

## Breeding program for the breed Hannoveraner in the Hannoveraner Verband e.V.

Version as of January 14, 2025

### **1. Information concerning the Indigenous Studbook**

- 1.1.** The Hannoveraner Verband keeps the studbook of origin for the Hannoveraner breed in accordance with the provisions of EU law and German animal breeding law. The requirements under subsections 4 to 15 represent the fundamental principles for the breeding of Hannoveraner horses and are binding for subsidiary studbooks. Subsidiary studbooks are to be informed about amendments in good time.
- 1.2.** The name of the breed "Hannoveraner" depicts the historical roots of the Verband as well as its geographical origin. In 1735 King Georg II. founded the State Stud of Celle in the Kingdom of Hannover. Throughout the turbulent periods which followed in the history of this region surrounding Hanover, extending throughout Lower Saxony and other neighboring federal states, many generations of "Hannoveraner breeders" have continued to breed "Hannoveraner" horses. Modern mobility and the option of artificial insemination instead of natural fertilisation have eliminated the limitations of locality to which horse breeding used to be subjected. Whilst maintaining the geographical focus of its breeding in Lower Saxony, the Verband is expanding its activity at national level to cover the whole of Germany, and at international level to cover countries where a sufficiently large breeding population is available and, furthermore, recognition of the Statutes as well as of the Breeding Program means that breeding of the "Hannoveraner" is guaranteed.
- 1.3.** With regard to breeding the Hannoveraner outside Europe it is possible that, on account of circumstances specific to the country in question, some exceptions may have to be made concerning conditions for registration. Decisions in this context are to be taken by the Committee and the Breeding Management with all members being informed as soon as possible about the decision.
- 1.4.** The Breeding Program is published on the Verband's website. Amendments to the Breeding Program are published in accordance with A.13 of the Statutes in the Verband's magazine "DER HANNOVERANER" as well as on the Verband's website.

### **2. Geographical Territory**

The geographical territory in which the breeding society implements the Breeding Program, in addition to Germany, also includes: EU member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

Signatory states: Norway, Switzerland

Non-EU countries: Canada, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### **3. Scale of the Breeding Population**

The scale of the population amounts to (valid Dec 20, 2022):

Mares: 14,043

Stallions: 482

### **4. Breeding Aim**

The Verband's breeding program encompasses all measures which are suitable to achieve breeding progress with regard to the breeding aim aspired to. This particularly includes the breeding method as well as assessment of the exterior qualities, performance test, breeding evaluation and the selection criteria based on these areas. In the estimation of the breeding value, it is possible to consider results of other breeding societies and organizations in addition to the results of the Hannoveraner population.

- 4.1.** The Hannoveraner is to be bred as a horse which is particularly suitable for riding. The aim is to produce horses which, on account of their inner qualities, rideability, external appearance, sequence of movement, natural jumping ability and health, are suitable as performance as well as leisure horses.
- 4.2.** On this basis it is aimed to breed horses with particular ability for the discipline either of dressage, jumping or eventing.
- 4.3.** With the qualities mentioned in paragraph 1, it is also aimed to breed horses which are suitable for driving sport.

### **5. Qualities and Main Features**

**5.1. Breed:** Hannoveraner

**5.2. Origin:** Lower Saxony, Germany

**5.3. Height:** The aim is to achieve an average height of 168 cm (approx. 16.2 hands)

**5.4. Colours:** All colors

#### **5.5. External Appearance**

Depending on the horse's particular ability, the desired expression of individual features of the external appearance can be differently pronounced. This is explained for show jumpers in an additional description of these features.

#### **Breed and sex-related type**

*Desired:* Noble and performance-orientated sport horse type of different calibre; physiognomy, large lines, clear outlines, clean texture, well-developed muscles, clear sex-specific expression

*Not desired:* Horses which are too small or too large, unrefined parts of the body, heavy, rough types with short lines, no sex-specific expression, indistinct outlines



## Head

*Desired:* noble and clean, i.e. without much subcutis; size in proportion to the horse's body; big, attentive eye with calm and open expression, big nostrils, clearly pronounced opening of the mouth, slight lower jaw gullet.

*Not desired:* a head which is much too large in proportion to the horse's body, lack of expression, arched face, dish-nosed head, sheep's profile, small eye with narrow viewing angle, a lot of white in the eye, fish eye, heavy lower jaw gullet, drooping ears, deficits in the jaw.

## Neck

*Desired:* sufficiently long, well-developed muscles, tapered towards the head, slight and agile connection between head and neck (light poll, freedom of the lower jaw gullet), approximately at right angles to the shoulder with slightly arched crest-line and clearly developed muscles.

*Not desired:* neck set too deep or too high, incorrect muscle insertion, neck too short or too long, not tapered towards the head, wide poll, lower neck, ewe-neck, swan-neck, ewe neck, thick neck.

*Desired for jumping horses:* sufficiently long, favorably muscled, sufficiently firm connection, constructed so that the jumping process can be balanced.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* neck set (too deep or too high, incorrect muscle insertion, neck too short or too long, ewe-neck, swan-neck, ewe neck, thick neck).

## Shoulder and "Saddle position" (withers and shoulders together form the "Saddle position")

*Desired:* long, sloping shoulder, well-defined withers extending well into the back, line of the back slightly curved downwards behind the withers.

*Not desired:* flat, straight, small shoulder, too short, flat, straight, too high, sloping withers, straight, upwardly arched or sunken back.

*Desired for jumping horses:* long shoulder, well-defined withers, line of the back slightly curved downwards behind the withers.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* flat, small shoulder, too short, flat, straight, too high, sloping withers, straight, upwardly arched or sunken back.

## Frame

*Desired:* rectangular shape, long-legs, large-frame and compact with a harmonious top line, i.e. well-set-on neck, sloping shoulder, long withers, sufficiently long back, wide, well-developed muscles in the lumbar region. Long, sloping, muscular croup, division of the trunk approximately proportional in forehand, barrel and hindquarters, sufficiently deep chest with compactly formed flank.

*Not desired:* short-lined, short legs, very long, very short back, dish, drooping or horizontal top line, dipped back, roach-backed, open or weak loins, short, straight, too high (overbuilt) croup, very high set tail, under-developed flanks.

*Desired for jumping horses:* rectangular shape, large-frame and compact with a harmonious top line, i.e. well-set-on neck, practically-set-on neck, sufficiently long back, wide, well-developed muscles in the lumbar region. Long, sloping, muscular croup, division of the trunk approximately proportional in forehand, barrel and hindquarters, sufficiently deep chest with compactly formed flank.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* short-lined, very long, very short back, dish, drooping or horizontal top line, dipped back, roach-backed, open loins, short, straight, too high (overbuilt) croup, very high set tail, under-developed flanks.

## Forelegs

*Desired:* From a side view, when a perpendicular line is dropped from the center of the shoulder blade to the surface on which the horse is standing it should divide lower arm, knee and cannon bone into equal halves and should hit the ground close to the heel. Viewed from the front, the forelegs should be centered under the points of the shoulders and stand parallel to each other. Clean, well-muscled and sufficiently strong foreleg, well-defined joints, elastic pastern of medium length. Angle of the pastern line to the ground: hard hooves positioned at approx. 45°-50°, of symmetrical form and at the same angle, in appropriate proportion to the size of the horse, front wall of the fore hoof forms an angle of approx. 45°-50° with the ground.

*Not desired:* poor muscle development, all incorrect formations such as over at the knee, calf-kneed, standing in front of the vertical, standing under too much, crookedness, upright, wide at the base, narrow at the base, toes out and toes in position, narrow, flat, poorly defined joints, all changes of bones, joints or tendons, pastern too short or too long, too weak or too straight, all incorrect hoof shapes like club foot, contracted hoof, narrow, pointed, obtuse, wide hoof, flat heels.

## Hindlegs

*Desired:* From a side view, when the horse is positioned correctly, a vertical line falling from the sciatic tuber or the end of the trunk should run along the back edge of the cannon bone. Viewed from the rear, when a perpendicular line is dropped from the sciatic tuber to the surface on which the horse is standing, it should divide the hock, hind cannons, pastern and hoof into two equal halves. Clean, well-defined joints, wide defined hock, elastic pastern of middle length, angle of the pastern line to the ground approx. 50°-55°.

