



Haflinger Breeding Objectives Tyrol - 1990

(Valid until the new version is published)

- Breed:** Haflinger horses from Tyrol - Austria
- Origin:** The Haflinger breed was founded on the indigenous small horses and the oriental half-blood 133 El`Bedavi XXII (1868) with the stallion 294 Folie
- Descent:** After the stallion Folie, crossing with a horse from another breed is not permitted either on the side of the stallion or the mare. Pure breeding is the primary guideline for the breeding objectives of the Tyrolean Haflinger

External appearance:

- Colour:** Colours from pale chestnut to dark liver chestnut with pale mane and tail. Colour impurities in the base colour, as in roaning or dappling are undesirable and will be judged as negative up to the point of exclusion. Colour impurities in the mane and tail are undesirable and will be judged as negative up to the point of exclusion.
- Markings:** Head markings are desirable, but not a prerequisite, too many markings are undesirable and can go as far as causing exclusion. Leg markings are not desirable, up to a certain percentage they will not be judged as negative, can however lead to exclusion when of a high proportion.
- Size:** The required size is from 140 cm to 150 cm. The minimum size must be achieved, non-achievement leads to exclusion. The maximum size can be exceeded in the case of a good exterior evaluation.
- Type:** A **desirable** appearance of the horse is one of elegance and harmony. To this belongs a lean and expressive head with large eyes, well formed neck and a supple mid-section, a good croup not too divided and not too short, a distinct musculature as well as correct, defined limbs with good joints. Stallions and mares for breeding should have clearly defined masculine or feminine features.

Undesirable is in particular a stout, plump non athletic appearance, a coarse head, unclear contours, undefined joints, and a stout foundation with a lot of fringes as well as a lack of defined masculine or feminine features.

Body structure:

A harmonious body structure that is suitable for an all-round pleasure horse.

It should have:

1. The **head** should be noble and lean, the size in harmony with the horse, with large forward pointing eyes and wide nostrils. The head should have enough poll freedom and correct positioning of the ears.
2. The neck should be medium long and slimmer towards the head, with no bulky lower line, not too wide and demonstrate good freedom of the lower jaw muscles.
3. A pronounced **withers** reaching well into the back, large diagonally lying **shoulders** and sufficient depth of chest are the most striking distinguishing features of the forehand.
4. The **back** should be medium long and muscular as well as unifying swinging, load bearing capacity and balance in its movement.
5. The **hindquarters** should have a long, slightly sloping but not too strongly drawn down and not too strongly divided strongly muscled **croup**. The tail should not be set too low.
6. All in all a harmonious **distribution** of the forehand, mid-section and hindquarters is to be aimed for.
7. **The foundations** should be convincing especially with correct conformation and clearly pronounced joints, with a broad and flat knee-joint and a broad strong hock. Seen from the front and from behind limbs showing a straight conformation, seen from the side a straight standing foreleg and a hindleg angled at 150° at the hock as well as a hoof angle of approx. 45° to 50° to the ground are desirable. The pasterns should be long and well developed. The hooves should be round, distinct and hard.
8. The **stride** should be correct, supple and of a pure rhythm without serious faults.
9. The horse should have a good as possible long-ranging **swinging stride** at its disposal with not too flat a gait.
10. In particular an excellent **character** without faults and a balanced temperament.

Not desirable is:

1. A lack of harmony in the body structure and a lack of features defining masculinity or femininity.
2. A head that is coarse or too big, a Roman nose or even a too wide or too small head are undesirable. In the same way faults of the mouth such as parrot or sow mouth. The ears should not be too long.
3. In particular a short, heavy or deep-set neck structure

4. A small, steep shoulder, a short or less pronounced withers.
5. A back that is too short or overlong, soft or too stiff as well as having a solid or arched out kidney area as well as too little depth of chest and high drawn flanks.
6. A short or straight croup with a high set tail or a too broad and strongly divided croup.
7. Incorrect limbs such as the following: small, slim or restricted joints, weak or too massive cannon bones and short, steep or too long or too soft pasterns as well as small or too steep hooves, in particular with inwards or outwards directed frog as well as the following conformations: pigeon toed, splay footed or knock-kneed or bow-legged front legs, narrow or wide at the hocks. Further undesirable are backwards or forwards bending, steep or sickle-hocked, cow-hocked or bandy-legged limb conformations.

Movements:

The basic gaits: **Desirable are** hard-working, rhythmic and swinging basic gaits (Walk 4-time, trot 2-time, gallop 3-time). The movements at a walk should be relaxed, energetic and elevated. The movements at a trot and gallop should be supple, swinging, light on the feet with a noticeable swinging phase and with a natural straightening up and balance. The clear thrust of the foot from an active working hindquarter should be transferred to the anticipating forehand, free from the shoulder, over a loosely swinging back. Some knee action is desirable. In particular the gallop should demonstrate a clear forwards and upwards springing sequence.

Undesirable are especially short, flat and non supple movements with a stiffly held back, heavy movements falling on the forehand or movements without rhythm as well as pitching and swaying or clear thrashing, turning, close to the ground, pigeon-toed, wide from the ground or splay-footed movements and a too high knee action.

Internal characteristics/health:

Desirable is a horse with a strong character, a good-natured, strong, all-rounder, eager and able to perform, an easy feeder, resistant, easy to acclimatise, that is useful for all purposes.

In particular this is valid for riding, driving, trick-riding in the pleasure sector, less in sport but also as a working horse for pulling and carrying.

For recognition of the predisposition for performance the following features will be examined at the age of one year before registration in the breeding register:

1. Character and temperament
2. Exterior
3. Basic gaits (walk and trot)

Studbook entry and selection

The following features will be judged by international Judges only (from the list of the World Haflinger Federation) for entry into the studbook:

1. Character and temperament
2. Exterior
3. Basic gaits (walk and trot, gallop also desirable)

For selection and entry into the breeding register running free can be examined.

The entry in the studbook and the stallion selection are final decisions, the judgements will not be revised up or down afterwards or at a later presentation. Elimination on grounds of failing to reach the minimum number of points is final.

The measurements for entry in the breeding register are taken at 3 years. These measurements correspond to the minimum and maximum sizes laid down in the breeding objectives. Failure to attain the minimum height at 3 years means ultimate exclusion from the main breeding register. Presentation of a horse from the Tyrolean breeding area is only possible up to the age of 4 years, at this age however the minimum height is raised to 140 cm. A final measurement is carried out at the age of 6 years.