

THE
AMERICAN
HANOVERIAN
SOCIETY



CORPORATE BYLAWS
AND
RULES OF REGISTRATION

REVISED DECEMBER, 2007

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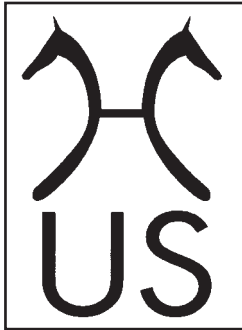
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CORPORATE BYLAWS AND RULES OF REGISTRATION

AMERICAN HANOVERIAN SOCIETY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Doug Leatherdale
Executive Vice-President	Suzanne Quarles
Vice President	Vanessa Carlson
Secretary	Barbara Schmidt
Treasurer	Edgar Schutte
Past President	
Directors At-Large	Steve Carroll Karin Himmelmayr Diane Nauman Rick Toering Cathy Tucker-Slaterbeck
AHS Executive Director	Hugh Bellis-Jones

PART I

1. CORPORATE ORGANIZATION

1.1 ARTICLE I - TITLE, PURPOSES, LOCATION AND CORPORATE SEALS

1.1.1 The name of the Corporation shall be the American Hanoverian Society, Inc. (the "AHS") and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a nonprofit organization in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland.

1.1.2 The purposes of the AHS are:
"To establish, maintain and operate a nonprofit association of breeders, owners and friends for the promotion and preservation of the warm-blooded Hanoverian horse on the North American continent; to keep the studbook and conduct the breeding program for the AHS membership with the cooperation of the studbook of origin in Germany; to mark or brand approved stallions, mares and foals with the AHS's registered brand; to disseminate information to breeders, owners, and friends pertaining to the breeding and raising of Hanoverian horses; to promote the performance of the Hanoverian horse in dressage, eventing, jumping and driving and generally to do all things appropriate to encourage a public understanding of the Hanoverian horse, its breeding and performance."

1.1.3 The principal place of business of the AHS shall be at the address determined by the Board of Directors of the AHS.

1.1.4 The Executive Director of the AHS shall be in charge of the Seal, and may authorize its use by appropriate individuals. It shall be impressed in the form as follows:



1.1.5 The Corporate Seal may be imprinted appropriately on all forms and stationery.

1.2 ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

1.2.1 **CATEGORIES** - The membership of the AHS shall consist of Charter, Active, Associate, Junior, Distinguished, Lifetime and Honorary categories as defined in this article.

1.2.1.1. **CHARTER MEMBERS** - Are Active members who joined the AHS and paid \$100.00 in 1978.

1.2.1.2. **ACTIVE MEMBERS** -

- A. Shall consist of either natural persons or entities (such as individuals, families, fiduciaries, proprietorships, partnerships, unincorporated associations, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, etc.). An entity must designate one individual to exercise its voting right.
- B. Shall reside in and/or own an AHS-registered horse within the United States or Mexico. However, residents of Canada who have heretofore been permitted to join as Active members of the AHS may continue to be an Active member of the AHS or should a resident of Canada purchase an AHS-registered horse that has a grandfathered pedigree (a pedigree containing a stallion approved by the AHS but not recognized by the VhW), such horse may continue to be registered by the AHS and said Canadian resident may become an Active member of the AHS.
- C. Shall receive the AHS Stallion Directory and AHS quarterly magazine without cost and may participate in membership meetings.
- D. Shall be eligible to hold office, serve on committees, and vote.
- E. Owners of Main Studbook, Studbook, and Pre-Studbook mares are required to be Active members in order to register foals.

1.2.1.3. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** - Shall consist of natural persons or entities as defined in 1.2.1.2.A who desire to support the breeding and performance purposes of the AHS, but do not wish to participate as Active members in the affairs of the AHS. They may reside in any area of the world; provided, however, residents of Canada shall be subject to eligibility for membership as defined in 1.2.1.2.B.

1.2.1.4. **JUNIOR MEMBERS** – Shall consist of natural persons under 21 years of age who join the AHS. They may participate in all activities and events, but they may neither vote nor register horses, unless the member reaches the age of 18 and chooses to join as an Active member. Membership in this category expires at the end of the calendar year in which the member reaches the age of 21. Junior members may compete for awards on AHS-registered horses.

1.2.1.5. **DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS** – Shall be Active members who have made extraordinary contributions to the development of the Hanoverian breed. They must be elected to this honor by not less than a two-thirds vote of the membership in attendance at an annual meeting and are accorded the same privileges as Active members. They pay no membership dues.

1.2.1.6 **LIFETIME MEMBERS** – Shall be Active members who elect to pay ten times the annual dues as prescribed for Active members. Entities are not eligible.

1.2.1.7. **HONORARY MEMBERS** – Shall be individuals who are designated as an honorary member by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Such members should be individuals who have either meritoriously served the AHS and its purposes or served other organizations promoting equestrian activities in a manner that the Board deems worthy of recognition. Honorary members pay no dues but have Active member privileges.

1.2.2. **APPLICATION PROCEDURES** - Application for membership in the AHS shall be made on the form prescribed by the Board of Directors and accompanied by payment of the proper amount of dues for the category requested. The applications for membership shall be reviewed by the Executive Director of the AHS, who shall then determine the eligibility of the applicant for the membership category requested.

1.2.3. **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP** - Membership and all privileges in the AHS shall be terminated for either the failure to pay dues as prescribed in Article III of these Regulations or said member ceases to be eligible for membership in accordance with the eligibility requirements set forth in this, Article II; or for cause, on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure specified in Articles VIII and IX of these Regulations.

1.3 ARTICLE III - DUES, FEES AND OBLIGATIONS.

1.3.1. AMOUNTS - Services (e.g. registration, branding, etc.) and dues for each category of member will be set by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

1.3.1.1. All dues/fees are payable in advance of service.

1.3.1.2. Persons who are not current year members of the AHS shall pay twice the amount charged a member for services.

1.3.2. ADMINISTRATION - Rules, definitions and procedures.

1.3.2.1. Dues are payable on or before January 1 each year and become delinquent if not paid by February 1. Members will be billed for dues at least thirty (30) days before January 1 and reminded of this obligation appropriately.

1.3.2.2. A member is considered in "good standing" by fulfilling at all times all financial obligations to the AHS and following its rules. Membership and all its privileges may be suspended by loss of "good standing" status.

1.3.2.3. Failure to pay dues, fees or other debts to the AHS are examples of failure to fulfill financial obligations.

1.3.2.4. Thirty (30) days written notice by mail shall be sent to delinquent members before suspension of their membership is enforced.

