

Australian Continental Equestrian Group Inc.

PROVISION I ACE WARMBLOOD BREEDING PROGRAM

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Please Note: §1-§18 replaced by *The ACE Studbooks Inc. Constitution and Policy A – Additional Powers of the Management Committee.*



2 Breeding Program - Australian Warmblood ACE

2.1 Preamble (Australian Warmblood ACE)

§19 The breeding program of ACE includes set measures to enter ACE studbooks ensuring the progress in reaching the breeding goal of a refined Australian Warmblood - ACE.

§20 ACE Studbooks – Australian Warmblood ACE

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

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

2.2 Breeding Goal – Australian Warmblood ACE

§21 The breeding goal is the Australian Warmblood ACE.

ACE's breeding goal is to breed a refined Australian Warmblood ACE, that is physically and mentally able to excel in the Olympic equestrian disciplines of dressage, showjumping or eventing. The Australian Warmblood ACE horse, needs to be in proportion, well framed with elastic, cadenced and 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.



2.2.1 External Appearance – Australian Warmblood ACE

Colours – Australian Warmblood ACE

All colours accepted.

Type – Australian Warmblood ACE

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

Height – Australian Warmblood ACE

To produce a horse between 155cm and 175cm, measure taken with a measuring stick at the wither. Small variations undersized or oversized are tolerated.

Conformation – Australian Warmblood ACE

Desired is an overall harmonious conformation that enables the horse to efficiently excel in all areas of the equestrian sport throughout the horse's lifetime.



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

	Desired	Undesired
Head / Face	Noble, elegant, expressive, well-defined, fine	A coarse head / face with no expression and roman nose
Eye	Large, lively and friendly	Small, covered, dull
Throat latch	Wide and open	Thick and narrow
Neck	Fine, medium-long, well set and attached at the withers, tapered towards the head	Short, too long, ditch in the neck, straight/thin neck, heavy/ bull neck, ewe neck, swan-neck
Saddle Position	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
Frame (top line)	Rectangular format, harmony between the forehead, middle hand and hindquarters. Long slightly sloping croup	Square format, soft or stiff back, open and long flanks, short or horizontal croup
Front legs	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.
Hind legs	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 Australian Warmblood ACE



2.2.2 Movements including Jumping of the Australian Warmblood ACE

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 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.

2.2.3 Internal Values of the Australian Warmblood ACE

Ability to perform, character, temperament and health:

Desired is a versatile, talented and rideable performance horse, that is, physically and mentally able to excel in the equestrian discipline, especially dressage, showjumping or eventing. The horse 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.



2.3 Breeding Policy of the Australian Warmblood ACE

§22 ACE maintains an open studbook policy allowing horses from other World Breeding Federation of Sport Horses recognised populations, registered or recognised in the ACE Warmblood or ACE performance horse register to enter the ACE Warmblood studbook after assessment of their eligibility and ability to maximise the breeding goal of ACE as follows:

To breed a refined and correct Australian Warmblood - ACE that is, physically and mentally able to excel in Olympic equestrian disciplines like dressage, showjumping and eventing. The horse needs to be in proportion, well-framed with elastic, cadenced and ground covering movements.

2.3.1 Breeds of other Studbooks

~~**§23** All horses that are a registered other breed than ACE will be registered as of their original breed in the applicable ACE studbook or register. These horses are considered ACE registered horses with an ACE horse 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.~~

§23a All horses that are a registered other breed than ACE and have been issued a passport from a WBFSH recognized breed association will be entered as of their original breed in the applicable ACE studbook or register, after assessment, to be included in the ACE breeding program but remain the breed as that of the studbook they derive from.

No dual registration certificate or passport may be issued for these horses, and all studbook entries must be entered into the original passport of the horse.

2.3.2 Encouragement of Pure Breeding

§24 The breeding goal is to be achieved by line breeding (pure breeding method). The integration of other horse populations (as defined in §26) will promote the ACE breeding goal.

