



Stud Book Rules & Breeding Programme

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1. Aims of the Breeding Programme

1.1 Performance breeding

Within the framework of the prescribed aims of the GB breeding programme for the Haflinger, the Society pursues the following aims:

1. The promotion of diverse uses based on performance predisposition
2. The retention of breed standards, whilst promoting health and fertility
3. The retention of the Haflinger breed's genetic diversity (bloodlines) in pure breeding

1.2 Breeding method

Breeding is exclusively with pure bred Haflingers. Permitted breeding mares and stallions of the Haflinger breed, are those in Section 1 of our stud book and are in accordance with the rules in the Mother Stud Book. Mares and Stallions are those with at least six paternal and maternal Haflinger ancestors. Breeding horses belonging to the Haflinger breed are descendants of the compact small horse, with the stallion 249 Folie (1874) as founder of the Haflinger breed. The paternal line of ancestors goes back to 249 Folie (1874) and thus to line founder A – Anselmo (1926), B – Bolzano (1915), M – Massimo (1927), N – Nibbio (1920), S – Stelvio (1923), St – Student (1927) and W – Willi (1921).

1.3 Foreign breeds

Foreign breeds are not permitted in the line of ancestors.

1.4 Foreign genes

A maximum ratio of thoroughbred Arabian of 1.56% is permitted to be registered in the stud book, calculated over six generations of ancestors. The thoroughbred Arabian ratio must be stated after the name of the horse, rounded to two decimal spaces – Name of horse % ox. Where the thoroughbred Arabian ratio is under 0.09%, this is not stated.

NOTE: These horses will not be permitted in the Breeding Programme of the Haflinger Society of Great Britain. They will be registered in Section 2 of our Stud Book as noted in our stud book rules

The name of the breed is 'Haflinger'

2. Rules governing the stud book and registers

2.1. Definitions

- a) The 'Society' is 'The Haflinger Society of Great Britain'
- b) The 'required breed standards' are based on those currently laid down by the Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tirol. (See Section 3 of this document). These will be subject to ongoing review by the Haflinger Society of GB and HPT
- c) 'Inspection Panel' means a minimum of two International judges for both fillies and colts.
- d) 'Blood/DNA typing' means the ascertainment and recording of an animal's identity by establishing its distinctive genetic profile at the owner's expense. The blood tissue or other genetic material must be certified by a veterinary officer, or a qualified person. The resulting identification information will be recorded in the Society's appropriate register along with each horse's microchip number
- e) Pure bred means the pedigree of a Haflinger will go back to the Founding lines with no added inclusions of Arab or foreign blood.

2.2. Stud Book

The Society maintains a stud book in two sections. The Society will enter into the breeding book animals of the same breed, line or cross that are eligible for entry under the Society's breed criteria, without discrimination on account of their country of origin

1. All pure bred Haflingers will be recorded in Section 1, and each will be entered in a class in that section which is appropriate to that individual animal.
2. Section 2 will record all part-bred Haflingers and any Haflinger that does not comply with the definition contained in 1(e) above but which has been registered in an equivalent National Stud Book. Each horse will be registered in a category in that section which is appropriate to the individual animal.

a) Section 1

To be eligible for entry in this section a Haflinger must be pure bred as defined in Rule 1(e) above and comply with the requirements of Rule 10 (Eligibility for Registration).

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Class 1 | All stallions and mares that have been inspected in compliance with Rules 3 & 5 and have achieved the required standard |
| Class 2 | All mares that have been inspected and have not met the required standards for inclusion in Class 1. This class will include mares previously registered in Section B of the Stud Book, which closed on 31st December 2000. Mares entered in the non-breeding register established on 1st January 2001 will also be included in this class. |
| Class 3 | All colts or stallions which have been gelded will be entered in this class. |
| Class 4 | All pure bred youngstock, all pure-bred imported stock awaiting inspection, and all pure-bred stock which does not meet the required criteria for entry into one of classes 1 – 3. This will include any animal which has not been presented for inspection as required under these Rules. |
| Class 5 | Progeny of any horse who at the date of conception of that progeny was under the minimum age permitted for breeding. |

b) Section 2

For a horse to be eligible for entry into this section the existence of a pure bred Haflinger in the animal's pedigree must be proved in accordance with the criteria required within the individual categories of this section. The progeny of any animal registered in this section can never be eligible for entry in Section 1.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Category 1 | Haflingers accepted into other European stud books as pure-bred, but which cannot establish that they are pure bred as defined in Rule 1 (e) |
| Category 2 | Any animal with Haflinger blood that has not been entered in the pure-bred section of a European Stud Book. |
| Category 3 | Any animal containing 50% Haflinger blood (neither more nor less). The Society reserves the right to carry out at the owners expense such tests or investigations as in the Society's sole discretion may be appropriate to establish the percentage of Haflinger blood in the animal. |

