



Official Haflinger News

HORSE BITS

SPRING 2026

INSIDE: Association Updates, Member Spotlights & More!

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✿ BOARD OF DIRECTORS ✿

Kathie Hanson (2026)
President & Central Regional Director
(218) 666-5924 khduenorth09@gmail.com
Inspection & Classification, Pedigree

Erwin Slabaugh (2028)
1st Vice President & East Central Regional Director
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Promos & Publications

Dave Ayers (2027)
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Points & Awards, Promos & Publications

Glenn Yoder (2028)
Director At Large
glennyoder@upwardprint.com

Michelle Harper (2028)
Director At Large
(614) 312-1886 michelleatahr@gmail.com

Jessica Taylor (2027)
Director At Large

AHR Office Hours

Monday to Friday
8 am to 4:30 pm EST
(330) 784-0000

☎ CONTACT US!

To the President:
President@HaflingerHorse.com

To the Board of Directors:
Board@HaflingerHorse.com

Regarding General Information:
Info@HaflingerHorse.com

Regarding Finances:
Finance@HaflingerHorse.com

About Membership:
Membership@HaflingerHorse.com

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Regarding Points & Awards:
Points@HaflingerHorse.com

Regarding Classifications:
Classification@HaflingerHorse.com

To Submit Content for Publication/Promotion:
Promotion@HaflingerHorse.com



✿ Mission Statement ✿

The purpose of the American Haflinger Registry shall be:

- *To collect, record and preserve the pedigrees and changes of ownership of Haflinger horses in North America.*
- *To maintain a Stud Book and registry.*
- *To promote and support only one United States Haflinger Registry.*
- *To stimulate and regulate any and all other matters such as may pertain to the history, breeding, education, exhibition, publicity, sale, or improvement of this breed.*

American Haflinger Registry

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Phone: (330) 784-0000 ★ Web: www.haflingerhorse.com & www.haflingerregistry.com ★ Email: secretary@haflingerhorse.com ★

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Haflinger Horse Bits is the official publication of The American Haflinger Horse Registry (AHR). The American Haflinger Horse Registry is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation established to maintain the integrity of an accurate registry and to promote the Haflinger Horse breed through excellence. AHR is a membership organization that engages in registration, promotion and communication to promote these purposes. Basic annual membership is \$65 and includes the quarterly Haflinger Horse Bits News. We welcome articles, photographs, letters and Member or Haflinger Club Spotlights for potential publication. The publication of articles or advertisements is not necessarily an endorsement by AHR. AHR and the editor expressly limit any liability resulting from any and all misprints and/or inaccuracies whatsoever in advertisements or content published in this publication and said liability is hereby limited to the running of a corrected advertisement or article correction notice. Advertisers are solely responsible for the accuracy of their assertions or claims. Material may not be reproduced without the permission of the editor or permission of the person who owns the copyright.

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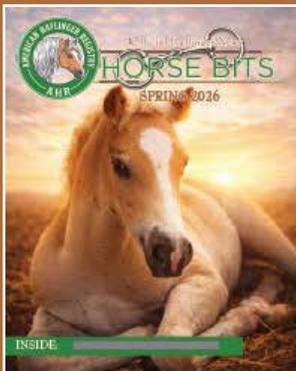
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ON THE COVER...

Awe Alana of Due North
2023 filly owned by Kathie Hanson
Photo: Kathie Hanson



RECENT RULE CHANGES

Effective January 1, 2026

Please find below two rule changes concerning stallion breeding age. For questions, please contact the AHR Board of Directors at Board@HaflingerHorse.com.

BASIC RULES, #7: Animals may only be registered if the stallion was deemed 2 years old or older and the mare was deemed 3 years old or older at the date of conception of foal. This applies to stallions born 01/01/2024 and after.

BASIC RULES, #17: An owner may apply for licensing of a breeding stallion any time after the stallion is deemed a 2 year old. This only applies to stallions born 01/01/2024 and after. To be licensed, a stallion must be physically inspected by a licensed veterinarian and certified free of cryptorchidism and free of monkey mouth or parrot mouth. The stallion must also be DNA identified and that information filed in the records of AHR.

All AHR rules, regulations and forms can be obtained on the website, HaflingerHorse.com or by calling the office at 330-784-0000. ❁

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings from the President

Hello fellow members. It has been a strange winter in most parts of the country. Blizzards, ice storms, heavy rain and some wildfires. Cold spells, warm spells and everything in between! Hoping that spring arrives and weather gets back to some semblance of normal.

The Board has had a busy winter. We got the AHR budget for 2026 finalized and you will see it here in the Horse Bits. We have also determined that some of the Bylaws should be reworded to better fit our needs for Board election processes and even distribution of our members and Regions. Ballots were mailed out to voting members in February and we hope you all took the time to read them and return your votes to the office.

There will be an AHR Inspection and Classification held at Ashland Ohio at the fairgrounds. This will be June 19th and 20th. More details will be available as we get closer but keep this in mind and get your horses in their absolute best condition for this event.

Spring is fast approaching, and we all look forward to it. I'm sure many of you are awaiting spring foals and looking forward to planting your gardens. I know that is what is going on around our farm! I hope you all have a productive start to summer with your gardens and new livestock being born.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the IHHA horse sale the end of March in Topeka IN. It's always good to see old friends and make new ones at this event!

Take care,

Kathie Hanson

Kathie Hanson, AHR President

Upcoming Horse Bits News

Pictures & Content Submissions:

The next issue of AHR Horse Bits News will be arriving in mailboxes around mid-June! We hope you enjoy this new, updated look. We are working to bring you a newsletter with more content, professional articles and more relevant information. AHR welcomes Kasha Ford as their new Marketing Editor, as well. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for future issues of AHR Horse Bits, please feel free to reach out to her directly at (512) 259-6705 or via email at kasha@silverbuckleservices.com, you can also use promotion@haflingerhorse.com.

Do you have a story, member highlight, or special achievement you'd like to share? We welcome your submissions. Please email articles and high-resolution photos to promotion@haflingerhorse.com

We are always looking for engaging content from our members.

We are also seeking photos of members enjoying their registered Haflingers—whether in the show ring, on the trail, or at home. Selected images may be featured on the AHR website, social media, and in print publications. To ensure the best quality, photos must be high resolution.