1.3.2.5. Members who have been suspended from membership for nonpayment of dues may be reinstated by paying dues for the current fiscal year. However, in order to vote, dues must be paid no later than thirty (30) days before the membership referendum. New members must be in good standing for at least thirty (30) days before they can vote.

1.3.2.6. Membership in the AHS is not transferable.

1.4. ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

1.4.1. COMPOSITION - There shall be a Board of Directors of the AHS. It shall consist of eleven (11) elected members and the immediate Past President whose term shall not exceed four (4) years. The Officers shall be elected by the Board

of Directors and shall consist of the President, Executive Vice-President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President shall serve a term of two (2) years. Other Officers shall serve a term of one (1) year. The Board shall be comprised of eight (8) At-Large Directors and three (3) regional representatives representing East, Midwest and West of the U.S. (Regions to be defined by the Board). The Executive Director shall be a non-voting member of the Board and shall serve for the duration of his or her employment.

1.4.1.1. ELIGIBILITY - In order to be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors, a person must have been an Active member of the AHS for at least three (3) consecutive years prior to their nomination for office. No member of the AHS Board of Directors may serve at the same time as a board member, judge, learner judge, guest judge, or employee of another warmblood breed society or registry.

1.4.2. TERMS OF OFFICE - Terms of office for members of the AHS Board of Directors shall be for four (4) years. Newly elected officers shall assume their duties at the Board meeting following their election after the reading of the minutes of the prior Board meeting. This meeting shall constitute a reorganizational Board meeting. If a Director resigns or can no longer perform his/her function, the Board shall appoint a successor to serve until the next time a regular election is held for the unexpired term of the Board position being filled.

1.4.3. DISMISSAL - Directors may be removed from office by the membership at an annual meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

1.4.4. MEETINGS.

1.4.4.1. REGULAR MEETINGS - The Board may hold a regular meeting immediately preceding and following each annual membership meeting at the place where the meeting is held. It shall also hold a semiannual meeting between annual meetings at a time and place convenient to its members.

1.4.4.2. SPECIAL MEETINGS - Upon no less than five (5) days notice to each director either in person, by mail, e-mail or facsimile, the President can convene a special meeting at such time and place as he/she may deem appropriate, including teleconference calls. Furthermore,

he/she will convene in similar manner a meeting upon the written request of not less than three (3) members of the Board.

1.4.4.3. REFERENDUM MEETINGS - By mail, e-mail, facsimile or telephone, the President may refer to the Board questions relating to the affairs of the AHS which in his/her opinion require immediate action. A two-thirds vote of the entire board is required to take action. The results of such a referendum vote shall be binding on the Board, the AHS, its committees, agents and employees.

1.4.5 DUTIES - The Board of Directors shall:

1.4.5.1. Transact the general business of the AHS in the interim between annual meetings.

1.4.5.2. Establish major administrative policies governing the affairs of the AHS and devise and develop policies for the AHS's growth and development.

1.4.5.3. Provide for the maintenance of a national office and for making such office the center of activities of the AHS, including work of the officers and committees that is deemed expedient.

1.4.5.4. Provide for the proper care of materials, equipment and funds of the AHS, for the payment of legitimate expenses and for the annual auditing of all account books by a certified public accountant.

1.4.5.5. At its discretion appoint an Executive Director and define the duties and fix the compensation for that position.

1.4.5.6. Appoint standing committees as provided in these regulations.

1.4.5.7. Appoint special committees as may be needed.

1.4.5.8. Fill any vacancies on the Board in the interim between annual meetings except a vacancy in the office of the President.

1.4.5.9. Determine the date and place for holding the annual meeting and those of the Board.

1.4.5.10. Record referendum votes of the Board and general membership.

1.4.5.11. Upon expiration of their term, promptly surrender all AHS property in their possession.

1.4.6. OFFICERS -

1.4.6.1. TITLES - The officers of the AHS shall be a President, an Executive Vice-President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

1.4.6.2. SUCCESSION ORDER - In the event of absence or incapacity of the President, the Executive Vice-President shall assume his/her duties. If the President is permanently incapacitated, the Executive Vice-President will serve until a successor is elected at the next Board meeting. The further order of assumption of the President's duties is Vice President, Secretary and then Treasurer. However, a quorum (1.6.5.) must be present at meetings to conduct business, the first order of which will be to confirm duty realignment by majority vote.

1.4.6.3. DUTIES OF OFFICERS - The officers of the AHS shall perform the duties usually performed by such officers, together with such duties as hereinafter described. In particular, the President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all Committees except the Committee on Nominations and Membership.

1.4.6.4. SPECIFIC PROVISIONS -

A. The SECRETARY shall:

1. Record the minutes of all meetings of the AHS and of the Board of Directors.
2. The Executive Director appointed by the Board shall assume such duties in connection with the work of the Secretary as shall be specified by the Board.

B. The TREASURER shall:

1. Serve as Chairperson of the Finance Committee and as liaison between the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.
2. Periodically report to the Board of Directors at their meetings and to the general membership at its meeting the financial condition of the AHS, to include the annual financial statement. The annual financial statement is to include a balance sheet and a statement of income.

3. Present to the Board of Directors and general membership a budget of the proposed and anticipated expenses for the forthcoming fiscal year.
4. Advise the Board of Directors on the financial impact of their actions.
5. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

1.5 ARTICLE V - STANDING COMMITTEES

1.5.1. DUTIES - Each committee will assume the duties specified in these regulations and any others assigned by the Board of Directors. They shall make appropriate recommendations to the Board for taking corporate action.

1.5.2. MEMBERSHIP - Only Active members may serve on committees.

1.5.3. COMPOSITION - The Board shall appoint the members of each committee at or immediately after each annual meeting to serve until the next annual meeting, except for those members of the Finance, Breeding Technology, and Nominations and Membership Committees, which shall be elected by direct mail ballot as defined in 1.6.4. Upon application by a committee chairperson, the Board may expand membership when needed to provide timely, quality performance of duty.

1.5.4. ORGANIZATION - Each committee shall have a chairperson, and if needed a secretary, elected by their fellow committee members. Chairpersons will convene meetings as required and preside at them. The meeting may be at the regular annual meeting or at special times or by referendum vote. The secretary will assist the chairperson in administration, conduct correspondence as needed and keep minutes of the meetings.

1.5.5. TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY - All committee members upon expiration of their term of service will surrender all AHS property in their possession to their newly appointed successor or the committee chairperson.

