



Rules for stallion grading in USA

General information

Due to geographic and other practical conditions there are slightly different rules for stallion grading in USA compared with the rules in Denmark. The basic idea of grading stallions in USA is to keep it simple without compromising quality.

- A. The rules regarding pedigree and x-rays are equivalent to the ones in Denmark
- B. The stallions are judged and graded by two judges from Dansk Varmblod
- C. The approved stallions are entered on a special stallion list in Denmark for sires standing and graded in the USA
- D. When given a breeding approval, an entry fee is paid to NADWA
- E. At final grading, a one-time stallion list entry fee is paid to NADWA
- F. The station test and the practical testing of riding qualities are substituted by a system of qualifying through scores at specific competition classes.

1.

Ancestral requirements

1.1

In order to get a stallion's pedigree approved before coming to grading, it must include at least four full generations of Warmblood, Thoroughbred, or Arabian pedigree.

1.2

Arabian pedigree means ox arabs, shagya arabs and crossbreeds hereof with thoroughbred, so-called anglo-arabians.

1.3

Approved warmblood pedigree means that the horses stated in the pedigree are registered with Dansk Varmblod or one of the following warmblood horse breeding societies:

Belgish Warmbloedpaard (BWP), Koninklijk Warmbloed Paarden Stamboek Nederland (KWPN), Landespfederdezuchtverband Berlin-Brandenburg (BRAND), Landesverband Bayerischer Pfederdezüchter (BAVAR), Norwegian Warmblood Association (NWB), Pfederdezuchtverband Baden-Württemberg (BAD-WÜ), Pfederdezuchtverband Rheinland-Pfalz-Saar (ZWEIB), Pfederdezuchtverband Sachsen-Thüringen e.V. (SATHÜ), Grænseegnens Holstener Hesteavl'sforbund (GHH), Pfederdezuchtverband Sachsen-Anhalt (SA), Rheinisches Pfederdestammbuch (RHEIN), Springpfederdezüchterverband Oldenburg – International e.V., Studbook Francais du Cheval Anglo-Arabe (AA), Stud-book Francais du Cheval Selle Francais (SF), Studbook Zangersheide (ZANG), Swedish Warmblood Association (SWB), Verband hannoverscher Pfederdezüchter (Hann), Verband der Züchter des Holsteiner Pfederdes (HOLST), Verband der Züchter des Oldenburger Pfederdes (OLDBG), Verband der Pfederdezüchter Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (MECKL), Verband der Züchter und Freunde des Ostpreussischen Warmblutpfederdes Trakehner Abstammung (TRAK), Westfälisches Pfederdestammbuch (WESTF).

In a transitional period during the years 2005-2008, the breeding committee may accept exemptions from the above.



1.4

A full generation means that all horses in a generation are graded or assessed by Dansk Varmblod or by one of the above horse breeding societies. If the pedigree includes crossbreds with Thoroughbred or Arabian pedigrees, grading/breeding approval is required only in the first generation of the line of ancestry of the respective Thoroughbred or Arabian parent.

1.5

Stallion dams born in 2001 and hereafter must have passed an approved riding test and thereby obtained an R. The pedigrees of stallions from one of the breeding societies mentioned in section 1.3 can be approved, if their dams meet the requirements regarding pedigree and testing applying in the respective breeding society. Danish Warmblood elite mares always qualify as stallion dams, if the ancestral requirements in section 1.1 are met.

1.6

As of 2004 the stallion dam and her dam (the granddam) must be graded at least DH or DS, although a FOR-F3 mare can be a granddam, if her scores at the exterior valuation match those of a DS grading.

1.7

In special cases, the breeding committee can approve other pedigrees but this is decided in each individual case and a precedent cannot be invoked.

2.

Grading of warmblood stallions

2.1

When graded the stallion is included the studbook's main section.

Grading and breeding approval depend on a veterinary approval of the stallion and that it has been tested under rider.

The stallion must stand at least 162 cm at hand and the score for total impression must be at least 8.

2.2

When special conditions are faced, the breeding committee can prolong or reduce the breeding approval, and they have the authority to limit the amount of covered mares p.a.

2.3

Only offspring of stallions that had a breeding approval on the time of the covering, can be registered with Dansk Varmblod and marked with the Dansk Varmblod logo.

2.4

Stallions, bred within the framework of Dansk Varmblod and who obtain final breeding approval, must be marked with a crown on the left side of its neck. If the stallion is not already by then marked with the Crown and Wave on its left thigh, this must be done at the same time.



3.

Grading of Thoroughbred and Arabic stallions

3.1

Apart from the rules regarding grading of dams, the rules for grading of warmblood stallions must be met.

3.2

Regarding stallions with suitable racing results, the owner must sign a document saying that the stallion does not have any stereotypics. If the stallion has stereotypics, though, it will be noted in the stallion's grading description.

4.

Veterinary control etc.

Veterinary control is obligatory. A blood type control and a semen test are obligatory at the first breeding approval.

In connection with grading and breeding approval a color and markings description is worked out and a DNA control is done.

The stallion must pass an on-site veterinary control and the x-rays must be satisfactory. In order to obtain a breeding approval, the above conditions must be approved acceptable by the breeding committee.

