



## WESTFALEN NORTH AMERICA

### **Westfalen Inspection Day Protocol for Presentation of Stallions, Mares and Foals**

Planning and paperwork begins in advance, when participants fill out an Inspection Reservation Form online, sending the Westfalen NA's main office a copy of their mare's registration papers, a breeding certificate for the foal, and a \$100 deposit. Participants should contact the host site directly for any health and coggins paperwork requirements, as well as to arrange and pay for stabling, handler or braider, if these services are available.

Inspection day begins with paperwork at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise listed or notified. The Westfalen NA sets up a mobile office at each inspection site where participants present original paperwork, and pay any remainder due for their inspection. Participants should bring their horses' original registration papers along with one copy, and the original breeding certificate for foals. All original papers will be stamped and returned to the owner, same day. New members can sign up for membership online, or print a Westfalen Membership Form and bring it to the inspection. After all participants have been entered, an order-of-go is generated and the inspectors will give a brief introduction and instructions.

### **Instructions for Presentation of horses at Open Inspection Sites**

\*A traditional triangle setup is not required for Westfalen inspections, though many sites will choose to set poles and flower pots as guides inside the arena, either in the traditional triangle configuration, or in a large oval with designated area to stand the horse in front of the inspector.

\*Mares 3 years of age and older and stallions 2 and older are generally presented in a bridle, while foals and youngstock are presented in halter. Because mares, foals, youngstock and stallions are also judged at liberty unless otherwise requested for safety or soundness reasons, please be prepared by installing clips on the ends of bridle reins, and if possible foal halters should be removed when they are set free. In most circumstances horses show themselves best at liberty when they have a clear line of sight down the long sides of the arena, so handlers with whips should ideally be located on the inner track of the arena and near corners, not on the rail.

\*Handlers should enter arena individually as called or according to the order-of-go. The horse should be stood up in front of the Inspector with the left side toward the Inspector. The handler should stand in front of the horse and position the horse in an open stance allowing the Inspector to see all four legs.

\*Horses may be presented without the triangle as designated by the instructor – when asked to walk handlers should proceed straight away and back from the inspector for evaluation of correctness, and then around in a large circle or on the rail, for the walk and trot evaluation before setting the horse loose at liberty.

\*If the triangle is used, at a signal from the Inspector the handler should lead the horse at the walk either straight away from the Inspector and back, or clockwise around the small triangle. The reins should be carried in the right hand. Horses should be turned to the right with the handler staying on the outside of the horse, thus keeping the horse between the handler and the Inspector. It is recommended that the horse be shown on a loose rein allowing freedom of the head, and that the handler walk out to exhibit a free-flowing and rhythmic gait. Foals, if present, at this point are loose at the side of the mare.

\*At the Inspector's signal the handler should lead the horse at the trot in a clockwise direction around the larger triangle. The handler should be able to run fast enough to show the natural stride of the horse. The goal of the handler is to present the horse to its best advantage - there are no penalties for breaking gait, straying from the triangle, stopping or not stopping at the end of each side.

\*Mares for inspection with foal at side will be inspected at the same time as their foal. The foal should be in a halter and on a leadline and have its own handler. At the Inspector's signal the handler should turn the foal loose and it is recommended that the halter be removed, unless that would cause undue difficulty in catching the foal again. The mare handler will walk and then trot the mare as according to the guidelines above, with the foal loose at her side. There are no penalties to the foal for breaking gait, stopping, bucking, galloping, reversing direction or any other 'foal' antics during presentation. The handler of the mare should be prepared to trot the triangle several times until the foal settles down and shows its correct trot. Then the mare is let loose to be judged at liberty with her foal at side.

\*Stallions are usually presented first in the order of go, and with the same basic protocol. Stallions are also required to free jump unless they have already completed full performance requirements. If stallions are present, the host site will generally set the jump chute the night before, with distances to be checked by the judge on inspection day. Jump chutes will be dismantled after the stallion has jumped. Some assistance with building, modifying or dismantling the jumping chute is often appreciated from spectators and participants. Stallions are generally asked to be shown on the lunge or under saddle as well.

\*Unless otherwise notified, the judges will present an oral explanation of each horse's results, foal and mare premiums will be announced and medallions awarded immediately after each horse has been inspected. Stallion scores and results are typically not announced publicly unless the owner requests such. The judges will be available after the inspection and branding for individual questions. Site Champions (only available at Open Sites) will be announced and ribbons awarded after all horses have been inspected and scores reviewed.