1.5.6. COMMITTEE NAMES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND MEMBERSHIP - There are nine (9) Standing Committees.

1.5.6.1. CORPORATE REGULATIONS AND GRIEVANCES

A. This Committee will have at least three (3) members. It has jurisdiction over the AHS *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration* as well as all rules/procedures established by other committees. It will review AHS regulations for appropriateness and make recommendations for change. It will further hear all complaints or grievances about violations alleged to have occurred against the regulations as prescribed in Article VIII and/or Article IX.

B. The Corporate Regulations and Grievances Committee may propose organizational rearrangements of clauses, phrases, paragraphs, sections or articles to improve clarity and appearance of the AHS *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration*.

1. Errors in spelling and punctuation may be corrected and minor word additions or deletions may be made.
2. Such changes must not change intent or meaning.
3. Proposals made according to 1.5.6.1 B1 or B2 will be submitted to the Board of Directors. If approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board in attendance, the changes will be published.

1.5.6.2. MARE AND STALLION - This Committee shall consist of at least five (5) members having the expertise to perform its duties. It will supervise the registration of horses in accordance with PART II of these regulations. It will provide for any necessary inspection and branding of stallions, mares and foals. At his/her discretion, the President may appoint a Studbook Keeper to compile, maintain and supervise the Studbook. The Studbook Keeper may also administratively aid the Chairperson and/or Secretary of the committee.

1.5.6.3. NOMINATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP - This Committee shall consist of five (5) members, three (3) of whom shall be elected by direct mail ballot as defined in 1.6.4.

1.5.6.4 JUMPER BREEDING PROGRAM - This Committee shall consist of at least eight (8) members, all Board appointed. At least four (4) members shall represent the AHS, two (2) members from Canada shall represent the two

Canadian breeding clubs, one (1) member shall represent the AHS office, and one (1) member shall represent the German Verband. This Committee shall work to promote the breeding and recognition of Hanoverian show-jumpers on the North American continent, according to policies approved by the Board.

1.5.6.5. AWARDS - This Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members appointed by the Board and will have jurisdiction over the awards program according to principles established by the Board. It will make all necessary arrangements and decisions in order to ensure its success. Subject to board approval it will establish and cause to be published rules to govern the competition and procedures to settle any confusion or disagreement about results.

1.5.6.6. ANNUAL MEETING - This Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members and be responsible for planning the annual meeting under the general direction of and approval by the Board.

1.5.6.7. BREEDING TECHNOLOGY - This Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members, two (2) elected by direct mail ballot as defined in 1.6.4. It will report to the Board and at the annual membership meeting.

1.5.6.8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. This committee shall consist of the President, the Executive Vice-President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The Executive Committee may make its own rules of procedure subject to section 1.4.4.2., 1.4.4.3., and 1.6.1. The President shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

B. During the intervals between the meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, in all cases in which specific directions shall not have been given by the Board of Directors, shall have and may exercise all powers and authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the AHS in such manner as the Executive Committee may deem best for the interests of the AHS except with respect to:

1. the amendment or repeal of AHS Corporate Bylaws or the adoption of AHS Corporate Bylaws; and
2. the amendment or repeal of any resolution or policy of the Board of Directors.

1.5.6.9. FINANCE COMMITTEE - This Committee shall consist of four (4) members. The Chairperson of the Finance Committee shall be the AHS's Treasurer, the AHS's Executive Director shall be a permanent appointee, and of the remaining two (2) members, one will be appointed by the Board of Directors and the remaining member shall be elected by direct mail ballot as defined in 1.6.4. The Finance Committee shall:

- A.** Oversee the financial activities (funds and assets) of the AHS.
- B.** Oversee the preparation of an annual budget for the operation of the AHS and all of its committees; submit the proposed budget for the next fiscal year to the Board of Directors for preliminary approval by June 1 of each year; and submit the budget to the AHS's general membership for ultimate approval at the AHS's annual meeting.
- C.** Receive and review quarterly financial reports on expenditures and income. If necessary, require an accounting of items not consistent with those previously budgeted.
- D.** Approve travel and meeting expense reimbursement on a quarterly basis. Additionally oversee the control of the issuance and use of the AHS's credit cards.
- E.** Review and re-evaluate periodically the dues and fees structure and other income-producing activities, with the purpose of financing activities as set forth in the AHS's budget.
- F.** Study and oversee the investment of surplus and reserve funds, and advise on changes in investment strategies.
- G.** Contract for an annual external audit of the previous fiscal year's accounts and review and report the results of each year's audit to the Board and at the annual membership meeting.
- H.** Oversee the AHS's risk management system.
- I.** Oversee the administration of employee benefits.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – This Committee shall consist of three (3) members, all Board appointed. In addition, the Executive Director shall be a permanent appointee. The Committee shall oversee the various publications of the AHS,

including the website. It will work with the Publications Editor to review all material prior to publication for content and accuracy.

1.6. ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

1.6.1. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY - *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern meetings of the AHS.

1.6.2. TIME AND PLACE - An annual meeting of the membership shall be held. The exact time and place shall be designated by the Board and announced by publication in the AHS magazine (see 1.4.4.).

1.6.3. NOMINATIONS -

1.6.3.1. Nominations for Board positions as well as nominations for elected members to the AHS's committees (Finance, Breeding Technology, and Nominations and Membership) shall be made to the Nominations and Membership Committee. Any Active member of the AHS may nominate no more than one (1) person for each of these positions. After first confirming that each such nominee is willing to serve if elected, the nomination shall be submitted by the Nomination and Membership Committee to the central office no more than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting to determine their eligibility. The central office shall prepare ballots and mail them to all AHS members eligible to vote. The tabulation of the vote shall be performed by an independent agent.

1.6.4. VOTING - Directors and the elected members of the Finance, Breeding Technology, and Nominations and Membership Committees shall be elected by direct mail ballot. The candidate living within a region shall be elected Regional Representative Director from that region by the members living in that region. At-Large Directors and members of the Finance, Breeding Technology, and Nominations and Membership Committees shall be elected from the nominees using preferential voting. Officers of the AHS shall be elected by the Board from the Directors elected to the Board. The vote tabulations for Directors and Committee Members will be done by an independent agent not associated with the AHS.

1.6.4.1 TIME - The ballots for voting on the election of Directors and committee members shall be mailed to the members and post-marked no later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting. In order to be counted, ballots must be returned and post-marked no later than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. The results of the election shall be announced at the annual meeting as the first order of the agenda. Candidates shall be notified of the results when tabulation is complete. They shall assume authority at the next Board meeting prior to the annual meeting.

