APPROVED by the General Meeting of Members of the Horse Breeding Development Association, Minutes No. 4 dated 10 February 2019.

[The original bears the Association's horse logo, a handwritten signature and a round seal: Horse Breeding Development Association, Moscow, OGRN 1187700005426.]

RULES FOR THE BREEDING APPRAISAL OF PEDIGREE HORSES HORSE BREEDING DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Moscow
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1. General provisions

1.1. These Rules for the Breeding Appraisal of Pedigree Horses (hereinafter the Rules) establish the appraisal procedure and were developed in accordance with:
- Federal Law No. 123-FZ of 3 August 1995, On Pedigree Livestock Breeding;
- the Instructions for the Breeding Appraisal of Pedigree Horses of Stud-Bred Breeds (as last amended on 20 January 2009), developed by the Russian Ministry of Agriculture and posted on its official website in 2003.
1.2. Breeding appraisal means assessment of the breeding and productive qualities of pedigree horses and the qualities of other breeding products (material) for their subsequent use.
1.3. These Rules apply to appraisal of Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke horses (hereinafter also horses).

2. Organisation and principles of pedigree horse breeding appraisal

2.1. Appraisal determines horses' breeding value and intended use and the breeding class of non-production horse stock through comprehensive assessment taking breed into account.
2.2. Breeding stallions selected for reproduction of the breed shall be tested and assessed for progeny quality and/or their own productivity.
2.3. Breeding stallions shall be tested in pedigree livestock breeding organisations that have attained the prescribed productivity level for pedigree animals.
2.4. Breeding stallions shall be assessed by specialists of the state breeding service.
2.5. Testing and assessment of breeding stallions shall follow the methodology approved by the state authority for pedigree livestock breeding administration specially authorised by the Government of the Russian Federation.

2.6. Scheduled appraisal is conducted annually after the youngstock breeding inspection; unscheduled appraisal is conducted when a horse's class needs to be determined or confirmed.
2.7. Appraisal uses specially developed appraisal tables and supplementary point-rating scales.
2.8. A horse is assigned the corresponding breeding class (Elite, Class I, etc.) on the basis of its scores.
2.9. Horses whose pedigree is confirmed by their own or their parents' entry in the state studbooks of the respective breeds are regarded as pedigree horses and appraised.
2.10. Appraisal is performed by appropriately qualified specialists: chief animal-production specialists and breeders of stud farms and research-institution specialists responsible for the breed concerned.

2.11. A horse is assessed for pedigree, breed type, body measurements, conformation, performance and progeny quality.
2.12. Each trait is assessed on a 10-point scale.
2.13. Initial appraisal at 2 years assesses pedigree, type, measurements and conformation; performance is first assessed at 2.5 years. Horses are appraised annually until 7 years. Progeny quality is first assessed at 7 years. Thereafter appraisal is updated every 3 years as information on progeny quality and other data accumulates.

2.14. Breed membership is determined as follows:
- Thoroughbreds are horses whose ancestors are entered in state studbooks linked to the international General Stud Book.
- Purebred Arabians are horses entered in studbooks recognised by the World Arabian Horse Organization.
- Akhal-Tekes are horses whose ancestors are entered in Volume III and subsequent volumes of the State Studbook of Akhal-Teke Horses.
2.15. The proportion of blood of a breed is half the sum of the parents' proportions. From the fifth pedigree generation onwards, fractions may be rounded down (132 or 3.12% of blood and less may be disregarded).
2.16. The appraising animal-production specialist completes an individual form for each appraised horse (Forms 1-л and 2-л). Each organisation where appraisal is conducted prepares a summary of the results (Form 13-л).

[Translator's note: the Russian original actually prints “132”, without a fraction bar. This does not correspond to 3.12%. The source wording is preserved; no unapproved substitution of 1/32 is made.]

2.17. Appraised stock is divided into: Elite - the best horses of the breed, fully meeting breed requirements; Class I - horses generally meeting those requirements; Class II - the remaining horses of the breed having breeding value. Horses not assigned to these classes are regarded as non-breeding horses.
Specific scores for all assessment traits are prescribed for each class. Horses are assigned a class under Table 1 according to the minimum score for an individual trait.