2.3.3 Special Circumstances

§25 Exceptional horses of other breeds than defined in §22:

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



2.4 Selection Criteria for the entry into the Australian Warmblood ACE Studbooks

§26 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.

2.4.1 Ancestors

Ancestry (in accordance with §40 (et seq.) entry of stallions and §50 (et seq.) entry of mares)

2.4.2 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 horses are assessed according to the following scheme in the sections applicable:

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

Table 2 ACE Evaluation Scheme for the Australian Warmblood ACE



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 3 Scale of ACE evaluation scores for the Australian Warmblood ACE

2.4.3 Health

Horses 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 considered.

2.4.4 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 under various judges in tests at advanced level or higher at EA Australia recognised events; or

Jumping: Be placed in the top three (3) in at least 1.45m to 1.50m 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 a three star or higher level

Horses 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.

2.4.5 Recognition of performance of progeny

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

The following results are considered:

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

2.5 Awards for high scoring Australian Warmblood ACE registered and Studbook recognised Horses.

2.5.1 Awards for Foals

§27 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.

As of 27 March 2024, a new table of Awards was implemented beginning 2025 Assessments.

78% - 82.9% = Premium Status

83% - 87.9% = Elite Status

88% and over = Diamond Status

2.5.2 Awards for Mares

§28 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.

As of 27 March 2024, a new table of Awards was implemented beginning 2025 Assessments.

78% - 82.9% = Premium Status

83% - 87.9% = Elite Status

88% and over = Diamond Status



2.5.3 Awards for Stallions

§29 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.

As of 27 March 2024, a new table of Awards was implemented beginning 2025 Assessments.

78% - 82.9% = Premium Status

83% - 87.9% = Elite Status

88% and over = Diamond Status

2.6 Stallion Licensing (Australian Warmblood ACE)

2.6.1 General Provisions

§30 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 months 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 §76 (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, windsucking, 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.

§30a General Provisions additionally tabled as of 27 March 2024

Prior to the Stallion assessment, the horse must have a Vet check and X-ray - compulsory from 1st January 2027. Criteria for Vet check and X-ray are available on request from the ACE office.

2.6.2 Licensing Decision

§31 The licensing decision is:

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

The licensing decision will be "licensed" if the stallion meets the requirements stated in §40 (et seq.).

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

"Not licensed" stallions may be re-presented for licensing later.

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

§33 Stallions admitted to the ACE stallion studbook 1 to 3 will be eligible to take advantage of extended promotions for the ACE performance horse aligned to the ACE breeding goal stated in §21.

Tabled As of 27 March 2024:

Entry level for Stallion Licensing is 78%

(6) ACE introduced a "Star" system based on the Assessment Award system, e.g. 'One' Star Stallion to a 'Five' Star Stallion.

- **By using this system there will not be "fail or pass"**
- **Assessment score of 78%-82.9% is a One-Star Stallion**
- **Assessment score of 83%-87.9% is a Two-Star Stallion**
- **Assessment score of 88% and over is a Three-Star Stallion**

When the 3-Star stallion starts competing and reaches Advanced Level (or his progeny), he becomes a Four-Star Stallion, then when he reaches Grand Prix (or his progeny), he attains Five-Star Level.

This system gives information to the breeder, immediately, that the Five-Star Stallion is worth using.



2.6.3 Withdrawal or Revocation of license

§34 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.

2.6.4 Suitability of Certain Stallions

§35 To evaluate the suitability of special stallions, ACE may approve individual stallions from populations other than those defined in § 27 upon written request for a certain period. 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.

2.6.5 Review of the Stallions' Progeny

§36 The assessment of the performance of progeny takes place according to the criteria listed under § 26.

3 Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook Regulations

3.1 ACE Divisions (Australian Warmblood ACE)

§37 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



Horses 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 horse 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.

3.2 Registration of Stallions

§38 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 must be ACE registered or alternatively originate from an ACE recognised studbook. Entry may be provisional or final.

§39 Stallions may be entered into the ACE Warmblood stallion studbooks annually during the ACE breeding inspection and assessment tour.

