

# **ACE Group Inc.**

## **PROVISION II**

### **ACE PERFORMANCE PONY**

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## 5 Breeding Program – ACE Performance Pony

### 5.1 Preamble (ACE Performance Pony)

**§100** The breeding program of ACE includes set measures to enter ACE studbooks ensuring the progress in reaching the breeding goal of a refined ACE Performance Pony.

#### **§101 Studbooks – ACE Performance Pony**

- ❖ Stallion Studbook 1
- ❖ Stallion Studbook 2
- ❖ Stallion Studbook 3

❖ *Stallion Register*

- ❖ Mare Studbook 1
- ❖ Mare Studbook 2
- ❖ Mare Studbook 3

❖ *Mare Register*

### 5.2 Breeding Goal of the ACE Performance Pony

**§102** The breeding goal is the ACE Performance Pony.

ACE's breeding goal is to breed a versatile, talented and rideable performance pony, that is, physically and mentally able to excel in all equestrian discipline, especially suitable for children. The ACE Performance Pony needs to be in proportion, well framed with elastic, cadenced and have ground covering movements.

The selection criteria are:

- ❖ Ancestors,
- ❖ External appearance,
- ❖ Sequence of movement which includes showjumping,
- ❖ Internal characteristics such as trainability, the ability and willingness to perform, character, temperament and health and
- ❖ Results of sport performances.



### **5.2.1 External Appearance of the ACE Performance Pony**

#### Colours

All colours accepted

#### Type

Desired is an elegant, generously lined and harmonious performance pony with the ability to excel in all areas of the equestrian sport. Among others, the pony should have an expressive face with large eyes, a well formed neck and saddle position, appropriately muscled and correct conformation.

#### Height

To produce a pony between 138cm and 148cm, measure taken with a measuring stick at the wither.

#### Conformation

Desired is an overall harmonious conformation that enables the pony to efficiently excel in all areas of the equestrian sport throughout the horse's lifetime. Explicitly, pony typical characteristics are to be conserved.



Please see below an outline of all (desired / undesired) individual parts of the pony's body:

	<b>Desired</b>	<b>Undesired</b>
<b>Head / Face</b>	Small/fine, noble, elegant, expressive, well-defined	A coarse head / face with no expression
<b>Eye</b>	Large, lively and friendly	Small, covered, dull
<b>Throat latch</b>	Wide and open	Thick and narrow
<b>Neck</b>	Fine, medium-long, well set and attached at the wither, tapered towards the head	Short, too long, ditch in the neck, straight/thin neck, heavy/ bull neck, ewe neck, swan-neck
<b>Saddle Position</b>	Long, well formed and pronounced wither with a large, sloping shoulder and long forearm	Short, flat wither, small and straight shoulder and a short forearm
<b>Frame (top line)</b>	Rectangular format, harmony between the forehand, middle hand and hindquarters. Long slightly sloping croup	Square format, soft or stiff back, open and long flanks, short or horizontal croup
<b>Front legs</b>	Well muscled, correctly positioned with large, well-defined joints and elastic medium long pasterns, well formed hooves, correct in position and angle, joints and tendons should be clearly defined	Poorly muscled, thin front legs with small, flat joints, buck-kneed, calf-kneed, tied in below the knee, flat heels or too narrow hooves, short, upright pasterns, pigeon-toed, splay footed.
<b>Hind legs</b>	Well muscled and positioned with wide, well-defined, lean and correctly aligned hocks, elastic pastern and well formed hooves, correct in position and angle, joints and tendons should be clearly defined	Too angled or too straight hind legs, narrow or short hocks with incorrect alignments, short pasterns, cow-hocked, bow legged.

**Table 1: Summary of desired and undesired traits of conformation of the ACE Performance Pony**



### **5.2.2 Movements including Jumping of the ACE Performance Pony**

#### **Basic Gaits**

All movements should be elastic, in rhythm and straight-forward; developed from an energetic hindquarter and transmitted through a supple, swinging back to the forehand which freely reaches forward from the shoulder. The phases of the walk should be ground covering, relaxed and regular with strides being even and foot falls correct in sequence (walk = 4 beat). The phases of the trot (trot = 2 beat) and canter (canter = 3 beat) should be elastic with a clearly visible movement of suspension (cadence), sustained impulsion, light-footed and load-bearing with natural elevation and balance.

#### **Jumping**

Desired is a skilled, talented and cautious jumping that shows composure and intelligence. During the course of jumping (free jumping/ under saddle), there should be clear collection, a fast push-off at take-off, pronounced, fast and equal tucking up of legs (forearms should be held as horizontal as possible), an arched back with clearly protruding withers and a downward bending neck with opening hindquarters (bascule). During all phases the flow of movement and the rhythm of the canter should be maintained.

### **5.2.3 Internal Values of the ACE Performance Pony**

#### **Ability to perform, character, temperament and health:**

Desired is a versatile, talented and rideable performance pony, that is, physically and mentally able to excel in all equestrian discipline, especially suitable for children. The pony should be highly trainable and easy to handle, yet eager to please and perform, have strong nerves, be reliable and have a good character as well as a calm and well balanced temperament.





