

Falabella Inspection Regulations

Inspections:

The board members appoint the inspection committee for studbook entries and inspections.

Inspection Policy Lines

The board members determine the general terms and conditions, time, and location of inspection, and ensure timely notification of stakeholders.

Falabellas registered with FSE have access to the inspections. For purposes of inspection upon studbook entry, the criteria observed by veterinarians and inspectors upon potential detection of deviant mouth, knees, etc., have been defined as accurately as possible. Such in accordance with the veterinary inspection protocol appendix.

Upon studbook inspection requests, the attending inspector inspects the Falabellas to be entered into the main studbook, and after identity inspection forwards the Falabella to the veterinarian, who in turn will determine wither height and inspect the Falabella, and subsequently state the conclusions in the veterinary report and determine whether the Falabella is suited for entry. If desired, the proprietor of the Falabella may request a repeated inspection by the attending inspector. In such cases, the lowest inspection measurement prevails!

Upon acceptance by the veterinarian, the Falabella is forwarded to the inspector, who will subsequently compute a linear score for the Falabella. Minimum scores must not fall below <50. Linear scoring is clarified at studbook entry.

The purpose of the linear scoring form is to provide numerical score descriptions for all the components of Falabella inspection, as well as constituting veterinary inspection. Such studbook entry inspections exclude Falabellas deemed unworthy of studbook entry or veterinarily unsound from inclusion in the main studbook, restricting such Falabellas to the registration book. If it turns out during future inspections that the reasons for exclusion of animals have abated, studbook entry may still occur. All approved Falabellas are entered into the main studbook, receiving a mark of approval and an official proof of studbook entry. Important notice: any mares and stallions aged 3 or up intended for breeding must pass these inspections successfully prior to become available for breeding.

Basic Assumptions for Inspection of Falabellas:

A. On inspection, attention focuses on exterior, walk and trot motion, and personality.

B. On inspection of foals, 1-year old, and 2-year old Falabellas, which are registered in the Section 1 – foal book are either granted or not granted precedence, i.e., foal precedence, 1-year old precedence, and 2-year old precedence. The points score required for precedence eligibility amount to a stock standard score of over 69 points on a 1 to 100 scale.

C. On inspection of mares and stallions aged 3 or up, registered or to be registered in the Main Section - Studbook, gold, silver, or bronze precedence may be awarded. For Falabellas aged three years or above, precedence is awarded based on the following scores:

80 to 100 points; **GOLD**

74 to 65 points; **SILVER**

64 to 50 points; **BRONZE.**

Number of points scored on a 1 – 100 scale.

D. Assessment of mares and stallions for breeding performance; stallions with covering licenses are assessed for their breeding performance, in order to support FSE breeders in finding suitable stallions for their mares.

Each stallion will have an accurate record of precedence awarded to their offspring. Precedence is expressed as a percentage of the total number of registered Falabellas. Mares are assessed for their breeding performance as well. This registered information is accessible for breeders.

The point of departure for such external and veterinary inspections is an objective description in grade marks for all components. Descriptions of all components are viewed from the perspective of the horse's overall build.

Grading represents the conclusions for separate components, which can never be combined by simply adding up grade markings! The inspector will allocate value grades for each component.

Stock standard score valuations will be listed.

Linear Score Form

Linear score form clarified per component:

1. Condition:

An important aspect is presenting the Falabella in good condition. It should not be too fat, nor should it be too lean. A somewhat rich condition is preferable over lack of condition. Scoring a 5 or 4 is ideal.

2. Muscularity:

Good muscularity is an important feature. A 3 or 4 is a good score.

3. Tail and Manes:

Abundant manes and full tails are preferred, and as a consequence, scoring 5 to 1 is good, whereas scoring 1 or 2 is ideal.

4. Expression of the Head:

People like to see lots of expressiveness. A head with heavy-set jaws, for instance, or one that is too long, with small eyes, Roman nose, or a narrow head are among the characteristics that reduce looks, and in such cases, scores will range between 6 and 9, whereas 1 to 5 is desirable.

5. Neck length:

Some neck length is desirable. Scores between 3 and 5 are ideal. For scores of 1 or 2, as for 6 to 9, the neck is considered detrimental to proportions of the rest of the body.

6. Neck Connection:

Neck connection must not be too deep. A 4 or 5 is a good score here.

7. Neck Alignment:

A slightly lifted neck is considered to look better than a flat-lying neck; scores of 3 to 5 are good and appropriate.

8. Wither Height:

Proper wither height is important and requires due attention. There must also be continuity in the way the withers are connected to the back. Good scores range between 3 and 5.

9. Shoulder Length:

Long shoulders are appreciated. Short shoulders are undesirable; they usually accompany short overall characteristics. Good scores for this component range from 3 to 5.