When submitting photos, please include:

- Registered name(s) of the horse(s) pictured
- Name(s) of the owner(s)
- Name(s) of all people in the photo
- Photographer's name
- A usage release for any professional photos along with the statement: "I agree to allow the AHR to use these photos for media purposes."

Have ideas for future newsletter content? We'd love to hear from you. Would you enjoy seeing more member features, farm spotlights, youth highlights, or stories about the history of the Registry? The Promotions and Publications Committee is committed to continually improving Horse Bits News and strengthening communication with AHR membership.



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!

Perfect for Stud Services and Stallions, Horses for Sale, Boarding and Training Facilities, Equestrian Events, Sales & Auctions, etc.

All ads must be print ready, in high resolution and submitted in PDF form.

Questions to: promotion@haflingerhorse.com

★ ADVERTISING ★

Ad Size - Camera Ready Display	Member	Non-Member
Full Page 8.5" wide x 11" tall. 8" wide x 10.5 tall safe area. Include 0.250" bleed	\$35	\$50
Half Page/Horizontal 8.5" wide x 5.5" tall	\$25	\$40
Half Page/Vertical 5.5" wide x 8.25" tall	\$25	\$40

Issues	Materials/Art Due	Mailing Date
Spring 2026	February 20	March 15
Summer 2026	May 20	June 15
Fall 2026	August 20	September 15
Winter 2026	November 20	December 15

★★ Our Member Advertisers Help Support Our Newsletter ★★

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes January 20, 2026 AHR Board Meeting ZOOM/call-in

AGENDA

Glenn is running meeting in Kathie's absence

Erwin

Dave

Anne-Laure

Pam

Jessica

Kathie absent

Michelle absent

Glenn called the meeting to order 8:10 pm

Approval of minutes from previous meetings:

1. Minutes for November 8 meeting
2. Minutes for December 2 "special" meeting
3. The December regular meeting was canceled (no minutes)

All approvals of previously submitted minutes will be deferred to our next meeting because two Directors are absent.

NEW Business:

Kasha Ford discussed the status of the AHR website and its organization. Improvements are needed and Kasha will work through this but needs permission from someone to optimize the site, which will have billable costs. Erwin asked Kasha to ask the host to quote a scope of work to see if this is billable work that can be considered and then approved or adjusted.

Kasha suggests building a list of documents that are permanent and those that need to be updated annually. Kasha will get a master file of all documents from Kendall.

New look for the Horse Bits. Kasha Ford discussed her thoughts on a new look for the Horse Bits newsletter. The board decided at our last meeting that this will now be a quarterly publication. Kasha is requesting new and additional photos and suggests that we recruit new advertisers to support the publication.

What to post in Horse Bits: A discussion followed about what publication deadlines and what should be published in Horse Bits or online on the website. Kasha will talk to her printer that also prints out Percheron Horse News, maybe print and mail out #150, email out to full membership, and mail #20 to the office. We will improve the publication and try to get additional paid advertisers in the future. Shoot for hitting a mailing date of March 15. February 10 will be the deadline for submission of all items for Kasha to get into the March newsletter. Board members should make sure all content items are sent to Kasha by Feb 10.

It was agreed that the current Profit and Loss Statement should be printed in the publication. We will not print the Balance Sheet or other detailed financials. Erwin made a motion to vote on not posting Board meeting minutes in the newsletter and online on the website. If not posted, members can contact the Clerk for the minutes to be emailed to them by private request. Pam seconded. Lengthy discussion followed prior to the vote:

Agree: Anne Laure, Pam, Dave, Erwin, Jessica, Glenn

Disagree: None opposed.

Motion carries.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Committee Reports:

Futurity – Erwin. Ashland Sept 4-5, 2026 for Futurity. Judges TBD.

Finance – Dave. No report.

Points and Awards: Pam. No new activity this time of year for Points and Awards.

Promotions – Pam. No report

Nominations - Pam.

1. Anne-Laure - Western expires 2026. Anne-Laure says that she will run again, as she has only served two terms so far.
2. Kathie Hanson - Central Expires 2026. Kathie can run again if she agrees to.
3. At-Large position - vacant, expires 2026, was Robert Eicher's position. This position may not be available due to the new merging of regions agreed on by the Board in November. Pam will type up the proposed new Regions and positions available.

Bylaws to be voted on by membership by mailed ballot:

1. Bylaws proposal to accept elections by acclaim if there is no contest for certain open positions.
2. Bylaws proposal for reorganization of our Regions, as proposed by Glenn and accepted by the Board in November.

*At the face to face November meeting, we decided to put these two bylaws proposals before the membership pretty quickly. It seems reasonable that we need to have a decision by the membership on the reorganization of the Regions before we vote for new Board members in the summer. Pam will begin the process of preparing the ballots and talking to the accountant about receiving ballots on these two initiatives.

Classification:

The Ashland Classification date will be June 19-20, 2026.

Jessica is planning on hosting the Omaha Classification on June second weekend 11-13, **2027**.

Friday morning will be the Classification and the show will be Saturday and Sunday. Jessica wants to find a driving judge for the show who can also be a judge for the classification. Kathie and Pam will ask John Dunkle about the Judges List and get the website updated.

*Finalize budget – Glenn says that there may not be a draft futurity in Indiana in 2026 due to lack of exhibitors. Discussion of budget was tabled until our next meeting. Dave will get some additional info from Stacie on the detailed budget breakdowns.

*Western States Horse expo support – Anne-Laure. This is the largest horse expo in the west and is where they had an inspection several years ago. The Organizer contacted Anne-Laure for riding Haflingers for Expo, but she does not have enough Haflingers who want to show at Expo this year. Booths are usually \$300, but it looks like there are not enough horses available. We will plan for 2027, always in the first week of June.

*Discussion of how to handle the many "lost" transfers of horses. This happens so often that we need a consistent way to handle them i.e., charge a flat fee to transfer when papers are lost due to not transferring animals from buyer to buyer. Stacie sent Glenn and Kathie a document titled Standard Policy & Procedure: Ownership Transfers With Incomplete Chain for this and they discussed and fine-tuned it for our registry. This problem is a huge one in the office and needs to be addressed. Their document is attached to these minutes. Glenn mentioned that the fees need to be paid in advance of the extra registry work, all agreed. Dave moved that we table this until next month. Erwin seconded. Voted: All were in favor and none opposed. The motion carried.

Old Business:

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

501(c)(5) status - Pam will meet with the accountant in February to work on this when she meets with them for our tax preparation.

