

2027 ACE BREEDING INSPECTION AND ASSESSMENT TOUR

2027 Tour Provisional Dates	West Aust.	South Aust.	Vic. & Tas.	NSW.
	27 Jan – 1 Feb 2027	2 Feb – 5 Feb 2027	6 Feb – 12 Feb 2027	13 Feb – 20 Feb 2027
Queensland (End of Tour) 21 Feb – 24 Feb 2027		Please note: These dates are provisional depending on entry numbers and will change.		

USE THE ONLINE BOOKING FORM ON THE ACE GROUP WEBSITE:

<https://acegroupinc.com.au/assessment-tour-booking-form>

****JENS WEHRMANN – ACE GUEST ASSESSOR 2027****

A TOUR YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!



Coco Chanel BHI & Jens Wehrmann

ACE Group is delighted to welcome back Jens Wehrmann from Germany as our guest assessor for the 2027 Assessment Tour.

Jens brings extensive experience and a wealth of knowledge in horse breeding. He spent seven and a half years as a highly respected breeding consultant at Gestüt Sprehe, one of Germany's largest internationally recognised stallion stations. Many will recognise Gestüt Sprehe for its role in helping Australian dressage rider Simone Pearce establish her international career.

Having also worked with the Hanoverian, Oldenburg and Westphalian breeding associations, Jens has a broad understanding of breeding standards and studbook requirements. He continues to work with the Westphalian association on a freelance basis and provides commentary at its main stallion licensing, as well as the Westphalian and Weser-Ems pony licensing.

Jens travels internationally as a judge. His recent judging engagements in Czechia have included young horse classes, mare and foal assessments, and the Bundeschampionate showjumping. He enjoys travelling and meeting breeders and horse enthusiasts from around the world.

His extensive experience as a breeding advisor and commentator makes him a valued addition to our tour. We are thrilled to have secured Jens for 2027 and look forward to the knowledge and insight he will share with ACE members and breeders.

Read more about Jens Wehrmann on our website, <https://acegroupinc.com.au>

ACE is pleased to announce updated scoring criteria for the 2027 Assessment Tour. The quality of the foals, mares and stallions presented continues to improve, and the revised award levels reflect the high standards being achieved by Australian breeders. We believe these changes will support fair and consistent assessment while encouraging breeders to continue striving for excellence in quality and performance.

******The 2027 AWARD LEVELS******

DIAMOND: 88% and above

ELITE: 83% - 87.99%

PREMIUM: 78% - 82.99%

We look forward to assessing another outstanding group of foals, mares and stallions. We thank all ACE breeders, past and present, for their commitment to maintaining ACE's reputation for excellence.

Please read this booklet carefully. Participants are responsible for understanding the tour requirements.

This booklet contains:

- ❖ 2027 ACE Assessment Tour Rules
- ❖ 2027 ACE Assessment Tour Fees (*Please note Foal or Horse Registration fee is additional to the Assessment Fee*)
- ❖ ACE Registration and DNA Testing Fees (*Please note these fees are additional to Assessment Fees*)
- ❖ Presentation Requirements and Assessment Procedure
- ❖ 2027 ACE Tour Awards – including the NEW Diamond Award
- ❖ Why choose ACE?
- ❖ ACE Breeding Programs and Breeding Goals:
Australian Warmbloods and ACE Performance Ponies
- ❖ Summary of DNA Requirements
- ❖ Additional Westphalian Registration Information
- ❖ ACE Tour Check List



ACHIEVING YOUR DREAMS

2027 ACE Tour Rules

Please read these rules carefully. Participants are responsible for understanding and complying with all tour requirements.

