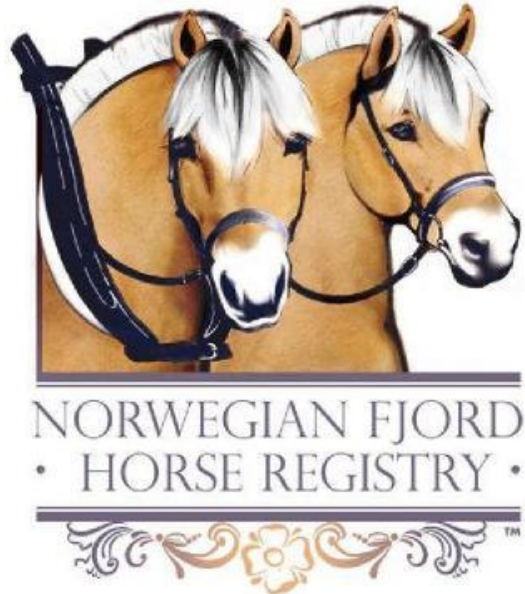


NORWEGIAN FJORD HORSE REGISTRY EVALUATION HANDBOOK

SECTION 6



2019

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SECTION 6

Evaluator Information and Continuing Education

NFHR EVALUATOR, EVALUATOR CANDIDATE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) PROGRAM

Who is an NFHR Evaluator?

An NFHR Evaluator is a person, approved by the NFHR Board of Directors, who examines Fjord Horses for their quality as breeding animals and the product of Fjord Horse breeding. As such, an NFHR Evaluator is a resource to Fjord Horse owners and breeders for their knowledge and ability to assess the horses presented to them, for their knowledge of the history of the development and use of the breed, and for their ability to communicate that knowledge in a public forum.

Evaluators have a compelling responsibility to evaluate fairly each horse and to provide each horse owner with information and guidance that is clear and useful. The breed standard is the criteria by which Evaluators are guided in evaluating the Fjord Horse. Within this standard a certain level of subjectivity is inevitable. This can be accepted if the Evaluator shows depth of understanding and knowledge of the Fjord Horse, and if the Evaluator gives understandable reasons for the assessment. Evaluators are expected to be able to explain verbally their assessments in addition to assigning written descriptions and scores. Brief explanations can be given in the ring, and Evaluators should be available to offer an explanation to horse owners outside the ring and after the evaluation is completed.

The NFHR Welcomes Your Interest in Becoming an NFHR Evaluator

NFHR Evaluators are an extremely important part of the NFHR Evaluation process. By imparting impartial and objective evaluation of Fjords at an evaluation, they provide a valuable service to the breed and the Fjord Horse community. The results of the evaluation program can be seen directly in the improved quality of Fjord Horses as well as the education of owners and breeders.

The NFHR needs members who desire to use their knowledge, training and competition experience to utilize their talents and interest in the breed as Fjord Horse Evaluators. Evaluators are compensated for their services and expenses incurred when working at an evaluation. Being an official can be hard work under difficult conditions.

What is the NFHR Evaluator Training Program?

The Evaluator Training Program is overseen and implemented by the NFHR Evaluation Committee with the approval of the NFHR Board of Directors. There are three main parts of the program:

1. Evaluator Candidate Program – The NFHR will provide Evaluator Candidates educational opportunities and other opportunities to demonstrate their readiness to become Approved NFHR Evaluators.
2. Approval to become an Evaluator – Once requirements have been satisfied, the Evaluation Committee will provide a recommendation to the NFHR Board of Directors for a final decision regarding an Evaluator Candidate.

3. Evaluator/Candidate Continuing Education (CE) – The NFHR will provide opportunities for Evaluator and Evaluator Candidates to obtain continuing education on topics related to performing the tasks of NFHR Evaluators.