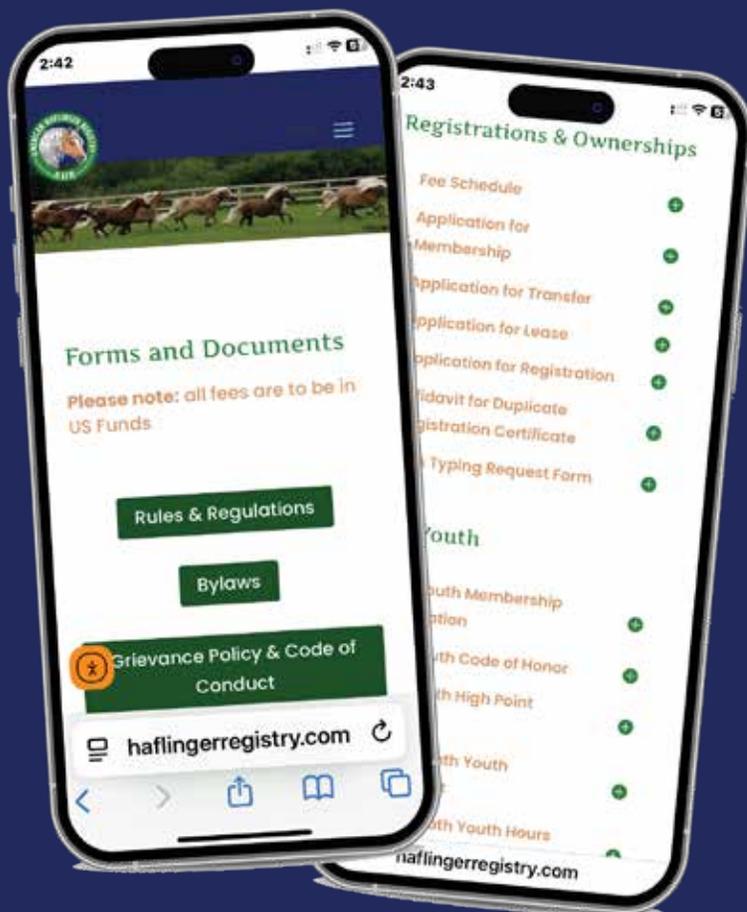
Having office staff at the sale @\$50/hour for AHR office staff. Dave motions that we pay for a booth at these Haflinger sales only if there is a director or member to volunteer to staff the booth, but we will not pay an AHR employee for this. Jessica Second. Discussion followed. Vote: Aye: all. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Trademark Registration renewal - Pam informed the board that this trademark registration is due in February. Kathie will be handling this paperwork and submission.

Adjourn: Glenn adjourned at 10:23 pm.

Minutes prepared by Pam Hess, AHR Clerk

DO YOU NEED AN AHR FORM? *Scan It!*



Scan the QR code for instant access to all AHR forms. Select the form you need, download it to your phone, and print at your convenience.

To use a QR code, open your smartphone's camera and point it at the code. Tap the link that appears to access the content.



Scan Here!

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2026 AHR Board Meeting ZOOM or call-in

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Glenn Yoder
Kathie Hanson
Erwin Slabaugh
Dave Ayers
Pam Hess
Michelle Harper
Anne-Laure Cassou absent
Jessica Taylor absent

President Kathie Hanson called the meeting to order 8:04 pm

1. Approval of minutes from previous meetings:
 - Minutes for November 8 meeting were amended on page 3. Dave motions to accept, Erwin and Glenn second to accept minutes as amended.
 - Minutes for December 2 special meeting. Glen moves to accept, Dave seconds. Minutes are approved.
 - The December regular meeting was canceled (no minutes)
 - January 20 minutes - Erwin motioned to approve, Glenn seconded. Minutes are approved.
2. Re-visit decisions about publishing minutes and P&L in the newsletter. Discussion followed about the pros and cons of publishing minutes both in the newsletter and on the website Motion by Erwin to publish the minutes and most recent P&L in the newsletter and on the website. Dave second. Motion carried. Beginning with the January 20, 2026 minutes, we will send these to Kasha Ford for publishing in the next Horse Bits and to put on the website accessible to members.
3. Finish budget discussion for 2026 Budget. After examination of each line item and lengthy discussions about what to expect in 2026 and evaluation of 2025 expenses, the following 2026 Budget was approved, with one change made Wednesday morning via email.



WE'RE UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

We have been experiencing some issues with our website lately and are in the process of updating and fixing things.

We appreciate your patience and welcome your feedback on any future improvements we can make to the site.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Budget approved at January 27, 2026 meeting				
	Income	Expense		
Membership	\$ 25,000.00	\$ (2,500.00)		
Futurity	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (9,000.00)		
Stallion Licensing	\$ 6,000.00			
Horse Bits	\$ 300.00	\$ (10,000.00)		
Registry	\$ 26,000.00	\$ (8,500.00)		
Calendar	\$ 300.00	\$ (4,725.00)		
Transfers	\$ 21,000.00			
Interest Income	\$ 2,000.00		Contract Services details	
Contract Services		\$ (30,400.00)	PHAofA \$1,375 / month	\$16,500
Classification Program	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (2,000.00)	Annual Use of Digital Horse	\$5,500
Sponsorship		\$ (1,000.00)	Kasha Ford \$700/month	\$8,400
Marketing and Promotions	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)	Total	\$30,400
Banking	\$ -	\$ (1,500.00)		
Office Supplies		\$ (600.00)		
USDF		\$ (800.00)		
Travel and Meetings		\$ (4,000.00)		
Mail out ballots and elections	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)		
Business	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)		
Operations		\$ (2,200.00)		
Insurance		\$ (1,100.00)		
Postage		\$ (2,000.00)		
	\$ 85,600.00	\$ (89,325.00)		

4. By-laws discussion on how to proceed with ballots for needed bylaws revisions. Due to the high cost of mailing ballots to the full membership and the low response rates, the Board would like to be able to allow members to vote by electronic means if they choose to. We will continue paper balloting for those members who do not want to vote electronically. This requires a Bylaws amendment to allow voting by electronic means. Pam will add this to her two previously developed Bylaws amendments to be sent to the membership ASAP. For paper ballots, the board agreed to NOT attach a return stamp to the ballots.

5. Lost Transfer protocol to add to Rules and Regulations. Has already been approved by everyone via email except Erwin. Kathie moved that we approve the Lost Transfer Protocol as proposed at the previous meeting. Erwin second. Discussion only mentioned that payment for working through the lost transfer protocol must be paid in advance by the horse owner. Motion carried. The Lost Transfer Protocol will be added to our website.

