



**General Assembly of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses  
Seville, Spain Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

**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. Ms Catherine Farrell, 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. The Executive Committee makes a recommendation in relation to each application. The Board then decides on the admission of members and associates. The decision of the Board is presented to the General Assembly. The General Assembly may overrule the decision made by the Board.

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 2011**

#### **1. Continental Studbook LLC**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011, an application was received from the Continental Studbook LLC, to the Development Department of the WBFSH. The application was processed and was presented to the Board and Executive of the WBFSH at a meeting in Amsterdam in March 2011.

The Continental Studbook operates primarily in North America. Breed registries in the United States are not recognised by any government body such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the governing body for equestrian sport, the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF). However, the Continental Studbook is integrated into the USEF systems to the same degree as all other breed registries operating in the United States. All Continental Studbook foals are lifetime recorded into the USEF database under their American Performance Programme.

The Continental Studbook state that their aim is to breed horses that can compete from national to Olympic level in dressage, show jumping and eventing; that can compete to national levels in North American hunters; that will be desired and sought out by amateur to professional riders.

The Continental Studbook aims to compete at the WBFSH Championships for Young Horses, should they achieve full member status in five years time.

The application was discussed and a decision was made to grant 'Associate membership' status to the Continental Studbook LLC at a Joint meeting of the WBFSH on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2011.

For further information on the Continental Studbook please visit [www.continentalstudbook.com/](http://www.continentalstudbook.com/)



# WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION FOR SPORT HORSES

Patron  
HRH The Princess Benedikte of Denmark

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Item 3

## Presentation of activity reports – Report from Department Cooperation

by Dr. Klaus Miesner

### **Cooperation with FEI – World Breeding Championships**

The collaboration with FEI was in 2010/2011 good as well as other years before. Anyhow due to changes in some key positions within FEI the contact intensity was slightly reduced for some time but is steadily increasing.

There were some small improvements done in the schedules of the three FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Horses was small. Especially for this years FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses.

The FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses 2011 was held in Verden beginning of August. For the first time the horses must have shown results of at least 65% in a selection procedure in appropriate Young Horse Classes at national level. Furthermore National Federations without a WBFSH Member Studbook in the country of that respective National Federation are allowed by now to enter only one horse per age class. There is an ongoing positive contact with new FEI Director Dressage about development and future judges structure. That underlines our really good collaboration to the FEI headquarters. For the first time we had a world champion coming from a small daughter studbook. All other medals have been assigned to horses from German and a Dutch studbooks.

The FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Jumping Horse 2011 took place at the Domain Zangersheide in Lanaken end of September. All medals have been assigned to horses from Belgian and German studbooks.

This years FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Eventing Horse will take place at Lion d'Angers in France on 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2011.



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## **Cooperation with EEF – Working Group on EU-legislation**

The common working group with European Equestrian Federation (EEF) did not meet in this year so far. The main objectives of this group are to deal with matters like Horse Transportation, African Horse Sickness, Equine Infectious Anaemia, Foot and Mouth crises, FEI Passports, EU consumer protection rules, EU legislation for animal protection, VAT tasks.

## **Cooperation with European Horse Network**

The European Horse Network is a non-profit network of stakeholders acting at a World, European, National or Regional level within the European horse sector. Its purpose is to:

- ⇒ Promote the development of the horse sector in Europe.
- ⇒ To help members coordinate their activities in order to increase the visibility and impact of the horse sector.
- ⇒ Act as a platform for the horse industry to communicate common issues with European institutions and media at the European level.
- ⇒ Exchange views on political developments affecting the horse sector in Europe.
- ⇒ Discuss, define and lobby on areas of common interests on the European political agenda.
- ⇒ Discuss and define issues of common interest to develop the horse sector in Europe.

At present the European Horse Network consists of 13 member organisations. Two more organisations shows interest to become member.

The Conference of the European Horse Network in Brussels held in November 2010 dedicated to the Economic and Social impact of the Horse industry in Europe regions was a big success. 60 attendees from the horse sector all over Europe and from European Institutions listened to the interesting presentations and exchange of views. The aim was to discuss how to proactively influence the upcoming change in the agricultural policy as well as all relevant European policies: rural development, sport, animal welfare, environment, innovation, transport, taxation, tourism and culture. You can find the report about this conference under [http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/uploads/PDF/Report\\_EHN%20Conference%202010.pdf](http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/uploads/PDF/Report_EHN%20Conference%202010.pdf)

Next Annual Meeting will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Brussels.