2.3. Inspection of Colts

For a colt to qualify for inclusion in Section 1 Class 1 as a stallion the following conditions apply:

- a) The colt may be presented at one year old and again at two years old for assessment by an International judge at a place and on a date to be arranged by the Society. The opinion of the judge as to the colt's prospective stallion qualities on the first- and second-year inspections will not be final but is intended to enable the judge to assess the colt's prospects for subsequent stallion qualification and to advise the owner. This sub rule will apply to imported colts only for such annual assessments (if any) occurring after the date of importation.
- b) Colts ultimately put forward as potential stallions will be inspected by a veterinary surgeon either in the week before his inspection or at the inspection itself at a place and on a date to be arranged in the year that they are three years old. The International judges, having consulted the veterinary report, will decide whether the colt complies with the required standards for stallion registration (see section 4). A favourable decision must be unanimous.
- c) If a colt fails inspection solely because it has marginally not attained the prescribed minimum height but is excellent in all other stallion qualities and at the sole discretion of the International Judges, he may be re-measured (unshod) by a veterinary surgeon not later than 30th September in the same year. The report will be sent to the Honorary Registrar. If the colt is then of the required height he may be accepted for registration. There will be no right of appeal against the final decision.
- d) A colt passing inspection as a three-year-old must be Blood/DNA Typed and the certified details thereof recorded by the Society's Registrar will then be registered in Section 1 Class 1 of the Stud Book.
- e) The cost of colt inspections, including veterinary inspection and Blood/ DNA typing fees will lie with the owner and will be required to be paid with the inspection application. Owners of colts which fail will have the Blood/DNA typing fee reimbursed. Veterinary fees may be reimbursed where appropriate at the discretion of the Honorary Registrar.
- f) A colt registered in Section 1 of the Stud Book but not presented for inspection at the prescribed times; or failing inspection as a three-year-old should be gelded. Thereafter it will be entered in Section 1 Class 3 of the Stud Book.
- g) For the purposes of paragraph (a) of this Rule "currently" means "at the time of the colt's inspection"

2.4. Stallion Owners' responsibilities

- a) It is recommended that owners of stallions should be members of the Society. Books of covering certificates and A.I. certificates, necessary for foal registration, will be issued by the Registrar.
- b) Stallion owners will be deemed responsible for:
 - i. sending annual covering returns forms to the Registrar with details of all mares covered by 31st December of that year, if so requested.
 - ii. providing fully completed Society covering certificates to mares whose progeny should be eligible for registration with the Society, or
 - iii. ensuring that the Society A.I. certificate is fully completed and signed by him/herself and the Veterinary Surgeon in charge of insemination.
- c) Stallion owners will be expected to advise mare owners if by the current rules the resultant progeny of their mare is likely to be unacceptable for registration in any of the Society's Registers.
- d) Stallion owners will be required to notify the registrar if their stallion is leased or loaned, giving name and address of lessee.
- e) For the purposes of paragraph (c) of this rule, 'current' means 'at the time of covering'.

2.5. Inspection of Fillies

For a filly to be accepted for entry in Section 1 Class 1 or Class 2 the following conditions apply:

- a) The filly should be inspected within 14 months after 1st November in the year before it reaches the age of 3. Older horses may be inspected at the discretion of the Honorary Registrar.
- b) Inspection of fillies shall be by two International Judges, at a place and on a date to be arranged.
- c) Fillies meeting the required standards will be entered in Section 1 Class 1 (see section 4).
- d) Fillies who do not meet the required standards will be entered in Section 1 Class 2.
- e) Owners of mares not accepted into Class 1 are entitled to appeal for a second inspection in the following year. The decision of the second inspection is FINAL, and NO further appeal can be made.
- f) If a filly fails inspection solely because it has marginally not attained the prescribed minimum height but is excellent in all other mare qualities and at the sole discretion of the International Judges, she may be re-measured (unshod) by a veterinary surgeon not later than 30th September in the same year. The report will be sent to the Honorary Registrar. If the filly is then of the required height she may be accepted for registration. There will be no right of appeal against the final decision.

2.6. Progeny of Mares in Class 2

Female progeny of Class 2 mares, if sired by a stallion included in Class 1 of Section 1 may be accepted in Class 1 on attaining the required standards. Male progeny of any generation of Class 2 mares cannot be considered for entry into Section 1 Class 1.