NFHR Evaluator Candidates are Expected to Have:

1. Knowledge and experience of Norwegian Fjord Horse conformation and performance.
2. The desire to learn the duties specific to be an NFHR Evaluator.
3. NFHR Membership, either individual or family. If the applicant is not an NFHR member, they may join prior to submission of the application.

Satisfying the criteria to become an Approved Evaluator is expensive. To the extent the funds are available, the NFHR Evaluation Committee may distribute funds to the Evaluator Candidates and Approved Evaluators from donations to the committee to offset these costs.

Candidate Application Fees

1. Candidate applications are \$30.
2. Each Candidate application is good for three years.
3. Candidate application extensions for additional years are \$10 per year.
4. Resubmission fee, if application is incomplete, is \$10.
5. Applications to be an Approved Evaluator are \$30.

Application to be an Accepted Candidate

Each application, with the correct fee of \$30, must be sent to the NFHR office. It is not appropriate to send applications directly to members of the NFHR Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee will review your application and contact you.

Criteria to become an Approved Evaluator

1. An Approved Evaluator must be an NFHR member in good standing while an Evaluator Candidate and during the approval process.
2. All Evaluator Candidate experience must be within five years of the application for approval. An Evaluator Candidate must work a minimum of three evaluations with Conformation/Movement tests and three evaluations with Performance and Family Fjord tests. Because all evaluations may not include all the Performance and Family Fjord tests, the Evaluator Candidate may be required to attend more than three evaluations. The performance as an Evaluator Candidate will be assessed by the Evaluators at the given evaluations as well as the Evaluation Committee. The evaluations will count towards approval as an Approved Evaluator when a favorable Evaluator Candidate evaluation report is received from the Evaluator working with the Candidate as well as a favorable report from the Evaluation Committee.
3. An Evaluator Candidate is expected to attend NFHR approved clinics when offered. They are encouraged to attend a Norwegian Stallion Evaluation in Norway with an NFHR Approved Evaluator. The Norway trips are highly valuable for seeing many quality Fjord Horses and to learn the Norwegian approach to evaluating Fjord Horses. These trips can be very expensive. A Candidate may also visit one or more Fjord breeder farms and submit a written report. The purpose of these farm visits is to see more Fjord Horses.
4. All submissions to the NFHR including Candidate assessments are confidential.

Application to be an Approved Evaluator

Once all the required criteria to become an NFHR Evaluator has been satisfied, the NFHR Evaluator Candidate may apply to be an Approved NFHR Evaluator. Each application, with the fee of \$30, must be sent to the NFHR office. It is not appropriate to send applications directly to members of the NFHR Evaluation Committee.

Your application should contain:

1. Your name and contact information.
2. The NFHR form that documents your completion of required criteria including the name, date, and location of the Evaluations that you attended as a Candidate.
3. If applicable, the date of the Norwegian Stallion Evaluation in Norway you attended.
4. The Evaluators you worked with at each Evaluation and the Norwegian Stallion Evaluation in Norway, if applicable.
5. All training or clinics you attended during the Evaluator Candidate Program.

All required documentation must be attached to the application. It is your duty to assure that the application is complete and that the required documentation is attached. Except for the Evaluation Candidate Assessments for specific Evaluations, the NFHR office cannot supply documentation for you. Supplemental training is timeless and a great addition to your application. The application should demonstrate your ability as a potential official to comply with the required criteria in an organized and complete manner.

The Evaluator Application Approval Process

The NFHR Evaluation Committee meets several times each year to consider completed applications that have been received by the NFHR office. The committee has the right to require more evaluation experience if deemed necessary.

How to Get Experience as a Candidate at an Evaluation

The Evaluation Committee and/or the NFHR Office will notify you of all scheduled Evaluations and the assigned Evaluators for each Evaluation. Working as a Candidate begins with asking and receiving specific permission directly from the Evaluator with whom you will be working. In addition to the NFHR Evaluator, you must also seek and receive personal permission from the NFHR Evaluation Committee to be a Candidate at the Evaluation. This is to avoid having too many Evaluator Candidates at each Evaluation. You may not be a competitor, official, clinic attendee or a member of management at the same Evaluation.

