

# BREEDING PROGRAM AND RULES OF REGISTRATION

## RHINELAND BREEDING PROGRAM

The American Hanoverian Society, Inc. (“AHS”) is committed to adopt and adhere to the highly selective breeding standards of the Rhineland Studbook as practiced 1892 in the Rhineland 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 Rhineland horse. In accordance with the Breeding Program and Rules of Registrations (“Breeding Rules”), the AHS desires to encourage those standards and to develop a Rhineland horse in North America having the same or better characteristics.

1. **BREEDING AIM** – The Rhineland Studbook strives to breed noble, big-framed and healthy, fertile horses with a perfect conformation and powerful, ground-covering and elastic movement that are suitable for all equestrian purposes when it comes to temperament, character and rideability. The following properties are considered based on this basic breeding aim:
  - 1.1. **External appearance**
    - 1.1.1. Color – All colors may be accepted.
    - 1.1.2. Height – Horses having a height of at least 158 cm (15.2h) may be accepted.
  - 1.2. **Type** – The goal is to breed a noble, big-framed and harmonious riding horse, featuring a dry and expressive head with big eyes, well-shaped muscles and correct, clear limbs. Breeding stallions and mares are meant to show clear gender features. A rough, crude and unharmonious conformation including course head, an unclear shape, unclear joints and – with breeding animals – missing gender features are not desired.
  - 1.3. **Body shape** – A harmonious conformation, suitable for all kinds of equestrian disciplines, is desired. This includes: a neck of medium length, tapering to the head, wide open throat latch, a big, gently sloping shoulder, long and pronounced withers reaching into the back, deep chest, a long, well-muscled, slightly angled croup, a harmonious body, divided evenly into three parts: forehand, middle section and hindquarters. Further desired are an appropriate and dry foundation with correct, big joints, medium-long pasterns and well-shaped hooves to expect longevity. Also, a correct limb position, when viewed from behind, straight forelegs seen from the side view and hocks with a joint angle of 140°, as well as a straight toe axis with an angle of approx. 45° and 50° to the ground. Not desired is an inharmonious conformation, particularly a short, heavy or deep neck, a small, steep shoulder, a short or insufficiently pronounced withers, a short or too long back, a tight or swollen loin area, a short or straight croup with a high-set tail, a narrow chest and ragged flanks with short back ribs as well as incorrect limbs; this includes: small, narrow or restricted joints, weak cannon bones and short, upright or too long soft pasterns as well as too small hooves, particularly with inward pointing heels. Further not desired are the following limb positions: toes out, toes in, wide, narrow, calf-kneed, upright or sickle-shaped, cow-hocked or bow-legged limb positions.
  - 1.4. **Movement Basic Gaits** – Eager and ground-covering, free movement, always maintaining the rhythm (4-beat walk, 2-beat trot, 3-beat canter) are desired. The walk should be supple

and energetic with clear up and down of feet. The trot and canter should be elastic, powerful, light-footed and with a natural cadence and balance with a clear suspension phase. Impulsion should be developed from an actively working, clearly stepping hind leg and be transferred over a supple swinging back to the forehand with an unrestricted shoulder. Some “knee action” is desired. Undesired are particularly short, flat, inelastic and restricted movement with a stiff back as well as sluggish or arrhythmic movement or falling on the forehand; waving and swaying or obvious paddling, twisting, base narrow, pigeon-toed, base wide or toed out movement.