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## ***Cooperation with Young Breeders***

Since the WBFSH General Assembly 2008 in Lyon the Young Breeders formed a progressive worldwide organisation, capable to perform activities on a regular basis. This years General Meeting of the WBFSH International Young Breeders was held during the 2011 WBFSH Young Breeders World Championships in France. In the meeting was confirmed that

- ⇒ that the General meetings will be held every two years at the championships themselves and
- ⇒ that the top 25% of winners in all individual sections will be listed on the IYB website alongside the final rankings (junior, senior and combined) of all studbooks taking part.

The meeting was delighted to learn that there is a new webmaster in place and that WBFSH had pledged 1,000 Euros per year to help to maintain the IYB website.

You can find further information about WBFSH International Young Breeders and this year's championships results under <http://www.young-breeders.com/>. Like last year it is planned to hand out a written report about International Young Breeders activities at the general Assembly in Sevilla.

Warendorf, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011





## **WBFSh GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2011**

### **REPORT on the Annual Meeting of EAAP**

held in Stavanger, Norway 29 August – 2 September 2011

by Jim Flanagan

Over 1000 people attended a very successful meeting. The 7 Sessions of the Horse Commission were very well attended. These included 2 Work Shop sessions on Equine Education, and sessions on Nutrition and Welfare, Feeding Practices, Social Constraints on Horse Housing and Free Communications in Horse Production. From a breeding perspective there was a very interesting session on Breeding Programmes and Genetic Evaluation of Horses. The main theme of this session was trotters in Scandinavia and Germany - genetic evaluations, genetic trends, inbreeding, comparison of different methodologies, etc. Some of the other papers more relevant to the WBFSh are summarised following.

The value of integration of foreign breeding values of stallions (French & Danish) in the Belgian Warm Blood genetic evaluations for jumping horses was demonstrated but this needs good estimates of genetic correlations among the different horse populations.

Studies on the possible inclusion of Swedish Young Horse Tests in the genetic evaluation of Norwegian Warm Bloods gave promising results and further studies will be undertaken.

Small negative genetic correlations were found between jumping and dressage in the Belgian Warm Blood population.

In a paper on ways of improving understanding of breeding values by Swedish farmers, it was shown that partitioning of the EBIs into 3 components was helpful: contributions from parents, own performance and progeny. Own performance was most important followed by progeny.

In a pilot study by the Oldenburg Society in Germany, new movement traits were defined and recorded during routine inspections of mares and foals. It

was concluded that foal evaluations could be usefully included in future breeding programmes as an early source of information to improve movement characteristics in the Warm Blood horse.

The INTERSTALLION Working Group of the EAAP Horse Commission initiated a Nordic project in 2010 with Norwegian, Swedish, Danish and Finnish Warmblood, to evaluate possibilities of a joint genetic evaluation of these horse populations.

There were four papers on use of Genomics in horse breeding, three of which related to genetic control of diseases. All used the Illumina Equine SNP50K BeadChip:

A genome wide scan for equine osteochondrosis in Hannoverians identified many loci associated with occurrence of OC. Results were considered useful for validation studies in other horse breeds, for fine mapping of candidate genes as well as development of genomic breeding values for horses.

A major QTL (Quantitative Trait Locus) was found on ECA20 affecting liability to bone disease in the distal limbs in a study involving 4 German Warm Blood breeds (Hann, Holst, Old, Trak) .

In a study of insect bite hypersensitivity (IBH) in 188 Dutch Shetland pony mares phenotypes and SNP genotypes were analysed using genome wide association. Analysis indicated that SNP on 8 chromosomes were important. Use of genomic information results in a more efficient breeding programme to reduce IBH incidence compared to traditional breeding programmes based on progeny testing.

In a genetic analysis of the Franches-Montagne breed the use of SNP data enabled the detection of pedigree inconsistencies, the deduction of relationships between individuals and the first estimation of genomic breeding values. The accuracy of the latter was comparable to those of dairy cattle in Switzerland.

Methodologies are available for use of genomics in genetic evaluations in horses in a way similar to that being used in cattle. The cost of genotyping is the limiting factor but this is expected to come down significantly in the coming years.