Table 1. Horse classification scale

Trait	Elite stallions	Elite mares	Class I stallions	Class I mares	Class II stallions	Class II mares
Pedigree	8	8	6	6	4	4
Breed type	8	7	6	5	4	3
Measurements	8	7	6	5	4	3
Conformation	8	7	6	5	4	3
Performance	6	4	5	5	2	-
Progeny quality	8	7	6	5	4	3

If a horse is only one point below the prescribed minimum for one trait, the appraiser may disregard the missing point and assign the corresponding class with this adjustment. This adjustment does not apply to horses failing to meet the minimum requirements of Class II.
Within each class, pedigree horses are divided into three categories:

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- Category 1 includes horses scoring above the class minimum for one or more traits and meeting the minimum for all other appraisal traits.
- Category 2 includes horses meeting the class minimum for every appraisal trait. It also includes horses exceeding the minimum in one or more traits but scoring one point below it in one trait.
- Category 3 includes pedigree horses meeting the class minimum except for one trait that is one point below it.

3. Pedigree assessment

3.1. Pedigree is assessed from information on ancestors' classes and the value of the parents, using the scale in Table 2.

Table 2. Pedigree assessment scale

Number of Elite ancestors in generations I-II of the pedigree	Points
14	9
12	8
10	7
8	6
6	5
4	4
2	3

[Translator's note: Table 2 says generations I-II while allowing 14 ancestors. The generation designation and all figures are preserved as printed; this discrepancy requires clarification by the author.]

3.2. Add 1-2 points to the minimum pedigree score:
a) if the parents have a progeny-quality score of 8-10;
b) for parents that are breed champions or record-holders.
Deduct 1-2 points if the parents are assessed as deteriorators on progeny quality.
First-generation crosses with breeds outside the planned breeding programme may not score above 4; second-generation crosses above 6; third-generation crosses above 7.

4. Breed-type assessment

4.1. When assessing expression of the desired type, the appraiser shall take account of the breed's characteristics and present-day requirements for it.
4.2. Expression of the desired breed type is assessed under Table 3.

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Table 3. Breed-type assessment scale

Expression of desired type	Points
Excellent	9-10
Good	7-8
Satisfactory	5-6

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Table 3 (continued)

Expression of desired type	Points
Insufficient	3-4
Not expressed	1-2

5. Conformation and constitution assessment

5.1. In the individual form (see Forms 1-л and 2-л), conformation features are divided into three groups: I - head, neck and body; II - limbs; III - constitution, build, musculature, tendons and ligaments, temperament. Conformation is described by underlining the features.
5.2. Features are rated good, satisfactory or poor.
5.3. Good earns 2 points, satisfactory 1 and poor 0. The sum of the ratings is the group score. The overall conformation score is the lowest group score.

Example: head and neck - satisfactory; withers and shoulder blade - good; back and loin - satisfactory; croup - satisfactory; rib cage - good. This group scores 7 (1+2+1+1+2).
Forelegs: stance - good; structure of carpal and fetlock joints, cannon bones and pasterns - satisfactory. Hindlegs: stance and hock structure - satisfactory; structure of hind cannon bones, fetlock joints and pasterns - good; hooves - good. This group scores 8 (2+1+1+2+2).
Constitution - satisfactory; build - good; musculature - good; tendons and ligaments - satisfactory; temperament and adaptability - satisfactory. This group scores 7 (1+2+2+1+1). The overall conformation score is 7.
5.4. Horses with defects such as ringbone, bone spavin, curb or roaring may be assigned no higher than Class II. Unilateral cryptorchids may be assigned no higher than Class I, provided they have demonstrated high performance.

6. Performance assessment

6.1. Performance is assessed from documents on stud-farm and racecourse trials and competitions in the classical equestrian disciplines.
6.2. Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke performance is assessed using the breed-specific scales in Table 4.

Table 4. Performance assessment scale: Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke horses. Thoroughbred section.

Trial result / score increase	Points
Raced but did not win first places	2
Won one ordinary race	3

Table 4. Performance assessment scale: Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke horses. Thoroughbred section.

Trial result / score increase	Points
Won two or more ordinary races, or raced in group one and “outside groups”	4-5
Won races in group one and “outside groups”	6
Score increase: raced at 3 years	0.5

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Table 4 (continued). Thoroughbred: score increases.