1.6.4.2. TIE VOTES - The President shall choose between candidates elected by a tie vote.

1.6.4.3. REFERENDUM VOTE - AHS *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration* may be amended only by a direct referendum ballot of eligible AHS members. All proposed amendments shall be sent to the Corporate Regulations and Grievances Committee for study and recommendation to the Board. Upon approval of the majority of the Board, proposed *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration* amendments shall be submitted to the membership for a referendum ballot. A referendum ballot will be sent to the membership only after sixty (60) days from the date of submission to the Corporate Regulations and Grievances Committee or to the Board. Ballots must be returned within thirty (30) days. Amendments to the *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration* may be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of eligible members voting. Amendments of the Rules of Registration must have prior written approval from the German Hanoverian Verband and may be amended only by a two-thirds majority of eligible members voting.

1.6.5. QUORUM - A quorum is constituted by:

1.6.5.1. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - A majority of the Board, including the President or Executive Vice-President or Vice President must be present, and at least twenty (20) of the eligible voting members of the AHS.

1.6.5.2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS - A majority of the Board, including the President or Executive Vice-President or Vice President.

1.6.5.3. COMMITTEES - A majority of the members including the Chairperson of standing or special committees.

1.7. ARTICLE VII - ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

1.7.1. FISCAL YEAR - The fiscal year of the AHS shall be from October 1 through September 30.

1.7.2. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE - If due to unforeseen circumstances it becomes necessary for the AHS to dissolve itself, the Board with the approval of membership will organize that procedure so that all assets of the corporation will be contributed to properly constituted tax-exempt equine organizations.

1.7.3. SOCIETY FORMS - AHS business is conducted on AHS-prescribed forms. The AHS will provide them upon request from a member.

1.8. ARTICLE VIII - DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1.8.1. PROHIBITED CONDUCT - If the AHS finds that any person has failed to comply with any of these regulations, or has been guilty of misconduct or misrepresentation which in any manner involves the purpose or good name of the AHS, such person may be expelled or suspended from membership, and may be denied the privileges of the AHS and subjected to other penalties as may be deemed appropriate.

1.8.2. PROCEDURES -

1.8.2.1. Any party in interest may file with the Secretary of the AHS a plain and concise statement specifying the alleged acts of misconduct or misrepresentation of a member. The Secretary shall refer copies of said statement, together with any other pertinent information, to the Board of Directors. If a majority of the Board concludes that the charges have merit and involve the purpose and integrity of the AHS, the Board shall refer the complaint to the Corporate Regulations and Grievances Committee to investigate the charges.

1.8.2.2. Before the Corporate Regulations and Grievances Committee takes any action against the accused member, he/she shall be furnished a concise statement of the charges by certified mail together with a notice that he/she file a written answer within ten (10) business days of receipt of said notice, or said charges may be taken as true. If a written response is filed by the accused within the ten (10) business day period requesting a hearing,

then the Committee must grant a hearing within ten (10) business days from receipt of response. The decision of the Committee shall be made within ten (10) business days from the day of the hearing or within ten (10) business days of receipt of response if no hearing is requested. The decision of the Committee may be appealed in writing to the Board within ten (10) business days from the date of the receipt of the Committee's decision. Thereafter, a decision of the Board on the appeal shall be made within ten (10) business days and said decision shall be final.

1.9. ARTICLE IX - GRIEVANCE SETTLEMENT

1.9.1. GENERAL - Each member by joining the AHS, or any person registering or applying for registration or transfer of a horse, hereby waives any and all legal claims and causes of action he/she/it may have against the AHS or any of its Officers, Directors or Committee members, individually or collectively, for any actions taken, or decisions made by those individuals in their position as officials in the AHS. Each such person agrees not to file or initiate any suit, proceeding, claim or pleading ("suit") in any court, tribunal or board, or with any official in any attempt to enforce any such legal claim and cause of action. Further, they agree to pay any and all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and expenses and court costs incurred by the AHS pursuant to its enforcement of section 1.9.1 of these Rules and Regulations. These AHS *Corporate Bylaws and Rules of Registration* shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws (other than the law governing conflict of law questions) of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

PART II

BREEDING PROGRAM AND STUDBOOK REGULATIONS

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. The AHS desires to encourage those standards and to develop a horse in North America having the same or better characteristics.

§1 BREEDING AIM

- (1) 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.
- (2) On this basis, the AHS aims to breed Hanoverian horses with a main emphasis on either dressage, jumping or eventing.
- (3) With the characteristics mentioned in (1), the AHS also aims to breed horses which 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 and Hanoverian mares in the Stallion Book and the Main Studbook. This does not exclude the admission of genes from other riding horse populations.

§3 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF STALLIONS

- (1) In order to avoid too much concentration of individual bloodlines in the population and the danger of an increasing degree of inbreeding, a restriction on the number of foals that can be registered by a stallion may be imposed by the Mare and Stallion Committee with the approval of the Board. The stallion owner shall be informed about these restrictions prior to December 31 of the year preceding the breeding season. It shall be the responsibility of the stallion owner to inform the mare owners of this restriction.
- (2) In order to promote the philosophy of pure breeding, the use of stallions from other breeding populations may be limited (§4).

- (3) Three- and four-year-old provisionally licensed stallions of the AHS's own population may be used to a very limited extent prior to taking the Stallion Performance Test. They are limited to the registration of a maximum of 20 AHS foals per year.

§4 INCLUSION OF OTHER BREEDING POPULATIONS

- (1) Pedigree (according to §8 entry of stallions and §9 entry of mares into the AHS studbooks). The following are examples of breeds eligible for inspection:
 - A registered Hanoverian
 - A registered Thoroughbred (Jockey Club papers)
 - A registered Arabian
 - Anglo-Arabian or Anglo-Araber.
 - A non-Hanoverian warmblood with registration papers approved by the AHS and German Hanoverian Society, the Hannoveraner Verband (HV).

- (2) Stallions

The AHS recognizes the HV as the authority on bloodlines of the Hanoverian horse. The AHS and HV share a reciprocal studbook and all registered Hanoverian and non-Hanoverian stallions approved for breeding by the HV will be included in the AHS Stallion Book (i.e., the breeding program, see §7) if used for breeding in North America by means of transported/frozen semen, upon the foal owner's application and payment of the Foreign Sire Fee.