*Not desired:* all incorrect formations like standing under too much and out behind, sickle-legged, cow-hocked, bow-legged, narrow at the base, wide at the base, toes in and toes out, straight hindquarters with obtusely angled hock, soft pasterns, pastern too long and standing on an upright hoof, small or incorrectly built joints like curb and bone spavin, changes on tendons and bones.

## Tail Carriage

*Desired:* Straight and well-carried tail

*Not desired:* a crooked, "tucked-in" and/or bobbing tail.

## 5.6. Sequence of Movement

### Correctness of the gaits

*Desired:* straight gaits with regular position, seen from the front as well as from the rear

*Not desired:* all incorrect features like wing out gaits, irregular formations, turning joints.



## Trot

*Desired:* horse trots on promptly, regular rhythm (2-time beat) with cadence, high level of impulsion, elasticity, ground cover and in balance, well-angled hind legs step under the point of gravity with impulsion, distinct activity of the back and the leg muscles, uphill forehand with good freedom of the shoulder.

*Not desired:* poor rhythm, lacklustre, little ground cover, without impulsion, flat, swaying.

*Desired for jumping horses:* powerfully taking-off the ground, regular rhythm (2-time beat), elasticity, in balance, well-angling hind legs. In addition, stepping under the point of gravity with impulsion, distinct activity of the back and the leg muscles, and an uphill tendency with good freedom of the shoulder are positively evaluated in the assessment.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* poor rhythm, lacklustre, swaying.

## Canter

*Desired:* regular rhythm (3-time beat), impulsion, elasticity, ground cover, in balance, every stride should be well-rounded and ensue from levering hindquarters, distinct uphill canter movement, hindquarters engaging well under the point of gravity.

*Not desired:* poor rhythm, little ground cover, lacklustre, flat, without impulsion, inadequate stride sequence.

*Desired for jumping horses:* regular rhythm (3-time beat), impulsion, elasticity, compact with medium ground cover, in balance, every stride should be well-rounded and ensue from active hindquarters, hindquarters engaging well under the point of gravity.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* poor rhythm, too much or too little ground cover, lacklustre, without impulsion, inadequate stride sequence.

## Walk

*Desired:* regular rhythm and even foot sequence in four-time beat, ground-covering, lively activity and elastically marching, in balance.

*Not desired:* ambling, without rhythm, irregular, short, stiff and lacking in strength and energy.

*Desired for jumping horses:* regular rhythm and even foot sequence in four-time beat, sufficient ground-cover, lively activity and elastically marching, in balance.

*Not desired for jumping horses:* ambling, without rhythm, irregular, short, stiff and lacking in strength and energy.

## Natural Jumping Ability

### Style

*Desired:* balanced, elastic jumping, quickly taking off when jumping, very quick bending of the limbs and good reflexes, lifting the upper arm out of the shoulder, arched back with prominent withers and downward curved neck with opening hindquarters (bascule).

*Undesired:* drooping legs, high nose above the jump, not working over the back while jumping

### Ability

*Desired:* courageous and capable jumping, powerfully taking off when jumping.

*Not desired:* little ability, fearful jumping

### Intelligence at the jump

*Desired:* responsive, ambitious, skillful (and deliberate) and sufficiently prudent jumping, recognizable intelligence; clearly collecting, flow of movement and rhythm of canter should be maintained.

*Undesired:* uncontrolled or indecisive jumping without rhythm, careless jumping, lack of intelligence.

## 5.7. Inner Qualities/Innate Disposition regarding Performance

*Desired:* Intelligence, good character (easy to handle, but sensitive, straightforward), good temperament (well-balanced, calm, alert), very willing to perform (keen to learn, plucky and diligent) as well as a high standard of ability to perform. The latter refers to horses which, on account of their physical disposition and inner qualities, are able to make optimum use of their innate disposition regarding performance.

*Not desired:* poor character, difficult temperament, low level of willingness to perform as well as any stable vices.

## 5.8. Rideability

*Desired:* A horse which chomps well on the bit, is willingly and attentively on the aids, cooperates well with the rider and enables him to sit comfortably. The horse should move in natural balance with well-engaged hindquarters and a supple, swinging back. Rhythm, suppleness, contact should be recognizable.

*Not desired:* sequences of movement without rhythm, downhill tendency in motion, firm back, lack of rideability, difficult temperament.

*Desired for jumping horses:* A horse which chomps well on the bit, is willingly and attentively on the aids, cooperates well with the rider and enables him to sit comfortably. The horse should move in natural balance with well-engaged hindquarters and a supple, swinging back. Rhythm, suppleness, contact should be recognizable

*Not desired for jumping horses:* sequences of movement without rhythm, lack of rideability, difficult temperament.

## 5.9. Health

*Desired:* Good powers of resistance, ability to perform, resilience to pressure and easy keeping

*Not desired:* Hereditary diseases, genetic defects, behavioral problems and physical as well as psychological defects which have a restricting effect on suitability for breeding or aptitude as a riding horse.

## 6. Selection Criteria

### 6.1. For entry in the Studbook (except Foal Book and Annex) the following external appearance criteria will be evaluated under particular consideration of the sequence of movement (performance test external appearance). For the assignment of the horses to the evaluation schemes of 6.2, results of the breeding value estimation, the own performance and wishes of the owner are considered.



6.2. The selection criteria external appearance, sequence of movement and jumping talent are evaluated as follows:

- |    |                                    |     |                 |
|----|------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| a) | Breed type and sex type            | b1) | Head            |
| b) | Quality of the conformation        | b2) | Neck            |
| c) | Correctness of the gaits           | b3) | Saddle position |
| d) | Impulsion and elasticity (trot)    | b4) | Frame           |
| e) | Canter                             | b5) | Forelegs        |
| f) | Walk                               | b6) | Hind legs       |
| g) | Free jumping                       |     |                 |
| h) | Overall impression and development |     |                 |
| i) | Overall evaluation                 |     |                 |

**Concerning a) to h):**

Evaluation of criteria a) to h) is carried out pursuant to the instructions stipulated in 5. The evaluation of the partial criteria is conducted using the system of full grades, in accordance with the system stipulated in the Statutes under B.15 (Fundamental Provisions concerning the Evaluation of Breeding Horses).

**Concerning b): Quality of the Conformation:**

The mark awarded for quality of conformation comprises the combined evaluation of features b1) to b6), nevertheless it must not necessarily represent the arithmetical average of the above.

**Concerning e) Canter and g) Free Jumping:**

The canter when running free and the jumping talent perceived in free jumping can be assessed additionally as a single criterion in determining the overall evaluation.

**Concerning h): Overall Impression and Development:**

Development according to age including the size, the overall impression of harmony, the tail carriage and inner qualities are to be evaluated (see 5.7).

**Concerning i): Overall Evaluation:**

The overall evaluation comprises the combined evaluation of the scores a – d, f and h in the case of mares in terms of full scores, as well as additionally e) and g) in the case of stallions scores with one decimal place.

For the mares' entry the canter and jumping talent are not evaluated. In the mare performance test, the assessment of free jumping for dressage mares is voluntary. Dressage stallions are not assessed for jumping performance.

For three-year-old and older dressage stallions presented under the rider, the presentation in free jumping is voluntary. If there is no free jumping performance, no score will be awarded and the jumping ability will not be taken into account when determining the overall score.

Upon application, mares can also be registered with the help of suitable video recordings. In this case, the mare will only be entered in a section of the studbook with the award of an overall score.

The evaluation of the selection criteria external appearance, the movements and the jumping ability of the jumping horse is also done according to the following scheme:

- |    |                                    |     |                      |
|----|------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| a) | Breed type and sex type            | b1) | Head                 |
| b) | Basic quality                      | b2) | Neck                 |
| c) | Confirmation                       | b3) | Saddle position      |
| d) | Canter                             | b4) | Frame                |
| e) | Jumping style                      | b5) | Trot                 |
| f) | Jumping ability                    | b6) | Walk                 |
| g) | Jumping intelligence               | c1) | Forelegs             |
| h) | Overall impression and perspective | c2) | Hind legs            |
| i) | Overall evaluation                 | c3) | Correctness of gaits |

**Concerning a) to h):**

The assessment of characteristics a) to h) is carried out according to the contents described under point 5. The evaluation of the sub-criteria is carried out in whole scores according to the system explained in the statutes under point B.15 (Basic provision for the evaluation of breeding horses).

**Concerning b) Basic quality:**

The mark Basic Quality represents a summarized evaluation of the characteristics b1) to b6), but need not be the arithmetic mean of these.