Motion to Adjourn by Erwin, second by Pam. Adjourned 9:52 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Pam Hess, AHR Clerk

CURRENT FINANCIALS

01/07/26

Cash Basis

Profit & Loss

January through December 2025

	Jan - Dec 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Ashland Haflinger Sale	
Fun Auction	1,301.50
Total Ashland Haflinger Sale	1,301.50
Donation Income	50.00
Futurity Income	
Futurity Donation	750.00
Futurity Entry Income	960.00
Total Futurity Income	1,710.00
Horse Bits Advertising	305.00
Marketing and Promotions Income	
Calendar	246.00
Shipping and Handling	16.85
Total Marketing and Promotions Income	262.85
Membership Income	
3 Year Membership	9,985.70
Annual Membership	15,830.26
Lifetime Membership	0.00
Youth Membership	132.00
Membership Income - Other	65.00
Total Membership Income	26,012.96
Other Types of Income	
Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00
Total Other Types of Income	0.00
Registry Income	
DNA Foreign Import	15.00
DNA Genotyping Member	6,863.13
DNA Genotyping Non-Member	505.00
DNA PSSM1	375.00
DNA SCC	560.00
DNA Search	1,000.00
Duplicate Registration	150.00
Early Registration	2,888.33
Foreign Registration	75.00
Lease Income	240.00
Member Registration	7,865.62
Non-Member Registration	100.00
Penalties and Fees	
Late Lease Penalty	50.00
Late Transfer Penalty	963.89
Overage Penalty 1	2,200.00
Overage Penalty 2	2,485.00
Total Penalties and Fees	5,698.89
Stallion Breeding Report Income	
Late Report	503.95
Stallion Breeding Report Income - Other	60.00
Total Stallion Breeding Report Income	563.95

CURRENT FINANCIALS

02/04/26
Cash Basis

Profit & Loss January 2026

	Jan 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Marketing and Promotions Income	
Calendar	25.00
Total Marketing and Promotions Income	25.00
Membership Income	
3 Year Membership	2,340.00
Annual Membership	2,236.56
Lifetime Membership	800.00
Youth Membership	12.00
Total Membership Income	5,388.56
Registry Income	
DNA Genotyping Member	1,146.36
DNA Genotyping Non-Member	210.00
DNA PSSM1	35.00
DNA SCC	40.00
Early Registration	160.00
Foreign Registration	150.00
Member Registration	1,714.33
Non-Member Registration	190.00
Penalties and Fees	
Late Transfer Penalty	139.02
Overage Penalty 1	319.23
Overage Penalty 2	444.23
Total Penalties and Fees	902.48
Stallion Breeding Report Income	
Late Report	110.00
Total Stallion Breeding Report Income	110.00
Stallion License Income	
2017 Member	90.00
2020 Member	325.00
2025 License	539.76
Total Stallion License Income	954.76
Total Registry Income	5,612.93
Transfer Income	
Member Transfer	970.51
Non-Member Transfer	385.00
Total Transfer Income	1,355.51
Total Income	12,382.00
Gross Profit	12,382.00
Expense	
Banking	
Service Charge	
eCheck Fee	0.97
Total Service Charge	0.97
Total Banking	0.97
General Tax	61.04
Haflinger Welt-Zuchtund Sportve	1,202.94



UPCOMING CLASSIFICATION

June 19 – 20, 2026
Ashland County
Fairgrounds,
Ashland, OH

CLASSIFICATION QUESTIONS:

Contact Kathie Hanson at
218-780-2902
or khduenorth09@gmail.com
or Erwin Slabaugh at
440-487-7940 or
clwoodworkingllc@gmail.com

HITCH FUTURITY

August 21, 2026
Must be entered in the
Indiana State Fair by
July 1st, 2026.
Indiana State Fairgrounds
Indianapolis, IN

SPORT FUTURITY

September 4 – 5, 2026
Ashland County
Fairgrounds
Ashland, OH

PLANNING AHEAD FOR 2027

CLASSIFICATION
June 11 - 13, 2027
Omaha, Nebraska

YOUR VOTE MATTERS!



THANK YOU FOR VOTING!

Bylaws Amendment Vote Thank You for Your Participation

Earlier this February, voting members of the American Haflinger Registry should have received an important letter outlining three proposed amendments to our Bylaws. These proposals were designed to modernize and improve the efficiency of our organization's processes.

The proposed amendments included:

REGIONAL REORGANIZATION – Restructuring the membership from four Regions into three Regions.

ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION – Allowing Directors to be elected by acclamation when only one

candidate is nominated for a position.

ELECTRONIC VOTING – Permitting electronic voting in addition to traditional mailed paper ballots.

We hope you took time to carefully review the information provided and consider each proposal thoughtfully. Most importantly, we hope you exercised your right to vote. Member participation is essential to the strength and direction of our Registry, and every vote truly matters.

Thank you to all who returned their ballots by the March 15 deadline. Your involvement ensures that the American Haflinger Registry continues to reflect the voice and priorities of its membership. ☺

SHARE YOUR STORY:

Submit a Member Spotlight for an Upcoming AHR Horse Bits Newsletter



Every Haflinger has a story — and so does every AHR member. The American Haflinger Registry invites you to submit a Member Spotlight for an upcoming newsletter and share your journey with the entire AHR community.

Member Spotlights are more than just profiles; they are an opportunity to motivate and inspire fellow members — especially our youth. Whether you are showing at breed or open competitions, trail riding through scenic countryside, driving, participating in therapeutic programs, ranch working, or simply enjoying your Haflinger as a beloved family partner, your experiences matter. Sharing the unique ways you and your horse connect can spark new ideas and encourage others to try something different with their own Haflingers.

We especially love hearing about creative and unexpected activities. Do you compete in mounted archery? Use your Haflinger for farm work? Dress up for parades? Teach riding lessons? Take part in 4-H or Pony Club? Every story adds to the rich tapestry of our breed community.

And of course — don't forget the quirks! Haflingers are known for their bold personalities, clever minds, expressive faces, and occasional mischievous streaks. Does your horse untie knots, open gates, demand treats with dramatic flair, or insist on being the center of attention? Those funny moments and heartwarming habits are what make these horses unforgettable.