- (3) Mares

In the case of mares, the AHS may enter non-Hanoverian warmblood mares into the AHS Main Studbook following pedigree approval and subsequent inspection by the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee. These mares must receive an overall score of seven (7.0) or above and no subgroup below five (5) to be entered into the Main Studbook. However, the AHS may enter non-Hanoverian warmblood mares into either the Pre-Studbook, Studbook, or Main Studbook provided that both the sire and dam are already entered into the Hanoverian breeding program. This provision would enable a mare that could have been Hanoverian foal branded to be approved for Hanoverian breeding.

An AHS approved Hanoverian mare bearing the Hanoverian (H or H-US) foal brand, if bred to an AHS or HV licensed stallion, may have AHS registered offspring.

Approved mares bearing the AHS Pre-Studbook foal brand that have less than 50%

Hanoverian blood, must be bred to either an AHS or HV licensed Hanoverian registered stallion or an AHS or HV licensed non-Hanoverian stallion that has at least 50% Hanoverian blood, in order for the foal to be registered with AHS. The procedure for determining percentage of Hanoverian blood is agreed as joint policy of the AHS and HV.

An AHS-approved non-Hanoverian mare with less than 50% Hanoverian blood may produce an AHS registered foal provided the mare is bred to either an AHS or HV licensed stallion bearing a Hanoverian foal brand, or an AHS or HV licensed non-Hanoverian stallion that has at least 50% Hanoverian blood. AHS-approved non-Hanoverian warmblood mares with at least 50% Hanoverian blood are equivalent to mares with the Hanoverian (H or H-US) foal brand.

§5

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR STUDBOOK INSPECTION

Evaluation of the external appearance. The Mare and Stallion Committee inspects mares and stallions before they are entered into the appropriate section of the studbook. The horses are evaluated according to the following criteria:

(1) Mares:

- (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

(2) Stallions:

- (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) Free jumping
- (h) Overall Impression and Development

Definitions of Inspection Criteria:

- 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.

The criteria in the different sections shall be scored according to the following table:

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

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.

(3) Health

Breeding horses are required to be healthy and fertile. General health is to be taken into account here as well as health of the reproductive organs and hereditary health.

(4) Performance Tests

4.1 Stallion Performance Test.

As a basis for judging the performance of stallions the following alternatives apply:

1. The station test of riding horse qualities (i.e. the 100-Day Test) or
2. A competitive sport test fulfilling one of the following criteria:
 - a) in dressage: receive a score of at least 63% five (5) times by five different judges in FEI Prix St. Georges or higher tests in USEF, FEI, or Equine Canada recognized shows, or
 - b) in jumping: place in the top five (5), four (4) times at Level 7 (Fences 4'3" to 4'6" in height and 4'6" to 5'0" in spread (Triple bars up to 5'6", Water up to 12')) or higher at USEF "A" rated shows or Equine Canada class "1" shows, or
 - c) in eventing: place three (3) times in the top 50% of the finishers of a USEA/USEF Intermediate or higher Horse Trials, or
 - d) for Thoroughbred stallions, a race record may be accepted in lieu of the Stallion Performance Test if deemed of sufficient quality by the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee.

4.2 Mare Performance Tests

As a basis for judging the performance of mares, the following alternatives apply:

1. An AHS-approved and conducted Mare Performance Test (MPT), or,
2. A competitive sport test, consisting of one of the following achievements:
 - (a) in dressage: three (3) scores of at least 60% in Second Level Tests 3 or 4 or above by three different judges, at USEF or Equine Canada recognized shows, or
 - (b) in jumping: in at least three competitions place in the top six at Level 4 (Fences 3'6" to 3'9" in height and 3'9" to 4'3" in spread (Triple bars up to 4'9", Water up to 8')) or higher, at USEF "A" rated or Equine Canada class "1" shows, or
 - (c) in eventing: place in the top five at least two times at a USEA/USEF Preliminary Level or higher Horse Trials, or
 - (d) in hunters: place in the top three (3), three (3) times at Junior Hunter, Amateur Owner Hunter, Green Working or Green Conformation Hunter (First or Second Year), and/or Regular Working or Regular Conformation Hunter at USEF "A" or "AA" rated shows or Equine Canada class "1" shows. These wins and/or placings must be at a minimum fence height of 3'6".

(5) Performance of progeny

At the latest, six years after entry into the Stallion Book, the offspring of stallions may be subjected to an evaluation of the hereditary performance by the Mare and Stallion Committee. In this evaluation, data from competitive sport may be used as well as information compiled by the Mare and Stallion Committee of the AHS.

The following results may be taken into consideration:

- inspection of foal progeny
- stallion licensing, studbook registrations and mare shows
- stallion and mare performance tests
- performance of offspring in recognized competitions

§6
LICENSING OF STALLIONS
§6.1
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) Licensing is the decision made by the AHS concerning the provisional use of a stallion for breeding. The licensing decision is based upon the physical inspection, the evaluation of movement (walk, trot, canter), and jumping ability.

(2) Licensing decision

2.1 The licensing decision is as follows:

- Licensed
- Provisionally licensed (pending performance test)
- Not licensed

2.2 The decision concerning licensing is given to the owner in writing. The decision “licensed” is to be entered on the registration papers.

2.3 Withdrawal of the License

- The license shall be withdrawn if, after the licensing, a condition is discovered which would have made the stallion ineligible for licensing, e.g. roaring condition, or failed parentage verification.
- The license may also be revoked if a condition, which was attached to the licensing, is not fulfilled within the required and allowed period of time.

2.4 The stallion owner is entitled to file with the AHS an objection to the licensing decision. This must be done within a period of four weeks after the stallion owner has been notified of the results of the licensing. This appeal must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee and include the reasons for the objection. If the appeal is accepted the stallion may be represented.

(3) The dates of the licensing and its conduct are determined by the Mare and Stallion Committee.

(4) Application for the licensing of a stallion is to be submitted to the AHS office.

- (5) In order for a stallion to be considered for licensing, the following conditions must be met:
- he must be at least 3 years old.
 - his ancestry must correspond to the conditions for registration in the stallion book (§8).
 - the original registration papers must be available at the licensing.

In the case of a non-Hanoverian stallion, the stallion must have achieved a sufficient performance record according to §5 (4) 4.1 of these rules.

(6) The identity of the stallion is to be verified prior to licensing.

(7) In order to apply for inspection and be licensed the stallion should show no deficiencies in health which would have a negative influence on his breeding ability and genetic value to the Hanoverian breed.

Health deficiencies are, for example:

- problems with the reproductive organs which raise reservations concerning the use of the stallion for breeding purposes as well as defects which are suspected to be inheritable.
- surgeries which have been undertaken in order to correct deficiencies.