Ground for increase	Points
Raced at 4 years	1
Obtained a paid placing in a traditional-prize race	0.5
Won a traditional prize	1
Obtained a paid placing in an international-prize race	1
Won first place in an international-prize race	2
Won a prize at the All-Union Horsemen's Competitions	0.5
Won the M. I. Kalinin Prize, Grand All-Union Prize or USSR Prize at Union or republican racecourses	3
Set a breed record	1

Table 4 (continued). Akhal-Teke and purebred Arabian horses.

Trial result / score increase	Points
Trained but did not race	3
Raced at a racecourse but did not win first places	4
Raced and won first place in a group race	5
Won two or more first places in group races; raced in group one and “outside groups”	6
Won first place in named-prize races	7
Score increase: raced at 3 and 4 years	1
Participated in hurdle races	1
Obtained prize placings in traditional prizes	1
Won traditional prizes	2
Won hurdle races	1

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Table 4 (continued). Akhal-Teke and purebred Arabian horses.

Trial result / score increase	Points
Obtained prize placings in steeplechases	1
Won steeplechases	2

6.3. Young Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke horses aged 2-3.5 years that have undergone sport-oriented stud-farm trials are assessed under Table 5.

Table 5. Appraisal scale for young Thoroughbred, purebred Arabian and Akhal-Teke horses.

Trial result and rating	Appraisal points
Satisfactory results rated 6	6
Satisfactory results rated 7	7
Good results rated 8	8
Excellent results rated 9-10	9-10

6.4. Young horses of halfbred breeds aged 2-3 years are assessed for sporting qualities (movement and jumping) as follows.
6.4.1. Movement qualities of young halfbred horses aged 2-3 years are scored under Table 6.

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Table 6. Movement assessment of young halfbred horses aged 2-3 years (test distance 25 m). Number of steps.

Indicator	10 points	9	8	7	6	5	Control time (s)
Walk	25	26	27	28	29	30 or more	15

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Table 6 (continued). Number of steps.

Indicator	10 points	9	8	7	6	5	Control time (s)
Trot	14	15	16	17	18	19 or more	5

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Table 6 (continued). Movement style: rhythm, elasticity and showiness.

Gait	Points
Trot	5
Gallop	5

Note: deduct 1 point for exceeding the control time, 1-2 points for obvious movement defects, and 1 point for two breaks of gait at trot and walk.
The final movement score is the sum of the scores for each indicator divided by 3.
6.4.2. Jumping assessment for young halfbred horses aged 2-3 years comprises jumping power (Table 7), jumping technique (Table 8) and temperament.

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Table 7. Scale for jumping power of young horses in free jumping.

Obstacle height	140	130	120	110	100
Points	15	11	8	6	5

Note: deduct 1 point for each touch, 2 for knocking down the test obstacle and 3 for a refusal.
Jumping technique is assessed by deducting 1-3 points for each qualitative characteristic from the maximum of 10 for ideal technique, according to the extent of deviation from the ideal model. Deviations are recorded under Table 8.

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Table 8. Penalties for principal combinations of qualitative jumping-technique characteristics.

No.	Indicator	Penalty points
1	Neck insufficiently lowered	-1
2	Neck level with or slightly below the back line	-2
3	Neck above the back line	-3
4	Forearm horizontal	-1
5	Forearm below horizontal	-2
6	Forearm dropped down	-3
7	Cannon bone lowered, angle to forearm 45°	-1
8	Cannon bone hanging, angle to forearm about 90°	-2

Temperament during jumping trials is assessed on a 5-point scale. Deduct points if the horse approaches too fast and recklessly or sluggishly and unwillingly, does not stop after a run, does not approach a person, does not accept a feed reward, or displays aggression.
The final jumping score is the sum of the scores for power, jumping style and temperament divided by 3.
6.4.3. Sporting performance is the sum of movement and jumping scores divided by 2.
For horses tested in endurance rides and long-distance races, first place scores 8; other prize placings 6-7; completion of the course 4-5.

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Scores for different kinds of trials and competitions are not added together; a horse is assessed on its highest achievement.
The overall performance score is the lowest score from two trial types for 2-year-olds and three trial types for horses aged 3 or over.
If a horse scores 8-10 in two trial types, add one further point to the lowest score.
Untested horses used for farm work score 3-4 according to demonstrated performance.