If you're concerned about writing something — don't worry. We are happy to edit and polish submissions while keeping your voice and story intact. Not sure how to get started or what to say? Simply fill out our Member Spotlight Question & Answer (Q&A) form. It's an easy way to share your experiences without the pressure of writing a full article.

By submitting a Member Spotlight, you help showcase the versatility, heart, and character of the Haflinger breed. You also give young riders and new members something to aspire to — showing them what's possible through dedication, partnership, and a little bit of that classic Haflinger charm.

We look forward to sharing your story! 😊

HORSE BITS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT QUESTIONNAIRE

Celebrating the People Behind the Breed
Each issue, we are proud to highlight a dedicated member of the American Haflinger Registry. Our members are the heart of the Haflinger community — breeders, exhibitors, drivers, riders, families, and lifelong enthusiasts who make this breed so special.

Member Name & Location:

AHR Member Since (Approximate Years):

- 1. How did you first discover the Haflinger breed?**
- 2. What drew you specifically to Haflingers?**
- 3. Tell us about your first Haflinger.**
- 4. How many Haflingers do you currently own and what do you enjoy doing with them?**
- 5. What quality do you value most in a Haflinger?**
- 6. What accomplishment with your Haflinger(s) are you most proud of?**
- 7. What discipline or activity do you primarily participate in?**
- 8. What makes the Haflinger breed special or unique in your opinion?**
- 9. What advice would you give to someone considering their first Haflinger?**
- 10. What does the Haflinger breed mean to you personally?**

 *Please submit 2–4 high-resolution photos (300 dpi preferred) along with your responses to:*

promotion@haflingerhorse.com or kasha@silverbuckleservices.com



*Rachel Kosmal
McCart is a lifelong
horsewoman and the
founder of Equine
Legal Solutions, PC,
an equine law firm
based in the Portland,
Oregon area. Rachel is
a member of the New
York, California, Oregon
and Washington State
bars and is admitted to
practice before the U.S.
District Court for the
District of Oregon and
the U.S. District Court
for the Central District
of California. Rachel
currently competes in
three-day eventing.*

VISIT:
equinelegalsolutions.com
for more info.

How Good Are Your Stallion Contracts?

By Rachel Kosmal McCart

As a stallion owner, the most important thing you can do for your business is to manage mare owners' expectations with a clear and comprehensive breeding contract. Every spring, Equine Legal Solutions receives numerous inquiries from anxious mare owners who want to know what their rights are under a stallion service contract. Inquiries typically involve fees, rebreeding rights and live foal guarantees. Often, the mare owner is concerned because they have spent what they consider to be a large sum of money, and their mare is not pregnant.

When ELS reviews the breeding contract in question, we usually find it does not adequately address the mare owner's area of concern. In particular, breeding contracts are not always clear about what fees are refundable and what fees are not, what procedures

must be followed to order shipped semen and what happens if the stallion or mare is sold before the contract is complete. What happens if the stallion owner receives a bunch of requests for shipped semen all on the same day and cannot honor them all? These types of ambiguities can lead to large disagreements between stallion owners and mare owners — the kind of disagreements that result in bad reputations and complaints to breed associations. As a breeder, the last thing you want is an industry rumor that your stallion is not producing viable semen or that you won't honor your live foal guarantee.

Live foal guarantees should be much more detailed than "Stallion owner guarantees that mare owner will have a foal that stands and nurses" (a real-life example from a contract ELS reviewed). For example, most stallion service contracts do not specify when the breeding

A comprehensive stallion contract can help ensure mare owners understand their rights and your breeding season is legally successful.

season ends AND how many breeding seasons the mare owner can keep

trying to breed the mare. Savvy breeders will have a contract that requires the mare owner to have a veterinarian check the mare's fertility before breeding and check her fertility again if

she does not become pregnant within a certain number of breedings. In addition, breeding contracts should be very specific about what pregnancy checks are required — when they must take place, who must perform them and what type of documentation must be submitted to the breeder.

Live foal guarantees should also attempt

to cover the spirit of what a “live foal” means and not rely on the old stand-

“When ELS reviews the breeding contract in question, we usually find it does not adequately address the mare owner’s area of concern.”

by of “stands and nurses,” which is a somewhat outdated concept. A foal that stands and nurses is not necessarily a viable foal. For example, a foal with lethal white syndrome might stand and nurse, but it will die a few hours later. In contrast, a foal that does not stand and nurse might indeed be quite viable. For example, a foal whose dam will not accept her and is bottle-fed by people

might grow into a large, healthy filly.

In the modern era of interstate and even international breedings via artificial insemination, your breeding contract should specify which state’s law will apply and where the parties must bring a claim. Otherwise, a mare owner in a distant state (or even a distant country) could sue you in their home jurisdiction. Even if you are able to remove the suit to your own home jurisdiction, it would likely be expensive to do so.

To help provide stallion owners with a cost-effective but high-quality breeding contract, Equine Legal Solutions now offers downloadable shipped semen and on-site breeding contracts. ❁