A veterinarian selected by the AHS shall examine those horses that are licensed.

§6.2
LICENSING OF STALLIONS

- (1) A Hanoverian registered stallion is provisionally licensed if, in the evaluation of its external appearance and its movements, it receives an overall score of seven (7.0) and a score of at least five (5) for each of the criteria in the different subgroups according to §5(2)a-h. A Thoroughbred registered stallion is provisionally licensed if, in the evaluation of its external appearance and its movements, it receives an overall score of seven (7.0), including a minimum subscore of six (6) for foreleg and hindleg, and seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity, and a score of at least five (5) for each of the remaining subgroups according to §5(2)a-h. The requirement of a seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity for an older Thoroughbred stallion may be waived in the event that the stallion has compiled an outstanding performance record as determined by the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee. However, a non-Hanoverian registered stallion (with the exception of a Thoroughbred) is required to score an overall 7.5 at the licensing and a score of at least five (5) for each of the criteria in the different subgroups according to §5(2)a-h. All three- and four-year-old

stallions must be presented under saddle in their licensing in order to judge their basic gaits and rideability.

- (2) Any HV-approved Hanoverian or non-Hanoverian stallion that is imported into North America is not required to be inspected by AHS as a condition for entry into the AHS Stallion Book as an Elite Stallion.
- (3) If a three- or four-year-old Hanoverian stallion has passed the physical inspection with an acceptable score, he must within two years successfully complete and pass a performance test as specified in §5 (4) 4.1. In individual cases the Mare and Stallion Committee may prolong this period for no more than an additional 15 months. If the defined period is exceeded or the stallion does not fulfill the performance requirements then the stallion's provisional license shall be revoked.
- (4) Five-year-old and older stallions may be presented if they have passed a stallion performance test or the other performance criteria as specified in these rules. However, five- and six-year-old Hanoverian stallions may be presented for inspection without having participated in the performance test. The following conditions apply:
 - a) At this licensing, five and six-year-old stallions must be presented under saddle in order to judge their basic gaits and rideability.
 - b) The stallion must pass the next available 100-Day Test.
 - c) These five and six-year-old stallions will not be granted a breeding permit until the 100- Day Test has been passed with the necessary result.
- (5) Stallions seven years of age or older may be required to be presented under saddle, at the discretion of the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee.

STUDBOOK REGULATIONS

§7

STUDBOOK SECTIONS

- (1) The studbook for stallions is:
 - The Stallion Book
- (2) The studbook for mares is divided into:
 - Main Studbook (MS)
 - Studbook (S)
 - Pre-Studbook (PS)

The entry in a particular section of the studbook shall be recorded on the registration papers.

§8

ENTRY OF STALLIONS IN AHS STALLION BOOK

- (1) Entry in the Stallion Book

The authorizing body is the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee. The only stallions which may be entered into the Stallion Book are those with Hanoverian registration papers or stallions of approved outside (non-Hanoverian) populations according to §5 of these rules.

 - 1.1 The entry of a stallion in the Stallion Book of the AHS can take place as a three-year-old or older, when the stallion in question is licensed by the AHS.
 - 1.2 The sire and the sires of the five female ancestors in the direct dam's line of the stallion must belong to the AHS's own breeding population or a recognized breeding population (see §4) approved by the AHS Mare and Stallion Committee (6 generations altogether). The dam must be entered in the AHS or HV Main Studbook or belong to a recognized breeding population. Her dam (the second dam) must be entered into the Main Studbook or belong to a recognized breeding population, or, if a Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian mare that is not in the Main Studbook, must have been entered into the AHS Studbook with an overall inspection score of 7.0 or better. The great-granddam (third dam) on the dam's side must at least be entered in the Studbook of the AHS, or belong to a recognized breeding population. In unique and exceptional cases, the Mare and Stallion Committee may make a special recommendation concerning the Stallion Book entry of stallions which do not fulfill these pedigree requirements. The recommendation must be approved by the AHS Board of Directors and by the HV.
 - 1.3 A Hanoverian or Thoroughbred stallion must achieve an overall index of at least 90 points in an AHS/HV approved performance test or successfully complete a competitive sports test as specified in §5(4) 4.1, 1, 2. Stallions from other non-Hanoverian approved populations must achieve an overall performance test result of at least 120 points. Exceptions to this rule can only be made if there are exceptional results in competitions.
 - 1.4 If a provisionally licensed stallion does not fulfill the performance requirements according to §8(1.3) then its male progeny may not be entered in the Stallion Book of the AHS.

- (2) Repeat presentations
In special cases the Mare and Stallion Committee may require a licensed stallion to be re-presented for the continuation of breeding privileges.
- (3) Renewal of Breeding Privileges
Breeding privileges may be renewed annually by timely filing of annual stallion service reports, including stallion certificates of service, and payment of stallion dues.
If the stallion's breeding privileges were suspended, the stallion owner must submit a written application for their renewal. The Mare and Stallion Committee will make this determination.
- (4) Publication of the registered stallions
All activated stallions entered in the AHS Stallion Book through timely payment of annual breeding dues shall be published annually in the AHS Magazine and/or the AHS Stallion Directory and/or the AHS website.
- (5) Production of Progeny
Production of progeny can be achieved by breeding using natural service, including pasture breeding, artificial insemination on the farm of the stallion, transporting (fresh or frozen) semen off the farm of the stallion, or by embryo transfer. In the case of embryo transfer multiple foals per mare per breeding season may be registered. The foal(s) must be by an AHS or HV licensed stallion and out of a donor mare which is also AHS approved.

§9 CONDITIONS FOR ENTRY OF MARES INTO STUDBOOKS

- (1) The authorizing body is the Mare and Stallion Committee.
- (2) A mare, upon inspection, cannot be upgraded or downgraded by more than one (1) studbook section relative to her dam.
- (3) The entry of mares into a section of the studbook takes place following pedigree approval and inspection.
Entry into the Main Studbook, Studbook or Pre-Studbook may only take place when, at the time of the evaluation, valid registration papers are presented which are recognized by the AHS and by the HV.
- (4) Main Studbook (MS)
A Hanoverian mare three years old and older will be entered in the Main Studbook if she is a registered daughter of an AHS or HV Main Studbook or Studbook mare and upon inspection scores an

overall six (6.0) or better with no subscore below five (5). If the mare is in the HV Main Studbook she will be entered into the AHS Main Studbook.

A non-Hanoverian warmblood mare that holds registration papers acceptable to the AHS and HV shall be entered into the Main Studbook if upon inspection she scores an overall seven (7.0) with no subscore below five (5).