- 1.5. Show Jumping** – Skillful jumping capabilities of scope and potential are desired, revealing composure and intelligence. Obviously accepting weight when approaching the jumps, quick take-offs, quick and pronounced bending of limbs (if possible horizontal position of lower arm over the fence), an arched back with pronounced withers and downward sloping neck while slightly opening hind legs (bascule) is desired. The fluency of movement and the rhythm of the canter should be maintained. Not desired is an uncontrolled or hesitant jumping style with hanging legs, high head over the obstacle, combined with a hollow back whilst losing rhythm of movement and canter.
- 1.6. Inner qualities / performance capabilities / health** – Desired is an uncomplicated, easy to handle, but at the same time willingly working and reliable horse with strong nerves, creating an alert, intelligent impression with its appearance and behaviour revealing a relaxed, well-balanced temperament. Horses that are difficult to handle, nervous or violent are not desired. An easy to ride, willingly working horse with an all-round potential, suitable for all kinds and levels of equestrian disciplines and tournaments is desired, particularly for dressage, show jumping and eventing. Sound health, excellent physical and mental strength, natural fertility and the lack of genetic faults are desired.
- 2. BREEDING PHILOSOPHY** – Generally speaking, the breeding aim is to breed pure horses. The Rhineland Studbook, however, is kept open which means that stallions and mares from other breeding populations are accepted with the purpose of improving the Rhineland breed. The AHS and the HV share reciprocal Rhineland Studbooks. Stallions and mares from other eligible breeding populations *with approved pedigrees* may be entered in the Rhineland studbooks. Horses from the following Eligible Breeding Populations *with approved pedigrees* are generally eligible for inspection and/or approval, and if accepted, and entered into the Rhineland Studbook:

<b>Breeding Populations Recognized by the Rhineland Studbook</b>		
Anglo European Studbook	Croatian Warmblood	New Zealand Warmblood
Argentinian Sporthorse	Czech Warmblood	Oldenburg/GOV
American Holsteiner	Danish Warmblood	Oldenburg Jumping Horse
American Trakehner Assoc.	Finnish Warmblood	Polish Warmblood
American Warmblood Registry	German Sporthorse	Rhineland
American Warmblood Society	Hanoverian	Rumanian Warmblood
Austrian Warmblood	Hessian	Sachsen-Anhaltiner
Anglo Arab	Holsteiner	Saxon Warmblood
Australian Warmblood	Hungarian Warmblood	Swedish Warmblood
Baden-Württemberger	Irish Sporthorse	Scottish Sporthorse
Bavarian Warmblood	ISR/Oldenburg NA	Selle Francias

Belgian Warmblood/BWP	Italian Warmblood	Slovakian
Belgian Warm. Breed. Assoc.	KWPN	Spanish Sporthorse
Brandenburger Warmblood	KWPN-NA	Swiss Warmblood
Brazilian Sporthorse	Latvian Warmblood	Thoroughbred
British Warmblood Society	Lithuanian Warmblood	Trakehner
Bulgarian Warmblood	Lusitano	Ukrainian
Canadian Sport Horse Assoc.	Luxembourg Warmblood	Thuringer
Canadian Warmblood	Mecklenburg Warmblood	Zangersheide
Chilean Warmblood	Mexican Sporthorse	Zweibruecker/RPSI

**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 Rhineland Studbook. 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 Rhineland Stallion Book; and mares are entered into either the Rhineland Main Studbook or the Rhineland 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:

- a) the stallion has been licensed, by either the AHS or the HV, has successfully and fully completed its Performance Requirements, and has been entered into the Rhineland Stallion Book;
- b) the stallion has been licensed by another breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV, has met the Ancestry Requirements of section 4.1.b, and has successfully and fully completed the Performance Requirements of section 4.1.2; or
- c) 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 Rhineland Main Studbook or the Rhineland Studbook; or the mare has been inspected by another warmblood breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV, and entered into their main 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 Rhineland Studbook’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 or Rhineland 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) Four Generations of Approved Breeding - The sire and the sires of each of the three female ancestors in the motherline of the stallion must belong to an Eligible Breeding Population (as defined in §2), and for sires from accepted warmblood breeding associations (including Hanoverians), each such sire must have also fulfilled his performance requirements.
  - 2) Dam - The dam must be (i) entered into the Rhineland Main Studbook of the AHS or HV; or (ii) entered into the main studbook of another warmblood breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV.
  - 3) Granddam – The granddam on the motherline (i.e., the dam’s dam or the second dam) must be (i) entered into the Rhineland Main Studbook of the AHS or HV; (ii) entered into the main studbook of another warmblood breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV; or (iii) for non-warmblood mares, belong to an Eligible Breeding Population.