10. Shoulder Angle:

Among other things, shoulder angle is important for movement. A slanted shoulder allows for widely set forelegs, whereas steep shoulders usually result in short and rigid movements. A score between 3 and 5 is desired.

11. Length of the Back and Haunches:

A 4 or 5 constitutes a good score for this component. Short backs often limit for supple movement. Long back are often weak, and another drawback is poor haunch connection.

12. Course of the Back:

Both tight and weak backs are undesirable. A mildly weak back, scoring a 6, is preferable over a back that is too tight.

13. Course of the Haunches:

Tight haunches often bulge out, causing the horse's movements to become rigid. Haunches that are too weak are a disadvantage as well. An ideal score would be a 5 here.

14. Depth of the Rump:

This must be well-proportioned compared to the body in all respects. Too shallow is undesirable, although too much depth will spoil the typical stock characteristics. Scores of 4 or 5 tending towards shallowness are therefore preferred.

15. Groin Angle:

The groin should have sufficient angle, and should certainly not be flat or straight. A straight groin often leads to hind legs that are set behind the mass of the horse. In addition, the groin, as seen from the rear, must be roof-shaped and not too wide or divided. Scores of 5 and 4, or even 3, are desirable.

16. Groin Length:

A long groin provides strength to the hind leg, and is therefore vital for movement. This deserves a great deal of attention. Good scores range from 3 to 5.

17. Front leg Position:

A goat-kneed position means the knees are positioned slightly forward viewed from the side, and a hollow position with the knees positioned to the rear is undesirable. In addition, knock-kneed, bow-legged, French position, and pigeon-toed position are undesirable, viewed from the front. A good score must be a 5

18. Hind Leg Position:

Sabre-shaped hind legs have narrow angles in the hocks. Steep hind legs have wide angles in the hocks, and are often placed under the mass with difficulty. A tendency towards sabre shape is preferred over too steep a position. The ideal score is 5, however.

19. Pastern Angle:

Steep pastern angles are undesirable; slightly weak positions provide greater suppleness. Maximum score is 4.

20. Heel Bulbs:

The heel bulbs are situated at the rear end of the hooves. The best score is 5; often depends on components 17, 18, 19.

21. Hoof Shape:

Point of attention, as somewhat broad and well-developed feet are important, providing a greater base of support by making up the foundation of the horse. Good scores range between 3 and 5.

22. Size of Legwork:

The legs combine with the feet to make up the base of the horse, which makes firm legs with well-developed joints important. The legwork must not become too heavy, as this is often detrimental to the set and nobility of the horse. Scores should be 4 or 5. Radial girth is measured during inspection.

23. Correctness in Lateral Step:

Lateral correctness takes the heels of the horse into account, which should be aligned with the feet. Horses with narrow heels may be cow-hocked. Narrow and wide are both incorrect, although slightly narrow is preferred over openness. Desired scores are 4 or 5.

24. Correctness in Frontal Step:

A pigeon-toed step means the forefeet are slightly turned inwards, whereas a French position and movement entail slight turning out of the forefeet. In both cases, the feet will wear down at slanted angles, as occurs with component 23, leading to unbalanced burdening of the joints. This is why correct positions are vital, with a desired score of 5.

25. Chest Width:

Falabellas with wide chests often have forelegs that are widely separated, causing them to "totter" as they move. Narrow chests result in legs that are positioned close to each other. Somewhat narrow is better than wide. Maximum score is 4.

26. Stepping Spacing:

The goal is to breed a Falabella with correct and spacious movements. Scoring a five or lower is important, and a score of 2 would be ideal; the more spacious the step is, the better. The hind leg must step in well, but overstepping is even better.

27. Step – Suppleness:

A horse moving with looseness in its body and lots of imprint, with good regularity and step length, will score a very low mark. A score of 1 is ideal, but the movements must be supple and easy, with proper flexing of all joints; particularly so for the tarsal joint.

28. Trot - Spacing:

In accordance with component 27. Looseness in the body with erectness and charisma without excess prodding of the forelegs, so a modest amount of knee action is desirable. The ideal score is a 1.

29. Trot - Suppleness:

As with component 27. Looseness throughout the body, with space, imprint, and suppleness off the floor, with sufficient erectness and lots of bravura; a score of 1 is ideal.

30. Personality:

The Falabella horse is particularly well-known for its fine personality. They should therefore be easy to command, approach, and touch, without offering resistance and with an aura of playfulness and trust. Scores range from 1 to 5.

31. Size Compensation:

The Falabella is world famous for its minimal wither height. For this reason, FSE intend to direct specific attention to this feature, and for each Falabella, quality levelling will be carried out on behalf of size differences, in accordance with the inspection protocol.