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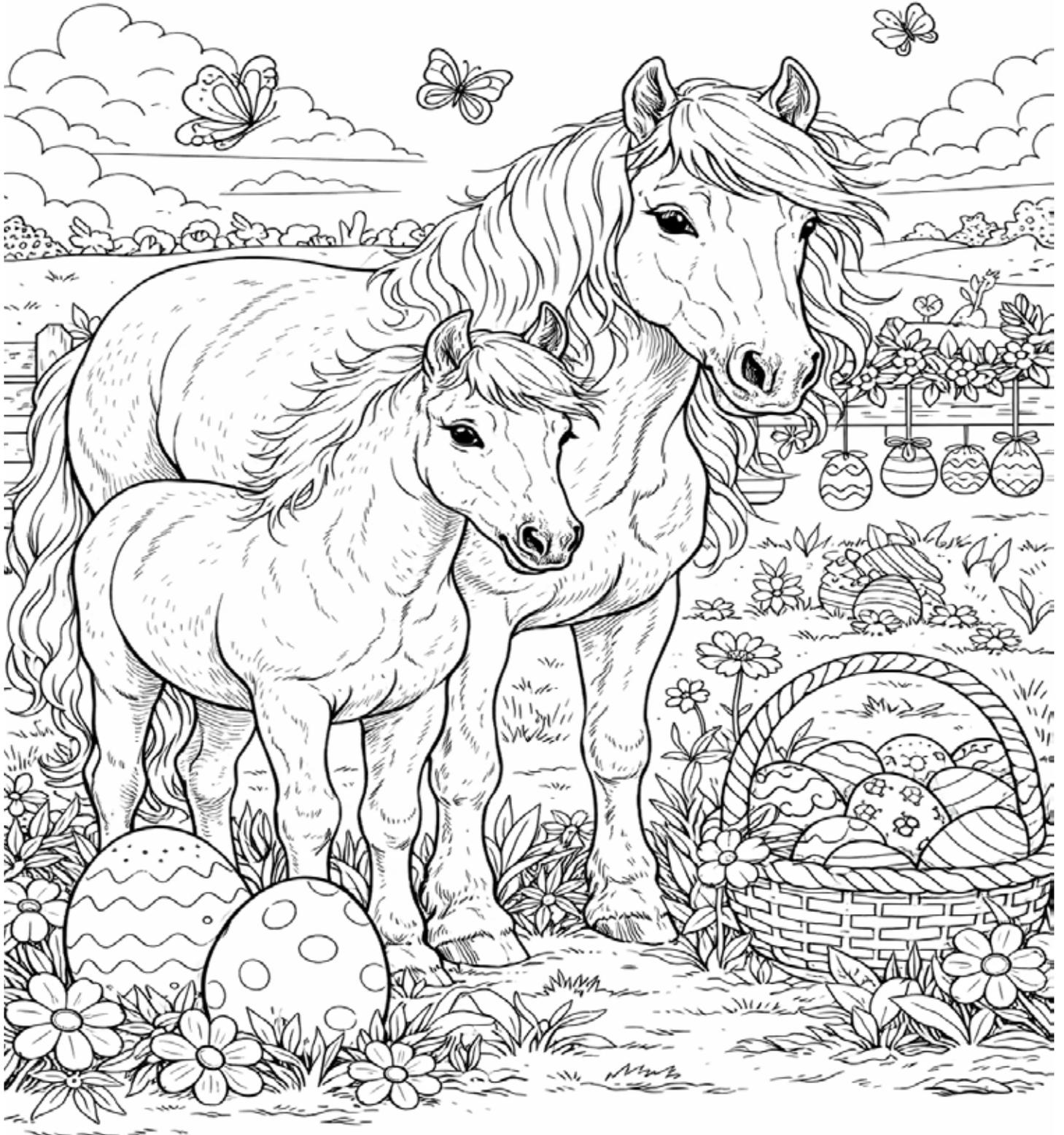
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MORE 2025 SALE HIGHLIGHTS



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CONSIGNOR: Samuel Stutzman - Hopkinton, IA

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LOT #17 - WINKY

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STOPPING THE SPREAD OF EHV-1:

Five Things To Know About Equine Herpesvirus

Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) is a highly contagious virus in horses that can cause respiratory disease, reproductive issues, and neurologic disease. Because infected horses can spread the virus for an extended period of time, it's especially important that owners take precautions during outbreaks.

Dr. Jared Janke, a clinical associate professor of equine internal medicine at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, shares five things horse owners should know about EHV-1.

1. EHV-1 CAN BE SPREAD IN MULTIPLE WAYS

EHV-1 spreads between horses through direct contact, airborne transmission in distances less than 30 feet, and indirect transmission by people and equipment.

"Quarantining and reducing exposure is vital because the virus spreads easily and can transmit from horse to horse before any clinical signs appear," Janke said. "Preventing the movement of exposed horses helps cut off main transmission routes."

It's also especially important to avoid sharing any grooming equipment, water and feed sources, or other tools between infected and healthy horses, as the virus can survive in the environment for several weeks.

Likewise, owners and horse handlers should change their clothes and thoroughly wash their hands and arms after caring for infected horses.

2. THE VIRUS CAN CAUSE A VARIETY OF CLINICAL SIGNS

This herpesvirus causes three main categories of symptoms — respiratory, reproductive, and neurologic. The neurologic form, which causes a condition known as Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy (EHM), is the most dangerous and transmissible.

If a horse becomes infected with EHV-1, clinical signs typically appear within five to 10 days, but that period may be prolonged in cases of EHM.

EHM signs, caused by damage to blood vessels in the spinal cord and brain, often include high fever, lack of coordination, weakness, urinary dribbling (incontinence), and decreased sensation in the tail and perineal area.

Less commonly, the horse may show symptoms related to the brain, such as neurologic facial signs and head tilt.

Other non-neurologic signs of EHV-1 may include nasal discharge, coughing, and pregnancy loss in broodmares.

"Fever is the most consistent sign identified in EHV-1 infections, but it is usually not persistent," Janke said. "It can come and go throughout the day, so owners should conduct temperature readings at least twice daily.

"The most concerning signs to watch for include fever, lethargy, limb incoordination, weakness, weak tail tone, and urine

dribbling," he said. "These signs can progress to an inability to stand, known as recumbency."

3. DIAGNOSIS AND REPORTING ARE KEY

If a horse is showing signs of EHV-1, its owner should contact a veterinarian as soon as possible to discuss diagnosis, treatment, and quarantine.

"Any signs of fever along with hindlimb loss of coordination, urine dribbling, or weak tail tone should prompt an owner to isolate the horse, stop the movement of any animals in contact, and reach out to their veterinarian immediately," Janke said. "Your veterinarian will help ensure that the proper diagnostic tests are performed and will notify their state's animal health official of the ongoing situation."

The virus can be diagnosed with a nasal swab and blood test that is sent to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory. Results are typically available in as little as one to two days.

Because the virus has high outbreak potential, the veterinarian will advise quarantining sick horses until diagnostic results are available.

"Owners must recognize that EHM is a reportable disease because of its highly contagious nature and the serious effects outbreaks can have on the horse industry," Janke said. "Therefore, owners need to follow their veterinarian's advice and the guidance of state animal health officials."



4. TREATMENT FOCUSES ON MANAGING SYMPTOMS

A horse infected with EHV-1 will be quarantined based on the guidance of state animal health officials. This may include confinement at home or, if symptoms progress, receiving pre-approval to transport the horse to a veterinary facility equipped to isolate and manage EHV-1 infections.

Supportive care remains the primary approach for treating EHM, so infected horses are often given therapies like intravenous fluids and anti-inflammatory medications.

Antiviral medications are commonly considered; however, there remains a significant lack of solid evidence that they are beneficial, according to Janke.

“When these medications are used, they appear to be most beneficial when initiated before clinical signs or at very early stages of disease,” he said.

