

BREED BOOK RULES

Breeding Area and Breeding Population

The breeding area of the Trakehner Association of North America extends to the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Characteristics of the Original Trakehner Breed and Breeding Goal

The original Trakehner breed traces back, without interruptions, to the founding of the first breeding station in 1732 by the order of the Prussian crown. The warmblood horse of Trakehner origin has been bred until this day according to the principles of pure breeding with high genetic proportions of Thoroughbred and purebred Arabian, Shagya Arabian and Anglo-Arabian blood taking into account the selection criteria listed below. The main task of the Association is to maintain this original breed in its special Trakehner specific form and to improve it as much as possible in the future by appropriate measures.

The breeding goal is a versatile, riding sport horse, standing in the Trakehner type.

The selection criteria are:

- Pedigree
- External appearance
- Movement including jumping
- Internal characteristics (such as performance aptitude, character, temperament and soundness)
- Summary

Pedigree

Based on the population of the warm-blooded horse originating from Trakehnen and developed in East Prussia with high genetic proportions of Thoroughbred and purebred Arabian, Shagya-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian blood. Since 1945 the Trakehner horse has been bred in its breeding area of Germany according to the principles of pure breeding from the genetic material of the East Prussian Warmblood Horse originating from Trakehnen that was still available after World War II.

External Appearance

Colors: All colors

Size: 160 to 170 cm height measured by stick at the withers is desired.

Type: The Trakehner embodies the noblest German riding horse breed, especially marked by the Trakehner breed type. Desirable is the most elegant appearance of a riding horse of great lines that is harmonious and noble, characterized by expression, nobility and distinct features. The Trakehner type is evident in a chiseled, expressive head, a large eye and well-shaped neck, sculpted muscles and correct, clearly defined legs. Breeding stallions and broodmares should be typical representatives of their gender.

Undesirable are, in particular, a coarse, dumpy appearance, a common head, indistinct outlines, ill-defined joints and for breeding stock, the lack of gender expression.

Conformation: Desirable is a large-bodied and harmonious physique which enables the horse to perform in athletic activities.

These include: A medium-length neck tapering toward the head, good throatlatch freedom, a large, sloping shoulder, distinct withers that extend far into the back, a functional back that meets the requirements of an athletic sport horse and combines movement, impulsion, carrying ability and balance; a long, slightly sloping, powerfully muscled croup and harmonious proportions of forehead, midsection and hindquarters.

Also desired are dry legs proportionate to the body with correct, large joints, medium long pasterns and well-shaped hooves, permitting the expectation of long years of use. In addition, the legs should be placed correctly; that is, seen from behind, they should be straight, viewed from the side, the forelegs should be straight, and the hind legs should have well set hocks that describe an angle of approximately 150 ° as well as a straight hoof axis with about 45 ° to 50 ° angle to the ground.

Undesired are an unharmonious overall body, especially a short, heavy, low set neck; a small, steep shoulder; short or indistinct withers, a short or overly long soft back; a tight or convex loin section; a short or flat croup with a high set tail; not much depth of girth and drawn-up flanks with short rear ribs; and incorrectly shaped legs; this includes: small, narrow or tied-in joints, weak cannon bones and short, steep or overly long, soft pasterns as well as small hooves, especially with inwardly drawn hoof walls. Undesirable are incorrect leg positions, particularly legs that are pigeon-toed, turned out, placed too wide or too narrow, calf-kneed, too straight, or legs that are bowed, cow-hocked or sickle-hocked.

Movement

Desirable are active, cadenced and ground covering gaits (4-beat walk, 2-beat trot, 3-beat canter). The movements should be elastic and energetic from the hindquarters developed over the supple swinging back to a forehead that reaches out freely from the shoulder. The direction of movement of the legs should be straight and forward.

Movement at the walk should be supple, energetic and elevated with clear steps. Movement at the trot and canter should include a clearly noticeable phase of suspension, be elastic, full of impulsion and light-footed, carried with natural elevation and balance. Some knee action is desired.

Undesirable are, in particular, short, flat and inelastic movement with a tight back as well as a lumbering movement that falls on the forehead or is not cadenced; also tottering movement or movement that swings from side to side, or a movement that is clearly paddling, twisting, plaiting, wide behind, toeing in or toeing out. Movement is examined in hand and at liberty.

Jumping: Desirable is an elastic, powerful and deliberate jump, indicating calmness and intelligence. The desired jump sequence should clearly show engagement behind, a powerful and quick take-off, quick tucking of the legs (with the lower forelegs being horizontal, if possible, over the jump), an arched back with clearly emphasized withers and downwardly bent neck with opening hindquarters (bascule). In the overall sequence of the jump, the flow of movement and the rhythm of the canter should be maintained.