\*Handlers should keep in mind that any advice given by the Inspector is aimed at assuring the best possible presentation of the stallion, mare or foal and should not be overly sensitive to such advice. If an owner is not experienced or comfortable showing their horses(s) in-hand then he/she should consider hiring a professional handler.

\*As a courtesy to the Inspector and spectators handlers and anyone who will be entering the ring should be properly attired. A Westfalen red polo or t-shirt (often available for sale at inspection) or a solid-colored shirt with white or khaki pants is recommended. A light shirt and dark pants is also acceptable. Comfortable running shoes are a must. It is desirable to have your horse properly groomed and braided as if showing in-hand, although horses may also show unbraided, and mares may be presented in a halter, if they are unaccustomed to the bridle.

\*After the inspection, branding, microchipping and DNA hair collection begins back at the stabling area or a designated place. Branding is optional for eligible foals, while microchipping is required. Branding order will be announced and foal owners should not leave the area before branding of their foal is completed.

After branding and microchipping, final paperwork is processed and score sheets with registration and microchip numbers will be distributed. Late Entries may not receive their foal's Life Number on inspection day, but rather by emailed PDF. If lunch is provided, many sites offer it at this time. Original registration passports for mares will be returned at this time, stamped with their mare book status. Foal registration passports are produced after the tour, at the German Office, and will be mailed to the owner of record in the first quarter of the following year.

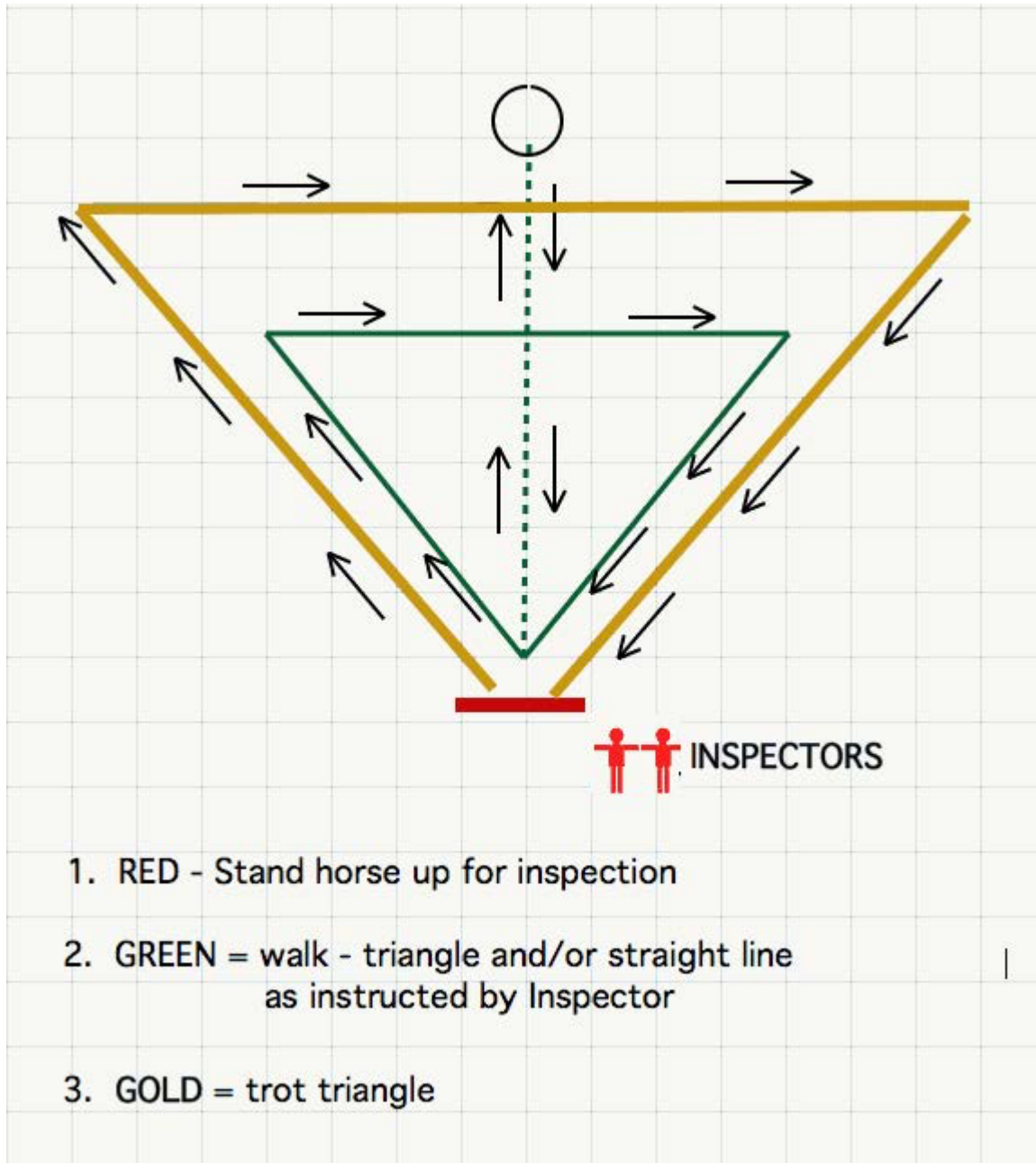
### **Instructions for Presentation of horses at Private On-Farm Inspection Sites**