### 5.3 Breeding Policy of the ACE Performance Pony

**§103** ACE maintains an open studbook policy allowing ponies from other recognised populations, registered or recognised within ACE to enter the ACE performance pony studbooks after assessment of their eligibility and ability to maximise the breeding goal of the ACE performance pony as follows:

*ACE's breeding goal is to breed a versatile, talented and rideable performance pony, that is, physically and mentally able to excel in all equestrian discipline, especially suitable for children. The ACE Performance Pony needs to be in proportion, well framed with elastic, cadenced and have ground covering movements.*

#### 5.3.1 Approved Breeds:

The following breeds are approved:

Group I:

- Australian Sport and Riding Ponies
- European Sports and Riding Ponies, such as
  - Belgian Sport Pony
  - British Riding Pony
  - Dansk Sport Pony
  - German Riding Pony
  - Italian Riding Pony
  - Le Poney Fracais de Selle
  - Nederlands Pony met Arabisch Bloed (N.P.A.)
  - Austrian Riding Pony
  - Palomino Pony
  - Pinto Pony
  - Swedish Riding Pony
  - Swiss Riding Pony
  - Welsh Section K (Netherlands)
  - Welsh Part Bred
  - Nederlands Welsh Ridepony

Group II:

- Connemara
- Dartmoor
- New Forest
- Welsh Ponies Section A, B, C and Welsh Cobs



Group III:

- Anglo Arabian
- Arabian
- Australian Warmblood ACE
- Warmbloods, registered with a WBFSH recognised association
- Small Performance Horse (above 148cm)
- Palomino (above 148cm)
- Pinto (above 148cm)

The progenies of the following breed group crossings are part of the ACE Performance Pony:

Approved Breed	Breeds of Group I	Breeds of Group II	Breeds of Group III
Breeds of Group I	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Breeds of Group II	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> (Crossing of the same breeds are not approved)	<b>X</b>
Breeds of Group III	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	

Table 2: Approved breed crossings as part of the ACE Performance Pony

### 5.3.2 Breeds of other Studbooks

**§104** All ponies that are a registered other breed than ACE will be registered as of their original breed in the applicable ACE studbook or register. These ponies are considered ACE registered ponies with an ACE passport and are eligible, after assessment, to be included in the ACE breeding program but remain the breed as that of the studbook they derive from.

### 5.3.3 Encouragement of Pure Breeding

**§105** The breeding goal is to be achieved by line breeding (pure breeding method). The integration of other pony populations (as defined in §103) will promote the ACE breeding goal.



#### **5.3.4 Special Circumstances**

**§106** Exceptional ponies/horses of other breeds than defined in §103:

In the furtherance of ACE's goal to develop a superior performance pony, ACE may, in exceptional circumstances accept ponies or horses of other than the approved ACE Performance Pony breeds, if this inclusion on the register or in the studbook is deemed to contribute to the improvement of the ACE Performance Pony breed.

### **5.4 Selection Criteria for the entry into the ACE Performance Pony Studbook**

**§107** The selection criteria are:

- ❖ Ancestors,
- ❖ External appearance,
- ❖ Sequence of movement which includes showjumping,
- ❖ Internal characteristics such as ability and willingness to perform, character, temperament and health and
- ❖ Results of sport performance.

#### **5.4.1 Ancestors**

Ancestry (in accordance with §122 (et seq.) entry of stallions and §135 (et seq.) entry of mares)



#### 5.4.2 External Appearance

The evaluation of mares and stallions takes place prior to their entry into the appropriate studbook. The evaluation is carried out during the yearly ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour to ensure the horses presented are assessed by an independent assessor, excepting where, in the opinion of ACE, this would cause undue hardship to the breeder or owner.

The ponies are assessed according to the following scheme in the sections applicable:

<b>A</b>	Breed and sex type
<b>B</b>	Quality and conformation
	B1) Head
	B2) Neck
	B3) Shoulder, Saddle position
	B4) Frame
	B5) Front legs
	B6) Hind legs
<b>C</b>	Correctness of gaits
<b>D</b>	Walk
<b>E</b>	Trot
<b>F</b>	Canter
<b>G</b>	Overall impression and development
<b>H</b>	Overall evaluation

**Table 3: ACE Evaluation Scheme for the ACE Performance Pony**

As to B) The score for the quality of conformation is a combined score of the characteristics B1 - B 6. However, it is not necessarily the result of an arithmetic average of the scores.



The individual criteria are assessed according to the following scale of scores:

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

**Table 4 Scale of ACE evaluation scores for the ACE Performance Pony**

#### 5.4.3 Health

Ponies used for breeding are expected to be healthy and fertile. General health as well as health of reproductive organs and hereditary health are to be taken into account.

#### 5.4.4 Recognition of results of sports performance for the entry into the Stallion Studbook

ACE recognises results from international and national competitive sport events/ horse performance shows for approval to the ACE studbooks if they correspond to the following placings:

Dressage: Receive scores of at least 68% five (5) times and or be placed (top 3) five (5) times under various judges in tests at elementary level or higher at EA Australia recognised events; or

Jumping: Be placed in the top three (3) in at least 1.15m to 1.20m courses for a total of five (5) times at EA Australia recognised events; or

Eventing: Be placed three (3) times in the top 50% of finishers at EA Australia recognised events at EvA95 level.



Ponies that achieve these performance results may be accepted into the Studbooks – provided they have also passed an ACE approved inspection of movements, external appearance and internal characteristics.

#### 5.4.5 Recognition of performance of progeny

Evaluation of the performance of progeny will be recognised by ACE.

