

PART II BREEDING PROGRAM AND RULES OF REGISTRATION

HANOVERIAN BREEDING PROGRAM

The American Hanoverian Society, Inc. (“AHS”) is committed to adopt and adhere to the highly selective breeding standards as practiced since 1735 in the Hannover breeding area of Germany and now administered there by the Hannoveraner Verband (“HV”). The AHS recognizes the HV as the authority on bloodlines of the Hanoverian horse. In accordance with the Breeding Program and Rules of Registrations (“Breeding Rules”), the AHS desires to encourage those standards and to develop a horse in North America having the same or better characteristics.

- 1. BREEDING AIM** – The Hanoverian is a breed that is particularly suited for riding purposes. The AHS strives to breed horses which, due to their character, rideability, conformation, movement, jumping ability and soundness, are suitable as performance and pleasure horses. On this basis, the AHS aims to breed Hanoverian horses with a main emphasis on dressage, eventing, and jumping. With the characteristics mentioned above, the AHS also aims to breed Hanoverian horses that are suitable for combined driving and show hunters.

- 2. BREEDING PHILOSOPHY** – The major breeding philosophy, also known as “pure breeding,” encouraged by the AHS, is to enter primarily Hanoverian stallions in the Stallion Book and Hanoverian mares in the Main Studbook. In this regard, the AHS and HV share reciprocal studbooks. Stallions and mares from other eligible breeding populations with approved pedigrees may be entered into the studbooks. Horses from the following Approved Breeding Populations are generally eligible for inspection and/or approval, and if accepted, entry into the studbooks:
 - a) a registered Hanoverian (“Hanoverian”);
 - b) a registered Hessen with pedigree approved by the AHS and the HV (“Hessen”);
 - c) a registered Rhineland with pedigree approved by the AHS and the HV (“Rhineland”)
 - d) a non-Hanoverian warmblood with pedigree and registration papers approved by the AHS and the HV (“Non-Hanoverian Warmblood”);
 - e) a Thoroughbred registered with the Jockey Club (“Thoroughbred”);
 - f) a registered Arabian (“Arabian”); and
 - g) a registered Anglo-Arabian (“Anglo-Arabian”).

- 3. INSPECTION OF BREEDING STOCK** – The Mare and Stallion Committee is the authority for licensing and approving stallions, inspecting mares, and entering the accepted mares and stallions into the breeding program. The mares and stallions shall be evaluated according to the Evaluation Criteria and Scoring as set forth herein. If accepted: stallions are entered into the Stallion Book; and mares are entered into either the Main Studbook or the Studbook. Only foals from parents that have been entered into the breeding program will be registered.
 - 3.1.** For purposes of these Breeding Rules, the following definitions shall be used:
 - 3.1.1.** “Approved Stallion” shall mean the stallion has been licensed, by either the AHS or the HV, successfully and fully completed its Performance Requirements, and entered into the

Stallion Book; or the stallion is a World-Class Performance Stallion or a World-Class Performance Sire as fully set forth in section 4.8.2.

3.1.2. “Licensed Stallion” shall mean the stallion has been licensed, by either the AHS or the HV, pending completion of its Performance Requirements.

3.1.3. “Approved Mare” shall mean the mare has been inspected, by either the AHS or the HV, and entered into either the Main Studbook or the Studbook.

3.1.4. “Evaluation Criteria” are defined as:

- a) Typiness, Femininity or Masculinity – Stallions must have a distinctly masculine bearing and mares a distinctly feminine expression. A horse's type must correspond to the AHS's breeding goal.
- b) Quality of Conformation – The main part of the body, i.e. from the chest to the buttocks, should fit into a rectangular, not square frame, with all parts harmoniously integrated; a noble head with expressive eyes; a well proportioned and well put on neck; withers pronounced and extending far back; shoulders sloping, and the angle between scapula and humerus large and open; long, broad forearm on correspondingly short cannon; straight legs; a strong but not tight back, well padded in the area of the kidney; long, well sprung hind rib; broad, slightly sloping croup. Careful attention is paid to the hindquarters, their angulation, proportion and joint formation. Hocks must be broad, clear and well defined; pasterns on all four legs of proper slope and length; hoofs well shaped, strong and sound.
- c) Correctness of Gaits – Movement as seen from front and rear must be straight; no winging or crossing over.
- d) Impulsion and Elasticity (Trot) – Impulsion must clearly emanate from the hindquarters, traveling through a relaxed back swinging in rhythm with the gait. Movements should be big, yet light and springy.
- e) Walk – The walk must be ground covering, relaxed and regular. Strides must be even with a clear four-beat sequence - not lateral or pacing. Freedom of shoulders and haunches and a supple back must be evident.
- f) Canter (Stallions only) – The canter is a three-beat gait with a distinct uphill and round quality. The canter should be marked by a lightness of the forehand and engagement of the hindquarters. It is to be penalized when it becomes four-beat and flat.
- g) Overall Impression and Development – As to a horse's size, sound judgment should prevail. Horses should be neither excessively large nor too small. In all cases height should be in proportion to the overall build. Harmony is more important than size. A horse's development must be commensurate with its age.
- h) Scoring – Each of the Evaluation Criteria shall be scored according to the following table:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 10 - Excellent | 4 - Insufficient |
| 9 - Very good | 3 - Fairly poor |
| 8 - Good | 2 - Poor |
| 7 - Fairly good | 1 - Very poor |
| 6 - Satisfactory | 0 - Not evaluated |
| 5 - Marginal | |

