



EST. 1989

**SOUTH AFRICAN  
WARMBLOOD HORSE SOCIETY**

# **Comprehensive Inspection & Registration Guide**

EDITION 2025

This guide serves as an official reference for SAWHS members.  
Ensure compliance with all inspection and registration requirements  
to maintain the **highest standard of Warmblood breeding in South  
Africa.**

**CONTACT:**

**office@sawhs.co.za**

**chairman@sawhs.co.za**

**0822875963 / 061 445 4646**

---

# Table of Contents

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Inspection Eligibility & Requirements
3. Types of Inspections
  - 3.1 General Inspections (Mares & Geldings)
  - 3.2 First Acceptance (Young Stallions)
  - 3.3 Full Stallion License
4. Inspection Presentation Guidelines
  - 4.1 Handler Attire
  - 4.2 Horse Presentation
5. Premium Status for Mares
6. DNA & Registration Requirements
7. Approved Warmblood Studbooks
8. Contact Information



## 1. Introduction

The **South African Warmblood Horse Society (SAWHS)** is the governing body for Warmblood horses in South Africa, operating under the **Registrar of Animal Improvement** within the South African Agricultural Department.

The **South African Warmblood (SAW)** is a specialized sport horse recognized for its excellence in **Showjumping, Dressage, and Eventing**. All SAW horses registered with the SAWHS bear the "SAW" designation.

This guide provides a comprehensive overview of the **inspection and registration process**, including requirements, categories, fees, and procedures.

For inquiries, contact:

- Email: [office@sawhs.co.za](mailto:office@sawhs.co.za) / [chairman@sawhs.co.za](mailto:chairman@sawhs.co.za)
- Phone: 082 287 5963 / 061 445 4646
- Website: [www.sawarmbloodhorses.com](http://www.sawarmbloodhorses.com)

---

## 2. Inspection Eligibility & Requirements

Before presenting a horse for inspection, the following conditions must be met:



- The owner must be a **paid-up member** of SAWHS.
- The horse must be **recorded** with SAWHS, with DNA and/or microchip information on file.
- All **inspection fees** must be settled **before** scheduling the inspection.
- Horses must meet the **minimum height requirements**:
  - **Mares**: Minimum **15.1hh (1.55m)** (preferred height **16hh+**)
  - **Stallions**: Minimum **15.3hh (1.60m)** (preferred height **16.1hh+**)
- Horses must be **at least 3 years old** for inspection.

---

### 3. Types of Inspections

#### 3.1 General Inspections (Mares & Geldings)

- **In-hand presentation** assessing the horse's conformation, movement, and suitability as a **South African Warmblood**.
- Minimum height requirement: **15.1hh for mares**.
- **Thoroughbreds & Anglo Arabs** must score **70% or higher** to qualify.
- If a horse scores below **65%**, it will be placed in the **Pre-Register**.
- **Fee**: R900 (August 2024 - July 2025).



### 3.2 First Acceptance (Young Stallions)

- For stallions aged **3 to under 5 years old**, focusing on **breeding specialization** (jumping or dressage).
- **Assessment includes:**
  - In-hand movement (halt, walk, trot).
  - **Loose jump evaluation** (for showjumping stallions).
  - Minimum pass mark: **70%** to achieve **First Acceptance**.
- **Fee:** R1,800 (August 2024 - July 2025).
- Status is valid for **four years**. If the stallion is not presented for **Full License within this time**, its status reverts to **Inspected horse**.

### 3.3 Full Stallion License

- The final licensing assessment includes:
  - **In-hand & conformation** assessment.
  - **Under-saddle test** in walk, trot, and canter.
  - **Jumping evaluation** (1m course for young stallions; higher for experienced stallions).
  - **Outside rider evaluation** (where possible).
- **Minimum pass mark:** 75% for licensing; 65% for **Inspected Status**.
- **Fee:** R4,300 (August 2024 - July 2025).



## 4. Inspection Presentation Guidelines

### 4.1 Handler Attire

- Handlers must dress neatly and practically.
- Running shoes are recommended for mobility.
- Grooms should **not wear overalls**.

### 4.2 Horse Presentation

- **Coat:** Clean and well-groomed, free of bot eggs and stable stains.
  - **Ears & Whiskers:** Not to be trimmed (in line with FEI regulations).
  - **Mane:** Must be **plaited, pulled, or neatly trimmed**.
  - **Hooves:** Must be well-maintained, trimmed, or shod.
  - **Tail:** Must be clean, neatly cut, and straight (banged). Tail plaits are permitted.
- 

## 5. Premium Status for Mares

Premium status can be awarded to mares in the **Full Warmblood Register, Secondary Register, and Coloured Warmblood Register** based on:



- Achieving **80% or higher** in inspection (**PR** designation).
  - Competing at the **highest levels** in sport (**PRj, PRd, or PRx** designation).
  - Producing successful progeny (**PRp** designation).
  - Owners must **apply** for premium status upgrades.
- 

## 6. DNA & Registration Requirements

- **All horses require DNA testing.** Owners must submit:
    - **Mane hair sample with follicles.**
    - **The DNA form, available on the SAWHS website.**
  - **Foal Birth Notifications** must be submitted **within the first year.**
    - **Cost: R375 (members).**
    - **Requires a covering certificate signed by the vet/stallion owner.**
  - **Late Recording (horses over 1 year old)** incurs a higher fee (**R600**).
- 



## 7. Approved Warmblood Studbooks

SAWHS recognizes horses registered with approved European Warmblood studbooks, including:

- Belgian Warmblood (BWP, SBS)
- Danish Warmblood (DWB)
- Dutch Warmblood (KWPN)
- German Studbooks (Hannoverian, Holstein, Oldenburg, Westfalen, Trakehner, etc.)
- Swedish (SWB), Swiss (ZVCH, CHS), French (SF), Zangersheide (ZANG), Irish Sport Horse (ISH, RID)
- Approved Thoroughbreds & Anglo Arabs

*Note: ZfDP and AES are NOT automatically accepted.*

---

## 8. Contact Information

- General Inquiries: [office@sawhs.co.za](mailto:office@sawhs.co.za)
- Accounts: [accounts@sawhs.co.za](mailto:accounts@sawhs.co.za)
- Frances Cheboub: [office@sawhs.co.za](mailto:office@sawhs.co.za) / [frances@sawhs.co.za](mailto:frances@sawhs.co.za) | 061 445 4646
- Kostas Kontos: [chairman@sawhs.co.za](mailto:chairman@sawhs.co.za) | 082 287 5963
- Website: [www.sawarmbloodhorses.com](http://www.sawarmbloodhorses.com)
- SAWHS operates virtually (no physical office). All communication is via email.