Undesirable are, in particular, jumping in a careless manner and with lack of natural ability, with hanging legs, head held high over the jump connected with a tight back in which the flow of movement and the rhythm of the canter are lost, as well as uncontrolled and also hesitant jumping.

Internal Characteristics (Performance Aptitude, Character, Temperament and Soundness)

Desirable is an uncomplicated, easy-going horse that is at the same time a strong and reliable horse that makes an alert, intelligent impression and who reveals by his demeanor and behavior, good character traits as well as a calm, steady temperament.

Undesirable are, in particular, horses that are difficult to handle, nervous, timid or cowardly.

Also desired are robust health, good mental and physical stress ability, natural fertility as well as freedom from hereditary defects, as far as they are scientifically proven.

Summary

Desirable is a sound riding and sport horse of Trakehner type, with a large frame and correct conformation, harmonious in its appearance, rideable and versatile with swinging, ground covering, elastic movements. Good character, steady temperament, intelligence, willingness to perform, as well as endurance and toughness in performance should be especially striking characteristics of its internal makeup.

The features of the breeding goal characteristics are the responsibility of the decision-making bodies of the Association.

Breeding Method

The breeding goal is attained with the method of pure breeding. The refining breeds are Thoroughbred and purebred Arabian, as well as Shagya-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian. In the pedigree in the fourth generation at most one ancestor from a breed who does not belong to the above listed groups, is allowed. This can be deviated in individual cases, if a special contribution to the breeding progress can be expected. This deviation must be approved unanimously before through decision of the Board. The parent generation counts as the first generation.

Evaluation Framework

Evaluations will be conducted by the Inspection Committee. At least one inspector will conduct Mare Inspections and Foal/Yearling Inspections. At least three Inspectors will conduct Stallion Inspections. Two Inspectors will conduct Mare/Gelding Riding Performance Tests. At least three Inspectors will conduct Stallion Riding Performance Tests. They are conducted principally at regional organized events. In justified individual cases, exceptions may be made regarding participation in regional approvals.

The evaluation will be done in whole and/or half marks; the whole marks will be defined as follows:

10 excellent	4 insufficient
9 very good	3 fairly bad
8 good	2 bad
7 fairly good	1 very bad
6 satisfactory	0 not evaluated
5 marginal	

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria are conformation, movement and, within the framework of the overall impression also the temperament. The evaluation results are entered in the studbook:

- a) breed and gender type
- b) frame
- c) foundation
- d) walk
- e) trot
- f) canter
- g) overall impression including temperament
- h) Free jumping in stallions

The arithmetic average of the evaluated criteria is called the average mark and is calculated to one decimal point. Stallions admitted to the licensing, due to their own performance in racing or due to successes in competition are absolved from the requirement of free jumping.

Registration in the Breed Book

1. Every horse satisfying the requirements for registration shall be entered in the breeding book.
 - a) if the identity of the horse has been assured,
 - b) if the owner is a full member of the association,
 - c) and if the application for registration is made in writing.
2. With respect to the statement of age, for horses foaled in November and December, the 1st of January of the following year is the date used for their foaling and for all other horses it is the 1st of January of the year in which they were foaled.

Stallion Inspection and Licensing

1. The inspection of stallions is conducted by at least three members of the Inspection Committee.
2. The minimum age of a stallion for the inspection is 2 years.
3. The stallion inspection decides about the use of a stallion as part of the Association's breeding program and in which section of the Stud Books the stallion will be registered or recorded. The decision includes the evaluation of the conformation, movement and aptitude for performance as well as the results of veterinary findings, in particular, the X-ray results, as far as these criteria can be determined from the information at hand.
4. The inspections take place at regional locations in North America, which are determined by the Board. These dates and locations are officially announced in the publications of the Association.
5. There is a possibility for stallions in justified exceptional cases to apply for a special inspection. This application is decided on by the Board, who must pay particular attention to the decision and the extent to which the implementation of such a special inspection serves the advancement of the breed. If the decision is positive. The Board decides the place and time and the nature of execution of this special inspection.
6. In principle, all owners of a stallion are entitled to participate in an inspection. The owner of a stallion, intending to present his stallion at an inspection must be a member of the Association and shall make a written request for inspection to the Association's office.
7. Not permitted for inspection are stallions that have received a doping substance or a forbidden drug or have been subjected to manipulation for the purpose of influencing performance, ability to perform, willingness to perform, development or growth. The Inspection Committee for stallions is entitled to at any time, to order medication checks by veterinarians appointed by the Association, the costs of which the stallion owner must bear.

If the medication or manipulation tests are positive the stallion must be excluded from the inspection. In case of subsequent proof of forbidden medication or manipulation prior to the inspection, the approval is revoked.