- 4) Great-Granddam – The great-granddam on the motherline (i.e., third dam) must (i) at least be entered in the Rhineland Studbook of the AHS or HV; (ii) entered into the at least the studbook of another warmblood breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV; or (iii) for non-warmblood mares, belong to an Eligible Breeding Population.
- 5) 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 – All eligible 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.

#### 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 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 Rhineland Studbook.
- b) For Five- and Six-Year-Old Licensed Stallions – Five- and six-year-old Licensed Stallions must successfully complete the Performance Requirements before any foals may be registered with the Rhineland Studbook.
- c) For Seven-Year-Old and Older 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, show hunters, or racing as set forth below:

- 1) In dressage, a stallion must place in the top three (3), five (5) times by three (3) 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 three (3), five (5) 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 three (3), five (5) times at CCI\*\* or CIC\*\*, or above, at FEI licensed competitions, or
- 4) In show hunters, a stallion must either: 1) place in the top three (3), five (5) times in a USHJA International Hunter Derby competition offering prize money of \$20,000 or more; or 2) finish as champion three (3) times in a rated hunter division having six (6) or more entries, including at least three over fences classes, and jumping 3'9" feet or above, in either case at USEF "A" rated shows or Equine Canada class "1" shows, or
- 5) 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

Rhineland or 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 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 Rhineland or 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, such stallion must attain either (a) an overall score of 7.0; or (b) attain a dressage subscore of 8.0; or (c) attain a jumping subscore of 8.0.
- (ii) Young Horse Dressage Competitions – A Rhineland or 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, such 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 Rhineland or Hanoverian Licensed Stallions:
  - 1) A Rhineland or 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 Rhineland or 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) Rhineland or 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 and Non-Rhineland 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 and Non-Rhineland 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 and Non-Rhineland stallion 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 and Non-Rhineland 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 Rhineland 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 in the Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook shall be published annually in the Stallion Directory and/or on the Rhineland website.

#### **4.10. Certain Limitations on Licensed Stallions**

**4.10.1.** License Limitations for Licensed But Not Approved Stallions – Three- and four-year-old Rhineland and Hanoverian Licensed Stallions that have not satisfied the Performance Requirements are permitted to have a maximum of 20 foals that receive Rhineland registration papers per year. Five-year-old and older Rhineland and Hanoverian Licensed Stallions that have not satisfied the Performance Requirements are not permitted to have any foals (or any further foals, in the case of a stallion licensed as a three- or four-year old stallion) receive Rhineland registration papers 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.

#### **4.11. 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 Eligible 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 Rhineland Main Mare Studbook – A mare requires an overall score of six (6.0) or more for the Evaluation Criteria with no subscore less than (5).
- b) For entry into the Rhineland Mare Studbook – A warmblood mare requires parents who are registered as main studbook or studbook mares of another warmblood breeding association recognized by the AHS and the HV and a non-warmblood mare requires parents that are registered with an Eligible Breeding Population.
- d) Mares approved by the AHS and the HV are automatically entered into the corresponding section of the Rhineland Studbook.
- e) Injured or aged mares with past competition records in dressage, jumpers, eventing, combined driving or show hunters, can be entered into the Rhineland Studbook provided such competition record is verified and judged adequate by the Mare and Stallion Committee.
- f) The mare’s entry in the Rhineland Main Mare Studbook or the Rhineland Mare Studbook shall be recorded on the mare’s registration papers.

#### **5.3.2. Studbook Upgrade Based on Performance – For upgrade from the Rhineland Mare Studbook to the Rhineland Main Mare Studbook, Rhineland Mare 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 Rhineland 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. Rhineland Premium Mare Program**

**5.5.1.** Rhineland Premium Eligible Status – A Rhineland Mare with a Rhineland Main Mare Studbook dam receives her "Rhineland 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.** Rhineland Premium Mare Candidate Status – A Rhineland Premium Eligible mare receives her "Rhineland Premium Mare Candidate" or "RPMC" status when she successfully completes her Performance Requirements.

