

AHS Member Services

- Breed Promotion
- Annual Inspection Tour
- Mare Performance Test
- Awards Program
- Annual Stallion Service Auction
- 100-Day Performance Test
- Hanoverian Sales List
- *Annual Breeders' Guide, Stallion Directory, and Yearbook*
- *The American Hanoverian Quarterly Magazine*
- Subscriptions to VhW Publications
- Annual Meeting and Educational Program



Above: The AHS rewards performance success with year-end awards in dressage, show jumping, show hunters, eventing, and sport horse breeding. AIRBORNE MONTECILLO (Abdullah-Diana/Duft II) was the first domestically-bred Hanoverian ever to be approved by the VhW in Germany. He was short-listed to represent France in the 1996 Olympic Games.



hanoverians
THE AMERICAN HANOVERIAN SOCIETY



Below: A very successful DELICATA (Diamont-Weingold/Werther) was the winner of five USDF dressage awards in one year.



DRESSAGE HUNTERS JUMPERS EVENTING



Hanoverian Horses



DRESSAGE HUNTERS JUMPERS EVENTING DRIVING DRESSAGE HUNTERS JUMPERS EVENTING

For additional information on membership, horse registration, the awards program or other member services, please contact:

The American Hanoverian Society
4067 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 1
Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: (859) 255-4141 Fax: (859) 255-8467
Email: ahsoffice@aol.com Web: www.hanoverian.org

Editorial: Bettie Carroll Art Direction: Sandra Werkheiser

generations of
performance success



What is a Hanoverian?

For generations, the Hanoverian horse has been recognized as one of the most prominent and successful breeds of riding horses in the world today. The breed originated in northern Germany in the state of Lower Saxony, the former kingdom of Hannover, where a flourishing horse-breeding industry has existed for 400 years. The State Stud was established at Celle in 1735, and the Hanoverian Studbook was officially begun in 1888.

The breed retains the substantial bone, sturdiness and stamina of its heritage: nearly 300 years ago the Hanoverian was bred to serve as a robust carriage and military horse. Since the end of World War II, the breeding goal has been to exclusively produce a more versatile performance horse. Breeding stock is very carefully inspected and selected for correct conformation, athletic ability and inner qualities such as disposition and trainability. The Hanoverian has natural impulsion and light and elastic gaits characterized by a ground-covering walk, a floating trot, and a soft, round, rhythmic canter.



Selective breeding for jumping ability enables Hanoverians to excel in both the hunter and jumper rings, as well as in eventing.

Above: 2002 USEA Hanoverian Training Level winner FORTUNATE SON (Wertherson-EM Antigone/Aarking xx).

Below: FREDRICK (Feinbrand-Tertia/Traunstein) has won multiple AHS Hunter Year-End Awards.



O'NEILL PHOTO

The Hanoverian in the United States

After discovering the breed's athletic talent and rideability, American competitors began importing Hanoverians, and a need arose to continue the German standard of selectivity for the breed in this country. In 1978 the American Hanoverian Society (AHS) was incorporated for that purpose. Over the years, the Society has worked closely with the German Hanoverian Verband (the Verband hannoverscher Warmblutzuechter) inspecting breeding stock, registering horses, and licensing and performance testing stallions. In 1995 the AHS assumed full responsibility for breeding Hanoverians in this country. To maintain continuity, the AHS invites representatives of the VhW to judge breeding stock and to attend the annual business meeting.



Above: The Hanoverian's sought-after movement and trainability result in success at all levels of competition in the dressage ring. With stellar performances in both the 2003 Dressage World Cup and the 2002 World Equestrian Games, AHS/USDF Grand Prix Horse of the Year, BRENTINA (Brentano II-Lieselotte/Lungau) has captured the attention of the international dressage community.

Selectivity Enhances Success

Quality performance prospects are the result of the Hanoverian selection process. Each year the AHS organizes a national inspection tour to register foals, inspect and performance test mares, and license stallions. In order for a foal to be registered, both the sire and dam must be AHS approved. German and American inspectors evaluate mares for type, conformation and gaits. The Mare Performance Test (MPT) scores a mare's rideability, gaits and jumping talent. Eligible high-scoring Main Studbook mares that pass this performance test and produce an AHS-registered foal within three years are awarded the prestigious title of Elite Mare (EM).

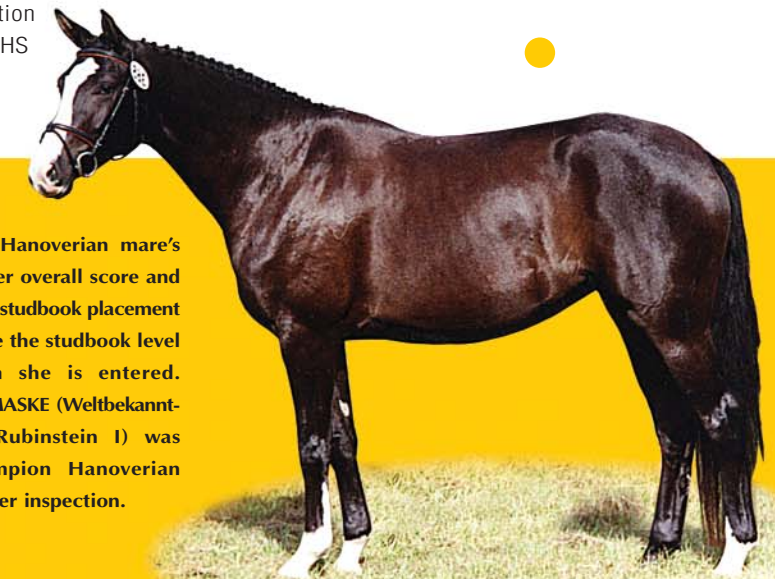
All stallion candidates must be presented for physical inspection. If scores on conformation, movement and jumping ability are sufficient, a temporary breeding license is granted. Stallions must then either complete the 100-Day Stallion Test which evaluates their gaits, trainability and athletic ability in dressage, show jumping and cross country, or they must meet specified performance requirements. Breeding eligibility is verified annually.

Certain non-Hanoverian mares and stallions are eligible for inspection and entry into the studbook if they meet strict breed and pedigree requirements and attain sufficient scores upon presentation. A horse with only one AHS approved parent (either a Hanoverian-papered Main Studbook dam or an Elite Hanoverian Stallion sire) is eligible for a Certificate of Pedigree which enables participation in the AHS Awards Program.



Above: Foals are registered and have their movement and conformation evaluated by both American and German inspectors during the Annual Inspection Tour.

Right: A Hanoverian mare's papers, her overall score and her dam's studbook placement determine the studbook level in which she is entered. WINTERMASKE (Weltbekannt-Rubizza/Rubinstein I) was the champion Hanoverian mare at her inspection.



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