

MARE CLASSIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

All mares registered with the NZWHA in the main register with the required amount of Warmblood pedigree are eligible for classification.

The purpose of classifying mares is to improve the quality of female stock and hence improve the overall performance/ability of warmblood horses.

2. MARE CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

Group presentation

All mares will be paraded in hand at the walk at the commencement for the selection presentation.

A preliminary evaluation of their walk type and general impression will be made after which the horses will leave the designated arena area together and will be required to re-enter on the specified order for individual inspection.

3. INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION

(a) Static Assessment

The first phase of the individual assessment requires the presentation of the horse in an area specified by the classification panel for evaluation of type and conformation. The handler should place the horse at a distance of 4-5 metres from the classifiers and present him so that all four legs can be seen from both sides. The classifiers will move around the horse as necessary.

(b) Movement in Hand

The first movement phase involves the horse being led first at the walk and then at the trot in a large triangle A-B-C-A. No side of the triangle shall measure less than 40 metres or more than 60 metres in length. At the discretion of the selection panel this exercise may be repeated and modified. The horse should be allowed to walk as freely as possible. To this end the handler should be someone who can move well enough themselves to show the horse to maximum advantage.

4. CONCLUSION OF SELECTION PROCEDURE

All horses may be paraded again or as requested by the classifiers.

5. DECLARATION

The NZWHA and individuals constituting the Association accept no responsibility in respect of any claim for damages and consequence for personal injury or property damage whatsoever included but not limited to any injury, loss or damage to any horse handler, owner, lessee, groom or spectator.

Every competitor and/or exhibitor must comply with the appropriate legislation in the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1 992. Each competitor and/or exhibitor must supervise and control their animals at all times and shall be liable for any hazard created, accident illness or damage caused by the action of themselves at the venue of the event

Horses and activities and events associated with horses are potentially dangerous and involvement in the mare classification process is strictly at the individual's own risk.

MARE CLASSIFICATION SCORING

The classification scoring is rated as follows:

-	Type and conformation:	40%
-	Led movement and general impression:	60%
	TOTAL	<u>100%</u>

SCORING

This is done on the basis of 1 to 10 as follows:

10	Excellent
9	Very good
8	Good
7	Fairly good
6	Satisfactory
5	Sufficient
4	Insufficient
3	Fairly bad
2	Bad
1	Very bad

Specifically the classifiers will be looking for the following traits:

1. Trot

Cadence (suspension of movement), elasticity, hind leg action, rhythm, front shoulder.

2. Walk

The walk must be ground covering, relaxed and regular with strides being even and foot falls correct in sequence, not lateral or pacing. Freedom of shoulders and haunches and a supple back must be evident.

3. Canter

Three-beat regular showing cadence and balance with suppleness in the rear quarters.

4. Temperament

No obvious temperament or behavioral difficulties.

MARE STUDBOOK

There are a number of entry points for mares into the studbook at different levels. These are as follows:

1. FOUNDATION STUDBOOK MARES

Thoroughbred, Arab or Anglo-Arab mares registered with their respective breed societies or warmblood mares in the Derivative Warmblood Register (25% warmblood).

They must have a pedigree which goes back at least three generations with only warmblood, thoroughbred, Arab or Anglo-Arab blood. These mares can only stay in this register. They cannot progress to become studbook principal or elite mares. They must achieve a score of 60% in the mare classification and obtain a score of not less than 5 in any one criteria.

2. WARMBLOOD STUDBOOK MARES

Mares which may be entered in the Warmblood Mare Studbook must be on the warmblood register (50% warmblood).

They must have a pedigree which goes back at least four generations with only thoroughbred, warmblood or Arab or Anglo-Arab blood. She must achieve a score of at least 60% in the mare classification and a score of not less than 5 in any one criteria.

3. PRINCIPAL STUDBOOK MARES

Mares may progress to the Principal Studbook Mare from the Warmblood Studbook if they have achieved the following additional criteria:

- (i) Must score 60% or above the mare classification.
- (ii) Must score no less than 6 in any one criteria.
- (iii) Must have performed well themselves in any one or more disciplines, specifically;

- Dressage : Elementary or above and have been placed in one of the top three placings five times at this level.

- 1.10m Showjumping level and be placed in one of the top three placings five times at this level.

-Horse Trials: Novice level and placed in one of the top three placings three times.

Alternatively, at least two of the progeny must have achieved the above performance criteria.

4. ELITE STUDBOOK MARES

Mares may progress to the Elite Studbook if they have performed exceptionally well, i.e.:

- (i) Dressage : She must be a place-getter in either The F.E.L Dressage Competition or its equivalent or in international competition at Prix-St George or above; or
- (ii) Advanced Three-Day Eventing level and be placed at a CC1 competition or above; or
- (iii) Must be showjumping at Grand Prix level and be placed either internationally or at the Horse of the Year Grand Prix Competition.

Equally, if a mare produces two or more progeny which compete at any of the above levels.