

Annexure 3

Australian Little Horse & Miniature Breeds Association Inc



By-laws and regulations

AUSTRALIAN Little Horse & Miniature Breeds Association Inc.

INTERPRETATION

In these rules and regulations except in so far as the context matter otherwise indicates or requires. Application Forms (for registration) means where the context signifies, means Membership, Foal, Adult, Gelding, Breeding Stock Appendix, ID Stallion, Transfer, Lease, or any other type of form deemed necessary from time to time.

DEFINITIONS

Brand - the identification symbol registered with the Australian Little Horse & Miniature Breeds Association Inc. and relevant State Authorities and symbolizes the mark that identifies ponies and horses bred by that relevant stud. Branding of the current season's foals must be done in sequence of birth arrival over the last number indicating the current year of birth. It is the responsibility of the Stud owner to ensure **ALL** foals bred by them are branded before sale or departure from ownership. Retained foals **must be** branded before age 12 months. Recognised methods of branding acceptable to the Little Horse & Miniature Breeds Registry are - Fire, Freeze, Micro chipping and imported horses lip tattooing.

Breeder - the owner/s of a productive Stud whose aim is to improve and perfect the breed to be known as Little Horse & Miniature Breeds.

Breed - the horses and miniature ponies defined in the regulations e.g. the Standard of Excellence.

Classification Day - an organised day where owners of Little Horses and Miniatures shall submit their stock for appraisal of the Panel of Official Measurers and Classifiers, to enable them to be entered in the Registry.

Classifiers - the person/s appointed by the Committee to classify and measurer applicants for registration. The classifiers and measurers **MUST BE** members of the Society or otherwise appointed non members authorised by the Committee. The criteria for an appointment to be a classifier is determined by the committee.

Code of Ethics - the set of rules and regulations that the Society's members or their agents acting on their behalf, or panelled judges are expected to abide by when exhibiting and judging the Australian Little Horse and Miniature Breeds.

Judge's Panel - the person/s whether members of the society or non members that have satisfied the committee when sitting for the judge's panel exam, or have demonstrated their ability to establish themselves to be competent as an accredited judge that is able to judge the Australian Little Horse and Miniature Breeds and as well as other miniature breeds, with integrity and unbiased opinion.

Judge's Code of Ethics - the set of rules and regulations that governs the agreement form signed by judges who are appointed on the official Panel of Judges of the ALH & MBA Society.

Recording - (Foal) where the context matter signifies ????

Registered Lessee - in relation to the horse/pony entered in the records of the Registry shall denote the financial member/s to whom the horse/pony has been leased, from the registered owner/s and who is in possession of the horse/pony, provided the Registry has been duly notified and the transfer carried out, accompanied by the transfer fee.

Registered owner - in relation to the horse/pony, it denotes the legal owner member/s recorded as being the registered owner/s of the horse/pony in the Registry's records.

Registered Little Horse - Miniature Horse or Miniature Pony - means, where the context matter signifies a stallion, colt, mare, filly gelding, breeding stock mares, ID stallion collectively or singularly.

Registry fee - means, a penalty imposed on a member for the following reasons –

- a) having to return forms to the owner/s more than once for corrections;
- b) registry expenses incurred by dishonoured cheques; and
- c) issuing duplicate forms.

Transfer Fee - the fee payable to the Registry for the charge to process paperwork in relation to the horse/pony when sold, leased, or gifted and such sale or lease or gift is recorded with the Registry. Transfer fees are the responsibility of the vendor.

Service Certificate - the certificate signed by the registered stallion owner whose stallion has covered a "visiting mare" certifying the dates when the mare was covered and also stating her name, registration number's, colour, height and brands. This certificate must be submitted to the registry along with the foal recording application by mare owner.

Stud Prefix - the name submitted by the breeder for approval by the Registry and so recorded as belonging to that member/s for the purpose of identification of horse/ponies bred by that member.

Stud Return - the statement submitted to the Registry on an annual basis, declaring all Little Horses, Miniature Horses and Ponies owned, mated, gelded, sold, disposed off without papers, or deceased, before the 31st of July each year.

PLEASE NOTE - Failure to comply will render the stud unable to proceed with any foal recording applications for that current year.

Stud - for the purpose of the Registry means, the address owned by the registered owner/s of that relevant stud and so recorded for the purpose of breeding the Little Horse & Miniature Breeds of Australia. An owner shall be deemed resident for the address of that stud as according to the membership application.

Foaling season - the year commencing the 1st of August each year and ceasing on the 31st July of the following year.

Gelding - the male horse or pony that has been castrated and no longer able to produce.