The following results are taken into account:

- ❖ Foal inspections,
- ❖ Stallion licensing and progeny studbook entries and
- ❖ Stallion and broodmare performance.

### **5.5 Awards for high scoring ACE Performance Ponies and ACE Performance Pony studbook recognised ponies and horses**

#### **5.5.1 Awards for Foals**

**§108** The inspection of foals is carried out during the yearly ACE breeding inspection and assessment Tour. Foals scoring an overall percentage of 78% and higher are eligible for a premium award. Foals scoring a total average of 80% and higher are awarded elite foals.

#### **5.5.2 Awards for Mares**

**§109** ACE registered mares of especially high quality are awarded distinction. The inspection of the mares is carried out during the yearly ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour. Mares scoring an overall percentage of 78% and higher are eligible for a premium award. Mares scoring a total average of 80% and higher are awarded elite mares.

#### **5.5.3 Awards for Stallions**

**§110** ACE registered stallions of especially high quality are awarded distinction. The inspection of the stallions is carried out during the yearly ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour. Stallions scoring an overall percentage of 78% and higher are eligible for a premium award. Stallions scoring a total average of 80% and higher are awarded elite stallions.



## 5.6 Stallion Licensing

### 5.6.1 General Provisions

**§111** Licensing is a decision made by ACE on the use of a stallion within the framework of the breeding program. The decision is based particularly on the characteristics of external appearance as well as ability to perform as far as this can be derived from the available information.

#### Licensing Application

An application for the licensing of a stallion during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour must be submitted to the main office of ACE within the time limit stated on the ACE website.

#### Conditions for admittance to licensing:

The following conditions must be met for a stallion to be admitted to the licensing:

- ❖ The stallion must be at least 30 month old at the day of presentation for the preliminary licensing and 36 month of age for the full licensing,
- ❖ His ancestry must correspond to the conditions for registration in the stallion studbooks and register,
- ❖ the stallion's certificate of pedigree must be presented on the day of licensing.

#### Verification of Identity

The identity of the stallion must be verified prior to licensing. Stallions without sufficient identification are not allowed entry to the licensing event. The documents specified in §156 (et seq.), to verify identification must be submitted (latest on the day of licensing).

#### Ability to breed and genetic values

If in doubt, ACE can request proof that the stallion shows no deficiencies in health that could have a negative influence on his ability to breed and genetic values. This means that the stallion must be free of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, roaring, recurrent uveitis, wind-sucking, abnormalities of dentition and testicles (must be of the same size), tails that are not carried straight, surgical procedures with the purpose of physical corrections as well as other illnesses. If requested, the veterinary examination must be confirmed by a certificate to be presented after licensing but before registration to the ACE studbook or register. ACE is entitled to order subsequent examinations.



### **5.6.2 Licensing Decision**

**§112** The licensing decision is:

- ❖ licensed,
- ❖ provisionally not licensed,
- ❖ not licensed.

The licensing decision will be "licensed" if the stallion meets the requirements stated in §121 (et seq.).

The licensing decision will be "provisionally not licensed" if there are remediable obstacles.

"Not licensed" stallions may be re presented for licensing at a later time.

**§113** The decision "licensed" is to be entered in the registration papers (certificate of pedigree / horse passport).

**§114** Stallions admitted to the ACE stallion studbook 1 to 3 will be eligible to take advantage of extended promotions for the ACE performance pony aligned to the ACE breeding goal stated in §102.

### **5.6.3 Withdrawal or Revocation of license**

**§115** ACE is authorised to withdraw or revoke licensing if:

- ❖ a condition is discovered after licensing that would have made the stallion ineligible for licensing;
- ❖ one of the conditions are subsequently no longer met;
- ❖ if a condition which was attached to the licensing is not fulfilled by the owner or not fulfilled by the deadline.

### **5.6.4 Suitability of Certain Stallions**

**§116** To evaluate the particular suitability of special stallions, ACE may approve individual stallions from populations other than those defined in §103 upon written request for a certain period of time. With such breeding experiments, the possible benefits of special crosses can be examined. The progeny of these stallions will be treated equally to the progeny of sires that are registered in the ACE stallion studbook.

### **5.6.5 Review of the Stallions' Progeny**

**§117** The assessment of the performance of progeny takes place according to the criteria listed under §107.





## **6 ACE Performance Pony Studbook Regulations**

### **6.1 ACE Divisions of the ACE Performance Pony**

**§118** The ACE register for stallions is divided into the sections:

- ❖ Stallion Studbook 1
- ❖ Stallion Studbook 2
- ❖ Stallion Studbook 3
- ❖ Stallion Register

The ACE register for mares is divided into the sections:

- ❖ Mare Studbook 1
- ❖ Mare Studbook 2
- ❖ Mare Studbook 3
- ❖ Mare Register

Ponies are only entered in the different sections of the studbook that have been identified and meet the respective requirements. The entry in a section of the studbook is also entered in the breeding/ identification certificate which is a part of the passport. In exceptional cases (e.g. the death of a mare before entry), a mare may be entered into the appropriate studbook without an evaluation after the identity of the mare has been verified. Breeding horses from other populations or breeding societies may be entered with the information previously registered on ancestry and performance.

### **6.2 Registration of Stallions**

**§119** Entry in the ACE stallion studbook and register

ACE is the authorized body in consultation with the ACE tour delegate to assess and grant entry into the ACE stallion studbook and register. To be eligible, all stallions have to be ACE registered or alternatively originate from an ACE recognised studbook. Entry may be provisional or final.