§40 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 proof 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 must be a minimum height of 163 cm measured with a stick on the highest point of the withers.

C. Assessment of the stallion in conformation and movement to be preliminary licensed and entered in the ACE Stallion 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 foreleg
- 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 §26, *Table 3 Scale of ACE evaluation scores*.

3.2.1 Stallion Studbook 1

§41 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 §26, 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.

- *Refer updates to score*



Tabled As of 27 March 2024:

Entry level for Stallion Licensing is 78%

1 st generation	2 nd generation	3 rd generation	4 th generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
DAM	SIRE	DAM	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		DAM	SIRE
			DAM

Table 4 Stallion Studbook 1 Entry - four generations of complete proven breeding

3.2.2 Stallion Studbook 2

§42 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 §26. The presented stallion must be ACE registered, or ACE recognised with four (4) generations of documented performance-oriented breeding.

Tabled As of 27 March 2024:

- Entry level for Stallion Licensing is 78%

1 st generation	2 nd generation	3 rd generation	4 th generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
DAM	SIRE	DAM	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		DAM	SIRE
			DAM

Table 5 Stallion Studbook 2 Entry - four generations of complete proven breeding



3.2.3 Stallion Studbook 3

§43 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 § 29 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 § 26, 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.

- *Refer updates to scores*

Tabled As of 27 March 2024:

Entry level for Stallion Licensing is 78%

§44 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 studbooks 2 or 1 will remain in studbook 3.

3.2.4 Stallion Register

§45 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.

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

§47 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 §26.



3.2.5 DNA Testing

§48 From the 1/1/2013 onwards all stallions entered into the ACE stallion studbooks and stallion register must be DNA tested.

In addition, see “Concluding Provisions” regarding DNA testing as laid down by WBFSH on page 35.

3.2.6 Transfer of the ownership of stallions

§49 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 (as of the 01/01/2015) and
- ❖ The registration paper must be submitted to ACE.

3.3 Registration of Mares

3.3.1 Entry in the ACE Mare Studbooks – Australian Warmblood ACE

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

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

Tabled 27 March 2024

A mare must be 36 months old to be classified as a Mare.

§52 From 1/1/2015 onwards all mares entering the ACE mare studbooks must be DNA tested.

§52a Mares admitted to the ACE mare studbook 1 to 3 will be eligible to take advantage of extended promotions for the Australian Warmblood ACE aligned to the ACE breeding goal stated in §21.

§53 Mares are entered in the following four (4) sections §54 (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 with the below defined specifications of the mare studbooks in §54 to §57.
- B. Height, in accordance with the below defined specifications of the mare studbooks §54 to §57.
- C. 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 must 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 foreleg
 - 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 §26, *Table 3 Scale of ACE evaluation scores*.

3.3.2 Mare Studbook 1

§54 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 §26, 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 have a minimum height of 160 cm at the day of assessment.



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

1 st generation	2 nd generation	3 rd generation	4 th generation
SIRE	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
DAM	SIRE	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
	DAM	SIRE	SIRE
			DAM
		SIRE	SIRE
			DAM

Table 6 Mare Studbook 1 Entry - four compulsory generations of complete proven breeding

3.3.3 Mare Studbook 2

§55 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 breeding and have a minimum height of 160 cm at the day of assessment.

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



1 st generation	2 nd generation	3 rd generation	4 th 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 7 Mare Studbook 2 Entry - three compulsory generations of complete proven breeding

3.3.4 Mare Studbook 3

§56 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 have a minimum height of 155cm at the day of assessment.

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

3.3.5 Mare Register

§57 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.

3.3.6 DNA Testing

§58 From the 1/1/2015 onwards all mares entered in the ACE mare studbooks must be DNA tested. In addition, see “Concluding Provisions” regarding DNA testing as laid down by WBFSH on page 35.

3.4 Subsequent amendment of entry

3.4.1 Incorrect ancestry prerequisites

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



3.4.2 Upgrading of a mare.

§60 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.