(In the case of a Hanoverian mare, if the mark “0” is given for any category, it is not taken into consideration in the scoring.)

4. LICENSING AND APPROVAL OF STALLIONS

4.1. Stallion Eligibility Requirements for Inspection

In order to be eligible to be inspected, the stallion must meet the following requirements.

- a) Age – The stallion must be at least three years old before being inspected.
- b) Ancestry Requirements - The stallion must meet the following ancestry requirements.
 - 1) Six Generations of Approved Breeding - The sire and the sires of each of the five female ancestors in the motherline of the stallion must belong to an Approved Breeding Population (as defined in §2), and for sires from accepted warmblood breeding populations (including Hanoverians), each such sire must have also fulfilled his performance requirements.
 - 2) Dam - The dam must be (i) entered into the Main Studbook of the AHS or HV; or (ii) belong to an Approved Breeding Population.
 - 3) Granddam – The granddam on the motherline (i.e., the dam’s dam or the second dam) must be (i) entered into the Main Studbook of the AHS or HV; (ii) entered into the Main Studbook of an accepted warmblood registry; or (iii) if a Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian mare that was not entered in the Main Studbook, such mare must have been entered into the Studbook with an overall inspection score of 7.0 or better.
 - 4) Great-Granddam – The great-granddam on the motherline (i.e., third dam) must (i) at least be entered in the Studbook of the AHS or HV; or (ii) entered into at least the Studbook of an accepted warmblood registry.
 - 5) Exceptions for Thoroughbred, Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian Motherlines – If the stallion’s dam is a Thoroughbred, Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian mare that was entered into the Main Studbook of the AHS or the HV, then the requirements on the stallion’s granddam and great-granddam set forth in paragraphs (3) and (4) shall not apply.
 - 6) Other Exceptions – In unique and exceptional cases, the Mare and Stallion Committee may make a special recommendation concerning a stallion that does not fulfill these pedigree requirements. Such recommendation must be approved by the AHS Board of Directors and by the HV.
- c) Health Requirements
 - (i) Prior to the Licensing – The stallion must pass the X-Ray protocols established by the AHS and the HV.
 - (ii) Immediately After the Licensing – A veterinarian acceptable to the AHS shall examine the licensed stallions to verify that no health deficiencies exist.
- d) Registration Papers – The stallion’s registration papers must be submitted to and approved by the AHS.
- e) Parentage Verification – The stallion must have been parent verified by DNA typing.
- f) Stallion Identification – The identity of the stallion must be confirmed at the licensing.

4.2. Stallion Licensing

4.2.1. Stallion Evaluation – Eligible stallions shall be inspected based on the following Evaluation Criteria and as set forth in §3.1.1.4:

- a) Typiness, Masculinity
- b) Quality of the Conformation
 - 1) Head
 - 2) Neck
 - 3) Saddle position

- 4) Frame
- 5) Foreleg
- 6) Hindleg
- c) Correctness of Gaits
- d) Impulsion, Elasticity (Trot)
- e) Walk
- f) Canter
- g) Freejumping
- h) Rideability
- i) Overall Impression and Development

4.2.2. Undersaddle Requirement

- a) Stallions Aged Three to Six – All three-, four-, five-, and six-year-old stallions shall be presented under saddle during their inspection in order to judge their basic gaits and rideability.
- b) Stallions Aged Seven or more – Stallions aged seven years or more shall be presented under saddle and/or freejumped at the discretion of the AHS and the HV.

