



## NORTH AMERICAN SHAGYA~ARABIAN SOCIETY, INC.

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[www.Shagya.net](http://www.Shagya.net)



### INTERIOR TEST

The "Interior Test" is a test which NASS learned about during the June ISG meeting. It has apparently been used in various forms in Germany recently by various horse breeding groups, and we saw a demonstration of the test used by the ZSAA for Shagyas in Germany. The test consists of three elements. The horse is walked past each element by its handler and the judges observe and make comments as to how the horse reacts to each element.

The first element consists of some type of material, more or less at the horse's eye level, which will move or flutter as the horse approaches it. In this case several traffic-type plastic tapes around 6 inches wide with alternating red and white stripes were strung horizontally between the arena wall and a couple of jump standards. When the horse would be led toward the tapes they would flutter in the breeze and the horse's reaction could be observed.

The second element consists of something which will make an audible sound, but with no visible source of sound. In this case a jar of some rocks was shaken by an individual who has hidden behind the arena wall. When the horse approached the designated area, the sound would be made and the horse's reaction observed.

The third element consists of an object on the ground that the horse is asked to approach. In this case the object was a large opened umbrella placed upon the ground.

The judge then would write up a brief account describing the horse's reaction to each of the three elements.

"This year NASS invites volunteers who would like to try taking their horse through the Interior Test. This will give all of us a chance to see how the test works and consider whether or not this is something we might like NASS to add to our inspections in the future."