The quality levelling score will be added to the stock standard score for Falabellas measuring 86 cm or less. It will be deducted for Falabellas larger than 86 cm.

Veterinary Investigation Protocol

Veterinary Investigation Protocol for studbook entry

a. Identity

Microchip numbers are verified for correctness and compared with the proof of registration.

b. Height Measurement

Wither height is determined using a measure with level. The measurement site must have a hard and level surface.

c. Mouth

The upper and lower jaws must be equal in length. An overshot jaw is acceptable up to the third tooth. Undershot jaws are unacceptable. assessment occurs while the head is in normal position.

d. Eyes

The eyes are inspected for the following: 1. No symptoms of total diffuse cataract (blurred lens) 2. Any forms of cataract, combined with uveitis are determined. Blue eyes and ring eyes are assessed with reservation. The inspection must take place in a darkened room using a light source.

e. Tail and Manes

No symptoms indicating eczema of tail and manes must be detected. Artificial application of additional hairs is prohibited. Excessive clipping of the Falabella is prohibited. Crooked tails are prohibited.

f. Inguinal and Navel Ruptures

No symptoms of navel ruptures or unilateral or bilateral inguinal ruptures must be detected.

g. Heart and Lungs

Using auscultation (listening) methods on the heart and lungs must not lead to detection of deficits.

h. Genitalia

Stallions must have two normally developed testicles. Size (volume) differences of up to 50% are acceptable. Normal size is approximately 5x3x3 cm. Twisted testicles do not lead to exclusion, although such findings will be documented.

i. Locomotor Apparatus

Stallions are tested on a straight line and short volte. Stallions must have correct and regular movements with normal joint performance. Inspection and palpation of joints - with

particular attention for the knees - must not lead to detection of deficits. The knee joint is inspected in burdened position and in lifted leg position. Feet are measured, hoof shape is assessed, and attention is paid to potential stature or shape correcting hoof care. The lower feet are bent inwards.

j. Use of Illegal Substances

The board members feel that inspectors and veterinary advisors need to pay close attention to prevention of symptoms that could indicate the use of substances potentially affecting the stallion's behaviour. The board grant veterinarians the right to refer such stallions to the veterinarian to obtain blood samples on behalf of illegal substances testing. In case of positive results, any costs incurred are on account of the proprietor as stated in the catalogue.

k. Personality

The Falabella is well-known for its fine and inquisitive personality. They should therefore be easy to command, approach, and touch, without offering resistance, and with an aura of playfulness and trust.

l. Semen Research: Standards

Standards to be met by FSE stallions for employment as covering studs are subject to the following criteria. In semen research, a minimum TNB of 600 per service, with a 50% minimum movement percentage, and a morphological image of at least 50% normal constitution semen cells. If the percentage of normal constitution sperm cells falls slightly below this value, then the bottom limit is a 1,000 TNB value with 50% movement and 40% normal sperm cells. If doubts remain regarding stallion conception, the board may demand a second inspection from an acknowledged faculty.

Score

On insufficient scores of 50 or lower, main studbook entry is refused.

If mares or stallions are refused excluded from the studbook, their proprietor is allowed to apply again one year later. Size compensation is applied to the stock standard score in order to support the goal of FSE.

Inspectors

In addition to Jan Jans, new inspectors will be appointed by the board.

Final Clause:

The present regulations may be regularly subjected to amendments consisting of directives from the board.

Veterinary Inspection 2011

Stallions aged 3 or up in 2011 intended for employment during the covering season must be submitted to veterinary inspection **prior to May 1, 2011**, regardless of whether covering is required by third parties or for private purposes. This only applies to any stallions aged 3 or up that have not been subjected to veterinary inspection so far.

Veterinary Inspection Application:

Applications should be directed at the studbook in writing, after which you will receive an inspection protocol, which will be used by the veterinarian for inspection of your stallion(s). Inspection of your Falabella stallion by your current veterinarian is not allowed. The studbook secretariat will provide you with a number of certified equine clinics in your area. After inspection of your stallion, you will be required to return the original protocol to the secretariat, bearing the veterinarian's signature and stamp. If your stallion successfully passes the inspection, you will receive a covering license from the studbook.

Stallions that have not yet successfully passed the inspection

If your stallion was submitted to inspection in 2010 without passing successfully, you are entitled to repeated inspection prior to **May 1, 2011**, at De Uithof University Clinic - address: Yalelaan 108, Utrecht. **Please Note:** if your stallion did not pass the inspection successfully, your stallion is not allowed to be employed for covering services.

Stallions aged 3 or up

Falabella stallions that have appeared before a jury at inspections once, twice, or thrice in recent years, and have successfully passed veterinary inspection, will gain lifelong approval.

Note : In the absence of veterinary inspection of your stallion, any potential foal registration cannot occur in the near future.