1. All fees must be paid in full before or on the assessment day. Horses will not be assessed until payment has been received.
2. Refunds will only be considered when supported by a veterinary or medical certificate. A veterinary certificate is not required when an unborn foal entered in the tour is lost due to complications during or following birth.
3. All handlers and riders must accept the ACE Group Inc. Release and Waiver of Liability.
4. Hendra vaccination is not compulsory; however, owners of horses residing in, or travelling through, a high-risk area are strongly encouraged to discuss vaccination with their veterinarian.
1. Stallion owners and handlers must comply with the Equestrian Australia Stallion Safe Practice Guidelines. Please read and understand these requirements before presenting a stallion. No colt or stallion may be presented by anyone under the age of 17 years. All entire males 2 years of age and over must be led with a bridle and bit.

If a stallion displays dangerous or aggressive behaviour before or during an assessment, the assessor may immediately stop the assessment and withdraw the stallion.

All necessary forms are available via the ACE Group Inc. website

<https://acegroupinc.com.au>

2027 ACE Tour Fees

PLEASE NOTE The assessment fee does not include registration or DNA costs.	ACE Assessment Fee
ACE Tour minimum initial payment, due at time of booking, non-refundable, creditable against total amount due.	\$99
ACE Assessment (Two sections: conformation and movement)	\$115
ACE Assessment (Three sections: conformation, movement, and either jumping or ridden assessment) other than Stallion licensing.	\$130
ACE Assessment (Four sections: conformation, movement, jumping and ridden assessment) other than Stallion licensing.	\$170
ACE Preliminary Stallion Licensing – (Two Sections: Movement and Conformation.	\$215
ACE Preliminary Stallion Licensing (Three sections: Conformation, Movement & either free Jumping or ridden)	\$295
ACE Full Stallion Licensing (Four sections: Conformation, Movement, Jumping and ridden).	\$380
Westphalian Foal / Mare Recording with ACE Assessment.	\$160

Registration and transfer services are available only to current Full Members.

Discounts may be available upon application. Please contact the ACE office for further information or visit our website:

www.acegroupinc.com.au

Please note:

FOAL AND HORSE REGISTRATION FEE IS ADDITIONAL TO THE ASSESSMENT FEE

ACE Registration/DNA Testing

These fees are in addition to the assessment fee

	Members
Foal Registration (0 – 6 months) includes the ACE Passport	\$85
Weanling Registration (7 – 12 months) includes the ACE Passport	\$100
Horse Registration (13 months and older) includes the ACE Passport	\$160
DNA request for Profiling or Parent Verification	\$70
Warmblood Fragile Foal Test	\$45
Individual coat-colour test (download list from website)	\$45

Discounts for multiple registration available, please contact the ACE Group Inc. office.

Also available through the ACE Group Inc	Members
3 Test Coat Colour Package: (1) Cream Dilution (2) Chestnut Red Factor (CCC) (3) Agouti (AG)	\$90
3 Test Coat Colour Package & DNA Profile/Parentage: (1) Cream Dilution (2) Chestnut Red Factor (CCC) (3) Agouti (AG) + DNA Profile Parentage	\$130
Warmblood Fragile Foal Test (Highly Recommended)	\$45

There are other DNA Tests available on request or download list from website.

To avoid delays in processing your registration, please provide:

- A completed registration application. The foal or horse must be branded or microchipped before registration.
- A copy of the dam's registration papers if they are **not** registered with ACE. Please contact the ACE office if these documents are unavailable.
- Four clear photographs: left side, right side, front and rear. The entire horse, including the ears and hooves, must be visible.
- All relevant service certificates, artificial insemination forms, embryo transfer forms and DNA samples where applicable.
- All whorls marked with a black "X" on the identification diagram.

Photographs are not required if the horse has been formally identified during the ACE Breeding Inspection and Assessment Tour.