**Concerning c) Confirmation**

To give the Confirmation the necessary importance, the lowest score from c1 to c3 is shown as the score for the Confirmation.



#### Concerning h) Overall impression and perspective:

The overall impression, including size, overall harmony, tail carriage and inner qualities (see point 5.7) as well as the perspective as a jumping horse are evaluated.

#### Concerning i) Overall evaluation:

The overall score is the arithmetic mean of the scores a - h.

In the case of five-year-old and older stallions, the evaluation in free running and free jumping is waived. For jumping stallions, the evaluation of jumping is made under the rider.

### 6.3. Health (according to 5.9)

Health features are considered in the case of stallions within the scope of the licensing and in the case of mares in awarding the title of Hannoveraner Premium Mare.

Health data bases provide the basis for breeding programs, focused on health. Data of vets are considered as primary sources of information, health-related data from other sources are meant to provide additional information. Disease diagnosis and specific findings represent the main analysis basis. Based on a pool of health data, the Hannoveraner Verband e.V. is able to include the criteria complex "health" in its breeding program, based on long-term scientific methods.

### 6.4. In performance tests under the rider the rideability will be taken into consideration as a selection criterion according to 5.8.

### 6.5. Inner qualities and innate disposition regarding performance will be recorded using the linear description of the criteria of rideability and jumping talent in the mare performance test and the overall impression in the Mares' Book registration, and will be taken into consideration when awarding scores for these criteria.

## 7. Breeding method

- 7.1. The pure breeding method is to be applied in an effort to fulfil the breeding aim. The consequence of this is that in the first place Hannoveraner stallions and mares (including those of the recognized subsidiary studbooks of Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the USA, as well as those of the breeding program for the Hannoveraner half-blood racehorse) are registered in the most important categories, i.e. the Stallions' Book I and the Main Mares' Book. The Studbook is open.  
This does not exclude the possibility of including stallions and mares from other riding horse populations in order to improve the breed. Irrespectively of this, the fundamental aim is to achieve a predominantly Hannoveraner bloodline.
- 7.2. Within the scope of the Breeding Program, additional stallions and mares of the following breeds are used if they fulfil the stipulations pertaining to pedigree and/or performance of entry in Stallions' Book I, Ib or II or Main Mares' Book or Mares' Book:

#### Breed Group I

- AES Riding Horse
- American Warmblood
- Arabic Partbred Type German Riding Horse
- Argentinian Riding Horse
- Australian Warmblood
- Austrian Warmblood
- Belgian Sport Horse (sBs)
- Belgian Warmblood (BWP)
- Brazilian Riding Horse
- British Warmblood
- Bulgarian Warmblood
- Chilean Warmblood
- Croatian Warmblood
- Czech Warmblood
- Danish Warmblood
- Dutch Warmblood (KWPN) dressage and jumping type,
- Estonian Warmblood
- Finnish Warmblood
- German Sport Horse (Württemberger, Bavarian Warmblood, Brandenburger Warmblood, Sachsen-Anhaltiner Warmblood, Thüringer Warmblood, Saxonian Warmblood, Zweibrücker Riding Horse)
- Hessian Warmblood
- Holsteiner
- Hungarian Warmblood
- Irish Riding Horse
- Italian Warmblood
- Latvian Warmblood
- Lithuanian Warmblood
- Luxembourg Riding Horse
- Mecklenburger
- Mexican Riding Horse

New Zealand Warmblood  
 NRPS  
 Oldenburg  
 Oldenburg Jumping Horse  
 Polish Warmblood  
 Rhenish Sport Horse  
 Romanian Warmblood  
 Russian Hannoveraner  
 Scottish Sporthorse  
 Selle Francais  
 Slovakian Warmblood  
 Slovenian Warmblood  
 Spanish Sport Horse  
 Swedish Warmblood  
 Swiss Warmblood  
 Trakehner  
 Ukrainian Riding Horse  
 Westphalian Riding Horse  
 Zangersheider Riding Horse

#### Breed Group II

Anglo-Arab  
 Arab  
 English Thoroughbred  
 Pure-bred Arab  
 Shagya-Arab

The following cross-breeding combinations are permitted

Approved breeds	Breed Group I	Breed Group II
Breed Group I	X	X
Breed Group II	X	restricted*

\*Cross breeding of the following breeds amongst each other is not permitted: Thoroughbred, pure-bred Arab horses and Shagya-Arabs. The Studbook Committee, following approval by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Agriculture, can also specify additional breeds, if such breeds are suitable for achieving the fundamental breeding aims.

### 8. Classification of the Studbook

The Studbook for Stallions and Mares consists of one Main Section and an additional section. The Studbook is open.

#### 8.1. Subdivision of the Studbook for Stallions

##### 8.1.1. The Main Section for Stallions is classified into the divisions

- Stallions' Book I
- Stallions' Book Ib
- Stallions' Book II
- Annex for Stallions and
- Foal Book for Stallions.

##### 8.1.2. The additional section for Stallions is subdivided into the divisions

- Pre-book for Stallions and
- Foal pre-book for Stallions

#### 8.2. Subdivision of the Studbook for Mares

##### 8.2.1. The Main Section for Mares is classified into the divisions

- Main Mares' Book
- Mares' Book
- Annex for Mares and
- Foal Book for Mares.

##### 8.2.2. The additional division for mares is subdivided into the divisions

- Pre-book for Mares and
- Foal pre-book for Mares.



Stallions	Mares
Main Division	
Stallions' Book I (HBI)	Main Mares' Book (H)
Stallions' Book Ib (HB Ib)	
Stallions' Book II (HB II)	Mares' Book (S)
Annex for Stallions (A)	Annex (A) for Mares
Foal Book for Stallions	Foal Book for Mares
Additional Division	
Pre-book for Stallions	Pre-book for Mares
Foal pre-book for Stallions	Foal pre-book for Mares

### 8.3. Participation in the Breeding Program

Stallions registered in the Stallions' Book I and Ib as well as mares registered in the Main Mares' Book or Mares' Book participate in the Breeding Program.

## 9. Conditions of registration in the Studbook

The provisions under B.8 of the Statutes represent fundamental requirements for registration.

A horse can be registered without evaluation of the selection criteria by the Verband if the horse is already registered in the studbook of one of the breed societies listed in Breed Group I. Mares are registered in the respective division of the Studbook, stallions are registered in the Stallion Book Ib, provided that the other criteria are fulfilled.

A horse can only be registered if its owner is a regular member of the Verband or becomes a regular member on presentation of the horse. Entry in a division of the Studbook is noted on the animal breeding certificate.

### 9.1. Studbook Divisions for Stallions

#### 9.1.1. Main Division

##### 9.1.1.1. Stallions' Book I

Registered in the Stallions' Book I are stallions in the third year of life at the earliest, providing

- their parents are registered in the Main Section of a Studbook (of the licensed breed (except Annex and Foal Book)),
- they have been presented for ascertainment of identity,
- their pedigree on the sire's and dam's side has been confirmed by means of a DNA profile,
- they achieved at a Verband licensing event, according to B.16 of the Statutes and according to (11.1) Licensing of this Breeding Program, an overall mark of 7.50 or higher,
- they were tested for Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS) using the genetic test according to 14. or whose parents are verifiably WFFS-free,
- they meet the requirements within the scope of a veterinary examination according to B.16 of the Statutes regarding suitability for breeding and health, have no impairment of health according to list (Appendix 1 Breeding Regulations (ZVO)) and they have been examined in accordance with the veterinary standards at licensing events for the German riding horse breeds. (The composition of the Veterinary Commission as well as nominations to the Veterinarian Arbitration Committee is carried out pursuant to (17.6)),
- they completed and passed the stallion performance test according to (11.3.1.5).

In addition, stallions from Stallion Book Ib can be transferred to Stallion Book I if

- they fulfill the criteria described in 9.1.2,
- the stallion owner submits an application for transfer to Stallion Book I, and
- they meet the requirements within the scope of a veterinary examination according to B.16 of the Statutes regarding suitability for breeding and health, have no impairment of health according to list (Appendix 1 Breeding Regulations (ZVO)) and they have been examined in accordance with the veterinary standards at licensing events for the German riding horse breeds (See Appendix Clinical Certificate for Examination of Stallions for Licensing, Instruction Sheet for the Veterinarian for Taking X-Rays for Licensing, Owner's Declaration for Licensing).
- they have performed one of the following:
  - they passed a suitability test with a discipline-specific final score of 9.0 or better (preliminary entry).
  - they passed a suitability test with a discipline-specific final score of 8.5 or better and achieved a placement in the final of the Bundeschampionat for German riding horses (preliminary entry).
  - they passed a sport test with a final score of 9.0 or better (preliminary entry of four-year-old stallions; final entry after two sport tests, one of which was passed with a final mark of 9.0).
  - they passed a stallion performance test (50-day test) with a discipline-specific final score of 9.0 or better
  - they passed a stallion performance test (50-day test) with a discipline-specific final score of 8.5 or better and achieved a placement in the final of the Bundeschampionat of the German riding horse.