Digital x-ray pictures that are no older than ½ year old must be shown.

The radiographic views must include the following:

1. All four feet (incl. pasterns) in lateral projection
2. The hocks of both hindlegs in
 - a. Latero-medial aspect (LM)
 - b. Dorso-Plantar aspect (DPI)
 - c. Plantarolateral-dorsomedial oblique (PIL-DMO) 115°
3. The stifle joints of both hindlegs in latero-medial aspect (LM)
4. Navicular bone of front feet: Dorsoproximal-Palmarodistal oblique view

5.

Registration etc.

The stallion keeper is obliged to follow the current rules of NADWA/Dansk Varmblod regarding registration of coverings and foals.



6.

Exemptions

In special cases, the breeding committee may accept exemptions, but this is decided in each individual case and a precedent cannot be invoked.

7.

De-grading

At any time after recommendation of the breeding committee, the board of Dansk Varmblod has the right to revoke a given breeding commission or grading of a stallion, if this stallion is estimated to pass on unwished characteristics or offspring of insufficient quality.

Furthermore, the board of Dansk Varmblod has the right to revoke a given breeding commission or grading of a stallion, if the stallion keeper or –owner does not observe the rules of NADWA/Dansk Varmblod.

8.

Testing of stallions

8.1

2½-year-old stallions:

Selection for 2 years of provisional breeding approval can be done.
Digital x-ray pictures that are no older than ½ year old must be shown.
DNA tests must be OK.

3- to 3½-year-old stallions:

Selection for 2 years of provisional breeding approval can be done.
Digital x-ray pictures that are no older than ½ year old must be shown.
DNA tests must be OK.
A riding test equal to the saddle grading test for mares must be passed.

4 year and older stallions:

Selection for 2 years of provisional breeding approval can be done.
Digital x-ray pictures that are no older than ½ year old must be shown.
DNA tests must be OK.
A riding test equal to the saddle grading test for mares must be passed.

If the stallion has competition results final grading may eventually be obtained.

8.2

Final breeding approval to breed as a Dansk Varmblod dressage stallion, equally to the Sires finally graded in Denmark, *requires documentation that the following conditions are met:*



When the stallion is 4 years old, he must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at Training level or higher, at least one of which must be the "USDF test for 4 year old" **and one of the below:**

When the stallion is 5 years old, he must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at First level or higher, at least one of which must be the "FEI test for 5 year olds".

When the stallion is 6 years old, he must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at 3rd level, at least one of which must be the "FEI test for 6 year olds"

When the stallion is 7 years old, he must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at 4th level

When the stallion is 8 years old, he must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at FEI Prix St. George

Older stallions: the stallion must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at FEI Prix St. George AND 2) The stallion must receive a score of 65% or better in two USDF sanctioned competitions from 2 different judges at FEI Intermediate I or above.

8.3

Final breeding approval to breed as a Dansk Varmblod jumping stallion,

equally to the Sires finally graded in Denmark, *requires documentation that the following conditions are met:*

Four-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,00 m (3' 6", Level 3 jumpers) or International Jumper Futuriity 4 year Old Jumper Class **and one of the below:**

Five-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,10 m (3' 9", Level 4 jumpers) or YJC (Young Jumper Championship) / FEI 5 year old Jumper Class.

Six-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,20 m (4' , Level 5 jumpers) or YJC (Young Jumper Championship) / FEI 6 year old Jumper Class.

Seven-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,30 m (4' 3", Level 6 jumpers) or YJC (Young Jumper Championship) / FEI 7 year old Jumper Class.

Eight-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,40 m (Level 7 jumpers) or YJC (Young Jumper Championship) / FEI 8 year old Jumper Class.



Nine-year-olds: must have 5 top 3 placings at a USEF "A" rated show or a Canadian Eq. Federation Class "1" show at 1,50 m (Level 8 jumpers).

Ten-year-olds: must have 3 placings at a 1,60 m at an International Show.

8.4

Grading of stallions from other breeding societies

Only stallions of absolute top quality will be selected for breeding. Each individual stallion's case is viewed individually to determine whether it can be approved for breeding with Dansk Varmblod or not.

The following aspects must be a part of the judgment of the stallion:

- a. An exterior valuation
- b. Riding test results and/or competition results
- c. A suitable number of offspring must be shown for the breeding committee, if they require so
- d. Genetic evaluations, if such are available

Digital x-ray pictures that are no older than ½ year old must be shown.
DNA tests must be OK.

8.5

The use of semen of graded stallions from other breeding societies for Danish Warmblood mares

The mare owner may apply for using semen of graded stallions from other breeding societies for a specific graded Danish Warmblood mare in a specific year. The breeding committee must receive this application before 15 November of the respective year.

The stallion must fulfil a range of requirements regarding selection, pedigree, competition results and/or station test results, and genetic evaluations ranging in the very top of the respective breeding society where the stallion is selected to. It is the duty of the applying mare owner to present documentation of the above and enclose this documentation when forwarding the application.

The requirements are defined by the breeding committee and the fee for applying is set each year by the board of Dansk Varmblod.

Vilhelmsborg, August 2006