4.3. Minimum Licensing Scores

- a) Hanoverian, Hessen, or Rhineland Registered Stallions – Such stallions require: (i) an overall score of seven (7.0) for the Evaluation Criteria and (ii) a score of at least five (5) for each of the individual components of the Evaluation Criteria.
- b) Thoroughbred Stallions – Such stallions require: (1) an overall score of seven (7.0); (ii) a minimum score of six (6) for foreleg; (iii) a minimum score of six (6) for hindleg; (iv) a minimum score of seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity; and (v) a score of at least five (5) for each of the remaining components of the Evaluation Criteria; EXCEPT that, for an older Thoroughbred stallion, the minimum score for impulsion and elasticity may be waived in the event that the stallion has achieved a performance record acceptable to the AHS and the HV.
- c) Other Eligible Stallions – Such stallions require: (i) an overall score at the licensing as specified by the AHS and the HV (currently set at seven and one half (7.5)); and (ii) a score of at least five (5) for each of the individual components of the Evaluation Criteria.

4.4. Approval and Licensing Designations

Approval and licensing are the designations made by the AHS and HV concerning the use of a stallion for breeding. Based on achieving the minimum scores of the Evaluation Criteria, the Performance Requirements, and other requirements, the designations are as follows:

- a) Approved (Licensed and Performance Requirements met);
- b) Licensed (Performance Requirement not met); or
- c) Not licensed.

The designation concerning licensing or approval is given to the stallion owner in writing.

4.5. Appeal of Licensing Decision

The stallion owner is entitled to file an appeal of a “not licensed” decision. This appeal must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Mare and Stallion Committee within four weeks after the stallion owner has been notified of such licensing decision. If the appeal is accepted, the stallion may be re-presented.

4.6. Withdrawal of the Designation

The designation shall be withdrawn or revoked:

- a) if, after the licensing or approval, a condition is discovered which would have made the stallion ineligible for licensing or approval.
- b) if a condition, which was attached to the licensing or approval, is not fulfilled within the required and allowed period of time.

4.7. Stallion Approval

4.7.1. Timing for Completing Performance Requirements

- a) For Three- and Four-Year-Old Hanoverian Licensed Stallions – Within two (2) years following their licensing, three- and four-year-old Licensed Stallions must successfully complete the Performance Requirements. In individual cases the Mare and Stallion Committee, on petition, may prolong this period for no more than an additional 15 months. If the stallion does not successfully complete the Performance Requirements within the prescribed period, then subsequent foals by such stallion will not be registered with the AHS.
- b) For Five- and Six-Year-Old Hanoverian Licensed Stallions – Five- and six-year-old Licensed Stallions must successfully complete the Performance Requirements before any foals may be registered with the AHS.
- c) For Seven-Year-Old and Older Hanoverian Stallions – Stallions aged seven years or more must successfully complete the Performance Requirements as a condition to be presented for licensing.

4.7.2. Performance Requirements

A stallion may complete the Performance Requirements by successfully completing either: a stallion performance test accepted by the AHS and the HV; performance in sport; or performance in young dressage horse competitions. Each of these alternatives is discussed in detail below.

a) Performance Test

Stallions may be approved through their successful completion and passing of a stallion performance test accepted by the AHS and the HV. The detailed requirements, which are currently in a state of flux, will be published as soon as they become available.

b) Performance in Sport

Stallions may be approved through their successful performance in sport, namely dressage, jumping, eventing, or racing as set forth below:

- 1) In dressage, a stallion must place in the top five (5), three (3) times by three (5) different judges at FEI Prix St. Georges, or above, with minimum scores of 63% at USEF, FEI, or Equine Canada recognized shows, or
- 2) In jumping, a stallion must place in the top five (5), three (3) times at 1.4m, or above, at USEF “A” rated shows or Equine Canada class “1” shows, or
- 3) In eventing, a stallion must place in the top five (5), three (3) times at CCI** or CIC**, or above, at FEI licensed competitions, or
- 4) In racing, for Thoroughbred stallions only, a race record of the stallion may be accepted in lieu of another performance alternative if deemed of sufficient quality by the AHS and the HV.

c) Performance in Young Dressage Horse Competitions

Hanoverian stallions aged 3, 4, 5 or 6 may be licensed outside the periods set forth in §4.7.1 by completing and passing an AHS and HV-approved 30-day stallion

performance test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i); and successful participation as either a 5- or 6-year-old in the USEF/Young Dressage Horse Competitions as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(ii). Such Hanoverian stallions may continue to be Licensed Stallions in accordance with the approval schedule set forth in §4.7.2(c)(iii).