**§120** Stallions may be entered into the ACE Performance Pony stallion studbooks annually during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour.

**§121** The entry of a stallion in the ACE stallion studbook takes place if the concerned stallion has been assessed by ACE and the following requirements concerning ancestry, the evaluation of the characteristics of external appearance and the result of the performance test have been



met.

The selection criteria for Stallions include:

A. Ancestry

The stallions must have a minimum of four (4) complete generations of performance orientated proven breeding in his pedigree to enter the ACE studbook 1 and 2 as shown below. Stallions need to hold prove of ancestry but not four (4) generations to be eligible to become ACE licensed and admitted to the ACE stallion studbook 3 or stallion register.

B. Height

The stallions have to be a minimum height of 138cm and a maximum height of 148cm measured with a stick on the highest point of the wither.

B. Assessment of the stallion in conformation and movement to be preliminary licensed and entered into the studbook 2 or assessment of the stallion in conformation, movement, flatwork under saddle and assessment over jumps either free jumping or under saddle to be fully licensed and entered into the ACE stallion studbook 1. The stallion must be at least 30 months of age at the date of the preliminary licensing and 36 months old at full licensing.

The stallion is assessed according to the following scheme:

- ❖ Overall breed and sex type
- ❖ Quality of conformation
  - Head
  - Neck
  - Saddle position and shoulder
  - Frame and top line
  - Forehand and fore leg
  - Hind quarter and hind leg
- ❖ Quality of movement (in hand and free moving)
  - Overall appearance
  - Walk
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Correctness in gaits
  - Swing and elasticity
- ❖ Quality of Showjumping; either free jumping or under saddle
  - Overall Showjumping including an impression of the stallion's interior
  - Technique
  - Bascule
  - Scope
- ❖ Quality of the stallion under saddle
  - Overall appearance under saddle
  - Walk
  - Trot
  - Canter



- Rideability and temperament

The above listed criteria are assessed according to the scale of scores shown in §107, Table 12: Scale of ACE evaluation scores for the ACE Performance Pony.

### 6.2.1 Stallion Studbook 1

**§122** To be accepted into the stallion studbook as fully licensed, the stallion must have been presented in and achieved an average overall assessment score of a 7.0 or 70% in the conformation, movement, under saddle and showjumping assessment and a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §107, as well as for the canter and free jumping. The presented stallion must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with four (4) generations of documented performance oriented breeding and between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

1 <sup>st</sup> generation	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation	4 <sup>th</sup> generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		DAM	SIRE
			DAM
DAM	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		DAM	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		DAM	SIRE
			DAM

**Table 5 Stallion Studbook 1 Entry - four generations of complete proven breeding**



### 6.2.2 Stallion Studbook 2

**§123** To be accepted into the stallion studbook 2 the stallion must have achieved an overall assessment score of 7.0 or 70% in conformation and movement assessment and a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §107. The presented stallion must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with four (4) generations of documented performance oriented breeding and should be between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

1 <sup>st</sup> generation	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation	4 <sup>th</sup> generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	DAM
			DAM
DAM	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM

**Table 6 Stallion Studbook 2 Entry - four generations of complete proven breeding**

### 6.2.3 Stallion Studbook 3

**§124** To be accepted into the stallion studbook 3 the stallion must be preliminary licensed or fully licensed. To be preliminary licensed the stallion must have achieved an overall assessment score of 7.0 or 70% in conformation and movement assessment and a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §107 or to be fully licensed the stallion must have achieved an average overall assessment score of a 7.0 or 70% in the conformation, movement, under saddle and showjumping assessment and a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §107, as well as for the canter and free jumping. The presented stallion must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with a certificate of pedigree but must not prove four (4) complete generations of performance oriented breeding and should be between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

**§125** The minimum age for the full licensing is three years (36 months) of age. 30 month old colts may be assessed for their preliminary license and will be registered in studbook 2 until the full license is received and the requirements for studbook 1 are fulfilled. Stallions that do not meet the requirements for studbook 2 or 1 will remain in studbook 3.



#### **6.2.4 Stallion Register**

**§126** Any ACE registered or recognised stallion that does not fulfil one or more of the stallion studbook requirements will be listed in the stallion register. Stallions in the register are eligible to receive a service certificate book from ACE, to encourage efficient record keeping and registration of the progeny.

**§127** To be registered in the stallion register the stallion must be ACE registered with an official registration certificate or an ACE passport and have a DNA profile with ACE.

**§128** As an alternative to the ridden and jumping assessment to achieve the full licensing, performance in competitive sport may be recognized. The competitive tests may be taken in the disciplines of dressage, showjumping and eventing but will only be recognised if the competitions have been executed to the specifications of the official competition rules of Equestrian Australia (no unofficial competition or HC results are accepted) as stated in §107.

#### **6.2.5 DNA Testing**

**§129** All stallions entered into the ACE stallion studbooks and stallion register must be DNA tested.

#### **6.2.6 Transfer of the ownership of stallions**

**§130** Following written notification by the new owner of a stallion, the transfer of ownership will be entered in the studbook or register. The requirements for this are:

- ❖ The new owner must be or must become a subscriber of ACE and
- ❖ The registration paper must be submitted to ACE.