Unfortunately, once a horse loses its ability to stand, the condition becomes much more difficult to treat.

“The prognosis for horses with EHV-1 infections varies widely; however, most outbreaks of EHM have an overall 70-80% survival rate,” Janke said. “Horses with

EHM that can still stand and show only mild to moderate neurologic signs have a good chance of recovery.”

An infected horse may continue shedding the virus even after symptoms are

resolved, so it’s important to follow the guidance of your veterinarian and animal health officials. Repeated testing may be necessary before the horse is released from quarantine.

for your horses.”
The best form of prevention remains keeping healthy horses away from infected horses and any equipment or people that have come into contact with EHV-1.

If there is an EHV-1 outbreak in your area, avoid traveling with horses until the outbreak is resolved and your local animal health officials have announced that it is safe to travel in the area.

Finally, if a horse is suspected to be sick or has been exposed to EHV-1, begin taking twice-daily rectal temperature readings and immediately separate it from other horses. Monitoring rectal temperatures throughout an outbreak event helps owners identify infected horses early.

“Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible if your horse has been in contact with or is suspected to have been exposed to an infected horse,” Janke said. “This gives you a better chance of intervening early before clinical signs have developed. Your veterinarian can evaluate your horse’s risk of developing the disease and, in some cases, may prescribe preventive medications.”

In the event of an EHV-1 outbreak, the best steps an owner can take are closely monitoring their horses and acting immediately if infection is suspected. Simple precautions can make a big difference in stopping an EHV-1 outbreak in its tracks. ❁



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*Pasture Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the web at vetmed.tamu.edu/news/tag/pasture-talk/. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to vmbs-editor@tamu.edu.
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5. PREVENTION IS THE BEST PROTECTION

Although EHV-1 vaccines are widely available, it is important to recognize that no current vaccine option directly prevents the clinical signs of EHV-1 infections, particularly EHM.

“The benefit of vaccination is that immunized horses may shed less virus, resulting in less contamination of the environment and other horses,” Janke said. “Your veterinarian can guide you on the selection of appropriate vaccine products

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2026 Central PA Haflinger Sale Consignment Form

April 25th, 2026

Clinton County Fairgrounds: 98 Racetrack Rd. Mill Hall, PA. 17751

*Send ad fee, consignment form, original registration paper, DNA certificate and mare certificate of breeding to:
722 Snyderstown Rd. Howard, PA. 16841*

Make checks payable to: Central PA Haflinger Sale

Sale Requirements: Each sale horse must have a current (30 day) individual health paper, original Coggins and CEM form.
2026 Foals must have an application for registration, submitted DNA for fillies and signed transfer.

Consignment Fee: \$75.00 - includes stall and shavings (non-refundable) \$125.00 with picture in catalog.
Sellers will have No-Sale option, all commissions and fees will apply to the last bid.

Consignments open: January 1st, 2026 | Deadline: March 21st, 2026

Full page Ad Rate: \$200.00 **Submit catalog ads and photos to:** sarah.hall2021@outlook.com by March 21st.

Consignor: _____ Farm Name: _____

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Horse's Name: _____ Reg.#: _____ D.O.B: _____ Height: _____

Sex: (Circle one) Stallion | Gelding | Mare

Pedigree:

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Few moments in breeding are as anticipated—or as unforgettable—as the birth of a foal. For breeders and enthusiasts of the Haflinger, foaling season carries special meaning. Each golden foal with its soft flaxen mane represents not only the continuation of a cherished bloodline, but also the preservation of the breed’s hallmark qualities: versatility, strength, gentle temperament, and unmistakable beauty.

Whether you are a seasoned breeder or preparing for your first foal, understanding the foaling process is essential. While the fundamentals of equine reproduction apply to all breeds, the Haflinger’s distinctive characteristics—both physical and temperamental—offer unique considerations and rewards.

Understanding the Mare’s Timeline

The average gestation period for a horse is approximately 340 days, though it is perfectly normal for mares to carry anywhere from 320 to 360 days. Haflinger mares are generally considered hardy and reliable mothers, a trait rooted in the breed’s development in the Alpine regions of Austria. This hardiness often translates into uncomplicated pregnancies and attentive maternal behavior.

In the final month of gestation, breeders should increase monitoring. Subtle changes begin to appear:

- Development of the udder (“bagging up”)
- Relaxation of muscles around the tailhead
- Softening and lengthening of the vulva
- Waxing of the teats in the final 24–48 hours

Not all mares read the textbook, however. Some may bag up weeks in advance; others

wait until hours before delivery. Knowing your individual mare is one of the most valuable tools you can have.

Preparing for Foaling

Preparation begins long before the due date. A clean, well-bedded foaling stall—ideally 12x12 or larger—should be ready at least several weeks prior. Straw is often preferred over shavings, as it is less likely to cling to the wet newborn.

Haflingers are known for their calm, people-oriented nature. Many mares tolerate discreet monitoring cameras or periodic checks without stress. However, minimizing disturbance is still important. Quiet observation is best.

Your foaling kit should include:

- Clean towels
- Tail wrap
- Mild antiseptic solution (for dipping the umbilical stump)
- Enema (if recommended by your veterinarian)
- Thermometer
- Emergency veterinary contact information

Even with a breed known for durability, planning for the unexpected is critical. Establishing a relationship with a veterinarian experienced in equine reproduction provides peace of mind.

The Three Stages of Labor

Foaling occurs in three stages, and understanding these can help breeders recognize when intervention may be needed.

Stage One: Preparation (1–4 hours)

The mare may appear restless, paw, sweat lightly, or lie down and get up repeatedly. These behaviors are sometimes mistaken for mild colic. In truth, the foal is repositioning for birth.

Haflinger mares often remain relatively quiet and stoic during this phase, reinforcing the importance of careful observation.

Stage Two: Delivery (typically 15–30 minutes)

This is the most critical stage. The water breaks, and delivery begins quickly. In a normal presentation, you should see two front feet, one slightly ahead of the other, followed by the nose resting between the knees.

Because Haflingers are generally medium-sized, with balanced conformation and strong pelvic structure, dystocia (difficult birth) is less common than in some heavier draft breeds. Still, time is of the essence. If no progress is seen within 10–15 minutes of active pushing, veterinary assistance is warranted.

Most Haflinger foals are born alert, with bright eyes and strong attempts to sit upright almost immediately.