Presentation and assessment procedure

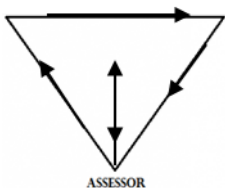
- Handlers must be neatly dressed and wear suitable enclosed footwear.
- Riders must wear appropriate riding attire, safety footwear and an approved equestrian helmet AS/NZS 1801.
- Horses must be presented clean, neat and well groomed.
- Manes should be pulled or neatly trimmed. Plaiting is optional.
- Unbroken horses, mares and geldings should preferably be presented in a bridle. All equipment must be safe and in good condition.
- Stallions aged two years and over must be presented in a bridle or wear a bit.
- Hooves may be oiled but must not be blackened.
- Boots and bandages must not be worn during conformation and movement assessments.
- Boots and bandages may be worn during ridden and jumping assessments.

Assessment Procedure

2 Sections: Conformation and Movement

Before judging begins, the foal/horse's markings will be recorded.

You will then be asked to stand the mare with foal or horse for the conformation assessment, preferably on a firm, level surface approximately five metres from the assessor. The assessor will move around the foal/horse while completing the assessment.



You will be asked to walk the mare with foal or horse away from the assessor in a straight line and then return directly toward the assessor.

You will then continue around the triangle.

For the in-hand movement assessment, the horse will be trotted clockwise around the triangle. The rear side of the triangle should be approximately 20 metres long.

Note: Practice running with your mare or horse beforehand at a pace that will show the best movement. You will need to be reasonably fit.

- Afterwards you will be asked to turn the horse free to assess its free movement.
- Please note: the foal / horse presented should show relaxed and flowing movement. Any tension in the movement may attract lower scoring



Please note foals and yearlings will be shown in liberty only.

- Foals and yearlings will be shown at liberty only. Other horses may also be released to allow their free movement to be assessed.
- Horses should display relaxed, natural and flowing movement. Tension may affect the score.



Ridden Assessment

You will be given time to warm your horse up and be advised before assessment begins.

The assessor will give you instructions regarding what movements he wishes to see from your horse. The horse is expected to perform at a level relevant to its age and experience.

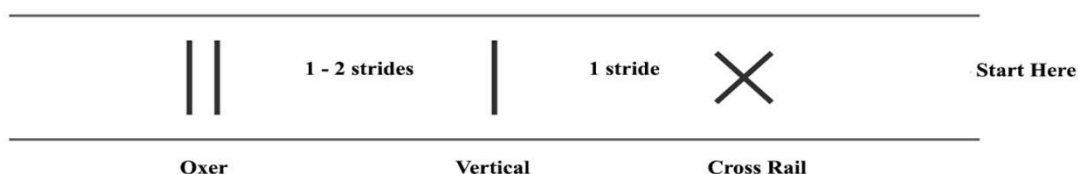


Jumping Assessment

This can be done in a free jumping lane or under saddle.

The free-jumping lane should preferably include a cross-rail, followed by one stride to a vertical and one or two strides to an oxer, depending on the available space and equipment.

When ridden, we expect to see the horse over an adequate course including both verticals and oxers.



2027 ACE Tour Awards

All horses or foals registered with ACE are eligible and entered automatically into the ACE Tour Awards 2027



Highest Scoring Warmblood Filly (under the age of 1) in each State
Highest Scoring Warmblood Colt (under the age of 1) in each State
ACE Group Champion Warmblood Filly (under the age of 1)
ACE Group Champion Warmblood Colt (under the age of 1)

AWARDS

- ❖ DIAMOND: 88% upwards
- ❖ ELITE: 83% - 87.99%
- ❖ PREMIUM: 78% - 82.99%

Stallion Licensing

- ❖ Broad sash for preliminary and fully licensed ACE registered stallion

Mare Assessment

- ❖ Broad sash for Mare Studbook entries

Gelding Assessment

- ❖ Broad sash for highest scoring ACE registered Gelding (assessed during the 2027 ACE Breeding Inspection and Assessment Tour)



Achieving your Dreams

Please note:

To be eligible for an ACE Tour Award, a horse or foal must be registered with ACE.

Horses registered with another association may be eligible for assessment or stud book entry but are not eligible for ACE horse or foal awards.