- they achieved a placement in the final of the Bundeschampionat of the German Jumping Horse, Dressage Horse or Eventing Horse.
- they achieved a placement in the finals of the national young horse championships of The Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark or France.
- they achieved a placement in the finals of the World Championships of the Young Jumping Horse, Dressage Horse or Eventing Horse.
- as seven-year-olds or eight-year-olds with a passed stallion performance test, one placement on first to third place and three more placements in international jumping competitions (1.40 m) or in international dressage competitions (S\* level).
- As a nine or ten year old with completed stallion performance test, three placings in first to third place in international show jumping competitions (1.50 m) or in international dressage competitions (Grand Prix).
- Participation in an international championship (European and World Championships, Pan American and Olympic Games).
- They are listed on a final list of the World Breeding Federation for Sporthorses (WBFSH) among the best 100 show jumpers, 50 dressage horses or 25 eventers, or
- - They are listed on a WBFSH final list among the best 100 show jumping or dressage sires or among the best 50 eventing sires.

#### 9.1.1.2. Stallions' Book Ib

Registered are stallions of the approved breeds, providing

- their parents are registered in the Main Section of a Studbook of the licensed breed (except Annex and Foal Book),
- they have not been licensed by the Hannoveraner Verband, a recognized subsidiary studbook or the Rheinisches Pferdestammbuch, but have been licensed by another breeders' association recognized under animal breeding law that is in charge of one of the following breeds (Belgian Warmblood, Danish Warmblood, German Horse, German Sport Horse, Holstein, Mecklenburg, Dutch Warmblood Horse, Oldenburg, Oldenburg Jumping Horse, Swedish Warmblood, Selle Francais, Trakehner, Westphalian Riding Horse, Zangersheider Riding Horse),
- their pedigree on the sire's and dam's side has been confirmed by means of a DNA profile,
- they were tested for Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS) using the genetic test according to 14. or whose parents are verifiably WFFS-free,
- meet the performance requirements of Stallion Book I.

#### 9.1.1.3. Stallions' Book II

Stallions whose parents are registered in the Main Section of a Studbook of the of the approved breeds (except Annex and Foal Book) are registered,

- their identity has been verified,
- they have been licensed by the Hannoveraner Verband, a recognized subsidiary studbook or the Rheinisches Pferdestammbuch, but have been licensed by another breeders' association recognized under animal breeding law that is in charge of one of the following breeds (Belgian Warmblood, Danish Warmblood, German Horse, German Sport Horse, Holstein, Mecklenburg, Dutch Warmblood Horse, Oldenburg, Oldenburg Jumping Horse, Swedish Warmblood, Selle Francais, Trakehner, Westphalian Riding Horse, Zangersheider Riding Horse),
- their pedigree on the sire's and dam's side has been confirmed by means of a DNA profile,
- they were tested for Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS) using the genetic test according to 14. or whose parents are verifiably WFFS-free.

In addition, descendants of breeding horses registered in the Appendix may be registered,

- if the sire and the maternal grand sire are registered in Stallion Book I, Ib or II,
- and fulfil the above-mentioned requirements for entry in Stallion Book II.

#### 9.1.1.4. Annex for Stallions (Main Section of the Studbook)

Stallions are registered, providing

- their parents are registered in the Studbook,
- they do not fulfil the conditions for entry in Stallion Book I, Ib and II.

The registration of horses registered in the Foal Book is automatic if offspring are registered from them.

#### 9.1.1.5. Foal Book for Stallions

In the year of birth, all colts are registered if their parents are registered in the Studbook of the breed.

### 9.1.2. Additional Division

#### 9.1.2.1. Pre-book for Stallions

Stallions are registered, provided

- they cannot be registered in one of the above-mentioned Studbooks for stallions, but correspond to the breeding aim of the Rhenish Riding Horse,
- they have been presented for verification of identity



- they have received a score of at least 6.00 at a licensing of the breeding society deciding on the licensing according to B.15 of the Statutes and according to (11.1) of this Breeding Program.

#### 9.1.2.2. Foal Pre-Book for Stallions

In the year of birth, all colts are registered that do not meet the registration requirements for the Foal Book for Stallions.

### 9.2. Studbook Divisions for Mares

#### 9.2.1. Main Division

##### 9.2.1.1. Main Mares' Book (corresponds to the Mares' Book I of the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) of the FN for populations of the German riding horse breed with increased stipulations)

Registered are mares which are in the third year of life, providing

- their parents are registered in the Main Section of a Studbook (of the licensed breed (except Annex and Foal Book)),
- they have been presented for ascertainment of identity,
- they achieve a minimum score of 5 in the evaluation of the selection criteria of external appearance in accordance with B.15 of the Statutes in each of the 6 sub-criteria a-d, f and h) and a minimum score of 6.0 in the overall evaluation.

##### 9.2.1.2. Studbook (corresponds to the Mares' Book II of the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) of the FN for populations of the German Riding Horse Breed)

Mares are registered, providing

- their parents are registered in the Main Section of a Studbook (of the licensed breed (except Annex and Foal Book)),
- their identity has been verified,
- they achieve a minimum score of 4 in the evaluation of the selection criteria of external appearance in accordance with B.15 of the Statutes in each of the 6 sub-criteria a-d, f and h) and a minimum score of 5.0 in the overall evaluation.

In addition, descendants of breeding horses registered in the Annex may be registered,

- if the Annex ancestors have been mated over one generation with breeding horses from the main division (other than Annex and Foal Book),
- they have been presented for verification of identity
- they have achieved an overall score of at least 6.0 in the evaluation of the selection criteria of external appearance according to B.15 of the Statutes, whereby the score of 5.0 has not been fallen short of in any selection criteria.

#### 9.2.1.3. Annex for Mares (Main Section of the Studbook)

Mares are registered, providing

- their parents are registered in the Studbook,
- they do not fulfil the entry requirements for the main Studbook and mare book

The registration of horses registered in the Foal Book is automatic if offspring are registered from them.

#### 9.2.1.4. Foal Book for Mares (Main Section of the Studbook)

In the year of birth, all mares are registered if their parents are registered in the Studbook of the breed.

### 9.2.2. Additional Division

#### 9.2.2.1. Pre-book for Mares

Mares are registered, provided

- they cannot be entered in one of the above Studbooks for mares, but they meet the breeding aim of the breed in question,
- they have been presented for verification of identity
- they achieve a minimum score of 4.0 in the evaluation of external appearance according to B.15 of the Statutes in each of the 6 sub-criteria a-d, f and h and a minimum score of 5.0 in the overall evaluation.

#### 9.2.2.2. Foal Pre-Book for Mares

In the year of birth, all fillies are registered that do not meet the registration requirements for the Foal Book for Mares.

## 10. Animal Breeding Certificates

Animal breeding certificates are issued according to the fundamental principles stipulated under B.9 of the Statutes and as follows

Mare Stallion	Main Mares' Book	Mares' Book	Annex for Mares	Pre-Book for Mares
Stallions' Book I	Pedigree certificate	Pedigree certificate	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth
Stallions' Book Ib	Pedigree certificate Ib	Pedigree certificate Ib	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth
Stallions' Book II	Pedigree certificate II	Pedigree certificate II	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth
Annex for Stallions	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth
Pre-Book for Stallions	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth	Certificate of birth	x

The breeder or owner of the horse is responsible for the correctness of all details on the animal breeding certificate. The Verband is to be informed immediately about any deviations or incorrect details. Furthermore, the breeder or owner is obliged to carefully retain the animal breeding certificate, as a horse can only be registered in the Studbook on presentation of a valid animal breeding certificate.