Spayed mare - a female horse/pony that has been surgically rendered sterile and no longer can produce.

Standard of Dress - the regulations set down for the standard apparel to be worn when exhibiting the Australian Little Horse and Miniature Breeds of Australia at shows. Exhibitors may dress to a higher standard if they desire.

Standard of Excellence - the Standard Rules set out for guidelines in breeding quality Australian Little Horse, Miniature Horse and Little Miniature Pony.

Standard of Showing - means, the regulations set down that governs the manner in which the Australian Little Horse and Miniature Breeds will be presented in the show ring.

Rules and Regulations of the Registry to Register Stock.

- 1 The height of the Little Horse and Miniature Breeds of Australia shall be –
 - i) section A – miniature horses 34” or 8.2 ¼ hands and under;
 - ii) section A – miniature ponies 34” and under, or 8.2 ¼ hands and under;
 - iii) section B – little horses over 8.2 ¼ hands and not exceeding 9.2 hands;
 - iv) section B – little ponies over 8.2 ¼ hands and not exceeding 9.2 hands;
 - v) section C – little horses over 9.2 hands and not exceeding 10.2 hands;
 - vi) section D – little horse over 10.2 hands and not exceeding 11.2 hands.
- 2 The height of the Little Horse Breeding Stock may exceed 10.2 hands and not exceed 12 hands.
- 3 Foals born of Section A or B parents shall, on adult registration applications, be upgraded to the next section if their height exceeds that of their parents. In this manner, the said foals are not lost to the breed and are still eligible for breeding and exhibiting.
- 4 All horses and ponies, regardless of their age can be challenged on their height if they are being exhibited at shows, and in particular, those Miniature Horses, Little Horses and Miniature Ponies that are registered in sections A and B and that is obvious they are over height of that section. Any Little Horses Stallion or Colt that exceeds the height criteria of 11.2 hands regardless of its age, shall automatically be de-registered, mares and fillies exceeding the height criteria for their sections will be transferred to the breeding stock section.
- 5 Any horse or pony applying for Permanent registration with the Registry will be allocated a registration number at age 3 years which it will keep for life.
- 6 Mares or fillies that are not suitable to be registered as Little Horses, Miniature Horses, or Miniature Ponies, owing to exceeding the height criteria, or too thick of bone etc may apply to be recorded in the Little Horse Breeding stock section, where upon the said mares will be issued a permanent Breeding Stock registration number, regardless of which section she is being used for breeding. The breeding stock mares ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE EXHIBITED AT SHOWS, unless, special classes are catered for them at Society’s Shows.
- 7 Foals may remain foal recorded until 36 months actual, whereby they **MUST BE** permanent adult registered, subject to meeting the criteria for the Standard of Excellence, if intending to be bred from,

any horse or miniature pony applying for adult registration with the Registry whose age exceeds 36 months (3 years) shall be subjected to a late penalty fee.

- 8 Horses or Miniature Ponies who are registered with another miniature society, may be accepted into the Australian Little Horse & Miniature Breeds Registry providing that they meet the criteria set down in the Standard of Excellence and the application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee. This will include Appendix registered mares from another society. The fee is subjected to an annual review. A copy of the current registration and an up to date photo are to accompany the fee. Please note if the horse or pony applying for dual registration is not adult registered with the other miniature society, then when applying for adult registration the fee appropriate with the ALH & MBA shall be payable.
- 9 Horses or ponies applying for first time registration must pay the full recording or registration fees.
- 10 An annual Stud Return must be submitted to the Registry which shall record the matings of a stallion and the mares that the stallion has covered. Any breeder failing to submit the annual Return shall be unable to proceed with any foal recording applications for that current season from sire or dam registered with the ALH & MBA.
- 11 All registration certificates submitted to member/breeders by the Registry remains the property of the Registry and shall be surrendered on notification of a deceased or de-registered horse or pony, or sold as Pet or otherwise disposed of.
- 12 All breeders commencing Stud operations must register a Stud Prefix (for a fee which is currently \$10.00 and is subject to annual review), with the Registry before the Stud commences its operations and Stud brand symbol must also be recorded with the Registry. All established breeders are requested to register their pre-existing Stud Prefix that they have registered with another society.
- 13 All male and female horses or ponies intended to be used for breeding must be adult registered prior to being mated, or else the resultant foal cannot be recorded with the Registry until it is 3 years of age. If the parents are not adult registered before the mating, the Registry reserves the right to refuse the foal recording application. Registry must be contacted if accidental matings take place so the Registry can record the mating prior to birth of foal.
- 14 All dams who were foal recorded ALH & MB Registry (i.e. recently purchased shall be able to foal record after Registry has been notified of amendment to the annual return in writing.
- 15 Foals and yearlings purchased from sales may apply for Foal recording – will be unknown origins unless service certificate provided or DNA test proves parentage.
- 16 It is compulsory for all foal recording application forms to have the following information recorded them - birth height, birth colour, and date of birth as well as colours and height of Sire and Dam.
- 17 Foals applying for Foal Recording whose coat colour is justifiably in doubt as being impossible from that mating, will result in the Registry reserving the right to refuse to accept the application until the mating of the said parents is proven to the satisfaction of the Registry by DNA or Bloodtyping, and is subject to the expense of the breeder.
- 18 The Registry reserves the right to refuse a foal recording application that does not concur with the recorded matings of the Sire and Dam on the annual Stud Return.
- 19 Stallions being accepted into the Registry must, when applying for adult upgrade registration, submit a veterinary certificate of soundness, all such stallions shall be monitored on an annual Stud Return, to ensure subsequent matings recorded are producing offspring. Any stallion who is in doubt as being virile or sound will be subjected to a veterinary inspection for proof of its soundness as an entire to the satisfaction of the Registry and the cost will be born by the stallion owner.