**5.5.3.** Rhineland Premium Mare Title – A Rhineland Premium Mare Candidate receives her "Rhineland Premium Mare" or "RPM" title upon production of a registered Rhineland foal. Once a mare receives her Rhineland Premium Mare title, the letters "RPM" 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 Rhineland Mare with an overall score less than seven (7.0) for her inspection shall nonetheless be deemed “Rhineland 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 Rhineland 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 either: 1) 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; or 2) finish as champion five (5) times in a rated hunter division having six (6) or more entries, including at least three over fences classes, and jumping 3’6” or above, in either case 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 Rhineland Studbook, or delete from the Rhineland 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 Rhineland or 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 Rhineland 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 Rhineland registration papers when:

- a) Sire is an Licensed Stallion or Approved Stallion, and
  - b) Dam is an Approved Mare.
- 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:
- 6.1.2.1.** For stallions standing inside the United States, the sire must be activated in the year of conception through payment of its stallion dues (typically by the stallion owner).
  - 6.1.2.2.** For stallions not activated with the Rhineland Studbook, the foal may be registered upon payment of a Foreign Sire Fee (typically by the breeder/owner of the foal).
  - 6.1.2.3.** For gelded or deceased stallions, the foal may be registered upon payment of an Inactive Stallion Fee.
- 6.1.3. Mare Must Be Activated** – In order for the foal to be eligible for registration, the mare must be activated both in the year of conception and the year of foaling by payment of its mare dues, which may be paid in arrears.
- 6.1.4. Verification of Genetic Parentage** – The foal must be parent verified through DNA typing.
- 6.1.5. Production of Progeny** - Production of progeny can be achieved by breeding using natural service, including pasture breeding, artificial insemination, transported semen (fresh or frozen), or by embryo transfer (fresh or frozen). In the case of embryo transfer, multiple foals per donor mare per breeding season may be registered. Clones and foals having clones in their pedigrees may not be registered.
- 6.2. Certificate of Pedigree**
- 6.2.1.** Foals Eligible for Certificate of Pedigree – In the event that a foal is not otherwise eligible for Rhineland registration papers, a Certificate of Pedigree may be issued to the foal that is either (i) sired by an Approved Rhineland Stallion or a Licensed Rhineland Stallion or (ii) out of a Rhineland Main Mare Studbook Rhineland mare.
  - 6.2.2.** Parent verification of the foal through DNA typing is not required but is highly recommended, particularly for fillies as a means of permanent and unequivocal identification of the horse.
  - 6.2.3.** The Certificate of Pedigree shall contain the same information as Rhineland registration papers.
  - 6.2.4.** There is no time limit with respect to the issuing of Certificates of Pedigree.
  - 6.2.5.** Horses with a Certificate of Pedigree generally cannot be entered into the Rhineland breeding program; however, horses with Certificates of Pedigree may receive full registration papers and enter the Rhineland breeding program in circumstances where both parents of such horses subsequently become approved for breeding.
  - 6.2.6.** Horses with a Certificate of Pedigree are generally eligible to participate in the Rhineland’s awards programs.

**6.3. Application for Registration**

**6.3.1.** The application for either Rhineland registration papers or a Certificate of Pedigree must contain the following information supplied by the breeder or owner of the foal:

- a) three requested names for the foal;
- b) name and registration number of the foal's dam (where known);
- c) name and registration number of the sire;
- d) name and address of the breeder of the foal;
- 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 Rhineland Studbook;
- b) Date and place issued;
- c) Universal Equine Life Number (i.e. Registration Number);
- d) Embossed seal of the Rhineland Studbook;
- 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 Rhineland horses foaled in the United States:

840	023	43	49273	15
Country Code for United States	Studbook of Origin	Society Code	Sequential Five-Digit Number	Year of Birth

(ii) For Rhineland horses foaled in Canada:

124	030	43	36204	15
Country Code for Canada	Studbook of Origin	Society Code	Sequential Five-Digit Number	Year of Birth

(iii) For Rhineland horses foaled in Mexico:				
484	005	43	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 Rhineland Main Mare Studbook or Rhineland Mare Studbook as well as stallions which are entered in the Rhineland 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 RHINELAND STUDBOOK**

The Rhineland Studbook shall be maintained by the AHS. The Rhineland 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 with the Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 Rhineland Studbook 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 for the Rhineland Studbook (where the numbers below the antlers indicate the year of birth):

TBD

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