## **10.1. Animal Breeding Certificate as Evidence of Pedigree**

### **10.1.1. Issuing of evidence of pedigree**

The evidence of pedigree document is issued when the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The sire was registered in the Stallions' Book I in the year of covering, at the latest however in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.) and the dam was registered in the Main Section (except Foal Book) in the year of covering or in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.).
- Certificate of covering and registration of foaling were submitted within the due period according to the Statutes.
- The foal was identified by the Breeding Director or his representative whilst at the heel of the dam or by pedigree test.
- A positive result of a parentage verification is available.

### **10.1.2. Issuing of evidence of pedigree Ib**

The evidence of pedigree document is issued when the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The sire was registered in the Stallions' Book Ib in the year of covering, at the latest however in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.) and the dam was registered in the Main Section (except Foal Book) in the year of covering or in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.).
- Certificate of covering and registration of foaling were submitted within the due period according to the Statutes.
- The foal was identified by the Breeding Director or his representative whilst at the heel of the dam or by pedigree test.
- A positive result of a parentage verification is available.

### **10.1.3. Issuing of evidence of pedigree II**

The evidence of pedigree document II is issued when the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The sire was registered in the Stallions' Book II in the year of covering, at the latest however in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.) and the dam was registered in the Main Section (except Foal Book and Annex) in the year of covering or in the year of the foal's birth (up to and including 31.12.).
- Certificate of covering and registration of foaling were submitted within the due period according to the Statutes.
- The foal was identified by the Breeding Director or his representative whilst at the heel of the dam or by pedigree test.

### **10.1.4. Minimum information to be included in the evidence of pedigree/evidence of pedigree Ib/evidence of pedigree II**

The evidence of pedigree/evidence of pedigree Ib/evidence of pedigree II has to contain at least the following information:

- Name of the breeding society and website reference,
- Date and place of issue,
- Life number (UELN),
- Name, if available
- Breed,
- Name, address and email-address (if available) of the breeder and the owner,
- Covering date of the dam,
- Date of birth, country of birth (code and text), sex, color and markings (Illustration in Section I),
- Identification,
- Division in which the horse as well as its parents and a total of three generations of ancestors are registered
- Names, life numbers (UELN), color and breed of the parents and names, life numbers (UELN) and breed of three-further generations,
- The signature of the person responsible for the breeding work or his representative,
- Licensing judgement
- The latest performance test results and breeding evaluation, with indication of date, or the website on which the results are published.
- Information concerning genetic defects and anomalies of the horse,
- Method and results of pedigree tests for breeding animals
- Name and function of signatory.

## **10.2. Animal Breeding Certificate as birth certificate**

### **10.2.1. Issuing of a birth certificate**

A birth certificate shall be issued if the conditions for a pedigree certificate are not fulfilled, but the following conditions are met:

- the parents are both registered in the Studbook,
- the covering certificate and foal registration have been submitted in due time according to the statutes,
- the foal has been identified by the Breeding Director or his representative,
- A positive result of a parentage verification is available.

### **10.2.2. Minimum information in the birth certificate**

The birth certificate must contain the same information as the pedigree certificate, if available.



### 10.3. Animal breeding certificate for breeding material

Animal breeding certificates according to Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 shall also be issued when providing breeding material if the donor animal is registered in the studbook of the breeding society. In this case, the models of DVO (EU) 2017/717 i.V.m. DVO (EU) 2020/602 amended by DVO (EU) 2021/761 are used.

The animal breeding certificate for breeding material consists of several sections, whereby the breeding society basically issues the intended sections for the donor animals and confirms the information there at the end of these sections with the date, signature and signature of the breeding society.

Traceability of the copies of the animal breeding certificates completed by the breeding society for the donor animals made by the breeding material companies must be guaranteed at all times. For this purpose, unique document numbers can be assigned.

## 11. Selection events

### 11.1. Licensing

The regulations according to B.16 of the Statutes, the veterinary requirements named in the appendices for the licensing of stallions and regulations for stallion pre-selections and licensing events apply.

The minimum age for a stallion for licensing is 2 years. To ensure orderly licensing events, a pre-selection of the stallions registered for licensing can be carried out. If a pre-selection is carried out, it is an admission requirement for the stallions for the respective licensing event. The Selection Committee decides about the pre-selection.

A distinction is made between young stallions and old stallions. Young stallions in this context are two-and-a-half-year-old stallions. Old stallions in this context are three-year-old and older stallions.

Stallions are only authorized to take part in the licensing if

- their sires as well as the dams' sires and the further dams on the dam's side (six generations in total) have been entered in the Stallion's Book I or the Stallion's Book I of the respective division of a Studbook of the (licensed) breed,
- their dams and grandmothers have been entered in the Main Mares' Book or a Main Mare' Book's equivalent division of a Studbook of the (approved) breed and their great-grandmothers have been entered at least in the Mares' Book or a division equivalent to the Mares' Book of a Studbook (approved),
- six-year-old and younger stallions do not require evidence of performance for authorization to take part in the licensing, seven-year-old and older stallions are to fulfil the performance requirements stipulated for them in each case according to 11.3.1.5.
- in the case of older stallions which do not fulfil the conditions relating to the pedigree, but where evidence of either their own or their progeny's outstanding performance is available, the Studbook Committee decides about the authorization. The decision is based on the results of the stallion performance test (50-days-test) with more than a standard deviation above the average of the test group and/or placings in the final of the German Federal Championship Event in Warendorf or placings on the annual lists of the WBFSH, amongst the top 250 in jumping, and amongst the top 200 in dressage and eventing. The decision regarding progeny performance is based on the results of the breeding evaluation with more than a standard deviation above the average and/or progeny successes at the German Federal Championship Event in Warendorf and/or progeny that are placed amongst the top 250 in jumping, and amongst the top 200 horses in dressage and eventing on the annual lists of the WBFSH.

A stallion can only be licensed if he

- receives an overall score of at least 7.5 in the evaluation of the selection criteria of external appearance (according to B.15 of the Statutes), and
- fulfils the health requirements according to Appendix 1 of the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) and
- fulfils the requirements for suitability for breeding according to B.16 of the Statutes.

### 11.2. Entry in the Mares' Book

#### 11.2.1. Main Mares' Book

- The minimum age of a mare for entry in the Main Mares' Book is three years. The evaluation is carried out according to B.15 of the Statutes.
- Mares are only authorized for the evaluation of the selection criteria of the external appearance for entry in the Main Mares' Book mares if:
  - their sires as well as the dams' sires and the grandmothers and great-grandmothers on the dam's side (four generations in total) have been entered in the Stallion's Book I/Stallion's Book Ib or the Stallion's Book I of the respective division of a Studbook of the breed licensed in breed group I and II,
  - their dams have been entered in the Main Section (except Annex and Foal Book) or the Main Section of the respective division of a Studbook of the (licensed) breed,
  - they fulfill the pedigree requirements for entry in the studbook according to 9.2.2 can be presented for entry in the main studbook if they can prove the success in sport for the title of performance mare.

## 11.3. Performance Tests

### 11.3.1. Stallion performance tests

The tests are carried out according to the generally accepted rules of equestrian sport, the special provisions according to B.18 of the Statutes as well as Stallion Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines). They are performance tests within the meaning of the Animal Breeding Law and can be carried out as a station test, a competitive sport test or a combination of suitability test and competitive sport test.

For station tests, the General Provisions of the Stallion Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines) are binding.

The stallion performance tests are subject to a multi-stage points system, on the basis of which preliminary or final entry in the Stallion Book I can be achieved.

The owner, keeper, and/or stallion keeper are responsible for providing the breeding society with proof of the performance test points (LP points) achieved.

For final entry in the Stallion Book I, a total of at least 10 performance test points must be proven.

The following maximum point totals can be achieved for each age group:

Three-year-olds: Maximum 8 performance test points

Four-year-olds: Maximum 8 performance test points

Five-year-olds and older: Maximum 10 performance test points

In principle, more performance test points can be collected per age group; however, additional performance test points that exceed the maximum point total for the respective age group expire and cannot be taken into account in the system.

The 50-day performance test is an exception. It offers the possibility of being credited with 10 performance test points from the age of three.

#### 11.3.1.1. Suitability test of 3- and 4-year-old stallions of the German riding horse breeds

- The station suitability test is conducted as a continuous session over a period of 14 days (until 2021).
- From 2022 onwards, the suitability test will be conducted as an uninterrupted session over a period of 3 days as a short suitability test for three- and four-year-old stallions.

The test is conducted in accordance with the Stallions' Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions of the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) as well as according to the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) Guidelines for Testing Stallions of the German Riding Horse Breeds (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines and Guiding Principles).