\*Private Inspections must be requested to the Westfalen NA main office in advance and approved. Private Inspections are offered during the same time frame as the official Westfalen inspection tour – between mid-July and mid-October. Private Inspections requested outside of that time frame may be considered on a case-by-case basis based on the availability of the German judge. An additional fee applies to private inspections, with some variation depending on location and timing. The official Westfalen NA website: [www.westfalenverband.com](http://www.westfalenverband.com), offers a Private Inspection Site Request link.

\*Protocol at private inspection sites vary depending on timing and clients' needs, but in general the process is more informal, with the goal being simply the registration and permanent identification of the horses, along with the chance to discuss breeding goals and direction. Branding is not offered at private inspections. In most cases, foals, yearlings and older youngstock inspected for registration papers are not presented at liberty at private sites. Mares will be evaluated in hand and at liberty if possible in an arena or their usual paddock, for entry into the mare books. Foals are not generally scored, although comments are given, and Site Champions are not awarded at most private inspections, depending on the number of horses presented. Please contact the main office to determine the details of how your private inspection will proceed.

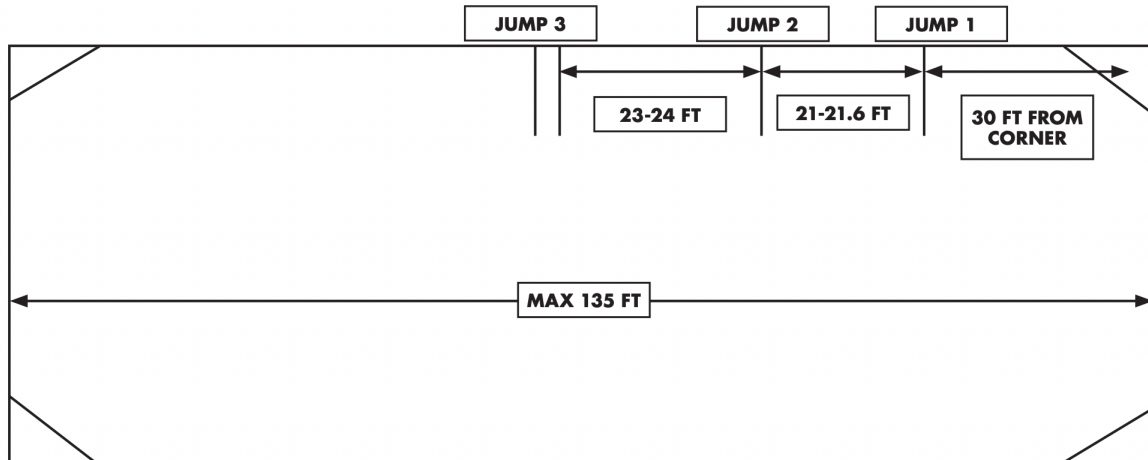
## Appendix A:

If a traditional triangle is set for the inspection, please follow the guidelines below. Alternately, a large oval with designated area to stand up horse in front of inspectors may be used:



## Appendix B:

### Free Jumping Protocol



This diagram shows a sample setup for a stallion licensing free jumping lane for Warmblood stallions. The lane is generally set up for the horse to jump on the left lead. Mirrors in arena should be covered or blocked off. Very large arenas may need to be shortened or the lane enclosed in order to more efficiently free jump the horses without excessive speed or difficulties in catching. Most jumping lanes are set up on a 21-foot distance with a cross rail followed by a vertical and then an oxer. Either standards/poles or wide tape may be used to construct the lane itself. A ground pole may be set 9-10' in front of a jump as needed. Be sure to have adequate poles to build the jumps as well as ground poles for each.

The distances above are a guideline for setting the free jump lane at an inspection site, and the judge may ask you to modify the distance. Distances between fences will be reduced for Pony stallions. Fence height should initially be set as follows: pole on ground for first two elements and x-rail for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Judge will instruct on fence height during inspection process.