



The Linsenhoff-Rath Family & Gestüt Schafhof

Four generations — heritage, Olympic excellence and the future of international equestrian sport

Origins & Entrepreneurial Roots

Across four generations, the Linsenhoff-Rath family has combined entrepreneurial vision, Olympic achievement and international work in equestrian sport. The story begins with Adolf Schindling, who discovered his passion for horses in Qingdao, later founded VDO – one of the leading suppliers to the automotive industry - and so laid the foundation for Gestüt Schafhof.



Olympic Excellence

With Liselott Linsenhoff, the family made sporting history: she became the first woman to win individual Olympic gold in dressage, 1972 in Munich. Ann Kathrin Linsenhoff has carried on the tradition with Olympic gold in Dressage, 1988 in Seoul. Together, the family stands for six Olympic medals and around twenty further medals at World and European Championships.



Gestüt Schafhof Today



Today, Gestüt Schafhof is far more than a heritage family estate. It is a living centre for breeding, training, sport and the sale of horses — home to around 60 horses, a stallion station and the dedicated development of young horses. Schafhof both develops and sells promising young horses as well as fully trained competition horses. As an internationally recognised trainer, Klaus-Martin Rath brings the highest professional expertise to its daily work.

An International Platform

With Schafhof Connects, this tradition has grown into an international platform: tournaments in Bangkok and Vienna, the All Shira'aa Deutsches Spring- und Dressur Derby in Hamburg, the Asian Trophy and the long-established Internationales Festhallen Reitturnier Frankfurt, held since the 1950s. The activities are complemented by clinics in Shanghai for riders, trainers and judges — an active contribution to education, exchange and international networking in equestrian sport.



An Invitation to Partners

For companies, this story is rare: it unites heritage, world-class performance and a clear vision for the future.

Gestüt Schafhof stands for credibility, quality and international reach and the ability to turn a strong tradition into new momentum for the global sport. Horses — breeding know-how, the development and sale of young and fully trained sport horses, and access to quality horses at every level.

We warmly invite partners to share this journey: through brand association, co-branded events and a gateway into the Asian and International equestrian community.