All registration fees required documents and DNA samples must be submitted to the ACE office. Pending registrations must be fully completed before the award is given.

Horses owned by persons with outstanding ACE accounts will not be considered for Tour Awards.

Why choose ACE?

ACE provides registration, assessment, DNA testing, studbook and membership services for Australian performance-horse and pony breeders.

All ACE registered Horses and Ponies will receive the new ACE Horse Passport which is nationally and internationally approved as FEI identification.

- ACE Group Inc. is an internationally recognised Australian Horse and Pony Association and opens opportunities for our breeders to participate in the prestigious Young Horse World Championships.
- In a time, where record keeping is becoming more and more important, ACE provides a tool to keep all your equine details in one easy to use location.
- The passports not only include the pedigree of your horse, spaces for assessment scores, performance results but also spaces for vaccination, veterinary records and much more.
- The ACE Horse Passport has been created in accordance with European Standards and is bound with rivets to always guarantee the integrity of your Horses identity.

The ACE passport has been upgraded to comply with European Union Legislation effective 16 June 2021. This means that your horse or pony can carry this passport for all international travel.

The passport is also FEI recognised and only requires the FEI card to be accepted at all FEI events..

Register your performance horse or pony with ACE today!

While emphasising on the ACE Warmblood operating the ACE Warmblood Studbooks, the ACE Group Inc. also offers the **ACE Performance Pony Studbook** as well as a registration opportunity for all other Performance Horses, segregated into two Registers, the **ACE Small Performance Horse Register** and the **ACE Performance Horse Register**. In summary, the ACE Group Inc. caters for all Performance Horses, great and small:

ACE maintains:

- ACE Warmblood Studbooks
- ACE Performance Pony Studbooks
- The ACE Performance Horse Register
- The ACE Small Performance Horse Register



Through its mare and stallion studbooks, ACE supports the breeding of refined, correct and well-framed Australian Warmblood horses capable of excelling in dressage, showjumping, eventing and showing.

ACE registered Australian Warmblood Horses are eligible to enter Warmblood Breed Classes at almost all Agricultural Shows.

Since 1996, ACE has invited independent international assessors to evaluate foals, breeding horses and performance horses. These assessments help breeders benchmark their horses against national and international standards. (All performance horses are eligible to be assessed)

ACE creates and maintains Certificates of Pedigree incorporated into the ACE Horse Passport, Certificates of Ownership and Assessment as well as Performance Records.

ACE assists in the development and improvement of Australian competitors/competitions in the disciplines of Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing and Showing / Breed classes through sponsorship.

Summary of DNA Requirements



Changes in the DNA requirements:

- From 1 August 2022, all new registrations require DNA analysis. This includes foals conceived by natural service or artificial insemination using fresh or chilled semen.
- All active breeding stallions, including stallions later gelded whose semen remains available, must have a DNA profile. The stallion or semen owner is responsible for ensuring that the profile is available.
- All mares entered into an ACE studbook must have a DNA profile.
- All foals produced using transported semen (includes fresh, chilled and frozen) or embryo transfer must be DNA tested.
- Horses must be branded or microchipped before registration.

Foals or Horses must either be branded or micro chipped at the time of registration.

Breeding Program

Australian Warmblood ACE

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.

The breeding goal is the ACE Australian Warmblood

ACE's breeding goal is to produce a refined Australian Warmblood that is physically and mentally capable of excelling in the Olympic disciplines of dressage, show jumping and eventing.

The Australian Warmblood-ACE should be well proportioned and well framed, with elastic, cadenced and ground-covering movement.

The selection criteria include:

- Pedigree
- Conformation and overall appearance
- Quality and sequence of movement, including jumping ability where applicable
- Trainability, willingness to perform, character, temperament and health
- Performance results

To meet highest national and international breeding standards, ACE rules and regulations have been further updated. To ensure a smooth registration process as well as studbook entry of your horse(s) during the 2027 ACE Breeding Inspection and Assessment Tour, please ensure to familiarize yourself with these changes.



