

## Breed Profile: **The Shagya-Araber**



**Sarvar PFF, owned and bred by Nancy R. Skakel**

The Shagya-Araber is a 200-year old unique Arabian-based breed. The Shagya has its origins in the old Hungarian Imperial Cavalry stud farms. Today the breed is valued throughout the world for reliable athleticism, a steady, generous temperament, sound conformation, and prepotent genetics. Most of the modern European sport horse breeds have Shagyas in their foundations. As an outcross, the Shagya contributes stamina, hardiness, balance, nobility, and a willing, dependable character. These same qualities have produced a breed that is a versatile sport horse, ideal for the amateur rider. Shagyas have especially proven themselves in distance competitions. The 2006 World Champion Endurance winner was a Shagya named *Hungares*. The 2008 US National Reserve CTR Champion is a Shagya named *Wineglass Dominus*. Shagyas are also successful in open competitions in dressage, driving, and eventing, both here and in Europe. Shagyas continue to contribute to sport horse breeding programs in Ireland, Germany, Holland, Denmark, and throughout Europe and the USA.

Shagyas show their Arabian heritage in general appearance and nobility. However, their increased frame, bigger bone, strong topline and coupling, deep and smooth bodies, and longer, more sloping croup easily identify them as distinct from Arabians. Because of the highly selective history within the breed standard, these characteristics are strongly represented even in partbred Shagyas. The foals from purebred Arabians bred to a registered Shagya may be eligible for Shagya registration. (The International Shagya Society stipulates that a horse must have a minimum of 7 Shagya ancestors out of the 16 ancestors in the fourth generation, all other ancestors being Shagya or purebred Arabian.)

For more information please contact us through the American Shagya-Arabian Verband web site at [www.shagyaregistry.com](http://www.shagyaregistry.com).