2.7. Inspection Fees and Expenses

- a) International judges shall at the time of assessment complete the form issued by the Registrar, sign it and return it to the Registrar
- b) The horses Passport and registration fees must be provided to the Registrar ahead of assessment.
- c) In the case of a special private visit, travelling expenses should be notified to the Honorary Treasurer by the International judges immediately after the inspection. The Honorary Treasurer will recover the cost from the owner of the inspected stock.
- d) Non-members will be required to pay twice the current registration fee in addition to complying with all other requirements.

2.8. Registration in Section 1 Class 4

The following animals will be eligible for entry in Section 1 Class 4.

- a) All pure bred youngstock born in the UK or another country and subsequently imported.
- b) All pure bred Mares and Stallions imported from another country, provided that they hold a passport issued by the Society in the country of origin.

Youngstock entered in Class 4 may be transferred into Class 1, 2 or 3 as appropriate once they have been inspected under Rule 2.3 or 2.5.

Mares and Stallions registered in accordance with Rule 2.8(b) may be transferred to an alternative class once they have complied with the requirement of Rule 2.10(b) or (c).

2.9. Foal Registration

The fully completed application forms for registration of all foals must be received by the Registrar before 1 October of the year in which the foal is born, or within six months of that birth whichever is the later to comply with DEFRA requirements, or a double registration fee is payable on subsequent notifications.

The following information must be provided.

- (i) The name and address of the owner of the animal
- (ii) A drawing, completed by a vet, either on the Society's form or on a veterinary form showing its identification markings and whorls and a full-frontal photograph of its head (with its facial markings visible).
- (iii) The full name of the parents and their Registration numbers
- (iv) A covering certificate or an AI certificate.
- (v) Microchip details as recorded by the veterinary surgeon

2.10. Eligibility for Registration

Eligibility for registration in Section 1 of the Stud Book is subject to the following further conditions:

- a)
 - (i) No animal bred in the United Kingdom except as at (ii) below, is so eligible unless at the time of its conception both of its parents were inspected and registered in Section 1 of the Stud Book or would have been eligible for such registration by virtue of paragraphs (b) or (c) below.
 - (ii) If, in exceptional circumstances, the Society has been unable to hold a Central Inspection in a particular year, owners of three-year-old fillies may apply to the Registrar for a special dispensation for covering to take place. A mare covered under such dispensation must be inspected prior to foaling for the progeny to be eligible for registration. Mare owners in these exceptional circumstances must be in possession of a written approval from the Registrar before taking the mare to stud. Offspring of uninspected mares covered without written dispensation from the Registrar, dated, and issued before the relevant covering, will not be eligible for registration under any circumstances.
- b) Imported animals, which have passed inspection by the Tyrolean Haflinger Breeder's Association (The Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tyrol) are eligible for registration in Section 1 class 1 without further inspection.
- c) Any other imported animal will be eligible only if:
 - (i) It can be shown to the satisfaction of the Society's Registrar that it has 100% pure Haflinger blood with a pedigree originating in all ancestral lines with Austrian stock; and
 - (ii) Both its parents have passed inspection in their own countries and
 - (iii) It passes inspection by the international judges at an inspection in Great Britain, NHPS Netherlands or BTH Belgium.

Stock imported from any country that does not prove to be 100% pure bred Haflinger to the inception of the breed must be placed in Section 2 of the Stud Book. Stock that has been imported from countries that do not apply or have not in the past applied the HPT standards must also be approved by the International judges. The Registrar may call for evidence to enable a reasoned decision as to which Section of the Stud Book a horse is eligible for entry.

If there is at any time any confusion with the interpretation of the Rules for eligibility then the Honorary Registrar, together with, if possible, the drafttees of the rule in question should be asked to give a definition of the Rule for consideration by the Society.

Details of imported animals must be reported to the Registrar and if not so reported within 28 days and registered within 56 days of arrival in Great Britain, a double registration fee will be payable, at the discretion of the Registrar.

- d)
 - (i) No foal born on or after 1st January 1994 shall be eligible for registration and subsequent inspection unless its sire's blood/DNA typing has been recorded in the Stud Book.
 - (ii) Both parents of foals born on or after the 1 July 2009 year must have been microchipped
 - (iii) Owners of former registered stallions, which have covered Haflinger mares at any time and are now gelded or no longer standing at stud are invited and encouraged to have such animals tested at the Society's expense.