- (i) 30-Day Stallion Performance Test – A Hanoverian stallion shall successfully complete a 30-day stallion performance test approved by the AHS and HV (30-Day Test). To successfully complete the 30-Day Test, the Hanoverian stallion must attain either (a) an overall score of 7.5; or (b) attain a dressage subscore of 8.0; or (c) attain a jumping subscore of 8.0.
- (ii) Young Horse Dressage Competitions – A Hanoverian stallion shall successfully participate in age respective classes of the USEF/Young Dressage Horse Competitions (“Young Horse Competitions”) as a 5- or 6-year-old. To successfully participate in this program, the stallion must, in the same year, either (a) receive two scores of at least 8.0 in two separate Young Dressage Horse Qualifying Classes, or (b) attain a final score of at least 8.0 in the USEF Young Dressage Horse National Championships.
- (iii) Approval Schedule for Hanoverian Licensed Stallions:
 - 1) A Hanoverian stallion that is licensed at 3 is granted a breeding permit for ages 3 and 4, or 4 and 5. If the 3-year-old Licensed Stallion has a breeding permit for ages 3 and 4 and successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 4-year-old, then he is granted breeding privileges as a 5-year-old. If the stallion then successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 5-year-old he shall receive full breeding approval provided he has also successfully completed the 30-Day Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.
 - 2) If the 3-year-old Licensed Stallion has a breeding permit for ages 4 and 5 and successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 5-year-old, he shall receive full breeding approval provided he has successfully completed the 30-Day Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.
 - 3) If the 3-year-old Licensed Stallion has a breeding permit for ages 4 and 5 but does not compete as a 5-year-old, such stallion would not have breeding privileges as a 6-year-old until he successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 6-year-old, following which he would receive full breeding approval provided he has successfully completed the 30-Day Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.
 - 4) A Hanoverian stallion that is licensed at 4 is granted a breeding permit for ages 4 and 5, or 5 and 6. If the 4-year-old Licensed Stallion has a breeding permit for ages 4 and 5 and successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 5-year-old, then he is granted full breeding approval provided he has successfully completed the 30-Day Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.
 - 5) If the 4-year-old Licensed Stallion has a breeding permit for ages 5 and 6 and successfully participates in the Young Horse Competitions as a 6-year-old, he shall receive full breeding approval provided he has successfully completed the 30-Day Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.
 - 6) Hanoverian stallions licensed at age 5 or 6 do not receive breeding approval until they have successfully participated in the USEF/Young

Horse Dressage Competitions as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(ii), and completed a 30-Day-Test as set forth in §4.7.2(c)(i), above.

- (iv) A Non-Hanoverian stallion with an eligible pedigree that is aged 3, 4, 5 or 6, and that has successfully completed a 30-day stallion performance test approved by the AHS and HV, is eligible to attend a licensing. To successfully complete the 30-Day Test, the Non-Hanoverian stallion must attain either (a) an overall score of 8.0; or (b) attain a dressage subscore of 8.3; or (c) attain a jumping subscore of 8.3. A non-Hanoverian that becomes a Licensed Stallion is granted a breeding permit for two years. To complete the process and obtain full breeding approval, the Non-Hanoverian stallion must, at either age 5 or 6, successfully participate in age respective classes of the USEF/Young Dressage Horse Competitions according to §4.7.2(c)(ii) above.

4.8. Entry into the Stallion Book

4.8.1. Licensed Stallions – Subject to the limitations set forth in §4.10.1, all Licensed Stallions are eligible for breeding.

4.8.2. World-Class Performance – World-Class Performance Stallions and World-Class Performance Sires may be approved for breeding on request to the AHS Office from a breeder without being licensed by the AHS or the HV; provided, however, that such stallions:

- a) have a pedigree acceptable to the AHS and the HV; and
- b) already be licensed by a breeding society whose program is approved by the AHS and the HV.

4.8.2.1. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this section 4.8.2 regarding World-Class Performance Stallions or Sires:

- a) World-Class Performance Stallion – A stallion shall be deemed to be a World-Class Performance Stallion if he appears in the year-end rankings of the WBFSH within the top 100 showjumping stallions, within the top 50 dressage stallions, or within the top 25 eventing stallions.
- b) World-Class Performance Sire – A stallion shall be deemed to be a World-Class Performance Sire if he appears in the year-end rankings of the WBFSH within the top 100 showjumping sires, within the top 100 dressage sires, or within the top 50 eventing sires.

4.9. Activation of the Stallion

4.9.1. Annual Activation – A stallion’s breeding privileges may be renewed annually by activating the stallion, namely by timely filing of the stallion’s annual service reports, including stallion certificates of service, and payment of stallion dues.

