

General Assembly of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses
Vienna, Austria
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Report from the Development Department

c/o Irish Sport Horse Studbook

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1. The Development Department

Mr Jim Flanagan is a Vice President of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH) and Ms Alison Corbally is a member of the Executive Committee, both representing the Irish Sport Horse Studbook. Mrs Deirdre Harty, also a representative of the Irish Sport Horse Studbook, co-ordinates the activities of the Development Department.

2. The Role of the Development Department

The main function of the Development Department is to promote growth in the membership of the WBFSH. The Development Department is responsible for the processing of applications from studbooks that wish to join the WBFSH. Studbooks may be accepted as either a 'Member' or an 'Associate Member' in accordance with the Statutes of the WBFSH.

The Development Department assesses each application and presents it to the Executive Committee. Executive Committee makes a recommendation to the Board of the WBFSH in relation to membership applications. The Board decides on applications subject to ratification at the Annual General Assembly.

The Development Department is also responsible for proposing alterations to the Statutes of the WBFSH, as appropriate. In addition, the Development Department deals with matters that arise in relation to the adherence to the principles contained in the statutes of the WBFSH by member studbooks, and by the WBFSH itself.

3. Membership Applications 2014/2015

There have been three completed applications for membership of the WBFSH since the 2014 WBFSH General Assembly:

1. Czech Warmblood Breeders Association (CZEWB)
2. ACE Studbooks Inc.
3. Breeders Elite Studbook for Irish and European Sport Horses (BE/SIES)

1. Czech Warmblood Breeders Association (CZEWB)

An application for membership of the WBFSH from Czech Warmblood Breeders Association (CZEWB) was received on the 24th November 2014.

The CZEWB aims to breed horses mainly for the disciplines of eventing, dressage and showjumping. The Studbook is approved by the Ministry Agriculture in the Czech Republic and accepts thoroughbred, Anglo Arab, Trakehner and all European warm blood horses. Its breeding objective is to produce a noble, correct, easy to ride horse which covers ground easily, and is suitable for all FEI equestrian events. The studbook is open but only for horses registered in studbooks approved by the CZEWB Breeding Committee.

The CZEWB has approximately 600 members, 9,500 breeding mares and 200 active stallions. The organization registered between 500 and 1000 foals annually between 2009 and 2013. The studbook carries out inspections for mares and stallions with mares being judged by regional inspectors who assesses their conformation and movement. Stallions are inspected initially by regional inspectors at 2 years of age. They are then selected to go forward to a second selection phase where they may be selected to participate in a 70 day test. Stallions who fulfill all necessary conditions at this test are permitted entry into the stallion studbook.

The CZEWB is an independent voluntary organisation which is governed by its Board of Management as elected by the members.

The application from the CZEWB was discussed at a WBFSH joint meeting on the 28th January 2015 and the studbook was granted 'member' status.

Further information regarding the CZEWB is available on <http://www.schct.cz/>.

2. ACE Studbooks Inc.

The Australian Continental Group Pty Ltd (ACE Group) submitted an application for membership of the WBFSH for the Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook on the 9th January 2015. Their application for membership was discussed at a joint meeting on the 23rd June 2015 and it was determined that the studbook did not comply with the rule that member studbooks must *"Be a horse studbook that is a studbook of members and controlled by these members in a democratic fashion"*. The ACE Group have since changed the structure of their organisation in order to meet WBFSH requirements. As part of this process their organisation's name was changed to 'ACE Studbooks Inc.' which is now governed by a Management Committee that is elected by the members.

ACE Studbooks Inc. maintains the Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook which aims to breed horses that excel in the Olympic disciplines of dressage, show jumping or eventing. The Studbook's horses are recognised by the Equestrian Australia (formerly EFA). In addition to the Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook the organisation maintains a number of separate registers for performance horses, small performance horses and Australian sports ponies. These registers are independent from the

Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook and the WBFSH membership application submitted by the ACE Studbooks Inc. relates only to the Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook.

At present there are approximately 250 members of ACE Studbooks Inc. Under the previous structure (Australian Continental Group Pty Ltd) the organisation had approximately 800 members and they expect the level of members of the new ACE Studbooks Inc. to increase to this level over the coming months. There are approximately 800 active breeding mares in the Studbook and 90 fully licensed stallions. A further 90 stallions have received a preliminary license. Between 2010 and 2014 the studbook registered between 300 and 400 foals annually.

The Australian Warmblood ACE Studbook maintains an open studbook policy allowing horses from other WBFSH recognised studbooks into the studbook, subject to meeting specified standards. Stallion and mare evaluations are carried out during the ACE annual breeding inspection tour. There is an awards system in place for high scoring foals, mares and stallions. Stallion licensing is divided into three sections; licensed, provisionally licensed and not licensed.

The ACE Studbooks Inc. application for membership of the WBFSH will be discussed at the joint meeting on 18th October 2015.

Further information regarding ACE Studbooks Inc. is available on <http://www.acegroup.com.au/>.

3. Breeders Elite Studbook for Irish and European Sport Horses (BE/SIES)

An application for membership of the WBFSH from the Breeders Elite Studbook for Irish and European Sport Horses (BE/SIES) was received initially on the 1st October 2013 and further information has been supplied to support the application in 2014 and 2015.

The Studbook for Irish and European Sport Horses (SIES) was founded in 2010 and was approved by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland. In June 2013 the organisation changed its name with the Registrar of Companies for Northern Ireland from 'Studbook for Irish and European Sporthorses Limited' to 'Breeders Elite Studbook for Irish and European Sporthorses Ltd.' (BE/SIES).

The BE/SIES aim to breed horses for all Olympic disciplines and promote the breeding of world class sport horses using bloodlines available in Ireland, the UK and Europe. The Studbook operates mainly in Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom.

The BE/SIES have approximately 1,000 members, over 600 active breeding mares and approximately 250 active and approved stallions. Between 2010 and 2014 the Studbook registered between 100 and 380 foals per year.

The BE/SIES assess their stallions initially when they are a minimum of 2.5 years of age. Stallions are assessed on their health, conformation, performance ability, movement and pedigree. Stallions are then graded as Failed, Passed for Private Use or Licensed. 4 year old stallions can be assessed under saddle for classification as Licensed. Stallions are subsequently downgraded or upgraded to Approved, Life Approved or Elite on the basis of their performance in open competition. The BE/SIES also carry out young stock grading for foals, yearlings, 2 year olds, 3 year olds and broodmares.

The BE/SIES application was discussed at the Joint Meeting on the 28th January 2015 and on the 23rd June 2015 and it was agreed not to grant WBFSH membership to the BE/SIES as the studbook does

not comply with the rule that member studbooks must *“Be a horse studbook that is a studbook of members and controlled by these members in a democratic fashion”*.

Further information regarding the BE/SIES is available <http://www.breederselite.co.uk/>.

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