## **6.3 Registration of Mares**

### **6.3.1 Entry in the ACE Mare Studbooks – ACE Performance Pony**

**§131** ACE is the authorized body in consultation with the ACE Breeding Inspector and Tour Assessor. To be eligible, all mares have to be ACE registered or alternatively originate from an ACE recognised studbook.

**§132** Mares may enter the ACE mare studbooks annually during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour.

**§133** All mares entering the ACE mare studbooks must be DNA tested.

**§133a** Mares admitted to the ACE mare studbook 1 to 3 will be eligible to take advantage of extended promotions for the ACE performance pony aligned to the ACE breeding goal stated in §102.

**§134** Mares are entered in the following four (4) sections §135 (et seq.) of the studbook if the respective requirements on ancestry and the evaluation of external appearance characteristics are met. Entry in the sections ACE mare studbook 1 to 3 is only possible if valid registration papers or a certificate of identification is presented at the time of assessment.

The selection criteria for mares include:

A. Ancestry

In accordance of the below defined specifications of the mare studbooks in §135 to §138;

A. Height

The mares have to be a minimum height of 138cm and a maximum height of 148cm measured with a stick on the highest point of the wither.

B. Assessment of the mare in conformation and movement to be entered into the mare studbooks, however every mare may also be presented under saddle as well as over jumps if requested by the owner. To be assessed to enter the ACE studbook 1 to 3, the mare has to be at least 30 months of age at the date of the assessment.



The Mare is assessed according to the following scheme:

- ❖ Overall breed and sex type
- ❖ Quality of conformation
  - Head
  - Neck
  - Saddle position and shoulder
  - Frame and top line
  - Forehand and fore leg
  - Hind quarter and hind leg
- ❖ Quality of movement (in hand and free moving)
  - Overall appearance
  - Walk
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Correctness in gaits
  - Swing and elasticity
- ❖ Voluntary: Quality of showjumping; either free jumping or under saddle
  - Overall Jumping including an impression of the mare's interior
  - Technique
  - Bascule
  - Scope
- ❖ Voluntary: Quality of the mare under saddle
  - Overall appearance under saddle
  - Walk
  - Trot
  - Canter
  - Rideability and temperament

The above listed criteria are assessed according to the scale of scores shown in §107, Table 12: Scale of ACE evaluation scores for the ACE Performance Pony.

### 6.3.2 Mare Studbook 1

**§135** To be accepted into the mare studbook 1, the mare must be presented during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour and achieved an overall assessment score of 7.0 or 70% including the assessment of confirmation and movement and show a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §107, as well as for the canter and free jumping, if applicable.

The presented mare must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with four (4) generations of documented breeding and between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

If the owner requests additional assessment, the scores will be included in the average.



1 <sup>st</sup> generation	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation	4 <sup>th</sup> generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM
DAM	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
		DAM	DAM

**Table 7 Mare Studbook 1 Entry - four compulsory generations of complete proven breeding**

### 6.3.3 Mare Studbook 2

**§136** To be accepted into the mare studbook 2 the mare must be presented during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour and achieved an overall assessment score of 6.5 or 65% including the assessment of confirmation and movement assessment and a score of at least 5.0 in each of the individual assessment criteria A-G according to §26, as well as for the canter and free jumping, if applicable.

The presented mare must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with three (3) generations of documented and should be between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

If the owner requests additional assessment, the scores will be included in the average.





1 <sup>st</sup> generation	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation	4 <sup>th</sup> generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	open
			open
		SIRE	open
			open
	DAM	SIRE	open
			open
		DAM	open
			open
DAM	SIRE	SIRE	open
			open
		DAM	open
			open
	DAM	SIRE	open
			open
		DAM	open
			open

**Table 8 Mare Studbook 2 Entry - three compulsory generations of complete proven breeding**

### 6.3.4 Mare Studbook 3

**§137** To be accepted into the mare studbook 3 the mare must be presented during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour and achieved an overall assessment score of 6.0 or 60% including the assessment of confirmation and movement assessment.

The presented mare must be ACE registered or ACE recognised with two (2) or less generations of documented breeding and should be between 138 and 148cm high (measured with a stick measure at the highest point of the wither).

If the owner requests additional assessment, the scores will be included in the average.

### 6.3.5 Mare Register

**§138** Any ACE registered or recognised mare that does not fulfil one or more of the mare studbook requirements will be listed in the mare register. To be entered in the mare register the mare must be ACE registered or recognised with an official registration certificate or an ACE horse passport but must not prove four (4) complete generations of performance oriented breeding.

### 6.3.6 DNA Testing

**§139** All mares entered into the ACE mare studbooks must be DNA tested.

## 6.4 Subsequent amendment of entry

### 6.4.1 Incorrect ancestry prerequisites

**§140** If incorrect prerequisites regarding ancestry were assumed when a mare was entered, the entry can be amended. This is to be documented accordingly.



#### **6.4.2 Upgrading of a mare**

**§141** Mares that are entered in one section of the studbook may be presented again for re-assessment with a time and place set deciding whether the mare is to be upgraded to the next higher section. A respective upgrading is to be documented accordingly.

#### **6.4.3 Transfer of the ownership of mares**

**§142** Following written notification by the new owner of a mare, the transfer of ownership will be entered in the Studbook. The requirements for this are:

- ❖ The new owner must be or must become a subscriber of ACE and
- ❖ The registration paper must be submitted to ACE.