Hindquarters - well muscled hip, thigh and gaskin, with the highest point of the croup in a level line with the withers, the tail setting should appear to smoothly round off the rump, whilst not giving an impression of being set too high or too low.

Legs - shall be straight and true when viewed from the side and back, showing length, legs should be positioned correctly so they are squarely set, the hooves should point directly ahead, showing no evidence of "pigeon toe, splayed foot, or toed out". Pasterns sloping at 45 degrees angle. Hooves should be in proportion to the size of the Little Horse or Miniature horse and be well shaped.

Gait - shall be naturally free flowing, confident with easy strides, with animation and balance showing no evidence of unacceptable actions. i.e. over reaching, daisy cutting, or paddling.

Colour - All colours and pattern markings are acceptable. All colours of the eyes are acceptable. The coat should display a silky lustre.

Temperament - MUST BE impeccable, whilst being curious, alert and friendly.

Activities - Section B & C Little Horses are permitted to be used for children's saddle classes, and harness and all performance classes. Miniature horses from Section A are permitted to be used for harness if their height is 30" and over. They may also be used for all performance classes.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- * Cryptorchids or Monorchids in stallions or colts.
- * Drugged or chemically enhanced Little horses or miniatures.
- * Cosmetic intervention.
- * Stifle lock and other determinable genetic faults.
- * Congenital cataracts or congenital leg abnormalities.
- * Overshot or under shot mouths (in excess of 3mm).

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE OF THE LITTLE MINIATURE PONY

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The general symmetry of Miniature Pony Breeds should be well balanced, portraying the characteristics and conformation of most known pony breeds, (with the exception of the coarse boned pony breeds, ie Shetland etc). The pony should exhibit refinement in conformation to give the impression of being indicative of littleness or a miniature version of the Australian Stud Book pony breed or Arabian pony for example, to comply with the general description and conformation and characteristics of the relevant larger pony breed it represents.

The Miniature Pony Breed of Australia shall show refinement and femininity in mares and boldness and masculinity in stallions, whilst displaying evidence of a gentle temperament. The general impression of the Little Miniature Pony should be an overall picture of moderate refinement and elegance, being alert and showing intelligence with agility, with an added impression of possessing presence, and not typically course bone of the Shetland pony in appearance.

Shetland ponies that are refined in conformation and not exhibiting too much shortness in length of leg or coarseness of body are acceptable.

The Miniature Pony Breeds shall have its height measured at the top of the withers. The height of the Miniature Pony ranges from 8.2 ¼ hands and under for Section A of the pony register, and over 8.2 ¼ hands and not exceeding 9.2 hands for Section B of the Pony Register (both sections are open to all sexes). The Breeding stock section is for mares only - mares who may be overheight for Sections A & B or who are too heavy of bone but are suitable to breed with a smaller refined stallion.

DESCRIPTION

Head - shall be in proportion to the length of the neck and body, with a tapering muzzle and shall be comparatively short between the eye and the muzzle. A typically dished pony head, showing no evidence of too much length. Profile shall be dished or concave with eyes set wide apart showing character and intelligence.

Eyes - should be large Almond shaped set well apart. Showing a gentle character and intelligence.

Ears - small to medium in size (can be covered by average man's hand).

