

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE STUDBOOK OF ORIGIN OF THE HAFLINGER HORSE

1. Information about the breeders' association which is officially recognized as the owner of the studbook of origin

Associazione Nazionale Allevatori Cavallo razza Haflinger in Italia – A.N.A.C.R.HA.I.
Viale J.F. Kennedy n.182
50038 Scarperia (FI)
ITALY

2. Basic principles of the studbook of origin

The studbook of the Haflinger Horse is regulated by the principles listed in harmony with European legislation. The “breeders' associations” and organizations which are recognized by the competent authorities and keep studbooks of this horse breed, are subject to compliance with the principles set out in this document issued by the breeders' association which keeps the studbook of origin of the Haflinger Horse.

2.1. Main breeding goals

The breeding goal of the Haflinger Horse is the selective improvement of the breed in pure breeding and its conservation, whereby the biodiversity within the breed and the typical breed characteristics should be respected. The goals are the valorisation of horses, which come from an offspring of sturdy and nervous animals for equitation and recreational riding; characteristics such as friendliness, sturdiness, nervousness, predisposition for equitation, recreational riding and sport in general are valorized by the selection of stallions and broodmares which genetically pass on these traits to their offspring.

2.2. Origin of the breed and rules for the registration of offspring

The progenitor of the Haflinger breed is “Folie 249”, he was born in 1874 in Val Venosta (Italy) from the mating of a domestic broodmare with the oriental stallion “El Bedavi XXII”.

Folie 249 had seven male offspring who are the founders of the current bloodlines: „A“ (Anselmo) – „B“ (Bolzano) – „M“ (Massimo) – „N“ (Nibbio) – „S“ (Stelvio) – „ST“ (Student) – „W“ (Willi).

The studbook of the Haflinger Horse is a closed studbook which consists of purebred horses. The registration of a horse in the studbook of the Haflinger Horse is reserved for the following horses:

- Horses with a proven direct descent of one of the stallions recognized as ancestors of the breed;
- Horses that have documented at least 6 generations in ascending order;
- Horses with a maximum of foreign blood of other breeds of 1.56%.

At least the following data of horses registered in the studbook, must be registered:

- Name, breed, identification number and/or identification marking
- Electronic identification number (microchip/transponder) if requested by the national or European legislation
- Date of birth, birthplace and breeder
- Gender
- Sire and dam
- Section of the studbook
- Registering breeders' association

- For stallions the belonging to the traditional bloodline: A, B, M, N, S, ST, W.

If a foal is not registered alongside the mother, or if an older horse is registered, a positive outcome of DNA analysis or equivalent genetic analysis must be provided.

2.3. Characteristics of the breed

APPEARANCE

Typically medium-weight horse with a noble appearance, with harmonious, strong and correct forms, with all body parts in the right balance. Good-natured but also sufficiently energetic temperament, with good sense of movement and a good relationship between the speed of the gait and the effort.

COLOR AND MARKINGS

Sorrel in its different gradations, preferably of golden shade; forelock, mane and tail with lush, silky, smooth and preferably bright and long hair.

Legs preferred without white markings.

HEAD

Rather light, dry, good transition to the neck, very expressive; slight depression in the aboral limit of the nasal region; large and flexible nostrils; wide and clean throatlatch; not too long, flexible and well-set ears; lively and expressive eyes with well-drawn eye arches.

NECK

Pyramid-shaped, not too strong, with adequate length, with a medium direction (45°), with a slight attachment to the head and harmonious transition to the body.

WITHERS

Marked, lean and extended into the back.

BACK

Of suitable length, strong, well-muscled and well directed.

LOINS

Wide, short, well-muscled and well connected to the croup.

CROUP

Long, wide, well-muscled and of an average inclination.

TAIL

Well set and with lush long hair.

CHEST

Wide, with well defined muscles, the sternum extending between the elbows and if seen from the side with bulging and nicely curved edge.

SHOULDER

Long, well-inclined, well-muscled and close to the body.

RIBCAGE

Large, high, deep and with arched, long, oblique ribs.

BELLY

Well-defined and firm.

THIGH

Well-muscled including the gaskin.

HOOF

Well-shaped hoof with healthy, though, preferably pigmented hoof wall.

LIMBS

Free part of the limbs relatively short with pronounced muscles; large and clear joints, forearm strong and well-muscled, longer than the cannon; very muscled hindquarters with strong, clear and well-directed hocks; short, clear cannon with well-set tendons; strong and well-directed fetlocks; correct position.

GAITS

Regular, energetic, elastic with ground covering, medium lifted strides; the movement is regular with a strong thrust from the hindquarters.

2.4. The biometric data of the breed

Following the minimum and maximum dimensions, if intended. Regarding the height at the withers, 152 cm should not be exceeded at the typical age.