## **6.5 Amendment to Studbook Registrations**

**§143** ACE will transfer the horse to another section of the studbook or delete the horse from the studbook or register if it subsequently receives information that the requirements for entry were not fulfilled or were subsequently not met. Each amendment is to be clearly documented as such. Without exception, all of the originally issued registration papers are to be collected and cancelled. The breeder is to be informed of the measure.

## **7 ACE Performance Pony Studbook Management**

The Australian Warmblood ACE studbook and register is kept and operated, in accordance to the Australian Continental Equestrian Group Inc. Constitution.

**§144** With the ACE registration of a pony, information about the pedigree, breeder and owner can be made available to third parties by ACE. Additionally, photos of registered horses may be used for promotional purposes.

### **7.1 Duties of the Breeder**

**§145** The breeder is responsible for the accuracy of the information on the stallion service certificate as well as any further certificates that the breeder must fill out, submit or maintain. The breeder must check all studbook documents and forms, including registration papers for correctness of the information. ACE must be notified immediately but latest 30 days after receipt of incorrect information and will make all necessary corrections, noting the reason for the correction. Correction by the breeder is prohibited. The breeder is obligated to allow the results of parentage verification examinations (DNA fingerprinting, serologic blood type determination) to be forwarded directly to ACE by the examining institute and acknowledges that the ownership for the DNA hair sample after dispatch rests with ACE and that ACE may use these DNA samples and profiles for such purposes as it sees fit. ACE is to be informed of all examinations.

**§146** ACE requires DNA testing for all registrations of foals of artificial insemination using all transported semen.

#### **7.1.1 Duties of the Stallion / Semen Owner**

It is the responsibility of the stallion / semen owner to properly execute breeding / insemination and to register this correctly with ACE.

In particular, the following obligations must be fulfilled:

**§147** The stallion / semen owner or his representative must fill out and sign the stallion service certificate form or maintain a corresponding file to confirm the correctness of the information.



**§148** The stallion / semen owner must observe the valid requirements on collection, handling and use of semen, fertilized ovum and embryos.

**§149** The stallion / semen owner must submit the original white page of each completed stallion service certificate via post or send it electronically as a file to the ACE head office latest after the birth of the foal in connection with forwarding the pink page to the mare owner.

**§150** Upon request, the stallion / semen owner must supply all information and provide access to breeding documents that ACE requires to fulfil its obligations.

**§151** It is the semen owner's responsibility to verify a stallion's status. The ACE head office should be contacted if there is any question regarding a stallion's status.

### **7.1.2 Duties of the Owner of transferred Embryos**

**§152** Foals produced by means of embryo transfer can only be registered if the donor animal is made known to ACE.

All foals born by means of embryo transfer must be subjected to parentage verification testing. Parentage verification is to be carried out by means of DNA testing.

## **7.2 Studbook**

**§153** The Studbook is maintained and kept at the main office or a data processing facility. To meet the requirements of international standards, the studbook must contain the following information as a minimum on each registered horse:

- ❖ Name and address of the breeder, keeper or owner of the animal;
- ❖ Date of birth, sex, colour and markings;
- ❖ Universal equine life number;
- ❖ Brands and / or other means of identification (microchip number);
- ❖ Parents and their identification and, for pure bred breeding animals, also the grandparents;
- ❖ Decisions on entries and amendments to the studbook;
- ❖ Date and, if known, the reason for withdrawal;
- ❖ Issue of registration papers (if there are multiple copies, the purpose and ordinal number) with respective issue date;
- ❖ At least three generations of ancestors (if known);
- ❖ Evaluation of the horse: DNA results for all breeding animals as well as DNA results for all foals or ponies registered by artificial insemination using transported semen;
- ❖ For breeding animals resulting from embryo transfer, the genetic parents and the embryo's DNA test result;
- ❖ In addition, all decisions on licensing (with all relevant provisions) are to be noted;



- ❖ All amendments to the Studbook in regard to date of birth, sex, identification of the animal and its (genetic) parents, date of withdrawal, cause of withdrawal and quality as an approved refinement stallion are to be documented with date.

### **7.3 Service Books**

At the registration of the stallion with ACE, that has to include a valid DNA certificate of the horse, the stallion owner / semen owner can request an ACE service certificate book for a fee paid to ACE. The service certificate book can be used for multiple ACE registered / recognised stallions and contains all service certificates for stallion owner (green copy), mare owner (pink copy) and ACE (white copy). Please note that the ACE service certificate book must only to be used by stallion's owners / semen owners of ACE registered / recognised stallions.

**§153** Service Certificates are issued in three copies:

- ❖ White Copy: to be sent to the ACE head office on positive pregnancy test / confirmation or preferably after the mare has foaled down but latest with the pink copy being sent out to the mare owner;
- ❖ Pink Copy: to be given to the mare owner after the mare has foaled down;
- ❖ Green Copy: to be retained by the stallion owner / agent / stud within the service certificate book.

### **7.4 Artificial Insemination (AI) Form**

**§154** For any artificial insemination, which is conducted by any other person than the semen owner, an AI Form must be send with the semen to the person that will be conducting the insemination.

After insemination, the original AI form must be returned to the stallion owner for the service certificate to be issued.

A copy of the AI form must be send to the ACE office.

**§155** The responsibility to issue service certificates and register stallions with ACE in compliance with §73 and §74 as well as to forward service certificates to the mare owner and the ACE office falls solely on the stallion / semen owner.