- Teeth** - should meet evenly with no more than 3mm out. Undershot or overshot teeth are unacceptable.
- Neck** - should be lightly crested on mares, and moderately crested on stallions, the length of the neck will be proportionate to the body, and not displaying ewe neck or fallen crest.
- Body** - should be well sprung ribs, with a generous girth, a slight natural curve on the topline, able to see a small amount of daylight under the stomach. The body should not be short and stocky in conformation, and should be well balanced and in proportion to the height. A course or overlong body is also not acceptable.
- Legs** - are straight, squarely set on each corner, flat boned, moderate length of leg, (not thick and short.) The hooves should point straight ahead, showing no evidence of undesirable problems. (i.e. Pigeon or toed out, splayed foot. etc.) Pasterns sloping at 45 degrees angle. Hooves should be small and neat and in proportion to the size of the pony.
- Gait** - shall be free moving, showing extension and animation of legs, covering the ground, and not giving the impression of moving up and down on the spot.
- Colour** - all coat colours and pattern markings are acceptable. All colours of the eyes are acceptable. The coat should look healthy and have a nice sheen.
- Temperament** - should be curious, friendly, alert and impeccably gentle and trusting.
- Activities** - all Ponies shall be used for harness, and performance events. Whilst section B ponies may also be used for children's ridden events.

DISQUALIFICATIONS -

- * Cryptorchid or Monorchid in stallions and colts
- * Drugged or chemically enhanced ponies.
- * Cosmetic intervention.
- * All leg abnormalities.
- * Congenital cataracts.
- * Dwarfism in head or body.
- * Mouth overshot or undershot.
- * Ewe neck and swamp back.

STANDARD OF SHOW PRESENTATION OF THE LITTLE HORSE

- i) The Australian Little Horse & Miniature Breeds shall be exhibited in a led-in show halter or a bitted show bridle that is not typically western in style. **Please note** - stallions may be bitted at the exhibitor's discretion.
- ii) Whips are optional, are permitted to be used as an extension of the arm to encourage the miniature to stand up correctly and must be no longer than specified by R.A.S. Rules 110cms. Excessive use of the whip for control is not permitted and any complaints received regarding torturous use of the whip will be dealt with by the committee.
- iii) Coat presentation may be at the exhibitor's discretion, which may be clipped or natural condition during winter months, but is preferred to be shown in a natural condition during summer months. Exhibitors may place patterns on the rump of Australian Little Horse or Miniature breed exhibits.
- iv) Manes and tails may be free flowing with no false adornments excepting a fine Welsh plait with rosette. A bridle path of up to 4 inches is permissible. Horses who wish to be shown under the standard of the bigger equine breed they represent may do so, with patterns on the rump, pulled manes and tails.
- v) Stance of the Little Horse & /Miniature Horse shall be standing squarely and comfortable, (not excessively stretched out.) Manually setting the legs out by hand is not permitted.

STANDARD OF SHOW PRESENTATION OF THE LITTLE MINIATURE PONY

The Miniature Pony shall be shown to its best advantage, at all times of the year. The pony may be shown at the exhibitor's discretion, as to whether it may be in a body clipped condition during winter months (fetlock feathers also

removed) and shown in a natural coat condition during the summer months with no fetlock feathers. Manes may be done in plait rosettes, or a fine Welsh plait and free flowing with no other forms of adornments.

The stance of the Miniature Pony shall be natural, standing square and comfortable, not stretched out. A dipped top line is unacceptable. Manually setting the legs of the exhibit out by hand is not permitted.

The Miniature Pony may be shown in a Led in Show Halter, or a bitted show bridle (optional) that is not western in style. Stallions may be bitted at the exhibitor/s discretion.

Please note - Ponies may be fully body clipped, however, if being clipped it is preferred that the natural coat must be established before being exhibited in the showing.

- Where Australian Little Horse & Miniature Breeds have dual registrations, members are requested to refrain from showing in two societies events on the same day at the same show (colour classes excluded.)
- ALH & MB exhibiting injuries which are temporary or blemishes not associated with unsoundness should not be penalised unless it impairs the general appearance of the pony or its action.