4.9.2. Publication of Activated Stallions – All stallions currently activated with the AHS shall be published annually in the AHS Stallion Directory and/or on the AHS website.

4.10. Certain Limitations on Licensed Stallions

4.10.1. License Limitations for Licensed But Not Approved Stallions – Three- and four-year-old Hanoverian Licensed Stallions that have not satisfied the Performance Requirements are

permitted to have a maximum of 20 AHS foals registered per year. Five-year-old and older Hanoverian Licensed Stallions that have not satisfied the Performance Requirements are not permitted to have any AHS foals registered until such Performance Requirements are satisfied.

4.10.2. License Limitations Based on Bloodlines – In order to avoid too much concentration of individual bloodlines in the population and the danger of an increasing degree of inbreeding, a limitation on the number of foals that can be registered by a Licensed Stallion may be imposed by the Mare and Stallion Committee with the approval of the Board. The stallion owner shall be informed of this limitation not later than December 31 of the year preceding each breeding season for which this limitation is imposed. The stallion owner shall inform the mare owners of this limitation to the stallion’s license.

4.10.3. License Limitations Based on Use of Outside Breeding Populations – In furtherance of the philosophy of “pure breeding” and to avoid over use of stallions from outside breeding populations, a limitation on the number of foals that can be registered by Licensed Stallions from such breeding populations may be imposed by the Mare and Stallion Committee with the approval of the Board. The AHS shall publish such license limitations on its website not later than December 31 of the year preceding each breeding season for which this limitation is imposed.

4.11. Administration of the Licensing

4.11.1. The dates of the licensing and its conduct are determined by the AHS and the HV.

4.11.2. Application for the licensing of a stallion is to be submitted to the AHS.

5. INSPECTION OF MARES

5.1. Mare Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible to be inspected, the mare must meet the following requirements.

- a) Age – The mare must be at least three years old before being inspected.
- b) Ancestry Requirements – The mare must belong to an Approved Breeding Population as defined in §2.
- c) Health Requirements – The mare should have no health deficiency that is suspected to be inheritable.
- d) Registration Papers – A copy of the mare’s registration papers must be presented to the judges during the inspection for review.
- e) Mare Identification – The identity of the mare must be confirmed at the inspection.

5.2. Mare Inspection – Mares shall be inspected based on the following Evaluation Criteria and as set forth in §3.1.1.4:

- a) Typiness, Femininity
- b) Quality of the Conformation
 - 1) Head
 - 2) Neck
 - 3) Saddle position
 - 4) Frame
 - 5) Foreleg
 - 6) Hindleg

- c) Correctness of Gaits
- d) Impulsion, Elasticity (Trot)
- e) Walk
- f) Overall Impression and Development

5.3. Mare Studbook Placement

5.3.1. Placement Based on Inspection

a) For entry into the Main Studbook:

- (i) a Hanoverian, Hessen or Rhineland Mare requires an overall score of six (6.0) or more for the Evaluation Criteria with no subscore less than (5); or
- (ii) a Non-Hanoverian Warmblood Mare requires an overall score of seven (7.0) or more for the Evaluation Criteria with no subscore less than five (5).

b) For entry into the Studbook:

- (i) a Hanoverian, Hessen or Rhineland Mare out of a Main Studbook or Studbook dam requires an overall score of five (5.0) but less than an overall score of six (6.0) for the Evaluation Criteria with no subscore less than four (4);
- (ii) a Hanoverian, Hessen or Rhineland Mare out of a Pre-Studbook dam requires an overall score of six (6.0) for the Evaluation Criteria with no subscore less than five (5); or
- (iii) a Non-Hanoverian Warmblood Mare out of a Thoroughbred Mare requires an overall score of seven (7.0) for the Evaluation Criteria, with a minimum subscore of at least seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity, and with no subscore less than five (5);
- (iv) a Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian Mare requires an overall score of seven (7.0) or more for the Evaluation Criteria, with a minimum subscore of at least seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity, and with no subscore below five (5); and
- (v) Mares under §5.3.1(b)(iii)-(iv) that do not achieve the minimum subscore for impulsion and elasticity may be nonetheless be entered into the Studbook upon successful completion of their Performance Requirements.

- c) For purposes of this §5.3.1, a Non-Hanoverian Warmblood Mare that could have received Hanoverian registration papers will be treated as a Hanoverian Mare.
- d) Imported HV-Approved Mares are automatically entered into the corresponding section of the AHS mare studbook.
- e) Injured or aged Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian mares with past competition records in dressage, jumpers, eventing, combined driving or show hunters, can be entered into the Studbook provided such competition record is verified and judged adequate by the Mare and Stallion Committee.
- f) The mare's entry in the Main Studbook or the Studbook shall be recorded on the mare's registration papers.