3.4.3 Transfer of the ownership of mares

§61 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 (as of the 01/01/2015) and
- ❖ The registration paper must be submitted to ACE.
- ❖

3.5 Amendment to Studbook Registrations

§62 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.

4 Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook Management

The Australian Warmblood ACE studbook and register is kept and operated, in accordance with the ACE Studbooks Inc. Constitution.

§63 With the ACE registration of a horse, 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.

4.1 Duties of the Breeder

§64 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.



§65 Beginning with the 1st of January 2015 ACE requires DNA testing for all registrations of foals or horses of artificial insemination using frozen semen.

§65a Beginning with the 1st of January 2016 ACE requires DNA testing for all registrations of foals or horses of artificial insemination using **all transported semen**.

Subsequently amended as of 1st of August 2022:

§65b All new registrations will require a DNA test regardless of the type of Service – e.g. Paddock Service, Fresh Semen, Chilled Semen and Frozen Semen, or hand service with breeder's own stallion.

4.1.1 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:

§66 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.

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

§68 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.

§69 Upon request, the stallion / semen owner must supply all information and provide access to breeding documents that ACE needs to fulfill its obligations.

§70 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.

4.1.2 Duties of the Owner of transferred Embryos

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

As of the 1/1/2015 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.



4.2 Studbook

§72 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 stallions registered after 1/1/13 and all further tested breeding animals from 1/1/15 onwards as well as DNA results for all foals or horses registered after the 1/1/15 produced by artificial insemination using frozen 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 regarding 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.

4.3 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 be used by stallion's owner / semen owner of ACE registered / recognised stallions.

§73 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.



4.4 Artificial Insemination (AI) Form

§74 For any artificial insemination, which is conducted by any other person than the semen owner, an AI Form must be sent 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 sent to the ACE office.

§75 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.

4.5 ACE Registration Papers

4.5.1 Registration papers (Certificate of Pedigree and Birth Certificate)

§76 ACE issues registration papers (refer to §79 et seq.) when a horse is entered in the ACE studbook or register. ACE encourages the replacement of the birth certificate in favour of the ACE horse passport. The certificate of pedigree is issued as an integral part of the ACE horse passport for horses born in 2013.

4.5.2 Foal / Horse Registration Application

§77 Registration papers are documents on the ancestry of a horse. They belong to the horse and remain the property of ACE. If the horse changes owners, these documents must be given to the new owner and returned to the issuing body when the horse dies. A copy of the registration papers (birth certificate) as well as an ACE horse 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.

§78 To receive an ACE registration and with it the ACE horse 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 §48, §58, §65, §71, §92).

- ❖ If dam or sire are not ACE registered but ACE recognised a copy of the registration must 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 horse to be registered must be submitted (the photographs must 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 must be submitted or alternatively a signed and completed certificate of the vet confirming the foal's dam must be added to the registration application.

❖ **Subsequently amended as of 1st of August 2022:**

❖ **§155a All new registrations will require a DNA test regardless of the type of Service – e.g. Paddock Service, Fresh Semen, Chilled Semen and Frozen Semen, or hand service with breeder's own stallion.**

4.5.3 Certificate of Pedigree

§79 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 horse passport / certificate of ownership.
- ❖ Amendment of breeding information.

4.5.4 Horse Passport

§80 The ACE horse passport serves as a document to identify a horse and is to be issued to all registered horses. The ACE horse passport contains all 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, Small Performance Horse, Performance Pony).**

4.5.5 Certificate of Ownership

§81 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)

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

4.5.6 Amendment of Breeding Data

§83 Without being asked to do so, the owner of a horse 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.

4.6 Identification and Verification of Identity (Branding Regulations)

4.6.1 Physical identification

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

Horses are identified by marking diagrams describing the colour and markings of the horse in as much detail as possible, by giving a 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.



