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# MARE GRADING RULES

Mare Grading at SHB(GB)  
is generously supported by:



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# Mare & Foal Grading Rules

## BENEFITS OF MARE GRADING:

1. The top three mares will receive a voucher valued at £400, £300 & £300, which can be redeemed on the registration of a foal by an SHB(GB) Graded Stallion. Valid for 3 years. The award will be determined by the grading marks achieved throughout the year. The Robert Warden Memorial Trophy will be awarded annually to the owner of the mare that receives the highest marks.
2. Apart from the mares receiving the top mare awards, all mares achieving Head Stud Book status will be awarded a voucher for a free foal registration (including DNA). Vouchers are valid for two years, to be used on any SHB(GB) Graded Stallion currently registered for the year of covering.
3. Recognition with The World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses.
4. Entry into one of the SHB(GB) Stud Books and thereby progeny eligible for Stud Book papers. The progeny must be by an SHB(GB) Graded or Approved Stallion or the sire must be registered as a breeding stallion with another official breed society. The progeny of SHB(GB) Graded Mares by unregistered stallions will not be eligible for the Stud Book.
5. All progeny eligible to compete in the BS age classes

## ELITE MARES

Mares will be granted the title ELITE if either they or their progeny fulfil the following criteria: DRESSAGE - Placed at a CDI\*\*\* Competition at Intermediaire I/II or Grand Prix Level.

EVENTING - Completed a CCI\*\*\*\*\* and/or placed in top twelve of a CCI\*\*\*\* Event.

SHOWJUMPING - Placed in Grand Prix at a CSI or CSIO Competition and/or competed on a Nations Cup Team.

RACING - Have a BHB Timeform rating of a minimum of 110 on the Flat or a National Hunt.

BHB Official Handicap rating of 145 or higher or have progeny competing at any of these levels.

## 1. GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL MARES

### TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR MARE GRADING MARES MUST:

- a) Be 148cm or above.
- b) Be 3 years old or over.
- c) Submit a sample for a DNA test for which the owner is liable for the cost once accepted into any of the Stud Books.
- d) Be registered with SHB(GB), or be in possession of a Passport issued by another DEFRA-approved P.I.O. Only breeding recorded on the passport will be accepted.
- e) Be owned by a current member of the SHB(GB).

### ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIFIC SECTIONS OF THE STUD BOOK WILL BE DECIDED BY:

- a) Number of proven generations of pedigree and marks awarded at grading **OR**
- b) Grading status with other breed societies

Mares presented for SHB(GB) Mare Grading will be required to be shown in hand to assess conformation and paces following an initial trot up on a hard surface.

All mares must be presented in bridles and foals must be led at all times.

It is strongly recommended that all handlers wear a hat and safety harness according to the current standard.

Mares which are not sound must submit a letter from a Veterinary Surgeon stating the reason for the unsoundness. This will be taken into account when their final mark is calculated.

Mare owners also have the option of presenting their mares under saddle in addition to the in-hand assessment.

Mares who satisfy the judges as to their rideability in this way or can provide proof of ridden competition success in sport may be awarded the complimentary initial R (for Ridden) in front of their graded status.

Mares who are transferred from another Stud Book may also be awarded the complimentary initial R if they can provide proof of ridden competition success.

If following grading, a mare or her progeny go on to compete successfully, it may be possible for her to upgrade to a higher stud book. Please contact the office for further details.

## 2. HEAD STUD BOOK

### TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HEAD STUD BOOK MARES MUST:

- a) Have three generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 8 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading **OR**
- b) Have three generations of proven pedigree and be a Head, Select or equivalent status mare in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book, either in the UK or abroad.
- c) If less than three generations of proven pedigree, achieve a mark of 8.5 or above and have a B.H.B. official handicap rating of 80 or higher on the Flat, or a National Hunt B.H.B. official handicap rating of 100 or higher, or be an Advanced Eventer, Grade A Showjumper or Advanced Dressage mare, or have progeny competing at any of these levels **OR**
- d) Reach the required level of performance to be Elite or have progeny that meet the criteria and achieve a grading mark of 5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.

## 3. MAIN STUD BOOK

### TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR MAIN STUD BOOK MARES MUST:

- a) Have two generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 6.5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading **OR**
- b) Have two generations or more of proven pedigree and be a Main or equivalent status mare in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book either in the UK or abroad **OR**
- c) Have less than two generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 8.5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.

## 4. FOUNDATION STUD BOOK

### TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FOUNDATION STUD BOOK MARES MUST HAVE:

- a) Achieve a grading mark of 5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading **OR**
- b) Foundation Book or equivalent status in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book either in the UK or abroad.

### MARES GRADED WITH OTHER SOCIETIES:

These mares do not need to appear at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading and will be entered into the appropriate Stud Book according to their current graded status. There will be a fee to overstamp their recognised Passports and they will have to submit a sample for a DNA test with the relevant fee.

## PLEASE NOTE:

For breeding to be accepted as “proven” mares must be registered with an official breed society and her papers must be submitted to SHB(GB) for over stamping.

**NB:** Progeny foaled in the UK out of an SHB(GB) Graded Mare sired by a stallion standing abroad that fulfils the SHB(GB) criteria for a Foreign Graded Stallion will be eligible for registration in the SHB(GB) Full Stud Book, so long as a DNA profile is available for the sire to allow for parentage verification of the offspring.

## 5. FOAL GRADING RULES:

- a) Foals must be at least six weeks old on the day of the grading.
- b) Foals must be owned by a current member of SHB(GB).
- c) Foals must be expected to attain 148cm or above at maturity.
- d) Foals will be shown loose.
- e) Foals do not need to be registered to be graded.
- f) On registration with SHB(GB) the foal will have an official stamp in their passport denoting their graded status.
- g) Foals that score 8 or above will be ‘Premium’. Foals that score between 6.5-7.9 will be ‘Graded’
- h) At the end of the annual foal grading series the breeder of the highest scoring champion foal will receive a stud voucher to the value of £500 and the breeder of the reserve champion will be awarded a stud voucher to the value of £300.
- i) Only foals that have been registered and have an SHB(GB) passport will be eligible for the prize fund.
- j) All foals must attend an official SHB(GB) Foal Grading.

**FOR DETAILS OF MARE AND FOAL GRADING VENUES AND ENTRY FORMS  
PLEASE CONTACT THE SOCIETY**