5.3.2. Studbook Upgrade Based on Performance – For upgrade from the Studbook to the Main Studbook, Studbook mares must successfully complete their Performance Requirements. In the event that the mare is upgraded, the mare's new studbook placement will be amended on her registration papers. In addition, upon application and payment of the appropriate fee, the registration papers of the existing registered offspring of the mare will also be amended to reflect the mare's new studbook placement.

5.4. Mare Performance Requirements

As a basis for upgrading a mare to a higher studbook or granting the title of Hanoverian Premium Mare, the following performance alternatives apply: 1) a mare performance test; or 2) performance in sport. Each of these alternatives is discussed in detail below.

5.4.1. Mare Performance Test

A mare successfully completes the mare performance test if the mare either:

- a) receives an overall score of seven (7.0) or more (i.e., at least 21 points); or
- b) if the mare has a dressage pedigree, receives scores for gaits and rideability that together average 7.25 and receives a score of at least 5.0 for jumping; or
- c) if the mare has a jumping pedigree, receives scores for jumping and rideability that together average 7.25 and receives a score of at least 6.0 for gaits.

5.4.2. Performance in Sport

Mares may be evaluated through their successful performance in sport, namely dressage, jumping, eventing, or show hunters as set forth below:

- a) In dressage, a mare must receive three (3) scores of at least 60% at Second Level, Test 3, or above, by three (3) different judges at USEF or Equine Canada recognized shows, or
- b) In jumping, a mare must place in the top six (6) at 1.15m, or above, in at least three competitions at USEF “A” rated or Equine Canada class “1” shows, or
- c) In eventing, a mare must either: i) place in the top five (5) at least five times at Training Level, or above; or ii) complete at least five (5) horse trials at Preliminary Level, or above, without jump penalties (not to include time penalties), or
- d) In show hunters, a mare must place in the top three (3) in an over-fences class of 10 or more entries, or in the top six (6) in an over-fences class of 20 or more entries, in any rated division jumping 3’6”, or above, at five (5) different USEF “A” rated shows or Equine Canada class “1” shows.

5.5. Hanoverian Premium Mare Program (Replaces Elite Mare Program)

5.5.1. Hanoverian Premium Eligible Status – A Hanoverian Mare with a Main Studbook dam receives her “Hanoverian Premium Eligible” status when she receives an overall score of seven (7.0) during her inspection or a “1a” prize during a mare show.

5.5.2. Hanoverian Premium Mare Candidate Status – A Hanoverian Premium Eligible mare receives her “Hanoverian Premium Mare Candidate” or “HPMC” status when she successfully completes her Performance Requirements.

5.5.3. Hanoverian Premium Mare Title – A Hanoverian Premium Mare Candidate receives her “Hanoverian Premium Mare” or “HPM” title upon production of a registered Hanoverian foal. Once a mare receives her Hanoverian Premium Mare title, the letters “HPM” will be added to the registration papers and also will become part of the mare's official name.

5.5.4. Dispensation for Exceptional Jumping Mares – For purposes of this section, a Hanoverian Mare with an overall score less than seven (7.0) for her inspection shall nonetheless be deemed “Hanoverian Premium Eligible” if the mare has:

- a) an actual overall inspection score of 6.83 and an average score for freejumping of at least eight (8.0);

- b) an actual overall inspection score of 6.67 and an average score for freejumping of at least nine (9.0);
- c) an actual overall inspection score of 6.5 and an average score for freejumping of ten (10.0).

5.6. Competition Mare Designation

5.6.1. A Hanoverian Mare receives her “Competition Mare” title when she achieves the following record in sport in either dressage, jumping, eventing, or show hunters as set forth below:

- a) In dressage, a mare must place in the top five (5), five (5) times, with scores of at least 63% at Fourth Level, or above, by three (3) different judges at USEF or Equine Canada recognized shows, or
- b) In jumping, a mare must place in the top five (5), five (5) times, at 1.3m, or above, in either: i) classes with at least fifteen (15) horses, or ii) with clear rounds, at USEF “A” rated or Equine Canada class “1” shows, or
- c) In eventing, a mare must: i) finish in the top five (5), at least once at FEI licensed competitions at CIC** or CCI** or higher; and ii) complete, without cross country jumping penalties, two or more other competitions at the same level or higher, or otherwise at USEF licensed intermediate horse trials, or
- d) In show hunters, a mare must place in the top five (5), five (5) times in Hunter Derby classes jumping 3’6”, or above, and having prize money of \$10,000 or more, at USEF “A” rated shows or Equine Canada class “1” shows.