You are expected to be present and to observe the entire Evaluation unless granted special permission by the NFHR Evaluator with whom you are working. When picking Evaluation locations, the Evaluator Candidates must have experience in both Conformation/Movement and Performance Evaluations.

Additional Training

To meet the clinic criteria, you may need to attend clinics or educational experiences outside the NFHR, for example, attending an evaluation in a different country. If you intend to seek credit for non-NFHR events, you must receive approval from the NFHR Evaluation Committee prior to the event.

Conduct as a Candidate

As a Candidate you are neither an Official nor a worker at evaluations. Rather you are a learning observer. You are expected to assist Evaluators in their work, but you are not authorized to make rulings or express your opinion to anyone except the Evaluators with whom you are working. You are required to be present whenever other Evaluators are present and should be included when official activities are happening. You are expected to act like an official in every manner including dressing appropriately as an official and maintaining a professional

relationship with the competitors. You are bound by the Official Ethics of the NFHR found in this NFHR Evaluation Handbook.

You are expected to bring a copy of the current NFHR Evaluation Handbook and the supplies necessary to perform the duties of your position. You should check with the Evaluator with whom you are working to ask if you need to supply your own scribe. As an Evaluator Candidate, you are always responsible for your own reservations and expenses including meals, lodging and fees.

The Evaluator Candidate Assessment Process

At the end of each Evaluator Candidate experience, the Approved NFHR Evaluator with whom you worked will prepare and review with you an Evaluator Candidate Assessment form provided by the NFHR office. This Assessment form will be sent directly to the NFHR by that Evaluator. This assessment form will be held by the NFHR office until you apply to upgrade your status.

The NFHR Evaluator/Candidate Continuing Education (CE) Program

Clinics

In the future, when the improved NFHR Evaluation Program is established and NFHR funds are available, a CE points criteria and requirements will be specified. Until then, this training is highly encouraged but is voluntary.

NFHR Evaluators are required to attend and complete clinics held by the NFHR. As a part of the clinic and when there is a written test, you must take and pass the test with a score of 85% or better. If you are unable to pass the test, you will not receive credit for the clinic, and there will be no opportunity to retake the test. You will be required to attend another clinic and test there to meet the clinic requirement.

You are encouraged to attend as many clinics and educational experiences as possible as an Evaluator. If you are seeking credit for a non-NFHR clinic, you are required to seek prior approval from the NFHR Evaluation Committee by request via the NFHR office. You will need to provide information about the dates of the clinic, clinic presenters, and a clinic syllabus to the NFHR Evaluation Committee. The clinic requirement can be satisfied by Evaluator/Judges clinics held by other equine associations. To receive credit for an outside clinic, you must have approval from the NFHR Evaluations Committee prior to the clinic being held.

Fjord Horse Evaluations in Norway and other countries

All NFHR Evaluators are encouraged to attend a Norwegian Stallion or Mare Evaluation in Norway. Attendance at major Fjord Horse Evaluations in other Fjord Horse International countries will count towards your Continuing Education credits, particularly if the Evaluator is able to obtain an invitation to join that country's judges in the ring. To the extent the funds are available, the NFHR Evaluation Committee may distribute funds to the Candidates and Approved Evaluators from donations to the committee to offset costs.

After returning from Norway or another foreign country, the Candidate or Evaluator is required to submit to the NFHR Office a brief report outlining the overall observations. Any Evaluators who have completed an Evaluation Candidate Assessment for a Candidate at an international evaluation should make sure the forms are sent to the NFHR office.

Questions

If you have questions, contact the NFHR Evaluation Committee by sending an email to the NFHR office (registrar@nfhr.com.) All questions and issues will be routed to the NFHR Evaluation Committee. It is not appropriate to inquire about your application with any members of the NFHR Evaluation Committee.

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