For suitability tests, the Special Provisions of the Stallion Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines) are binding.

#### 11.3.1.2. 50-day performance test of 3- to 6-year-old stallions of the German riding horse breeds

The station test is conducted as a continuous session over a period of at least 50 days, in accordance with the Stallions' Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions of the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines).

For station tests, the Special Provisions for Station Tests and the Special Provisions for the 50-day suitability test of stallions of the German riding horse breeds of the Stallion Performance Test Guidelines for Performance Tests of Stallions (Appendix 4 Breeding Regulations (ZVO) – Stallion Performance Test Guidelines) are binding.

For a completed performance test, the stallions receive 4 performance test points.

#### 11.3.1.3. Stallion performance test evaluations

The stallion performance test evaluations are subject to the regulations of the Performance Test Regulations (LPO) for German competitive sports, including their implementation regulations and legal system with anti-doping and medication control rules.

They are offered for four- to six-year-old stallions in the disciplines of dressage, jumping, and eventing.

The special provisions for performance evaluations for stallions of German riding horse breeds in the performance test guidelines for stallions apply to the performance evaluations.

For a performance evaluation completed with the required minimum performance, the stallions receive 4 performance test points.

#### 11.3.1.4. Competitive sport test

As an alternative to station performance tests, the performance test is also considered as passed if evidence can be provided that the stallion has been successful in competitive performance tests. The competitive sport test is conducted for the disciplines of dressage, jumping and eventing.

The following national (placings registered in accordance with § 38 (2) LPO) and comparable national competition results from another national federation and international competition results are taken into account for the awarding of performance points. From the age of five, these competition results are considered minimum requirements and placings in the next higher age group can be taken into account with the corresponding number of points.



### Dressage:

Three- and four-year-olds

- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat (German National Championships) for German riding horses  
5 performance points per participation

Five-year-olds

- Placings in a dressage horse test in class L, a dressage test in class L\* or L\*\*  
1 performance point (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Qualification for the Bundeschampionat (German National Championships) for German dressage horses  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Qualification for the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Great Britain  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat for German dressage horses  
10 performance points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses  
10 performance points

Six-year-olds

- Placing in a dressage horse test at class M, a dressage test at class M\* or M\*\*  
1 performance test point (max. 6 performance test points per year)
- Qualification for the German National Dressage Championships  
5 performance test points (max. 5 performance test points per year)
- Qualification for the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Great Britain  
5 performance test points (max. 5 performance test points per year)
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat of German Dressage Horses  
10 performance test points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses  
10 performance test points

Seven years and older

- Placing in a dressage test of class S\* or S\*\*  
2 performance points per placing
- Placing in a dressage test at S\*\*\* level  
3 performance points per placing
- Qualification for the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Great Britain  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat of German Dressage Horses  
10 performance points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses  
10 performance points

### Jumping:

Five-year-olds

- Placing in a national show jumping competition at M\* level (1.20 m/1.25 m) or an international show jumping competition (1.20 m), clear round jumping excluded  
1 performance point (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Qualification for the Bundeschampionat of German show jumpers  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat of German show jumpers  
10 performance points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Show Jumpers  
10 performance points

Six-year-olds

- Placings in a national show jumping competition at M\*\* level (1.30 m/1.35 m) or a national show jumping competition at M\*\* level (1.30 m/1.35 m) or an international show jumping competition (1.30 m), clear round jumping excluded  
1 performance point (max. 6 performance points per year)
- Qualification for the Bundeschampionat of German show jumping horses  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)



- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat of German show jumping horses  
10 performance points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Show Jumping Horses  
10 performance points

Seven years old and older

- Placing in a show jumping competition in class S\* (1.40 m) or S\*\* (1.45 m)  
2 performance points per placing
- Placing in a show jumping competition in class S\*\*\* (1.50 m)  
3 performance test points per placing
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat for German show jumpers  
10 performance test points
- Participation in the final of the World Championships for Young Show Jumpers  
10 performance test points

#### Eventing:

Five-year-old

- Placing in a class A\*\* cross-country horse test, a class A\*\* combined eventing competition, or a class CCI\* eventing competition (indoor eventing excluded)  
1 performance point per placing (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Qualification for the Bundeschampionat of German Eventing Horses  
5 performance test points (max. 5 performance test points per year)
- Participation in the final of Bundeschampionat of German Eventing Horses  
10 performance test points

Six-year-olds

- Placing in a cross-country horse test in class L, a combined eventing competition in class L\*\* or an eventing competition in class CCI\*\* Short or Long (indoor eventing excluded)  
1 performance point per placing (max. 6 performance points per year)
- Qualification to the Bundeschampionat of German Eventing Horses  
5 performance points (max. 5 performance points per year)
- Participation in the final of the Bundeschampionat of German Eventing Horses  
10 performance points
- Ranking in the first half of the final at the World Championships for Young Eventing Horses  
10 performance points

Seven years old and older

- Placing in a CCI\*\*\* Short eventing competition (or comparable national competitions such as GVM)  
2 performance points per placing
- Placing in a CCI\*\*\* Long eventing competition or a CCI\*\*\*\* Short eventing competition (or comparable national competitions such as GVS)  
3 performance points per placing
- Ranking in the top half in the final of the World Championships for Young Eventing Horses  
10 performance points

#### 11.3.1.5. Conditions for entry in Stallions' Book I

##### 11.3.1.5.1. Final entry in the Stallions' Book I

Stallions may be registered at the earliest in their third year of age if they have earned a minimum of 10 performance test points. Performance tests may generally be combined with one another. However, the maximum number of points that may be taken into account for each age group must be observed in accordance with 11.3.1.

Current and former performance tests in accordance with ZVO can be recognized as proof of performance with the respective point total in accordance with Appendix 7.

Foreign performance tests in accordance with Appendix 7 can be recognized as proof of performance with the respective point total.

- English Thoroughbred stallions also fulfil the requirements of an own performance test if
  - they have achieved a general handicap weight (GAG) of at least 70 kg on the flat or at least 75 kg in steeplechasing, or
  - they have achieved a general handicap weight (GAG) of at least 65 kg in flat races and 70 kg in steeplechases with at least 20 starts in three racing seasons.
- Stallions of the Anglo-Arab, pure-bred Arab and Arab breeds will be registered in the Stallions' Book I if they are able to fulfil the performance requirements for Hannoveraner stallions. Furthermore, a stallion of one of these breeds can be registered if, in accordance with the Breeding Regulations (ZVO) of the FN, he has completed a ZSAA/VZAP competitive sport test with a minimum mark of 7.0.



Stallions that do not fully meet the minimum requirements for performance testing under saddle specified in this breeding program still meet the requirements for entry in Stallion Book I if they can demonstrate results in the breeding value estimation that are at least one standard deviation above the mean.

Stallions that do not fully meet the minimum requirements for performance testing under saddle specified in this breeding program still meet the requirements for entry in the Stallion Book I if they can demonstrate results in the breeding value estimation that are at least one standard deviation above the mean.

Stallions of breed group II can then be entered in Stallion Book I without a performance test if they achieve a score of 8.0 in the licensing evaluation (11.1.) either in the average of the jumping criteria or in the average of the basic gaits.

#### 11.3.1.5.2. Preliminary entry in the Stallions' Book I

Stallions are registered, depending on their age, as soon as they have achieved the following point totals:

- 0 performance test points: preliminary registration as a three-year-old with a positive licensing decision
- 4 performance test points: preliminary registration as a four-year-old
- 8 performance test points: preliminary registration as a five-year-old

#### 11.3.2. Mare Performance Tests

The tests are carried out according to the generally accepted rules of equestrian sport. They are performance tests within the meaning of the Animal Breeding Law and can be carried out in the form of a station test, field test or a competitive sport test.

##### 11.3.2.1. Station Test

###### Duration

The duration of the test is at least 14 days. It consists of a training phase (preliminary test) and a final test.

###### Provisions for participation

Qualified for participation are three-year-old mares and older mares.

The mares must comply with the vaccination regulations of the German Equestrian Federation Rules for Competitive Events (LPO) and must be broken-in.

