



Constitution of the

European State Studs Association e.V.

Preamble

ESSA is founded for the maintenance and further development of the European state stud's director's assembly– since 2005 by charter decision the "Permanent Conference of the national and traditional studs of Europe" - annually taking place since 2003, to jointly contribute to a sustainable strengthening of European identity and biodiversity, as well as to communicate the significance of the European cultural asset "horse" to a wider public.

I. Name and seat of the association

§ 1

1. The State Studs Association (ESSA) is a non-profit institution.
2. The association has its seat at Marbach/Lauter, Germany.
3. Funds of the association may only be used for statutory means.

II. Objectives of the association

§ 2

The association acts selflessly. It does not primarily follow its own material interests but has exclusively non-profit intentions.

1. maintenance of the European State Studs as a cultural heritage,
2. maintenance of the European state studs in their traditional forms,
3. research, documentation and presentation of the European state studs' history and work,
4. promotion of biodiversity and preservation of genetic resources of rare breeds,
5. promotion of animal welfare,
6. promotion of environment and monument conservation,
7. promotion of horse-related knowledge and skills,
8. maintenance of the public accessibility of the European state studs as cultural assets,
9. support of science, research and education,
10. encouragement of international technical and cultural exchange

§ 3

The objectives of the statutes are realized through

1. establishing a central coordination point of the European state studs,
2. public relations on regional, national and international level,
3. cooperation with schools, universities, ministries, international organizations and among each other,
4. organization of scientific events and research projects,
5. publications and exhibitions.

III. Membership

§ 4

1. The Association has Full Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members.
2. Full Members are legal entities, which represent a public structure or institution concerned with horse breeding and/or equitation, and represents a cultural heritage located within Europe. Each Full Member is being represented by one Voting Delegate. Each Full Member has the right to vote at General Assemblies.
3. Associate Members are natural or legal entities which
 - a) represent a public structure or institution concerned with horse breeding and/or equitation, and represents a cultural heritage located outside of Europe, or
 - b) represent a private horse-related institution and cultural heritage anywhere in the world or
 - c) are a natural person dedicated to the goals of ESSA.Each Associate Member is being represented by an Observer. Associate Members do not have the right to vote at General Assemblies.
4. The application for Membership is to be made in writing, using the application form provided by the Association. The membership starts with the official confirmation by the board.
5. Honorary Members may be appointed by the board. They don't have the right to vote and do not need to pay membership fees.
6. The membership fees depend on the respective contribution regulations.
7. All offices of the association are honorary. Members do not receive allocations from the association. Board members can ask for a refund of their expenses, such as travel costs. No person must be privileged by expenses apart from the association's objectives or by disproportional allowances.

§ 5

All members are obliged to act according to the statutes and to contribute to the realization of the association's objectives.

§ 6

Membership in the association ends in case of:

1. retirement by choice
2. failure to pay the annual membership fee
3. deprivation of the membership by the board
4. death

The intention to retire must be submitted to the ESSA office in written form. The appropriate time-limit is three months to the end of the financial year.

With the retirement all rights and obligations in connection with the association end. Retirements do not influence the financial obligations of the member for the current year.

IV. Organs of the association

§ 7

1. general assembly
2. ESSA board
3. advisory board
4. Secretary
5. Auditor

V. General Assembly

§ 8

1. The general assembly takes place annually.
2. Full Members are entitled to participate in the general assembly. They have the right to speak and to vote.
3. Extraordinary general assemblies can be called by the board or on the written request of minimum 1/5 of the Full members. The request is to be sent to the board by priority mail.
4. The board sends written invitations at least two months before the assembly.
5. Points for discussion must be submitted to the ESSA office one month before the assembly.
6. General assemblies need to be documented by protocols, which have to be signed by at least three board members.
7. Associate Members have the right to attend the General Assembly but do not have the right to vote.

§ 9

Tasks of the General Assembly:

1. accepting of the accountant's report
2. financial report
3. acceptance of the financial report through the members
4. discharge of the board
5. accepting of the contribution order
6. election of the board
7. accountant election
8. decisions regarding alterations of the statutes
9. decision to dissolve the association

§ 10

1. At any General or Extraordinary General assembly, one-fourth of the Full Members of ESSA shall be present to constitute a quorum.
2. Any resolution and election shall be determined by a simple majority. If no majority can be found, the question is to be given to the advisory board for further discussion.

VI. Board

§ 11

1. The board is composed of five members (president, vice-president, treasurer, two assessors).
2. According to §26 BGB (German law), the board consists of the president, the vice-president, and the treasurer.
3. The Members of the Board are elected from amongst the Full Members. They must represent five different countries.
4. Each Board Member is elected for four years.
5. Board meetings need to be announced at least ten days in advance.
6. The votes of all board members are equal.
7. Decisions can be taken with a simple majority, given that at least four board members are present. If no simple majority can be found, the voice of the president decides.
8. In case of written urgent requests, the board can make decisions independently, without having to call in a general assembly.

§ 12

Tasks of the board:

1. compiles and decides about the programme of the association for the following year,
2. makes the budget,
3. prepares the annual general assembly,

4. sets up the agenda of the general assembly,
5. defines the date of the next general assembly,
6. executes the decisions of the general assembly,
7. appoints the manager,
8. appoints the members of the advisory board,
9. appoints honorary members.

VII. Advisory Board

§ 13

The advisory board is appointed by the board and is composed of members, honorary members or experts.

The advisory board has an advisory function. It can work out suggestions and proposals for the board and the general assembly.

VIII. Secretary

§ 14

The secretary is appointed by the board.

He/she is bound by the board's instructions.

IX. Auditor

§ 15

1. The Auditor is elected by the members in the general assembly.
2. The Auditor is elected for four years and can be re-elected twice.
3. The Auditor checks the financial report and asks for a discharge of the board by the general assembly.

X. Alterations of statutes

§ 16

1. Every alteration of the statutes has to be accepted by the general assembly, a two-third-majority of the present members is necessary.
2. Proposals for alterations of the statutes need to be submitted to the members in written form at least two months prior to the next general assembly.

XI. Dissolving of the association

§ 17

1. Dissolving of the association can only be decided by the general assembly and needs a two-third-majority of the present members.
2. The proposal to dissolve the association needs to be submitted to the members in written form at least two months prior to the next general assembly.
3. In case of dissolving of the association, it's capital goes to the „Verein zur Förderung der Ausbildung im Pferdesport und zur Pflege von Kulturwerten beim staatlichen Haupt- und Landgestüt Marbach an der Lauter e.V.“ in 72532 Gomadingen-Marbach (Germany), which has to use it directly and exclusively for non-profit purposes.

XI. Coming into effect

§ 18

The revised version of the statutes becomes valid with its adoption at the general assembly on 23rd March 2018. With this revised version all earlier regulations become invalid.

Kladruby, 23 March 2018