After exclusion from an inspection or withdrawal due to forbidden medication or manipulation, renewed presentation of the stallion is permitted no earlier than 12 months later.

The owner of the stallion is entitled to appeal the exclusion from the inspection or the withdrawal of the approval.

8. A stallion shall be approved only if he has no health defects which would impair his breeding suitability and his value as a breeding animal.

Health defects generally include:

- a) roaring
- b) cribbing
- c) periodic ophthalmia
- d) deficiencies of the reproductive organs which justify significant concerns about breeding use
- e) findings that lead to the conclusion of hereditary dispositions for unsoundness
- f) significant radiographic findings
- g) Other health criteria set by the Board of Directors

The respectively applicable health requirements will be published in the conditions for acceptance for inspection. The veterinary assessment of the stallion or the veterinary report submitted for the stallion is carried out by a veterinarian of the owner's choice.

9. The inspection is concluded with a decision which reads:

- approved
- conditionally approved
- temporarily not approved
- not approved

The inspection decision may be subject to conditions or restrictions, the decision of which the entire Inspection Committee decides.

10. A stallion is approved, if he has at least 60 total points, an average mark of 7.5 of the evaluated criteria.

11. A stallion is conditionally approved, if he completed Inspection for approval with 57 to 59.5 total points. Within three years he must sire 5 offspring that complete an inspection with an average mark of at least 7.0.

12. The inspection decision of the stallion is "temporarily not approved", if the stallion does not yet meet the requirements for approval, but it is to be expected that he will meet them in the future (i.e. late-maturing or late-born young stallions). This decision must include the conditions and the deadlines by which the stallion may be presented again for inspection.

13. The decision "approved" must be entered in the pedigree registration certificate.

14. The decision of the inspection shall be publicly announced at the licensing event.

15. A stallion may be re-inspected without objection at the earliest after one year. The last result is final.

Mare Inspection and Breeding Approval

1. The inspection of mares is conducted by at least one member of the Inspection Committee.

2. The minimum age of a mare for inspection is three years.

3. The mare inspection decides about the use of a mare as part of the Association's breeding program and in which section of the Stud Books the mare will be registered or recorded. The decision includes the evaluation of the conformation, movement and aptitude for performance.

4. The mare inspections take place at regional locations in North America, which are determined by the Board. The dates and locations are officially announced in the publications of the Association.

5. The result of the mare inspection must be announced publicly.

1. A mare may be re-inspected without objection at the earliest after one year. The last result is final.
2. Mares may be registered in the Mare Book after their death, if they fulfill all other registration requirements. The same applies to mares who are unable to participate in an inspection due to injuries. These mares may be registered in the division of the Stud Book they were eligible for if they had been inspected.

Foal/Yearling Inspection

1. The inspection of the foals and yearlings is conducted by at least one member of the Inspection Committee.

2. Foals and yearlings will be evaluated in three categories; type, conformation and movement.

3. Foals and yearlings that receive an average mark of at least 8.0 or a total of at least 24 points will be awarded Premium.

4. Foals and yearlings may be evaluated in order to evaluate the progeny of their ancestors. A right to object to this evaluation is not given.

Revocation

The licensing / registration in the Breed Book

1. shall be revoked by the Association if a requirement for the issuance did not exist,

2. shall be revoked by the Association if any of the conditions no longer exists,

3. shall be revoked by the Association if a condition had been connected with it and this condition has not been met or not met within the set time, unless the deadline is extended before its expiration upon written request.

Appeal

1. The owner of the horse may file an appeal with the office against the result of a stallion licensing or mare inspection, for the exclusion from or the revocation of the registration in the appropriate Breed Book. The appeal period is one month from the notification of the result, exclusion or revocation. Within this period, an appeal fee must be paid to the Association, said fee being reimbursed if the appeal is successful. These deadlines are final.

2. The owner is allowed to re-present his horse if the subject of the appeal is the evaluation of the respective performance test. The Board decides the place and time of the re-inspection.

3. In case of exclusion or revocation of the stallion licensing or mare inspection, the Board decides first whether the horse should be presented again. If allowed to re-present, the Board decides the place and time of the re-inspection.

4. A repeat of the mare or stallion inspection is only possible once by way of the appeal process. This is not affected by the re-inspection of mares or stallions in the rules in Article VIII - Mare Inspection and Breeding Approval or Article VII - Stallion Inspection and Licensing.

5. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

Breeding Value

To estimate the genetic potency of a stallion or a mare, the Association, may use the following information to estimate a breeding value:

- a) results of their own performance tests,
- b) results of the performance tests of their offspring,
- c) results of the evaluation of their offspring on the occasion of inspection
- d) results of the performance tests of other relatives