###### Training

On the basis of the assessments and ascensions during training, the mares will be evaluated by the head trainer with regard to the following criteria prior to the final test:

1. Inner qualities
2. Basic gaits
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Walk
3. Rideability
4. Jumping talent
  - Free jumping (style, ability and intelligence)

###### Final test

The final suitability test is conducted by at least two experts and at least one test rider. Specifically, the following criteria of the mares are evaluated:

1. Basic gaits
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Walk
2. Rideability
3. Jumping talent
  - Free jumping (style, ability and intelligence)

###### Evaluation Guidelines

The evaluation of the criteria is carried out according to B.15 of the Statutes. The evaluation of the jumping criteria for dressage mares is done at the request of the owner.

Decisive for the evaluation is the suitability as a broodmare with view to improving the riding horse qualities of the populations. Upon arrival, and for the entire training period, the mares have to be closely observed with regard to their stamina, constitution and health. Mares which, in terms of stamina, constitution or health, do not meet the norm, will not be authorized to participate in the station test and will be excluded from further training as well as the test.

###### Weighting framework for the criteria and determination of the result

Partial scores are calculated for inner qualities, basic gaits, rideability and free jumping.

###### Basic gaits:

Trot: Arithmetic mean of trot (training) and trot (test)

Canter: Arithmetic mean of canter (training) and canter (test)

**Walk:** Arithmetic mean of walk (training) and walk (test)

Each in a ratio of 1:1:1

**Rideability:**

Rideability (training), rideability (test) and external rider test in the ratio of 1:1:1

**Free jumping:**

Style: Arithmetic mean of style (training) and style (test)

Ability: Arithmetic mean of ability (training) and ability (test)

In a ratio of 1:1.

Jumping intelligence: Arithmetic mean of jumping intelligence (training) and jumping intelligence (test) in ratio of 1:1

Indications for deficiencies and/or behavioral disorders during the test have to be documented in writing by the head trainer and communicated to the Verband.

**Publication of test results**

After the final test has been completed, the final result of the individual mare will be published. The owner of each mare receives a certificate with the final result of the mare. It includes the evaluation of the individual criteria as well as the average performance of the test group.

**Repetition of a test**

The station test can be repeated once. In this case, the result of the second test is considered the valid result. If a mare drops out within the first half of the training period for the station test, the mare is not considered to have participated in a station test.

### 11.3.2.2. Field Test

**Duration**

The test is conducted as at least a one-day suitability test.

**Provisions for participation**

Qualified for participation are three-year-old mares and older mares.

The mares must comply with the vaccination regulations of the German Equestrian Federation Rules for Competitive Events (LPO) and must be broken-in.

**Suitability test**

The suitability test is conducted by at least two experts and at least one test rider. Specifically, the following criteria of the mares are evaluated:

1. Basic gaits
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Walk
2. Rideability
3. Jumping talent
  - Free jumping (style, ability and intelligence)

**Evaluation Guidelines**

The evaluation of the criteria is carried out according to B.15 of the Statutes. The evaluation of the jumping criteria for dressage mares is done at the request of the owner.

Decisive for the evaluation is the suitability as a broodmare with view to improving the riding horse qualities of the populations.

The mares are to be closely observed with regard to their stamina, constitution and health. Mares which do not meet the norm in terms of stamina, constitution or health will not be authorized to participate in the field test, or will be excluded from it.

**Weighting framework for the criteria and determination of the result**

Partial scores are calculated for inner qualities, basic gaits, rideability and free jumping.

*Basic gaits:*

Arithmetic mean of trot, canter and walk

*Rideability:*

Arithmetic mean of rideability (judges) and external rider test

*Free jumping:*

Arithmetic mean of style, ability and intelligence

**Publication of test results**

After the final test has been completed, the final result of the individual mare will be announced publicly. The owner of each mare receives a certificate with the final result of the mare. It includes the evaluation of the individual criteria as well as the average performance of the test group.

**Repetition of a test**

The station test can be repeated once. The result of the repeated test is to be considered as the valid score.

### 11.3.2.2.1. Competitive Sport Test

The mare performance test is held in competitions as the Hannoveraner Sport Test Jumping, Dressage or Eventing.

#### Duration

The test is conducted as a one-day disposition test.

#### Regulations for participation

Qualified for participation are four to six year old mares.

The mares must comply with the vaccination regulations of the German Equestrian Federation Rules for Competitive Events (LPO) and must be broken-in.

#### Evaluation Guidelines

The evaluation of the criteria is carried out according to B.15 of the Statutes.

Decisive for the evaluation is the suitability as a broodmare with view to improving the riding horse qualities of the populations.

The mares are to be closely observed with regard to their stamina, constitution and health. Mares which do not meet the norm in terms of stamina, constitution or health will not be authorized to participate in the field test, or will be excluded from it.

#### Hannoveraner Sport Test Jumping

The Hannoveraner Sport Test Jumping is part of a jumping test for four year old mares of class A (according to German Equestrian Federation Rules for Competitive Events (LPO)).

The test is conducted by at least two experts and at least one test rider. Specifically, the following criteria of the mares are evaluated:

- Basic gaits
- Trot
- Canter
- Walk
- Rideability
- Jumping talent

The trot will be evaluated before the start, the canter and rideability will be evaluated during and the walk after the completion of the course. The evaluation of the jumping talent is based on the basic score of the jumping test.

#### Publication of test results

After the Hannoveraner Sport Test Jumping has been completed, the final results of each mare will be announced publicly. The owner of each mare receives a certificate with the final result of the mare, which includes the scores of the individual criteria.

#### Repetition of a test

The evaluation of the jumping talent can be replaced by a result of a jumping competition of at least equal value from the same year. A repetition of a test in the following year is permitted.

#### Hannoveraner Sport Test Dressage

The Hannoveraner Sport Test Dressage is part of a dressage test of class A (according to LPO) for four year old mares as well as five-year-old mares that have already had a foal and part of a dressage test of class L (according to LPO) for five and six year old mares.

The test is conducted by at least two experts and at least one test rider. Specifically, the following criteria of the mares are evaluated:

- Basic gaits
- Trot
- Canter
- Walk
- Rideability
- Overall score

The evaluation of the basic gaits and the rideability takes place during the test. The overall score is based on the test score of the dressage test.

#### Publication of test results

After the Hannoveraner Sport Test Dressage has been completed, the final results of each mare will be announced publicly. The owner of each mare receives a certificate with the final result of the mare, which includes the scores of the individual criteria.

#### Repetition of a test

The overall score can be replaced by a result from a dressage test of at least equal value from the same year. A repetition of a test in the following year is permitted.

#### Hannoveraner Sport Test Eventing

The Hannoveraner Sport Test Eventing is part of a suitability test of class A with cross-country (according to German Equestrian Federation Rules for Competitive Events (LPO)).

The test is conducted by at least two experts and at least one test rider. Specifically, the following criteria of the mares are evaluated:

- Basic gaits
- Trot

- Canter
- Walk
- Rideability
- Jumping Talent
- Overall score

The basic gaits are evaluated during the dressage test, with the canter being evaluated additionally and with special consideration of the jumping and cross-country test. The rideability evaluation takes place during the entire test. The jumping talent is evaluated during the jumping and cross-country part of the test. The overall score is based on the basic score of the suitability test.

#### **Publication of test results**

After the Hannoveraner Sport Test Dressage has been completed, the final results of each mare will be announced publicly. The owner of each mare receives a certificate with the final result of the mare, which includes the scores of the individual criteria.

#### **Repetition of a test**

The overall score can be replaced by a result of a suitability test of at least equal value from the same year. A repetition of a test in the following year is permitted.

As an alternative to the Verband's performance test, the performance test on station, in the field or as Hannoveraner sport test is also considered as passed if evidence can be provided that the mare has been successful in competitive sport tests. The competitive sport test is conducted for the disciplines of dressage, jumping and eventing.

The following competition results (placement registered according to section 38 (2) of the FN Rules for Competitive Events – LPO -) are considered sufficient as a mare performance test:

- three placings between first and fifth place in dressage competitions or competitions for young dressage horses at elementary level or higher or
- three placings from first to fifth place in jumping competitions or competitions for young jumping horses at elementary level or higher or
- three placings from first to fifth place in eventing competitions or competitions for young eventing horses at novice level or higher.

### **12. Assurance of Identity / Parentage Verification Testing**

The Verband can request a pedigree test according to the methods stipulated under B.12.1 of the Statutes for each horse registered or presented for registration. The costs are to be borne by the party applying for the licensing or entry. All foals are pedigree tested.

In the case of breeds for which a general DNA profile is not available, a DNA profile is to be provided in the case of donor animals for breeding material.