A registered Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian mare entered into the AHS Studbook with an overall score of seven (7.0) with no subscore below five, including a subscore of 7 for impulsion and elasticity (the trot), shall be eligible for an upgrade to the AHS Main Studbook through performance. This means completing the AHS mare performance test with an overall score of 7.0 or better (at least 21 points) or with an 8 and two sixes (20 points), or through provision of scores in competition according to §5(4) 4.2, 1, 2 of these rules.

Elite Mare Program

A Hanoverian mare with a Main Studbook dam attains Elite Eligible status if, following inspection, she scores an overall seven (7.0) or better. An Elite Eligible mare is awarded Elite Mare Candidate (EMC) status upon passing the Mare Performance Test according to Elite Mare criteria and will be awarded Elite Mare (EM) status upon production of an AHS-registered foal. If a mare achieves "Elite" status the letters "EM" will be added in front of the number on the registration papers. These letters also will become part of the mare's official name.

- (5) Studbook (S)
A three-year-old or older Hanoverian mare or a non-Hanoverian warmblood mare with acceptable registration papers that could have been Hanoverian foal-branded (sire and dam both in the AHS or HV breeding program), will be entered into the AHS Studbook if she:
- 1) is out of a Main Studbook or a Studbook mare and scores at least an overall five (5.0) but less than an overall six (6.0) with no subscore less than 4.
 - 2) is out of a Pre-Studbook mare and scores at least an overall six (6.0) with no subscore less than 5.
 - 3) is a registered Thoroughbred, Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian mare that attains an overall inspection score of seven (7.0) or better, including a subscore of seven (7) for impulsion and elasticity (the trot). Those mares which receive a score of seven (7.0) but do not receive a seven (7) or more for impulsion and elasticity will not be accepted into the

Studbook until they meet the AHS Mare Performance test criteria as prescribed for Elite Mare Status. Injured or aged Thoroughbred, Arabian or Anglo-Arabian mares with past records of performance in dressage, jumpers, eventing or hunters, can be entered into the Studbook provided the performance record is verified by the central office and judged adequate by the Mare and Stallion Committee.

- (4) A non-Hanoverian warmblood mare that holds registration papers acceptable to the AHS and HV and whose dam is a registered Thoroughbred shall be entered into the Studbook if upon inspection she scores an overall seven (7.0) with no subscore below 5, including a subscore of 7 for impulsion and elasticity (the trot). Such mares may be upgraded to the Main Studbook through completion of the AHS mare performance test with an overall score of 7.0 or better (at least 21 points) or with an 8 and two sixes (20 points), or through provision of scores in competition according to §5(4) 4.2, 1, 2 of these rules.
- (6) Pre-Studbook (PS)
A three-year-old or older Hanoverian mare out of an AHS Pre-Studbook mare or a non-Hanoverian warmblood mare that could have been Hanoverian foal-branded and is out of an AHS Pre-Studbook mare shall be entered into the AHS Pre-Studbook with an overall score of less than six (6.0) and with no subscore less than 5.
- (7) Posthumous registration of mares
These rules allow for the posthumous entry of a Hanoverian mare into the studbook (breeding program) in order to permit AHS registration of the mare's last-born foal. The Mare and Stallion Committee shall determine the studbook level of such a mare.
- (8) Upgrading of a mare
A mare which is entered in one section of the studbook can be reinspected. In the case of already registered progeny, no alteration shall be made to the foal brand. However, the AHS will amend registration papers to reflect a change in the studbook status of the foal's dam.
- (9) Withdrawal of mares
Inactive breeding mares must be withdrawn by the owner in writing, at the latest, six weeks before the end of the year. Should the mare die, the AHS is to be informed.

(10) Reactivation of mares

A mare, which has been temporarily withdrawn from active breeding, can be reactivated at any time following written application by the owner. The mare shall have the same status as when previously registered. A fee will be charged for reactivation.

(11) Transfer of Ownership

To effect an AHS transfer of ownership, the new owner is required:

- to be a current member of the AHS, or pay double fees;
- submit an AHS Transfer of Ownership form, or bill of sale, which must be signed and dated by both the seller and buyer;
- and, in the case of Hanoverian mares, submit the mare's original registration papers to the AHS office for amendment.

§10

AMENDMENTS TO STUDBOOK ENTRIES

- (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. Each amendment is to be clearly made and marked as such. All originally issued registration papers are to be collected without exception and canceled.
- (2) The member is to be informed of the measure. An objection must be raised to the decision within four weeks.

§11

OBLIGATIONS OF THE BREEDER

The breeder (mare owner or leasee) is responsible for the accuracy of the information on the foal registration application, as well as further requirements which he/she must submit to AHS. He/she 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 the AHS office can make corrections.

§12

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 he/she must fulfill the following obligations:

- (1) Submit a completed and signed stallion certificate of service for each mare bred.
- (2) 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.
- (3) Observe all limitations concerning the use of stallions imposed by the Mare and Stallion Committee according to §3.
- (4) The AHS office is to be informed of any change of ownership or location of a stallion. The same applies in the case of death of a stallion or any other event which means he may no longer be available for breeding purposes.
- (5) Failure to provide the AHS with a stallion certificate of service for a mare owner who has fulfilled his/her contractual obligations may result in suspension of a stallion's breeding approval and/or the stallion owner's AHS membership.

§13

KEEPING OF THE STUDBOOK

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

- the names and addresses of the breeder and owner;
- the date of birth, sex, color and markings;
- the registration number;
- the foal brand;
- the horse's lineage;
- studbook level, and if applicable, changes based on performance;
- the date registration papers were issued (in the case of there being duplicates, their purpose and number);

- the inspection and performance scores;
- the registered progeny;
- show records (if available);
- the bloodtype or DNA type;

§14

STALLION CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND ANNUAL STALLION SERVICE REPORT

- (1) At the end of the breeding season, owners/agents of activated stallions are sent an annual stallion service report and stallion certificates of service. The name and address of the owner as well as the basic data concerning each mare bred is required to be submitted to the AHS. All mares bred must be issued a stallion certificate of service. (The only exception concerns the use of frozen semen of an AHS or HV-approved stallion. In this case the mare owner must submit a signed and dated frozen semen insemination form to AHS in lieu of a stallion certificate of service).