## **7.5 ACE Registration Papers**

### **7.5.1 Registration papers (Certificate of Pedigree and Birth Certificate)**

**§156** ACE issues registration papers (refer to §79 et seq.) when a pony is entered in the ACE register (studbook, if applicable).

### **7.5.2 Foal / Pony Registration Application**

**§154** Registration papers are documents on the ancestry of a pony. They belong to the pony and remain the property of ACE. If the pony changes owners, these documents must be given to the new owner and returned to the issuing body when the pony dies. A copy of the registration papers (birth certificate) as well as an ACE passport and a certificate of ownership may only be reissued following an application submitted by the person who lost the original document(s) upon presentation of a signed, statutory declaration concerning the loss of the original document(s). The copy can only be issued by the body that issued the original document. The copy is to be clearly marked as a copy.

**§155** To receive an ACE registration and with it the ACE passport as well as the certificate of pedigree and ownership, the horse owner has to submit (either electronically via email or physically via post) the registration application which may have to include a hair sample for the DNA analysis (refer to §129, §139, §146, §146a, §152).

- ❖ If dam or sire are not ACE registered but ACE recognised a copy of the registration has to be submitted (in case of the stallion the DNA profile must be made available for ACE. If the horse to be registered was produced through embryo transfer the donor mare's DNA and stallion's DNA must be made available for ACE.
- ❖ Four (4) photographs of the pony to be registered have to be submitted (the photographs have to clearly show the horse from both sides with an open leg position as well as the front and the back of the horse. All brands must be visible prior to registration). In case of a foal registration, additional photos including the dam have to be submitted or alternatively a signed and completed certificate of the vet confirming the foal's dam has to be added to the registration application.



### **7.5.3 Certificate of Pedigree**

**§156** A certificate of pedigree contains the following information:

- ❖ Name of the breeding society;
- ❖ Place and date of issue;
- ❖ Universal Equine Life Number;
- ❖ Name and address of the breeder;
- ❖ Breed, date of birth, sex, colour and markings;
- ❖ Identification;
- ❖ Name, Universal Equine Life Number (UELN), identification and breed of parents and, for pure bred breeding animals, also the grandparents. For foals produced by embryo transfer, the DNA profile / blood types of the genetic parents;
- ❖ The respective designation of the section of the studbook in which the breeding animal and its ancestors are registered (if known);
- ❖ Notes on licensing;
- ❖ Each new owner should be entered. The certificate of pedigree is an important document for the owner of a horse. It is an essential prerequisite for entry in the appropriate section of the studbook;
- ❖ ACE passport / certificate of ownership;
- ❖ Amendment of breeding information.

### **7.5.4 Pony Passport**

**§157** The ACE passport serves as a document to identify a pony and is to be issued to all ACE registered ponies. The ACE passport contains all of the information required under international standard in accordance with the ACE regulations. The studbook under which the Horse Passport is issued is clearly stated (Warmblood, ACE Small Performance Horse, ACE Performance Pony).

### **7.5.5 Certificate of Ownership**

**§158** A certificate of ownership with an identical Universal Equine Life Number is issued in addition to the horse passport. The issued certificate of ownership contains the following information on the horse:

- ❖ Life number/Universal Equine Life Number of the horse
- ❖ Name of the horse
- ❖ Breed
- ❖ Sex
- ❖ Colour
- ❖ Day of birth
- ❖ Name and address of breeder
- ❖ Active markings



- Brand of breed
- Brand number
- Micro-chip number
- ❖ Pedigree with 3 generations (if known)

**§159** The certificate of ownership is given to the legal owner of the pony. When a pony is sold, it must therefore be given to the new owner along with the ACE passport which also belongs to the pony. Both documents should be returned to the ACE head office when the ACE registered pony dies.

### **7.5.6 Amendment of Breeding Data**

**§160** Without being asked to do so, the owner of a pony must immediately inform the ACE head office concerning all changes, e.g. breeding data, withdrawal resulting from death or sale, changes in colour and markings, results of performance tests and send in the certificate of pedigree or birth certificate.

## **7.6 Identification and Verification of Identity (Branding Regulations)**

### **7.6.1 Physical identification**

ACE uses a variety of physical identification methods to ensure the unique identification of the ACE registered pony.

Ponies are identified by marking diagrams describing the colour and markings of the pony in as much detail as possible, by giving an Universal Equine Life Number and by placing a microchip by a vet or a brand that is affixed as an active identification if this is permitted by law.

The placing of microchips is strongly encouraged and the number of the microchip is noted on the registration papers.

### **7.6.2 Markings Diagram**

**§161** With each registration application, the owner has to submit a completed marking diagram that includes all white markings of the pony. Additionally the owner is encouraged to mark the location of each whorl or any other unique markings of the pony.

This diagram is then physically checked by an ACE representative or if this is impossible due to the geographic distance, the owner has to submit four photographs (1 from the front, 1 from the back and 1 from each side with all four legs visible) of the pony to be registered. These photographs have to include the complete pony from the tip of the ear to the bottom of the hooves.