CODE OF ETHICS WHEN EXHIBITING

- 1 Owners of the Australian Little Horse, Miniature Horse and Miniature Ponies may, provided they are financial members of the Society allow an agent acting on their behalf to exhibit horses or ponies for them. In this event, the financial member shall accept full responsibility for any action of their agent that may bring the Society into disrepute.
- 2 Exhibitors of the Australian Little Horse and Miniature Breeds whether owners, or agents, shall not act in a manner that causes disruption to classes or another exhibit, by arguing with the judge, steward or another exhibitor at any shows where ALH & MBA classes are being conducted.
- 3 An owner, exhibitor or agent shall not cause the Society or its members embarrassment by loud verbal jeers or comments from outside or inside the ring. Remembering that members or their agents are to not to act in a manner that is prejudicial to the interest of the society while exhibiting the breed.
- 4 Protests are to be handled in the manner stipulated by the relevant show society. In the case of an Society's show, the Committee will receive the protest in writing accompanied by the fee, from an owner, exhibitor or agent to be dealt with according to the circumstances of the day.
- 5 Member exhibitors or their agents may challenge the height of a Australian Little Horse, Miniature Horse or Miniature Pony at any show providing, the classes being conducted stipulate registered for ALH & MBA.
- 6 Any horse or miniature pony that is discovered to be tranquillised on the day of a show, be it an Society's conducted show or otherwise, shall be swabbed at the cost to the exhibitor, if the swab proves to be positive the owner and exhibit or agent will be banned from showing for a specified period of time to be determined by the Committee.
- 7 A member, exhibitor or their agent shall not exhibit any Australian Little Horse, Miniature Horse or Miniature Pony under a judge that has remunerated the said persons for board or training purposes of any horse or pony, within a six month period prior to the date of the show where that judge is officiating (stud service fees exempted.)
- 8 Owners, exhibitors or their agents, shall not exhibit a Little Horse, Miniature Horse or Miniature Pony under a judge from whom that horse or pony was purchased, leased, or gifted within a 12 month period prior to the show where that judge is officiating.
- 9 No Australian Little Horse, Miniature Horse or Miniature Pony shall be permitted to be exhibited under a judge who has trained the said horse or pony within a six month period prior to the date of the show where that judge is officiating (stud service fees exempted.)
- 10 A member, exhibitor or their agent shall not exhibit under a judge where such a show is being judged by a family member of the owner or agent. For the purpose of this rule "immediate family" means, husband, wife, parent, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, step parents, in-laws, de-factos, grandparents, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, business partners, or employees/employers.

- 11 Owners, exhibitors and their agents shall be dressed in correct attire as according to the Standards of Dress for showing the ALH & MBA, the exhibits shall be shown in the correct head gear as suggested accordingly. Stewards or judges reserve the right to exclude from the ring an exhibit or exhibitor that contravenes the dress Standard and Showing Standard. Forbidden apparel shall not be worn in the ring e.g. thongs, T-shirts, sneakers, untidy jeans that are not dress standard, this applies to all exhibitors, strappers and child riders to wear hard hat.
- 12 Owners, exhibitors or their agents shall not converse to each other whilst in the ring, and remain mindful of their presentation at all times. Bearing in mind the stance of their exhibit to be standing alert and attentive, the "lineup" to be a straight line and not crooked. Exhibitors are reminded that you and your exhibit are constantly under observation by a competent judge for comparison with other exhibits.
- 13 Owners, exhibitors or their agents shall not socialise with a judge prior to the classes commencing at a show, or have the judge staying as a houseguest if they intend to exhibit.
- 14 An owner, exhibitor or agent shall not contact a judge before the show to discuss the proposed exhibit/s prior to or during the judging of classes.
- 15 Any owner, exhibitor or agent who tries to influence the judge's opinion prior to or during the judging of classes shall be held in breach of these rules and will be dealt with by the Committee.
- 16 The onus is on the owner, exhibitor or agent to make sure the class they have entered is the right class for their exhibits. Any exhibitor who knowingly enters a class where they are ineligible shall be held in breach of these rules.
- 17 Exhibitors of the ALH & MBA shall, at all times conduct themselves with graciousness and exercise restraint, accepting defeat honourably, in a good sporting attitude, and be quick to congratulate the successful exhibits, also thanking the judge for their appraisal, bearing in mind that it is only the decision of that person the day and there is always another show.
- 18 Exhibitors of the ALH & MBA will please remember it is courteous and good manners to wait in the ring until the sashing of the successful exhibits is completed and shall file out in single file behind the successful exhibits.
- 19 Owners, exhibitors or agents shall not permit a child to lead, drive, or ride a stallion or colt in the show-ring at any show.
- 20 Gentlemen exhibitors or their male agents shall take their hats off whilst their exhibit is being sashed as a mark of respect to the judge.
- 21 Waiver indemnity forms must be signed by exhibitors and/or parent/guardian of a junior exhibitor before being permitted in the ringside area as an exhibitor, strapper etc.

PLEASE NOTE - Any action of an owner/exhibitor or their agent that contravenes these rules and regulations shall be held in breach of these rules and shall be dealt with by the Committee.