7. Assessment of progeny quality

7.1. Progeny quality is assessed from all offspring produced and raised under normal conditions: at least ten offspring for stallions and at least two appraised foals for mares.
7.2. Progeny quality of broodmares and stallions is established from farm records, appraisal data and the appraiser's direct inspection of youngstock.
Stallions in breeding farms and breeding mares receive:
- Elite progeny, a substantial proportion intended for stud breeding, including outstanding breeding sires and broodmares: 9-10;
- predominantly Elite progeny: 7-8;
- predominantly Class I progeny: 5-6;
- predominantly Class II progeny: 3-4.
Where stallions undergo centralised progeny assessment, the progeny score is based on that assessment. Stallions in the best group score 8-10, the middle group 6-7, and the worst group 5 or less.

Stallions used with non-breeding mares receive:
- progeny predominantly fit for general use, including at least 75% of the desired type with good performance, or no lower than Class II: 7-8;
- progeny predominantly fit for general use, including at least 50% of the desired type with good performance, or no lower than Class II: 5-6;
- progeny predominantly fit for general use: 3-4.
Add 1 point where progeny include breed record-holders, champions of oblast, krai or republican shows, or exhibits at the USSR Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy (VDNKh).

8. Assessment by body measurements

8.1. Measurements are assessed using breed-specific scales with age adjustments. For horses aged 3.5 years or younger, measurement requirements are reduced according to age.
8.2. Measurement points are assigned on the basis of the lowest rating among the individual measurements.
8.3. The Thoroughbred measurement scale and age adjustments are provided in Tables 9-9.1.

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Table 9. Thoroughbred body-measurement scale (cm).

Stallions: withers height	Stallions: chest girth	Stallions: cannon circumference	Mares: withers height	Mares: chest girth	Mares: cannon circumference	Points
162	182	20.5	160	182	20	9
160	180	20	158	180	19.5	8
159	178	19.5	157	178	19	7
158	176	19.5	156	176	18.5	6
157	175	19	155	175	18.5	5
156	174	19	154	174	18.5	3-4

Table 9.1. Thoroughbred age adjustments.

Age (years)	Withers height (cm)	Oblique body length (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	Cannon circumference (cm)
3.5	1	2	3	-
3	2	4	6	0.5
2.5	3	6	8	1.0
2	5	8	13	1.0

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Table 9.1. Thoroughbred age adjustments.

Age (years)	Withers height (cm)	Oblique body length (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	Cannon circumference (cm)
1.5	8	12	20	1.5

8.4. The purebred Arabian measurement scale and age adjustments are provided in Tables 10-10.1.

Table 10. Purebred Arabian body-measurement scale (cm).

Stallions: withers height	Stallions: chest girth	Stallions: cannon circumference	Mares: withers height	Mares: chest girth	Mares: cannon circumference	Points
152	177	19.5	150	174	19	9
151	175	19	149	172	18.5	8
149	173	19	148	169	18.5	7
147	168	19	146	167	18	6
146	166	18.5	145	166	18	5
145	165	18	144	165	17.5	3-4

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Table 10.1. Purebred Arabian age adjustments.

Age (years)	Withers height (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	Cannon circumference (cm)
3.5	1	3	-
3	3	6	0.5
2.5	4	8	0.75
2	5	12	1.0
1.5	8	20	1.5

8.5. The Akhal-Teke measurement scale and age adjustments are provided in Tables 11-11.1.

Table 11. Akhal-Teke body-measurement scale (cm).
Stallions / mares / points. The table continues on source page 11.

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Table 11 (continued). Akhal-Teke measurements (cm).

Stallions: withers height	Stallions: oblique length	Stallions: chest girth	Stallions: cannon circumference	Mares: withers height	Mares: oblique length	Mares: chest girth	Mares: cannon circumference	Points
160	163	176	19.5	158	160	178	19.0	9
158	160	174	19.5	156	158	176	19.0	8
156	158	172	19.2	154	156	175	18.5	7
155	156	170	19.0	153	154	172	18.5	6
154	154	168	18.5	152	152	170	18.0	5
152	152	167	18.5	151	150	168	18.0	4
150	149	167	18.0	149	148	167	18.0	3

Table 11.1. Akhal-Teke age adjustments.

Age (years)	Withers height (cm)	Oblique length (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	Cannon circumference (cm)
3.5	1	2	5	0.5
3	2	4	7	0.5

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Table 11.1. Akhal-Teke age adjustments.

Age (years)	Withers height (cm)	Oblique length (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	Cannon circumference (cm)
2.5	4	6	10	1.0
2	6	9	15	1.0
1.5	10	17	18	1.5

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