4.6.2 Markings Diagram

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

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

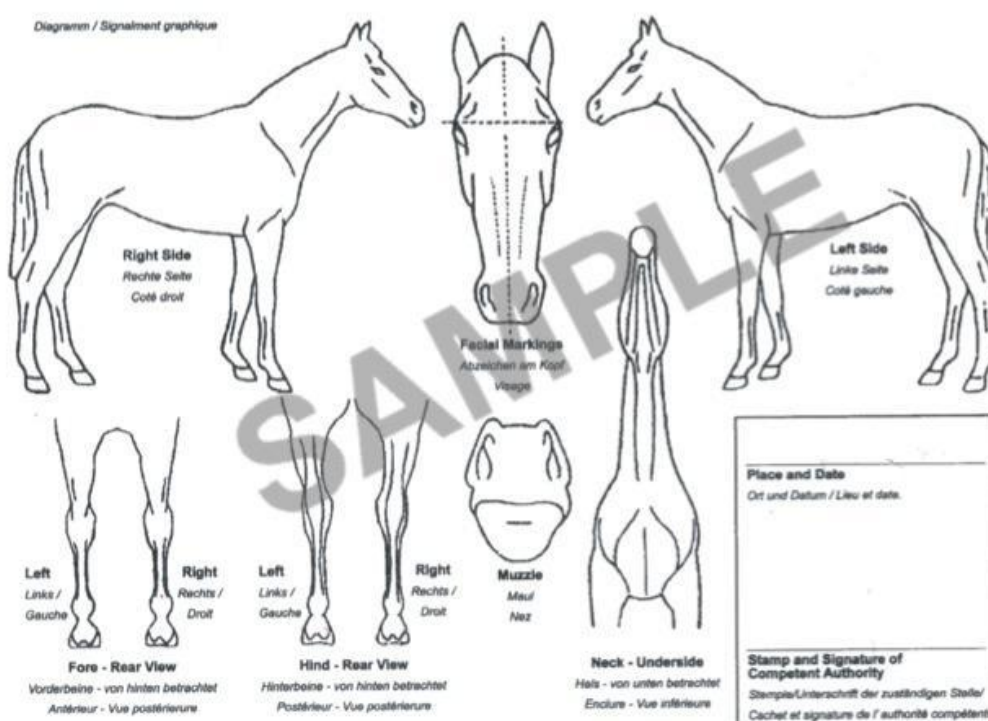


Figure 1 ACE Marking Sheet (Australian Warmblood ACE)



4.6.3 Unique Equine Life Number (UELN)

§85 Each horse 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 horse is transferred to a different section of the studbook.

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

Horses registered prior to the implementation of the UELN will receive the unique equestrian life number with the issuing of the ACE horse passport (when / if replaced for the ACE birth certificate, see §80)

§86 The UELN ACE Life Number is composed as follows:

The 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:

036 = Australia

013 = ACE

12492 = registration number

04 = Queensland (see table below)

06 = 2006 (year of birth)

This horse has the unique ACE registration 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 (registration) 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
Unregistered foals born overseas - the State Code can be replaced with the Country Code	e.g. Switzerland = CH or New Zealand = NZ

Table 8: coding of breeding area in the UELN ACE Life Number



§86.1

- UELN first 3 digits refer to the country of origin of the database that the horse is registered in e.g. 036 represents Australian Database.
- UELN second 3 digits refer to the ACE unique identifier = 013
- Foals born overseas that are not registered anywhere else and wish to be registered with ACE will be given the ISO Country Code in lieu of the State Code. e.g. Japan = JP, CH = Switzerland.

4.6.4 Registration Name

§87 ACE encourages the ACE breeder to follow years of European Warmblood 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.).

4.6.5 Branding

§88 ACE accepts the use of brands (freeze branding is preferred over the use of fire branding) as a method of identification.

4.6.6 Use of Microchips

§89 ACE strongly encourages the use of microchips for unique identification of each registered horse.

§90 As of the 01/01/2015 all horses or foals must either be identified by microchip or branded at the time of registration.

4.6.7 Examination for Verification of Parentage

§91 To be eligible to be registered, the breeder must 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 must be registered with 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 must be registered with an ACE recognised association and in case of an embryo transfer ACE must have access to the DNA profile.