### **13. Use of reproduction techniques**

- Live cover, artificial insemination and embryo transfer as well as in vitro fertilization are fundamentally permitted in the Breeding Program.
- Breeding material may only be obtained from animals for which at least a performance test conformation (studbook entry or licensing) by the Verband is available or which have been entered in the Stallion Book Ib on the basis of their performance.
- The cloning technique is not permitted in the Breeding Program. Clones and their progeny cannot be entered in the Studbook and are excluded from participation in the Breeding Program.

### **14. Consideration of health characteristics as well as genetic variations (defects) or anomalies.**

Stallions are only eligible for registration in Stallion Book I and II if they do not show any health impairing traits (see Appendix 1-5).

The hereditary defect (genetic defect) currently known is Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS). WFFS has animal welfare and economic significance. WFFS does not have a negative influence on health and welfare in carriers of the predisposition. Stallions presented for licensing for the first time are tested for WFFS. Stallions whose parents have been

tested with the help of a genetic test and are both disposition-free (N/N) do not have to be tested. The results are published in the stallion directory. Known results of stallions previously entered in Stallion Book I will also be published in the Stallion Directory.

Carriers of the predisposition should not be mated with each other.

In the case of mares, health impairing characteristics are taken into account when awarding the Health Premium Vet+.

### **15. Breeding Value Estimation**

Breeding value estimations are carried out according to generally recognized and scientifically confirmed methods. Differences in performance which are not of genetic origin are, as far as possible, to be eliminated.

The breeding society or the agency commissioned by it is responsible for conducting breeding value estimations. The Verband commissions the FN with the FN breeding value estimation. The German Equestrian Federation (FN), in turn, commissions the Vit w.V. (Vereinigte Informationssysteme Tierhaltung w.V.) in Verden to calculate the breeding values.

The Verband commissions the vit to carry out the Hannoveraner breeding estimation.



## FN Breeding Evaluation

The breeding evaluation for dressage and natural jumping ability of German riding horses is conducted on a yearly basis. The data basis for the breeding evaluation model consists of performance and pedigree data.

Performance data for the competitive sport breeding evaluation includes the results of competitive sport tests. All dressage and jumping competitions up to advanced level as from 1 January 1995 which have been recorded by TORIS are taken into consideration.

Concerning the breeding evaluation for young horse tests, the results achieved by the young horses in these dressage and/or jumping competitions are included in the breeding evaluation via the achieved mark. In addition, information from the mare performance tests, stallion performance tests and suitability tests for stallions is also taken into consideration.

Furthermore, in addition to the performance data, pedigree data of at least two generations is included in order to establish a genetic link. The FN breeding evaluation is based on a BLUP animal model (best linear unbiased prediction). The estimation procedure takes the test into consideration for all criteria and for the criteria of competitive sport and the development tests, the factors age x sex and performance rating of the rider within the year. If a rider has participated in at least 50 competitions with at least 5 horses within a year, this will be taken directly into consideration in the model as a specific determinant (in the case of development tests, at least 30 starts with at least 3 horses).

For each horse, the breeding values in connection with dressage and jumping competitive sport as well dressage and jumping young horse tests are evaluated, resulting in a total of 4 overall breeding values.

The breeding values in connection with dressage and jumping competitive sport are based on the respective competitive sport data, i.e. the place achieved in the show jumping competition and in the dressage competition.

The breeding value for young horse tests includes three partial breeding values. The jumping criteria mark achieved in the young horse jumping competition as well as the assessment of the free jumping and jumping under the rider in the context of the performance tests are combined in the "jumping" partial breeding value. This also applies to the dressage criteria: the mark achieved in the young horse dressage competition, the assessment of the basic gaits and the rideability in the performance test result in the dressage partial breeding value for supplementary test, mare performance test/suitability test and stallion performance test.

Breeding values for stallions will only be published if the estimated breeding value for young horse tests in jumping and/or dressage is based on at least 70 percent reliable data and the estimated 30 percent is based on the performances of at least five offspring. The jumping and/or dressage competitive sport breeding values will be published if the estimated breeding value is based on a reliable assessment value of at least 70 percent as well as on own performances of at least five offspring and if the stallions have a published young horse test breeding value.

The discipline-specific stallion performance test partial breeding values can also be published with a reliable assessment value of less than 70 percent if the stallion successfully completed one or more stallion performance tests within the respective year.

## Hannoveraner breeding evaluation

At the same time as the FN breeding evaluation, VIT Verden conducts a Hannoveraner breeding evaluation commissioned by the Hannoveraner Verband at the end of each year.

Within the scope of a multi trait BLUP model, the following breeding values are calculated:

- **Riding horse points/type** including the individual breeding values head, neck, "Sattellage" (withers and shoulders together form the "Sattellage"), frame, breed and sex-related type
- **Lower body and legs** including the individual breeding values forelegs, hind legs, correctness
- **Dressage** including the individual breeding values trot, canter, walk, rideability
- **Jumping** including the individual breeding values jumping style and jumping talent

Data basis for the breeding values riding horse points/type and lower body and legs are the scores awarded by the Hannoveraner Verband when the horse is entered in the Studbook.

The breeding evaluation for dressage and jumping is based on two data sources:

- Scores awarded in the Hannoveraner mare performance test
- Scores awarded at the selection of riding horses for the Verden auctions.

The estimation model for all Hannoveraner breeding takes the age and the examination round as fixed effects into account.

The breeding values for stallions with at least 10 evaluated offspring will be published in the Stallion Yearbook and on the internet (stallion distribution plan).

## 16. Responsible agencies

Responsible agency	Function
vit, Heinrich-Schröder-Weg 1, 27283 Verden, phone +49 (0)4231-95510, pferd@vit.de, www.vit.de	Studbook Hannoveraner Breeding Value Estimation
Bereich Zucht der FN, Freiherr-von-Langen-Straße 13, 48231 Warendorf, phone +49 (0)2581-63620, <a href="mailto:mkuypers@fn-dokr.de">mkuypers@fn-dokr.de</a> , <a href="http://www.pferd-aktuell.de">www.pferd-aktuell.de</a>	FN Breeding Value Estimation Data centre Coordination Stallion Performance Test

## 17. Further Provisions

### 17.1. Allocation of a life number (Unique Equine Life Number – UELN)

The UELN is allocated as follows:

DE 431 31 15021 06

This coding is to be understood as follows:

DE            State code for Germany = 276 = DE (followed by a space character)  
 431          Verband code number as of year of birth 2000 (prior to 2000 =331)  
 31            Breed code Hannoveraner  
 15021        Consecutive number within a year  
 06            Year of birth (2006)

### 17.2. Allocation of a name on entry in the Studbook

The name allocated on entry in a Studbook must be maintained. The Verband permits the entry of a new name on condition that the original name is always added in brackets after the new name on the evidence of pedigree or the birth certificate and the equine passport as well as in publications for the entire lifetime of the horse.

#### Allocation of a name for licensed stallions

The breeding name of each stallion to be entered in Stallion Book I or II must be approved by the FN Breeding Division via the Verband.

Direct coordination between stallion keeper and the FN Breeding Section is not possible. A name is only allocated after it has been authorized by the Breeding Section and the stallion has been entered under this name in the FN stallion database.

### 17.3. Allocation of a breed brand mark

#### 17.3.1. Persons authorized to perform branding

Only persons commissioned to do so by the Verband are permitted to brand the horses.

#### 17.3.2. Breed brand mark and number brand

Foals for which an animal breeding certificate is issued receive the breed brand mark. These foals are branded on the near side hind thigh with the breed brand mark and a 2-digit number. This number is composed of the 12th and 13th digit of the life number, in other words the last digits of the covering register number. The active identification with the thigh brand complies with the statutory regulations which apply in the individual countries.

The following brand is applied: The stylized H (main studbook brand)



### 17.4. Transponder

Identification of foals by means of a transponder is carried out according to B.11.2 and B.11.2.1 of the Statutes.

#### Appendices:

1. Clinical certificate for the examination of stallions prior to the first licensing
2. Information sheet for the veterinary surgeon concerning x-rays for the first licensing
3. Declaration of ownership for the first licensing
4. Health-related selection criteria for licensing
5. Appointment of an arbitration committee for veterinary surgeons (licensing)
6. Regulations for stallion pre-selections and stallion licensing
7. Point system for current, former, and foreign performance tests and for national championships abroad
8. SPT Guideline for Performance Tests of Stallions