Breeding Program

ACE Performance Pony

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.

The breeding goal is the ACE Performance Pony

ACE's breeding goal is to produce a versatile, talented and rideable performance pony that is physically and mentally capable of excelling in equestrian sport and is particularly suitable for children.

The ACE Performance Pony should be well proportioned and well framed, with elastic, cadenced and ground-covering movement.



ACE Mare Studbooks

Entry requirements | Australian Warmblood ACE and ACE Performance Pony



Buckton Thellini ACE Performance Pony Mare Studbook 1 - Premium score 79.25% 2024 Assessment

Before your mare enters a studbook

- Be at least **30 months old** on the assessment date.
- Be **ACE registered or ACE recognised**.
- Have a **DNA test**.
- Be **assessed** and meet the relevant score, pedigree and height requirements.

Which studbook can she enter?

Studbook	Assessment requirement*	DNA Documented breeding	Minimum height
Warmblood Studbook 1	7.5 / 75% or more	4 generations	160 cm
Performance Pony Studbook 1	7.0 / 70% or more		138 - 148 cm
Warmblood Studbook 2	7.5 / 75%	3 generations	155 cm
Performance Pony Studbook 2	6.5 / 65% or more		138 - 148 cm
Warmblood Studbook 3	7.0 / 70%	2 or fewer generations	155 cm
Performance Pony Studbook 3	6.0 / 60%		138 - 148 cm

* The ACE website specifies the percentage requirement for two assessment sections.

Mare Register

The Mare Register is a separate section for ACE registered or recognised mares with an official registration certificate or ACE horse passport.

Unsure where your mare fits? Contact ACE with her registration details and pedigree before applying.



Information for Westphalian registration

- Foals being recorded or registered with the Westphalian Verband must be DNA tested. An ACE representative may collect the hair sample on the day of recording. Please ensure the foal is accustomed to being handled.
 - Foals must be microchipped before recording or registration. Please arrange for your veterinarian to implant the microchip before the assessment or recording.
 - Complete all required paperwork before the assessment day and provide it to the ACE representative. The applicant is responsible for submitting any missing documents directly to the Westphalian Verband.
 - If the breeder is not already a member, a completed Westphalian membership application will also be required. Membership may alternatively be completed online.
 - The Westphalian Verband will invoice applicants directly. Membership renewals, registration charges and other Westphalian fees are matters between the applicant and the Westphalian Verband.
 - If the mother of the foal is not already registered with the Westphalian Verband, she must be registered with an approved Society and have a DNA profile.
- The Dam line must have Licensed sires and Studbook mares.**

If you have any questions regarding eligibility for your progeny, please contact the ACE Group Inc. Vice President, Tina Barker info@roseglenfarm.com.au

ACE Group Inc. DISCLAIMER as agent for Westphalian Verband

ACE acts as an Australian liaison and assists applicants by checking that documents prepared through ACE are complete. The Westphalian Verband independently determines its membership, studbook, registration and fee requirements. ACE has no control over these rules or charges.

The ACE Group Inc. is only the agent for Westphalia, to make sure that the paperwork we supply for registration with the Westphalian Verband is complete and correct. Invoicing, membership renewals and all fees associated with your membership with Westphalia is a direct link between you and the Westphalian Verband.



2027 ACE Tour Checklist

Prior to your assessment 2027

- ☒ Read the 2027 Tour Assessment Information Booklet
- ☒ Complete and submit the online booking form
- ☒ If your horse resides in or will travel through a Hendra-risk area, discuss the risks and vaccination options with your veterinarian.

Before or on the assessment day....

- ☒ Pay all Assessment Fees in Full. Horses will not be assessed until payment has been received.
Bring all required registration, identification and assessment documents.

Horses owned by persons with outstanding ACE Accounts will not be considered for Tour Awards.

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