The stallion certificate of service must include:

- the name and registration number (where known) of the mare;
 - the name and number of the stallion;
 - all dates concerning breeding and/or shipping of semen;
 - the name and address of the mare's owner/leasee;
 - the signature of the stallion owner or his/her representative.
- (2) The stallion owner is required to send the original stallion certificate of service to the AHS office by November 30. The duplicate is retained by the stallion owner/agent.
 - (3) The stallion owner is obliged to keep a list of mares bred. The annual stallion service report must contain the following information:
 - the name and registration number (where known) of each mare bred;
 - the breed of each mare (where known);
 - all dates of breeding and/or shipping of semen;
 - the name and address of the mare's owner/leasee;
 - the signature of the stallion owner or his/her representative.

The report is to be submitted by November 30.

§15
FOAL REGISTRATION AND
CERTIFICATES OF PEDIGREE

- (1) The application for either AHS foal registration or a Certificate of Pedigree must contain the following information supplied by the mare owner/leasee:
- three requested names for the foal;
 - name and registration number of the foal's dam (where known);
 - name and number of the sire;
 - name and address of the owner/lessee of the mare and foal;
 - date of birth, sex, color and markings of the foal;
 - signature of mare's owner/leasee;
 - payment of all appropriate fees.
- Appropriate materials will be sent to the foal owner.

- (2) Registration papers and Certificates of Pedigree are official documents concerning the ancestry of a horse. They are issued to the owner but remain the property of the AHS. In the case of change of ownership they are to be conveyed to the new owner. The name of each new owner shall be entered on the registration papers or certificates of pedigree by the AHS office. A duplicate copy can only be issued after application by the AHS Owner of Record, and then only after presentation of a signed, notarized statement concerning the loss of the original. The replacement document is to be clearly marked as a duplicate copy.
- (3) Registration papers should generally only be issued in the year of birth, but no later than the end of the yearling year. It is a condition of the issuing of registration papers that both the sire and dam are approved for breeding by the AHS prior to the end of the year in which the foal was born. There is no time limit for the issuing of Certificates of Pedigree.

§16
REGISTRATION PAPERS

- (1) Registration papers are issued when the following conditions are fulfilled:
- (a) both parents in the year of the foal's conception are entered in the appropriate section of the studbook, or will be at the latest in the year of the birth of the foal,
 - (b) the identification of the foal at the mare's side is assured by an AHS authorized person (when possible), and is confirmed by genetic parentage verification,
 - (c) the requirements listed in §4(2) are fulfilled.

- (2) The 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 (registration number) see §20;
 - (d) embossed seal of the society;
 - (e) signature of the Studbook Keeper
 - (f) names and addresses of the breeder and of the owner;
 - (g) date of birth, sex, color and markings;
 - (h) identification (brands, scars, etc.);
 - (i) four generations of ancestors;
 - (j) entry of the parents and their ancestors in the their appropriate section of the studbook;
 - (k) the results of the performance tests of the sire and broodmare sire.

§17
CERTIFICATES OF PEDIGREE

- (1) A white Certificate of Pedigree is to be issued when the conditions for issuing pink registration papers are not fulfilled. The following requirements must be met:
- (a) in the year the mare was bred, or at the latest in the year of the birth of the foal, either the sire was a registered Hanoverian entered in the Stallion Book of the AHS or HV, or the dam was a registered Hanoverian AHS Main Studbook mare and was bred to a non-approved stallion.
- (2) The Certificate of Pedigree shall contain the same information as registration papers.
- (3) Horses with a Certificate of Pedigree from the AHS generally cannot be entered into a section of the studbook of the AHS.

§18
AMENDMENT OF BREEDING DATA

All amendments (for example breeding data, death or sale, amendments of color or distinguishing marks, results of performance tests), are to be communicated to the AHS office by the horse's owner. Any changes on the registration papers or certificates of pedigree can only be made by the AHS office.

IDENTIFICATION AND BRANDING REGULATIONS

§19

IDENTIFICATION

Identification is made by means of a detailed description of the color and markings of the horse, including cowlicks, and by indicating the registration number and name, as well as the foal brand. In addition the parentage of the horse must be verified by blood or DNA typing.

§20

REGISTRATION NUMBER (UNIVERSAL EQUINE LIFE NUMBER)

Each horse is allocated a 15-digit Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) when it is registered by the AHS. This number is not changed even if the horse is transferred to a different section in the studbook. The UELN is composed as follows:

For Hanoverian horses foaled in the United States:

840	023	03	49273	04
Code for United States	Studbook of Origin	Society Code Number	Random Five-Digit Number	Year of Birth

For AHS Hanoverian horses foaled in Canada:

124	030	03	36204	04
Code for Canada	Studbook of Origin	Society Code Number	Random Five-Digit Number	Year of Birth

For Hanoverian horses foaled in the Mexico:

484	005	03	54912	04
Code for Mexico	Studbook of Origin	Society Code Number	Random Five-Digit Number	Year of Birth

§21

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 a section of the studbook. 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.

§22

BRANDING REGULATIONS

The following two brands are used by the AHS:



This brand, used prior to 1993 and reintroduced in 2008, is used on the left hip of foals out of AHS Main Studbook and Studbook mares.

This brand is used on the left hip of foals out of AHS Pre-Studbook mares.

Note: The H-US brand was introduced in 1993 and discontinued in 2008.

(1) Branding of foals

1.1 Requirements to be fulfilled before branding:

The branding on the hip is generally only done in the year of birth. A branding person appointed by the AHS does the branding. Branding may only take place with the foal shown beside the dam, or based on pictures of the foal with the dam, showing all identifying markings of both, or based on genetic parentage verification (bloodtyping or DNA typing). Yearlings may only be branded if they have been parent verified and issued AHS registration papers.

1.2 Hip branding

Foals may be branded on the left hip when they fulfill the requirements for the issuing of registration papers (§16). The brand reflects the current studbook level of the foal's dam.

1.3 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 with the appropriate brand and will only be issued AHS registration papers.

§23

PARENTAGE VERIFICATION/DNA TYPING

- (1) Before AHS registration papers are issued in accordance with §16, the foal must be parent verified through DNA typing. For issuing a Certificate of Pedigree in accordance with §17 parentage verification is not required but is highly recommended, particularly for fillies as a means of permanent and unequivocal identification of the horse.

- (2) All stallions are required to be parent verified before licensing and entry into the Stallion Book.
- (3) If the mare or the stallion is registered with another association, parentage verification shall be pursued with that organization. If unavailable from another registry, the horse must be parent-verified through the AHS before entry into the AHS studbook.

**§24
CONCLUDING PROVISIONS**

Alterations to the AHS studbook regulations and breeding program will be agreed upon between the AHS Board of Directors and the HV. Amendments must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of eligible AHS members voting.

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