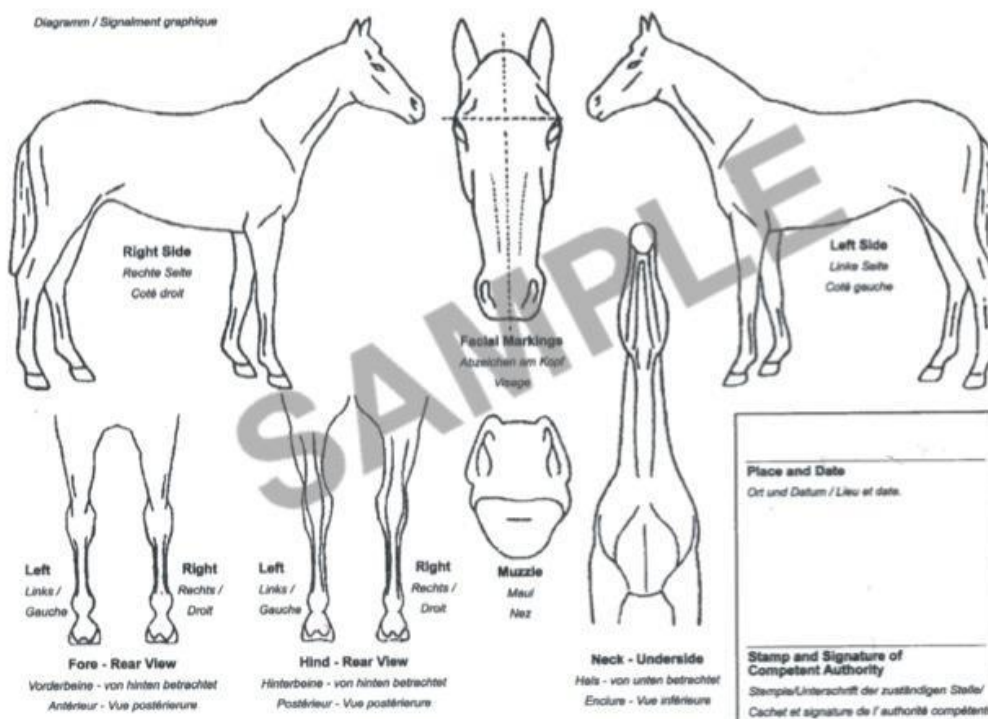


Figure 1: ACE Marking Sheet (ACE Performance Pony)

### 7.6.3 Unique Equine Life Number (UELN)

**§162** Each pony receives a life number as a foal or, at the latest, when entered in the studbook. The life number is never changed, even if the pony is transferred to a different section of the studbook.

If the pony was already registered in another breeding society, the existing UELN will be used when entering in a section of the ACE register or studbook.

Ponies registered prior to the implementation of the UELN will receive the unique equestrian life number with the issuing of the ACE passport (when / if replaced for the ACE birth certificate, see §157)



**§163** The UELN ACE Life Number is composed as follows:

The ACE Unique Equine Life number Code of 036013 is placed in front of the unique ACE life number. The unique ACE life number consists of a running number created by the database followed by the state code (see below) and the last two digits of the birth year, e.g. 036013**12492**0406 replacing old state codes with the following scheme. This horse has the unique ACE number **12492**, has been bred in QLD and was *born in 2006*.

The UELN ACE life number will replace existing ACE life numbers when the ACE horse passport is issued. The unique identification of the horse will remain.

State	Code
New South Wales/ Australian Capital Territory	02
Victoria	03
Queensland	04
South Australia	05
Western Australia	06
Tasmania	07
Northern Territory	08

**Table 9 coding of breeding area in the UELN ACE Life Number**

#### **7.6.4 Registration Name**

**§164** ACE encourages the ACE breeder to follow years of European breeding tradition to enable easy recognition to a bloodline and the breeder by choosing a name starting with the first letter of the sire.

In case a breeder chooses a name which already exists in the database, the breeder will be contact to either change the name or a number is added to ensure a unique identification of each horse.

The name given to a stallion is given only once and may not be used for any other stallion except the full brothers of this stallion (with the appropriate suffix II, etc.).

#### **7.6.5 Branding**

**§165** ACE encourages the use of brands (freeze branding is preferred over the use of fire branding) as a method of identification.



#### **7.6.6 Use of Microchips**

**§166** ACE strongly encourages the use of microchips for unique identification of each registered pony.

**§167** All ponies or foals must either be identified by microchip or branded at the time of registration.

#### **7.6.7 Examination for Verification of Parentage**

**§168** To be eligible to be registered, the breeder has to provide a copy of the dam's papers (unless the mare is ACE registered) and a fully completed service certificate signed by the stallion owner.

If the stallion is not ACE registered, he has to be registered an ACE recognised association and ACE must have access to a copy of his registration and DNA profile.

If the mare is not ACE registered, she has to be registered with an ACE recognised association and in case of an embryo transfer ACE must have access to the DNA profile. The foal has to be sighted on the dam by an ACE representative or vet. If this is impossible due to geographic location, the breeder has to submit adequate photographs of the foal and dam.

In case of artificial insemination, the breeder has to also submit a copy of the AI Form, completed and signed by the person that has conducted the insemination, unless the person inseminating is also the stallion / semen owner, which may directly issue the service certificate. In case of an embryo transfer the breeder has to additionally submit a completed ET form which must include DNA test results from the donor mare and the sire.

If there are reasons for doubts or inconsistencies in the paperwork a DNA test has to be provided on request of ACE, which is to be paid by the breeder.

**§169** Every breeder and owner is obligated to actively cooperate in parentage verification testing.

### **Concluding Provisions**

**§170** The present version of the Provision II was approved by ACE on the 27/08/2015.