2.11. Minimum age of parents

Pure-bred progeny resulting from the mating of either a colt or filly which was then under the age of three years shall only be eligible for registration in Section 1 Class 5.

2.12. Geldings

Pure-bred geldings will be entered in Section 1 Class 3 of the Stud Book. Animals can be registered at any age, subject to proof of parentage, without inspection, or having failed inspection as a colt. The Society should be notified within 28 days of castration if the animal is already entered in the Stud Book.

2.13. Part bred Register

Part-Bred Haflingers may be registered in Section 2 of the Stud Book. They will be entered in the appropriate category of Section 2 as described in Rule 2.2(b). The following information must be provided with the application for registration:

- a) The name and address of the owner of the animal together with a drawing either on the Society's form or on a veterinary form showing its identification markings and whorls and a full frontal photograph of its head.
- b) Details of its breeding including the full names and registration numbers of any Haflingers in its pedigree.
- c) The breed and registration numbers of any non-Haflinger ancestors should be provided if possible.
- d) In the case of a foal, a covering certificate or an AI Certificate.
- e) Registration and transfers of part-bred animals will be accepted from non-members of the Society subject to the above conditions and upon payment of double the registration or transfer fee then in force.

NOTE THIS REGISTER WAS CLOSED FROM 1st MARCH 2016

2.14. Transfers and Deaths

Notice in writing must be given by the transferor to the Society of the transfer of any animal registered in the Stud Book or any of the Society's Registers, whether by sale or otherwise and whether within Great Britain or exported, stating date of transfer and the name and address of the transferee and the appropriate fee paid; or of the death of a registered animal, stating date of death.

2.15. Prefixes

- I. The Society shall maintain a register of Haflinger Stud Prefix names in which, upon payment by the applicant of such fees as the Society may from time to time determine, a prefix may be entered by and at the discretion of the Society and the Central Prefix Register.
- II. A Prefix so registered may be used only by the registered proprietor by whom it must be applied in the naming of all Haflingers bred by him or her.
- III. Except as hereafter provided a registered prefix may not be transferred.
- IV. The right to a prefix registered in joint names shall pass to the survivor of them.
- V. A prefix may be transferred by its registered proprietor or by him or her personal representative(s) (as the case may be) by written assignment or at the death either by will or by written nomination previously lodged with the Society only in either of the following circumstances and only with the consent of the Committee.
 - i. To an assignee who is either a close relative of or has been strongly associated with the registered proprietor in the breeding of Haflingers for a continuous period of not less than ten years preceding such transfer; or
 - ii. To any member of the Society if the registered prefix has not been used in relation to the naming of Haflingers for a period of not less than ten years immediately preceding such transfer.
- VI. Suffixes will NOT be registerable.

2.16. Forms and Payments

The correct forms and fees MUST be received by the Honorary Registrar before transfer / registration can be completed.

3. Characters and Main Traits of the Breed

3.1 Characteristics of the breed

The aims are for an expressive, versatile animal true to the specific characteristics of riding horses; a noble, sweet-natured, undemanding, capable and motivated Haflinger with a good character, which may be used for all riding and driving purposes by children and adults. It should also be possible to use the Haflinger as a work horse.

There are seven genealogical blood lines – A, B, M, N, S, St and W.

3.2 Colours

Basic colours: all shades of chestnut from pale chestnut to dark liver. The colour should be full and pure, white hairs and a dorsal stripe are not desirable. Head markings are permitted, leg markings are not desirable.

Mane and tail: light or white is desirable, slightly reddish mane and tail tolerated, but red, mottled greyish to grey is not acceptable.

3.3 Size

Ideal size	Mares	Stallions
Height at withers:	145 – 150 cm	146 – 152 cm
Cannon bone size:	18 – 19 cm	18.5 – 20.5 cm

3.4 Image



3.5 Exterior

Head	Noble with large eyes, slightly concave noseline and good throat latch.
Neck	Well-set, of sufficient length and having a slight nape.
Forehand	Well-muscled, long, angular shoulders with pronounced withers and a sufficiently wide and deep chest.
Mid-section	Adequately long and deep barrel with a firm but elastic back that is harmoniously connected to the front and hind quarters, a longitudinally oval ribcage and sufficiently long sternum.
Hind quarters	Well-formed, muscled, sufficiently long, not too wide or too strongly split croup.
Foundation	Limbs that are stable, correct, clean and have well-defined joints as well as tough hooves
Gait	Even walking gait, energetic, buoyant and elastic movements at a trot, canter with an uphill tendency, all basic paces must show rhythm and rhythmic consistency, good ground coverage throughout the entire body and correct gait.

