



Koninklijke Vereniging  
**"Het Friesch Paarden-Stamboek"**



### Terminology used in describing the Friesian horse

	Ideal	Fault/less desirable
<b>Head</b>	A small, expressive, noble head in which the eyes are set far apart Nasal bone is preferably somewhat dished Widely spaced nostrils. Jaws not too heavy Large bright eyes Ears small and alert with the tips pointing slightly towards each other Long in the mouth	Head too long Unexpressive eyes Convex nasal bone Roman nose, overly dished nasal bone Overbite or underbite Heavy jaws Head coarse or lacking in expression Short in the mouth
<b>Poll</b>	The poll is long (hands width) with a flowing transition to the neck. The transition from head to neck is not too heavy and provides room for the throat	Dhort poll Heavy transition from head to neck No room at the throat
<b>Neck</b>	The neck is long, slightly arched and displays good development of the upper muscles, and emerges high from the chest The neck has a flowing connection with the withers	Straight neck, horizontal neck A neck that is excessively or insufficiently muscled. Short, emerges too deeply from the chest Ewe-necked, swan-necked No conspicuous mane Bulging neck
<b>Shoulder</b>	The shoulder is long and sloping (at an angle of 45 to 50 degrees to a horizontal line) The angle at the shoulder joint is at least 90 degrees	Short Steep
<b>Ribs</b>	The ribs are long and bowed	Not barrel-chested Too short or too long
<b>Withers</b>	The high point of the withers flows gradually into the contour of the back	Insufficiently developed and insufficiently flowing Too flat "Hazenleger"
<b>Back</b>	The back is strong and well muscled (not hump-backed, not swaybacked) The back flows gradually into the shoulder and loins. The length of the back is in proportion with the length of the fore quarters and the hind quarters	Swaybacked or humpbacked  Insufficient connection, three-part build
<b>Loins</b>	The loins are strong (not raised or sunken), broad and well muscled, with a flowing transition to the croup	Narrow Raised, underdeveloped, sunken No smooth transition to the croup
<b>Croup</b>	The croup is long (as measured between the vertical lines of hip and the hip bones), slightly sloping and muscled	Short Too sloping or too straight Roof-shaped, poorly muscled Tail implanted too high, too high at the croup Round when viewed from the back
<b>Gluteals</b>	Gluteals are long and well developed	Too short Poorly muscled



	<b>Ideal</b>	<b>Fault/less desirable</b>
<b>Forelegs</b>	<p>The forelegs as seen from the front are perpendicular to the ground with one hoof width of space between them</p> <p>Seen from the side, the foreleg is perpendicular to the ground down to and including the fetlock</p> <p>The forearm and cannon are long</p> <p>As seen from the side, the fetlocks are oval and dry</p>	<p>Sickle shaped, knock-kneed</p> <p>Base narrow, base wide</p> <p>Standing under, camped out</p> <p>Calf-kneed</p> <p>Fetlock overly thick</p> <p>Buck-kneed</p> <p>Short forearm and excessively short cannon</p> <p>Toed out, toed in</p>
<b>Pasterns</b>	<p>Long and resilient</p> <p>The angle of the front of the pastern with the ground should be 45 to 50 degrees</p> <p>The angle of the back of the pastern with the ground should be 50 to 55 degrees</p>	<p>Short, too long</p> <p>Upright pastern</p> <p>Sloping pastern</p>
<b>Hind leg</b>	<p>The hind legs as seen from behind are parallel with one another.</p> <p>As seen from the side, the angle at the hock is between 145 and 150 degrees</p> <p>The gaskin is well muscled</p> <p>The hock is dry, hard and well developed (broad and deep).</p> <p>The fetlocks as seen from the side are oval and dry</p>	<p>Cow-hocked or base narrow, wide</p> <p>Upright hind leg</p> <p>Angle too small, sickle hocked (&lt; 150 degrees)</p> <p>Poorly muscled gaskin</p> <p>Locking or loose stifle, swollen stifle joint, Blurred quality, throughpins, capped hock, Bone spavin, bog spavin, Cannon inserted too far in, Shin splints, curb.</p> <p>Low "verzenen" , no proportion 1:2</p>
<b>Hooves</b>	<p>Large, properly shaped, undamaged and of the right proportions for the horse</p> <p>De hoeves from the forelegs are wider dan the hind-legs.</p>	<p>Wide</p> <p>Narrow</p> <p>Flat</p> <p>Low</p>
<b>Walk</b>	<p>The walk is a long-reaching distinctively 4-beat gait. As seen from front and back, the legs are parallel with each other. The hind leg displays flexion at the hock and is placed powerfully and far enough beneath the body.</p> <p>The hindleg is pushing away the foreleg what is nicely extended with plenty of flexibility at the shoulder.</p>	<p>Irregular, lateral gait</p> <p>Insufficient power in hind legs</p> <p>Short in the foreleg</p> <p>Winging out, winging in</p> <p>Insufficient flexion in the hind leg, choppy</p> <p>Overreaching</p> <p>Does not place hooves far enough under the body</p> <p>Narrow or wide, "billaliderend"</p>
<b>Trot</b>	<p>The trot is a distinctively 2-beat gait</p> <p>The hind leg is placed powerfully and well beneath the horse's body and in doing so displays a great deal of flexion at the hock.</p> <p>The foreleg displays knee action and is extended far to the front.</p> <p>The trot is characterized by suppleness and a long moment of suspension. The horse also displays a high level of balance with a rise of the fore quarters accompanied by a lifting of the neck. When viewed from the back or the front, the legs must be parallel with one another.</p>	<p>Short choppy movements in the forelegs, insufficient flexibility at the shoulder.</p> <p>Lack of cadence</p> <p>Lack of impulsion in the hind quarters, depending too much on the forehand; too little balance, carriage insufficiently elevated</p> <p>Melancholy impression</p> <p>Narrow or wide, billaliderend</p> <p>Fast cadence, single tempo</p> <p>Choppy, no elasticity</p> <p>No powerful impulsion</p>
<b>Canter</b>	<p>The canter is a distinctively 3-beat gait.</p> <p>The canter shows a strong forward impulsion accompanied by an upward movement. Also typical of the canter are a long moment of suspension, suppleness and balance.</p>	<p>Insufficient forward movement (rolling)</p> <p>Not a bounding canter</p> <p>Canter on the forehand</p> <p>Lacking extension in the forehand, inside leg lacks impulsion</p>