



WBFSH

WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION
FOR SPORT HORSES

2025 ANNUAL REPORT to the General Assembly Nottingham Road (RSA)

WBFSH Department of External Cooperation

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This report consists of:

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 - 2. Activities**
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1) Introduction

The department of External Cooperation is run by the German Equestrian Federation (FN) and aims to bring external stakeholders and the WBFSH closer together. This includes organisations such as the FEI and the EHN, and the work is carried out in close contact with the general manager

2) Activities

1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met twelve times since the last annual meeting, usually online and once in Brussels. The following topics were the focus of attention and, in some cases, repeatedly appeared on the agenda:

- Review and further development of an update for a Strategic Plan 2026- 2030,
- Preparation of the Motion for Mandatory DNA verification
- Coordination of content to be discussed with Members of European Parliament about Traceability and transparency of breeding techniques and clones
- Development of a further Phase of cooperation with the University of Hartpury concerning the WBFSH Welfare Statement,
- Development of a draft for a Code of Conduct,
- Expansion of cooperation with the International Stud-Book Committee of Weatherbys,
- planning of the two WBFSH webinars,
- Coordination of topics and templates for the Joint meetings with the Board,
- Preparation of the program for the 2025 General Assembly,
- checking of applications of possible new members,
- Preparation of discussions with FEI about the World Breeding Championships for Young Horse in Dressage and Jumping,
- Development of possible opportunities for continuation of the Studbook Team Event.



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2. Cooperation with FEI

In the past year, the FEI-WBFSH Council was unable to arrange a joint meeting, even though it had been agreed in 2024 that meetings would be held at least once a year. Consideration should be given to whether the meeting should take place online at least once a year in the future. Issues that arose and urgent coordination needs were clarified last year through direct communication between the departments and offices of FEI and WBFSH. The mutual effort to make it mandatory to list the names of breeders on the starting lists worked better last year than in previous years.

For breeding associations, the further expansion of the data exchange project with the FEI depends heavily on the initiative of the individual studbooks. Work on this will continue in the coming year to increase the volume of data exchanged.

The technical requirements for 5-year-old horses at the World Breeding Championships for Young Jumping horses were a topic on the agenda at this year's FEI Sports Forum. As a result, two online meetings were held with the FEI Jumping Department. As a result, it was agreed to discuss with the FEI Jumping Committee in December about the introduction of a maximum height of 120 cm and a system with optimum time for this age group from next year's Championships onwards. In addition, the WBFSH and FEI will attempt to implement a system for verifying Minimum Eligible Requirements (MER), similar to that used for the World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage horses, in order to be even more certain that the horses competing meet the requirements.

The pVerd-Event GmbH was this year for a period of three years host of the FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Verden (Germany). The event took place from 6 to 10 August 2025 and the Verden venue once again offered very generous facilities for horses, riders and visitors. In the three age groups, this year 45 five-year-old, 40 six-year-old and 41 seven-year-old horses participated in the first qualifier tests.

The medal table showed the following picture: KWPN (2x gold, 1x silver, 1x bronze), DWB (1x gold, 1x silver, 1x bronze), OLDB (1x silver) and HANN (1x bronze). The result lists are available under <https://verdenyh.com/>.

This year, Stoeterij Zangersheide organised the FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Jumping Horses in Lanaken for the 30th time. The anniversary edition partly enjoyed very strong fields of competitors and outstanding sport. The need to change the requirements for 5-year-old horses became apparent again this year.

In the first qualifiers 226 horses started in the 5-year-old age group. In the group of 6-year-old horses it were 253 starters and 195 horses started in the 7-year-old age group.

The medal table showed the following picture: KWPN (2x gold), ZANG (1x gold, 1x silver), BWP and ISH (each 1x silver and 1x bronze) and SBSF (1x bronze). The result lists are available under <https://www.longinestiming.com/equestrian/2025/fei-wbfs-h-jumping-world-breeding-championship-for-young-horses-lanaken-zangersheide>.

The FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Eventing Horse will take place in Lion d'Angers (France) for the 26th time from 16 to 19 October 2025. The Organising Committee is celebrating 40 years Mondial du Lion and expects another time six- and seven-year old horses from all over the world. More information will be available under <https://www.mondialdulion.com/en/>.



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3. Cooperation with EEF – Working Group on EU-legislation

In the first quarter of the year, the EEF-EU Committee intensively discussed the developments surrounding the EU proposal to regulate the transport of animals and drew up a position paper. The paper addresses several issues that are of particular concern to the equine sector, including the classification system for journeys, veterinary monitoring requirements, vehicle tracking obligations, temperature rules and space requirements. The position paper of the EEF-EU Committee was submitted to the EU Commission at the beginning of April.

Since April the Working Group has not met due to the maternity leave of the chair of the group.

4. Cooperation with European Horse Network (EHN)

In December 2024 the MEP Horse Group has discussed the EU welfare transport regulation. The need for adjustments and, in particular, the extension of the exemptions for breeding horses were highlighted.

At another MEP's Horse Lunch in June 2025, the WBFSH General Manager gave a very well-structured and informative presentation on the urgent need for transparency and traceability of breeding techniques in the interests of consumer protection. (see Report of WBFSH Office).

To create a robust strategy for ensuring that horses remain a key part of the European landscape in the years to come, the European Horse Network (EHN) promoted a co-creative process to generate scenarios of the future. Based on these scenarios, the EHN has carefully built its action plan for the coming years where specific tools will be developed, new research supported and a strong and specific communication expanded. EHN wishes to play an important role in creating a sustainable horse world where horses, humans and the environment are all cared for. The study is available under

<https://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/project/foresight-study-the-european-equine-sector-looking-forward-towards-2040>

More information about the European Horse Network is available under
<http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/>

5. Cooperation with International Stud-Book Committee of Weatherbys

The WBFSH General Manager and the Executive Director of Marketing attended an ISBC conference in Budapest and presented the WBFSH Welfare Statement. The WBFSH's ideas were very well received, confirming that the cooperation that has been initiated is a step in the right direction.

Warendorf, 2 October 2025