3.6 Interior

A distinct character, sweet nature, versatile, motivated and capable horse is desired, suited to all types of use. This is especially important for use in recreational sports.

3.7 Other traits

A healthy, fertile, robust horse suited to all types of use.

3.8 Undesirable Traits

These include:

- a. Umbilical hernia or ruptured stomach.
- b. Jaw abnormalities: Overbite (parrot mouth) or Underbite (sow mouth)
- c. Significant knee joint luxation (unhooking)
- d. Congenital cryptorchidism
- e. Congenital abnormalities of the hooves, uneven hooves, flat or contracted hooves,
- f. Sweet itch
- g. Equine recurrent uveitis (moon blindness)
- h. Crib biting
- i. Sarcoids
- j. Ataxia

4. Identification

Identification of Haflinger breeding animals for entry in the stud book is performed by the Honorary Registrar

Haflinger Society of Great Britain horses are identified by means of microchips. The chip is an implant between the neck and withers in the middle of the neck, in the area of the nape.

A sticker with bar code is inserted in the passport. No alternative identification is envisaged – however a retention sample is taken for DNA investigation to ensure identity.

4.1 Registration

Registration is performed by the Honorary Registrar of the Society, whereby identification is performed and nationality and gender, description of colour and markings established (in text and diagram forms)

4.2 Universal Equine Life Number

Every horse will no later than at registration receive a Universal Equine Life Number (UELN), and foals at registration of birth

4.3 Registered name

The name registered in the stud book is retained for life. The name of female stock begins with the first letter of the mother's name. The name of male stock begins with the first letter of the father's name, for the ST line with the first two letters, corresponding to the seven blood lines with the letters A, B, M, N, S, ST, W.

For all animals registered in Section 1 the name is also given a stud book number. This sequential number:

Class 1	is followed by GB for mares, preceded by GB for stallions.
Class 2	is preceded by NBR and followed by GB
Class 3	is followed by G
Class 4 & 5	temporary number only

The same name should be not be used more than once, to avoid confusion. Moreover, names are compared with existing names when provided at birth. If a name is repeated, the breeder is asked to provide an alternative name that has not already been used.

5. Selection

Improvements in breeding are the result of systematic selection. Decisions are made on the recording of horses in a section of the stud book on the basis of the following performance characteristics, which are taken into account as contributory factors:

1. External appearance
2. Measurements
3. Required Standards

5.1 External Assessment

The following 11 to 12 characteristics inform the decision regarding the exterior:

Mares	Stallions
Type	Type
Head	Head
Neck	Neck
Forehand	Forehand
Mid-section	Mid-section
Hindquarters	Hindquarters
Front limbs	Front limbs
Hind limbs	Hind limbs
Gait	Gait
Walk	Walk
Trot	Trot
Action in trot	Action in trot
	Canter

A descriptive system of grades is used to judge the individual characteristic, as per the following table. Half grades may also be given for better differentiation.

Grades	
10.0 = Excellent	4.0 = Deficient
9.0 = Very Good	3.0 = Fairly Poor
8.0 = Good	2.0 = Poor
7.0 = Fairly Good	1.0 = Very Poor
6.0 = Satisfactory	0 = not performed
5.0 = Adequate	

The overall assessment (overall score) is calculated from the individual characteristics and rounded to 2 decimal points for both mares and stallions.

If the height at withers of 153 cm is exceeded, one mark is deducted from the additional characteristic 'Type'.

5.2 Measurements

Measurement	Measured at	Unit of Measurement
Height	at withers	Full centimetres
Girth	around the girth position of a saddle	Full centimetres
Cannon bone	at the upper third of the cannon bone	Half Centimetres

5.3 Required Standards

Required Standards for Section 1, Class 1

Mares

Mares are entered who meet the following criteria:

- a. that are free from undesirable health-related defects
- b. that have on exterior assessment under the judging system, at minimum age three, received an overall score of 7.0
- c. that have achieved no sub-criteria with a score of 5.0 or under

Mares receiving an overall score of 7.7 or more will be awarded the status of 'British Elite'

Mares receiving an overall score of 7.9 or more will be awarded the status of 'International Elite'

Stallions

Stallions are entered who meet the following criteria:

- a. that are free from undesirable health-related defects
- b. that themselves have on exterior assessment, at minimum age of 2.5 years under the judging system, received an overall score of 7.6
- c. whose height at withers does not exceed 155 cm.
- d. that have achieved no sub-criteria with a score of 6.0 or under