5.6.2. Once a mare receives her Competition Mare title, the letters “CM” will be added to the registration papers and also will become part of the mare's official name.

5.7. Amendment to Studbook Entries

5.7.1. The AHS will transfer a horse to a different part of the studbook, or delete from the studbook, if it subsequently receives information that the requirements for entering the mare in the studbook were not fulfilled.

5.8. Posthumous Entry of Mares

A deceased Hanoverian Mare may be entered into the studbook of her dam in order to permit registration of the mare’s last-born foal.

6. REGISTRATION OF FOALS

6.1. Foal Eligibility for Registration – A foal shall be eligible to receive AHS registration papers when each of the following conditions are met:

6.1.1. Approval of Sire and Dam – A foal must have approved parents. In particular, the foal is eligible for registration when:

- a) Sire is an AHS/HV Licensed Stallion or Approved Stallion, and
- b) Dam is an AHS/HV Approved Mare.
- c) If both the requirements of (a) and (b) are met, the foal shall be registered without regard to percentage of Hanoverian blood.

6.1.2. Sire Must Be Activated – In order for the foal to be eligible for registration, the sire must be activated according to the following:

- e) date of birth, sex, color and markings of the foal;
 - f) signature of the breeder of the foal;
 - g) payment of all appropriate fees.
- Foal registration materials will be sent to the foal owner after payment of the fees.

6.3.2. Registration papers should generally only be issued in the year of birth, but no later than the end of the yearling year.

6.4. Registration Papers

6.4.1. Official Documents of the AHS – Registration papers and Certificates of Pedigree are official documents of the AHS concerning the ancestry of a horse. Such official documents are issued to the owner of the horse, but remain the property of the AHS at all times.

6.4.2. Content of Registration Papers – Registration papers shall contain the following information:

- a) The name and address of The American Hanoverian Society;
- b) Date and place issued;
- c) Universal Equine Life Number (i.e. Registration Number);
- d) Embossed seal of the AHS;
- e) Signature of the Studbook Keeper;
- f) Names and addresses of the breeder and of the owner(s);
- g) Date of birth, sex, color, markings, and the foal brand ;
- h) Four generations of ancestors;
- i) Entry of the parents and their ancestors into the breeding program; and
- j) Results of the performance tests of the sire, the sire’s sire, and the dam’s sire.
- k) Other information as shall be deemed appropriate or desirable by the Board on recommendation from the Mare and Stallion Committee

6.4.3. Registration Number – Each horse shall be allocated a 15-digit Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) when it is registered by the AHS and shall follow the horse for life. The UELN is composed as follows:

(i) For Hanoverian horses foaled in the United States:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 840 | 023 | 03 | 49273 | 15 |
| Country Code for United States | Studbook of Origin | Society Code | Sequential Five-Digit Number | Year of Birth |

(ii) For AHS Hanoverian horses foaled in Canada:

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 124 | 030 | 03 | 36204 | 15 |
| Country Code for Canada | Studbook of Origin | Society Code | Sequential Five-Digit Number | Year of Birth |

(iii) For Hanoverian horses foaled in Mexico:

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 484 | 005 | 03 | 54912 | 15 |
| Country Code for Mexico | Studbook of Origin | Society Code | Sequential Five-Digit Number | Year of Birth |

6.4.4. Registration Name – Mares which are entered into the AHS studbook as well as stallions which are entered in the Stallion Book must be named. However, a horse may also be

named earlier, i.e. at the time of foal registration. This name is to begin with the same letter as the name of the sire, except in the case of certain stallions descending from the F-W line. The name allocated at the time of foal registration may be changed provided the horse has not been inspected and entered into the breeding program. A name once given to an Approved Stallion may not be given again to any horse other than a full brother (with the appropriate suffix, II etc.). Name choices are restricted to twenty (20) spaces, including letters, punctuation marks and numerals.

- 6.4.5.** Accuracy of Information – The breeder (mare owner, leasee, or embryo owner at the time of conception) is responsible for the accuracy of the information on the application for foal registration, as well as further requirements which the breeder must submit to AHS. The breeder shall be obliged to check the registration papers after they have been issued by the AHS, to ensure that all information is correct. If incorrect information is discovered, the AHS is to be informed so that corrections can be made.
- 6.4.6.** Amendments to Registration Papers – All changes to the registration papers, including, for example, breeding data, death, sale, amendments of color or distinguishing marks, results of performance tests are to be communicated to the AHS by the horse's owner. Amendments to the registration papers or Certificates of Pedigree shall be produced by the AHS and sent to the Owner of Record.
- 6.4.7.** Duplicate Copies – A duplicate copy of registration papers or Certificates of Pedigree can only be issued after application and presentation of a signed, notarized statement concerning the loss of the original. The replacement document is to be clearly marked as a duplicate copy.

