRICE 50, - €**

b) **Sidesaddle advanced:** Sidesaddle Basic exam plus Piaffe, ½ canter pirouettes, simple canter changes or flying changes, Spanish walk or School-Halt to both hands. **PRICE 70, - €**

6. **Exam in the garden of arms:** (The horse may be bridled like in the ridden exams but obligatory in one hand!!)  
Examination content is the completion of a course of at least 4 elements. The course should be completed in a continuous canter, the weapons need to be changed during the canter. We will not judge the simple catching of the booties but the agility and sovereignty of the horse, the seat of the rider. The ride should appear as light and playful as possible  
**PRICE 70, - €**
7. **Exam in the Pilars:** (still in the future)

**Teacher / Instructor:** the necessary exams must be taken within at least 2 to max. 4 years. The ridden tests are taken on Cavesson with curb or curb combined with snaffle or Bosal with curb reins in 3:1, or 4 reins in one hand, or bare curb in one hand.

- Groundwork and Lungework
- Handwork: sidemovements, pirouettes, piaffe (Lead Positions)
- Sidemovements walk and trot ridden
- Canter basic ridden
- Piaffe ridden

2 students have been trained up to following passed exams:

Ground work and lunge work, ridden sidemovements in walk and trot, ridden canter entry.

Upon completion of all the necessary conditions for registration as a teacher, a **completion fee of 100 € is due.**

**Master / Maestra / Maestro:** the necessary exams must be taken within 3 years, and after completion of all tests for teachers. The ridden tests are taken on Cavesson with curb or curb combined with snaffle or Bosal with curb reins in 3:1, or 4 reins in one hand, or bare curb in one hand.

- You have taken all exams for teacher
- Canter advanced
- Canter exam Flying Changes
- Passage basic
- You give a Lecture at the Escuela on a chosen topic

Further 2 students have been trained up to following passed exams:

Ground work and lunge work, ridden sidemovements in walk and trot, canter basic ridden, piaffe handwork

Upon completion of all the necessary conditions for registration as a master, a **completion fee of 100 € is due.**

**Master / Maestra** who (depending on interest) take further supplementary exams (eg: Passage

advanced, Exam in the garden of arms, Side Saddle, tests in Handwork etc...) will be called **Master with supplement / Maestro con Suplemento!**

**For teachers, masters and masters with supplements it is a duty to take their exams ONLY with self educated horses!**

The exams for teachers, masters and masters with supplements **are intended for people who actually work as teachers**, who pass on their knowledge and are constantly working on their own development.

For this reason, the scheme has been set up with the training points (see above).

The Regulations of the Escuela was created by Sabine Oettel. If any changes are necessary, she will listen to the opinions of members and take into account if possible.

As the founder of the Escuela, Sabine Oettel is entitled to independently change the Regulations. If she sees an advantage in decisions by vote of the members of the Escuela, votes will be surveyed.

At the Escuela Fixing-Reins and animal tormenting training methods are striktest rejected and could lead to expulsion from the Escuela!

Furthermore, the school management reserves the right to exclude students from school, if their behavior is likely to derogate the school, to insult other members or to damage or harm the good cooperation of the Community. Also in other conflict situations, that can not be solved in other paths. The school management reserves the right, if necessary, to consult about such consequences with other members of the school.

Prices for tests are deliberately kept moderate!

We don't want to build financial obstacles, neither for leisure riders, nor for professionally oriented supporters of Art of Riding.