Stage Three: Passing the Placenta

The placenta should pass within three hours. Retained placenta is a medical emergency and requires prompt veterinary attention. Always examine the placenta carefully to ensure it is complete.

The First Hours: Critical Benchmarks

The first hour of a foal’s life sets the tone for its future health. The “1-2-3 Rule” is a helpful guideline:

- 1 hour: Foal stands.

WELCOMING A NEW GENERATION:

Foaling the Haflinger Horse

- 2 hours: Foal nurses.
- 3 hours: Placenta passes.

Haflinger foals are often notably sturdy and quick to their feet. Their naturally strong hindquarters and correct structure are evident even in these early moments. Within a few hours, many are confidently exploring their surroundings.

Colostrum intake is critical. This first milk provides antibodies that protect the foal from disease. Your veterinarian may recommend an IgG test within 12–24 hours to confirm adequate passive transfer of immunity.

Breed-Specific Considerations

The Haflinger breed is celebrated for its consistency—both in appearance and disposition. Foals typically display the rich chestnut coat and lighter mane and tail that define the breed, though shade variations can occur. Watching that flaxen mane begin to fluff and curl in the first weeks of life is a joy unique to Haflinger breeders.

Temperament is equally important. Haflingers are known for their intelligence and willingness, and these qualities are shaped from birth. Gentle, thoughtful handling in the early days encourages confidence without dulling the foal's natural curiosity.

Because Haflingers are often bred for multiple disciplines—driving, dressage, trail, therapy work, and family mounts—early evaluation of conformation and movement is meaningful. Even in the pasture, you may glimpse the

powerful trot or balanced canter that hints at future versatility.

Nutrition and Mare Care

Lactation significantly increases the mare's nutritional needs. High-quality forage should remain the foundation of her diet, supplemented with a balanced concentrate formulated for broodmares if necessary. Clean water and free-choice salt are essential.

Haflingers are famously “easy keepers,” a trait that requires mindful feeding management. While their efficient metabolism is an asset, overconditioning can pose risks. Maintaining a healthy body condition score supports both

ment for which the breed is prized.

Turnout is equally important. Pasture exercise strengthens bones, tendons, and coordination. Watching a Haflinger foal gallop across green grass, tail flagged and mane bouncing, is one of the most rewarding sights in breeding.

Looking Ahead

Foaling season is a reminder of both responsibility and hope. Each Haflinger foal carries forward generations of careful breeding decisions—selection for soundness, type, athletic ability, and kind disposition.

For members of the breed community, these

new arrivals symbolize the future of the Haflinger in North America and

“Foaling is not merely a biological event. It is a celebration of stewardship.”

milk production and long-term soundness.

Regular veterinary follow-up—including post-foaling examinations for both mare and foal—helps ensure a smooth recovery.

Early Handling and Socialization

The first weeks of life are foundational. Short, positive interactions—introducing a halter, gentle grooming, picking up feet—can set the stage for a lifetime of cooperation.

Haflingers' people-oriented nature often shines early. Foals are typically bold without being pushy, affectionate without being overly dependent. Consistent boundaries paired with calm handling nurture the balanced tempera-

beyond. They may grow into steady youth mounts, elegant carriage horses, competitive sport partners, or treasured family companions. Regardless of their path, their beginnings are shaped by attentive, knowledgeable care.

In the quiet hours of the barn, as a mare nudges her newborn to stand and nurse, we witness more than a birth. We witness continuity—of bloodlines, of tradition, of shared passion for a golden horse whose roots trace back to the mountains of Tyrol.

Foaling is not merely a biological event. It is a celebration of stewardship. And for those devoted to the Haflinger, it is one of the most meaningful seasons of all. ❁

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AMY WALLACE

A Lifetime of Happy Trails with Haflingers

For this issue's Member Spotlight, we're excited to feature dedicated Haflinger owner Amy Wallace, whose passion for partnership, education, and adventure has created decades of memorable experiences in the saddle.

Celebrating a remarkable milestone, Amy and Nifty Nevie GRS ("Nevie") marked their 20th anniversary together last year. Nevie will turn 25 this April, a testament to the enduring bond they share. Alongside him is Apollo of Cedar Lane ("Apollo"), who will be 7 this April and has been Amy's since birth. Together, these two willing Haflinger partners have shared countless miles and unforgettable experiences.

Based in Springboro, Ohio, with her horses boarded nearby in Lebanon, Ohio, Amy most enjoys exploring the trails. Trail riding remains her favorite activity,



and over the years she and her Haflinger boys have participated in a wide range of equestrian pursuits. Their adventures include competitive trail rides, obstacle course competitions, parades, natural horsemanship clinics, Working Equitation clinics, and numerous horse camping trips. Amy has even "subjected" her horses to costume-wearing clinics, highlighting both their versatility and her sense of fun.

Their parade appearances include the Christmas in Springboro Parade and the Delaware, Ohio All Horse Parade, where Amy and her Haflingers proudly share the beauty and spirit of the breed with their community.

Committed to lifelong learning, Amy takes weekly lessons,

believing there is always something new to discover. She rides regularly with natural horse trainer Helge Buflod and studies dressage with instructor Jennifer Grant, recently adding dressage to her and her horses' education. She has also participated in several Advancing Horsemanship clinics with renowned horseman Richard Winters.

Amy's interests extend into diverse disciplines, including Working Equitation, a growing equestrian sport that combines obstacles, flatwork, and speed elements, with advanced levels incorporating cattle work. She and her horses also participated in events with the former American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA), where riders navigated trail courses featuring obstacles of varying difficulty along the route.

Through years of dedication, education, and adventure, Amy Wallace's journey with Nevie and Apollo reflects the true spirit of Haflinger ownership — partnership, versatility, and joy in the ride. With many more miles ahead, she considers herself fortunate to share life with two willing Haflinger boys. ✨



HAFLINGER 30TH ANNUAL SALE

MARCH 27 - 28, 2026

SALE SCHEDULE

Friday, March 27

9AM-11AM - SALE HORSE CHECK IN

11AM - 3:45PM RIDING & DRIVING OF SALE HORSES

1PM TACK AUCTION

4PM SALE PREVIEW FOLLOWED BY STALLION PRESENTATION

Approx. 7PM Hoosier Sire Futurity

Saturday, March 28

7:30AM - 8:45AM RIDING & DRIVING OF SALE HORSES

9AM SHARP:

STALLION SERVICE AUCTION

9:30AM SALE HORSES

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