The foal must be sighted on the dam by an ACE representative or vet. If this is impossible due



to geographic location, the breeder must submit adequate photographs of the foal and dam. In case of artificial insemination, the breeder must 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 must 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 must be provided on request of ACE, which is to be paid by the breeder.

§92 Every breeder/stallion owner is obligated to actively cooperate in parentage verification testing.

4.6.8 Amendment to “Rightful Breeder of a Foal”

§93 WBFSH proposal states that: “If the breeder who made the choice of the genetic match still owns the foal at birth, they will be registered as the breeder.

If they have sold the mare in foal, or the embryo before birth, and want to be registered as the breeder, they need to make an agreement with the new owner, who births the foal and notifies the studbook for its registration.”

Additionally, **ACE Group Inc.** has established the rule (passed 13/3/2025) that:

- The foal, once born, is fully entitled to have a name and prefix chosen by the new owner, **the breeder is still the Person/Stud who decided the match between stallion and mare**, unless there is a prior agreement or contract made at the time of sale of the pregnant mare.
- The term “pregnant mare” also applies to a recipient mare in the case of embryo transfer.
- ACE Group Inc. strongly recommends that a **contract** be in place at the time of sale of a horse, recipient mare, or embryo. If no contract exists, these rules will apply.

4.6.9 Cloned Horses

The ACE Group Inc. Warmblood Breeding Program may accept horses produced through recognised cloning procedures, subject to approval by the Studbook and compliance with all identification, DNA verification, and registration requirements as determined by ACE. A cloned horse shall be treated as an individual animal with its own unique identity and registration record, and its cloned status may be recorded within the Studbook and associated breeding documentation. Registration of cloned horses is subject to the requirements set out in the **“Requirements for Registration of a Clone Horse”** and the submission of a completed **“Laboratory Certification of Cloning Procedure”** as prescribed by ACE.

- The Registry reserves the right to request additional DNA verification, veterinary certification, or supporting documentation where necessary to confirm parentage, identity, welfare compliance, or cloning provenance.”



Concluding Provisions

§94 The present version of the Provision I was approved by the ACE Group Inc. on 11/07/2016.
Updated 13/3/2025 – passed at Committee Meeting by all members present.

WBFSH Rulings

DNA TESTING FOR MAIN STUDBOOK PEDIGREE VERIFICATION IN WBFSH AFFILIATED STUDBOOKS

Proposed Implementation:

- **Mandatory Screening:** All foals born within the jurisdiction of WBFSH member studbooks must undergo DNA screening before registration.
- **Registration Process:** DNA results must be submitted as part of the foal registration process. No registration will be complete without verified DNA results.
- **Database Integration:** DNA profiles shall be stored centrally by the studbook and may be accessed by relevant parties exclusively for pedigree verification; ownership of the data shall remain with the studbook.
- **Enforcement:** Implement strict penalties for non-compliance, including refusal of registration or fines.
- **Certified Labs:** Designate or partner with certified laboratories to conduct DNA tests, ensuring standardisation and accuracy.
- **Practical guidance:** A SAC-led working group can be appointed to assist studbooks that require guidance on practical implementation such as choice of laboratory and streamline implementation during the transition period.

TIME FRAME		
October 2024	Motion passed at the WBFSH General Assembly Portugal	All member studbooks to complete DNA verification in the studbook pedigree recording process
July 2025	WBFSH Host Webinar	Inform on the purpose, importance, methods and timeline for DNA verification in member studbooks.
October 2025	WBFSH General assessembly South Africa	Motion re-presented and shared with timeline for voting.
2025 – 2027	Transition period	Member Studbook transition phase where they do not already DNA test.
2027	Implementation	DNA testing for all stallion, mare and foals mandated by the WBFSH starting in 2027 (optional microsatellites or SNPs)
2029	Mandatory DNA testing for all main studbook pedigree verifications	From 2029 non-compliant members may face exclusion