7. KEEPING OF THE STUDBOOK

The studbook shall be maintained by the AHS. The studbook records shall contain the following information for each horse:

- a) the names and addresses of the breeder and owner;
- b) the date of birth, sex, color and markings;
- c) the registration number;
- d) the foal brand;
- e) the horse's lineage;
- f) studbook level, and if applicable, changes based on performance;
- g) the date registration papers (and duplicates, if any) were issued;
- h) the inspection and performance scores;
- i) the registered progeny;
- j) show records (if available); and
- k) the DNA type.

8. OBLIGATIONS OF THE STALLION OWNER

- 8.1.** Obligations of the Stallion Owner – The stallion owner is responsible to the AHS for correct documentation of the stallion's breeding activity and its recording. In particular, the stallion owner must fulfill the following obligations:

- 8.1.1. Activate the stallion (by payment of annual breeding dues) by October 1 prior to the year for which the stallion is being activated. Returning the annual stallion service report as well as the appropriate copy of each completed stallion certificate of service to the AHS by November 30 of each year. Failure to activate the stallion by October 1 by payment of annual breeding dues, or failure to file the annual stallion service report and the stallion certificates of service by November 30 incurs a penalty payable before the AHS can accept the tardy report.
- 8.1.2. Submit a completed and signed stallion certificate of service for each mare bred. Failure to provide the AHS with a stallion certificate of service for a mare owner who has fulfilled their contractual obligations may result in suspension of a stallion's breeding approval and/or the stallion owner's AHS membership.
- 8.1.3. Observe all limitations concerning the use of stallions imposed by the Mare and Stallion Committee according to §4.
- 8.1.4. Inform the AHS of (i) any change of ownership of a stallion; (ii) any change of location of a stallion; (iii) the death of the stallion; or (iv) any event which indicates that the stallion may no longer be available for breeding.
- 8.2. Stallion Service Report – At the end of the breeding season, owners/agents of activated stallions are sent an annual stallion service report. The stallion owner is obliged to keep a list of mares bred along with the name and address of the owner and submit this entire list as an annual stallion service report to the AHS by November 30. The annual stallion service report must contain the following information:
 - a) the name and registration number (where known) of each mare bred;
 - b) the breed of each mare (where known);
 - c) all dates of breeding and/or shipping of semen;
 - d) the name and address of the mare's owner/leasee;
 - e) the signature of the stallion owner or their representative.
- 8.3. Stallion Certificates of Service – At the end of the breeding season, owners/agents of activated stallions are sent stallion certificates of service. The stallion owner is obliged to issue a stallion certificate of service for each mare bred and submit the original certificate to the AHS by November 30 of each year. Duplicates are retained by the stallion owner/agent. The stallion certificate of service must include:
 - a) the name and registration number (where known) of the mare;
 - b) the name and number of the stallion;
 - c) all dates concerning breeding and/or shipping of semen;
 - d) the name and address of the mare's owner/leasee;
 - e) the signature of the stallion owner or their representative.
9. **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**
- 9.1. Transfer of Ownership
- 9.1.1. Requirements – To effect an AHS transfer of ownership, the new owner is required to:
 - a) Be a current member of the AHS, or pay double fees; and

b) Submit a Bill of Sale, or an AHS Transfer of Ownership form, which must be signed and dated by both the seller and buyer, or otherwise a signed, notarized statement documenting ownership of the horse.

9.1.2. Update to Registration Papers – Upon completion of the requirements to transfer ownership, the name of the new owner shall be produced by the AHS and sent to the new owner of the horse.

10. BRANDING REGULATIONS

The following brand is used by the AHS (where the numbers below the ‘H’ indicate the year of birth):



10.1. Requirements to be fulfilled before branding:

The branding on the hip is generally only done in the year of birth by a person appointed by the AHS. Branding may only take place with the foal shown beside the dam, or based on genetic parentage verification (i.e., DNA typing). Yearlings may only be branded if they have been parent verified. Horses will not be branded beyond the yearling year. Horses will not be rebranded.

10.2. Branding of foals imported in utero into the United States or Mexico.

All Hanoverian foals born within the borders of the United States or Mexico may only be branded by the AHS and will only be issued AHS registration papers.