BIOMETRIC DATA AT THE AGE OF AT LEAST 30 MONTHS

BIOMETRIC DATA

STALLIONS

<i>Height at withers</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Chest girth</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Cannon</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>22</i>

MARES

<i>Height at withers</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Chest girth</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Cannon</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>21</i>

2.5. Morphological and genetic defects whose presence preclude registration in the studbook

An excessively lymphatic constitution, inharmonious body; coarse and heavy head with long and drooping ears; small eyes with heavy eye arches, excessively slender build, flat ribs, incorrect position of the limbs, excessively large markings (high stocking on one leg, stockings on two legs, socks on three legs, markings on all four legs) and excessively large facial markings, untypical eye colours (e.g. blue eyes); white spots and excessive roan, considerable amount of black hair in mane and tail.

All anomalies that are hereditary cause preclude registration in the studbook, in particular:

- Umbilical hernia
- Anomalies of the teeth/jaw: prognathism and brachygnathia
- Congenital patellar luxation
- Congenital cryptorchidism
- Anomalies of the hooves; unequal size, flat hooves, club foot and other known malformations

These hereditary anomalies must be diagnosed by a veterinarian and his diagnostic report must be attached to the personal and descriptive fact sheet of the horse.

2.6. Unique identification of the horses

Identification must ensure the uniqueness of each animal's identification in compliance with applicable EU regulations and national regulations, as provided by the competent authorities. Electronic identification is made by applying a microchip (transponder) in compliance with the EU Equine Regulation or any other equivalent legislation used in the respective country.

It should be possible to request a verification of descent of registered horses or foals by analysing biological samples (DNA). Especially for foals, which are not presented alongside the mother, a certificate of descent (DNA) is obligatory.

2.7. Structure of the studbook

The studbook of the Haflinger Horse is a closed studbook and it is articulated in a single main section and it must be subdivided into at least the following classes, which should be called "registers" and may have other merit-based subdivisions.

- a) foal register (main register);
- b) stallion register;
- c) broodmare register

a) Foal register (main register): colts and fillies, which are offspring of in the stallion or broodmare register registered stallions and broodmares. Horses that don't meet the requirements of the studbook for being registered in the stallion or broodmare register remain registered in the foal register (main register);

b) Stallion register: stallions, which are at least 30 months old, which are already registered in the foal register (main register) and meet the requirements for registering in the stallion register and the contingent class of breeding value;

c) Broodmare register: mares, which are at least 30 months old, which are already registered in the foal register (main register) and meet the requirements for registering in the broodmare register and the contingent class of breeding value;

2.8. Evaluation of the horses registered in the studbook

The description of the morphological aspect by the linear scoring system (BLUP Animal Model) is the ideal tool to follow the breeding goals of the breed and allow genetic indexing of the horse population.

It is desirable that the studbooks use this method for their own breeding programs.

MORPHOLOGICAL EVALUATION

The morphological evaluation must be issued by a judge or breed inspector who is recognized by the studbook and must at least include the following or equivalent criteria:

- Typical characters
- Harmony
- Limbs and leg position
- Quality of gait at walk
- Quality of gait at trot.

There must be also a general evaluation of the horse.

The criteria listed above may be given a rating, which may also be in numerical form.

Below you will find the classes of breeding value, which are used by the Italian Studbook of Origin and which can be used for inspiration.

Qualification	Class of breeding value
<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Ia</i>
<i>Very good</i>	<i>Ib</i>
<i>Good</i>	<i>IIa</i>
<i>Fair</i>	<i>IIb</i>
<i>Sufficient</i>	<i>III</i>
<i>Not sufficient</i>	-

Horses which don't achieve **SUFFICIENT** for one single evaluation criterion will be excluded from the studbook.

2.9. Registration of horses from other countries

In case of import, Haflinger Horses, which are registered in a recognized studbook, are registered in the corresponding register of the studbook as provided for by the requirements of the corresponding class of breeding value and in compliance with the European legislation and the valid legislation of the country of destination.

If the evaluation criteria and requirements can not be given the same value, the horse is registered in the main register. The owner may then present the horse for evaluation for registration in the stallion or broodmare register and any other class of merit, if provided, by the studbook into which it should be registered.

There should be a free exchange of breeding stock and genetic material between the countries where recognized studbooks exist, in compliance with EU legislation and current legislation of livestock breeding.

3. Notes

A.N.A.C.R.HA.I. in quality as studbook of origin of the Haflinger Horse, will publish on its official website the basic principles of the studbook of the Haflinger Horse and will keep them up to date with any changes by the central technical commission of the studbook. The associations that keep secondary studbooks are subordinated to the principles of this document.